

Pope, Patriarch Meet, Pray for Religious Unity

Catholic and Orthodox Christians are brothers at the summit but are still divided on the lower rungs of the ecclesiastical ladder.

Pope Paul told a throng of people at the summer Vatican at Castel Gandolfo that he and Patriarch Athenagoras "spoke like brothers" at this meeting in Istanbul.

Their two days together included prayers for the ultimate unity of the churches they head.

The prayers for unity, offered in the Roman Catholic Cathedral of the Holy Spirit and in the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of St. George, climaxed a two-day papal visit that included conferences with many political and religious leaders, a boat ride on the Bosphorus, a trip to the Topkapi museum and a brief, silent prayer in the museum of Hagia Sophia, which was formerly a mosque and, before that, one of the greatest churches of the ancient Christian world.

On the second day of his trip, the Pope presided at a Mass for a largely Italian congregation in the small Church of St. Anthony in Istanbul, before flying to Ephesus where he visited an ancient Shrine to the Virgin Mary, venerated by both Christians and Moslems.

(According to tradition, Ephesus was the place where Mary, perhaps in the company of Mary Magdalene and St. John the Evangelist, spent her last years on earth. In pre-Christian times, the city was the site of a shrine of the pagan virgin goddess Artemis (the Romans Diana) which was renowned throughout the ancient world.)

(The New Testament refers repeatedly to visits to Ephesus by St. Paul, including a dramatic passage in the 19th chapter of Acts which describes a riot incited against Paul because he opposed the worship of Diana.)

Besides joining the Pope twice in prayers for unity and presenting him to the Orthodox congregation as "the first in honor among us," Patriarch Athenagoras visited the airport twice, to welcome Pope Paul on his arrival and to bid him farewell.

On each occasion, the two religious leaders repeatedly exchanged the traditional kiss of peace amid the enthusiastic cheers of the crowds around them.

At the ecumenical prayer service in the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of St. George, the Pope sat to the right of the Patriarch, a position which is normally never occupied during religious ceremonies. He was further honored by the insertion of a reference to him in the litany recited at this ceremony.

His participation in the rite was believed to be the first time a reigning pontiff has prayed in an Orthodox church.

In the small Catholic cathedral, the Pope and the Patriarch recited prayers with ecumenical overtones, using the Latin and Greek languages alternately.

Among the other religious leaders with whom Pope Paul conferred during his visit to Istanbul were the city's Armenian Patriarch, the Grand Mufti and the Chief Rabbi.

During his flight from Istanbul to Smyrna, from which

he proceeded to Ephesus, the Pope flew over several cities severely damaged by the recent earthquake in Turkey. Light damage was also noticeable in some of the buildings in Istanbul.

Addressing the Orthodox congregation in the Cathedral of St. George, Pope Paul said that "in the light of our love of Christ and of our fraternal charity, we discover once again the deep identity of our faith."

"The points on which we still differ must not prevent our seeing this profound unity," he said. "At the same time, it makes us more deeply sorrowful for the present impossibility of seeing this unity expressed in celebration and it urges us to do everything possible to hasten the coming of the day of the Lord."

He cited "the duty of the heads of the Churches and their hierarchies to start out on the road that leads to full communion."

In reply, Patriarch Athenagoras said, "it is our duty to work that the Churches may become one."

Religious leaders of many faiths were at the Catholic Cathedral of the Holy Spirit where Pope Paul and Patriarch Athenagoras joined for their second ecumenical prayer service. At this service, Pope Paul said that separated Christians must "work fraternally to find together adapted and progressive forms in order to develop and transform into a reality in the lives of our Churches the communion which exists."

He also called for programs of dialogue and of education

for the clergy and people to prepare them for religious unity.

Christians, he said, must "get to know each other and respect each other in the rightful diversity of the liturgical, spiritual, disciplinary and theological traditions."

"To re-establish and maintain communion and unity," he said, "one must be careful not to impose anything that may not be necessary."

Peace, as well as Christian unity, was a theme of the Pope's visit. In an address to members of the diplomatic corps in Istanbul, he said that "if peace has political, economic and military aspects, it has first of all a spiritual one. The Church struggles to spread everywhere the spirit of mutual love, of goodwill, of collaboration for peace."

At Ephesus, he visited a shrine honored at the House of the Virgin which is annually the scene of large pilgrimages by both Christians and Moslems on August 15, the Feast of the Assumption. The city is also famous for an ecumenical council, held in 431 A.D., which proclaimed that Mary was the mother of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity made man.

From Ephesus, the Pope sent telegrams to Orthodox patriarchs in many Eastern cities, including Alexandria, Antioch and Athens, and to the two chief patriarchs of the Armenian Apostolic Church, Catholicos Khoren of Cilicia and Catholicos Vaken of Echmiadzin, as well as to several Catholic prelates of the Eastern Rites.



Istanbul — (RNS) — Pope Paul and Patriarch Athenagoras clasp hands as they leave Istanbul's Orthodox Cathedral of St. George where they participated in a one-hour unity prayer service.



Istanbul — (RNS) — Pope Paul arrives at the Apostolic Delegation for the start of a long day of meetings and religious ceremonies in Istanbul on July 25. First pontiff to visit Istanbul since the 8th Century, he met with Patriarch Athenagoras, supreme leader of Eastern Orthodox, for talks on Christian unity; and with President Cevdet Sunay of Turkey to discuss peace problems in the Middle East.



EPHESUS — (RNS) — Pope Paul lights a large candle on altar of the ancient House of the Virgin Mary, a small stone chapel near Ephesus, overlooking the Aegean Sea in Turkey.

Ephesus, Home of Virgin Mary

Ephesus—(RNS)—Pope Paul VI spent the last few hours of his historic visit to predominantly Moslem Turkey in touring the ancient ruins of Ephesus and praying before Marian and other Christian shrines.

The pontiff came to Ephesus by car from Izmir, 80 miles north of the old village, following a 55-minute flight from Istanbul Airport. His brief stay in Ephesus was made under a burning sun and temperatures well up in the 100s.

He exchanged farewell messages at the airport with Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras and President Cevdet Sunay of Turkey, with whom he had conferred a day before. With the spiritual leader of Eastern Orthodoxy, the Pope prayed together in Orthodox and Roman Catholic churches in Istanbul and discussed problems of Christian unity.

With President Sunay, the Pope's major concern was world peace—particularly in the Middle East—and the safeguarding of holy places in Old Jerusalem.

In a farewell message to Orthodox and other non-Catholic church leaders, Pope Paul repeated his appeals for Christian unity and said he hoped to "further the dialogue of truth in charity."

Before leaving Istanbul he also gave the Turkish government a \$40,000 check for relief of victims of the country's earthquakes — which occurred a few days before the Pope's visit. Another check — for \$10,000 — was given by the Pope to the City of Istanbul for needy residents.

As the papal motorcade reached Ephesus, it was greeted by crowds and a banner reading, "Benvenuto" and "Hos Geldinez," the Italian and Turkish for "Welcome."

Pope Paul first went to the ruins of the Church of the Virgin Mary in Ephesus and prayed

before remains of an ancient altar. He knelt on a wooden bench which had been placed there for him.

This church marks the site of the Third Ecumenical Council in 431 A.D., which declared that the Virgin Mary was truly the Mother of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity made man. This council condemned the teaching of Patriarch Nestorius who held that Mary was the mother of Jesus in his human form, but not in His Divine nature.

At the Church of the Virgin Mary, the Pope spoke briefly to about 2,000 persons. He quoted from St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians: "One Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, Who is above all, and throughout all, and in us all." (Chapter 4:5-6.)

From Ephesus proper, the Pope was driven about six miles up winding mountain roads to a place called Meryemana, about 1,300 feet above the Aegean Sea. The name means "The House of Mother Mary," and is marked by a small stone chapel about 35 feet long. The chapel is said to be at the site where the Virgin Mary spent her last years on earth.

While little is known about Mary's final years, tradition dating back to the end of the 4th Century holds that Mary and St. John the Disciple came to Ephesus after Christ's Ascension. It is believed that it was at Ephesus that Mary died and the Assumption took place. However, another belief is that Mary's life on earth ended in Jerusalem.

Pope Paul prayed at the chapel before a gray marble altar and a three-foot bronze statue of Mary. He lighted a large altar candle before leaving the shrine.

The Pope also met the Capuchin priest, Father Filiberti, who maintains the chapel. The friar told Pope Paul that "tradition proves it to be so" that Mary lived her last years in

Ephesus. "People in the area have said so for centuries," the priest said.

After touring other places in Ephesus, Pope Paul returned to Izmir, where he visited the Church of St. John just before returning to Rome.

Flying on a Pan American jetliner—called the Clipper of St. Paul—the Pope arrived in Rome at 9:25 p.m., July 26, and

proceeded directly to the Summer villa of Castel Gandolfo. He was expected to remain there until September.

The Pope's journey to Istanbul—besides establishing a number of religious precedents and adding another chapter to the Christian unity movement—also set another "first." It marked the first time that an American airline had carried the Pope on both laps of a trip outside Italy.

WEEKLY CROSSWORD

ACROSS		DOWN	
1. Claw	6. Appointments	1. Knot lace	2. Skilled
11. Make amends for	12. Zola	3. Learning	4. Single unit
13. Cast	14. Tight	5. Not old	6. Discovery
15. French article	16. Became aware of	7. Catkin	8. Cans
17. Earth, as a goddess	18. Upright	9. Otherwise	10. Plant ovule
19. Upright	20. Alture	11. Part of a min	12. Festive
21. Sea	22. Ohio college town	13. Incline	14. Type of architecture
23. Snake	24. One who toils slowly	15. Biblical river of Damascus	16. Pronoun
25. Proclaimed loudly	26. Ma's companion	17. Anxious	18. Members of House of Lords
27. Near	28. Escape	19. Mournfully	20. Concise

ANSWER

35. Matured, as cheese
36. Edible fruit
37. Pondle
38. Time before
39. Turner
40. Observe

Fisherman's Wharf

Drive Down to
McPherson's Point

On Beautiful Conesus Lake

FOR A FUN EVENING

GOOD FOOD — SERVICE
and MUSIC

RESERVATIONS

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