

'De-Supernaturalizing' Is Not Council's Intent

Montreal, Que. — (NC) — Paul Emile Cardinal Leger said the Second Vatican Council "is not trying to 'de-supernaturalize' religion."

Speaking to 500 delegates at the National Social Life Conference meeting here, the Montreal archbishop said the council "is seeking means to present the vital living reality of the mercy of God in such a way that somehow, some day, all men will know their home is in the mystical body of Jesus Christ."

Requiem Offered For Francis Toomey

A funeral Mass for Francis (Frank) Peter Toomey, 61, a partner in the Toomey Brothers Heating and Plumbing Co., was held at 10 a.m. Thursday, June 3, at St. Patrick's Church, Charlotte.

The Rev. Patrick Gallagher of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Laurinburg and the Rev. D. Edward Sullivan of St. Patrick's officiated.

Burial was in Sharon Memorial Park.

Mr. Toomey died in a local hospital. He lived at 2321 Toomey Ave. A Charlotte native, he was born Dec. 23, 1903, son of the late Tim C. and Mary Phelan Toomey.

He was educated at O'Donoghue School and Belmont Abbey. He was a member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church, the Holy Name Society and the Nocturnal Adoration Society of St. Patrick's and a fourth degree member of Knights of Columbus.

Mr. Toomey was a member of the Charlotte Plumbing and Heating Contractors Association.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Kathleen Gallagher Toomey; two daughters, Miss Dolores Toomey of the home and Mrs. Peggy Hege of Charlotte; two sons, Tim C. Toomey of the home and Pete C. Toomey of Charlotte; seven sisters, Mrs. G. J. Krepper of Beaumont, Tex., Mrs. J. D. Edwards, Mrs. G. P. Hunter, Mrs. Earl Fesperman, Mrs. W. W. Harlan, Miss Catherine Toomey and Miss Joyce Toomey of Charlotte; two brothers, T. C. Toomey Jr. of Charlotte and Ben Toomey of Beaumont, Tex., and 11 grandchildren.

The Church, he said, is engaged in an often-agonizing effort to understand itself better and to cut away what is superfluous, "but only so the world may know her for what she is."

The cardinal said that today it is often those who criticize and are impatient who have the deepest love for the Church, Our Lord and the coming of His Kingdom.

CARDINAL LEGER said Christianity had been in danger of becoming an ideological superstructure "or kind of special department where people talked about forgiveness, redemption, the Cross and Resurrection while life and the world waited outside."

"Against this view, there is a growing awareness that faith is not merely this optional superstructure which is superimposed on human and secular relationships and institutions, but something which ought to touch and vivify every aspect of life seven days a week," he said.

The structure of the Church, no matter how fluid and changing, must be maintained, he said.

"The Church is the means by which Christ, absent from the universal human community, continues to abide with men," he declared.

Cardinal Leger said the notion of authority is remote from contemporary thinking and the difficulty increased "because authority has been claimed and used in spheres beyond which it could legitimately be expected to be obeyed."

"AT THE MOMENT the Catholic community is moving into a period when it will regulate its affairs much more by discussion than it did in the past, when affairs tended to be regulated by orders from above with little explanation for their grounds," he said.

"But if the laity are to take their part in discussion, then the bishop has a right to expect rather more from you than criticism of the local parish priest's sermon," the cardinal added.

Three National Study Weeks on Workshop Reform Are Scheduled

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is about. Since the present stage of Catholic worship reform has authorized concelebration and the reception of holy communion under both kinds, the daily Mass at all three Weeks will feature the concelebration of twelve priests with the presiding bishop or priest, as well as communion under both kinds for selected religious and married couples who are observing anniversaries.

Music for the eucharistic celebrations has been selected to illustrate what can be done in terms both of congregational singing and expert choral contribution. Each Week begins with Mass at 5 p.m. on Monday, has a Mass celebration at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday, and closes with Mass at noon on Thursday.

Among the major speakers of the Weeks will be Bishop James P. Shannon, auxiliary of St. Paul, at Portland, Bishop Ernest L. Unterkoefler of Charleston, at Baltimore, Bishop Charles A. Buswell of Pueblo, at Chicago. Addressing general sessions in all three locations are Rev. Gerard S. Sloyan, past president of the Liturgical Conference, author of many volumes on theology, liturgy, catechetics; Mr. William Stringfellow, lawyer and theologian, author of *My People Is The Enemy*; Rev. Frank Norris, S.S., author of *God's Own People*; Rev. John Harmon, priest of the Episcopal Church, expert in ecumenical and urban problems; Mr. Robert Rambusch, artist and consultant in church building, and many others.

What began as an annual meeting of specialists and pioneers has become the interest and the concern of the whole Church. As a

consequence, an increasing number of American bishops have become patrons of Liturgical Weeks, which have been held in every part of the country, most recently in St. Louis (1964), Philadelphia (1963), Seattle (1962) and Oklahoma City (1961). Attendance at the Weeks, too, has broadened to include a much greater proportion and wider representation of the American Catholic community. St. Louis' Kiel Auditorium last year was just adequate, with its 13,000 seating capacity, for the general sessions and daily Mass.

RECENT PROGRESS in ecumenical relations has also been reflected at the gatherings. For several years, the Liturgical Week committees have invited Orthodox, Anglican and Protestant representation, and the headquarters building or auditorium in each case has offered a hospitality room to encourage fraternizing. Each year the number of clergy and laity of other confessions in attendance at the Weeks has grown. This year two of the general session speakers are Episcopalians, and a Lutheran and a Methodist will address the study group on parish life in Baltimore and Chicago respectively.

The importance of study weeks of this kind is becoming increasingly evident to American Catholics as they find themselves in the early stages of reform in public worship, changes for which many have not been prepared. Surveys in many parts of the country have shown an enthusiastic response to this reform. They have also indicated, if less conclusively, that hesitation and worry about the "changes" are coupled frequently with lack of information about the

meaning and the spirit of the renewal.

PASTORS are sometimes in the same position as their congregations. They are prepared, of course, to accept developments in the celebration of Mass and other sacraments as they are handed down by authority. But even a brief acquaintance with the council's constitution on the sacred liturgy has convinced this conciliar age that current revisions are not principally a matter of law and of authority but a matter of spiritual vitality and growth and perception.

Dioceses around the country have responded to this need for education by sponsoring lectures, conferences, training sessions. So far, however, it seems to be agreed that these efforts are not sufficient to answer the vast need. The Liturgical Conference, in conducting three four-day sessions this summer in widely-separated areas of the country, hopes not to fill the need but to stimulate more sectional and local activity in this aspect of Christian education and formation.

Forms for advance registration for any one of the Weeks may be obtained from the Liturgical Conference, 2900 Newton St., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20018. Information about hotels and about special housing for sisters and seminarians will be sent to those who use the advance registration form.

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