



Where the Pope Will Visit

When Pope Paul visits Australia in November, he will attend the bishops conference in Sydney which has population of 2½ million. It is a major seaport and commercial center with many modern, tall buildings. (RNS)

Premier, Anglicans Welcome News of Pope Paul Visit

Canberra — (RNS) — Australia's prime minister and two high-ranking Anglican Churchmen expressed a warm welcome to the news that Pope Paul VI will visit Australia later this year.

The Vatican announced on May 28 that the Pope will journey next November to Sydney and to Manila in the Philippines to participate in meetings of the bishops' conferences of the Far East.

Prime Minister Gorton said here that "all Australians, not just the Roman Catholic community," would welcome His Holiness.

While in Sydney, the Pope will participate in celebrations of the 200th anniversary of the discovery of the Australian sub-continent.

Anglican Archbishop Frank Woods of Melbourne, Metropolitan of the Province of Victoria, said he welcomed the news of the Pope's visit.

"The Pope's willingness to travel long distances to meet his people face to face is a clear indication of his desire to be known as the human, friendly, and compassionate man that he is," he added.

Pointing out the ecumenical aspect of the projected papal visit, Archbishop Woods observ-

ed, "We can thank God that the days when the papacy was an object of fear have gone, and that we can now treat one another as brothers in Christ."

Echoing these sentiments, Anglican Bishop Francis Oag Hulme-Moir, coadjutor of Sydney, said it was "a great honor" for Australia to play host to a man "who stood for such religious values." He added, "There is a great deal of goodwill between our Churches and I will be pleased to extend this goodwill."

Elsewhere, Bishop Mariano Gaviola, secretary general of the Philippines Bishops' Conference, remarked that the Pope's visit to Manila was "in recognition of the role that the Philippines played in spreading Christianity in Asia."

He said that a committee, headed by Rufino Cardinal Santos, archbishop of Manila, had been appointed to arranged a program for the papal visit. One of the suggestions made, he said, urged that the Pope be invited to address a joint session of the Philippine congress.

The projected Far East trip will be the longest journey abroad by the most-traveled Pope in history. It will mark Pope Paul's ninth foreign journey and his tenth trip outside the mainland of Italy.

Critics of Priesthood Worry Pontiff

Vatican City — (NC) — Pope Paul said that those who attack the priesthood cause him "the greatest anxiety and the greatest sorrow."

Speaking to more than 600 Spanish clergymen who were in Rome June 1 for the canonization of a 16th-century Spanish priest, the Pope criticized the actions of "certain prophets of doubt and of negative criticism" who question the very need of the priesthood and who "attack it with radical contestations."

Pope Paul acknowledged that uneasiness among the clergy at times "originates from legitimate and noble aspirations" to remedy "uncomfortable conditions" in the priesthood. These problems are being studied and remedies sought, he insisted.

In the meantime, however, he

reproved those who "are inclined to liken the clerical to the lay state and would desecrate the priesthood" by plunging priests into a "profane life, worldly experiences and lay professions."

"You know, there are some who leave the holy ranks of the priesthood through moral decadence, through spiritual weariness or through fear of having made a mistake in choosing the sacred ministry."

He urged that priests gain an awareness of themselves in order to become more dedicated.

A major problem for the modern priest is the lack of the world's response to the Christian principles of justice and peace and to the dignity of the individual, the Pope asserted. To counter this, he urged

Pope Explains Necessity Of Hierarchy

Vatican City — (RNS) — Against the background of protest and dissension in the Church, Pope Paul VI underscored the doctrine that the Church is a "hierarchical institution," and "as such" has persons whose function is "to give orders," and those whose function is "to obey those orders."

At a general audience on June 2, the Pope stressed that the Church was "a community" and embodied "communion." And the basis of this communion, he said, is the "equality of personal dignity and common brotherhood, loyal collaboration, as well as a relative co-responsibility in promoting the common good."

However, he emphasized, such equality "does not mean an equality of functions. These functions are well distributed in the ecclesial community which is organic and hierarchical, and which, as a body, is composed of different levels of responsibility."

"Adherence to the community life of the Church does not overlook the fact that the religious act is, in essence, a personal act," a personal relation between man and God, he said.

But adherence to community life in the Church, he went on, far from leaving out of consideration the personal contributions of the individual faithful, "induces and demands these personal acts."

priests to be aware constantly of "the errors, the miseries and, above all, the hopes that are raised around us."

Ending in optimism, the Pope stated that the total dedication of the priest to his ministry along with his personal testimony will insure the Gospel being "contemplated, understood and imitated by the brothers."

POPE'S GIFT

Vatican City — (RNS) — Pope Paul VI has contributed \$10,000 for relief in flood-ravaged Romania.

As of May 26, the death toll in Romania was put at 144, with another 27 persons missing. More than 250,000 persons have been evacuated from flooded homes.

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U.S. Appointment Of Lodge Hailed By Vatican Paper

Vatican City — (NC) — Nomination of Henry Cabot Lodge to represent President Nixon in periodic visits to Pope Paul VI and the Vatican was hailed by L'Osservatore Romano as "a new chapter in relations between the United States and the Holy See."

In a front-page article in the Vatican daily newspaper June 6, American Jesuit historian Robert Graham said visits by Lodge to the Vatican would foster "discussing of problems of common interest for the pursuit of peace and the prosperity of men in the world."

Father Graham said the appointment "is not a repetition of the system followed in the case of Mr. Myron C. Taylor," who was appointed in 1939 by President Roosevelt as his personal representative with the rank of ambassador.

In Washington, Lodge, a former U.S. senator and candidate

for the vice-presidency in 1960, said he planned to make his first official visit to the Vatican about June 20. He said he would set up his office in a hotel, remain in Rome "a few weeks" and make other visits on an irregular basis.

Father Graham's article said:

"With due respect for the distinct spheres in which the two parties must necessarily work, cooperation between the United States and the Holy See may prove of immense value for a world which is desperately looking for solutions of the grave problems in which spiritual and temporal institutions, each in its own field, carry such weighty responsibility."

Vatican Radio commented that the announcement "does not come as a surprise" since the President had already indicated his desire to maintain "more regular contacts with the Holy See," after having met with Pope Paul VI last year.

Quality Evidence Sought In Abortion Investigation

London — (RNS) — An appeal for "top quality" Catholic evidence to be given to the forthcoming government inquiry into the use of fetuses and "fetal material" in research is being made here by the man who inspired the inquiry.

He is Norman St. John-Stevan, Catholic member of Parliament, writer and broadcaster, who in mid-May created a nationwide sensation by reporting allegations of a market in aborted live human fetuses for medical experiments.

The allegations were communicated to St. John-Stevan by an anonymous medical worker. This worker has now made a sworn statement, identifying himself and giving the facts behind his letter, to the government's Department of Health and an official inquiry is now being conducted.

But an even more important outcome of St. John-Stevan's disclosures was the decision of the

government to appoint an advisory group of experts to consider the ethical, medical, social and legal implications of using human embryos in research.

It has since been announced that the chairman of this group will be Sir John Peel, gynecologist to Queen Elizabeth. The other members of the committee are still to be named, but meanwhile St. John-Stevan is saying it is essential "that the Catholic body in England give evidence of high quality to the committee."

Nixon Praises Pope's Efforts

Vatican City — (NC) — President Richard M. Nixon paid tribute to Pope Paul VI on the occasion of his 50th anniversary as a priest.

In a special message, Nixon praised the Pope for his "strong, spiritual support" to the "cause of peace, justice and human dignity."

President Nixon said in his message, published in Italian in the Vatican City daily, L'Osservatore Romano, that "half a century of priesthood is for most men a happy milestone and, for all those who have been guided by them, a source of joy and pride."

"On this anniversary," the President said, "there are taking part not only the millions of Catholics of whom you are the head but all men of goodwill who appreciate the strong spiritual support which you are giving to the cause of peace, justice and of human dignity."

"According to the well-known proverb, for every son who becomes a priest, nine generations go to heaven. I would like to add that for every priest like you who becomes Pope, heaven and earth become enriched."

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