

*'I Am Only the Pope'*

# The 'Hurricane' Sweeps Chicago

By Carmen J. Viglucci

Chicago — From dawn to night.

From the Loop to the suburbs.

From the cathedral to ethnic parishes.

From Luciano Pavarotti to neighborhood songsters.

From one and a quarter million at a Grant Park Mass to a small group in wheelchairs outside Quigley South seminary, Hurricane Wojtyla swept the Windy City by storm in a two-day visit last week that left it bathed in joy, gladness and celebration.

From the time his plane arrived from Des Moines last Thursday, the seemingly indefatigable Pope John Paul II brought Chicagoans to laughter, cheers, tears, and prayer and left even professional observers at a loss for words.

But not so himself. He had many and well-chosen messages for the huge crowds which gathered at his many stops here.

He told a throng in Holy Name Cathedral that "Chicago is an American city. It is also the second Polish city in the world." After listening to a stirring rendition of the Ave Maria by Luciano Pavarotti, considered by many the world's finest tenor, the pope led the assemblage in singing the Pater Noster, in Latin, and shortly afterwards outside he led a still larger crowd in singing alleluias.

It was a day in which the pope had spoken in Philadelphia in the morning, visited Des Moines for most of the day, and then had arrived in Chicago in early evening. But it was late when he stepped to the microphone and in a strong voice said, "You must go sleep." He repeated it, gave the crowd his blessing, and then admonished one more time, "Go sleep."

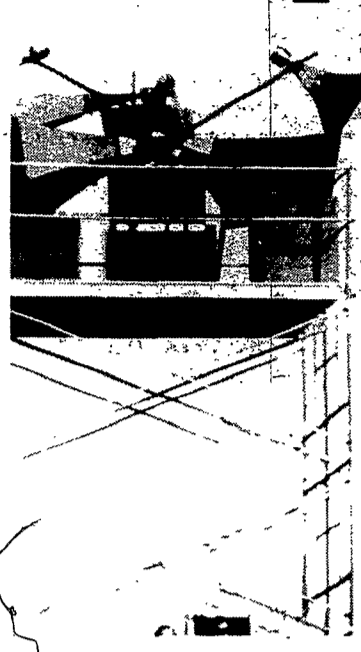
Then at 7:15 a.m. the next day, there was this remarkable man again, greeting early risers outside the cardinal's residence. "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands," which in a way became the unofficial theme song of the pontiff's trip to Ireland and the U.S., filled the cold and bright morning air.

Then the growing throng burst into what was to become a special chant throughout his stay in Chicago — "John Paul II, we love you," they shouted over and over.

At Providence of God Church he praised the work of the Campaign for Human Development. He visited the Polish Five Holy Martyrs parish. He addressed the semiannual meeting of the U.S. Bishops taking place at Quigley South Seminary. Rochester Bishop Matthew H. Clark was in attendance as were his Auxiliary Bishops John E. McCafferty and Dennis W. Hickey. And then he came back to downtown to celebrate Mass for a throng estimated at between one and a quarter and one and a half million in Grant Park.

The pope lauded "a long tradition of fidelity to the Apostolic See on the part of the American hierarchy.

He then told the bishops, "In exalting the beauty of marriage, you rightly spoke against both the ideology and of contraception and contraceptive acts, as did the encyclical Humanae Vitae... in portraying the



This unusual angle makes it seem that Pope John Paul and his aide, Msgr. Virgilio Noe of Rome, are almost alone. Actually, some one and a quarter million others were on hand for the Mass in Grant Park, Chicago.



Photo by Anthony J. Costello  
Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey of Rochester arrives for the Mass at Grant Park in Chicago.

sexual union between husband and wife as a special expression of their covenanted love, you rightly stated, "Sexual intercourse is a moral and human good only within marriage; outside marriage it is wrong."

"As authentic teachers of God's law and as compassionate pastors, you rightly stated: 'Homosexual activity... as distinguished from homosexual orientation, is morally wrong.'

He also commended the bishops for reaffirming the "right to life and the inviolability of every human life, including the life of unborn children, and for declaring that mercy killing is a grave moral evil.

The pope reportedly had 67 speeches prepared in advance for the tour. According to reports, he wrote most of the speeches himself, in his native Polish, and had them translated into the various other languages he used on the tour.

And if the pope had all the words, professional newsmen following him sometimes didn't.

One television broadcaster said on the air, "For 20 years I've been a writer but I can't do it this time."

His anchorman on the broadcast replied, "Yes, it's impossible to express. You just get a feeling that you want to go out and do something good."

Another channel's newscaster said, "It's like nothing I've ever experienced." Then he added, "We can all feel very proud," as if somehow the magic of this pilgrim pope had rubbed off on these mercenaries who usually pride themselves on objective observance of such happenings.

After this tumultuous day, the pope attended a concert by the Chicago Symphony back at the cathedral. When it was over and he stepped outdoors, a huge roar greeted him. He leaned over the microphone and joked, "I am not the Chicago orchestra. I am only the Pope."

And so he added Chicago to the American cities he captured during his one-man tour de force. Early the next morning he was airborne for a meeting with President Carter in our nation's capital city.

## Pontiff Voices CHD Support

Chicago — The Campaign for Human Development received a hearty endorsement from Pope John Paul II when he visited the Church of the Providence of God in a Spanish neighborhood here last Friday.

"I am happy to greet those who campaigned for human development," the pontiff told a crowd gathered at the church. "The campaign has been a witness to the Church's living presence in the world."

It has been, he said,

"continuing the mission of Christ."

He continued, "I commend the bishops of the United States for their wisdom and compassion in establishing the Campaign for Human Development."

He praised the self-help aspect of the campaign and added that it has "created a more human and just order."

"May God give you the strength, courage and wisdom to continue this work for justice," he concluded.

## Papal Assignment 'Thrills' Policeman

Chicago — A city police officer for 24 years, Bill Diggins, who "had never even seen the outside of Cardinal Cody's residence, much less the inside," was one of six of Chicago's finest to be stationed inside the cardinal's home while the Pope was there overnight.

Diggins, a plainclothes investigator for the Chicago Police Department, hasn't the "foggiest notion" why he was chosen for the assignment... "it was just a stroke of luck, I guess."

Diggins and his wife are Catholics and have two children, Billy, 8, and Kathy, 5. He reported that when Pope John Paul returned to

the residence after a long first day in Chicago, a day in which he also was in Philadelphia and Des Moines, "he looked healthy, but tired."

"He was only in my company for about three minutes before he went to eat and retire, I assume," Diggins said. He also said that "the place was full of secret service men."

One uniformed policeman is regularly assigned to the residence and he was joined by two others for each of two overnight shifts during the Pope's stay.

For Diggins, it all was "a great thrill... I was very honored." — Viglucci



Photo by Anthony J. Costello  
Bishop Matthew H. Clark, left, returns home from the U.S. bishops meeting at which the Pope spoke. Center is Auxiliary Bishop John E. McCafferty and at right is Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey.



Photo by Anthony J. Costello  
Bishop Thomas Kelly, executive secretary of the U.S. Catholic Conference, led the procession of bishops to the Grant Park Mass.

Clark.

Clark with pontiff, the nation of the covers, and Clark with crucifix atop the aff. — Dash

J. Brennan  
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