

World, Nation, People . . . in Brief

Provided by NC News Service

Denver — Eleven Denver area morticians have sued the Denver archdiocese for at least \$4.5 million in actual and punitive damages for unfair competition, conspiracy and restraint of trade in operating an archdiocesan mortuary at Mt. Olivet Cemetery. The morticians charge that the archdiocesan mortuary, which went into operation last year, competes unfairly with them by selling funeral services below cost and obtaining free advertising. The morticians' suit said the archdiocese has abused that status in an effort to monopolize the Catholic funeral business in the area. William McCook, archdiocesan director of finance and real estate, whose duties include overseeing the cemetery operation, said the morticians' charges are ridiculous and that the suit is a "nuisance" without merit.

Canon Law Revision 'Solid'

Portland, Ore. — "It's a solid, well-written and well-considered revision and it's good Church law," said Father Bertram Griffin, a canon law expert, of the new Code of Canon Law which Pope John Paul II is expected to release this year or early in 1983. Father Griffin, a pastor here, said the new code will tend to decentralize power in the Church and allow laymen to do more things now generally reserved to priests. He said that most of the people who work regularly with the law and Church administration will be very pleased.

Bernardin Welcomed

Chicago — Chicago Catholics reached out to embrace Archbishop Joseph L. Bernardin during ceremonies of welcome and installation beginning Aug. 24. Archbishop Bernardin became the head of the archdiocese the evening of Aug. 24 when he presented his credentials at Holy Name Cathedral while his brother priests looked on. A Mass of solemn installation took place the following day, attended by Archbishop Pio Laghi, the apostolic delegate, more than 20 archbishops, 10 cardinals, Gov. James Thompson and Mayor Jane Byrne and many other invited guests.

Pope Promises Poland Visit

Castelgandolfo — In a Mass celebrated Aug. 26 at the papal summer residence here and broadcast to Poland by Vatican Radio, Pope John Paul II promised to visit his homeland during the festival year beginning that day. The pope said that "the good name of Poland before the nations of Europe and the world demands" that he be allowed to visit the country during the jubilee year marking the 600th anniversary in Poland of the revered image of Our Lady of Czestochowa.

Abp. Glemp: 'Release Walesa'

Czestochowa, Poland — "Release Lech Walesa or make it possible for him to speak as a free man," said the Polish primate, Archbishop Jozef Glemp, before 200,000 Polish pilgrims here to celebrate their national patronal feast. The religious occasion had marked political overtones as the largest crowd to gather in Poland since martial law last December heard their primate appeal for the release of Walesa, leader of the banned labor union, Solidarity.

Best Wishes to Lebanon

Vatican City — Pope John Paul II sent best wishes to the new president of Lebanon Aug. 26 and expressed hope that the war-torn Middle Eastern nation would achieve "peace in independence" and "national unity in respect for the rights of all." The papal telegram went to Lebanese President Bashir Gemayel, a 34-year-old Christian militia commander, who was elected to the presidency without opposition Aug. 22.

Mass Disrupters Convicted

Antigonish, Nova Scotia — Convictions of six people for disturbing religious services by refusing to stand for Communion followed more than two years of such behavior in church, according to Bishop William Power of Antigonish. "It's unfortunate that the media thought just kneeling at Communion was the problem — they were charged with what amounts to disturbing the peace," the bishop said. The five women and one man are said to be followers of Vernioica Leuken, a housewife from New York City who believes the Blessed Virgin has appeared to her. One of her messages allegedly cited standing while receiving Communion as an abomination. Officials in Mrs. Leuken's home diocese, Brooklyn, have given "no credibility" to the alleged apparitions. Bishop Powers said there had been concern that continuing to allow the kneeling of the group in his diocese "was giving tacit approval to the apparitions."

Names Make News

Pope John Paul II met with Mother Teresa at Castelgandolfo after her return from a week visit in Beirut . . . **Bishop Stephen J. Donahue**, who retired in 1969 after 35 years as auxiliary bishop of New York City, died Aug. 17 in New York City at the age of 88 . . . the pope has transferred his apostolic delegate in Lebanon, **Archbishop Carlo Furno**, to the same position in Brazil.

Focus on Today's World



▲ Chicago Auxiliary Bishops Alfred L. Abramowicz, rear, and Nevin W. Hayes, right, applaud as Archbishop Joseph L. Bernardin takes canonical possession of the Archdiocese of Chicago after being presented with his mitre during installation ceremonies

last month. The leader of the nation's largest archdiocese presented his credentials to Archbishop Pio Laghi, apostolic delegate in the United States, during the evening ceremony of Chicago's Holy Name Cathedral. (NC photo)



▲ Parishioners check out rubble of St. Patrick's Church in Merna, Ill., after a tornado moved through the central Illinois town destroying the church built in 1890. According to one parishioner, "The roof was lifted off the church and moved 20 feet" while the interior dropped into the basement. (NC photo)



▲ Father Francis J. Coco, left, known as the "Jesuit Jazzman," shares the stage with jazz great Pete Fountain at Fountain's Bourbon Street club in New Orleans. Father Coco plays a relic Albert system clarinet given to him by Fountain. (NC photo)

the Saints *by Luke*

ST. FINNIAN of Moville



ST. FINNIAN WAS BORN NEAR STRANGFORD LOUGH, ULSTER, IRELAND, IN THE SIXTH CENTURY, REPORTEDLY OF A ROYAL FAMILY. HE STUDIED AT DROMORE UNDER ST. COLEMAN, AT MAHEE ISLAND UNDER ST. MOCHAE AND AT WHITERN IN STRATHCLYDE, WHERE HE BECAME A MONK.

FORCED TO LEAVE WHITERN BECAUSE OF A PRANK HE PLAYED ON A PICTISH PRINCESS WHO WAS IN LOVE WITH HIM, HE WENT TO ROME AND WAS ORDAINED THERE. HE RETURNED TO ULSTER AND FOUNDED SEVERAL MONASTERIES. ONE OF THESE, MOVILLE, HAD ST. COLUMBA AS A DISCIPLE.

FINNIAN AND COLUMBA HAD A DISPUTE WHEN COLUMBA MADE A COPY OF JEROME'S PSALTER IN IRELAND WHICH FINNIAN HAD BROUGHT FROM ROME. THE DISPUTE OVER OWNERSHIP OF COLUMBA'S COPY WAS FINALLY SETTLED BY KING DIARMAID, WHO RULED IN FINNIAN'S FAVOR.

FINNIAN IS REPUTED TO HAVE PERFORMED NUMEROUS EXTRAVAGANT MIRACLES SUCH AS MOVING A RIVER. HE ALSO PREACHED AND FOUNDED A MONASTERY AT HOLYWOOD, DUMFRIES, SCOTLAND. ST. FINNIAN DIED SEPT. 10, AROUND THE YEAR 579. HIS FEAST IS SEPT. 10.

Fountain at Fountain's Bourbon Street club in New Orleans. Father Coco plays a relic Albert system clarinet given to him by Fountain. (NC photo)

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