

# PEACE: Pope Warns of Nationalism, Arms

Washington, D.C. [RNS] — Pope Paul, in a message addressed to "all men of goodwill," declared that peace had to be "made, produced, and invented."

Alluding to the theme of the message, "Reconciliation — the Way to Peace," Pope Paul emphasized that it was not enough "to contain wars, to suspend conflicts, to impose truces and armistices, to define boundaries and relationships or to paralyze the possibility of radical strife through the terror of unheard-of destruction and suffering."

"An imposed peace," he said, "a utilitarian and provisional peace is not enough. Progress must be made towards a peace which is loved, free, and brotherly, founded, that is, on a reconciliation of hearts."

"Peace must be made; peace

must be produced; peace must be invented. It must be created through an ever watchful disposition with a will ever fresh and untiring."

The Pope's annual message for the "Celebration of the Day of Peace," observed internationally by the Roman Catholic Church on Jan. 1, was issued in the U.S. by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. The pontiff said that peace had value only to the extent that "it seeks first to be interior before becoming exterior. Minds must be disarmed if we wish effectively to stop the recourse to arms which strike bodies."

It is "this interiorization of peace" that is "true humanism, true civilization," he added.

He observed that "peaceful concord among men is

spreading," but warned of present threats to peace.

"We must take note that today new forms of jealous nationalism are being affirmed," he said. "Powerful economic multinational expressions are arising, full of selfish antagonisms. Exclusive and arrogant ideologies are being organized into social systems. Territorial conflicts break out with frightening ease. And above all, there is an increase in the number and the power of murderous weapons for possible catastrophic destruction, such as to stamp terror with the name of peace."

"We have to make use of and apply the spiritual element in order to make it capable not only of impeding conflicts among men and predisposing them to peaceful and civilized sentiments, but also of producing

reconciliation among those same men, that is, of generating peace," Pope Paul said.

The pontiff made special mention of the role of women.

"On the eve of the (1975) International Women's Year, proclaimed by the United Nations," he said, "we rejoice at the ever wider participation of women in the life of society, to which they bring a specific contribution of great value, thanks to the qualities that God has given them."

"These qualities, of intuition, creativity, sensibility, a sense of piety and compassion, a profound capacity for understanding and love, enable women to be in a very particular way the creators of reconciliation in families and in society."

The final section of the peace

message was addressed specifically to all members of the Catholic Church.

"Our message on 'Reconciliation as the Way to Peace,' the Pope said 'reminds us all that the first and indispensable reconciliation to be achieved is reconciliation with God. For us believers there can be no other way to peace than this. Reconciliation with God and our peace coincide; one is the cause of the other. This is the work of Christ. He has repaired the break which sin produces in our vital relationship with God.'

"Christ is our peace," he went on. "He is the principle of reconciliation in the unity of his Mystical Body. We must perfect the sense of our unity — unity in the Church, unity of the Church, that is, the unity of all Christians."

## HUNGER:

### U.S. Needs Church to Help — Ford

Washington, D.C. [RNS] — President Ford has told Father Theodore Hesburgh that "even the maximum effort which the U.S. government can make in the near future" will not be adequate to meet the needs of the world's hungry people.

An exchange of letters between the chief executive and the president of the University of Notre Dame was submitted here as part of religious leaders' testimony to a group of senators holding ad hoc hearings on world hunger.

In a letter dated Dec. 9, Ford told Father Hesburgh that since the government cannot do the whole job he hopes the total need of the hungry can be "speedily met by other organizations such as churches, community groups and concerned Americans."

The President responded to a letter in which Father Hesburgh proposed additional U.S. allotments to meet the hunger crisis. Ford replied that he shared the Catholic educator's commitment, "I am exploring all means of meeting humanitarian needs abroad and I will make a decision soon," he wrote.

But President Ford also said the Hesburgh proposal, which reflects the sentiments of several religious groups, comes at a time when "America faces many difficult decisions and choices if it is to continue to play a responsible leading role in this interdependent world as well as provide for the needs of its own citizens."

A reply from Father Hesburgh, dated Dec. 14, thanked the

President for his "thoughtful response" to the earlier letter. It assured Ford that religious and other voluntarily contributions to hungry areas are "rising appreciably and now probably exceed governmental grants for humanitarian purposes."

"These recent trends," said the

### Bishop Rausch: Catholics Want to Help

St. Paul, Minn. [RNS] — The nation's Roman Catholics appear to be making a good response to the plea of their bishops that they join them in fasting two days a week, according to the bishops' top spokesman.

Bishop James Rausch, general secretary of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, said individual Catholics have told him that the plea was the "most prophetic thing" the bishops have done in recent years.

The plea to fast as one phase of the battle against hunger in the world was made by the bishops as part of a pastoral plan of action on the food crisis issued at their annual meeting in Washington.

In an interview here, Bishop Rausch, auxiliary of St. Cloud, said members of the bishops conference are seeking a meeting with President Ford to discuss possible executive action he might take regarding the world food crisis.

Catholic educator, "indicate that great numbers of Americans will respond if leadership is provided on the national level by both governmental and private leaders."

He repeated a request for additional government food allotments, specifically for 2 million tons of food for countries hardest hit by hunger.

Only the government, Father Hesburgh said, has the resources and administrative capability for immediate commitments of food for the winter of 1974-75.

In the hearings before the ad hoc Senate hearings, chaired by Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.), Father J. Bryan Hehir, a staff member for justice and peace of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, argued that voluntary action cannot substitute for government leadership in responding to the food crisis.

The priest called for a national food policy that would correlate domestic food needs with international needs.

In addition to Father Hehir, religious representatives testifying before the Senate panel included Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, national inter-religious affairs director of the American Jewish Committee; United Methodist Bishop James Armstrong of the Dakotas; Larry Minear, consultant on food to Church World Service and Lutheran World Relief, and Patricia Young, head of the National Council of Churches' Crusade Against Hunger.

### Deacons Assigned

The Pastoral Office announced this week the assignment of two young men to deacon internships.

The deacons are the Rev. Mr. Ted Aule, who will serve at Mother of Sorrows in Greecé and the Rev. Mr. John Turner, St. Margaret Mary, Irondequoit. They will report to their parishes Jan. 6.



Holy Year is Inaugurated.

Pope Paul VI kneels at the threshold of the Holy Door and prays briefly before proceeding to the main altar in St. Peter's Basilica to celebrate Christmas Midnight Mass. The pontiff had just ceremoniously opened the Holy Door to inaugurate the Church's 1975 Holy Year. (RNS)

### Pope Urges Faithful To Remember Needy

Vatican City [RNS] — Pope Paul, in wishing the faithful a joyous Christmas, urged them to be mindful of people in need.

"No one can truly enjoy Christmas," he said, "without making happy, at least a little, someone who in these blessed days might need bread, or work, or a home, or care, or friendship, or comfort or faith."

The religious compassion of

Christmas must also express itself in human goodness."

Addressing several thousand people gathered in St. Peter's Square for his noon blessing, the Pope also exhorted the faithful to be mindful of "the heart" of the Christmas feast — "the historical fact that it celebrates the birth of Jesus, the Son of God and the son of Mary on this earth in the town of Bethlehem."