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The Vatican has approved the reception of Communion both on the tongue and in the hand, for the United States.

## Rome Approves Option in Rites For Communion

Washington, D. C. (RNS) — The nation's bishops have received Vatican permission to offer American Catholics the option of receiving Holy Communion in the hand

practice of receiving Communion in the hand be introduced on Nov. 20, 1977, the Solemnity of Christ the King.

Permission for Communion in the hand came in an "indult" from the Vatican Congregation for the Sacraments and Divine Worship, making the U.S. one of more than 50 nations now afforded the option. The indult, a faculty granted by the Vatican to ordinaries and other authorities that is not permitted by general Church law, was forwarded to the U.S. bishops by Archbishop Joseph L. Bernardin of Cincinnati, president of the NCCB.

Archbishop Bernardin said in an accompanying letter dated July 26 that the NCCB Committee on the Liturgy is preparing instructional material that will be available in mid-August. He said, "it is suggested that the optional

practice of receiving Communion in the hand be introduced on Nov. 20, 1977, the Solemnity of Christ the King. Archbishop Bernardin stressed that "it is understood, of course, that each ordinary is free to introduce this practice or not. Moreover, the suggested date is only a target date. Another date — either earlier or later — may be established by an ordinary who wishes to do so. However, given the complexity of distributing the materials in the U.S. and the fact that any effective catechesis can hardly begin until after Labor Day, Nov. 20 would appear to be an appropriate date for the majority of dioceses."

He advised the bishops that practices approved by the Vatican as long ago as 1969 regarding reception of the Eucharist have changed, as have methods of catechesis.

The NCCB requested permission for the option of receiving Communion in the hand in early June, following a lengthy debate during the bishops' Spring meeting in Chicago. Since 1969, the Vatican has granted such permission to more than 50 countries or episcopal conferences throughout the world, including Canada, Mexico, England and Ireland.

More than two-thirds of the American bishops (190 of 274 de jure members), after unsuccessful tries in two previous years, voted this year in favor of the proposal.

While some bishops have expressed concern that "small minorities" of Catholics will react strongly against the option of receiving Communion in the hand, others have emphasized that the bishops are not asking anyone to "abandon an old custom" and that Communion on the tongue will always be an option.

## Two Generation Tribute

BY JOAN M. SMITH

In 1942, Sister Concepta Walsh began her teaching career as a Sister of Mercy in the first grade at St. Salome's School on Culver Road. A student in that class was James Kraus.

This June, sister said good-bye to her last class at St. Salome's before taking up new duties at the Cenacle Retreat House. A student in her 1977 second

grade was Kraus's daughter, Kelli. "We just couldn't believe it was the same Sister Concepta," beamed Kraus, "but it was."

The intervening years between teaching father and daughter have been busy ones for sister. They included nine years at St. Salome's, six at Mt. Carmel, six at St. Vincent's in Corning, back to Mt. Carmel for two, then eight at the Sister's of Mercy Center in Rochester and then back to St. Salome's for the last four years. Now she will move on to the Cenacle to formulate a "prayer experience" program for young school children and as long as sister is involved with youngsters she is happy. "It's the children who make teaching worthwhile," she said.

Asked about the changes over the years in children and classroom sister stated, "The children themselves ask more questions," and smiled her approval at "the less rigid ways you have to be with them." She pointed out that the desks no longer have to be in strict formation and the teachers are freer to do most things. The books are better in that they are more interesting and "children come to school with a whole new outlook because of TV."

In discussing Kelli's

favorite subject of Math, which was also her father's, sister indicated another change in teaching methods. Today's students are taught to see the logic behind Math rather than confined to the constant rhetoric of memorization.

Kraus, who is a member of the planning department at Eastman Kodak Park, said it was difficult remembering back to his first grade year but does recall the fact the nuns all wore habits and that his class was mostly boys; 15 as compared to 6 girls. Kelli noted her class of 25 was more evenly balanced.

Not only did Kraus testify to the tremendous education he received when he went to St. Salome's but his wife Maryann, who works as a lunchroom mother, acknowledged it

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## Bishop 'Stable'

New York City — On Aug. 1, the Lenox Hill Hospital in Manhattan reported Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen in stable condition with no further information available at that time. The Archbishop underwent emergency heart surgery on July 15.



Archbishop Dies

Archbishop Coleman F. Carroll of Miami died July 26 at the age of 72. He was the last of a remarkable trio of brothers who attained high status in the Catholic Church, two as bishops and one as a Vatican official. Appointed Bishop of Miami in 1958 when the see was made up of the southernmost 16 Florida counties and had only 185,000 Catholics, he became the first archbishop when it was elevated to an archdiocese in 1968. Today the archdiocese comprises eight counties and counts 700,000 Catholics, including a sizeable portion of Cuban-Americans. (RNS)

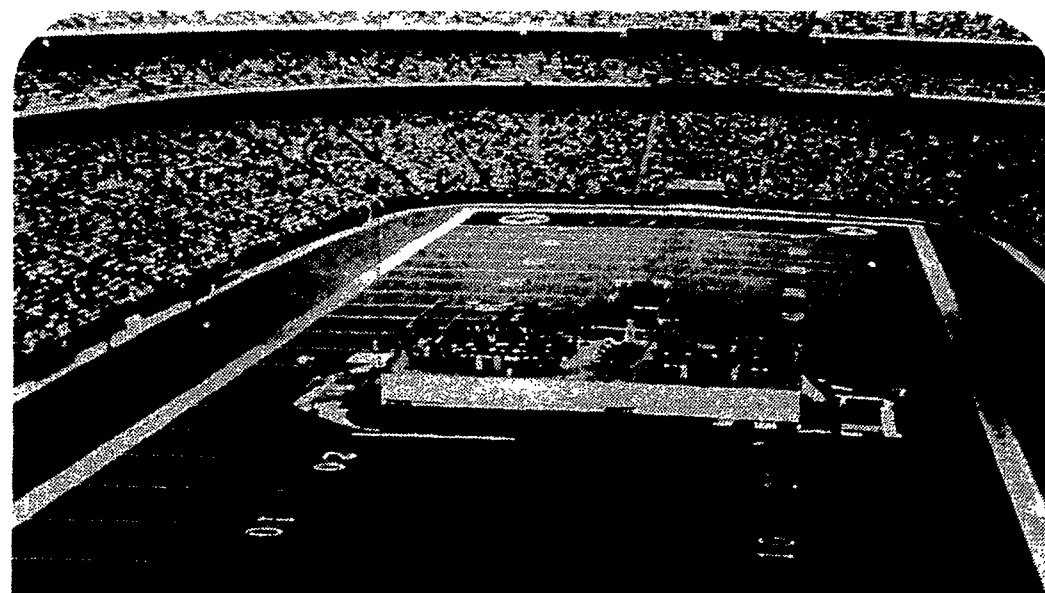
## Justice, Peace Sets Day of Prayer

The diocesan International Justice and Peace Commission has slated a Day of Prayer for Human Rights on Sunday, Sept. 18.

According to a release from the commission "The International Justice and Peace Commission in the diocese acknowledges the responsibility of Catholics to be concerned about brothers and sisters around the world who are oppressed and in need. It would be gratifying if we, who are freer and better able to exercise our human

rights, could free others from injustice immediately. But reality tells us differently. As a means of support to all in their struggle to be free, this special day of prayer is being offered in our diocese. Citizens in some of the repressive countries have suggested this particular way of showing support for them."

Repressive governments mentioned by the commission are found in Africa, Russia, Eastern Europe, Korea and South America.



## Charismatic Renewal Conference

Some 50,000 charismatics — Roman Catholics, Lutherans, Baptists, Episcopalians, Mennonites, Presbyterians, Methodists and other Christians — met together under the theme of "Unity in the Lordship of Jesus," at Kansas City, Mo., July 20-24. Huge crowd is shown, top, in overall photograph of Arrowhead Stadium during services, and a portion of the charismatics stretch out their arms during prayer. (RNS)