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Mother Teresa: 'We Are All Missionaries'

See centerfold.

"On her way to receive the Nobel Peace Prize last year, Mother Teresa stopped in Rome for a visit to the International Headquarters of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith," said Father Joseph Reinhart, diocesan director of the society.

"To the group assembled to greet her, Mother Teresa said, 'All of us, you as well as we, are missionaries and we must be a sign of love and compassion of God in the

world. It is through us that God loves the world.'

"I have noticed," Father Reinhart continued, "that people who actually accomplish the most for humanity speak less about the needs of the poor than they do of love.

"Pope John Paul II said that love is the only force that drives us to share with our brothers and sisters all that we are and have.

"St. Paul, the first

missionary with — literally — the whole world before him as his mission said not that the poor Galatians and Ephesians needed him but that 'the love of Christ impels me!' The result," Father Reinhart said, "was the same: the Good News was preached to the poor. The difference lay in attitude: Paul did not go in a superior capacity but as a servant, a servant of the love of Christ.

"Mother Teresa herself is an example," Father

Reinhart continued. "As much as she loves the dying she picks up off the street, as much as she loves the orphan babies she holds, we have no doubt that what 'impels' her is the love of Christ Whom she sees and serves in each one of her poor. Through Mother Teresa, God is loving the world with deep compassion and total selflessness.

"And God calls each one of us to this love," Father Reinhart said. "Imagine if we all expressed love to our

neighbors with the same devotion as Mother Teresa! Wouldn't it be a different world?"

Father Reinhart spoke on the subject on the threshold of Mission Sunday, Oct. 19.

"Many things that we do will depend on what will happen on Mission Sunday. This is the particular day when Catholics around the world join in prayers for the Missions," he said. "From daybreak in the Fiji Islands and westward through

Oceania, Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas, prayers are offered and sacrifices gathered for next year's basic support of the Mission Church. I must stress that this is truly a worldwide effort. It is not a matter of United States Catholics contributing to Third World nations. It is Asian, African, American, European and Pacific Catholics contributing together, as they can, to what Vatican II called 'the greatest and holiest work of the Church.'



Photos by Terrance J. Brennan

Kateri Mass

Mary Eunice Spagnola, dressed as Kateri Tekakwitha, leads procession to Mass last week at the Cathedral celebrating the beatification of the Lily of the Mohawks. With her is singer Joanne Hartmann. At right, the St. Regis Akwesasne Mohawk Choir performs. Native Americans from Syracuse and Rochester joined the group.



Supports Humanae Vitae, Archbishop Quinn Avers

By Thomas J. Reese, SJ
RNS Correspondent

Rome — The first week of the Synod of Bishops, meeting here to discuss the role of the Christian family in the modern world, concluded amid controversy over American Archbishop John R. Quinn's speech on birth control.

His form address to the synod was widely interpreted as an attack on "Humanae Vitae," Pope Paul VI's 1968 encyclical condemning artificial contraception.

The San Francisco archbishop categorically repudiated this interpretation, and any objective reading of

his original text supports his assertion. Even the Associated Press, which ran this interpretation in the United States, admitted to Archbishop Quinn its error.

The confusion resulted from the inability of the Vatican press corps to understand that many Americans tend to mean what they and only what they say. Vatican reporters are used to dealing with bishops from other countries who often mean much more than a narrow interpretation of their words would indicate. For example, when a bishop from Indonesia says that the synod should re-examine the issue of birth control, he in fact means that the synod should allow

married couples to use contraceptives. To say so directly, however, would be considered an affront to both Pope Paul and John Paul II, who also supports the ban on artificial contraception. As a result the press here also spends much of its time speculating about what a particular bishop really meant by what he said.

What Archbishop Quinn
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TV Mass

Bishop Matthew H. Clark will celebrate the Mass for Shut-ins on Mission Sunday, Oct. 19 at 8:30 a.m. over WHEC-TV, Channel 10.

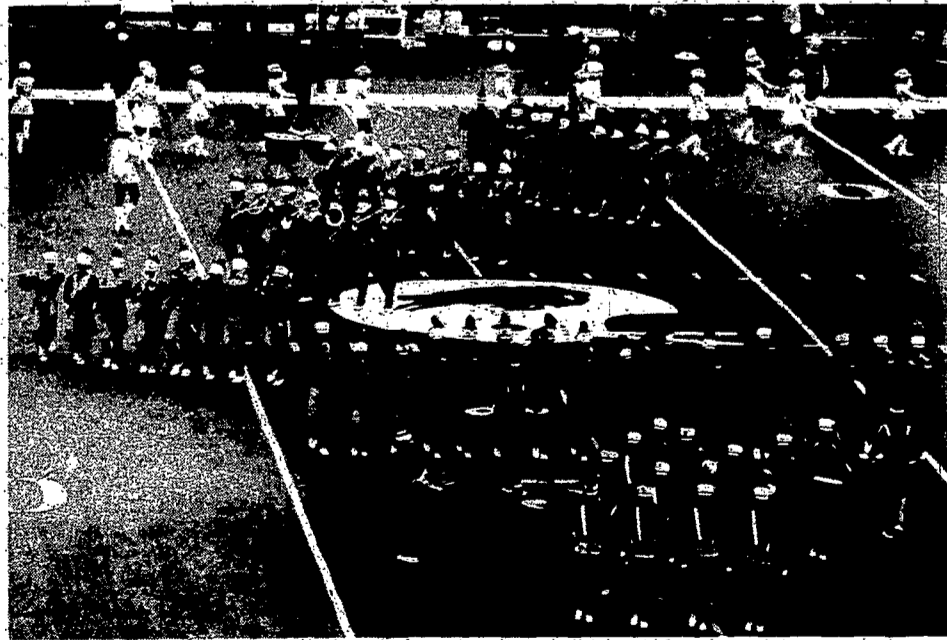


Photo by Joan M. Smith

Kings Wow Fans

Last Sunday the Bishop Kearney Marching Kings Band, under the direction of Ray Shahin, performed for its largest audience yet — 74,000 Buffalo Bill fans in Rich Stadium. The Kings, the first band from the Rochester area to perform for a Bills game, made the football enthusiasts sit up and take notice with their renditions of "New York, New York" and "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," complete with the firing of a cannon.