

# COURIER-JOURNAL

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## Pope Fulfills Pledge Of Fatima Pilgrimage

(From Courier-Journal Services)

Fulfilling a nearly year-old pledge, Pope John Paul II traveled to Fatima, Portugal, last week to render his gratitude to the Virgin Mary and God that his life was spared last year.

The site is famous for pilgrimages. On May 13, 1917, three children claimed to have seen the Virgin Mary. Subsequently, a major international cult has developed around Our Lady of Fatima.

Last year, on May 13, the pontiff was shot and gravely wounded by Mehmet Ali Agcar.

This year, too, an attempt was made on his life by a priest ordained by rebel Arch-

bishop Marcel Lefebvre. The priest, who lunged at the pope with a knife, was subdued by bodyguards. Pope John Paul repeatedly blessed the man immediately after the incident, although the would-be assassin, Father Juan Fernandez Krohn, persisted in shouting accusations to the effect that the pope was an agent of heresy.

On hearing of the incident, however, Archbishop Lefebvre issued a statement deploring the action and disavowing responsibility for the actions of Father Fernandez.

Earlier, the pontiff said, "Going to Fatima and returning from Fatima, I carry in my heart a song of the action of grace of Our Lady, for God saved my life at the

time of the assassination attempt I suffered. May 13 of last year."

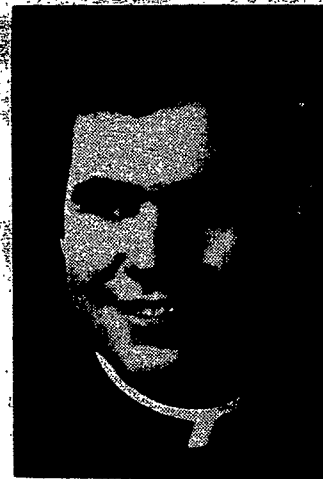
Last year the pope made public his sense of the "maternal care" afforded him by the Virgin Mary as he was recovering from his gunshot wounds. He also said then that he was not unmindful of the coincidence of dates between the apparition and the assassination attempt.

Meanwhile, planning for the pope's scheduled trip to Great Britain later this month faltered as the crisis in the Falkland Islands continued to occupy world attention.

Late last week the Vatican announced that the trip would be cancelled should the tensions escalate between England and Argentina.

## Robert Ring, Convert, To Be Ordained Priest

Rev. Mr. Robert P. Ring will be ordained a priest by Bishop Matthew H. Clark, 7:30 p.m., Friday, May 21, at St. Michael's, in Newark where the ordinand is a deacon intern.



REV. MR. RING

Humboldt Street, the Office of Pastoral Planning, St. Francis de Sales (in Salisbury), and Holy Savior in Ocean City, Md.

A native of Salisbury, Md., the ordinand is the son of Richard and Ann Ring of that state.

He attended the Delmar (Md.) elementary and high schools, Cornell University, St. John Fisher College, and St. Bernard's Seminary, earning at the last masters in divinity and of arts in scripture.

His field education assignments have been to St. John the Evangelist on

He took his Clinical Pastoral Education at the University of Massachusetts Hospital in Worcester, Mass. In the intern program, he is currently under the supervision of Father Edward Steinkirchner.

A convert to Roman Catholicism, Rev. Mr. Ring's background is Southern Baptist, to which creed his parents adhere.

He will celebrate his first Mass of Thanksgiving, 5:30 p.m., Saturday, May 22, at St. Michael's.

He will also celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving, 7 p.m., Saturday, June 5, at St. Francis de Sales in Salisbury.

## Mercy Charism Embraces The World's Oppressed

By Sister Kathleen Milliken, RSM

Monitoring the activities of a large multinational corporation . . . developing local Christian leadership in a South American city . . . bonding nuclear disarmament . . . joining with sisters from all over the world to strengthen and focus their mission of mercy . . .

A far cry from the days when Catherine McAuley, foundress of the Sisters of Mercy, walked the streets of Dublin, ministering to the poor, the sick and the ignorant?

Not so, according to the Rochester Sisters of Mercy who are involved in all of the above issues. As they celebrate their 125 years in the Rochester diocese, some

of the sisters reflected on their mission of mercy in today's world in the light of their foundress' spirit and vision back in 1831.

"Catherine McAuley responded to immediate needs, but also to the long-range goal of systemic change, for example in her establishing of schools and being aware of people with money and power to be tapped for the poor," observes Sister M. Noreen Graney, member of the executive council of the Rochester Sisters of Mercy. "Catherine enlisted wealthy women to be involved with the House of Mercy for needy women, and used her own inherited wealth solely for the poor."

Sister Noreen since 1978 has represented the Rochester Sisters of Mercy at monthly meetings of the Western New

York Coalition for Responsible Investment in Buffalo, where representatives of religious congregations in this area look closely at the activities of various corporations in which the groups have holdings. They share information about these companies' policies concerning agribusiness, labor relations, and equal employment opportunities; they choose an issue and then decide with which companies to file stockholder resolutions.

Examples of resolutions are: requesting Exxon to examine the rights of their mining workers in Chile; asking Xerox not to expand in South Africa and not to sell to police or military forces there.

Writing letters to com-  
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Vernon Miller, chief photographer of the Shroud of Turin research team, in front of his negative print of the famous burial cloth.

## We'll Never Know? Shroud Expert Says Science Cannot Prove Authenticity

By Terrance J. Brennan

Studies of the Shroud of Turin will never uncover whether it is actually the burial cloth of Jesus Christ, according to Vernon Miller, chief photographer of the research group that began work in 1978.

"Science can never answer that," said Miller, in Rochester last week to speak to the Eastman Kodak Co. Camera Club.

Miller is chairman of the industrial and scientific department of the Brooks Institute of Photographic Arts and Sciences in Santa Barbara, Calif. He and 26 others formed a research team that traveled to Turin, Italy, in October 1978 to examine the shroud.

They were allowed into the cathedral to photograph the cloth for five days and nights, bringing with them more than 8,000 pounds of equipment.

Miller admitted being

surprised upon his first examination of the shroud and said he was "touched by the aesthetic beauty" of the image it held.

"I expected to see a fragile, dusty old cloth," he said. "It actually was similar to a fine

linen tablecloth . . . heavy in weight, but extremely supple. It also had a sheen to its herringbone-type weave."

Miller admitted that Turin officials provided obstacles at every corner. "But we got

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## Pastor Named

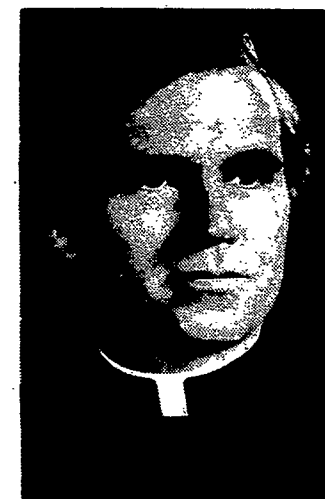
Bishop Matthew H. Clark has named Father Albert Delmonte pastor of St. Salome's Church.

Father Delmonte is pastor of St. Anthony's, Elmira.

An Auburn native, he attended St. Mary's School, Holy Family High School, St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries.

Ordained in 1964, he has served at Corpus Christi, King's Prep, St. Ann's, Hornell, Christ the King, and Guardian Angels.

He has also served on the



FATHER DELMONTE  
diocesan Priests' Personnel Board.