Catholic Archdiocese of Miami
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Friday, December 13, 1985

EVERYONE FROM TEENS TO JUDGE
Synod members installed
Parish hearings to begin
By Ana Rodriguez-Soto—Voice News Editor

A “who’s who” of South Florida Catholics, along with some lesser-known faithful, were installed officially as members of the Archdiocesan Synod last weekend during a remarkably moving liturgy at St. Mary Cathedral.

“That [Mass] is what this community is about,” said Dianne Smith, a lawyer from St. Francis Xavier parish in Overtown, referring to the quadrilingual liturgy — Latin, English, Spanish and Haitian Creole — that seemed to deeply touch each of the nearly 800 people who attended.

The liturgy was marked by powerful devotion and musical magnificence as Haitian drumbeats blended masterfully with Spanish guitars, flutes, trumpets, an organ and the melodic voices of five soloists. The overall effect was that of a people completely in tune with each other and their God, a soul-singing joining of Heaven and earth.

“If somehow we can express that and help people to live that kind of sharing life with each other, that is our obligation,” said Smith, who is black, and of 37 lay Catholics named to the Synod body, the group of 100 priests, religious and lay who will vote on the final documents of the three-year Synod.

The first step in the Synod process begins in January, when open hearings will be held in every parish and organization of the Archdiocese. Almost 600 “facilitators” who will run those hearings (see accompanying story) also were installed during Saturday’s liturgy.

“The need [for unity] is great,” Smith said. “Whether we [during the Synod] can do it, I think it’s better to try than not.”

Serving along with Smith and the rest of the lay and the Synod body will be 10 religious (eight women and two men); two permanent deacons; and 46 priests, including Archbishop Edward A. McCarthy and Auxiliary Bishop Agustin Roman. Most of the priests serve ex-officio, that is, are required by Church law to be Synod members.

Among the 37 lay people are 16 men, 17 women and four students (two male, two female) from four Catholic high schools. Of the current total of 95 Synod members (some lay positions remain to be filled), 67 are

(Continued on page 14)

Santa Snake
A fearless member of St. John Neumann parish pets a snake from Metrozoo. (Continued on page 13)

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Ordain women, priests group tells bishops

WASHINGTON (NC) — An organization of priests seeking equality for men and women in the church has called on the U.S. bishops to confront the issue of women's ordination immediately and "straightforwardly" as they have nuclear war and the economy.

The group, Priests for Equality, also recommended that ordinations to the permanent diaconate be stopped until the diaconate is opened to women.

The letter recommended that a seven-year "process of prayer, reflection and experimentation" be implemented to explore the theology of priesthood, to examine how U.S. Catholics would respond to womenpriests, and to consider the diaconate and other ministries shared by men and women.

The document said church organizations at all levels, from parish councils to the Roman Curia, should let women in numbers equal to men be involved in decision-making.

"Women are saying 'we bake the bread, can't we break it?'", said Ruth McDonough Fitzpatrick of the Women's Ordination Conference.

Catholics decry racism by white Philadelphia Catholics

PHILADELPHIA (NC) — A Philadelphia Catholic commission and two local pastors have condemned demonstrations against a black couple and their inter racial couple who moved into a white Philadelphia neighborhood. Father Michael Picard, executive director of the Cardinal's Commission on Human Relations and Urban Ministry of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, called on residents of the heavily Catholic neighborhood to "work through" their fears and concerns. Groups of white demonstrators had been gathering outside the homes of the couples, throwing racial slurs and demanding that the couples leave the neighborhood. Both households had been vandalized, and one couple later moved out.

Israeli 'peace crusader' replaces money taken from church

NEW YORK (NC) — When he heard that robbers took $7,000 from St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Iselin, New Jersey, a self described 'peace crusader' Abe Nathan, Abel Nathan, came to the church to check the stolen collection. Two gangmen had escaped Nov. 30 with the money on a "Plowshares Eight" box and for votive candles, after handcuffing four ushers and forcing two maintenance men at gunpoint to lie on a basement floor in the parish house. Nathan, who has been involved in peace campaigns and relief efforts in various countries for 20 years, lives in Tel Aviv where he operates a radio station called the Voice of Peace. His aim is "to get Arabs and Jews together."

CRS aid reaches victims of volcano in Colombia

NEW YORK (NC) — Catholic Relief Services has delivered 50,000 pounds of medical blankets, bedding and clothing to an estimated 5,500 survivors of the volcanic eruption in west-central Colombia. The supplies, valued at $79,000, included 20,000 pounds of blankets contributed by Lutheran World Relief. Mag. William McCormack, national director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in the United States, announced he had authorized a $100,000 donation for the volcano victims from the society's general fund. "There seem to be no immediate needs which cannot be met with the supplies at hand or on order," said Terry Martin, senior director for CRS programs in Latin America.

No more war (toys)

In Santa Monica, Calif., 9-year-old Zachary Sei buries war-oriented toys during a mock funeral. The demonstration was part of a national campaign to encourage the sale of non-violent playthings. (NC photo)

Times poll: More Catholics back Church on birth control issue

NEW YORK (NC) — A natural family planning and population specialist, commenting on a New York Times CBS News poll of Catholic attitudes, said the figures seem to reflect a shift toward greater Catholic acceptance of church teaching on birth control. The birth control figures were part of a Times poll reporting that a majority of U.S. Catholics disagree with church prohibitions against married priests, women priests, remarriage after divorce, and abortion in any circumstances. Although nearly identical percentages of Catholics and non-Catholics surveyed favored a complete ban on abortion, Catholics were considerably more opposed than non-Catholics to abortion on demand. Most Catholics opposed legal abortion except in very limited cases.

Papal pronuncio: Probe of Abp. Hunthausen is 'closed'

SEATTLE (NC) — Archbishop Pio Laghi, papal prosecutor to the Holy See, commented on a natural family planning and population specialist, commenting on a New York Times CBS News poll of Catholic attitudes, said the figures seem to reflect a shift toward greater Catholic acceptance of church teaching on birth control. The birth control figures were part of a Times poll reporting that a majority of U.S. Catholics disagree with church prohibitions against married priests, women priests, remarriage after divorce, and abortion in any circumstances. Although nearly identical percentages of Catholics and non-Catholics surveyed favored a complete ban on abortion, Catholics were considerably more opposed than non-Catholics to abortion on demand. Most Catholics opposed legal abortion except in very limited cases.

State supreme court upholds 'Plowshares Eight' convictions

NEW YORK (NC) — The Pennsylvania Supreme Court has upheld convictions and reinstated prison terms for eight anti nuclear protesters known as the "Plowshares Eight," including the Rev. Daniel Berrigan and his brother, Philip. The 4-3 decision upheld a 1981 lower court conviction on charges of trespassing, burglary, criminal mischief and conspiracy. The eight protesters walked into a General Electric weapons plant in King of Prussia, Pa., in September 1980, damaged nuclear missile nose cones with hammers and poured human blood on documents in the plant.

Franciscan priests get $1 million to build shelter for the homeless

NEW YORK (NC) — Three Franciscan priests were awarded $1.32 million by New York City to build a rundown building which they will renovate into a shelter for homeless mentally ill persons.

Father John Felice, John McVean and Thomas J. Walters, who run two similar residences in the city, were given the money by New York Mayor Ed Koch who praised the priests' compassion for the homeless and mentally disabled. The money came from a $2 million settlement against the developer Harry Macklone for having ordered the demolition of four buildings near Times Square last January, including one used primarily by welfare recipients, with city permission.

Diocese launches first 'annulment support ministry'

JOLIET, Ill. (NC) — Bishop Joseph Imesch of Joliet has started an "annulment support ministry" in his diocese which is believed to be the first in the nation. The process of separation and annulment is "extremely painful," the bishop said as he commissioned the diocese's first annulment support ministers. "That is why we need you... to be compassionate as Jesus was compassionate, to bring the healing of Christ to others," Griffin said. The main job of the annulment support ministers is to give individuals comfort, counseling, encouragement, spiritual support and friendship during the months between their initial petition for an annulment and the decision on their case.

CRS asks for hunger stamp to become permanent reminder

(Updated) (NC) — Catholic Relief Services has asked Congress to write to the postmaster general to make permanent a postage stamp which urges an end to hunger, but a U.S. Postal Service spokesman said the chances were small. Both Griffin and a spokesman for CRS, said the permanent stamp would be much like the commonly used "Help End Hunger" stamp issued in October. Hunger organizations, including CRS, urged people to use the 20-cent stamps on letters to remind people that hunger is a continual problem in this country and abroad," Griffin said. CRS is the U.S. bishops' overseas aid agency.

'Champion' of the needy, Bishop Carroll Dozier dies

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (NC) — Bishop Carroll T. Dozier, an early critic of the Vietnam War who also made national headlines for administering absolute absolution, backing up the rights of the from court, and opposing capital punishment and the arms race, died in Memphis Dec. 7. The retired Memphis Diocese, 74, had suffered a myocardial infarction on Dec. 1. "Earlier in Bishop Dozier was a prophet of the peace of Jesus Christ," said his successor in Memphis, Bishop J. Francis Stafford. "And the church reminds people that hunger is a continual problem in this country and abroad," Griffin said. CRS is the U.S. bishops' overseas aid agency.

Pope names Fr. Donald Wuerl as auxiliary to Abp. Hunthausen

WASHINGTON (NC) — Pope John Paul II has named Father Donald Wuerl as the new auxiliary bishop to Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen of Seattle. Father Wuerl, 45, is associate general secretary of the Diocese of Pittsburgh and former chairman of the Synod of Princes. He is the U.S. bishops' overseas aid agency.

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Vatican II confirmed

World Synod emphasizes ‘variety in unity’ rather than disappointments

By John Thavis

VATICAN CITY (NC) — There was far more emphasis on the successes of the Second Vatican Council in the reports of delegates to the Nov. 24-Dec. 8 extraordinary synod, than on disappointments following in the council’s wake.

At the end of the two-week event, the delegates gave the council a clear and forceful endorsement.

In a message to Catholics, the bishops unanimously expressed their “full adherence to the council,” and described it as a “wellspring” for the future of the church.

“We do not fix upon the errors, confusion and defects, which, because of sin and human weakness, have been the occasion of suffering in the midst of the people of God,” the bishops said.

That was the tone of the more than 120 individual statements and group reports coming out of the meeting.

Pope John Paul II, who called the synod to assess the council’s results 20 years after its close, said the experience was one of “variety in unity.”

After listening to nearly all the synod participants, he thanked them for “freely expressing their own thoughts,” and said the meeting was an example of real collegiality.

As always, the bishops’ advisory report at the synod’s conclusion contained the pope’s answer to the report that the report be made public — an apparent sign of the intense interest the synod has aroused among people worldwide.

Some key issues

Beyond the overall conclusion that the council was a “gift of God,” the meeting of approximately 160 participants focused on a few key issues:

• The idea of a worldwide council of bishops’ conferences and the Roman Curia.

The need to emphasize spirituality among individual Catholics and in the understanding of the church itself.

• The idea of a worldwide catechism or compendium of church teaching.

Some bishops called for clarification and clear up ambiguities on moral questions.

Many of the issues, U.S. participants were major protagonists in the synod debate. Bishop James W. Malone of Youngstown, Ohio, president of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, asked for recognition of the value of bishops’ conferences and for a study of their teaching authority. Cardinal Bernard F. Law of Boston proposed drawing up a catechism based on the council.

The synod endorsed both ideas.

During the first week of the synod’s work — composed of individual speeches with eight-minute time limits — several bishops urged that local churches be given more authority in local matters, with less interference from the church’s central administrative offices.

Church authority

Retired Bishop John W. Gran of Oslo, Norway, head of the Scandinavians’ bishops’ conference, said there was a “return to the mentality that diocesan bishops are representatives of Rome, rather than administrators with their own rights.”

Other calls for decentralized church authority came from representatives of the Antilles, Indonesia, Bolivia, Brazil, Ethiopia, Chad and Camibia. Several others urged greater collaboration between the Curia and local bishops.

Bishop Denis Hurley, head of the Southern African Catholic Bishops’ Conference, called for a “clearer recognition of the principle of subsidiarity” — the respect for the competence of each church jurisdiction.

In even minor matters, he said, trust in local churches “is not always in evidence.”

A number of African and Asian bishops, praising the adoption their young churches have made to local cultures, asked the Vatican to encourage such inculturation and to show greater confidence in local churches.

Most of the bishops called for a better functioning of collegiality, the shared authority of bishops which was strongly affirmed by Vatican II.

Several, including Cardinal Jean-Marie Lustiger of Paris, said papal primacy should be seen as the unifying factor among bishops.

Some warned that it damaged church unity to speak about separate jurisdictions of pope and bishops.

Archbishop Maxim Hermann of Winnpeg, Manitoba, head of Canada’s Ukrainian Catholics, proposed a permanent synod with legislative powers. The idea was dropped during group discussions in the synod’s second week.

Spiritual life

A theme that drew major attention was the need to accentuate spiritual life. Several of the synod’s discussion groups called for a re-emphasis of the sacred in the lives of individual Catholics and of the institutional church.

In their end-of-synod message, the bishops further stressed this point.

“The church cannot renew herself without more profoundly rooting this spiritual note of mystery in the hearts of Christians,” it said.

“It is thus necessary to understand the profound reality of the church and consequently to avoid false sociological or political interpretations of the nature of the church,” it said.

East German Cardinal Joachim Meisner, bishop of Berlin, told the synod that “the church as a mystery.

(Continued on Pg. 5)
Let our refugees stay—Abp. Damas asks U.S.

WASHINGTON (NC) — Saying that Americans have closed their doors and their hearts, Archbishop Anthony Cardinal Ricken of Milwaukee, Wis., and Washington, D.C., urged Congress to allow Salvadoran refugees in the United States to remain temporarily instead of being deported.

The archbishop, in a translated letter released by the U.S. Catholic Conference said Christian charity and national and international laws demand that they pass legislation offering voluntary extended departure status for Salvadorans. Such a measure would permit those fleeing to the United States to escape violence in their homeland to remain in the United States for several years.

"I ask each and every one of you... that you open your arms, your hearts, and your Christian charity to my suffering people and that you double your efforts against the deportation of Salvadoran refugees and in support of measures such as the Moakley-DeConcini bill which in some way will contribute to a temporary solution to the agony of my flock in search of refuge," he wrote.

The Moakley-DeConcini bill, which would provide extended departure and is sponsored by Rep. Joe Moakley, D-Mass., and Sen. Dennis DeConcini, D-Ariz., also has been supported by the USCC and various other church and religious organizations.

The Reagan administration has opposed granting of extended departure status to Salvadorans, who, it claims, are seeking economic gain in the United States rather than safety or freedom from repression in El Salvador.

Florida Catholic nurse stages mock Mass at St. Peter's Basilica

VATICAN CITY (NC) — A Florida Catholic nurse staged a mock Mass in St. Peter's Basilica to draw attention to "the plight of all women who want to become priests." Bahth Burke, a 44-year-old mother of four children from St. Lauderdale, was escorted from a side altar by two Vatican guards. She was detained briefly, then released. Vatican and Italian police told National Catholic News Service they had no knowledge of the incident.

The Vatican's press chief, Joaquin Navarro-Valls, had no comment. Mrs. Burke, elevated a host at a side altar then consumed it, and was about to elevate a chalice when she was apprehended by the guards, said Marie Teres Soumoy, a former Belgian nun and friend of the American nurse. Mrs. Burke, in a statement said the host had been consecrated by a U.S. priest.

Pope meets Yelena Bonner, wife of Soviet dissident

VATICAN CITY (NC) — Pope John Paul II met with Yelena Bonner, the wife of Soviet dissident and Nobel Peace Prize winner Andrei Sakharov. Neither the Vatican nor Mrs. Bonner, herself a dissident, said what was discussed at the evening meeting, which Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said was "completely private." Pope John Paul has taken a personal interest in Sakharov's situation since the scientist had been banished along with his wife to Gorky because of his human rights campaigns in Moscow. Gorky, a major city in central Russia, is 40 miles west to Moscow.

Pope appeals for an end of persecution in Nicaragua

VATICAN CITY (NC) — Pope John Paul II has called for an end to the harassment of the church in Nicaragua. Recent weeks have seen a rise in "distinct forms of intimations and pressures on ordained ministers and Catholic faithful," he said in a Spanish-language letter to the Nicaraguan bishops. The letter, dated and released by the Vatican was written less than two months after the Nicaraguan bishops conference protested the government's crackdown on civil rights and its rejection of the church. The pope also supported the Nicaraguan bishops' offers of mediation between the government and the U.S.-backed guerrillas. He expressed hope that the offer would produce "fruits of concord and brotherly love."

European cardinals, bishops to support Lebanese Christians

VATICAN CITY (NC) — Western European Catholic cardinals and bishops have formed a committee to show solidarity and support for Lebanese Christians. They did not say what form that support would take. "We wish to stand at your side in the midst of your great trial," said a statement signed by 16 Western European delegates to the extraordinary Synod of Bishops. The signers were from 13 countries and included Cardinal George Basil Hume of Westminster, England; Cardinal Jean-Marie Lustiger of Paris; Cardinal Tomas O'Fialich of Armagh, Northern Ireland; and Cardinal Ugo Poletti, papal vicar for the Rome Diocese.

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World Synod confirms Vatican II

(Continued from page 3)

and not as an institution is yearned for by many people who feel "oppressed" in today's "mass society."

Several synod reports urged a return to private and popular devotions that were praised by the council but which have largely disappeared.

The idea of a worldwide catechism or compendium of church teachings was supported by many bishops who wanted the council's documents more accessible to average Catholics.

But others said a universal catechism was needed to stress church doctrine on moral issues they said are being challenged by theologians.

Cardinal Law, in proposing the catechism, criticized dissent from the church teaching authority in Catholic university faculties.

U.S. Cardinal William Baum, head of the Congregation for Catholic Education, said that because of historical criticism of Scripture major church teachings have been put in doubt, and confusion has spread in seminaries.

The strongest criticism of theologians came from Brazilian Cardinal Eugenio de Araujo Sales, who said in a written report: "There are seminaries and theological schools in which grave dogmatic and moral errors are taught. There are professors who teach their own doctrines and opinions and not the doctrine of the church."

He urged stronger Vatican controls over theology professors.

One of the least controversial issues at the synod was ecumenism. The participants reaffirmed dialogue with other Christians, the pope received the church's commitment to full Christian unity and 10 ecumenical observers to the synod said they were "very happy" with the synod's outcome.

The synod produced no new ecumenical initiatives, however.

Canadian Archbishop James M. Hayes of Halifax, Nova Scotia suggested that inter-Communion might be viewed as a "right" for Christians whose baptism has been recognized by the church, but his suggestion was not mentioned in later synod reports.

The church forbids joint Communion on a regular basis unless there is full unity in faith.

Several other specific issues raised in opening speeches disappeared as the synod progressed. Bishop Malone described this as a "winnowing out" process necessary to reach consensus.

The synod progressed. Bishop Malone described this as a "winnowing out" process necessary to reach consensus.

Whatever the Vatican guidelines.

"We also thank the council for not having condemned anyone, because we hold that the serene proclamation of the Gospel and the joyous experiences of faith have more power than any purely condemnatory or defensive attitude," he told the synod.

In one written report, Bishop Jose Ivo Lorscheiter, the head of the Brazilian bishops' conference, strongly defended liberation theology as "the principal result" of efforts to fit theology to Latin American society.

"Liberation theology is not a theology of violence," he said. It does not justify Marxist ideology or break with Catholic theological tradition.

Last year, the Vatican issued a document saying that forms of liberation theology which borrow uncritically from Marxism are incompatible with Catholicism. Since then, debate has focused on which strains of liberation theology violate the Vatican guidelines.

For several synod fathers, the meeting was a chance to draw attention to problems in their local churches. Cardinal Antoine Pierre Khoraishe, patriarch of Lebanon's Maronite Catholics, appealed for solidarity for Christians in the war-torn country.

Two U.S. participants, Cardinal Myroslav Lubachivsky, chief archbishop of the world's Ukrainian Catholics, and Ukrainian Archbishop Stephen Sulyk of Philadelphia, spoke out against persecution of Ukrainian Catholics in the Soviet Union.

Bishop Adolfo Rodriguez Herrera of Leon, Mexico, president of the Cuban bishops' conference, said the church in that Communist country reflects the council's concern on liturgy, collegiality and doctrine.

"We also thank the council for not having condemned anyone, because we hold that the serene proclamation of the Gospel and the joyous experience of faith have more power than any purely condemnatory or defensive attitude," he told the synod.
Women differ on roles in church

Catholic women speaking at diocesan "listening sessions" for a planned U.S. bishops' pastoral letter on women have revealed diverse perceptions of their role in the church and in society.

In preparation for the pastoral, some dioceses are holding meetings to discuss women's views on their role. The Pastoral letter is scheduled for completion in 1988.

The Archdiocese of Baltimore chose a telephone survey to find out what the "average woman" thinks.

The Baltimore survey, which began in early December, is the first project of an ad hoc committee for consultation on the role of women in the church appointed by Archbishop William D. Borders of Baltimore.

Diane Nicholson, the committee's chairwoman, said the archbishop emphasized that he wants the average woman's response. "Not the far left or the far right," she said. "That's the people who usually speak up."

A random sampling of women will be asked how satisfied they are with their roles. One section is devoted to marriage and family life, particularly women's perceptions of the church's support of them as wives and mothers.

"The big thing is that women want to be taken seriously and that would be evident ... if roles in church and society were determined by talents, not gender..."

In the Diocese of Joliet, III., which is headed by Bishop Joseph L. Imesch, chairmen of the committee preparing the pastoral, listening sessions were held in 78 parish communities. In addition, the Jollet Catholic Explorer, the diocesan newspaper, asked readers: "If you could ask for just one result from the U.S. bishops' pastoral in response to the concerns of women, what would it be?"

Fifty-one readers, including one man, responded to the survey. The response ranged from calling for opening new positions to women to affirming the women who have chosen to be full-time wives and mothers.

In urging greater participation for women in the church, one woman wrote: "Like the man who buried his master's talents in the field out of fear, I think the hierarchy is guilty of waste by not using to its fullest potential the women God has called to serve the church."

While 13 of the women surveyed specifically asked for women's ordination, another nine were equally explicit about asking bishops to uphold church tradition of not ordaining women.

Minnesota Supreme Court rules 8 1/2-month-old fetus 'not human'

ST. PAUL, Minne. (NC) — The Minnesota Supreme Court has ruled that a fetus is not a human being under state law.

The decision, handed down Dec. 6 in St. Paul, means that a man who was under state law.

that a fetus is not a human being

accident cannot be charged in the

pre-law when the Legislature convenes

leg and underwent a Caesarean sec-

tion, resulting in a stillbirth.

The court, in a 6-1 ruling, said no

specific state statute addresses whether a fetus is a human being.

It added that the Minnesota Legis-

lature has never precisely defined the
term "human being," even though it

has been used in homicide statutes

since Minnesota was still a territory.

The case arose from a traffic acci-
dent in which a car driven by John

Soto of St. Paul collided with a vehicle

driven by Janet Anne Johnson, who

suffered a fractured pelvis and broken

leg and underwent a Caesarean sec-
tion, resulting in a stillbirth.

An autopsy showed that the fetus
died of head injuries.

Soto was indicted by a county

grand jury for causing a death by

negligently driving a car while under

the influence of alcohol.

Pro-lifers will push for a change in

the law when the Legislature convenes

in February, according to Patrick

Sheedy, director of social concerns for

the Minnesota Catholic Conference.

"There will be a lot of response

from the pro-life community for a

piece of legislation to define a fetus as

a human being in Minnesota law," Sheedy said.

Minnesota Citizens Concerned for

Life, a pro-life group, has begun work

on legislation and has consulted att-

orneys to sift through suggestions to

come up with a proposed bill, accord-

ing to Nancy Koster, an official with

the group.

"I count on the Minnesota

Legislature to bring common sense to

the debate and to spell out in law very

clearly and for all in Minnesota to

understand the humanness of the en-
tire human family, especially those

waiting to be born," said Fr. Bryce.

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Norms peril Catholic universities

By Jerry Filtesa NC News Service

"We're in a very delicate position on this," Father Theodore Hesburgh said of proposed Vatican norms that would put new ecclesiastical controls over Catholic colleges and universities.

Or, as Father Hesburgh put it, if someone at a Catholic university is "saying something that is patently contrary to the Catholic faith," then the bishop has a right and duty to say so, but "not to come out and shout him between the eyes."

The Holy Cross priest, president of the University of Notre Dame for 33 years, discussed the draft norms in a telephone interview with National Catholic News Service Dec. 4. A number of other commentators have warned that the norms could destroy Catholic higher education in the United States.

Father Hesburgh said he did not want to engage in public criticism of the proposals because "I don't want to paint anybody into a corner" while the draft is still under consultation, debate and possible revision.

The Vatican Congregation for Catholic Education distributed the draft to bishops and educators with a request for comments and suggestions for change, he said, so his position is "let's play it straight" and see how well the congregation responds to the criticisms raised through regular channels.

Under the norms in their current form, for an institution of higher education to remain Catholic it would have to change their practice in this regard to minister the blood of the Lord by the method of intinction, unless further medical evidence warrants a return to their former practice," the statement said.

Intinction is the method by which the Communion host is dipped into the wine before being given to the communicant.

The statement added that "pastors should advise those who are fearful that they have the option of receiving Christ under the species of bread alone."

"Under no circumstances should the Eucharist ever become a source of anxiety or contention or controversy," it said. Concerns have been raised in the Catholic Church as well as other denominations about the possibility of contracting AIDS - Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome - or other communicable diseases through sharing a common Communion cup.

"The committee, however, encourages those who have felt compelled to change their practice in this regard to minister the blood of the Lord by the method of intinction, unless further medical evidence warrants a return to their former practice," the statement said.

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WASHINGTON (NC) — After months of debate over tax reform plans and counterplans, the Democratic-controlled House Ways and Means Committee approved what friends of the poor labeled "significant progress" toward a fairer tax system.

What makes the U.S. Catholic Conference and other public interest groups happy is that the tax plan, if enacted into law, apparently would drastically reduce taxes for the working poor — those who have low incomes but earn just enough money to make the difference between living near or below the poverty line.

Charities also could rejoice that the charitable contribution deduction was retained for taxpayers who itemize and in part for those who do not itemize.

Yet, the Ways and Means package, approved Dec. 3, is not a perfect document, as even its supporters admit.

One imperfection, according to the USCC, is that the plan would not provide tuition tax credits.

In addition, the widely used government handout known as the mortgage interest deduction (applicable to a second, vacation home as well remains. So does 80 percent of the deduction for the often-criticized businessman's lunch.

By contrast, there still is no rent-deductibility for families who can't afford a home mortgage, nor is there tax relief for the hundreds of workers who cannot write off their meal costs.

Nonetheless, its boosters say, the Ways and Means package is a step forward because it makes corporations and the wealthy ante up while poor and moderate-income citizens get a better break.

"On the issues of taxation of the poor, equity in the tax system, and charitable deductions, this bill has made significant progress toward a fairer and more just tax system," according to Msgr. Daniel F. Hoye, USCC general secretary.

Msgr. Hoye urged House members to support the Ways and Means tax plan, which was tentatively scheduled for floor action by mid-December. Also in the works was a Republican alternative to the Ways and Means plan.

According to the USCC and two other Washington-based groups with Catholic participants — the Coalition on Black Grants and Human Needs and Interfaith Action for Economic Justice — the Ways and Means proposal:

- Removes 6.3 million low-income taxpayers from tax liability.
- Channels 72 percent of tax relief to those earning under $75,000.
- Extends the Earned Income Tax Credit, designed to help working poor pay Social Security taxes, to include families earning up to $16,000, and increases the personal exemption and standard deduction. It also boosts the standard deduction for the single parent who hands a family to bring it closer to that enjoyed by a two-parent family at the same income level.
- Broadens the tax base by limiting many corporate and individual tax loopholes.
- Increases the share corporations pay from 7.8 percent to 13 percent by 1990.

"On the issues of taxation of the poor, equity in the tax system and charitable deductions, this bill has made significant progress in a ... fairer system." — Msgr. Daniel Hoye, USCC general secretary

- Creates a fourth tax bracket (other proposals called for three) at 38 percent for those couples with incomes of $100,000 or more.
- Continues the deduction for charitable contributions by those who itemize their taxes and allows those who don't to itemize deductions equal to one-third of $100,000.
- Msgr. Hoye suggested that the charitable contribution deduction be allowed for all taxpayers.

He praised, however, the plan's allowance of a deduction for child care expenses. "Child care and dependent care is very costly for working families and is an especially heavy burden for low-income families," he noted.

But he was less sanguine about the lack of tuition tax credits. "We are keenly disappointed that the committee failed to give this recommendation fuller consideration," the monsignor said.

"In sum," though, he added, the plan offers "positive steps toward a needed reform of the tax system. We urge you to help preserve and improve these improvements as the tax reform debate continues."

The Children's Defense Fund, representing poor children and families, also backed the tax plan.

"If the committee's plans were enacted," said Mary Bourdette, the group's government affairs director, "no longer would a single mother attempting to support her children on poverty-level wages pay more federal taxes, as she did in 1983, than Boeing, General Electric, Dupont, Texaco, Mobil and AT&T combined paid in federal income taxes that year, despite earning over $13 billion in profits."

CDA offers scholarships

NEW YORK — The Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA) are offering again next year $200 scholarships for teachers involved in special education. The organization is also offering unrestricted graduate scholarships of $1,000 and $500.

Requests for scholarship application forms should be directed to the nearest Catholic Daughters Court or to Mrs. Marilyn Harris, National Scholarship Chairman, P.O. Box 913, Hermiston, Oregon 97838.

Deadline for submission of application forms is May 1, 1986, for special education scholarships, and July 1, 1986 for graduate scholarships.

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Now you can own and display in your own home a four-foot size replica of the Holy Shroud for which miracles have been claimed. Reproduced in beautiful color on Old-World Linen cloth, it clearly shows every feature of the original. The bloodstains from the nail wounds in wrists and feet, the beatings and whipping, the puncture wounds from the crown of thorns, and the abrasions from carrying the heavy cross beam. And most important it shows in exquisite detail the hauntingly serene face of the man who died on the cross. This beautiful re-creation comes to you in dignified packaging complete with a short story about the Holy Shroud of Turin. It is the ideal gift at Christmas, Easter, First Communion or any important religious occasion.

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PAGE 8 / Miami, Florida / THE VOICE / Friday, December 13, 1985
Students killed by troops

A U.S. Catholic Conference official and a Haitian bishop have protested after demonstrations in Gonaives, Haiti.

Father Robert N. Lynch, USCC associate general secretary, in a letter to Elliott Abrams, assistant secretary for inter-American affairs in the State Department, urged that the U.S. ambassador to Haiti be instructed to communicate U.S. concern over the latest and "by no means unique" human rights violations.

Father Lynch said the USCC received information that several helicopters reportedly held without incident. The student demonstrations were occurring, according to the USCC.

The following day, however, there were further protests which were met by troops firing on the demonstrators. According to initial reports four students under 17 were killed and more than a dozen wounded. Three deaths were later confirmed.

Twelfth-grade student Jean-Robert Cius was killed inside a Catholic high school, Immaculate Conception College, where no demonstrations were occurring, according to the USCC.

Bishop Emmanuel Constant, who heads the Diocese of Les Gonaives, said he deplored and protested the incident.

"In the face of these events — hearing the wails of lament, of sorrow and of tears of the Rachels who have lost their children and who cannot console themselves, as their children are gone forever — we are forced to wonder how much worth they attribute to human life," he said of Haitian authoritie.

Clergy: Celebrate on Dr. King's B-day

WASHINGTON (NC) — Catholic, Protestant and Jewish leaders urged celebrations and reflections to mark the first federal legal holiday honoring the late civil rights leader the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Jan. 20.

In a Dec. 10 joint statement Mgr. Daniel F. Hoye, general secretary of the U.S. Catholic Conference, the Rev. Arie Brouwer, general secretary of the National Council of Churches, and Rabbi Henry Michelman, executive vice president of the Synagogue Council of America, recommended "prayer services in churches and synagogues and interfaith memorial convocations so that we can reflect together on the values Dr. King lived by and died for."

Dr. King, a Baptist clergyman who spearheaded the national civil rights movement in the 1960s, was assassinated April 4, 1968, at the age of 39.

The civil rights leader "looked preposterous in eye and did not flinch, confident that justice could be achieved in a non-violent way, that right would have the final word," the statement said.

"We urge all of America to celebrate the memory of this strong but gentle man."

"WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS"

To be self evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed with their creator with certain inalienable rights that among these are life..."

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Select a gift below, send us the person's name and address with your donation—and we do the rest. We'll send that person or persons a gift card noting your offering. And at the same time your meaningful gift will bring people in the Near East the Hope of our Christ Child.

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- $25 Tabernacle or Chalice
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- $15 Sanctuary Lamp
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June 13, 1985 / PAGE 9

MON BIEN AIME — Art & Religion

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June 13, 1985 / PAGE 9
Christmas in reverse

Text and photos by Prent Browning

Kids' age-old affinity for animals was made the most of during a Christmas celebration last Saturday at St. John Neumann Church, South Miami. Sponsored by the parish's Women's Guild, the event began with a hand-puppet re-enactment of the Nativity story by the Killian Players, a public high school drama group.

After the performance, curious kids such as little Michael Morrison, 2, (left) or ticklish ones such as Stacy Rainwater, 8, (above, left) were given an opportunity to touch some of the puppets. The children themselves participated in the event when they lined up in traditional style for a visit with Santa. Only this time there was an interesting twist — they gave Santa presents, toys for migrant children in Immokalee. Some were pleasantly surprised to see they received a candy cane in return (above).

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The ARC—the Association for Retarded Citizens—is helping. Not to tie their shoes for them but to help them learn to be more self-sufficient through education, job training, residential opportunities.

You can help, too. Support the ARC however you can—through your time, money, friendship, understanding.
Hyde: Congress stalling pro-life

By Bette Kennedy
Voice Staff Writer

Major pro-life bills are being stalled in Congress, said Congressman Henry Hyde (R., Illinois), who spoke at the Broward County Right to Life benefit this week at the Pier 66 Hotel in Fort Lauderdale.

In an interview with The Voice, Hyde said there has been a legislative "Catch 22" since the passage of the Hyde amendment in 1976 which restricts the federal government from granting Medicaid funding for abortions. Before the passage, the federal government had spent $30 million for the funding of more than 300,000 abortions for the poor.

"This bill protects the unborn of the poor... but we are still struggling to protect the rights of the unborn of other classes," said Hyde.

Congress has "cold feet" in considering anti-abortion legislation because of the controversial political climate tugging along with the issue, said Hyde.

The success of the Hyde amendment hinged on the fact that it strictly dealt with the funding of abortions and not its constitutional ramifications. Also, Hyde said, he was able to introduce the bill directly on the House floor.

Current legislation is stopgap "because the House won't even grant us hearings on pro-life bills," he said.

One such bill, declaring that "personhood attaches at the moment of conception" was also short-lived.

Hyde is incensed at a recent ruling by the Minnesota Supreme Court that an 8 1/2 month old fetus was not a human being within the definition of the Constitution.

"We must continue to fight against these stupid tragedies," said Hyde.

The abortion debate can be defined as the quality of life vs. the sanctity of life philosophy, he said.

"The quality ethic demands that every child must be born mentally and physically well and unfettered by poverty. By contrast, the sanctity ethic says that every child must be born mentally and physically well and unfettered by these stupid tragedies," said Hyde.

"We get involved in the idea of buying and decorating and Rudolph and Frosty. But nowhere in this is Jesus at all," said Helin Cristobal, a St. Louis parishioner and one half of the husband-and-wife team who originally came up with the T-shirt idea.

For a long time, she explained, her husband Carlos has had "war declared" on Santa Claus, who seems to have become more of a symbol for Christmas than Christ himself. The commercialization of Christmas bothered her as well, although "I'm more lenient on Santa."

He feels that the film did make an impact, although only the future can determine if it changed the thinking of fellow congressmen.

Although anti-abortion legislation efforts are for the most part being met with frustration, Hyde said he will continue to meet with other members of the House in a pro-life caucus to map out new strategies. Chris Smith, (R., New Jersey) and Alan Mollohan (D., West Virginia), are co-sponsors of the group.

Even if he gets barred in the political hot water churned up by the abortion debate, Hyde said he has no intention of letting up the pressure on the political front.

When I was in the Illinois legislature in 1969 and the first liberalized abortion bills began to appear, I got in the middle of the argument," I decided that killing an unborn child is wrong... and by default, I began leading the movement in Congress," said Hyde.

T-shirts spread season's true meaning

By Ana Rodriguez-Soto
Voice News Editor

For everyone who complains about the commercialization of Christmas: Three South Dade couples have devised a way to fight back.

"T-shirt with holes in the back proclaim, 'Jesus is the reason for the season.' And they want South Floridians everywhere to wear this shirt, but especially Dec. 21, the last Saturday before Christmas, when everyone will be out shopping and forgetting — if they ever remembered — the true meaning of Christmas.

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"When we are wrong, make us willing to change, and when we are right, make us easy to live with... save us from hot heads that would lead us to act foolishly."

"When we are wrong, make us willing to change, and when we are right, make us easy to live with... save us from hot heads that would lead us to act foolishly and from cold feet that would keep us from acting at all," he said.

As a deep silence pervaded the church it almost seemed that the peacefulness and unity of this one small congregation could be powerful enough to change the whole world.

Every head was bowed, from the oldest to the youngest, unstraining as they prayed silently, led by Dr. Hasty: "We pray for the peace of Jerusalem and of all the world... to bring all people to the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ..."
Pennies for Heaven

St. John the Apostle's schoolchildren use common cents for good works

By Ana Rodriguez-Soto
Voice News Editor

Oh, those useless pennies. They just sit there, cluttering your pockets, adding bulk to your wallet — to put it bluntly, getting in the way of the "real" money.

What to do? Students at St. John the Apostle School in Hialeah offer this suggestion: Save your pennies, and send them to the needy. Then be surprised at how valuable those "useless" tokens turn out to be.

Recently, Kindergarten thru eighth graders at the school did just that, pooling all their pennies and lining them up one after the other on cafeteria tables.

The result: 95,434 pennies. That is, $954.34, almost $1,000 in "real" money, to benefit two missions deep in the jungles of South America and the victims of the recent volcano eruption in Armero, Colombia.

In terms of history, the take from St. John's 10th annual "penny walk" was not unusual. Last year's collection raised a similar amount.

"It blows my mind when I think how many pennies that is," said Sr. Mary Pat, the teacher charged with hauling all those coins to the bank (where a machine counts them). Designed as a lesson in Christian charity and cooperation, the "penny walk" takes place around Thanksgiving and stresses "not so much a winner as how much we did all together," Sr. Pat said.

Nevertheless, a spirit of friendly competition between grades has crept in, and each tries to outdo the others in penny-line length. The winner gets only the satisfaction of being singled out over the school's public address system.

Apparently, that's incentive enough. "(Students) save their pennies from year to year," Sr. Pat said. "It's a big thing."

Dare to dream, Catholic teens told at youth rally

By Prent Browning
Voice Staff Writer

Brotherhood was the theme as several hundred teenagers from youth groups through the Archdiocese gathered at St. Thomas of Villanova University last Sunday for a day of games, music, relaxation and inspiration.

The music was provided by Caelus, a Christian rock group that compromises on neither values nor decibels.

Inspiration was provided by Joe Ruperto, director of Campus Ministry at St. Thomas, who spoke in the afternoon on the message of brotherhood in the gospel.

Before Vatican II the church was a building, he said, "but after Vatican II there's no more of this building stuff. Let's call the church you and you and you."

"I, I, I, that's what the world out there is saying. Do it by yourself, go for it. The church says you can't even love God until you love everyone around you," he said.

"People say 'Hey, I've got food, a house, a nice car, I'm making a difference. [Protestant television evangelist] Robert Schuller says in order to make a difference you've got to do three things: Trust God, believe in yourself, and dare to dream."

"Don't put your light under a bushel," he urged his audience, "if you have a good voice sing your heart out. If you have good ears listen to someone who wants to talk."

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By Father Xavier Araul and Sister Rose Yaeger

It was dusk when we landed in Port-au-Prince. Ms. Laura Garc, an X-ray technician at Mt. Sinai Hospital and an active member of "Amor en Accion" was the leader of the seven member missionary group that visited Haiti for five days over Thanksgiving weekend.

The group included representatives from two Miami Catholic schools: St. Rose Yaeger and Maria Elena Costa from Lourdes Academy, Fr. Xavier Araul, Nelson Bonet, Earnest Busstilo (alumus) from La Salle High School, and Fernando Salgado, an electronics technician who is active in the youth apostolate.

At the airport, Fr. Boniface Fil-Aime, a Montfort Father who is the Vicar of the Sister Diocese of Port-de-Paix, was waiting for us with a small truck which was to become our most efficient transportation for the duration of the trip.

With the guidance of missionary priests, sisters and laity we spent five days visiting remote north Haiti, stopping along the way to "hall" the missionaries who serve in the chapels, dispensaries, schools and nutrition centers that dot the mountainous countryside.

We started off for the city of Gross Morne and arrived at the rectory of the church by midnight. Next morning we visited the mountain school at Fagnut, "sisters school" of Lourdes Academy in Miami.

"Finally we get to see our school," said Sr. Rose. It had been an arduous climb and the effort of climbing well stood for the effort of support for that particular group of so many people for so many years.

In rapid succession we visited the Amor en Accion sponsored projects located in the neighborhood of Port-de-Paix and St. Louis du Nord. Nam-Palan (school, nutritional program), Des Grangns (school, medical dispensary, Prism School, nutritional program) La Salle's sister school. This project deserves special mention. When introduced as a teacher of La Salle I received instant recognition: "Oh yes, Ms. Marill's school!"

In South Florida, A.A. has tried to participate in a program for repopulating some areas with pigs. Years ago, because of a disease that affected the island pigs, all of the pigs had to be killed, which destroyed most rural families' main livelihood. This problem further impoverished the participating communities and will indirectly affect the entire community under the leadership of Amor en Accion.

The role of Amor en Accion has always been one of support for the projects that the local church together with the people of the community undertakes. We never try to impose our ways or our plans on the Haitian communities. Instead we listen and work together with the people and with the leaders of the communities, in a process that has been taking place since 1979 and has always been very hard but at the same time, very fulfilling, assuring and encouraging and witnessing to God's love for all people.

This participation will probably involve supporting the different pig cooperatives that will directly enrich the participating communities and will indirectly affect the entire community under the leadership of Amor en Accion. It is one of the privileges of getting close to the people. It allowed us to see their poverty but it also made us admire their resilience. It is one thing to have available all the materials and to build something with that. To do it when "you have nothing," as Earny kept saying, is a work of creation, and that's what the projects we visited are all about.

"Amor en Accion" can be proud of being part of this accomplishment and those who are part of it or contribute in any way to its projects can be assured of contributing to a most Christian cause, as builders of the Kingdom.

Reaching out to sister diocese

Mountain climb To get to Biquet you have to climb a mountain, and what a climb! It was ferocious! But once we got to the place it was like a miracle. Built against the soft clay of the mountain we saw a school structure, not yet finished but a triumph of ingenuity and hard work on the part of the dedicated people of the area.

The appreciation shown us by the children, teachers, and villagers was a truly moving experience.

Journey of heart Beyond the geographic details the trip was truly a journey of the heart.

The appreciation shown us by the children, teachers, and villagers was a truly moving experience. "It's like making a retreat," would comment Maria Elena. Indeed, we needed a time for reflection every evening in order to put in common our experiences, to sort out our feelings, impressions and emotional reactions of the day.

One could not help but be touched by the primitive conditions and lifestyle of the people whose civilization was so radically different from our own. People everywhere, walking, working, and waiting became the focus of our attention as we traveled in the ordinarily decorated and crowded Haitian buses that took us over bumpy, rocky roads and across the rivers.

Our presence in Haiti and our visits to the various projects funded by "Amor en Accion" under the guidance and supervision of the Diocese of Port-de-Paix are an important component of this missionary program.

The local leaders of the projects in Haiti get to see the faces of people who stand for the many others who contribute to make these projects a reality. The encouragement and feeling of solidarity thus engendered is only equaled by the sense of wonder and deep emotion generated in the hearts of the visitors.

First and foremost is the privilege of getting close to the people. It allowed us to see their poverty but it also made us admire their resilience. It is one thing to have available all the materials and to build something with that. To do it when "you have nothing," as Earny kept saying, is a work of creation, and that's what the projects we visited are all about.

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Schools helping to build schools

(Continued from page 1)

lie schools in Miami, have sponsored the education of approximately 3000 children a year by providing the salaries of their teachers. In many in- stances, special collections have been made by the students in the Miami schools to provide their Haitian sister schools with blackboards, school benches, school material, etc.

The school of Biquet is one of these cases. In Biquet, a new school has been under construction that will house at least six classrooms. According to some Haitian priests, construction of this type is seldom undertaken by big charitable organizations because it is so far away (Biquet is about three and a half hours climb from St. Louis du Nord in the northwest of Haiti) and all the construction materials have to be carried up to the village on men's shoulders. However, this is often not possible because they suffer from malnutrition and disease. Since 1983, A.A. with the help from St. Louis Church parishioners, has set up a nutritional program in coordination with the sister school program, through which approximately 2000 children receive one nutritional meal every school day.

Amor en Accion also has participated in evangelization activities in areas of the Diocese of Port-de-Paix, so remote that very few times in a year will they receive the visit of a priest. In the diocese of Port-de-Paix, there are only 20-24 priests for 360,000 Catholics.

Through this program, A.A. contributes to the education of catechists, the transportation of seminarians to the area and with some compensation for the catechist who work full time. Now increasing numbers of youngsters after their Confirmation continue collaborating with the evangelization of the area.

This year, A.A. is beginning to participate in a program for repopulating some areas with pigs. Years ago, because of a disease that affected the island pigs, all of the pigs had to be killed, which destroyed most rural families' main livelihood. This problem further impoverished the participating communities and will indirectly affect the entire community under the leadership of Amor en Accion.

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In South Florida, A.A. has tried to share the experiences that we have had in the different countries in which we have worked, where the Church is the only hope the people have for a life that is more humanizing, and where the Church serves the poor, in its constant imitation of Christ, in a pastoral way and not in a paternalistic way.
Judge, teens among 95 Syr

I think this is a chance for us as youth to help build the Church...”
Holly Jost, student
Synod member

“You know why I have... faith? Because I see a lot of lay people involved.”
Guillermina Damas, Synod member

Synod to bring ‘new life’ to Archdiocese

Excerpts from Archbishop’s homily at installation Mass

My beloved:

I greet you and welcome with affection on this special occasion when the members of our Synod are officially sworn into office, and when the facilitators of Synod hearings are blessed...

Especially on this occasion when we initiate the Synod as a source of New Life in our Archdiocese, we turn to Mary, who gave earthly life to her Son — from whom all life flows. Indeed, let us find in this life-giving role of Mary the very theme of our Synod to bring ‘new life’ to Archdiocese.

The Synod will be asking us, as his disciples, not to compromise, to be genuine, to be aware that in a hedonistic age we need proclaim that the Gospel or His Church be ignored with impunity by an agnostic, self-indulgent people. We are called to do God’s will...

As I see it, the Holy Spirit is calling us to greatness, to greatness in vision and purpose. He is calling us at this time to small mindedness, to narrow, petty criticism, to negative reactions to the past, to fanning controversies or feeding sectarian interests... Surely we need to be constructively aware of areas that need improvement if we are to be true to the Gospel. But our approach must be a positive, great-hearted approach of a holy people, a faith-filled people motivated exclusively by the single question: How, how can we trigger an explosion in living and sharing “the abundant life of Jesus Christ.”

What is being asked of us is to confront the failings of our times but, even more, to enkindle a new flame, a renewed age of faith, to release a new age of the Spirit among us...

This Synod... will be a great effort to recommit ourselves — without compromise — to the Gospel, to the teachings, the way of life of the Church. It will be accompanied by a sober awareness that in some instances Jesus may be asking us to join Him on the cross. He did not compromise with the evils of his times...

The Synod will be asking us, as his disciples, not to compromise, to be genuine, to be aware that in a hedonistic age we need proclaim that popular opinion does not always make it so. Popular approval would not make alcoholism, drug addiction right. A majority vote could not make an AIDS virus or a cancer-producing practice any less deadly. Nor can the rules of the Creator or indeed His Church be ignored with impunity by an agnostic, self-indulgent people. We are called to do God’s will...

I pledge... with every member of our Archdiocese to respond generously to my request for... prayers...

I ask that we beg especially for the gift of wisdom, the wisdom of faith? Because I see a lot of lay people involved.”

My beloved, through our prayerful, serious search for the discernment of wisdom in this Synod, may we, clustered around Jesus, be led to the Father as we refresh and build Jesus’ Church.
null
FEATURING

PERFORMING

THE “MASS IN G” by FRANZ SCHUBERT

DATE: Sunday Evening, December 15, 1985
TIME: 6:00
PLACE: St. Bernadette Church
7450 Stirling Road
Hollywood, Florida
If Catholics aren't careful they could lose the greatest one

By Father Henry Fehren

At the beginning of the second world War, according to an account by scripture scholar William Barclay, a man from India was preaching the Gospel in Burma. He was captured and made a prisoner when the Japanese overran the country. He was taken to a guardpost, where his possessions were taken from him and placed on a table; he was bound and thrown in a corner.

A Japanese officer came in, and looking over the objects on the table, he saw a Tamil Bible. The officer did not know Tamil, but he recognized the book as a Bible. He held up his hand, traced the sign of the cross on it, and looked questioningly at the prisoner, whose name was Sundaram.

Sundaram, of course, knew no word of Japanese but he realized that the officer was asking if he were a Christian. He nodded in the affirmative, and the officer then came before him and stretched out his hands in the form of a cross. He then cut his bonds, gave him back his belongings, and pointed him to the door and freedom.

As a token gift in memory of their common faith, the officer gave Sundaram his officer's staff. "Here were two men who knew not a word of each other's language," comments Barclay. "Two men from nations which were at war; two men between whom stretched a gulf which was humanly speaking beyond bridging — and Christ reached out across the divides and in Christ brought two men together again."

In this increasingly divided, violent, and embittered world Catholics cannot think of anyone more needed today than Jesus Christ, the peacemaker and reconciler. It is no wonder that the institutional side of the church, but I have never met anyone angry at Jesus.

In his sonorous praises. The man of God, filled with the Holy Gospel. Then he preached to the folk standing around the birth of the King in poverty, the manger, Francis, the Levite of Christ, chanting 'Three years before his death, Francis wanted the brethren were called together and the barrier of hostility that kept us apart' (Eph. 2:14).

"God is love," says St. John (1 John 4:8); and 'Love your neighbor as yourself' (Gal. 5:13)." says W. H. Auden in a Christmas poem. "The Church is not composed of belligerent persons. All are invited to the stable, the birth of Christ; but if Christians are at home only with the kings and disdain the first people, the poor, to be invited to the stable, they will lose their identity with Christ, who came in humility and poverty and peace.

Once again I thought of how people risk their tears, and overflowing with joy. "Once again" says W. H. Auden in a Christmas poem. "The Church is not composed of belligerent persons. All are invited to the stable, the birth of Christ; but if Christians are at home only with the kings and disdain the first people, the poor, to be invited to the stable, they will lose something of the meaning of Christmas."

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'Christmas gift 

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Leave Rambo out this Christmas

By Fr. Emmanuel Charles McCarthy

The spirit of Christmas is above all the spirit of peace. It is not the spirit of war. It is the spirit of joy and love, of reconciliation and peace. Gentleness, holiness and good will toward all people is the air in which the soul breathes at Christmas time. The decorations, the lights, the trees, the music, all come from and speak to that universal human longing for genuine peace on earth.

Yet, the sale of war toys has increased 350% since 1962. The top-selling toys are those that seduce children into playing homicide. G.I. Joe, a grotesque and vicious killer toy, has become the opposite of the spirit of Christmas is continually a best-seller at Christmas.

It is reasonable to assume that this year one company or another, that could care less about the truth, love and holiness of the Christian feast day, will try to Ramboize Christmas for a quick buck. It is also reasonable to assume that the sales of war toys will continue to increase, again be "had" by the pagans con artist of Hollywood and Madison Avenue.

What this means is that on Christmas morning in front of the stable of the Prince of Peace, millions of Little Christian children will be living in the murderous, hate-filled spirit of eminently that Rambo, G.I. Joe, toy machines guns, etc. require them to use. To play on a homicidal mind. But the homicidal mind is not the mind of Christ.

To give a child a war toy is to entice him or her into putting on a killer consciousness where conflict is self-righteously resolved by the total destruction and humiliation of the other party. Indeed, to give a child a war toy is to nurture him or her into enjoying the subtle but powerful pleasure of the total destruction and humiliation of those with whom one disagrees.

To those who say, "War toys are educationally and morally neutral," I say, "That is not true and you know it."

To those who say, "War toys allow a child to vicariously experience a fantasy world and therefore reduce the possibility that he or she will participate in such activity outside the mind," to those who say this I say, "That is not true — and you know it." Who is trying to fool whom.

To those who say, "War toys are a very important teaching tool in the hate — enmity — destruction curriculum. They whet the appetite for the pleasures of destruction. Unfortunately, I know nothing of the destruction of destruction."

I would ask therefore, that Christian parents this Christmas refrain from giving their children those toys that will motivate the little ones to enter into and enjoy the dark and vicious world of the toy world of homicide. I ask Christian parents this Christmas to be honest with themselves for the sake of their children's spiritual and moral welfare. John Paul II speaking to the young people of the world pleaded:

"On my knees, I beg you to turn away from the paths of violence and return to the ways of peace. I say to you all the love I have for you, with all the trust I have in young people, do not listen to voices of many ethnic, cultural, and national backgrounds come together, each celebrating its uniqueness while worshipping our one God in unity and not segregation.

Sincerely yours,

Jesus Lopez

Miami

TV station has no values

The Editor

I wonder how many of you have viewed some of the movies shown on television station WZZL — "Straw Dogs," "Killer Klansman," "Texas Chainsaw," etc. presented at the hour of 8 o'clock in the evening. Scheduling at a later time would not satisfy those who cherish the right to view what they wish without interference. Obstacles indeed there must be, but alas for the world that should have obstacles. Obstacles indeed there must be, but alas for the one who provides them."

(Matthew 18:5-7)

Please, Christian parents, give your little ones only what Jesus would give them on His birthday. Please stop the desecration. No war toys at Christmas!

Chile asks help for quake damage

Cardinal Juan Francisco Fresno, Archbishop of Santiago, Chile, has requested financial assistance from the Church of the United States for the rebuilding of 38 chapel/community centers in the urban slums and rural areas of the Archdiocese of Santiago. These chapel/community centers were damaged or destroyed by the severe earthquake that hit Chile last March.

Cardinal Fresno has provided a detailed description of each of these chapels/community centers. The cost of rebuilding these chapel/community centers is estimated as follows:

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The NCCB Secretariat for Latin America has agreed to collect any contributions and to transmit them to the Archdiocese of Santiago.

If you wish to adopt one of these chapel/community center reconstruction projects, please make out your check to the Archdiocese of Santiago, and send it to: NCCB Secretariat for Latin America, 1312 Massachusetts Ave. NW., Washington, D.C., 20005-4105.

A detailed description of each project is available.
True Christmas sharing

BY FR. JOSEPH M. CHAMPLIN

Catholics are urged to prepare by attending Mass daily if it is possible during the Advent season.

All of this is designed to urge you to get ready. But ready for a celebration. Not what the celebration is about. We are preparing to celebrate the nativity of Our Lord.

It is a time that Advent is observed as a penitential season, much as Lent, but that disappeared. But Advent is a time for special preparation. Catholics are urged to prepare by attending Mass daily if it is possible during the Advent season. It is a time for spiritual reflection and preparation that whatever will contribute to the building of your spiritual life.

The world about you is caught up in another meaning of the Christmas holiday, the buying and giving of gifts. That's not really something bad, it can be good. When we're thinking of gifts for others, we are acting motivated by our love.

It is important that in the context of this motivation that we remember others. Every parish should have its members praying for those who are ready for Christmas. Our parish provided lists of needs of particular families that the children wanted and needed, what the family needed, and individual families provided for those Christmas needs, never knowing the names of those who brought gifts to the parents before Christmas, the parents never knowing the names of the donors. Programs like this should be coordinated with the Salvation Army and other groups to make sure no one is missed and that help is not duplicated.

St. Rose of Viterbo

The daughter of poor and pious parents, St. Rose of Viterbo showed remarkable holiness in her early childhood. For two years she exhorted others, we are acting motivated by our love. St. Rose of Viterbo showed remarkable holiness in her early childhood. For two years she exhorted others, we are acting motivated by our love.

Time capsules

Miami, Florida / THE VOICE / Friday, December 13, 1985 / PAGE 19

It’s get ready time

BY DALE FRANCIS

Death and Wednesday morning about 50 men gather for a funeral at 6:30 a.m. in the prayer center. Each one wears a three-piece suit, carries an attache case and possesses a commuter card for the later train trip to executive offices in New York.

But they first chant Morning Prayer from the Church’s “Liturgy of the Hours,” then have a communion service followed by coffee and doughnuts before rushing to catch the train.

On Fridays at the same time, women of the parish follow a similar pattern.

Also at St. Mary’s in Colt’s Neck, the pastor matches up people interested in the Church with specially trained instructors. Thus a teenager can prepare himself for the sacrament of first communion, a married couple, a married couple and an older person, another older person. Father Bausch provides training with a view to giving spiritual formation and inspiration for the instructors, but then turns back and allows them to do what they find best.

Anne Baker lives in Westwood, Massachusetts and, in addition to being housewife and mother of several children, coordinates the spiritual formation and inspiration for the in-
Drunk driving

When I first heard that Congress had designated Dec. 15-21. A National Drunk and Drugged Driving Awareness Week, I had an immediate negative reaction. Why should such a chilling note be injected into our Christmas season? This should be a time of hope and peace, joy and beauty. Why would we want to focus on this devastating national tragedy when our thoughts should be filled with the tranquility of the manger scene?

But then I saw the statistics again: 44,000 people died in traffic accidents in 1984 – 23,500 in crashes where alcohol was a factor.

I also remembered one of the worst wrecks I ever saw with twisted metal so distorted one could hardly tell it had been a car. The driver had been a teen-age girl. She had shot heroin at a party. When she got into her car, an eyewitness reported that the car took off as if it had been a rocket. It went out of control, it crossed a divider and killed two people in another car.

I thought back too to the family of a young drunk driver of a killer car. He was 15 and drank vodka with a friend on a lark. Then the lad got behind the wheel of his friend's car. When it went out of control, it crossed a divider and killed two people in another car.

The accident nearly killed his mother who had to help her son through this crisis and could never forget the sight of the two people her son had accidentally killed. Drunk drivers leave victims on all sides. Today, with drug usage reaching such tremendous proportions, drugged drivers also have become a menace, destroying lives.

Fortunately the word is out that this terrible situation has gotten out of hand. We are witnessing a groundswelling of support for halting the killing. Church groups, bartenders, high school students, senior citizens and parents are getting involved in this issue. Results are beginning to come through.

In 1980, 50 percent of drivers killed in automobile crashes were legally drunk.

In 1984 this figure dropped to 43 percent.

Ironically it is when people are partying and having fun that the tendency to drink or take drugs is most pressing.

In designating Dec. 15-21 as a time to focus on drunk and drugged driving, Congress stated: "The Christmas and New Year holiday period, with more drivers on the road and an increased number of social functions is a particularly appropriate time to focus national attention on this critical problem."

It was reading that clause and mulling over the horrendous statistics on victims of drunk and drugged drivers that I changed my mind about the timing of the week.

There couldn't be a better week to do something on this problem, not only from a practical point of view but from a spiritual one.

For Christmas is about the gift of birth and life. It reminds us that as Christians we are called to challenge whatever diminishes or destroys life.

In this season, I would urge that we do all we can to stop the tragedy of drunk driving. We should care enough to make the good cheer we offer friends at holiday parties one that includes a "no" if necessary to alcohol or drugs.

(Nc News Service)

Pot smoking

Q. Do you think it is wrong to smoke pot? (New Hampshire)

A. Some people would ask, "How can it be wrong when it feels so right?"

Others, however, raise some additional and serious questions about marijuana.

BY TOM LENNON

Susan, still a teen-ager, says: "I smoked pot for quite a while and lots of times I was zombie-fired out of my mind. I finally quit because I didn't like what it was doing to me."

"All my senses were assaulted by this drug, or it seemed that way to me and I think my sight and my hearing are among God's most wonderful gifts."

"It's not just marijuana. I think all mind-altering drugs are harmful to our bodies and so I think it's insulting to God to harm his great gift of our bodies."

"These drugs work on your mind too. And I want my mind to be in good shape to face the challenges of life right now and also in my adult life."

Jim, a construction worker, told me: "I smoked pot and drank hard from the time I was 15 until I came to my senses at the age of 23. All that time I was escaping from the problems and pains and challenges of life. Never once did I face up to life."

"All that time I hadn't grown at all. I had remained at the same emotional level I was at when I was 15. I woke up at the age of 23 and found out I was still an emotional 15 year old. I was in bad shape. Real bad shape."

Kevin is now 27 and he says of his teen years: "I was on the football team in high school and usually after a game I'd go out with the guys to relax. But I never smoked marijuana. Some instinct warned me against it."

"I've learned since that in the long run it can impair your thinking and can harm your respiratory system, your heart and even your reproductive organs."

"Even after high school I never smoked pot. I think I alienated some people. We'd be sitting around and everybody would puff on the joint and it would come to me and I'd just pass it on and say I didn't want to smoke. But nobody ever ended a friendship over it."

"I think it's also very important to remember that when you smoke pot you're breaking the law. That's a helluva of a way for a teenager to start adult life."

One last opinion — mine. I suggest it's wrong to smoke pot experimentally because of the risk involved. Just too many human tragedies have come to light to deny that the risk is enormous.

That first time you try pot will always remain in your mind. When the going gets tough later on, you will remember there's a way to ease the pain.

You just cannot be certain of what that first experience of marijuana will lead to. So I'd say, don't take the risk!"

(Send questions to Tom Lennon, 1312 Mass. Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.)

(NC News Service)
Dear Mary: I read your column about the lady, 59, whose children pay no attention to her. Well, I'm 58 and had the same problem but with only one of four children, I did. According to clear the air, I talked it out, saying do you realize these things and do you care which I love and you love. My problem was I had not been to my daughter’s house for three years. Also the burden of all holiday attendance from me. I enjoyed it but I have had bad health and operations. I talk about the holiday and any leaving a husband that provides plenty for the big meal.

My advice to the lady who wrote you is to have her grandchildren come for a weekend or even overnight. To impress the fiancé and show that you are leaving a husband that provides plenty for the big meal.

I think your grandchildren are lucky to have a grandmother who so clearly enjoys them. Your letter makes several points for us to remember at this holiday season.

First, with all the housecleaning and decorating, and gift purchasing, holidays are about people. More than any other time, it is a period when families get together.

As you indicate, it is easy to take our traditions for granted, to impose on each other, to create a one-side relationship without realizing what has happened.

Holidays offer an opportunity to give and accept gifts, help and hospitality. Members of each generation need to assist in the family get-together. Perhaps the family has always assembled at mother’s. All the sons and daughters assume “Mother wants it that way.” Yet mother may welcome some help if only some daughter or son would offer. Saying that we have always gathered at mother’s is no excuse. Traditions should not enslavе us.

No family needs a martyr mother or grandmother who insists that everyone gather at her house but who subtly or not so subtly lets her family know the burden they have put upon her. The greatest compliment a mother can pay her children or grandchildren is to let them know she values them as capable adults.

She recognizes that daughter can bake pies every bit as good as her own. She welcomes son-in-law’s offer to prepare a special meal, and a new tradition is added to the family feast. The Chinese regard the New Year as a time of reconciliation, a time to forgive and ask forgiveness, to pay and collect debts — in short, to start with a clean slate.

At holiday time, you borrow this custom for our own family. Review your family relationships. Divide up the preparations and demands of entertaining. Make sure there is no one is unduly burdened and no one is left out. Accept everyone’s contribution gratefully.

If you succeed, you will keep the good traditions and modify those which are obsolete. In so doing your family will grow a little stronger and more loving each year.

Reader questions on family living and child care to be answered in print are invited. Address questions to: The Parent Box 872, St. Joseph’s College, Rensselaer, Ind. 47978.

(Nc News Service)

Christmas: The big crash

BY DOLORES CURRAN

But although I may be a good footer, I am also a fast learner. I’ve found that returning children and parents alike just want to be with us for awhile. They want to be the same in the same way they were home before they left.

What they don’t want is activities, appointments, and other people. They want us, good food, time away from the hordes, and a bathroom all to themselves.

We have become sensitive to what they want and need, although occasionally College students, especially, need a time to decompress. They’re tired of deadlines, people, and travel. So now we plan as little as possible the first week they’re home.

A friend of mine told me how they learned this lesson. It seems they traditionally celebrated Christmas Eve with aunts, uncles and cousins. Lots of them. As her children came home from college, they became more reluctant to be part of that mob scene.

Then, one year, her daughter said, “You know, we have never spent Christmas Eve at home, just our family. If I get married, I won’t know how to have a Christmas Eve at home.” My perspective friend realized what her children were asking. They weren’t resenting relatives. They just wanted each other.

There comes a time when traditions need to be examined. “What do we really want to do?” is a fine question. We may discover, as we did, that we just want to relax and sleep. The best Christmas we’ve had was when we had a record 36-inch blizzard the day before Christmas which shut down the town. We planned several activities, and the children, a “safe place” to have an overnight train trip — overcrowded, noisy, smoky — followed by a two-hour car trip home.

I arrived home to a mother who wanted to talk. She was visibly hurt at my lack of enthusiasm and it wasn’t a good way to start a holiday reunion.

It looked like a “love farm.” There were over forty couples strolling the grounds arm in arm, or sitting in the church hall holding hands. They were young, wide-eyed, and lively in love. They had come to an Engaged Encounter as a part of preparation for marriage but were not exactly sure of what to do, if anything. One lady told me that she was delighted with the day, “It’s for me to do it” because virtually all of them have been touched in some way by divorce, either by their parents, extended family, or friends. Some of them have unhappiness of such an experience is a reality that these couples intensely desire to avoid. They want to know the “how to’s” — how will we handle normal disillusions and conflicts; how do we keep romance in our relationship once we are married?; to everyday chores, careers, children, etc.; how can we keep strong in our values and in our faith within a society which promotes consumerism and accumulation of wealth; what does being married “in the Lord” mean and how our concerns are sur- faced and shared in an atmosphere of love and ac- cepance.

We as “older” married team couples learn much about our own relationships in the process of pre-paring talks for and with the engaged... we have not “made it” ourselves; we are continually in the process of becoming married. What do we have to give the fruit of our own life experience to the expe-rience of marriage... sometimes that’s fun, at other times the tears flow. But it always brings growth for us as a couple. (Sometimes we say, Lord, please, no more growth.)

Engaged Couples who come to these Engaged Encounters with your excitement, your enthusiasm, your joyfulness and your experience of a bub-ble of romance, I say thank you on behalf of all the team couples who participate in this special minis-try. You have energized us, revitalized us and helped us to remember how we felt when we first married and why we chose each other in the first place. We have somehow been able to “connect” the years and remember the “marvelous deeds the Lord has done.”

(Future dates for Engaged Encounters can be obtained from parishes or from the Family Enrichment Center, 651-0265.)
We could say, I think, he knew more about God's love and mercy and God's faithfulness than any other religious figure. He was aware of what he was doing. He had postgraduate degrees in biblical studies and taught for many years at Catholic schools, including St. Mary's, Fort Lauderdale. He had undergone years of reflection and, I assume, prayer.

My question is this. It seems to me impossible to explain that kind of movement of faith. However, in spite of the firmness of our faith in the teachings of Christ-likeness, orthodox ecclesiology always recognizes its limitations. Most particularly it recognizes that the ground gets very shaky and dangerous when one begins to set limits on what God can, or particularly what he cannot, do. God has revealed to us many truths, especially in and through Jesus Christ, which we must accept totally and according to which we must live. But he never told us that he has revealed everything of his plans and his ways of action.

And in various ways he has said just the opposite. The words of Isaiah, "My ways are not your ways," says the Lord. "As far as the heavens are above the earth so far are my ways above your ways, are repeated one way or another countless times in both the Old and New Testaments. I do not imply approval of what your friend has done. I simply note that there are too many secrets about God and about that particular person's relationship to God, of which we are too ignorant to make any judgments.

Our task is to be faithful to the love God asks us of as individuals and as a church. Without denying or belittling any of our own beliefs, we must ultimately admit that the goodness or sinfulness of your friend's decisions are a matter between him and God.
Silent Night
(The TV’s off)

TV gets religion at Christmas time;
gone are the crooks, banished, the crime;
people who once hopped bed-to-bed
now go to sleep with toys in their head.

Characters on sitcoms no longer snipe
and blondes are demure and not over-ripe;
and even Mr. T stops hollering, “Fool!”
You can beat the TV if you now and then lose it; Merry Christmas to all
from the man who reviews it.

This year’s holiday programming on
television offers a wide variety of enter-
tainment — from traditional fare such as the Charles Dickens’s classic,
“Scrooge,” which will air on ABC, to a
modem day tale of Christmas faith call-
ed “Mr. T. and Emmanuel Lewis in a
Christmas Dream” — a latch-key kid accepts the guidance
of a sidewalk Santa, at 9 p.m., on
Channel 2.

The following programs are just a few of the season’s highlights:

Dec. 17: “The Gift of Love: A Christmas Story” with Lee Remick and
Angela Lansbury at 9 p.m., on
Channel 4.

Dec. 18: “Kenny & Dolly: A Christmas to Remember” with Kenny
Rogers and Dolly Parton at 8 p.m. on CBS, Channel 4.

Dec. 20: “Mr. T. and Emmanuel Lewis in a Christmas Dream” — a latch-
key kid accepts the guidance of a sidewalk Santa, at 9 p.m., on
Channel 2.

Dec. 22: “Scrooge” a musical version of the
Charles Dickens’s classic comes to life with perfor-
mances by Albert Finney as
Scrooge and Sir Alec Guinness as
Marley’s ghost.

Dec. 24: “Joyous Noel: A Cajun Christ-
mass” at 12 midnight on Chan-
nel 10.

“White Nights” dazzles
with Baryshnikov, Hines

White Nights — A-I, PG-13
The dance sequences with Mikhail
Baryshnikov, a classical ballet dancer
and Gregory Hines, an American tap
dancer are the cultural exchange of
the year. Baryshnikov’s performance
as a Russian defector whose plane is
forced down in Siberia and now must attempt to
convince Kolya (Baryshnikov) to stay. Also
memorable is Isabella Rossellini, daughter of the famous Ingrid
Bergman, who portrays Greenwood’s
developed wife. This is a joyful film
which can be seen again and again.

Once Bitten — O, PG-13
A vampire, played by the incredibly
good Lauren Hutton, must find a
teen-age virgin male to
in order to keep the destruction of Christmas by a
evil toy manufacturer. Dudley Moore plays
Bumbler, a Mr. T. type.

YULE TREAT — Santa Claus, played by David Huddleston comforts Joe,
played by Charles Fitzpatrick, a lonely street kid who helps stop a plot to un-
dermine Christmas by an evil toy manufacturer. Dudley Moore plays a bumb-
ling elf with a good heart. This is a delightful holiday fare for the whole family.

‘White Nights’ dazzles
with Baryshnikov, Hines

CAUTION.
O’Shea’s can be Hallib;
Forming. Take only as directed.

Direct yourself to 1081 BALD EAGLE DRIVE on MARCO ISLAND.
You haven’t been to S.W. FLA. ‘til you’ve been to O’Sheas.
Offering LUNCH, SUNDAY BRUNCH, COCKTAILS, LITE DINNER, FULL
DINNER OVERLOOKING MARCO BAY, 394-7531.

Mike Gordon
Seafood Restaurant

Miami, Florida / THE VOICE / Friday, December 13, 1985 / PAGE 23
St. Anthony school celebrates 60th

St. Anthony School, established in 1926 when Broward County's Lauderdale was considered missionary territory, is celebrating its 60th anniversary this school year.

Presently enrolling approximately 400 students from the south-central area of Broward County, St. Anthony is now seeing a third generation of students in her classrooms. St. Anthony is fully accredited by the Florida Catholic Conference and is administered by the Marist Brothers under the direction of principal Brother Thomas Aguilas, FMS.

Evaluating students in grades K-8.

Fr. Duffey re-elected

The Augustinians Friars of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova re-elected Father Joseph A. Duffey, O.S.A., for a second term as provincial superior. Fr. Duffey is the Augustinian Superior of Miami.

Augustinian Superior

Father Joseph Duffey is a member of the Augustinian Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova. He professed solemn vows in 1948 and obtained a B.A. in English literature from the University of Miami. A faculty member of Augustinian College, he has taught courses in English literature and religious studies at Augustinian College, Washington, DC, during the 1978-79 academic year. He has also taught courses in English literature and religious studies at Augustine College, Washington, DC, during the 1978-79 academic year. He has also been a member of the Augustinian Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova since 1948. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1952.

While technically private St. Anthony is not elitist. They are proud of the diversity of their students and do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion or creed.

Rosarian seeks gifts for auction

A Tequesta resident who wishes to remain anonymous has donated a $50,000 Chefetz Blazer to Rosarian Academy's Auction '86.

The shiny new gold '85 sports wagon with its tinted windows will go up for bids on February 15 when Rosarian holds its annual benefit auction at Flager Museum.

Maureen Doyle, general chairman, has also announced that any gifts suitable for live or silent bidding are now being welcomed.

The Rosarian Academy Home Association (RAHSA) who sponsors the event has a booth office open daily in the school's main lounge at 807 North Flager Drive.

Pick-up service is available. Phone 832-5511, extension 45. During the Academy's Christmas holidays, call Maureen Doyle 622-9599.

It's a Date

Spiritual Renewal

The Canarie will host an Overnight Welcome of New Year on Dec. 31-Jan. 1. Begin 6 p.m. Tuesday and dinner Wednesday at 6 p.m. Continue an overnight as a priority.

The Greater Miami Youth Symphony and the South Florida Youth Symphony are combining their efforts in a fine time ever joint holiday concert to be held at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, 418 N. Biltmore St., Miami Beach.

Noon, St. Elizabeth's Gardens. Donation $2 per person. Tickets $30 per person. Proceeds to support our Charities.

Single/divorced/widowed

The St. Mark Catholic Church will hold a single Christmas Party on Dec. 16 at 8 p.m. at the North Bay Club. Tickets $30 per couple. For info call 368-1468 or 734-1817.

St. Mary's Church in Pompano Beach (500 Andrews Ave.) will host a New Year's Eve Party on Dec. 31. Begin 9:30 p.m. Bar Open Buffet dinner. Tickets $10 per person or $50 per couple. For info call 368-1468 or 734-1817.

Meetings

The Dominican Laity, Third Order of St. Dominic, St. Thomas Aquinas Chapter, will be meeting on Dec. 15. in the great hall room of Thompson Hall at Barry U. at 10 a.m. Followed by coffee and mints.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Holy Spirit No. 192, Miami Beach, will hold their regular business meeting, Dec. 15, at 1 p.m. St. Elizabeth's Church

Pepoturri

Good Shepherd Church will host a Christmas dinner to benefit K.O. B.E. and his com-/close daughter Edwarda on Dec. 28 from 9:30 p.m. to midnight. $2 per person. Tickets at door or at church located at 18171 S.W. 74th St. D.J. Latin and rock music.

The Church of the Epiphany, 2825 S.W. 15th Avenue, Pembroke Pines General Hospital will host a 25 year tribute to Pembroke Pines General Hospital Professional Building at 2201 University Dr. and will feature internationally reknowned classical guitarist Yaunis and Lov Moavado. Cocktails and hors' d'oeuvres will be served throughout the evening.

Tickets for the event are available at Chaminade's Silver Anniversary Campaign Office for $100 per person. Proceeds for the event will go to the school's Silver Anniversary Campaign — a $2 million fund-raising effort.

The event is open to the public, but ticket sales will be limited to 200.

For further information call Jose Cruz, Director at 733-0125.

Dr. Wilkie to speak at Annunciation

Dr. Willke will be heard at 2 p.m. on Saturday on radio station WIZN.
Ministers let light of faith shine through

By Father Lawrence E. Mick
NC News Service

It was a small, white, frame church in a lower middle class neighborhood. As I entered through the main doors of the building, I wondered what the liturgy would be like that summer Sunday. I was on a short sabbatical between assignments, living with friends for six weeks. Since this had been a very prayerful celebration. Parishioners felt that the liturgy had been missing in the other parishes I had visited. This one had a lot of work to do.

As the liturgy began, I noted a variety of deficiencies. The building itself had been only partially renovated to meet the needs of the liturgy. The music was not bad, neither was it outstanding. The lector was willing, but obviously not well trained. The servers seemed a bit lost at times. In contrast to other parishes I had visited, this one had a lot of work to do. Yet, as the celebration progressed, I began to realize that there was something here that had been missing in the other parishes I had visited. It was hard to pinpoint and hard to describe, but I left the parish feeling that the liturgy had been a very prayerful celebration.

Over the next few days I struggled to figure out what made that celebration so prayerful. It hadn't been that solemn. The music was lively, the people laughed at the joke the pastor told in the homily and they were friendly at the Sign of Peace.

The overall mood was rather simple and informal, yet it seemed reverent to me, for the presence of God was almost tangible. Somehow the celebrant and the other ministers let their faith show forth and the whole congregation entered into the spirit of faith and prayer.

Reverence is a complex topic, as people quickly discover when they get into a discussion about it. Moreover, people tend to have some firm opinions on whether a liturgical celebration is or is not reverent. People often discover that their idea of reverence differs somewhat from the views of friends and acquaintances.

Perhaps that isn't surprising. Even an individual can feel somewhat divided about this — one day seeking a quiet, somewhat austere atmosphere for worship; another day seeking a more lively celebration.

What is reverence? And how should it be expressed? Actually, the term "reverence" is not reserved for academic discussion. For most of the time no one seemed to be in charge. Men were gathered — all were treated with care and respect. It seems to me that this is what reverence really means. To be reverent is to approach and treat with care all the means of God's presence.

Everyday reverences

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Perhaps that isn't surprising. Even an individual can feel somewhat divided about this — one day seeking a quiet, somewhat austere atmosphere for worship; another day seeking a more lively celebration.

What is reverence? And how should it be expressed? Actually, the term "reverence" is not reserved for activities inside a church. People express reverence in daily life.

Consider, for example, the newborn baby. She is a reminder of how completely one individual depends on another, and of life's mystery. Watching her as she sleeps peacefully, new parents may sit quietly, experiencing a profound sense of awe. At other moments their reverence for the baby's new life will be expressed with a smile, with words of joy. Of course, their reverence for life is reverent in the liturgy.

Since many people experience the liturgy, the subject of reverence is of concern to all. But it is also of concern to people in the pews. The people who worshiped that little frame church so prayerful. The people who worshiped there cared about what they were doing and believed in what they were doing. Their faith was manifested by the care with which they fulfilled their ministries. The bread and wine, the book of readings, the altar and the people who gathered — all were treated with care and respect. It seems to me that this is what reverence means. To be reverent is to approach and treat with care all the means of God's presence.

THINKING IT OVER

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Putting silence back in liturgies

By Father John Gurrieri
NC News Service

Nowadays we talk a great deal about "good liturgies" as though speaking about good movies. That is, we often think a liturgy is good if we enjoyed it. When we disliked it, or if it was not "good," we may get a kick out of it.

To an extent this is understandable. After all, conscious, active and devout participation is a goal in worship. It is important that that goal is important.

But in liturgy we also approach the unknowable and all-holy God who, in Jesus, formed us into his people. Participation in the liturgy is cause for reverence, and not a little awe.

What is reverence? The question hits home in a special way for all those today who fulfill special roles in the liturgy — priests, permanent deacons, readers, eucharistic ministers, parish liturgy planners. Often, they worry about making a mistake.

Now, worrying about getting things right can easily lead to making a mess of the thing you wanted to do correctly in the first place. This is no less true in liturgy than when it comes to saying the right thing to one's boss or spouse on a special occasion, or setting a table for a special dinner according to the dictates of Miss Manners.

In liturgy, people tend to worry too much, not trusting God to understand. Perhaps that is why Benedictine Father Aidan "vanagh, in a collection of sayings, aphorisms and principles for liturgical celebrations, wrote: "Liturgical silence is purposefully pregnant and controlled — the thunderous quiet of people communicating that which escapes being put into mere words."

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For the first Christians, the Eucharist celebrated the resurrection and its liberating effects in Christian lives. It anticipated their assured participation in the heavenly banquet. These early Christians really celebrated, in the context of a shared meal. Like many meals, this one was a happy occasion and, one can imagine, a noisy affair. Paul had to take the Corinthians to task for letting things get out of hand (1 Corinthians 11).

And in a long section of First Corinthians (12-14) Paul was at pains to bring some order into the overly enthusiastic exercise of the various charismatic gifts during the liturgy. He did not try to repress them, only regulate them.

Later New Testament writers urged their communities to give heartfelt expression to religious sentiments: "Sing praise to the Lord with all your hearts" (Ephesians 5:19).

And Paul himself who wrote these words at the end of his second letter to the Corinthians, read them, remember, during the liturgy: "Greet one another with a holy kiss" (13:12).
Father Joseph Hamilton: The community's support helped him recover after a heart transplant.

"I just knew from the beginning that it was going to work, that it would be all right," he said. "I just thought, 'Well, it will happen in the Lord's own time and I can't rush it, and I can't do anything about it, so there's no use fretting about it.'"

He said his positive attitude is a result of his faith and his friends. "I guess it all goes back to faith and concern and care that I felt from people." While in the hospital, Father Hamilton received more than 900 cards and letters from well-wishers. He said he has been overwhelmed by the kindness people have shown him.

To get himself back into shape, he walks about a mile every day through the neighborhood, which is about one-and-a-half miles from St. Edward Parish where he was pastor from 1973 to 1984. His step is slow but sure. He plays golf, does woodworking with a friend, cooks his specialties — chili and vegetable soup — and does "anything I want to do," he said.

He is still weak, though, and will have to build up his strength gradually through exercises at the cardiac rehabilitation unit a Jewish Hospital. Since his heart attack, Father Hamilton has lost about 50 pounds and now weighs about 162.

He said that the thought of being able to return to his parish helped him recover. Archbishop Thomas Kelly of Louisville had told him that his parish would be taken care of in his absence, but that he could return there if able.

"That took a tremendous burden and worry off my shoulders because it was a place I really wanted to go back to. The thought of having to give it up was really, really hard."