

HIERARCHY 'CAUTIOUS'

# Why ecumenism is lagging badly among British

By DESMOND FISHER  
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LONDON—Cardinal John Carmel Heenan, in one of his noteworthy speeches at the second Vatican Council, pledged that the bishops of England would do everything in their power, short of denying their faith, for ecumenism in their country.

In point of fact, the bishops have not been noticeably enthusiastic since the council ended to convert their ornate into actions. The English are cautious about ecumenism.

Since the council, there has been no marked change in the higher theological echelons. At the ground level, yes. This year's Unity Week celebration was the most enthusiastic ever. There were parochial meetings, joint services, talks, lectures, and visits which did much good and showed that there is a great deal of ecumenical goodwill waiting to be tapped at the grass roots.

PARISH priests, with one eye on the British hierarchy's regulations governing ecumenical activity and one on their clerical colleagues in the other Christian churches, showed mixed reactions, ranging from

All of these reasons have a justification in fact, but it is hard to avoid the feeling in Britain that with few exceptions, the hierarchy is exaggerating the probable difficulties in order to rationalize that opposition to ecumenism which springs from entirely different causes.

There is a new, small-circulation, inter-faith magazine called "The New Christian." In one of its first issues a prominent Catholic layman, Neil Middleton, pointed out that the majority of the bishops in Britain are products of a common background. They have been nurtured in the hot-house atmosphere of an English Jesuit college in which Anglo Catholics can at best hope for tolerance, and must be prepared for social, political and religious discrimination, he charged.

Other leading Catholics agree with this diagnosis, leading to an interpretation that this is poor soil in which to expect ecumenism to grow, especially when the struggling plant has to contend with the outdated theology and apologetics-oriented approach to religion in which so many of the country's prelates, particularly those in important jobs, have been trained.

The official Catholic attitude to non-Roman Christians is, therefore, at best lukewarm, at worse freezing. Two or three individual bishops pursue ecumenism seriously but they are not typical of the hierarchy as a whole.

It has become the lot of the Apostle Delegate to Great Britain, Archbishop Igino Cardinal, to represent the pro-

gressive few toward ecumenism. Archbishop Cardinal went to the 90th anniversary service in Westminster Abbey. But he is not a member of the hierarchy, and his progressive attitude have not endeared him to the bishops, though he is highly regarded by the Anglican and by many Roman Catholics.

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the Lambeth Conference, which is the organization of the Anglican Churches of the world—level of the opportunity for top-level theological discussions at home, is going over the heads of the British bishops to the Pope himself.

POPE PAUL has shown himself in advance of many hierarchies in his attitude to several issues, including ecumenism. Observers here maintain that it will not be surprising if he agrees with Archbishop Ramsey on some new channel for continuing the Anglican-Roman dialogue, even if this means bypassing the British hierarchy.

If this happens the British bishops will have only themselves to blame. Two items of major ecumenical significance are likely to be (Continued on page 7)



IN WOODS PRODUCTION—Mary Elton Boyle, of Hammond, has the title role in "Little Mary Sunshine," a light-hearted opus of the 1930's, to be presented at St. Mary of the Woods as a feature of the annual Father-Daughter Week-End, March 18 and 19. The young girl is Jerry Fougereuse, of St. Patrick's parish, Terre Haute. A special performance is being sponsored by the Terre Haute Woods Alliance Club on Sunday, March 20.

## GUIDELINES PRESENTED

### Parental vigilance termed key to avoiding teen-age disaster

By BERNICE O'CONNOR  
In a no-holds-barred talk on sex education to Indianapolis parents, teachers, students, and medical-social experts at Marian College last week, Dr. and Mrs. Jack Wilkie, of Cincinnati, lambasted:

- Drive-in theaters. No teenagers should attend, according to the Wilkies, unless a parent is chaperoning from the back seat.
- Teen-age driving. No—un-enthusiastically no—teen-ager should be allowed to own a car.
- Steady dating. An abstinence, the Wilkies agreed, who stunts emotional growth and often leads to sexual immorality. Only the timid, the insecure, need a "steady." Dr. Wilkie said.
- Serving alcoholic beverages to teen-agers. Not the first bottle, not even the first glass of beer or wine should be served a teen-ager in his own home or anywhere else.
- Immodest, tight clothes on high school girls. "If your daughter dresses like a prostitute, don't be surprised when the boys start treating her like one," Dr. Wilkie warned.

Wilkie urge frank sex instruction, beginning at the pre-school level. By the time a child starts first grade, he should know the simple facts of procreation and childbirth, they believe. By about age 10, he should be told about intercourse. Prudishness is out, Dr. Wilkie, a family physician, and his wife, a nurse, insist.

"THE WAY our parents taught us is not good enough," the speakers told their two audiences at Marian. Ripping into some customs "which start our children up a sexual ladder," the Wilkies' first target was the Barbie doll, "a well-stacked babe with a boy tend, comely, and sodas besides. This is the feminine model we offer our little seven or eight-year old girls."

Another step up the ladder of sex are nylon hose and heels for fifth and sixth grade girls. Are they warm, practical, or comfortable, Mrs. Wilkie asked. Not at all. They are designed to make a pair of spindly legs which belong in knee socks and loafers look "attractive" and besides, all the other little girls have them.

Because teen-agers travel in packs and "gang up" on families, well-meaning adults, the Wilkies pointed approvingly to guidelines such as established by a group of New Orleans parents: (1) no boy-girl parties, even if chaperoned to the hilt, in grade school; (2) group parties for high school freshmen.

Junior high school bands will be established at five Archdiocesan high schools in Indianapolis, according to an announcement from the Archdiocesan School Office. The pilot project will be inaugurated at Ritter High School, where youngsters from 10 neighboring parishes will participate in a joint musical effort. It is expected that similar programs will be organized at Chatham, Chartrand, Sacred Heart and Secunia High Schools.

IN ANNOUNCING the program, Msgr. James P. Galvin, Archdiocesan Superintendent of Schools, stated: "The need for an instrumental music program in our grade schools has long been recognized. Few individual schools are able to have one because the cost is prohibitive. A joint effort incorporating several schools, as is being piloted at Ritter, seems to offer a practical and effective solution. Grade school students will be provided the opportunity for the enriching experience of any civilized nation. It is at most a national calamity."

## New birth control commission includes three U.S. prelates

By REV. JOHN DONNELLY

VATICAN CITY—Sixteen prelates, including three from the United States, and a score of experts are included in the new commission, headed by Cardinal Alfredo Ottaviani, to study the birth control issue.

Cardinal Ottaviani is assisted by two vice-chairmen: Cardinal John Heenan, of Westminster, England, and Cardinal Julius Döpfner, of Munich, Germany. The 16 prelates come from 11 nations. The three from the U.S.—more than any from any other country—are Cardinal Lawrence Shehan of Baltimore, Archbishop John Dearden of Detroit and Archbishop Leo Binz of St. Paul, Minn.

Cardinal Ottaviani told the NCWC News Service that the new commission has been charged with analyzing the information prepared by a group of some 70 experts who have been studying the birth control problem since they were commissioned by Pope Paul in June, 1964. The new group will then prepare a statement based on their findings which will be submitted to the Pope for his decision, the cardinal said.

A group of about 20 experts from the older commission will prepare a program and plan of action. It was charged by Pope Paul when he established it to investigate the entire problem of the control of birth with an open mind, setting aside preconceived theological opinions.

It has been widely reported that the larger commission was sharply divided in its findings and has to date reached no consensus. No official statement has ever been released, however. The formation of the present commission assumed that the Pope also said then the problem of birth control despite its difficulties.

MSGR. JOSEPH G. Valcho, official of the archdiocese of New Orleans and rita, of the Church of St. Rita, New Orleans, is designated as Titular Bishop of Novitiana and Auxiliary Bishop of Rochester. (Continued on page 9)

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## Missals not obsolete, Holy See emphasizes

STILL SERVE PURPOSE  
Pietro Grieci

VATICAN CITY—An official publication of the Vatican's post-conciliar commission on the liturgy has declared that the updating of Church liturgy has not made the use of missals by the faithful obsolete. Criticizing the opinion that the missal is an obstacle to active participation in the liturgy, Notitiae observed that even before the council's liturgical reform the missal was used only because Latin was not known, but also to instill "love and appreciation for the sacred liturgy and to prompt the faithful to progressive and more profound understanding of the liturgy."

for many years if they rely on the criteria of the present reform and are arranged with certain flexibility and variety," it was declared.

Notitiae published a letter from Cardinal Arcadio Maria Larrasoa, prefect of the Congregation of Rites, to Cardinal Pietro Grieci, prefect of the Congregation of the Council, notifying him of a Congregation of Rites decision that when preference is given to a diocese to preparing such selections since fulfill Sunday and holy day Mass obligations on Saturday to go on nor any "certain evening, the liturgical texts to be used are those of the Sunday from tradition."

gical commission to grant national hierarchies permission to experiment with new selections of Scripture readings for weekday Masses (third and fourth class) not having special texts. This is designed to provide more complete knowledge of Scripture to the congregation throughout the course of the liturgical year.

Notitiae said episcopal conferences which had already received this permission. The list did not include the United States or Canada.

UPDATED missals, even with the new liturgy are "still necessary for more perfect understanding of the total mystery of salvation celebrated during the liturgical year, for drawing meditation and fervor from the inexhaustible riches of the liturgical texts, and, facilitating individual participation," Notitiae said.

"This demands not only that the Word of God be proclaimed within the gathered community and authentically honored by it, but also that the holy people respond to the Word of God which they have received and celebrate the Sacraments (Mysteries) by singing or reciting the parts of the Ordinary and Proper (of the Mass), hymns and psalms."

"To do this, the help of some small missal or book of prayers has value, more so if it contains elements for participation in the sacraments and other sacred functions, such as for example the 'Book of Catholic Worship' just prepared by the Liturgical Conference of the United States of America."



VOCAION MONTH REMINDER — Young Robert Mieth, dressed in miniature priestly vestments, reminds readers that March is Vocation Month. Robert, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mieth, 551, Rock parish, Indianapolis, is a pupil at the inter-parish kindergarten located at Sacred Heart School. (Staff photo by Dennis Hoffman)

## Official

By order of the Holy Father, throughout the Lenten season, the following invocation for peace is to be inserted into the Prayer of the Faithful wherever it is used in the Mass: "That just peace and true concord be realized among peoples violently afflicted by war or discord."

THE CHANCERY OFFICE

## ACCW parley set

The 28th convention of the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Workers will be held at the Claypool Hotel in Indianapolis on Wednesday and Thursday, April 20 and 21, it was announced this week by Mrs. Edgar Day, of New Albany, ACCW president. The luncheon speaker on Thursday will be Rev. Fr. Joseph J. Welsh, supreme national rector of the Daughters of Isabella.

## Dr. Colantonio and representatives of Craig Studios recently gave demonstration of various hand instruments to pupils in each of the ten parish schools in the Ritter area.

Group lessons will be given at Ritter on Saturday morning by Ted Hinkle, band director at the Westside high school. The entire program will be explained to interested grade school pupils and their parents at 8 p.m., Tuesday, March 15, at Ritter. The first practice session will begin the following Saturday morning.