

# THE NEW SEMINARY

## A Personal Appeal To All Catholics

**L**AST week the Sunday Examiner carried a picture on this page of the new Diocesan Seminary of the Holy Spirit whose construction has just been completed and for which now a new phase, that of the interior assembly and furnishing begins. Subsequently the Office of His Lordship Bishop Lawrence Bianchi announced that following an appeal by the Right Reverend Monsignor Anthony Riganti, Vicar General, at the time of the laying of the cornerstone of the seminary, an anonymous donor presented the seminary with the funds for the pews of the seminary's chapel. A marble altar was likewise presented by the building's architect and the contractors of the work.

The Diocesan Committee for Church and School Extension have issued an appeal this week to assist the Bishop in his difficult task of furnishing the new seminary. Sixty seminarians hope to move into the new seminary by Easter. They will not expect luxury but they will require a minimum of living and studying conditions. They are the future priests of this diocese and the facilities for their education is something which concerns every Catholic.

At the time of the ceremony of the blessing of the cornerstone Msgr. Riganti pointed out in his address that the faithful ask for more priests — saintly and learned priests. "We all need them very much," he said, "and pray

to God that He may grant us such signal blessing. But if we wish to gather such a harvest of true Apostles, we have to sow it. The Bishop and the clergy have done and will do all that is in their power. Let the faithful also help by sowing the seed of vocations in the souls of their children; let them generously sow their contributions for the completion and upkeep of a modern seminary; and then with God's grace an abundant harvest of saintly and learned priests will be reaped in due time and given to them."

The list of the seminary's furniture requirements issued by the Diocesan Committee for Church and School Extension is not large. There are just desks,

tables, chairs and beds. But the list becomes quite formidable as everything is required for a minimum of sixty students. Yet if everyone of our Catholics in Hong Kong will make this Diocesan seminary a matter of personal concern there is no doubt that this necessary equipment will be available in time for the opening at Easter.