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## Haitian Update

### Daughter Is Found, May Free Refugee

By John Dash

Nicolas Joseph, one of the 40 Haitians imprisoned at Ray Brook, will soon be released from that institution to join his daughter who has been found after an intensive search started by the Rochester Haitian Refugee Committee.

John Walker, executive director of the Office of Black Ministries and a key member of the diocesan group working for the Haitians at Ray Brook, announced last week that Marie Nicole Joseph, 12, who had apparently slipped by the Immigration and Naturalization Service's detaining area in Florida on July 5, has been found living with relatives.

In the meantime, her father was brought to the federal penitentiary at Ray Brook and the two were thus separated, Joseph knowing nothing of the fate of his daughter. In fact, Walker said, Joseph had heard nothing of the child from July until last week.

Walker also said that INS had agreed to release Joseph from Ray Brook so that he could join his daughter. "We're keeping an eye on that

situation because we do not know when he will be released," Walker noted.

For the remaining 39 in the prison, however, the approach of winter and the below zero temperatures for which the Adirondack region is noted are expected to be very hard for the men who have immigrated from Haiti's subtropical climate.

To ease that, Walker has asked diocesans to donate winter clothing, including long underwear and socks, for the men.

Ray Brook rules, Paul Lefebvre, executive assistant at the institution, said recently, allow prisoners to have three sets of civilian clothing, and three sets of government-issued garb.

Walker said that the men range in size from 5 feet 6 to 5 feet 10. He asked interested parties to contact him at the Office of Black Ministries, (716) 328-3210. He further noted that his appeal is not for money.

Walker anticipates making a visit to the Ray Brook prisoners before Nov. 10.



Photo by Terrance J. Brennan

### Double Joy

Nettie and Dominic Marotti, center couple, outside of St. Mary's Church in Canandaigua with their son Joseph and his wife Antoinette, following the annual diocesan wedding anniversary celebration last Sunday. The elder Marottis are celebrating their 50th anniversary while Joseph and Antoinette have been married for 25 years. More than 300 diocesans attended the Mass celebrated by Bishop Matthew H. Clark and sponsored by the Office of Family Life.

## Scientists Find Shroud Real But No Proof That It's Jesus

By Richard C. Dujardin  
Religious News Service  
Correspondent

New London, Conn. — Scientists who spent three years investigating the Shroud of Turin say they are convinced that the image on the shroud is not a forgery and that the blood stains on the cloth are real blood.

But the 40 members of the Shroud of Turin Research Project said they have not linked the image of the crucified man to Jesus Christ scientifically, and added they are taking legal action against a book by a team member who they said had distorted their conclusions.

The research group, representing a wide spectrum of scientific disciplines and religious beliefs, admitted not solving the mystery of how the image on the cloth was formed.

"We have chemical explanations and physical explanations, but none that appear to satisfy both the chemists and the physicists," said Donald Devan, an oceanographic systems engineer. "The problem is finding an hypothesis that combines both and convinces everyone that 'Yes, that's the way it happened.'"

The scientists also said they had filed suit against the publisher of "Verdict on the Shroud," written by former team member Kenneth E. Stevenson, and Gary R. Habermas, a professor of religion at Liberty Baptist College, because, the team said, the book wrongly implied that the group had concluded the cloth was the burial cloth of Jesus Christ and that the evidence proved the resurrection.

The group also refused to endorse the theory of Father Francis L. Filas, a Loyola University theologian, who maintains that the authenticity of the shroud is proved by an imprint of a rare coin in the right eye of the crucified figure. Team members said the priest may be seeing things that aren't there.

The team has concluded, however:

- The blood stains which are of real blood were on the cloth before the formation of the body image, which is of a different chemical composition.

- While there were some traces of iron oxide, it was not enough to form a visible image that might have indicated forgery. Nor were there any other pigments, paints, or dyes on the cloth.

- There is no evidence of biochemicals which are known to be produced by a body living or dead and no indication of spices or oils.

- The image on the cloth is faint and could be found on the surface of the fibers only, and is five-thousandths of an inch deep.

- The visibility of the image is due primarily to a discoloration brought about by a molecular change in the linen fibers.

- The image has three-dimensional characteristics "encoded" into it, so that when its various shadings are put into a VP-8 Image Analyser, a machine used to obtain relief pictures of Mars and the moon, it produces a 3-D picture of a man — something that cannot be done with an ordinary print or painting.

The scientists also appeared to give up on the idea that the image was formed by a split-second burst of radiation from the body onto the cloth.

A more promising theory, in the view of some, was advanced by Samuel Pellicori, an optical physicist with the Santa Barbara Research Institute, who says that the image could have been brought about through a

dehydration in the linen fibers.

Dr. Pellicori told the gathering that by baking pieces of oil-treated linen to simulate aging, he has made images with the same chemical characteristics as those found in the shroud.

He explained that when he baked linen coated with lemon juice or olive oil, the molecular structure of the fibers would "conjugate" in the same way as the fibers in the shroud, producing the same yellowish image.

Dr. Pellicori theorized that if the shroud were to be a burial cloth and clothes and spices had been used in the preparation of the body, the oil may have set off a chemical reaction that would have caused the body to leave a latent imprint on the surface of the cloth. It would have taken perhaps only five minutes for the transfer to occur, he said. But once the chemical reaction was started, he said, the cloth fibers would have continued to conjugate, producing an image of a man, a long time later, perhaps a couple of hundred years.

There are some drawbacks to the theory, he conceded. Chemists have been unable to find any oils or spices in the cloth which might have served



The Shroud of Turin.

as a catalyst. Nor, he said, has he been able to reproduce an image of a face with such high resolution and encoded characteristics — although he has had some limited success with fingers.

While many of the scientists would say privately that they did believe the image was that of Jesus, they maintained that from a scientific standpoint, it was a question that could not be

resolved from a scientific viewpoint.

(The one remaining test, that of carbon 14 dating, slated to be carried out by Dr. Harry Gove of Rochester, has still to be done. Both political and religious considerations in Turin are cited for the Church's present refusal to allow the test, although there are some indications the climate is now easing and permission may be granted for the test in the future.)