

# People and Events Of the World and Nation

## Subpoenas Issued On 5 Banks for Cardinal's Records

Chicago (RNS) — A federal grand jury investigating the finances of Cardinal John P. Cody has subpoenaed records from five banks, according to the Chicago Sun-Times.

The information being sought is identical to that which the investigators had sought unsuccessfully from the archdiocese last January.

The subpoenas, delivered by an agent of the Internal Revenue Service, "are an effort to obtain financial records from third-party sources not under investigation," according to the newspaper.

By going to outside parties, the Sun-Times explained, federal prosecutors avoided the church-state legal problems that had been suggested as a reason the cardinal's attorneys refused to comply with the subpoenas.

In September, the Sun-Times reported that a grand jury was attempting to determine whether Cardinal Cody had illegally diverted Church funds in two personal discretionary accounts to a stepcousin, Mrs. Helen Dolan Wilson of St. Louis. The accounts had involved up to \$1 million, according to the newspaper.

Meanwhile, a group of 27 prominent Chicago Catholics — priests, nuns and laypeople — has called upon the cardinal to answer government questions about his finances.

"These questions must be answered honestly, publicly and promptly if the archdiocese is to retain the confidence of the Catholic community," said Patty Crowley, a leader of the group which calls itself Concerned Catholics of Chicago.

Mrs. Crowley, co-founder of the Christian Family Movement, said the group has prepared a letter to the cardinal "to come clean" and also to institute reforms to make the Church more accountable to its members.

Other signers include Father Thomas Libra, president of the Association of Chicago Priests; Msgr. James Hardiman, secretary to the late Cardinal Samuel Stritch; and Sister Anne Carr, former associate dean of the University of Chicago Divinity School.

## Catholics, Lutherans Urged to Witness Against Arms Race

Minneapolis (RNS) — An internationally known Benedictine monk appealed here to Lutherans and Roman Catholics to join together in witness against the nuclear arms race.

Father Godfrey Diekmann said the threat of "nuclear suicide" is the greatest crisis which has ever confronted the human race.

"Making peace is the hardest task on earth," he said. "Maybe together, we can make the nuclear clock move more slowly and even eventually stop it before it reaches midnight."

Father Diekmann, who played a leading role in updating the Roman Catholic liturgy and is a former member of the U.S. Catholic-Lutheran Dialogue Committee, said the two faiths "share beliefs to a far greater extent than we ever dared believe."

## Lincoln Diocese Bans Women Mass Lectors, Refuses Clarification

Lincoln, Neb. (RNS) — Bishop Glennon P. Flavin of the Lincoln Roman Catholic Diocese has banned women from serving as scriptural readers at Masses.

Father Robert Vasa, director of the diocesan program which trains readers, pointed out that according to the recent statement of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, decisions about participation of women as lectors were left to the discretion of each diocese.

"Our bishop has decided not to allow women, and that's that," Father Vasa told Religious News Service.

He said that "until there is something more definite from the Vatican which orders women to participate, that's the way it stands."

"I suspect you'd have to live in Nebraska in order to understand why," he said. "We'd just as soon prefer that the news media leave our diocese alone."

Women have been serving as lectors widely throughout the country, as well as in some parishes in the Lincoln diocese. Their exclusion became a public issue here when the bishop limited enrollment in the current diocesan training program for lectors and acolytes to men.

"In order to emphasize the importance, dignity and seriousness of the role of reading the word of God," the announcement noted, only lectors who had undergone the diocesan training would be permitted after Jan. 1, 1984.

## More Bahais Said Arrested; U.N. Takes Heed

Wilmette, Ill. (RNS) — In a continuing crackdown on members of Iran's Bahai faith community, 26 people, including five women, have been arrested in Urumiyeh, a village in Iran's Azirbayegan Province, Bahi headquarters has reported.

Glenford E. Mitchell, the chief executive officer of American Bahais, also said that all Bahai homes in the town of Bijand in Khursan Province had recently been looted and the occupants forced to flee.

The United Nations Human Rights subcommission on the prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities has termed the situation of Iranian Bahais as "perilous" and called on the secretary general to help protect them.

Since its inception in Iran in the mid-19th Century, the Bahai faith has aroused the opposition of the Shi'ite Muslim clergy who regard the religion as heretical. Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini is the Shi'ite Muslim leader and has excluded the Bahais from any protection under the country's new Islamic constitution.

## Canadian Catholics Hope Pope Will Visit in 1983

Montreal (RNS) — There is strong expectation that Pope John Paul II will tour Canada in 1983, including a visit to Canada's so-called "frozen north."

An invitation to the pontiff will be issued soon, says the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops which recently sent three of its members to Rome, where they met with the pope.

Should the invitation be accepted — and the bishops believe it will — Pope John Paul would visit every region of Canada, including the far north where he would meet with Eskimos. Possible dates for the visit are either the spring or the fall of 1983.

## Pope's Namesake Also Survived Would-Be Assassin

Vatican City (RNS) — Pope John Paul II, meeting here with a group of cardinals on the eve of the feast of his namesake, St. Charles Borromeo, recalled that the 16th Century Italian cardinal also had survived an assassination attempt.

The pope's baptismal name is Karol, Polish for Charles.

## Bishop Joins Newark Valley Centenary Rite

Newark Valley — Bishop Matthew H. Clark presided at a concelebrated Mass of Thanksgiving on the occasion of the centenary of St. John the Evangelist here last Saturday.

The bishop was joined at the altar by Father Eugene Weis, pastor; Father Alexander J. Stec, former pastor; Father Charles-Latus,

the bishop's secretary; and Father James Gould, SJ, a son of the parish.

Following the Mass, the parishioners held a covered-dish dinner.

## Guidelines

The Courier-Journal welcomes your opinions. Letters must bear the writer's signature, full address and telephone number. They should be sent to Opinion, Courier-Journal, 114 S. Union St., Rochester, N.Y. 14607.

Opinions should be brief, typed, double-spaced, no longer than 1½ pages.

We routinely condense letters, edit offensive words and libelous statements, and reserve the right to reject letters. Generally speaking, however, only limited grammatical corrections will be made and the letters will reflect the writer's own style.

Because submitted opinions exceed the space for letters, we publish only original letters addressed to us. We will not use poetry, open letters, or copies of letters sent elsewhere. To ensure diversity, we limit each writer to one letter per month.

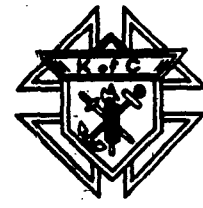
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