

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

Vol. XLII, No. 41

Wednesday, January 16, 1963

Notre Dame, Ind.

"THAT ALL MAY BE ONE"

The Chair of Unity Octave -- eight days of prayer between January 18 and January 25 -- deserves our special attention this year. His Holiness, Pope John XXIII, has asked that it be kept, not only for religious unity, but also for the happy outcome of the Ecumenical Council.

This prayer crusade was begun in 1908 in a small community of Episcopalian religious at Graymoor, New York. They set aside the octave between the feast of St. Peter's Chair in Rome and the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul to pray for religious unity. The first evident answer to their prayers came after they had repeated their octave for unity in 1909. On October 30 of that year their leader, known in religion as Father Paul James Francis, and a small band of his followers entered the Catholic church. The community flourishes today as the Society of the Atonement.

With the blessing of all the Popes since 1909 the Chair of Unity Octave has become world-wide. Even Oriental Schismatics and many Protestants join in these eight days of prayer. Their concept of Christian unity varies from Catholic teaching, but it is significant that they pray at this time and that they pray for unity.

The Chair of Unity Octave will be observed on the campus with the recitation of the official prayer, as found in the adjoining column, after all student Masses in the hall chapels and in Sacred Heart Church. Since Father Paul James Francis placed this crusade under the special patronage of Our Lady of the Atonement (At-one-ment or Unity) it is recommended that the Rosary also be offered daily for the special daily intentions listed on this page.

Official Prayer of the Chair of Unity Octave

Antiphon: That they all may be one, as You, Father in Me and I in You; that they also may be one in Us; that the world may believe that You have sent Me.

Versicle: I say to you, that you are Peter.

Responsory: And upon this Rock I will build my Church.

Prayer: O Lord Jesus Christ. Who said to Your Apostles: Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; regard not our sins, but the faith of Your Church, and grant to her that peace and unity which are agreeable to Your will, Who lives and reigns, God forever and ever, Amen.

THE DAILY INTENTIONS

- Jan. 18: The union of all Christians in the one true Faith and in the Church.
- Jan. 19: The return of separated Eastern Christians to communion with the Holy See.
- Jan. 20: The reconciliation of Anglicans with the Holy See.
- Jan. 21: The reconciliation of European Protestants with the Holy See.
- Jan. 22: That American Christians become one in union with the Chair of Rome.
- Jan. 23: The restoration of lapsed Catholics to the Sacramental life of the Church.
- Jan. 24: That the Jewish people come into their inheritance in Jesus Christ.
- Jan. 25: The missionary extension of Christ's Kingdom throughout the world.