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Priest's Opinion

Liturgy Changes Highly Successful

Atlanta, Ga.—(NC)—A leading commentator on liturgical developments said the success of the changes in the Mass has "far exceeded anyone's expectation."

But, added Father Frederick R. McManus, there is one major problem. It is that the new norms and rubrics will be observed without full understanding of their purpose.

"If there is a need at the moment, it is the recurring responsibility of teaching and preparing all the faithful for meaningful celebration," he said.

FATHER McMANUS, a Boston priest, is executive secretary of the U.S. Bishops' Commission for the Liturgical Apostolate, Washington, D.C., and has played a key role in

implementation of the liturgical renewal in this country.

He summed up his impressions of the reactions and problems resulting from the changes in an article in the Georgia Bulletin, newspaper of the Atlanta archdiocese, written as U.S. Catholics neared the first anniversary of the big liturgical changes and stood on the brink of even more use of English in the Mass.

CATHOLICS BEGAN widespread use of the vernacular on Nov. 29, 1964. By mid-winter of 1966, it is expected preparations will be complete for another major step, permitting virtually all parts of the Mass recited aloud or sung to be in English.

"Acceptance by the vast majority of the laity has been complete and this even in parishes where there has been little instruction or where the introduction of reforms has been largely mechanical," he wrote.

"The few surveys of popular opinion agree on this point, although it is spiritual benefit and a holier worship that are sought rather than mere popularity of change," he said.

THERE ARE, he said, some indications that "a certain proportion" of Catholics are still

VATICAN CITY —(NC)— Increased use of English in the liturgy, so that virtually all parts of the Mass recited aloud or sung are in the vernacular, has been decided on by the bishops of the United States and confirmed by the Holy See.

Father Frederick R. McManus, executive secretary of the U.S. Bishops' Commission for the Liturgical Apostolate, announced that the Holy See's Commission for Implementation of the Constitution on the Liturgy approved the American request in a document dated Oct. 15. It provides for the use of English in the Collect, Prayer over the Offerings, Preface, the prayer for peace and deliverance from evil which concludes the Lord's Prayer, and the Postcommunion. All the dialogue prayers—the salutations and responses between priest and people—are also to be in English.

THE NEW CONCESSIONS for the United States—which have been in effect in Australia and some other English-speaking countries for months—were made by the postconciliar liturgy commission in behalf of the Pope.

They came in answer to decisions taken this past summer by American bishops, who balloted by mail and reached almost unanimous agreement. The decrees were sent to Rome Sept. 3 by Francis Cardinal Spellman of New York, the senior American cardinal.

Publishers of altar missals for the U.S. will begin typesetting at once for the official English-Latin missal supplement. It is expected that production of the supplements for use by the celebrant at Mass will take at least four months. Only when the publication date is determined will the conference of bishops set an effective date, permitting the wider use of English in the liturgy throughout the United States, Father McManus said.

For new Mass prayers, the text approved by the American bishops is adapted from "The Daily Missal of the Mystical Body," known as the Maryknoll Missal. There will be no change in the provisional translations of other parts already in use, except that the dismissal, "Go, the Mass is ended," will be replaced by "The Mass is ended. Go in peace."

Besides this greater use of the vernacular at Mass, the new edition of "the Roman Ritual" in English, translated by Father Philip Weller of Loyola University,

Chicago, was officially approved. This is for supplementary use in case of sacramental rites not contained in the official U.S. ritual, the "Collectio Rituum," published last year. Also approved were translations of instructions to be given by the bishop at the beginning of ordination services.

COMMENTING on these developments, Archbishop John F. Dearden of Detroit, chairman of Bishops' Commission for the Liturgical Apostolate, said: "All translations approved are provisional. The policy thus far has been to choose the best available English translations from those already in existence. The long-range project of translation has been turned over to the international committee on English in liturgy, headed by Archbishop Gordon Gray of Edinburgh."

As soon as the date for publication of the official missal supplement can be set, general permission will be given to publishers to use all approved translations in books, booklets, and leaflets. In order to protect the public and publishers against too frequent changes, the release of some texts was withheld until additional vernacular concessions were ready,

according to Father McManus. It is not known how long the present translations will remain in effect. This depends upon the next stages of the revision of the Roman liturgy, now being prepared by bishops and specialists from all parts of the world, he said.

The gradual development in the use of English at Mass represents a second step taken by the American bishops. At their meeting in Rome in November, 1963, just before issuance of the council's Constitution on the Liturgy, the bishops agreed upon the most extensive possible use of English in the Church's public worship.

THE FIRST FORMAL step, voted almost unanimously by the U.S. conference of bishops in April 1964, became effective last November. It permitted English for the Biblical readings and for the prayers of the Mass recited by people, as well as for the sacraments, sacramentals, and funeral services.

The second step, when it goes into effect, will mean that the United States has complete use of vernacular language in liturgy, to the extent permitted by the Pope at the present time, Father McManus said.

Federal Pressure On Klan Growing

By Russell Shaw
(N.C.W.C. News Service)

WASHINGTON — The heat is on the Ku Klux Klan, and it promises to get hotter in the months ahead.

As a House Un-American Activities subcommittee continued hearings on Klan structure, operations and finances, Atty. Gen. Nicholas Katzenbach confirmed that the administration will seek new legislation to crack down on Klan violence, probably early in the next session of Congress.

Katzenbach, replying to questions after a National Press Club talk (Oct. 21), said he envisions legislation aimed at "particular acts of violence unquestionably traceable to members of the Klan or the Klan ideology."

(Among the possibilities mentioned in speculation is a measure making a civil rights killing a federal offense. Efforts to secure convictions in such cases have often been hamstrung in state courts in the South.)

Meanwhile the Un-American Activities subcommittee continued its probe of the Klan despite the reluctance of Klan leaders to answer questions.

ROBERT M. SHELTON, Imperial Wizard of the United Klans of America, largest Klan group in the country, repeatedly invoked the first, fourth, fifth and fourteenth amendments in refusing to give information about his organization's structure and finances. Other Klan officials did the same.

Outside the hearing room, the short, leathery-faced Imperial Wizard from Tuscaloosa, Ala., spoke of the investigation as an effort to "curry political favor with a group that has flouted the law all over the country." He was apparently referring to Negroes and the civil rights movement.

The subcommittee introduced evidence to show that Shelton and other Klan officials had used Klan money for their own purposes. Shelton allegedly bought a car and other items with Klan funds.

The hearings are expected to run at least 13 weeks, which would carry them beyond the start of the second session of the 89th Congress next January. Some 200 witnesses are expected to be called.

After two days before the subcommittee — during which he dis-

closed nothing except his name, age (36) and birthplace (Tuscaloosa) — Shelton was excused until Nov. 15.

Rep. Edwin E. Willis of Louisiana, chairman of the Un-American Activities Committee and of the special subcommittee, warned him and other Klan leaders that they might face contempt of Congress charges for refusing to turn over subpoenaed documents and records.

Willis also warned the Klan against seeking to intimidate witnesses. Committee investigators said their field work in the South had been hampered to some extent by fear of what might happen to those who cooperated with them.

KATZENBACH in his remarks at the Press Club said there are two reasons why the administration has not yet introduced new legislation for dealing with the Klan.

First, he said, officials want to see what information the current hearings develop. Second, they are waiting for the Supreme Court to decide two pending cases testing Justice Department authority to act.

The answers to both questions should be apparent by the next session of Congress, he said, and "the legislation we send up will reflect that wisdom."

In his prepared remarks the Attorney General said that, while the administration sets a "high premium" on voluntary compliance with the 1965 Voting Rights Act, it is prepared to enforce compliance where that is necessary.

In 10 weeks, he noted, the number of Negroes registered to vote in five southern states rose from 582,000 to 750,000 — an increase of 30%.

Replying to a question about the possibility of federal protection for Negroes who seek to register, Katzenbach acknowledged that there is a "general fear" of reprisals.

He insisted, however, that the solution is registration "in numbers" rather than sending in federal law enforcement officers.

RECEIVES CARDINAL

Vatican City — (NC) — Pope Paul VI received in audience (Oct. 22) James Francis Cardinal McIntyre of Los Angeles and Archbishop Pericle Felici, secretary general of the Ecumenical Council,

Jesuit General Says His Address Exaggerated

(N.C.W.C. News Service)

VATICAN CITY — The Jesuit general has admitted he "exaggerated" in an ecumenical council speech when he referred to an atheist plot to control international organizations and mass media.

Father Pedro Arrupe, S.J., in his first council speech (Sept. 27) since his election last summer as general of the Society of Jesus, gave a description of the "extremely efficient" leadership among militant atheists plotting to overthrow the reign of God from the minds of men.

In that speech he spoke of modern society as ignoring God or trying to destroy the idea of God. He spoke of the atheistic mentality invading the Church "insidiously influencing the minds of believers—including priests and Religious—with its hidden poison, and producing its natural fruits in the Church: naturalism, distrust and rebellion.

"This new godless society operates in an extremely efficient manner," he continued. "It follows a perfectly mapped out strategy. It holds almost complete sway in international organizations, in financial circles, in the field of mass communications: press, cinema, radio and television."

Answering journalists' questions during a conference (Oct. 20) at the council's press office, he admitted that the phrasing of that passage from the speech was a "faulty expression on my part and perhaps exaggerated."

He added that both he and the Society of Jesus "want to work with the communications media. It is my duty to show gratitude for the collaboration the press has shown. You have a right to know how the Jesuits feel regarding the fundamental issues," he said.



A GIFT OF GOD — At Holy Family Hospital, Karachi, West Pakistan, a new little Pakistani citizen is admired by his mother and Sister M. Martha Heiser, nurse-midwife, of the Medical Mission Sisters (Philadelphia), who helped bring him into the world. His parents named him appropriately Khuda Baksh, which means "gift of God."