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Editor's Desk

"There were a lot of Catholic door bells rung around North Carolina for this building" became an echoing thought as we admired the new Catholic Student Center for the thousand registered youths who should be now taking advantage of the fine facility offered them by the sacrifices of the laity of the Diocese of Raleigh.

It was great to be at the U.N.C. at Chapel Hill for the dedication last week.

The cost represented the principal portion of the Diocesan Loyalty Campaign taken in the spring of last year and this one.

First of all, the location of the center is ideal and accessible to the campus. The property on the first block of Pittsboro Street, faces the new proposed main entrance of the Carolina Inn, now under construction. The purchase of the property represents the donations of the young men of the Naval Preflight School who trained at the University back in the early 1940's. Thousands of them went through the courses during those years and attended Mass in the Music Building Auditorium.

THE FUND for the purchase of property grew from their Offerories of loose change. The Rev. Dr. Francis J. Morrissey was chaplain in those years and he was ably assisted by the Rev. Francis K. O'Brien (now Monsignor) of Burlington and the Rev. D. Edward Sullivan, now pastor of St. Ann's Parish at Charlotte.

It was a great event when the Pittsboro property was purchased, with the cottage-sized frame dwelling on it. It served more than 20 years as the student center and resident Chaplain's quarters.

We experienced life on the campus back in '47 completing two semesters in the School of Journalism there and assisting Doctor Morrissey with Saturday confessions and Sunday Masses at Gerrard Hall. A Sunday collection in those days amounted to about fifty dollars, representing the entire Catholic community of the area.

The Church has enjoyed steady progress in numerical growth and facilities in Chapel Hill. The parish of St. Thomas More owes a lot to the Rev. Dr. John Weidinger, presently pastor of Holy Trinity Church at Kinston and See Editor's Desk, page 8A

Authority Is Discussed By Apostolic Delegate

Emmitsburg, Md. — "Although the external forms of the exercise of authority in the Church may be similar to those in other societies, authority in the Church is a category by itself as far as its origins and aims are concerned."

Archbishop Luigi Raimondi, Apostolic Delegate in the United States, made this observation here at the fall convocation at Mount St. Mary's College.

In his address the Archbishop outlined the concept of authority and the position of the Pope in the Church but noted: "Both of these subjects would deserve



A NEW STUDENT RESIDENCE which will accommodate 140 women was opened last week at Sacred Heart Senior College at Belmont. Within the past few years, a new library and a first residence have been built on the expanding campus. Pictured, the Rev. Mother M. Benignus, R.S.M., Provincial of the Sisters of Mercy who conduct the College is seen cutting the ribbons to formally open the Kent Residence Hall while Sister M. Stephen, R.S.M., President of the College smilingly approves of the action. Story on page 5. The College is located about 10 miles west of Charlotte on Interstate 85 and U.S. 74.

To Serve Catholic Students

Bishop Dedicates UNC Chapel

Chapel Hill — "This chapel dedicated to the Divine Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary will offer a means to lead you to her Divine Son and be the source of the profession of Faith grounded in the Creed of the Apostles," Bishop Waters told the congregation of students assembled for the Mass of Dedication on Oct. 30.

The dedication marked the opening of a long desired Catholic Student Center to serve the religious needs of students attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. There are over a thousand Catholic students who have registered as such upon entering the University. The Most Rev. Vincent S. Waters, D.D., Bishop of Raleigh, officiated at the blessing of the handsome structure and was chief-celebrant at the Mass which immediately followed.

The Center is located on Pitts-

boro Street, across from the Carolina Inn.

The Rev. John Huston, chaplain and director of the Student Center was master of ceremonies.

CONCELEBRATING with His Excellency were the Rev. Robert L. Wilken, of Asheville and the Rev. Joseph Woods, O.S.B., both of whom in recent years served as Chaplain to the Catholic Students.

The student center, also known as Newman Hall, was financed by the Catholics throughout North Carolina in the Diocesan Loyalty Campaign which was made in 1967 and 1968. The facility provides a large chapel, office space, chaplain's quarters and a reception area for student gatherings.

"As a piece of real estate this student center building is a witness of the concern of the Church with the University. To think that this modern well-designed facility spells anything like a solution to the apostolate of the Church to Academy is naive," said Father Wilken complimenting the new Center.

IN A PAROCHIAL way the Center will not only meet the worship requirements of the Catholic students but will provide an attractive place "for counseling, to cry over exams, to discuss an up-coming marriage, or to have a cheap date," said the priest.

In conclusion the preacher noted that "here the Liturgy of the Covenant, the renewal of Redemption around this lovely altar must be a catalyst to put across that newly grasped meaning of Redemption of renewed and re-presented Covenant whereby Christ continues in time His historic work of sacrifice, or remaking of brotherhood, of unity and peace."

Father Wilken congratulated

Act of Faith Becomes More Difficult: Pope

Vatican City — Pope Paul VI, observing that an act of faith is becoming more difficult in this "civilization of the image," complained that some remedies offered are as dangerous as the malady.

He also ascribed this difficulty to biblical research that is "deprived of the complement furnished by tradition and of the authoritative assistance of the ecclesiastical magisterium [the Church's teaching authority]."

Pope Paul was speaking at a regular weekly general audience.

He began by referring to the Credo of the People of God that he pronounced June 30 at the end of the Year of Faith. He described this as "a repetition, amplified with explicit references to some doctrinal points, of the Nicene Creed."

THE NICENE CREED, he said, is a "brief synthesis of the principal truths believed by the Catholic Church," and has taken on "the solemnity of an official act of our faith."

He drew a careful distinction between objective faith, which consists in truths that are believed, and subjective faith, which is the virtuous act of assent to these truths.

Pope Paul said he was drawing the Church's attention to "this profession of faith" for two reasons: because of the basic importance of the faith and because of the difficulty of an act of faith today.

On the first point Pope Paul quoted the Council of Trent (1545-63): "Faith is the beginning of human salvation, the foundation and the root of every justification, that is, of our regenera-

tion in Christ, of our redemption and of our present and eternal salvation" (Session VI, C8).

HE ALSO QUOTED the Epistle to the Hebrews: "Without faith it is impossible to please God" (11, 6).

For his own part he added: "Faith is the irreplaceable principle of Christianity. It is the source of charity. It is the center of unity. It is our religion's basic reason for existence."

Turning to his second reason for calling the Church's attention to the twofold aspect of faith, Pope Paul ascribed the difficulties modern man finds in making an act of faith to a doubt in the power of reason itself.

"If thought is no longer respected in its intrinsic rational requirements, so too faith itself suffers from it. We must well remember that faith requires reason. It transcends it, but it requires it. Faith is not fideism, that is, belief deprived of rational foundations. It is not merely a twilight search for some religious experience. It is possession of truth. It is certainty."

HE OBSERVED that an act of faith has become more difficult psychologically as well.

"Today man knows principally by way of the senses. We speak of the civilization of the image. All knowledge is translated into figures and signs. Reality is measured by what is seen and heard. Yet faith requires the use of the mind, which addresses itself to a sphere of realities that flee sensible observation.

"And we say further that the difficulties arise also from the philological, exegetical, historical studies applied to that primary font of revealed truth which is Holy Writ. When deprived of the complement furnished by tradition and by the authoritative assistance of the ecclesiastical magisterium, even the study of the ... Bible is full of doubts and of problems which disconcert faith more than they strengthen it. When this study is left to individual initiative, it generates such a pluralism of opinions as to shake the faith in its subjective certainty and to take away its social authoritativeness.

THE REMEDIES proposed for this crisis of faith are often fallacious, he said, citing the attempts to:

—Reduce the content of the faith to some basic propositions.

—Pick and choose among "the many truths taught by our Credo."

—Make the modern mentality "the method and the yardstick of religious thought."

On the other hand, he praised the attempt to express the truths of the faith "in terms accessible to the language and the mentality of our time." His objection in this field centered upon the "passing over in silence, softening or altering certain 'difficult dogmas.'"

Pope Paul concluded his audience with a prayer for faith.

Pope Is Reported Silent On Cardinal's Retirement

Vatican City — (NC) — A Vatican spokesman has said that Pope Paul VI has not said anything regarding the intention of Richard Cardinal Cushing of Boston to resign and that the Pope is not planning to say anything.

(Meanwhile, in Boston, at a mission departure ceremony for priest volunteers of the Society of St. James, which he founded, Cardinal Cushing said: "I'll be down to see you in Peru in January, and as soon as I can retire, I'll be down there to live." (Earlier, Cardinal Cushing said

that, because of the mail he had received on his remarks concerning the marriage of Jacqueline Kennedy to Aristotle Onassis, he proposed to offer his resignation to the Pope at the end of this year.

(He stressed that when he had said Mrs. Onassis "could marry anyone she wished," he did not mean that she could do so "within the Catholic Church." He said he had informed her that, if her marriage were invalid, she could not receive the sacraments but that she could attend Mass and continue her private devotions.)