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Full-Time Lay Apostles Set 100-Converts Goal

PORTLAND, Ore. — (NC) — Three men who left their homes and livelihood to join a new apostolate are working in Portland parishes to bring as many as 100 conversions a year to each parish.

The men are Dave Killen of Seattle; Robert Greger, Edwardsville, Ill., and Roy Wolff of Milwaukee. They are working respectively in St. Thomas, St. Cecilia, and St. Clare parishes here.

They explained their work as parish advisors specializing in conversions and described the year-long training course offered by the Institute of Lay Theology at the University of San Francisco to prepare men for what is becoming a new profession.

Said Killen: "Everything we do is directed toward one goal — conversions." This, he explained in an interview, includes bringing fallen away Catholics back to the church, encouraging others to attend church more regularly, and initiating marriage validations and baptisms.

"We are not primarily concerned with members of other denominations," Killen stated. "But there are 80 million uncommitted in the United States. Among Catholics statistics show that only 20 to 30 per cent attend church regularly, while one-third never come and one-third attend irregularly. So we have two-thirds of the total Catholic population to work with."

Leaving the Institute of Lay Theology with the title of Inquiry Forum Director, the men who receive the training course are something more than this might signify and something less than "theologians."

"A high academic standing, particularly in theology and philosophy, is a major requirement in selecting candidates for the program," Greger observed. "About 80 per cent of the ten-month course 1,075 hours — is devoted to the study of theology."

There are other strict requirements for selection. To qualify, applicants must have a Catholic college education, be at least 28 years of age, preferably married and with a history of success in their previous careers. Greger said that of more than 600 applicants for last year's session, only 15 men were chosen.

Once selected, candidates attend a course that was set up at the

university two years ago by Father Eugene Zimmers, S.J., assistant professor of philosophy and now director of the institute.

Students spend from five to eight hours a day for a full academic year under the instruction of some 27 professors, all experts in theology. In evening meetings they hear lectures from representatives of other churches and of the business, professional and labor worlds.

Economic hardships make the intensive institute training even more difficult to complete. "There is no time to 'work yourself through school,'" observed Greger, an engineer before entering the institute.

"You have to draw upon your savings or borrow to pay tuition and living expenses — generally high, since 13 of the 15 men in this

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New Pamphlet On Enovid Pills

WASHINGTON — (NC) — A leaflet published under Catholic auspices sets forth the moral ground rules governing the use of the "contraceptive pill."

The leaflet states that the drug "may never be used as a contraceptive. It may, however, be used as a medicine under certain circumstances to correct malfunction or disease."

The leaflet was published by the Cana Conference of Chicago and was prepared in consultation with moral theologians and doctors. Copies are available from the publishers and from the Family Life Bureau, National Catholic Welfare Conference, at 1312 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington 5, D.C.

The leaflet notes that the technical name of the new pills is "progestational steroids." The brand names of the two most commonly used are "Enovid" and "Norlutin."

It says the pills have several uses. They can prevent conception by suppressing ovulation, but also can aid in correcting a number of gynecological disorders.

The leaflet stresses that the use of the pills for directly contraceptive purposes is never moral.

It says use of the pills in this way amounts to "direct sterilization . . . the deliberate intentional suppression of the reproductive function."

After quoting the late Pope Pius XII on this point, the leaflet states: "In summary, if these drugs are used for the precise purpose of suppressing ovulation in order to prevent conception, we have a case of direct sterilization and this is morally wrong."

On the other hand, the leaflet notes, the pills may be used in some circumstances to correct malfunction or disease, and a woman using them for such a purpose may continue to have marital relations with her husband.

Asks New Terms In Explaining Church Belief

NOTRE DAME, Ind. — (NC) — Catholics interested in promoting Christian unity should strive to clarify Church teaching so that it can be understood by other denominations, a theologian declared here.

Father Robert Pelton, C.S.C., head of the theology department at Notre Dame University, made the statement at the closing exercise (Aug. 9) of a week-long Institute for Local Superiors. More than 1,500 nuns representing 84 congregations and 168 provinces in the U.S. and religious communities in nine foreign countries attended the sessions.

Discussing movements toward mutual understanding, he said: "Growing toward each other means that we need in a certain sense to retranslate our teaching, without betraying it, into a scriptural and patristic language which is more communicative to the Reformation Christians."

"Contemporary scientific research in theology is particularly adaptable to this effort," he observed.



EXCHANGE GREETINGS—On his arrival at Lambeth Palace, the Anglican Primate's residence in London, Augustin Cardinal Bea, S.J., president of the Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity, is greeted by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Arthur Ramsey. Cardinal Bea was in Britain to attend a conference on Christian unity at the Jesuit College, Heythrop. (NC Photos)

Shared-Time Experiment Begins In Pennsylvania

WASHINGTON — (NC) — The Pittsburgh diocese is asking parents for their reaction to a major shared-time proposal in Monroeville, a Pittsburgh suburb.

Msgr. John B. McDowell, superintendent of schools, discussed the project in an interview here. Shared-time education consists of dividing a student's school day, or a portion of it between church-related and public schools.

He said parents are being asked if they agree with plans to allow some students from Catholic high schools to attend some classes in the brand-new Forbes Trail Area Technical School in Monroeville. The technical school is for gifted children and will offer courses in electronics and other sophisticated scientific fields demanding expensive facilities and highly qualified instructors.

Msgr. McDowell said area Catholic schools were invited to send students by Dr. Alfred Beattie, county school superintendent. "We were delighted to accept and have sent a letter to parents to see if they share our enthusiasm," he said.

He added that the proposal includes transporting the Catholic school students from the public school nearest their own institution to the Forbes Trail school.

Msgr. McDowell said Pittsburgh Catholic schools, which enroll about 130,000 children in 284 schools, have had a superb relationship with public schools. "It has been extraordinary, a wonderful working relationship," he said.

The Monsignor, a principal backer in Catholic school circles of shared-time schooling, believes that statistics make it necessary to discuss proposals to divide class time.

"Our goal of having every Catholic child in a Catholic school is no longer within reach," he said. "Despite the tremendous growth of our schools in the past 10 years, only 50 per cent of our children are able to attend Catholic schools. As the nation continues to grow and as the Catholic community grows with it, the situation will obviously worsen."

Msgr. McDowell thinks it is better to have as many students as possible receive Catholic school instruction in value subjects, such as social studies, than to have this education given only to full-time Catholic school students, while other Catholics in public schools would get none.

He said the Forbes Trail experiment this fall is the only major shared-time project in his diocese. "There is nothing else under active discussion at the moment," he said.

Reformed Group Backs Fed. Aid To Church Schools

LAFAYETTE, Ind. — (NC) — The National Union of Christian Schools went on record here as favoring tax aid to "private Christian schools" which are independent of churches or government.

The union represents 246 schools, most of them operated by members of the Christian Reformed Church. The schools are not supported by parishes, as are Catholic schools, but by parents banded together in corporations.

The Union acted on the question in a resolution at its 42nd annual conference attended by some 300 delegates. A spokesman said that many years ago the union had opposed aid to private schools, but in recent years have taken no stand at all.

Cornelius Jaarsma, speaking for the five-member subcommittee which prepared the resolution for the conference at Purdue University, said education of youth as a parental duty is made clear in the Bible.

He said this right of parents is protected by law, and by establishing private schools parents exercise this right.

"The Christian school as free and independent from church and government is entitled to its rightful share of taxes levied on all citizens for educational purposes," Jaarsma said.



TWELVE LAY APOSTLES who will give one year to catechetical work in the Diocese of Raleigh received their official welcome from Bishop Vincent S. Waters on the Feast of Assumption at Asheville services. They received the Mary Missioners' Handbook and will go into training until September 2 when this second group of Mary Missioners will receive their commission, or mandate, from Bishop Waters. Some will be assigned to Farmville and others to Statesville, the two mission centers of the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart. Pictured (l. to r., 1st row) Karen McIntyre, Ohio; Sheila Kahl, Ohio; Justina Freedman, Ohio; Margaret Kavanaugh, Delaware; second row: Mary Lou Majeski, Ohio; Diane Breslin, Delaware; Sonya Kennedy Hughes, Delaware; Sister Madonna, Mission Helper, Statesville; third row: Christine Hammond, Ohio; Patricia Hannum, Silver Springs, Md.; Rosemary Kearns, Penna.; Deanna Sanders, Delaware; Patricia Mader, New Jersey; and Fr. Allan Foran, O.F.M.

OFFICIAL

The following appointment is announced by the Most Reverend Bishop through the Diocesan Chancery:

Effective August 26, Father Joseph Becker, C.M., is appointed pastor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal parish in Greensboro.

Rev. James E. McSweeney
Chancellor