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Gaetano Card. Cicognani, Age 80, Dies in Rome

ROME — A Pontifical Requiem Mass was offered here (Feb. 8) for Gaetano Cardinal Cicognani, 80, a veteran of 38 years of diplomatic service for the Holy See and brother of Amleto Cardinal Cicognani, former Apostolic Delegate to the U.S.

The Cardinal, who was Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of Rites, which deals with the canonization of saints, died (Feb. 5) in Rome of a heart attack. He received the last rites of the Church shortly before his death. His Holiness Pope John XXIII sent him a special blessing.

Present at the deathbed of the cardinal was his brother, Amleto Cardinal Cicognani.

A MEDICAL bulletin issued after the Cardinal's death stated that on February 2 he was struck by an attack of influenza, but his condition was not considered grave. The situation was complicated, however, by a recurrence of a hemorrhage he had suffered previously, which brought on the collapse of the heart.

Gaetano Cardinal Cicognani climaxed his long and distinguished career in the Vatican diplomatic corps by embarking on another one in December, 1953, when he was named Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of Rites. As a diplomat and as head of the Congregation which "makes saints," Cardinal Cicognani shined the limelight.

Cardinal Cicognani's death leaves the College of Cardinals with a total of 79 members, 27 Italians and 52 non-Italians.

GAETANO Cicognani was born in Brisighella, Italy, on November 26, 1881. He studied at the diocesan seminary there and was ordained in Rome on September 24, 1904.

After service on the Tribunal of the Sacred Roman Rota, high Church court of appeals, and as a professor of canon law at the Apollinaris Pontifical Seminary in Rome, he entered the Pontifical Ecclesiastical Academy and completed diplomatic studies there.

In early 1915 he was appointed

OFFICIAL

The following appointments are announced by the Most Reverend Bishop through the Diocesan Chancery:

Effective on Monday, February 5th, Father Norbert Norton O.F.M., is appointed pastor of St. Anthony's parish in Asheville.

Effective on Friday, February 16th, Father Robert Lawson is appointed assistant at Christ the King Church in Kings Mountain.

Effective on Friday, February 16th, Father Ronald McLaughlin is appointed assistant at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Newton Grove.

Rt. Rev. George E. Lynch
Chancellor

an apprentice in the Vatican Secretariat of State. He was named a Papal Chamberlain on March 9, 1916, and soon afterwards was transferred to the Papal Nunciature in Spain.

In November, 1924, he was recalled to Rome and was named Internuncio to Bolivia. He was named Titular Archbishop of Ancira on January 11, 1925, and was consecrated on February 1. About a week later the Internunciature was raised to the level of a nunciature, and Archbishop Cicognani became the first Papal Nuncio to Bolivia.

Archbishop Cicognani was named a Cardinal at the Consistory of January 12, 1953, and in December, 1953, he was named Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of Rites.

Cardinal Cicognani served as a member of numerous sacred congregations or commissions. These included the Congregation of Religious, the Consistorial Congregation, the Congregation of Sacramental Discipline and the Pontifical Commission for the Authentic Interpretation of the Code of Canon Law.

Pope Expresses Anxiety Over Algeria, Congo

VATICAN CITY — (NC) — His Holiness Pope John XXIII has expressed anxiety and sorrow over increasing violence in Algeria and the Congo, and called for prayers to end world strife.

The Pope spoke at Candlemas ceremonies at which specially decorated candles were presented to him. Among those present were heads of religious orders and rectors of national colleges in Rome.

"On this holiday, unfortunately, not everything is serene happiness," Pope John said. He added that "lamentations are reaching us from every part of the world — from Europe, from Asia, from Africa, from America — where social restlessness is subverting civil order."

The Pope contrasted the light shed by the candles he had received with the darkness besetting the world and made special reference to Algeria, where the increasingly bitter conflict between Moslem nationalists and European settlers has taken hundreds of lives in recent weeks.

"Permit us to name explicitly one country," he said, "which we visited in 1950 and which left on us an indelible and beautiful impression. That country is Algeria."

"Every day and every night," the Pope said, "the most serious kind of violence increases the number of victims there."

"The very sad events that occur one after the other in every part of the world, some of which have become more serious in recent weeks, even exploding into epi-

Pope John Sets Next October 11 For Ecumenical Council Opening

VATICAN CITY — (NC) — His Holiness Pope John XXIII set next October 11 as the opening date for the long-heralded ecumenical council.

In so doing he chose to tie it to the memory of the Council of Ephesus in 431, whose decisions upheld belief in the Virgin Mary as Mother of God, which remains today a keystone in the belief of both Catholics and Orthodox Christians. October 11 is the feast of the Divine Maternity of Mary.

The Pope said his main hopes for the results of the council, to be known as the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council, are "that the Church, Spouse of Christ, may strengthen still more her divine energies and extend her beneficial influence in still greater measure to the minds of men." He added:

"In this way there is further reason to hope that all people — especially those whom we so sorrowfully see suffering because of misfortune, discords and mournful conflicts—turning their eyes more trustfully toward Christ . . . may finally achieve true peace in respect for mutual rights and duties."

Pope John announced the date for the council on February 2, the feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin — three years and eight days after he first revealed his intention to summon all the Catholic bishops of the world for a 21st ecumenical council.

He made the date known in a "motu proprio," a document drawn up and issued on his own initiative and personally signed by him. The document is not an actual summons to the council, and does not spell out to whom invitations to the council will be sent. Nor does it state what topics will be discussed. These things are left for later action by the Pope.

The motu proprio recalls that Pope John issued a statement last Christmas Day announcing that the council would take place in 1962, and states that the date for the opening is being announced now

so that the participants can plan their schedules accordingly.

The Pope again appealed for prayers for the success of the council. "We can do no less," he said, "than exhort once more all our sons, together with all the clergy and the Christian people who await it with great anticipation, to intensify ever more their prayers to God for the happy success of this undertaking . . ."

The time lag between Pope John's initial announcement of the council — on January 25, 1959 — and the date for the opening is well under the five years which elapsed for the last council — the Vatican Council of 1869-70. Pope Pius IX first revealed his intention to convoke a council on December 6, 1864. It did not open until December 8, 1869.

That council lasted 316 days. It was adjourned suddenly on October 20, 1870, after Rome had been taken by Piedmontese troops, thus ending the Papal States.

Pope John in June of 1960 set up a dozen preparatory commissions and three secretariats to lay the groundwork for it, and he has personally attended their meetings to spur on their work.

Longest of the ecumenical coun-

cils was the 19th, the Council of Trent. It dragged on from 1545 to 1563, during the reigns of three popes. In contrast, none of the first four councils lasted as long as four months. One of them, the fourth, at Chalcedon, lasted only three weeks. Shortly after becoming Pope in 590, St. Gregory the Great referred to the first four councils — Nicea in 325, Constantinople in 381, Ephesus in 431 and Chalcedon in 451 — and declared:

"On these as on a foursquare stone rises and stands the structure of faith and of each one's life and action. Whosoever does not cling to their solidity, even though he be a stone, lies outside the structure."

In setting October 11 for the opening of the council, the Pontiff put major stress on the ancient doctrine that Mary is Mother of God rather than on more modern Marian definitions, which are viewed by some Christians as a stumbling block to unity.

"We have especially chosen this date," the Pope said, "because it links us with the memory of the great Council of Ephesus, which was of extreme importance in the history of the Church."

Ecumenical Council Has Supreme Jurisdiction

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

An ecumenical council is a gathering of the world's bishops and other high Church authorities, called by the pope, which has supreme jurisdiction over the whole Church.

The 21st such meeting will be the Second Vatican Council, whose opening date has been announced by His Holiness Pope John XXIII for October 11, 1962.

The meetings of an ecumenical council are presided over by the pope or his legate and deal with matters of faith, morals, worship and Church discipline. Its decrees, if approved by the pope, are infallible and binding on all Catholics.

But the council derives its authority from the pope and its decrees have no binding force until they are confirmed and promulgated by the pontiff. However, decrees decided on at a meeting personally attended by the pope require no further confirmation.

There is no appeal from the pope to an ecumenical council. If the pope who calls a council should die while it is in session, it would be automatically suspended until reconvened by the pontiff's successor.

The pope has the right to determine the matters to be discussed by the council and may suspend or dissolve it.

Those entitled by canon law to attend a council include cardinals, even those who are not bishops; patriarchs, primates, archbishops and residential bishops, even those not yet consecrated; abbots and independent prelates; heads of certain monastic congregations, and heads of other religious orders and titular bishops, if invited.

In addition, experts in theology and canon law may be invited to the council as consultants but have no vote in council decisions.

At the Second Vatican Council it is expected that leaders of non-Catholic Christian churches will also be present as observers.



ALERT CATHOLICS READ THEIR CATHOLIC PRESS

That's the theme for Catholic Press Month/1962, which is observed during February throughout America—an excellent time to focus attention on the many outstanding Catholic publications in the United States and Canada.

Catholic newspapers and magazines, books, Bibles and pamphlets—these are all published to help you keep informed about your faith and the Church—and to help you form a right conscience in today's challenging world.

We're proud to be a member of the Catholic Press Association, which sponsors Catholic Press Month, and we're happy to join other Catholic publications in thanking you for your past support and urging your special attention to the Catholic Press during February as well as your continued use and readership of Catholic publications in the coming year.



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FEBRUARY IS CATHOLIC PRESS MONTH

Mrs. Shea Dies

MONROE — Mrs. Cecelia Shea, mother of Father Robert F. Shea, pastor of St. Joseph and Lourdes churches in Monroe, died January 30. Fr. Shea conducted funeral services for his mother at North Quincy, Massachusetts Saturday, February 3 at the home parish. The Shea family lives at 33 Glover Avenue, North Quincy. — May she rest in peace!