

People and Events Of the World and Nation

Religious Leaders Urge U.N. to Reverse Arms Race

New York (RNS) — Thirty-five leaders of the world's major faiths appealed here to United Nations members to "freeze and reverse the arms race as a first and crucial step toward disarmament."

The U.N. had scheduled a special disarmament session, only the second on arms control in its history, from June 7 to July 7.

The religious leaders meanwhile have designated May 28-31 as "choose life weekend" and invited "religious people all over the world to participate in intensive prayer, fasting, vigils and other actions in their respective churches, mosques, pagodas, synagogues, temples and holy places in the name of this sacred cause."

"This appeal goes out to the followers of the Buddhist, Christian, Confucian, Hindu, Jain, Jewish, Modern, Shinto, Siky, Taoist, Zoroastrian and indigenous religious traditions, as well as to all religious everywhere," the religious group stated.

Among the signers is Archbishop John R. Roach, president of the U.S. Catholic Conference.

Vatican Covers 1981 Deficit, But Problems Loom

Vatican City (RNS) — To everyone's surprise, the Vatican declared here it was in the black the first of January. A 1981 deficit of \$25.6 million had been projected last July.

That's the good news. The bad news is that the deficit this year will be \$29 million.

"Thanks to the positive, generous response of the faithful the actual deficit for 1981 was completely covered," the Vatican press office announced.

The announcement came at the end of a three-day meeting of a 15-member council of cardinals named by the pope to study "the organizational and financial problems of the Holy Sec."

The budget figures referred to operations of the Roman Curia, the Church's central administration. Not covered were the Vatican State, worldwide holdings and the Vatican bank.

Voicing satisfaction over the happy outcome of 1981, the Vatican nevertheless warned that continuing aid would be needed to balance the books in the future.

Vatican Workers Told Pope Heeds Salary Demands

Vatican City (RNS) — Pope John Paul II has given assurances to Vatican lay employees who have threatened job action that their demands for higher wages and increased benefits were not being ignored.

The Vatican Lay Employees Association, which represents some 1,600 workers, has threatened to "demonstrate publicly" against the pope, in a move to get "economic reforms and improvements."

The association complained that the Vatican was taking too long in meeting their complaints. Vatican lay worker salaries range from \$680 to a maximum of \$1,000 a month. Beginning last July, work hours were cut down from 32 a week to 39, with the stipulation that the work week would be reduced to 36 hours.

15,000 Philadelphians Hit A-Arms Race In Peace March

Philadelphia (RNS) — In the largest peace demonstration in Philadelphia since the Vietnam War, 15,000 people marched silently by candlelight to Independence Hall and heard religious leaders call for an end to the nuclear arms race.

In his strongest statement to date on nuclear weapons, Cardinal John J. Krol called on world governments to "end the nuclear arms race, to dismantle existing nuclear weapons and to agree upon a program of mutual inspection."

The leader of southeastern Pennsylvania's 1.3 million Roman Catholics told the throngs facing him alongside the Liberty Bell, "The nuclear arms race is not a secure way of maintaining true peace and the balance of power is no sure way of achieving it."

He that "there is at times a tendency to discredit our type of nuclear arms race witness by saying it is a fringe action of brighteyed visionaries who ignore hard realities."

"Let it be know that Judaeo-Christian morality is not lacking in reality. We recognize the right of legitimate self-defense, but this right is not a moral justification for unleashing massive destruction against innocent non-combatants."

"We advocate disarmament — not unilateral, but reciprocal or collective disarmament — proceeding at an equal pace, according to agreement and backed by authentic and workable safeguards."

Storytelling Festival Scheduled

The Rochester Area Council of the International Reading Association will sponsor a storytelling festival from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 24 at the Harley School, 1981 Clover St.

Margaret Poarche and her students from the State University College at Geneseo will entertain elementary-aged children and their families with a repertoire of stories, and Adele Chappell will present two shows with her Merry Glen Puppeteers.

Children must be accompanied by a parent. The fee per family is \$1, and members and their families are welcome free of charge.

SEM Slates Ecumenical Easter Rite

Southeast Ecumenical Ministry will sponsor an Easter Sunrise Service at 5:36 a.m., Easter, April 11, just outside the chapel at Colgate Rochester Divinity School.

Rev. Arthur Dolch of Asbury First Methodist Church, Father Stephen Kraus of St. Anne's Church and Rev. Christopher Nelson of the Lutheran Church of the Incarnate Word will lead the rites.

In the event of inclement weather, the service will be held inside the chapel. Further information is available by contacting William Crain, (716) 477-7163.

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Calendar

BOOK DISCUSSION — "Passage to India" by E.M. Forster, 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 7, Gates Public Library.

FINANCIAL PROGRAM — Tax savings/tax shelters, 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 7, Charlotte Branch Library.

CHILDREN'S FILMS — "Magic Michael," 10:30 a.m., Friday, April 9, Janes

Library, 200 Fairport Road; "Old Yeller," 1 p.m., Saturday, April 10, Greece Public Library; "Five Survive," 2 p.m., Saturday, April 10, Gates Public Library; "The Deerslayer," 2:30 p.m., Saturday, April 10, Lowden Point Branch Library.

CHILDREN'S THEATER — "I Won't Take a Bath," sketches of 20th century family life with songs, dance, poetic pieces presented by the Paper Bag Players of New York City at 2 and 7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 15, main auditorium, Nazareth College Arts Center. Tickets are \$3.

NFP SESSIONS —

Sponsored by Natural Family Planning Education, 7:30-9 p.m., Thursday, April 9, main conference room, Rochester General Hospital.

ORGAN RECITAL — By Calvin Hampton, 8 p.m., Thursday, April 15, Asbury Methodist Church. Tickets: \$5 for adults, \$2 for students.

DOUBLE BILL — The Rochester Oratorio Society and members of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra will present "Belshazzar's Feast" by William Walton and "Requiem" by Maurice Durufle, 8 p.m., Sunday, April 18, Eastman Theatre. Tickets: \$5 and \$9.