

## Holy Father Renews Call For Prayer and Penance

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy — Repeating his call for prayer and penance for the success of the ecumenical council, Pope Paul VI told his weekly general audience that his position in the Church gives him a broader view of weaknesses and a deeper awareness of the need for prayer.

Thought obviously preoccupied with the fourth and final session of the council, the 67-year-old Pope appeared relaxed and smiling at the audience. Contrary to recurrent rumors that he had been ill, it seemed as if his short vacation here in the Alban hills had restored his energy more than an extended sabbatical does for most men of his age.

"Have you ever thought of the center of the Catholic Church, the Holy See — the Vatican, as we often call it — as a ceaseless fountain of longings, as a heart always in expectation and ever at prayer?" he asked the thousands of people at the audience. He went on to say:

"The usual image people form of the papacy is that of a post of command, of authority, government, that is, for the pastoral and doctrinal direction of the Church. It is not observed often enough that here more than elsewhere one realizes, nurtures and suffers a sense of human smallness, a sense of the need of divine help, a humble sense of our basic inadequacy, the torment of many longings along with the comfort of great hope. It is not realized that here the longings acquire immense — worldwide — proportions.

This is precisely because the mission of the Church is a mission of charity and here the mission of the Church becomes universal. Here the force, the multiplicity, the ardor of the longings unfold with all the vigor the human heart can support. And since human capacities cannot satisfy these supreme longings, the longings themselves turn into prayer here more than anywhere else. In the precise words of St. Thomas, 'Longing falls under the precept of charity; petition under the precept of religion. . . . We must ask in prayer that which we need to long for; and we must long for not only our own good, but also that of others.'

"This is why we pray for the council and why we invite the people of the world to pray with us. It is love for the Church and for the world which prompts us to pray. It is the benefit the council provides for the Church and the world which moves us to pray. It is the trust we have in the operative virtue of the divine mercy of prayer which invites us to it. It is the certainty that every good and devout heart adds an effective share to prayer for the good of all that prompts us to exhort all to pray together."

In prayer, Pope Paul continued, people are "cooperators with God." This concurrence of God in the "humble circuit of our personal operation," he said, "this encounter of His will with ours, this marvelous and mysterious fusion of His Love with our poor love, demands on our part the modest but at the same time total contribution of our limited efficiency, the best disposition to summon the divine efficiency. It demands the state of longing and of supplication which is called prayer.

"Prayer opens the doors of our hearts to the action of God in us," the Pope explained. "And if we Catholics and believers are convinced of this supernatural way of doing things in our lives, this way established by Christ, we will be convinced that prayer is a fundamental activity, a necessary and normal attitude for the correct and holy development of our present existence and for the attainment of our destiny."

## Anti-Smut Bill's Future Dim

WASHINGTON—A House subcommittee has begun work on a bill to create a presidential commission to combat smut, but there is virtually no chance of House action on it this session.

The House has been the graveyard in the past for identical measures which have twice passed the Senate. With adjournment only a short time away, the same fate is thought to await the bill this session.

Nevertheless, appeals for action were made to the Select Subcommittee on Education by the bill's author, Rep. Dominick V. Daniels of New Jersey, and from familiar figures in private anti-smut efforts, led by Charles H. Keating, Jr., of Cincinnati.

Keating, a lawyer who founded the national Citizens for Decent Literature, Inc., came to the hearing (Sept. 1) with an armload of picture magazines, nudist publications and paperbacks which he said were purchased for \$35 within blocks of the White House and the Capitol.

Holding the picture magazines up and calling attention to lewd passages from a paperback dealing with sexual perversion, Keating said: "I want to emphasize that this filth is available practically anywhere."

As he began reading a page describing a scene of sadism, Rep. John H. Dent of Pennsylvania, subcommittee chairman, cut him off, asking that the subcommittee be "spared" the details.

"The subcommittee has had experience with this stuff over the years," Dent said. "We all understand your complaint."

Keating then picked up a nudist magazine.

He said that today's nudist magazines are "in no wise similar" to the ones whose publication was upheld in 1956 by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Previously, he said, publishers would use brush strokes or shadows to cover private parts of the human body. Now, he charged, they "grossly exaggerate" bodies "in a manner calculated to arouse prurient interest."

Keating said the United States has become the leading source of pornography in the world. Unrestricted publication here is drawing foreign smut merchants who have been convicted of purveying pornography in their homelands, he said.

Keating held that 50 percent of the pornographic material available today is being purchased by youngsters under 21 years of age, many of whom receive unsolicited

advertisements for it through the mails.

"I urge you," Keating said, "to get this commission under way as soon as possible so that the next 10 years will find at least the substantial majority of the pornographers rotting in prison where they belong."

Daniels, sponsor of the measure (H.R. 7465), explained that it would form a 16-member committee named by the President to find ways to combat smut. The commission would report to the President by January, 1967.

Daniels said he would "indefinitely prefer" that the publishing industry clean up its own backyard, but that because obscenity is so widespread today, "the present situation cries out for action."

"What we are dealing with is a billion dollar industry whose rotten wares are in evidence in every part of the United States," he said.

Also appearing were a priest and a rabbi, both of whom are veteran battlers against obscenity.

The priest last year protested inaction against smut in New York City by going on a water-only fast which brought promises of a city cleanup. He did not eat for four days. The rabbi had shown his sympathy by undertaking a dawn-to-dusk fast at the same time.

The two are Father Morton A. Hill, S.J., of St. Ignatius church, and Rabbi Dr. Julius G. Neumann of Zichron Moshe synagogue. The rabbi is chairman of the board and the priest is secretary of the "Society for the Protection of Children's Mental and Moral Health."

In a joint statement, they called creation of the presidential commission "an urgent necessity."

It will mean, they said, that "the vast majority will at last be heard against the small but industrious and articulate minority which is corrupting American youth."

They urged that commission membership be denied to "members of any organization involved in the defense of pornographers or in any way involved in the profits of pornography."

## Life's Apology Ends Litigation By Five Priests

FRESNO, Calif. — (NC) — The attorney for five priests who filed a \$5 million damage suit against Time, Inc., said the litigation is ended with publication this week of an apology to the priests in Life magazine.

Richard McCormick, legal spokesman for the five Merced, Calif., priests, stressed that the original purpose of the suit was a retraction and not money damages.

"The priests did not ask for a cash payment and none was made as part of the settlement," said McCormick who added that petitions for dismissal of the suit will be filed immediately in Merced County Superior Court and Fresno Federal Court.

Life, in a correction published in its Sept. 3 issue, says that it was misinformed when it reported in a June 4 article that Merced priests had counseled a Merced Catholic housewife to proceed with an abortion. She feared that German measles she contracted during her pregnancy would cause physical and mental damage to the unborn child.

The priests, who are the only priests in Merced, denied talking with the woman, Mrs. Dolores Stonebreaker.

McCormick said that the priests first asked Time, Inc., for a retraction, but that the parent company of Life refused and the only course left open to get a correction was a damage suit.

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