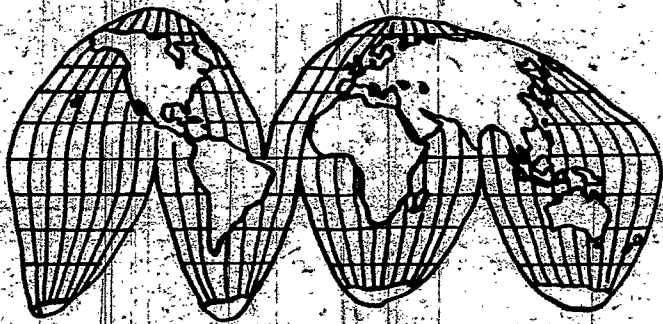




Way to Mass

Pope Paul waves to the crowd as he heads from his summer residence to the church in Castelgandolfo to celebrate Sunday Mass. (Religious News Service).

The nation and ...



... the world

From Courier-Journal Services

Southboro, Mass., a small town in central Massachusetts, blocked establishment of an abortion clinic when residents voted, 260-65, to change the zoning law to kill a proposal by three Boston area women to locate the clinic there. . . . In Chicago, the vice president of the National Federation of Priests Councils (NFPC) declared that "there are many Catholics and people of other churches who are opposed to abortion (but) who cannot identify with much of the 'pro-life' movement because it is too myopic and tends to strictly categorize people." Father Martin Peter, campus minister at Butler University, Indianapolis, declared in a magazine article that making the election a one-issue (abortion) matter was "myopic." . . . The new president of the National Council on Aging is a nun, Mother M. Bernardtte de Lourdes, director of the Carmelite order's planning and development for aged and infirm sisters. The council, based in Washington, D.C., is a planning and consultation agency concerned with problems of elderly Americans.

Pope Paul has expressed his deep condolences to families of victims of the earthquake that struck Mindanao in the Philippines. More than 1,700 people were killed and 2,000 injured and some 28,000 missing. . . . The Pope also voiced concern and anxiety over violence of Lebanon. He said he was particularly disturbed by reports of massacres and revenge killings there. . . . Despite strong protests by Cardinal Valerian Gracias of Bombay, the Indian State of Maharashtra has passed legislation making sterilization compulsory for couples with three living children. The federal government must approve the measure before it is law. . . . Some 5,000 Catholic women in Northern Ireland have signed petitions urging terrorist gunmen of the Irish Republican Army to "get out" of the province. Their position also was taken by Bishop Cahal Brendan Daly of Ardagh who accused the Provisional wing of the IRA of defiling the traditionally republican cause.

In years past, I think Protestants, in reaction to the Roman Catholic position, have made far too little of Mary. Mary was the most remarkable and most blessed of all women, according to the testimony of the Scriptures. I think Protestants have backed away from her role in Scripture because they feel that Roman Catholics have given her too high a position." The speaker was Billy Graham in an interview with the Southern Cross, the San Diego diocesan newspaper. . . . In St. Louis, more than 1,100 delegates to the School Sisters of Notre Dame conference were told to expand their ministry. Sister M. Warren Valoni, who heads the order's Dallas province, stressed that the new ministries must remain educational but "must include parish work, chaplaincy roles in hospitals and prisons, retreat work and social and civic involvements."

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