

# North Carolina Catholic

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## Pope John Convokes Ecumenical Council

Pope John XXIII has formally convoked the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council to meet in the year 1962 but has not announced the actual opening date.

In a 2,500 word Bull entitled "Humane Salutis" issued Christmas morning, the Pontiff convoked the Council so that he could give "the Church the possibility of contributing more efficaciously to the solution of the problems of the modern age."

The Bull was publicly read by Archbishop Pericle Felice, General Secretary of the Central Preparatory Commission of the Council after he had received it from the hands of the Pope. The reading was made from the atrium, or front porch, of St. Peter's Basilica,

which was windswept and dimly cold.

Applause greeted the formal announcement of the Council's convocation, which came late in the text. Pausing significantly, Archbishop Felice read these words slowly: "After hearing, therefore, the opinion of Our brothers, the Cardinals of the Holy Roman Church, with the authority of Our Lord Jesus Christ, of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, and with Our own, We institute, announce, and convoke for the forthcoming year 1962, the Ecumenical and Universal Council which will be held in the Vatican Basilica on days that will be established according to the opportunity which good Providence may deign to give Us."

After announcing formally the Council's convocation, the Pope See Ecumenical Council, page 7A

## Cardinal Dalla Costa, 89 Is Buried in Florence

FLORENCE, Italy—(NC)—Elia Cardinal dalla Costa, Archbishop of Florence for 30 years and the oldest member of the College of Cardinals, was buried here. He died Dec. 22 at the age of 89.

Cardinal dalla Costa, noted for his efforts on behalf of the poor and ill, died of a heart ailment brought on by an attack of influenza. The day before his death he had received the Viaticum — Holy Communion for those in danger of death—and the blessing of His Holiness Pope John XXIII. Pope John said in his message to the Cardinal:

"Our prayers rise to the Divine Saviour, shining in the grotto of Bethlehem. May He grant you an abundance of His comforts and every gift of cheer, serenity and peace in welcoming His Divine

Will."

Rabbi Fernando Belgrado of Florence paid public tribute to Cardinal dalla Costa on hearing of his death. He recalled that he and eight members of his family were sheltered from the nazis in a religious house at the Cardinal's orders.

The Rabbi summed up his opinion of the late Cardinal thus: "The Jewish community of Florence cannot forget the acts of brotherhood and of help that the late Cardinal performed for Jews during the sad period of the nazi-fascist persecutions.

"As a man and as a Rabbi, therefore, I turn with revered thoughts to the memory of this pious and just man who will be welcomed under the wings of Divine Providence."

### CHRISTMAS STATEMENT

By Gov. Terry Sanford

*It is in keeping with the heritage of men of good will the world over to pause from their work to commemorate Christmas. In this year of Our Lord, 1961, when a godless ideology challenges the peace, the freedom and the very existence of men and nations of good will, it is especially appropriate that we should honor the birth of the Prince of Peace.*

*The spirit of Christmas is universal. In our small part of the universe, here in North Carolina, we join fellow pilgrims the world over in turning our attention to the manger and the hope which rose from it for persons of all races, colors, creeds and nations.*

*We will pray that we may celebrate next Christmas and the succeeding Christmases in peace. We will also pray for the strength and the courage that, in peace or war, future Christmases shall be celebrated in freedom.*

*We will pray finally that neither rockets, nor satellites, nor the mushroom clouds of nuclear bombs will ever obscure our sight from the Star in the East which heralded peace on earth, good will to men.*

## Shun Force, Pontiff Tells World Rulers

VATICAN CITY—(NC)— His Holiness Pope John XXIII called on the rulers of nations to "shun all thought of force," as he renewed his pleas for peace in the fourth Christmas message of his reign.

Pope John broadcast his 3,000-word message to the world over Radio Vatican and other networks. Following the broadcast, translations in 30 languages were put on the air.

The Pontiff declared that the only means of achieving peace today is for man to imitate Christ's goodness in a world where men have become "calculating, suspicious and selfish."

The Pope's talk took into account the destructive possibilities of nuclear power and warned rulers that they too are men, "fragile and mortal."

He told them that they have received their power from God "not to destroy but to build, not to divide but to unite, not to cause tears to be shed but to provide employment and security."

Pope John declared:

"We cannot believe that the terrifying energy now under the control of man will be released for the world's destruction. For side by side with elements of fear and apprehension, there are positive signs of a good will that is constructive and productive of good."

"While we give thanks to the Lord, the source of goodness, we also give voice to a heartfelt appeal that all those who control the economic forces should risk everything—but not the peace of the world and the lives of men—to seek every means that modern progress has put at their disposal to increase the welfare and security of the world, and not to sow distrust and mutual suspicion.

"And again to use the words of Our encyclical Mater et Magistra, 'We point out with sadness . . . that while on the one hand are brought out in strong relief situations of want, and the specter of misery and hunger haunts us; on the other hand scientific discoveries, technical inventions and economic resources are being used, often extensively, to provide terrible instruments of ruin and death.'"

### All-Purpose

ANAHIM RESERVE, B.C. — (NC) — Indians of the Anahim Reserve are building a 127-by-32 foot fallout shelter. Father John Patterson, O.M.I., resident missionary, said that "if we don't need it for fallout, then we'll use it as a root cellar."

### theologian speculates

## Is There Life on Other Planets?

WASHINGTON — (NC) — A Franciscan theologian says God could have created rational beings with material bodies on other planets.

"The existence of such beings is not opposed to any truth of the natural or supernatural order," writes Father T. J. Zubek, O.F.M., of St. Rita's church, Buffalo, N. Y., in the December issue of the American Ecclesiastical Review, published here.

Noting that flights to the moon are possible today, Father Zubek claims that the question of living outside earth is no more a topic of fantasy only.

The priest's article deals mainly with the ways in which other creatures might be related to God.

Two of the possibilities he discusses are that they are fallen beings, "devils incarnate," or that they live a beautiful life free from suffering and death.



BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN — Christmas greetings from ten-year-old Laszlo Hamos of Englewood, N.J., to his aunt still in Hungary, are recorded at Radio Free Europe's New York studios. Tibor Florian, editor of RFE's "Messages" program, looks on. During Christmas week RFE carried a full schedule of Christmas programming behind the Iron Curtain, including His Holiness Pope John XXIII's annual Christmas message.

## Efforts Made to Reopen Polish Relief Program

MILWAUKEE — (NC) — Efforts are being made by the worldwide relief organization of U.S. Catholics to reestablish a full scale program to aid the Church and needy of Poland.

The disclosure was made here by Auxiliary Bishop Aloysius J. Wycislo of Chicago, who served for 16 years as assistant executive director of Catholic Relief Services — National Catholic Welfare Conference.

The prelate told the Polish American Historical Association convention here that the CRS—NCWC relief program in Poland was discontinued in 1956 after the communist regime of Poland renegeed on its promise to allow duty-free relief supplies to enter the country.

The Red regime slapped "a 60 per cent tax on the free will offerings" of U.S. Catholics, the Bishop said.

Bishop Wycislo said the attitude of the Polish government on distribution of relief by the Church is in keeping with other restrictions against the Church and freedom of the press. Despite this attitude, he continued, CRS—NCWC during the last few years has sent representatives to Poland to discuss with the Cardinal-Primate and the Polish government the possibility of resuming a relief program.

"Negotiations for reestablishment of a full scale program are being continued," Bishop Wycislo said.

The Bishop recalled that the first overseas shipment by the

worldwide relief agency of U.S. Catholics benefited the needy of war ravaged Poland in 1945.

Meantime, Poland's Primate has petitioned that communist-ruled nation's Parliament to investigate illegal government action against the Church, according to reports reaching here.

Stefan Cardinal Wyszynski called for the probe into violations of Church rights in a letter to Czeslaw Wyche, speaker of the Polish Sejm (Parliament). The letter was sent in November after a meeting of the Polish Bishops in Warsaw and has the approval of all of the Bishops, reports said.

To date there have been no reports that the Sejm has replied to the Cardinal's petition.

## Day of Prayer For Persecuted

(N.C.W.C. News Service)

Catholics throughout the nation are observing December 31 as a day of prayer for the persecuted throughout the world.

The Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference at its annual meeting in Washington in November recommended the day of prayer for the Church of Silence and for immigrants.

Many dioceses have scheduled periods of exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, holy hours of reparation and other services in connection with the observance.

Or, he continues, if there turns out to be more than one other planet on which life can survive, it might be found that their state differs from one celestial body to the other.

Supposing that God gave the other creatures a time of trial and they failed, but were given no opportunity for repentance, the fallen space creatures would be punished forever, he writes.

Father Zubek also writes that space creatures because they would not be offspring of Adam, would not belong to the human race and consequently would not have Adam's original sin.

## Algae May Offer a Clue

NEW YORK—(NC)— A Fordham University chemist who is a discoverer of new evidence pointing to life on other planets said here Catholic colleges and universities undersell their resources.

He is Dr. Bartholomew Nagy who, with Dr. George Claus, a microbiologist at the New York University medical center, published a report on their findings in a recent issue of the British scientific journal, Nature.

The two scientists discovered tiny, one-celled organisms resembling fossil algae on meteorites which fell more than 70 years ago a few thousand miles apart. The algae are unlike any organisms known to have lived on the earth's surface.

The scientists interpret their finding as strong evidence for, but not proof of, the existence of a form of life outside the earth.

See Algae May, page 3A