



POPE PAUL VI welcomed Simon Chikwanda Katilunga, the new ambassador to the Holy See from the Zambia Republic (May 31), as he presented his credentials at the Vatican. (NC Photo)

Pope Urges Women:

Speak Up on Moral Law

Vatican City — (NC) — Don't be afraid to speak of the moral law in conversations, Pope Paul VI counseled an Italian Catholic women's group.

Speaking of women's role in today's world, the Pontiff encouraged his audience "not to blush, not to be afraid to speak of moral values and imperatives, as if mention of the concepts and realities they evoke were to exclude you from modern conversations."

"Those persons who remain silent about these values and imperative are the ones who deny them or have lost them, those who dare to violate them or who do not realize that the highest expressions of the spirit, such as truth, justice, liberty, honesty, goodness, courage and heroism, are in the moral orders," the Pope said.

POPE PAUL spoke after a Mass celebrated in St. Peter's basilica which was attended by members of the Italian Women's Center. The group had gathered to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the center.

"Those persons who remain si-

lent about these values and imperatives," Pope Paul continued, "prefer to give free vent to inferior expressions of instinct, passion, paradox, which are also human expressions, but if left to themselves, derive from inferior and irresponsible areas of the complex human being."

"At times, they are most lively, dramatic and interesting, but all too often they are guilty of undermining the true, complete and organic order of life which is turned toward the transcendent and moral order."

Pope Paul called for the formulation of more emphatic and dynamic principles of "true womanliness" and for determination of "certain statutory principles regarding their proper durability and beneficial application."

On the other hand, he said, "it is necessary to remain vigilant regarding the invasion—one might even in a sense say the eruption—of a mentality which is pleased to adopt freethinking attitudes and to subvert feminine mores not only regarding those old-fashioned or contingent aspects which might be subject to criticism and transformation, but also regarding those values which must in any case constitute the honor and pledge of true human and Christian womanliness."

DURING THE MASS, the Pontiff delivered the homily, and spoke of the dangers of compromise in the face of challenges from the world.

"Christ Himself . . . was the first victim of His own word, and the Gospel has always met, throughout the centuries, with strong opposition from the society of every age," the Pope said.

"We must not be afraid—and the Gospel itself tells us so—nor be scandalized if so many adversaries of the Divine Word still exist even today."

"We live in difficult times and one feels a certain discouragement. Some weaken. Others, believing in their own way that cer-

Miss Dowd Wins Scholarship to School of Nursing

Mary Angela Dowd of Burlington, N.C. has been named the recipient of the Mercy Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Dowd and a member of Blessed Sacrament parish.



Miss Dowd

Patricia Ann Reece of St. Mary parish in Wilmington, N.C. will receive a partial tuition scholarship from the Auxiliary.

Both girls are enrolled in the Mercy School of Nursing, Charlotte, N.C. and will start their nursing education on August 1.

tain elasticity and possibility of compromise may be drawn from the Gospel, try to adapt themselves to melt the obstacles. As a result, one descends to the level of the others instead of raising them to one's own level," he said.

"This is not a good way to peace and conciliation. It is instead yielding to the ideology of others. But it happens even among our ranks, even in our days," he said.

AFTERWARD, the Pope appeared at a window overlooking St. Peter's square for the noon blessing and called on the crowd to join him in prayer "for the efficacious presence of Christian women in the contemporary world."

"Let us pray that women may understand and conquer the new horizons open before them . . . that their presence may truly bring goodness, beauty, love, decent living and hope," he said.

Mother Theophane Honored at Wilson

Mother Theophane, O.S.P., of the Oblate Sisters of Providence, Mother Superior of the St. Alphonsus School, Wilson, was guest of honor at a Communion Breakfast held at the Holiday Inn following the nine o'clock Mass on the last Sunday of May. Mother Theophane, who has served the maximum of six years as Mother Superior at St. Alphonsus, will be leaving soon for the Mother-House in Baltimore for re-assignment. She was paid an eloquent tribute by Father James Schomber, C.S.S.R., pastor of Immaculate Conception Church, for the work she has done in religious education with the children of the parish. Mrs. Melba Paige presented Mother Theophane a gift of appreciation from the parish.

Guest speaker for the occasion was Dr. Gregory Hung, professor of Economics at Carolina Wesleyan College. Dr. Hung, a native of Saigon, Viet Nam, is a graduate of the University of Saigon and holds Master and Ph.D. degrees from the University.

Dr. Hung spoke of the political, economic, religious and social problems of his native land. He stated that Communists are attempting to take over in Viet Nam and are using propaganda and terrorism as means of recruiting young people, especially students. He warned that Communists seek to deprive Americans of its cherished freedoms, also. Dr. Hung said he wanted to see America guard her freedoms lest they be taken away.

During the question-answer period which followed his speech, Dr. Hung remarked that the greatest danger to America was not the threat of nuclear bombs but succumbing to Communist propaganda in the psychological warfare currently being waged.

Parish participation in the breakfast was close to one hundred per cent, thanks to the work of the committee on planning, consisting of Mrs. Catherine Lucas, chairman, Mrs. L. Vick, and Smith Costen.

Mrs. Corleuse Morgan, president of the N.C.C.L.A. of the parish, was mistress of ceremonies.

Vilification Law Upheld

Rome — (NC) — Italy's Constitutional Court has ruled that a law prohibiting public vilification of the Catholic Church is constitutional.

The court held that the law does not violate article eight of Italy's constitution which guarantees all religions equal freedom before the law, nor article 19 which guarantees individuals the right to profess the religion of their choice, propagandize it and worship according to its rites.

The constitutional question was referred to the court by a tribunal in Cuneo. The argument that the law was unconstitutional revolved around the point that it does not give equal protection to all religions, but only to the Catholic Church. The Constitutional Court admitted the argument was based on correct grounds but asserted that such inequity of protection does not violate the constitutional guarantee of equal freedom of religions.

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