

Confraternity Directors Hold National Meeting

Diocesan Directors of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine from across the country met in Newark, New Jersey beginning April 25th for a week-long study of the Confraternity program. While reviewing the over-all picture of the Confraternity, the Directors have concerned themselves with two important problems—High Schools of Religion and Teacher Training.

Recent national criticism has pointed up the need for improved programs in the high schools of Religion. Every Diocesan Director is keenly aware of the needs in this field. Efforts are being made on every level to meet this need. Publishers are continually revising their texts, looking for what will best bring the message of salvation to our youth.

All of the people involved in Confraternity work are agreed that trained teachers will be the main help in solving this problem. This is not a criticism of our present teachers rather a recognition of the fact that those involved in teaching the Christian message to our youth must continue to grow in knowledge as well as grace. The teacher's certificate should be the badge of one who is continuing his study of Christ and His Church, not a sign of completed study.

In a major address to the Directors, Bishop Charles P. Greco, Episcopal Moderator of the CCD, stated again that the Confraternity is the most important field of lay apostolic action in the Church. Bishop Greco said, "The future of the Church in America, even in the world, depends on the Confraternity." Bishop Greco concluded

by saying, "We must stop thinking of the Confraternity merely as educating children, but see it as it is, the means of Christian Education of all Catholics in the parish, pre-school children, school-age youth not in Catholic schools, and adults. Where the Confraternity does not work, it has not been given a true trial."



AT THE NATIONAL MEETING of Diocesan Directors of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine in Newark, N.J., Father Gerald L. Lewis, Diocesan Director of the Diocese of Raleigh, second from left, confers with Msgr. Richard Neighbor, Ass't. National Director; Bishop Charles P. Greco, Episcopal Moderator of the CCD; Father Edmund Mochak, Ass't.

Director of the Diocese of Worcester; and Father Mederic Roberts, Director of the Diocese of Worcester. Father Roberts will be remembered as the leader of the "Flying Squadron," Diocesan Board of the Diocese of Worcester, who came to Raleigh in 1962 on two successive week-ends to conduct workshops in Statesville and Raleigh.

Priest-Educator Cites Need For Social Justice in Vietnam

Washington — (NC) — South Vietnam must not only conquer the Viet Cong to survive but must also set itself in pursuit of social justice, according to a priest who is one of that country's leading educators.

Father Paul Cao Van Luan, former president of the University of Hue, said here that until now there has been little concept of social justice in Vietnamese society. One evidence of this, he said, is the

enormous gap between the salaries of high government and other officials and the pittances earned by workers and farmers.

FATHER LUAN said in an interview that improvement of the pay scales and conditions of the workers in the cities is imperative. But it is even more essential, he said, to improve the lot of the farmers—the great majority of the South Vietnamese. What is needed, he

declared, is "a real, true revolution to organize the community on a new basis to help the people of the countryside."

Father Luan said that in Catholic intellectual circles in Vietnam there is an awareness of the need to implement the social teaching outlined in Pope John's 1961 encyclical, Mater et Magistra. But he said that the population as a whole still needs to be educated in the concepts of social justice.

"MANY PEOPLE talk about it but nobody seems to try to do anything," he said. "It is up to the government to start the movement for greater social justice."

Father Luan cited three other things he considers vital for South Vietnam. First, he said, is the need for true leadership capable of inspiring the people as a whole. Second and coupled with this, he said is a need to organize a strong political party.

The third requirement, as he sees it, is the elimination of the communist agents who have infiltrated various sectors of Vietnamese life, particularly the government and the military. He added here that "there are many communists among the Buddhists and also a few among the Catholic community."

FATHER LUAN SAID that despite the prominence given in the press to Buddhist agitation in South Vietnam, "by and large the Buddhist people are tolerant and patriotic."

Asked about his ouster last September as rector of the University of Hue—which he founded in 1957—Father Luan said this was the result of government capitulation to a small extremist Buddhist pressure group.

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Encyclical

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world's leaders "not to remain deaf to the unanimous desire of mankind which wants peace." In defense of man's dignity and Christian civilization, he declared that "we cannot fail to condemn acts of guerilla warfare and of terrorism, the practice of holding hostages and of taking reprisals against unarmed civilians."

AFTER STRESSING the grave state of the world, Pope Paul underlined the fact that peace "is not merely of our own making. It is also, and particularly, a gift from God." Mankind will enjoy peace "when we finally deserve to receive it from Almighty God," he said.



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A piece of gum or candy or a balloon, perhaps. Nowadays there are not many items a penny-conscious little girl can buy for one cent.

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