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Father Dominic M. Luong from Buffalo, was the keynote speaker at a Vietnamese gathering Saturday. The banner expresses a Vietnamese welcome.

Argentinian Heads Spanish Apostolate

Italo Saul Rodriguez began work Monday, July 26, as diocesan director of the Spanish Apostolate.

Rodriguez, 36, is a native of Argentina. He studied as a seminarian in Santiago, Chile, before completing his B.A. degree in Humanities at the Albertinum Institute in Argentina. He has had 10 years of industrial experience in his native land and six years with the Amsco Wire Products Company in Ridgefield, New Jersey. During the same 16 year period, he worked in a variety of volunteer positions for the Church, including social work with youth, teacher training in Religious Education and pre-Cana training, and has taught pastoral, Bible study and adult Confirmation courses. He has a wife and two children.

Rodriguez replaces the co-directors, Fathers John Dillon and Edward Golden, who received new assignments earlier this month. The Spanish Apostolate office now is

located in the Pastoral Center, 1150 Buffalo Rd.

As the director of the Spanish Apostolate, Rodriguez will coordinate a broad range of ministry to the Spanish-speaking in the diocese, and be the bishop's direct link to the Consejo Diocesano Hispano, the advisory body composed of persons actively engaged in ministry to the Spanish-speaking.

The Spanish Apostolate coordinates many programs, including Mass in Spanish in several parishes, Spanish language charismatic groups, religious education, Bible study classes, and Cursillo. The Apostolate also sponsors such events as the recent Spanish festival

Ministry to the Spanish-speaking living in migrant labor camps and in prisons in the diocese is also a responsibility of the apostolate.

Voter Registration Termed a Success

More than 4,700 voter registration forms were distributed during the diocesan voter registration drive in June.

The first ever diocesan effort to reach those qualified but not registered to vote was termed a definite success by Tim McGowan of the Office of Human Development, coordinator for the project.

McGowan reported that 72% of the parishes in the diocese participated in the program, including total involvement in the Southwest Region of Monroe County, and in the Chemung-Schuyler Region. He noted that he was encouraged by the "fairly consistent, positive feedback on church involvement"

in the program, which emphasized voter responsibility.

The seminars for parish volunteers were well received, he added, and from the response of the volunteers he is confident that "the same thing can be tried again." He said that more than half of the pastors of the diocese attended the seminars.

He also expressed appreciation to all pastors and parish volunteers who contributed to the success of the program, and especially cited the efforts of those who acted as area coordinators for the project. He noted that the coordinators often made personal contacts with parishes not responding immediately, and did much to encourage participation in their respective areas.

Ecumenism Encouraged

Malines, Belgium (RNS) — Pope Paul in a message commemorating pioneering ecumenical talks between theologians of the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church, which took place here half a century ago, expressed warm encouragement for the future of the ecumenical movement.

The papal message was sent to Cardinal Leo Joseph Suenens, archbishop of Malines-Brussels, on the occasion of ceremonies here marking the 50th anniversary of the "Malines Conversations," as they are known, which took place between 1920 and 1925.



Photos by Ben Susso

Vietnamese Gathering

The area Vietnamese community gathered at the Manhattan Square apartments to discuss their progress and problems they are having adapting to American life. Following a Vietnamese Mass at St. Mary's Church, about 140 people, among them sponsors and concerned citizens, listened to a few brief speeches and were treated to a variety of entertainment and refreshments. Father Luong stressed the fact that in Vietnam the people were a close community, where in the United States they are scattered about the 50 states. Hence, there is a dramatic feeling of loneliness.

Eucharistic Congress To Welcome Million

Philadelphia — The 41st Eucharistic Congress is shaping up as the largest religious gathering in the United States this century with an eight-day program featuring some of the most illustrious names in the religious world.

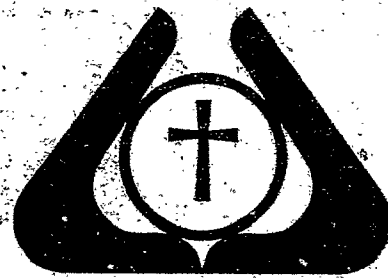
From Aug. 1 to 8, the congress will bring more than a million pilgrims to this city, also the center of the nation's bicentennial celebration.

Msgr. Walter J. Conway, executive secretary of the congress, reports that a wide spectrum of thought within the Church today will be heard on topics ranging from world hunger, to freedom and justice, to man's inner search for peace and God.

Among some of these voices will be:

* Mother Teresa, of Calcutta, founder of the Missionaries of Charity, a dedicated nun who has given her life to helping the poorest of the poor in underdeveloped countries of the world. She was the subject of a recent Time Magazine cover story.

* Cardinal Leo Suenens, Roman



Catholic primate of Belgium and a leading advocate of the Charismatic Movement. He is considered one of the strongest progressive voices in the Catholic hierarchy.

* Cardinal Jan Willebrands, leading ecumenist of the Catholic Church and newly elevated primate of The Netherlands.

* Dr. Robert J. Marshall, president of the Lutheran Church in America and Archbishop Iakovos, primate of the Greek Orthodox Church in North and South America.

* Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, retired bishop of the Diocese of Rochester, N.Y., an internationally known orator who planted the seed for the Congress theme, "The

Eucharist and the Hungers of the Human Family."

* Archbishop Dom Helder Camara, of Brazil, often referred to as the "Apostle to the Poor" because of his active role in helping the underprivileged of his country.

Also invited are President Ford and former Philadelphian Princess Grace Kelly and her husband Prince Rainier, ruler of Monaco.

Plans call for President Ford to receive a solid gold medal symbolizing the central theme of the events during Congress Week. Princess Grace and her husband will participate in a Family Life Conference on Aug. 2.

California farm workers' organizer Cesar Chavez will be among a galaxy of notables in a World Hunger Symposium the same day. Social reformer-author Dorothy Day, will join Mother Teresa, Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court Judge Genevieve Blatt and a panel of others in an all-day conference on "Women and the Eucharist."

Reinforcing the spiritual themes, Continued on Page 2