

# COURIER-JOURNAL

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## Christmas Drive Hits \$36,000

Every year since its inception in 1969 the Courier-Journal Christmas Fund has been able to report financial donations exceeding the previous year's. The 1974 drive was no exception. More than \$36,000 was received, to exceed 1973's previous high of \$33,904.

In 1973 2,100 families were helped by the fund. Catholic Charities will be able to assist more this year. In addition, 1974 saw 100 more contributors than the 1,671 who donated financially in 1973.

The success of the drive is attributable to diocesans who gave in greater numbers and amounts this year, despite unusually gloomy economic conditions.

Anthony J. Costello, general manager of the Courier-Journal, said he is "particularly pleased by the number of contributors. It gladdens the heart to see so many joining in with whatever they can afford to help others at Christmas."



"I would like to thank the staff of the Courier for its work in bringing the good news of the fund to the diocese and also Catholic Charities for its aid in distributing the contributions to those who need it most," Costello said.

As is its custom, the Courier-Journal drive cited the 100 neediest cases throughout the diocese, as provided by Catholic Charities. These cases serve to illustrate the need, but actually many more families are aided.

The 100 cases are from many points in the diocese, representing the fact that families from all areas in the diocese will be helped.

## Vatican Document Hopes to Bolster Relations with Jews

New York [RNS] — A major Vatican document aimed at the "practical" implementation of Vatican II directives on Catholic-Jewish relations has called for the establishment of "real dialogue," theological encounters, common prayer "in connection with great causes," scholarly research and study, and joint efforts toward justice and peace among Catholics and Jews.

The document, which re-emphasizes the main points outlined in the 1965 Vatican II declaration, *Nostra Aetate*, on the relationship of the Church to non-Christian religions, affirmed that "the spiritual bonds and historical links binding the Church to Judaism condemn (as opposed to the very spirit of Christianity) all forms of anti-Semitism and discrimination" and "render obligatory a better mutual un-

derstanding and renewed mutual esteem."

The document, dated Dec. 1 in Rome but scheduled for release on Jan. 3, focuses on four areas of Catholic activity — dialogue, liturgy, education and social action — where practical applications of the Vatican II declaration could be made, "with a view to launching or developing sound relations between Catholics and their Jewish brothers."

Cardinal Jan Willebrands, president of the Vatican Secretariat for Christian Unity and president of the new Commission for Religious Relations with Jews, who signed the document, said in an introduction that the entire Catholic Church is invited at the beginning of the 1975 Holy Year "to an effort of comprehension and cooperation which will be the best guarantee that all hatred of Jews will be rooted out."

He said the "coincidence" of issuing the document at the start of the Holy Year, which is consecrated to reconciliation, "amounts to an invitation to take quite seriously the suggestions proposed in the document and to apply them effectively throughout the world."

Coming nine years after *Nostra Aetate* and five years after a "working paper" on Catholic-Jewish relations was made public, the document was described by Cardinal Willebrands as the last in a series of documents issued to implement and apply Vatican II decrees.

The cardinal said the

document's "orientations and suggestions" are characterized by their "almost exclusively practical nature and by their sobriety."

The text, he added, which does not include a "Christian theology of Judaism" but indicates that such an endeavor would be a worthwhile concern of theologians and scholars, can be seen as a "charter" for the new Vatican commission on Catholic-Jewish relations. It will be up to this commission to spur further developments at the local and global levels, he said.

Entitled *Guidelines and Suggestions for Implementing the Conciliar Declaration 'Nostra Aetate'*, the document recalls that while Christianity sprang from Judaism the "gap" dividing Christians and Jews has widened over 2,000 years. It notes that after many centuries "marked by mutual ignorance and frequent confrontation" the Vatican II declaration provided an opportunity "to open or to continue a dialogue" with a view to better mutual understanding.

"Over the past nine years," the document states, "many steps in this direction have been taken in various countries. As a result it is easier to distinguish the conditions under which a new relationship between Jews and Christians may be worked out and developed."

Observing that the time is right for "concrete suggestions born of experience," the document reaffirms that "on the practical level in particular, Christians

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## Pro-Lifers to March Jan. 18

The Rochester Area Right To Life Committee and Youth For Life will sponsor a silent "March for Life" at 2 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 18, to mark the second anniversary of the Supreme Court decision on abortion.

The decision allows an

abortion on demand up to six months of pregnancy and in some cases, up to delivery time.

The march will begin at the Civic Center Plaza, across from the Rochester War Memorial, and proceed down East Main Street. Last year, approximately 600

persons participated in the Rochester march.

Both pro-life groups intend to express publicly their dissatisfaction with the abortion decision through the march and encourage support for a Human Life Amendment to insure constitutional protection of all human life from conception. The march also will symbolize the need for a quick governmental response to the world food crisis and to build those conditions where the aged, unborn and handicapped can strive to meet their potential.

Persons who share the concerns of the pro-life groups are urged to participate.



Joan M. Smith, Courier-Journal education writer, discusses Courier's new RAPAROUND pages with Mercy High coordinators Mary Joe Porreca, left, a senior, and Mimi Zelter, a junior. The Courier will have such coordinators in all high schools in the diocese to help in its new feature RAPAROUND which will begin in the Jan. 15 issue. The special weekly youth pages will feature high school opinion, developments, sports, and features. Mrs. Smith will direct the new coverage.

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## Rabbi Tanenbaum:

### 'Constructive... But'

New York [RNS] — A spokesman for the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC) welcomed a new Vatican document on Christian-Jewish relations as "constructive and timely," but warned that it contains some formulations which place Judaism in a "second class" religious status.

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, co-secretary of IJCIC and national director of interreligious affairs of the American Jewish Committee here, said he felt "morally obligated" to comment on the Vatican guidelines issued Jan. 3, despite the fact that the document was promulgated as an "internal document" for the

guidance of the Catholic community in their relations with Jews.

Rabbi Tanenbaum said that because IJCIC has accepted the responsibility of representing the interests of "large segments of world Jewry, we are morally obligated to assure that the dignity and honor of the Synagogue and the Jewish people are defended and upheld."

Rabbi Tanenbaum said that his comments were being made on behalf of the American Jewish Committee only and that while he is a spokesman for IJCIC, the international organization representing various Jewish

groups would issue a statement for its membership at a later date.

Rabbi Tanenbaum said that the guidelines, "in their entirety, represent from an informed Jewish perspective a significant clarification of a number of vital issues central to Catholic-Jewish relations which we welcome as a constructive and timely contribution to the advancement of Jewish-Christian understanding and cooperation.

"At the same time, the document contains, regrettably, certain formulations that no self-respecting Jewish person can live with in good conscience, since

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## Pope Scores Mafia in Peace Talk

Vatican City [RNS] — Pope Paul, in a World Peace Day Message Jan. 1, once again appealed to "all men of goodwill" to work for world peace, insisting that "true peace" was to be found in "men's hearts and minds, not in treaties and armistices."

Suggesting, however, that "the barometer of peace today" was pointing to "bad weather" ahead, the Pope criticized nations for

their arms buildup and warned that they were drifting back to uncompromising policies of the period before World War II.

He also assailed, as a threat to peace and "our civilized way of life," the activity of the Mafia, noting that there had been "a fearful increase of organized crime, threatening innocent lives" in the recent past.

The pontiff's appeal for peace came in a homily he delivered at Mass in St. Peter's Basilica. The service marked the Catholic Church's eighth World Peace Day.

"True peace must be animated by love," said the Pope. "Love gives to peace its true root and banishes hypocrisy, uncertainty,

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