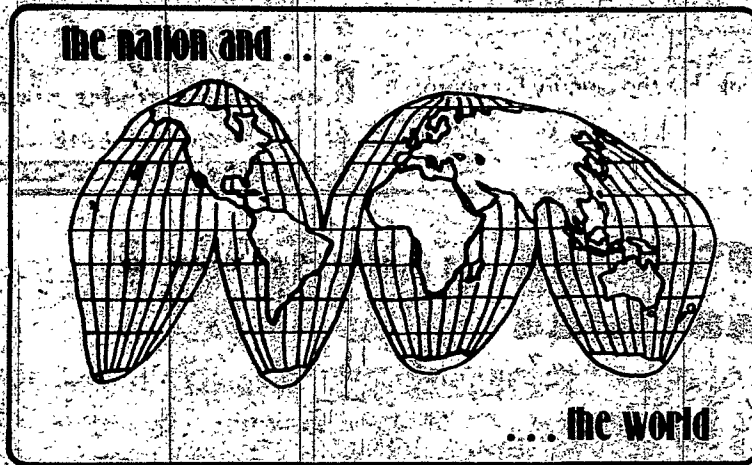




Anti-Abortion Campaign

American actress Mia Farrow poses with petitions calling for stricter abortion laws outside the House of Commons in London before presenting them to members of Parliament. The petitions, signed by 425,418 women aged 16 and over, were obtained in a drive organized by the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children. Miss Farrow, wife of London Philharmonic conductor Andre Previn, said of her role in the drive, "I have never before involved myself in British politics, but this is not politics — it is quite simply a matter of life and death." They have two children of their own and two adopted. (RNS)



Now there's a national organization for divorced Catholics. The newly formed North American Conference of Separated and Divorced Catholics has elected newspaper publisher Thomas McCarthy its president, has selected Boston for its headquarters and named Paulist Father James Young its chaplain. One of the first tasks of the group will be to contact the more than 150 local organizations known to exist in the U.S. and Canada. Catholic charismatics shortly will have a new quarterly magazine available. Titled The Catholic Charismatic, the magazine will be issued in March by the Paulist Press in Paramus, N.Y. Opponents of the Unification Church and other sectarian groups are launching a Washington campaign against them. Activities will include picketing and meetings with the Internal Revenue Service, the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Justice Dept.

From Rome: A major dialogue, reportedly financed by the government of Libya, between top Vatican leaders and Moslem leaders is taking place in Tripoli. The dialogue has drawn hundreds of observers. The meeting will cover common religious and moral concerns. Pope Paul has told a group of priests and sisters that "consecrated chastity" makes a person "more open to others, with a love that spends itself in the service of others."

It's God and Mammon time. A missionary order has decided to disclose the details of its fund-raising activities because of adverse reactions from donors who have been worried about the questionable fiscal practices of the Pallotine Fathers in Baltimore. The order, commonly known as Missionhurst, has also admitted to swapping mailing lists with and leasing computers to the Pallotine group. The Missionhurst fathers raise about \$4 million a year and send about 52 per cent of that to overseas missions and training programs. That's in contrast to the \$8 million raised last year by the Pallotines who sent 10 per cent to their missions. The Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights has budgeted \$200,000 in a drive to counteract the U.S. Catholic Bishops' push for overturning the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court abortion decisions.

In the bits and pieces department. A closed door meeting of all the cardinals in the Roman Curia Feb. 3 remains a mystery, but one Rome observer notes that such a meeting sometimes precedes an important papal announcement. Norman Vincent Peale, Harvey Cox, Rabbi Marc Tannenbaum, Sun Myung Moon and Coretta King all have something in common. They aren't listed in the latest edition of Who's Who in Religion. Something else, of the 16,000 listings in the book, only one is not American. Giovanni Battista Montini is described as a resident of Vatican City. You have to find his biography under Paul VI, His Holiness. Bishop Leo T. Maher of San Diego is in trouble again with the National Organization of Women (NOW). Last year he ordered his priests to refuse Holy Communion to NOW members. This year NOW is pushing the Internal Revenue Service to determine whether the diocese is using its tax-exempt money to support the "political" campaign of Democratic presidential dem. candidate Ellen McCormack, an anti-abortionist.

Poster Winners Announced

Philadelphia Girls from Winston-Salem, N.C. and Greensburg, Pa., have won a national student poster contest sponsored by the 41st International Eucharistic Congress.

Fifteen-year-old Margaret Bauman, a 10th grader at Greensburg Central Catholic High School, Southeast of Pittsburgh, topped 87 finalists in the high school division (Grades 9-12). Her poster depicted one of eight Congress sub-themes, The Eucharist and the Hunger for Understanding.

Lisa J. Canly, 13, an 8th grader at St. Leo's School, Winston-Salem, won in the grade school division (Grades 5-8) over 139 finalists. Her poster depicted a Congress sub-theme popular with the young artists, The Eucharist and the Hunger for Jesus, the Bread of Life.

Business In The Diocese

Irma Collins of Laney Road, who had been an assistant vice president of Security Trust Company since 1971, retired Jan. 30, the bank announced. She had worked in the banking field for 28 years.

Mrs. Collins was the first woman elected to the board of trustees of the Rochester Chamber of Commerce. She established and directed Security's women's department and has lectured widely and written many articles on financial planning. Her husband, Robert Collins, retired recently from the position of admissions and registration director at Nazareth College.

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