

COURIER-JOURNAL

NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

28 Pages

Wednesday, October 11, 1978

OUR 96th YEAR

20 Cents



Shirley Harrington, left, of Holy Ghost Parish, is one of some 6,000 canvassers who began two Sundays of visits to Catholics throughout 40 parishes in the diocese as part of the Stewardship program in the diocese. She explains the form to Marguerite Clust which not only provides for parishioners to offer their time, talent and treasure to the parish but also seeks to learn what is expected in return from the parish. Other Stewardship stories and photos on Pages 12, 23.

All Life Issues Linked, Elmira Meeting Told

By MARTIN TOOMBS
Southern Tier Editor

Elmira—Benedictine Father Paul Marx emphasized his view that contraception, abortion and euthanasia and other life issues are all related in his keynote address at the state Right to Life Convention Saturday.

Speaking to the 175 delegates, Father Marx returned several times to the inter-relation of the life issues, and also commented on a wide variety of items affecting the work of Right to Life groups.

Workshops, demonstrations, book and pamphlet displays, and showings of movies occupied the delegates Saturday. The convention

closed with a banquet Saturday evening.

Father Marx, founder and executive director of the Human Life Center at St. John's University, Collegeville, Minn. and the author of several books on life issues, began by telling the delegates that they needed to "be sure you know the issues."

He continued by saying that if everyone understood the connections between abortion and euthanasia, they would fight abortion. He noted events in Austria and Japan where those who backed legalization of abortion are now seeking legalization of euthanasia.

He also noted that "once you legalize abortion, the birth rate drops, and abortion

becomes a primary means of birth control."

The increase in availability of contraceptives, and of abortion if they fail, means that "people get very careless with God's gift of sexuality," he noted.

As abortion becomes more ingrained in our culture, he noted, doctors are going to come under increasing pressure to perform abortions. He related an incident where doctors who refused to do abortions were being turned down for hospital positions. "We're going to see a lot more force in the future," he commented.

People also need to know that abortion is not always a

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Attention Shifts To Conclave

BY PAMELA
MANDELS
RNS Correspondent

With its second papal funeral in less than two months now a matter of history, Vatican City, as well as the rest of the world, now looks forward to another conclave of the College of Cardinals to elect a new pope.

The conclave will begin Oct. 14. In August, the cardinals waited the maximum 20 days between the death of Pope Paul VI and the convening of a conclave. This time they are to begin only 16 days after Pope John Paul's death. This has been taken as a sign that the cardinals want to get to elect a pope

as quickly as possible because the Church government has been in a state of flux for two months.

In a rainy outdoor ceremony on Wednesday Oct. 4, the world paid its final respects to Pope John Paul that mirrored the simple funeral of Pope Paul VI of last Aug. 12.

In requesting a simple funeral, Pope Paul paved the way for the breaking of many traditions. No panoplied corps of Noble Guards surrounded the altar, no elaborate catafalque was used at the funeral of either of the most recent popes.

As in the funeral of

Pope Paul, Pope John Paul's coffin lay on a rug on the marble pavement in front of an altar set up on the broad steps leading to the main entrance of St. Peter's Basilica.

Once again, as the world watched via television, a large open volume of the Gospels lay atop the coffin. And next to the coffin, stood a tall, paschal candle, symbol of Christ, the Light of the World, a silent pledge of the resurrection.

Ninety-three cardinals concelebrated the funeral mass with 85-year-old Cardinal Carlo Confalonieri, dean of the

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Why?

Vatican City (RNS) -- Cardinal Carlo Confalonieri recalled the brief reign of Pope John Paul in a homily delivered in the pouring rain in St. Peter's Square Oct. 4. Only two months previously, he eulogized Pope Paul at that pontiff's funeral.

"We ask ourselves, why so quickly?" the cardinal said of the 33-day tenure of the man nicknamed the "Smiling Pope."

"The apostle tells us why in the well-known and beloved explanation: 'How deep his wisdom and knowledge and how

impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods ... who could ever know the mind of the Lord?'"

He compared the brief pontificate to a meteor. "He passed as a meteor which unexpectedly lights up the heavens and then disappears, leaving us amazed and astonished," the cardinal said.

Cardinal Confalonieri added, "We have scarcely had the time to see the new pope. Yet one month was enough for him to have conquered hearts -- and, for us, it was a month to

love him intensely. It is not the length which characterizes a life in a pontificate, but rather the spirit that fills it."

He recalled the smile that won the 65-year-old Pope his nickname:

"That smile never left him," he said. "Even in the last instant of life. In fact, we saw him like that, in the first hours of last Friday. There, on his death bed, his head lightly inclined towards the right, his lips were half open, in his ever-present smile. Thus he entered into the peace of the Lord."

Lefebvre Forces Sponsor Mass Here

Roman Catholic Church Characterized as 'Quicksand' at Tridentine Rite

By JOHN DASH

In the course of a forbidden celebration of the Mass, a Roman Catholic priest charged here last week that "the Roman Catholic Church used to be a rock. Now it is sand -- quicksand drawing souls down to destruction."

The Mass signals the advance of the forces of rebel Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre into this diocese.

The priest was Father Roy Randolph of Canada. He was brought to Rochester to celebrate Mass according to the outlawed Tridentine rite by the Pius the Tenth Society, headed here by 31-year-old attorney Richard Genca.

Father Randolph's comment on the Church came in the course of a sermon on the motherhood of Mary. The former music professor preached and

said Mass at the "Rosary Chapel," a former funeral parlor on Lake Avenue near the Cathedral.

In an interview last week, Genca said that Father Randolph's remark should be seen as critical of "the human element in the Church."

Nevertheless, Genca opined, "the smoke of Satan" rises in the air about the Church, and the Church is on a course of "autodestruction."

Nearly 100 people were in the Rosary Chapel last week when Father Randolph said the Mass which followed the liturgical norms set down by a committee of the Council of Trent and promulgated by Pope Pius V on July 14, 1570.

With the exception of extraordinary permission granted to individual priests celebrating the liturgy alone, that form of the Mass was outlawed by Pope Paul VI in 1969.

It is popularly called the Tridentine rite and it has become the rallying point for followers of Archbishop Lefebvre, who has incurred all ecclesiastical sanctions against his activities, save excommunication, to date.

The Archbishop has been censured several times by the Holy See, yet continues to ordain clergy to further his crusade against the Vatican.

The chapel is also used as a recruiting station for new members of the society.

Cards and pencils were handed to those who had attended the Mass. One such card contained space for one's name, telephone number, address, and comments. The pasteboard declared, "At long last the

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