

World, Nation, People . . . in Brief

Provided by NC News Service

World

Lubac Only Non-Bishop

Vatican City — When Pope John Paul II placed a red biretta on the head of Cardinal Henri de Lubac Feb. 2, the French Jesuit theologian became the only cardinal among the current 138 who was never a bishop. In private correspondence with the pope after his elevation to the College of Cardinals was announced Jan. 5 the 86-year-old cardinal requested and received permission to forego episcopal ordination. In 1962 Pope John XXIII ruled that priests named to the College of Cardinals should be ordained bishops before they were formally enrolled in the college.

Holy Days Restored

Vatican City — In a surprise move, Pope John Paul II has restored to the new Code of Canon Law the traditional 10 holy days of obligation to be observed throughout the Latin-rite Catholic Church. A planned reduction of holy days universally observed was one of the most widely publicized aspects of the final draft of the code submitted to the pope for his approval. Overturning the recommendation of his commission, the pope reinstated the traditional 10 feast days to be observed as days of obligation in addition to Sundays. But the new code allows bishops' conferences to petition the Holy See for permission to abolish observance of some of the days. In the United States, Catholics have traditionally observed six days of obligation. **More details, Page 1.**

Pope Backs Schools

Vatican City — Pope John Paul II backed the right of parents to choose Catholic schools for their children and said the state should contribute to the costs of that education. The pope's comments came during a meeting in the Paul VI Audience Hall with some 10,000 Catholic school teachers from the Rome area. The Jan. 29 event marked the feast of St. Thomas Aquinas, patron saint of Catholic schools. In Italy the national government does not directly subsidize Catholic schools but some provincial and local governments pay the tuition of children from poorer families attending Catholic schools. **More details, Page 4.**

Death Penalty Unpopular

Strasbourg, France — Peacetime use of the death penalty may be nearing its end in Western Europe. The five nations of the Council of Europe which still have capital punishment are to be given a document soon which would oblige them to forswear its use. The document will be considered in April.

The only nations which still have the penalty are Turkey, Greece, Ireland, Cyprus and Liechtenstein.

Striving for Sainthood

Mexico City — Petitions with signatures of 26,000 persons in the United States supporting the canonization of Juan Diego, the Aztec Indian to whom Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared, were presented to the official in charge of seeking his canonization. The petitions, gathered by two organizations, Franciscans for the Cause of Juan Diego and Queen of the Americas Guild, were presented to the official, Msgr. Enrique Salazar, by Bishop Jerome J. Hastrich of Gallup, N.M., in the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mexico City.

Nation

Report Criticized

San Francisco — The newly appointed chairman of the San Francisco archdiocesan commission on social justice said a report issued last September by a commission task force on homosexuality "is an attack on the Church." At a meeting of the commission in January, Msgr. Peter G. Armstrong, chairman, said the report "has caused many problems in our own local Church and nationally and even internationally." Msgr. Armstrong said that an impression has been given publicly that the report is speaking for the Church, which, "it, of course, is in no way doing." The report said the Catholic Church does not have a viable sexual ethic on homosexuality, divorce and remarriage, contraception and premarital sexual relations. In December Archbishop John Quinn of San Francisco said the report contains much that is contrary to Church teaching but represents a point of view "which cannot be simply ignored or dismissed out of hand."

Reagan Urges Nuke Ban

Washington — In a restatement of his "zero option" plan for Europe, President Reagan has urged that the United States and the Soviet Union agree to ban "from the face of the earth" U.S. and Soviet intermediate-range land-based nuclear missiles. The Soviet Union quickly rejected the proposal and accused the United States of "torpedoing progress" at the Geneva talks between Washington and Moscow on reducing nuclear arms in Europe. Reagan's proposal to ban the U.S. and Soviet missiles on the continent came in an open letter to the people of Europe. The letter was read by Vice President George Bush during a dinner speech at the White House in Washington.

Focus on Today's World



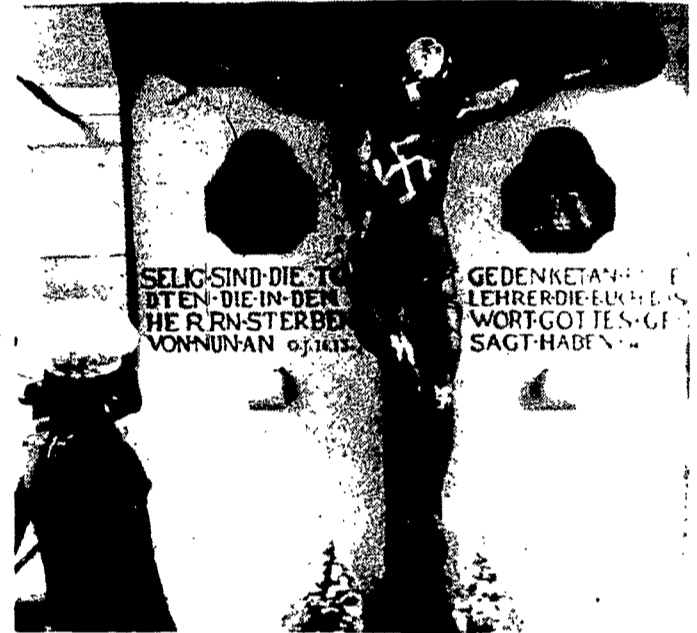
Franciscan Brother Jeremy St. Jacques, left center, who spent several months in El Salvador, wears the names of several Salvadorans he had worked with who are now missing. He was one of 126 demonstrators who were arrested after blocking the main entrance to the State Department. Those arrested were joined by 250 others across the street who had gathered to protest a State Department statement



that human rights are improving in El Salvador. During a State Department briefing, Assistant Secretary of State Thomas Enders points to a chart, right, which shows that the government of El Salvador had "made progress" in human rights reforms and has been approved for continued American aid. (NC photos)



In front of Caravaggio's "The Deposition," First Lady Nancy Reagan stands with Cardinal Terence Cooke of New York and Philippe de Montebello, director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, at a gala dinner welcoming "The Vatican Collection: The Papacy and Art" to the museum. The exhibit opens Feb. 26 and will move to Chicago in July and to San Francisco in November. (NC photo)



In St. Mark's Cemetery in Nuremberg, West Germany, a visitor observes the Nazi swastikas painted on a figure of Christ. Unknown vandals had entered the cemetery during the night and defaced several gravesites in this manner. (NC photo)

the Saints by Luke

CATHERINE DEI RICCI WAS BORN IN FLORENCE, ITALY, IN 1522, OF A NOTED FAMILY AND NAMED ALEXANDRIA. AT 12 SHE BECAME A DOMINICAN AT PRATO TAKING THE NAME CATHERINE. IN TIME SHE BECAME NOVICE MISTRESS AND AT 30 WAS ELECTED Prioress FOR LIFE.

WHEN SHE WAS 20, SHE REPORTEDLY EXPERIENCED AN EXTRAORDINARY SERIES OF VISIONS EVERY WEEK OF THE EVENTS LEADING TO THE CRUCIFIXION OF CHRIST. THESE CONTINUED FOR 12 YEARS. ALSO, ACCORDING TO LEGEND, SHE MET AND CONVERSED WITH ST. PHILIP NERI IN A VISION, THOUGH SHE NEVER MET HIM IN PERSON. SHE ALSO RECEIVED THE STIGMATA AND SAID SHE RECEIVED A RING FROM CHRIST ON EASTER IN 1542. THIS APPEARED AS A RED CIRCLE TO OTHERS, BUT AS A RING TO HER.

CATHERINE SPENT MANY HOURS IN PRAYER. SHE DEVOTED MUCH TIME TO THOSE SEEKING HER COUNSEL, AND AIDED THE SICK AND THE POOR OF PRATO. SHE DIED AFTER A LONG ILLNESS ON FEB. 2, 1590, IN PRATO, AND WAS CANONIZED IN 1747. HER FEAST IS FEB. 13.



On The Inside

At Your Parish	6
Calendar	5
Child	5
Classified	11
Cuddy	8
Editorial	9
Liturgy	10
Opinion	9
People and Events	2
Rap Around	7
Shamon	9
Sisters Reflect	11

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Bishop Matthew H. Clark
President

Anthony J. Costello
Publisher &
General Manager

Carmen J. Viglucci
Editor

Rev. Louis J. Hohman
Episcopal Advisor

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