

U.S. Bishops Get Synod Document

Washington (RNS) —A Vatican discussion document on "The Role of the Christian Family in the Modern World" has been sent to all U.S. Catholic bishops as part of a consultation process in preparation for next year's International Synod of Bishops in Rome.

The document, which is being distributed to episcopal conferences throughout the world, was sent to members of the U.S. hierarchy by Bishop Thomas C. Kelly, general secretary of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

He asked the bishops to send replies and comments to NCCB by mid-October. According to Bishop Kelly, the feedback will be compiled in a single document, which will be sent to the Vatican's Council for the Synod.

(Earlier at a Rome press conference, Cardinal Wladyslaw Rubin, general secretary of the Synod of Bishops, said that family life theme could allow for

discussion on the Church's ban on all artificial means of birth control. Although noting that the Vatican's discussion document affirms the stand against birth control by Pope Paul VI in his 1968 encyclical Humanae Vitae, Cardinal Rubin said that bishops have asked for a discussion of birth control at the 1980 synod.

Pope John Paul II is expected to convene the synod in the Fall of 1980. It is regarded as significant not only because of its family life theme but also because many observers believe that the Polish pontiff will use the synod to share papal decision-making responsibilities with his brother bishops.

The U.S. delegates will be Archbishop John R. Quinn of San Francisco, president of the NCCB; Archbishop John L. Bernardin of Cincinnati; Auxiliary Bishop J. Francis Stafford of Baltimore, chairman of the bishops' Family Life Commission, and Archbishop Robert F. Sanchez of Santa Fe, N.M.

Sainthood

From 1

Congregation of the Causes of the Saints, he said.

Father Solanus was born in 1870 in Wisconsin, the sixth child in a family of 16, as Barney Casey. When he decided to enter the seminary, he had difficulty with the academic work, as he had never attended high school. When it came time for his ordination, Father Cletus said, some faculty opposed it. But one priest saw the strength of Father Solanus' character and recommended that he be ordained. As a result, however, his ordination was made with the provision that he not hear Confessions

or give theological sermons, restrictions that are not done now, Father Cletus remarked.

At his parish as a youth, Father Cletus said, parishioners often wondered why Father Solanus never heard Confessions. The answer given by Father Cletus' mother was that "he was too saintly a priest to listen to sin."

Father Cletus pointed out that not having to spend time hearing Confessions made it possible for Father Solanus "to spend more time visiting the sick and others."

He retired to St. Felix Friary in Huntington, In-

Cardinal

From 1

quickly added, "I am totally resigned to the will of God."

Actually, Cardinal Carberry, who has headed the St. Louis see since 1968 and celebrated the golden jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood just three days before the news of his retirement, had submitted his resignation well in advance. Vatican regulations require that clergy, whether bishops or pastors, submit their resignations on or before their 75th birthday.

Cardinal Carberry retains his cardinal's prerogative of taking part and voting in

papal conclaves until his 80th birthday. He said that he regarded his participation in last year's conclaves which elected Popes John Paul I and II as among the "most important highlights" of his priestly career.

The cardinal will continue as apostolic administrator of the archdiocese until his successor is appointed. A consultative process among clergy and laity to select the next leader of the seven-county area's \$26,000 Catholics will begin immediately under the supervision of Archbishop Jean Jadot, the Vatican's Apostolic Delegate to the Catholic Church in the U.S.



Generations

A Vietnamese grandmother comforts a child. The child is one of thousands who face an uncertain future as refugees continue to leave their homeland. Sponsors are being sought in the Diocese of Rochester for these refugees. The official diocesan agency is the Catholic Family Center, 50 Chestnut St., Rochester, N.Y., 14604. Miss Angelina Boella may be contacted by calling (716) 546-7220.

diana, Father Cletus said, and spent the last years of his life in pain. When asked how he stood the constant pain, he responded that he wished it could be more severe so that he would have that much more to offer up to God in thanksgiving for the gifts he had received.

On July 31, 1957, at the age of 87, and bedridden for some time, he suddenly got up out of bed and called out, "I give my soul to Jesus Christ," and fell back into bed dead.

The Capuchin order has two brothers working on his

cause for canonization, Father Cletus reported, and he asked any who felt they had benefited from Father Solanus' intercession to give a report to the friary in Interlaken so it could be forwarded to the order.



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