



**POPE PAUL VI** speaks animatedly to Dr. Thomas P. Melady, New York, (April 30), as the Holy Father received the head of the Africa Service Institute, an organization which sponsors technical assistance projects in various African countries. At right is Msgr. Paul Marcinkus, Chicago priest attached to the Vatican Secretariat of State. (NC Photos)

## Protestant Leaders Laud South Carolina Bishop

COLUMBIA, S.C. — (NC) — Protestant leaders from various areas of South Carolina attended a breakfast here, honoring newly consecrated Auxiliary Bishop Joseph L. Bernardin of Atlanta, Ga.

Bishop Bernardin, who was consecrated in Charleston April 26, was praised by the Protestant leaders for his contributions to better Catholic-Protestant relations in South Carolina.

"There has been a new spirit of cooperation among Protestant and Catholic ministers in Charleston," and much of the credit goes to Bishop Bernardin, said Dr. Ralph Cannon, president of the Charleston Ministerial Association.

Dr. L. C. Jenkins, representing 250,000 Negro Baptists in the state, said he hoped Bishop Bernardin would be South Carolina's first cardinal.

Episcopal Bishops Gray Temple and John Pinckney, Methodist Bishop Paul Hardin, Jr., and Lutheran, Presbyterian and Southern Baptist leaders also praised the new bishop.

Bishop Bernardin credited Pope John XXIII with stimulating the Church to ecumenical action.

"In God's providence, Pope John came along and changed the Catholic Church's entire perspective relative to what our attitude should be toward other Christian churches, as well as toward non-Christians, especially our Jewish brothers," Bishop Bernardin said.

He added, "All of us should be happy that we live in such exciting times. It is truly a new Pen-

tecost. And the full potential of this new Pentecost is unknown to us at this time because it is unlimited."

### Elected Secretary

In the election of student leaders held recently on the campus of Belmont Abbey College, Belmont, N.C., Thomas D. Siegle was elected secretary of the Student Government.

A rising senior, he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Siegle of 146 Westdale Avenue, in Winston-Sa-

## Honor Society Inducts Girls At Charlotte

Our Lady of Mercy High School in Charlotte had its National Honor Society Induction Monday, May 1.

The girls newly inducted into the society are: Barbara Gavan, Melody Lajoie, Cissy Conlon, Mary Joan Potter and Deborah Aston.

The guest speaker for the occasion was Dr. Philip D. Vairo, head of the education department of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Dr. Vairo outlined the academic achievements of Our Lady of Mercy and congratulated the students on their accomplishments. He then gave an informative talk on the importance of education.

Friday, April 29, the students of Our Lady of Mercy went to the polls to vote for their new student council officers. Monday, May 4, the results of the election were announced to the students and for four happy students, the long week of campaigning was rewarded a hundredfold. They are: President, Lynn Stavarakas; vice President, Barbara Steegmuller; recording secretary, Robin West, and treasurer, Joyce Vaillancourt.

Recently, the student council of Our Lady of Mercy High in Charlotte tried a novel project for raising money. It sponsored a slave sale.

An auction was held and the members of the Student Council were sold for prices ranging from \$1.25 for a representative to \$10 for the president.

On a designated day, the slaves worked for the student or students who had bought them. They were made to do everything from cleaning-out cars to crawling on their hands and knees across the floor.

lem. A graduate of Bishop McGuinness High School, he is seeking the Bachelor of Arts degree at the Abbey, majoring in business and economics.

## Rome Police Search For Spanish Priest

ROME — (NC) — A priest apparently abducted here by Spanish anarchists in an attempt to force the Franco government to release political prisoners was still missing after a week of search by Italian authorities.

Msgr. Marcos Ussia, assistant for ecclesiastical affairs at the Spanish embassy to the Holy See, had been missing since April 29, when his car was found still running but empty near his home in an old section of the city.

The Rome office of the French news agency received on May 5 a letter signed by an organization calling itself the "May Day group." It demanded the Vatican's support for the release of political prisoners jailed by the Franco government as a condition for the priest's release.

**THE SAME** news agency earlier had reported that a spokesman for a group of anarchists in Madrid was claiming responsibility for the abduction.

The Spanish ambassador to the Holy See received a letter May 2 reportedly signed by Msgr. Ussia stating that he was a "prisoner of the anarchists of Spain." A second letter came later assuring the ambassador he was not being harmed.

The May 5 letter read as follows:

"We pledge ourselves to set Msgr. Ussia free as soon as the Church makes a declaration in favor of freedom for political prisoners in Spain. Although we are against violence, we had to act as we did because of the indifference of the world and because of the arrogance of Spanish fascism toward the lot of anti-fascists who are deprived of freedom, and toward the state of oppression in which the Spanish people live."

**THE FRENCH** news agency said the letter also expressed the abductor's regret that the incident should have taken place in Italy, "because the Italian people have

always expressed understanding and support for the cause of free Spain."

They decided to take action in Rome, according to the agency report, "in order to confront the Church with its responsibilities at a moment which is particularly critical for the Spanish people and when, after 27 years of fascist dictatorship, Spanish democrats are demanding a measure of freedom of expression and association."

## Science Group Taps Tar Heel

Michael Bowermaster, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Bowermaster of 919 Sewickley Drive, Charlotte, and a student of Charlotte Catholic High School will participate in the National Science Foundation's Summer Project at the University of Iowa this summer.

Michael, a junior, was one of 20 students chosen nationally out of 1600 applicants.

The program at Iowa will consist of an intensive study of modern math and chemistry, with extensive field trips to other colleges and various industries throughout the nation. Leading scientists and businessmen will speak to the group over the two month course.

Michael has also participated in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Junior Achievement program and was top salesman of the year during the 1964-65 school year.

### PRIESTS' SENATE

Salamanca, Spain — (NC) — Bishop Mauro Rubio Repulles of Salamanca has summoned a meeting of the 400 priests of his diocese to elect a diocesan priest senate. The clergy are to elect members of three different commissions to be set up to advise the bishop.

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