



# Barquilla de la Santa Maria

## BULLETIN of the Catholic Record Society- Diocese of Columbus

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### Diocesan Council of Catholic Men The Early Days

*This story of the early days of the DCCM came to the Society with many other records of that organization, some years ago. The author is not named. It covers approximately the years 1955 through 1961.*

#### PRELUDE

In the Spring of 1955, Bishop Ready sent a delegation of two priests and three laymen to attend the national convention of the Council of Catholic Men in Boston.<sup>1</sup> The Bishop's intent at that time was to have a few informed people who could initiate the establishment of a Diocesan Council of Catholic Men in the Diocese of Columbus. The diocesan representatives to that convention attended all the sessions, met with the leaders of the National Council and those active in the Province of Ohio. Before returning to Columbus, they pooled their findings, discussed the possibilities of a Council in Columbus and drew up some recommendations for the Bishop. Foremost among these recommendations was the observation generally agreed upon by all the representatives that the first efforts should be directed towards reorganizing and strengthening the existing Holy Name Society in all the parishes of the Diocese. Though there was a strong feeling that this should be the first step towards the formation of a Council of Men, the reasoning behind this suggestion was the fact that there could

be no effective Council within the Diocese until there were strong parish units which could be federated into such a Council. This report was submitted to the Bishop. Later, the men attending the convention met with the Bishop and discussed these matters with him. There was no action forthcoming on any of the recommendations made to the Bishop at that time.

#### BEGINNING

In February, 1957, Martin Work of the National Council of Catholic Men wrote to Bishop Ready and suggested that representatives from the national office come to Columbus for the organizational work of a Diocesan Council during the Spring of that year. The Bishop acceded to the request. Through correspondence and telephone calls with the national office, it was decided that the general meeting, establishing the Columbus Council, for the priests and men of the Diocese should be held in May. A time schedule of meetings preparatory to setting up the Council was worked out accordingly. The first of these meetings was held on March 18, 1957 at which time Bishop Ready and a representative from the national staff presented the idea of a Diocesan Council of Catholic Men to the deans and a group of priests already working in the field of the lay apostolate. Martin Work, NCCM executive secretary, was present for this meeting. The Bishop issued a

pastoral letter on the formation of the Council of Catholic Men, March 25, 1957. On April 7th, a meeting with a select group of laymen from the five deaneries of the Diocese met in Columbus. These men were selected for this early phase of indoctrination in the Council idea because it was from their ranks that the first officers and chairmen were to be chosen.

Following those first three small meetings, general sessions were scheduled in each of the deaneries. The pastors and representatives from parish and interparish organizations were invited to attend these meetings. A representative of the national office and a priest representative of the Bishop gave a detailed explanation of the functions of the Council in the Diocese. At each of these meetings the Deanery officers and chairmen were announced. They had been previously appointed by the Bishop. Priest moderators were also appointed for all deaneries. All of these initial stages were preparations for the final general assembly at which time the charter for the Columbus Diocesan Council was presented. The date was Sunday, May 19, 1957 and the meeting was held in the auditorium of Watterson High School, Columbus. Just prior to the achievement of this work Bishop Ready had died on May 2, 1957.

At the inaugural convention on May 19th, Bishop Hettinger presided. Priests and representations from all lay groups of men throughout the Diocese were present. The national president of the NCCM, the Honorable David A. McMullan, of Saint Louis, gave the address and presented the charter to James P. Charles, the first diocesan president. Bishop Hettinger announced that the first major project of the Council of Men in the Diocese would be a Weekday Mass Program in the parishes. The details and the dates for this project were to be announced early in September. The first meeting of the Diocesan Board of Directors was held immediately after this inaugural session.

As an explanatory paragraph, it seems well to mention here that there was an existing Diocesan Holy Name Union at the time the Diocesan Council of Men was inaugurated. The Union was established in 1947. For the first five or six years there was a great deal of enthusiasm in the parish units of the Holy Name Society. However, since that time, probably due to a lack of programming, the Holy Name Societies in the Diocese have been generally inactive. It was Bishop Ready's intention that parish Holy Name Societies would be the basic unit of affiliation within the Council and that the Council would replace the Diocesan Holy Name Union as a means of federating men's groups in the Diocese.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

The activities of the Columbus Diocesan Council of Catholic Men have been limited due to the short period of time it has been in existence and especially due to the loss of its spiritual leadership in the death of Bishop Ready and the length of the interregnum.

Four standing committees of action were agreed upon by Bishop Ready — Religious Activities, Youth, Public Relations and Organization and Development. Thus far only Religious Activities and Public Relations have functioned.

The Weekday Mass Program was undertaken for the twofold purpose of giving the men of the Diocese a project for their own spiritual betterment and to develop among them a spirit of unity and cooperation in a common effort. The Weekday Mass Program was designed to enlist the men of the Diocese to participate in at least one weekday Mass in addition to the fulfillment of their Sunday obligation.

During the summer months the diocesan board of directors met frequently and worked out the details of promoting and publicizing the

program. Bishop Hettinger officially announced the Weekday Mass Program in a Letter to the clergy on September 18, 1957. There followed indoctrination meetings of the Religious Activities Chairmen in the deaneries and the parishes. "Operation Door Bell" on Sunday, October 20, 1957, was designated as the day when workers would call on all men in the parishes of the Diocese to ask them to pledge themselves to participation in the Weekday Mass Program.

The results of this program were considerably less than anticipated. However, there were a number of parishes where the numbers attending weekday Mass were most gratifying. The one benefit was an increased awareness among great numbers of men that a weekday Mass could very easily fit into their spiritual life.

The parish priests throughout the Diocese gave a great impetus to this program by their talks on the Mass, their encouragement to the men and arranging special Masses for the convenience of the working men.

During this period the members of the Board made studies for the draft of a Diocesan Constitution. It was completed and adopted November 11, 1957.

With the cooperation of the National Council of Catholic Men the local Council arranged for two four-week showings of the film, "Rome Eternal" over TV -Channel 4.

Men representatives from all the deanery councils shared a major part in the arrangements and in conducting the installation ceremonies for Bishop Issenmann.

Even though the Council of Men in the Diocese of Columbus has existed for a very brief period of time and the efforts of the men have been restricted, nevertheless, they have learned something of the Council idea and have

experienced some sense of a unified program for men within the Diocese and participation in the national program of Catholic Action.

## FINANCES

Thus far, the Council of Men has established no operating budget. Its income is realized entirely from affiliation dues of \$35 paid by each member organization. \$10 of this \$35 is forwarded to the national office, \$10 is remitted to the deanery treasurer of the organization and \$15 is retained by the Diocesan Council. The only expenditures thus far have been the cost of promoting the Weekday Mass Program and the office supplies necessary for maintaining its administration. Currently there are sixty-five parish affiliates and twenty-four Interparish affiliates.

## PROBLEMS

The problems of the Council of Men are few. We can list three. I. Enough cannot be said about the ineffectiveness of the parish organizations of men. They are inactive in so far as programming in the interests of the Church and State are concerned; generally speaking, their membership is low; they are not attracting the best leadership; they are not integrated into any overall program of the lay apostolate. 2. Vigorous and responsible leadership has not been forthcoming in parish organizations. There are several reasons which may explain this condition. Unquestionably, there is an apathetic attitude among many men toward the external works of the Church. In some instances, this may be due to a lack of understanding of these works. It may also be said that priests are not always willing to seek out and request the services of men who have a capacity for leadership. 3. Without stressing the point too much, there is something to be said for the lack of cooperation among pastors in the work of promoting an organized lay apostolate and giving encouragement to their people to participate in such a program.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The most urgent and immediate need to the fulfillment of any Council program in the Diocese of Columbus is parish organizational work. As with the women, an effective parish unit is the basis of any strong cooperative action throughout the Diocese. The Holy Name Society can very well be designated as the parish representative organization to the Diocesan Council. Before any farther undertakings are proposed to the Council, it would seem that a studied effort should be expended in activating Holy Name Societies in every parish of the Diocese. It has been proposed by the diocesan and deanery moderators of the Council that one large and one small parish in each deanery be selected for experimentation in the best possible way to organize (or reorganize) the Holy Name Society within the parish. The results could be analyzed and a pattern of procedure could then be formulated for all parishes in the Diocese. With this basis, a strong federation of men's groups could become a reality.

Experience among men's organizations indicates that they are geared to action and tangible accomplishments. This is one of the reasons why diocesan projects - not continuous, nor numerous - are proposed to diocesan councils. There are two which are suggested for action in the Diocese of Columbus. 1. a program for establishing effective Holy Name Societies in all parishes; 2. a diocesan census. The results from these two projects can become the foundation for the many works of Catholic Action which are demanded by the particularized needs of this Diocese.

The Organization and Development Committee on all levels must be well-trained and supplied with pertinent materials to follow up immediately upon the organizational work within the parishes. It will be the work of this Committee to integrate the individual units into a functioning diocesan council.

Interparish groups must not be neglected.

Recognizing their autonomy and specific purposes, they must be shown what is their role in the works of the Church in the Diocese; they must be given some definite portion of the Council program to promote and foster (e. g., the youth program for the Knights of Columbus); and they must have counsel through a priest-moderator.

Officer and leadership training programs are indispensable at this point in the formation of the Council program. Once begun, it should be a continuing process. (The Christopher Leadership Training Course could be investigated for its possible use in the Diocese. This applies to both men and women.)

A diocesan priest moderator is as imperative to the Council of Men as it is to the Council of Women. With the trend today towards wider cooperation among men and women and the integration of their programs, this priest moderator should serve both Councils.

If the lay apostolate among men and women of this Diocese is to be successfully carried on in the years ahead, there must be a diocesan office of operations.

Naturally, this leads to the subject of financing. As with the Women's Council, provisions should be made on a diocesan level for financing the operation of the Councils.

In the beginning, there seemed some need for deanery moderators. This was the recommendation of the national office. Experience with the Women's Council where there are no deanery moderators and with the Men's Council where they have been appointed would seem to indicate that this function is better handled by the deans. Their opinions should be requested in this matter.

On the matter of standing committees, those already designated should be continued. However, the Public Relations Committee could very well be changed to a Communications Committee for

the same reasons given in the report on the Columbus Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. The addition of Committees on Legislation, Family Life and International Relations should be considered.

Finally, in the early stages of development of the Columbus Diocesan Council of Catholic Men, careful direction should be given all men's groups in their participation in the works of the Church and likewise in civic and community affairs.

#### NOTES

1) The *Catholic Times* of May 6, 1955 reported the closing of the 35th Annual Convention of the NCCM in Boston. Unfortunately it did not name the local attendees. The *Times* in this era carried many articles reporting on positions taken by the NCCM on public policy issues.

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### **Pastoral Letter of Bishop Ready on the Formation of the DCCM**

March 25, 1957

To the Reverend Clergy, Religious,  
and Faithful of the Diocese of Columbus.

My beloved Brethren:

For some years, it has been my fervent wish to accomplish among the Catholic men of this diocese what has been so effectively undertaken by the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. In the Parish Holy Name Societies and the various other organizations of men there has been continuing evidence among our devoted laymen of their inestimable service to Christ and His holy Church.

This is the day when the laity have a great opportunity and a grave responsibility to meet the needs of modern society which only Christ's

Church can supply. A Council of Catholic Men in the Diocese of Columbus can be an inestimable blessing to all of us.

The Columbus Diocesan Council of Catholic Men will NOT be another society of Catholic men. It is to be a federation of ALL the various men's societies in the Diocese, united for concerted effort under the Bishop. The Diocesan Council, therefore, will not supplant or interfere with any existing organizations of men in this Diocese, whether national, diocesan, or local. Rather, it is to encourage the growth and development of these organizations. Its purpose will be to unite the tremendous moral power of men's groups for the greater good of the Church and the Nation.

During April and May, meetings will be held in the five deaneries of the Diocese for the purpose of acquainting our Catholic men with the objectives of the Council and the method of working together in a unified effort. I urgently request all men of each deanery to attend these open meetings. The dates will be announced to you soon. The National Council of Catholic Men has assigned a representative here. He will address the deanery meetings and explain the aim and purposes of the National Council of Catholic Men with whom the men of this Diocese will be affiliated in furthering the interests of the Church throughout the United States.

This invitation, my dear Catholic men, is extended to you with prayerful confidence that you will give God the service of your talents and your devotion to the achievement of His Son's mission among your fellowmen.

With my blessing and deep appreciation,  
Devotedly in Christ,  
Michael J. Ready,  
Bishop of Columbus

This letter is to be read at all the Masses on Laetare Sunday, March 31, 1957.

## Abstracts from *The Catholic Telegraph*

Continued, from Vol. XXXII, No. 12

First Quarter Subscriptions, 1855  
(name, post office, date of issue):  
Albrinck, Rev. J. C., Pomeroy, Feb. 10  
Anderson, William, Circleville, Feb. 17  
Bennett, Willilam, Oakfield, Jan. 13  
Borgess, Rev. C. H., Columbus, Feb. 24  
Boulger, James, Chillicothe, Feb. 24  
Brennan, Henry, Marietta, Mar. 3  
Cronan, Jeremiah, Ironton, Feb. 17  
Dittoe, Peter, Somerset, Jan. 13  
Dougherty, M. A., Lancaster, Jan. 27  
Dougherty, Stephen, Woodsfield, Jan. 20  
Ewing, P. B., Lancaster, Jan. 6  
Ewing, Mrs. Thomas, Lancaster, Jan. 13  
Finck, Jac., Somerset, Jan. 13  
Finck, W. E., Somerset, Jan. 13  
Freymute, C., Jacksontown, Jan. 13  
Gallagher, C., Temperanceville, Jan. 20  
Gallagher, John, Temperanceville, Jan. 6  
Goldcamp, John F., Hanging Rock, Feb. 3  
Hart, Mick., Steubenville, Mar. 10  
Hilliard, James W., Graysville, Mar. 17  
Jackson, John J., Somerset, Jan. 20  
St. Joseph's Literary Society, Somerset, Jan. 13  
Kraemer, Rev. T. C., Miltonsburg, Jan. 27  
Lilly, A. J., Lancaster, Jan. 13  
McConnell, Denis, Chillicothe, Feb. 24  
McGinnis, James, Steubenville, Mar. 10  
McMullen, P., Rehoboth, Feb. 17  
McMullen, Patrick, Rehoboth, Mar. 10  
McRudney, Robert, Steubenville, Mar. 10  
Magers, Benedict, Danville, Jan. 27  
Malone, John, Hanging Rock, Jan. 13  
Malone, Peter, Hanging Rock, Mar. 3  
Mattingly, Joseph, Zanesville, Feb. 3  
Mattingly, William, Zanesville, Feb. 10  
Montgomery, Rev. C. P., Zanesville, Jan. 6  
Moore, Levi, Lancaster, Feb. 3  
Myers, Joseph, Waverly, Jan. 13  
Owsney, Val, Steubenville, Mar. 10  
Payne, Ralph, Mt. Vernon, Jan. 13  
Rigney, Michael, Chillicothe, Feb. 24

Riley, Hugh, Portsmouth, Mar. 17  
Smith, Edward, Circleville, Feb. 17  
Snider, Simon, Somerset, Mar. 3  
Snyder, Jacob, Rehoboth, Mar. 17  
Zimmer, Lewis A., Portsmouth, Jan. 20

April 14, 1855

Notes are printed concerning the upcoming First Provincial Council of Cincinnati, signed by Sylv. H. Rosecrans, Secretary.

April 28, 1855

Church Collection for Seminary for 1854

St. Patrick's, Columbus	\$120 00
St. Mary's, Lancaster	65 64
St. Joseph's, Perry County	30 00
Church of the Sacred Heart, Pomeroy	26 00
St. Peter's, Chillicothe	25 00
St. Mary's, Furnaces	16 00
St. Vincent de Paul's, Mt. Vernon	33 00
St. Luke's, Danville	53 00
St. Patrick's, Jackson Township	15 00
Holy Trinity and St. Mary's, Somerset	15 00
St. Mary's, Marietta	12 87
St. John's, Miltonsburg	13 00
St. Joseph's, Circleville	11 00
St. James's, Meigs Creek	2 50
St. Peter's, Scioto County	4 00
[Subtotal	442 01]
Archdiocesan Total	\$1918 35

May 12, 1855

### Conversion of Mrs. Sarah Peter.

Newspapers and private letters have anticipated us in announcing the conversion to the Catholic faith of this eminently respectable Cincinnati lady, in Rome. We should be among the first to rejoice at it and bless God for his mercies.

Mrs. Peter is a sister of Gen. Worthington, of Chillicothe. Her first husband was Gen. King. Her son, Rufus King, Esq., of this city, is one of our worthiest citizens. Her first decided impressions

in favor of Catholicity were received in Jerusalem three years ago. thus the "light of redemption first dawned on her soul," if we may apply the words of the Patriarch of the Holy City, Valerga, in speaking of an American gentleman there converted, "where that redemption was accomplished."

May 19, 1855

A long account of the Provincial Council is printed.

May 26, 1855

Additional information about the Provincial Council is printed.

June 2, 1855

**Lecture of Thomas D'Arcy McGee  
in Chillicothe.**

We learn that the Fourth of July is to be celebrated in Chillicothe by the opening of St. Peter's College. Mr. McGee will lecture on the occasion, on the "Political Opinions and Public Example of Washington." Arrangements will be made to take those who may go by the early train from the city, from the Chillicothe depot to Glenmary, two miles distant, where the celebration is to take place.

The friends of Mr. McGee will thus have an opportunity of enjoying the double pleasure of a country excursion, and of hearing their favorite orator.

June 9, 1855

Church Collections for Seminary for 1855  
(partial list)

St. Patrick's, Columbus	\$117 00
St. Thomas Aquinas', Zanesville	22 00
St. Mary's, Furnaces	12 00

June 16, 1855

An account of the infamous attack of the Know Nothings on the Turners in Columbus is printed.

(To be continued)

**Zanesville St. Nicholas Parish  
Deaths, 1844-1867**

(Continued, from Vol. XXXI, No. 6)

1852

- Andreas Kummel, 55 years old, died 12 Jan., buried 14 Jan. Deiters  
 Maria Pahler 9 years 27 days old, died 13 Jan. buried 14 Jan. Deiters  
 Josepha Cath. Keller, 9 hours old, died 15 Jan., buried 16 Jan. Deiters  
 John Dhümond, 1 year 26 days old, died 1 Feb., buried 2 Feb. Deiters  
 Paul Arnold, 24 years old, died 14 Feb., buried 15 Feb. Deiters  
 Jacob Lindwarm, 36 years old, died 4 April, buried 5 April. Deiters  
 Elisabetha Heilmann, 9 months old, died 26 April, buried 28 April. Deiters  
 John Arnold, 7 years 4 months old, died 27 April, buried 28 April. Deiters  
 Anna Maria Friderich born Duran, 37 years old, died 5 May, buried 6 May. Deiters  
 Caspar Friderich, 2 weeks old, died 15 May, buried 16 May. Deiters  
 Barbara Deiss, born Dietenbeck, 38 years old, died 24 May, buried 26 May. Rev. Wislen  
 John Alois Urben, 29 years old, died 29 May in water [scalded?, *peru*—; probably a form of *perurere* was intended], buried 30 May. Deiters  
 Eva Voll, a few moments old, baptized in danger of death, died 18 June, buried 19 June. Deiters  
 Joseph Duran, 3 months old, died 5 July, buried 6 July. Deiters  
 Magdalena Beckert born Zink [or Link?], 55 years old, died 23 July, buried 24 July. Deiters  
 Joseph Preuss, 25 years old, died 24 July, buried 25 July. Deiters  
 Susanna Becker, 7 weeks and 4 days old, died 28 July, buried 29 July. Deiters  
 Philip Melchior Havener, 4 months & 2 weeks old, died and buried 1 Aug. Deiters

Elisabeth Lange, 2 years & 8 months old, died 23 Oct., buried 24 Oct. Deiters  
Peter Schmidt, 40 years old, died 5 Nov., buried 6 Nov.  
Regina Bordenkircher born Vogel, 70 years old, died 1 Dec., buried 3 Dec. Deiters  
Anna Maria Kunckel, 1 month 2 days old, died 22 Dec., buried 24 Dec. Deiters

1853

Ann Engelhart, 14 months old, died 2 Feb., buried 3 Feb. Deiters  
Joseph Saub, 5 months 19 days old, died 7 Mar., buried 8 Mar. Deiters  
Florian Schelhammer, 36 years old, died 7 March, buried 8 March. Deiters  
Francis Schmidt, 44 years old, died 21 Mar., buried 22 Mar. Deiters  
Maria Louise Duran, 3 years 1 day old, died 9 April, buried 10 April. Deiters  
Caspar Dietenbeck, 46 years old, died 9 May, buried 10 May. Deiters  
Regina Arent, 44 years old, died 29 May, buried 30 May. Montgomery  
"Tladelphus" Hess, 8 years old, died 3 June, buried 5 June. Deiters

Anna Elis. Roeser, 2 1/2 years old, died 9 June, buried 10 June. Deiters  
Nicolaus Zuckert, 5 years old, died 17 June, buried 18 June. Deiters  
Wilhelm Dieterbeck, 5 years old, died 30 June, buried 1 July. Deiters  
John Adam, 13 years old, died 21 August, buried 22 Aug. Montgomery  
Elisabeth Bude?, 50 years old, died 10 Sept., buried 12 Sept. Deiters  
Sebastian Bott, 25 years old, died 14 Sept., buried 15 Sept. Montgomery  
John Adam Ceder, 7 years old, died 19 Sept., buried 20 Sept. Deiters  
John Zeller, 57 years old, died 9 Nov., buried 10 Nov. Deiters  
Peter Kraus, 22 years old, died 27 Nov., buried 28 Nov. Deiters  
Joseph ———, 7 ——— [bottom of page cut off], died 2 Dec., buried 3 Dec. Deiters  
Regina Hegel, 30 years old, died 8 Dec., buried 10 Dec. Deiters  
Martin Dietenbeck, 67 years old, died 25 Dec., buried 27 Dec. Deiters  
Catharine Lehmann, 4 years 11 months 5 days old, died 26 Dec., buried 27 Dec. Deiters  
(To be continued)