

### Ordination in Rome

Thirty-eight new priests lay prostrate in front of the altar in St. Peter's Basilica during their ordination by Pope Paul VI in a Mass on the Feast of the Epiphany. (RNS)

## Pope Won't Attend Congress, Australians Are Disappointed

Melbourne (RNS) — Roman Catholic authorities in Australia have expressed "great disappointment" at the news that Pope Paul VI will not attend the 40th International Eucharistic Congress here in February.

One Melbourne newspaper had been so confident that the Pope would make the 10,000-mile journey for the second time in 26 months that it ran a front page story on Christmas Eve stating categorically that the

visit was on.

Hopes were dashed, however, when Archbishop James Knox of Melbourne announced on New Year's Eve that "after careful consideration His Holiness, to his great regret, found that it would not be feasible for him to participate in the Eucharistic Congress."

The decision had been communicated by the Vatican Secretary of State, Cardinal Villot, through the Apostolic Delegation in Sydney.

"This news will be a great disappointment for many people, especially in Melbourne," Archbishop Knox commented.

He recalled that Pope Paul was present at the Bombay and Bogota International Eucharistic Congresses and that he had followed preparations for the Melbourne Congress with great interest.

The Pope visited Australia late in 1970 when he took part in celebrations in Sydney, marking the second centenary of the country's discovery by the British navigator, Captain Cook.

Since then, there has been widespread speculation in the Australian press about the likelihood of a second papal visit on the occasion of the Congress.

Father Brian Walsh, Congress executive director, said that the fact that the Pope was not coming did not lessen the importance of the Congress, which remains one of the major spiritual events in the nation's history.

Twenty cardinals have already indicated that they plan to be in Melbourne for the Congress (Feb. 18-24). They include four Americans — Cardinal Terence Cooke of New York, Cardinal Lawrence Shehan, of Baltimore, Cardinal John Cody of Chicago, and Cardinal John Wright, prefect of the Vatican Congregation for the Clergy.

Cardinal Jan Willebrands, head of the Vatican Secretariat for Christian Unity, also will attend.

### Peace Groups Organize Bus Trip

The Rochester Peace Coalition, an organization of various area peace groups, has organized a bus trip to Washington for persons wishing to demonstrate for Indochina peace at the inauguration of President Richard Nixon.

Buses will leave at 11 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 19, from the Asbury Methodist Church, 1050 East Ave. For reservations or information call June Becker, 266-2422 or Henrietta Levine, 473-3015.

## Pope Paul Urges Brotherly Love for Paris Peace Talks

Vatican City (RNS) — Pope Paul asked negotiators from all sides in the Paris peace talks to deliberate in an "atmosphere of brotherly love."

The pontiff made it clear at a Sunday Noon appearance at his apartment window overlooking St. Peter's Square that his attention will be riveted on developments at the talks in Paris.

As delighted as he was with the reopening of the negotiations, the 75-year-old pontiff cautioned against expecting too much too soon.

He recalled that recently the peace "had been so near, but then was revealed as an illusion."

"The drama of peace once again dominates our every thought, especially for Vietnam," the Pope told thousands of persons who awaited his blessing.

The spiritual leader of the

world's more than 633 million Catholics conceded the "complexity of the complicated questions seemingly is tied in a knot."

Despite that, he said, "we continue to hope not only in the sagacity of the concerned parties but also in the intervention of a new element — love."

In his New Year's Day of Peace Message this year, the pontiff stressed the theme that "peace is possible." Even though he warned repeatedly about the complications of reaching peace, the Pope made clear that he never will abandon hope for peace.

Speaking of the power of love, Pope Paul said:

"Without it, love, that biblical kiss between justice and peace cannot be given. Love must be the final victor at the end of conflict — that is, the sense of human fraternity, the realistic and farsighted vision of goodwill."

## Pope Too Old? Not So, Says Episcopal Journal

Milwaukee (RNS) — An Episcopal weekly published here has taken issue with the idea that being "old" is a handicap for a Pope or other spiritual leaders.

An editorial in The Living Church (Jan. 14) began with the statement that at the National Council of Churches General Assembly "anthropologist Margaret Mead castigated Pope Paul for the 'generation gap' in his Church, and deplored the fact that there seems to be no way of getting a young Pope."

The outlook of Dr. Mead and those who share her views, the editorial commented, reveals an entirely secular concept of leadership, as well as the American "national superstition" that idolizes youth.

"Regarding old Pope Paul as an example of what a leader ought not to be, because of his age, they forget old Pope John — and old Cardinal Cushing, who was most appropriately called a great Christian cheerleader," the editorial said. "There is a lot more to being a good leader in the Church than just sharing the current ephemeral superstitions of the spiritual sophomores as one of them or one with them."

The work of a Pope, bishop, pastor or other spiritual leader, The Living Church argues, requires the "maturity in wisdom and grace" that can only be acquired through "prayerful experience."

It takes time, the editorial remarks, and one can "hardly even begin to learn it in seminary."

## Vatican Art Display At Eucharistic Congress

From Courier-Journal Service

Melbourne, Australia — Pope Paul VI will send three of the Vatican Museum's precious tapestries for the 40th International Eucharistic Congress, to be held here Feb. 18-25.

Eric Westbrook, director of Melbourne's Victorian National Gallery, announced that the tapestries will be displayed throughout the congress in the great hall of the gallery.

The tapestries illustrate themes closely related with the Eucharist. They are "The Breaking of the Bread," made in Belgium in the 16th century; "The Miraculous Catch of Fishes,"

made in Belgium by Heinrich Matheus in the 17th century; and "The Last Supper," made in Rome in the 18th century.

Westbrook announced also that an arts festival would be held in conjunction with the congress.

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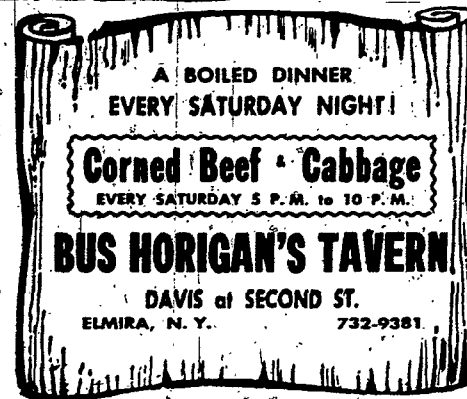
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