

Vatican Mum on Shroud's Trip

By Nancy Frazier

Vatican City (NC) — The Vatican refused comment last week on widespread Italian press reports that the Shroud of Turin may be brought to Rome for public display next year.

The shroud, a 14-foot-long linen cloth believed by many to be the burial shroud of Jesus, has been displayed to the public only three times this century. It attracted 3.3 million visitors during the last 44-day exposition in 1978.

The cloth, enclosed in a

silver casket in the Guarini Chapel of the Cathedral of San Giovanni in Turin, has not left that northern Italian city since it arrived there in 1578 from Chambery, France.

According to reports in a variety of Italian newspapers, including the national Catholic daily, *Avvenire*, some 200 Roman and Vatican church leaders have asked Pope John Paul II and Cardinal Anastasio Ballestrero of Turin to arrange for the transfer of the shroud to Rome for the last two months of the Holy Year of Redemption, which is scheduled to end April 22, 1984.

According to the reported plan, the shroud would not be displayed at St. Peter's Basilica, but at either Santa Croce in Gerusalemme or St. John Lateran Basilica, the Cathedral church of the Diocese of Rome.

The Turin archdiocese had no comment on the reports, except to say that no formal

request had been made for the transfer of the shroud to Rome.

But both church and civil leaders have expressed opposition to the proposal, especially because Pope John Paul has said that the holy year, which opens March 25, will be celebrated not only in Rome but in each diocese throughout the world.

The shroud has been put on display only three times this century.

During the third exposition this century, Aug. 26-Oct. 8, 1978, among the 3.3 million visitors were about 20 cardinals, including Polish Cardinal Karol Wojtyla, who became Pope Paul II shortly after his visit to the shroud.

After the public exposition of the shroud in 1978, an international team of scientists conducted several days of tests on the cloth.

The church has never officially recognized the shroud as a sacred relic.

McGilligan's Ball To Aid Dean Winters

Dryden — The proceeds from the annual "McGilligan's Ball," the St. Patrick's Day party sponsored by the Holy Cross Church Guild, will benefit Dean Winters, it was announced last week.

Co-chairpersons Stacy Gorman and Barbara Sweeney said that the event, long popular with many Tompkins and Cortland country residents, is anticipated to draw more than 500 persons.

Dean Winters, 22, the son of Duane and Dottie Winters, is quadriplegic following an automobile accident on Snyder Hill Road last August. The once outstanding athlete and dean's list student at Cornell has been undergoing intensive therapy.

For many years an altar

boy and later custodian of the Holy Cross Church and parish center, Winters is slated to return to his parents' home this month.

Funds from the parish party will be used to help the family do necessary remodeling to accommodate him.

Tickets at \$25 per couple are acquired by writing to Holy Cross Church, 375 South Gregory Road, Freeville, N.Y. 13068, before March 7. Further information is obtained by calling (607) 844-8314.

Co-captains

Ithaca — Ed Sands, a Bishop Kearney High School Alumnus, and Dave Axenfeld, a native of Manlius, have been named co-captains of the 1983 Ithaca College baseball team.

St. Mary's Hosts New Shroud Talk

Waterloo — Father Vincent J. Donovan, pastor of St. John's Parish in Oswego, will present an up-to-date, illustrated lecture on the Shroud of Turin, 7 p.m., Sunday, March 6 at St. Mary's School.

The Syracuse diocesan priest has been a student of the shroud for more than 35

years. He participated in the International Congress of Scientists and Scholars examining the shroud in 1978.

The Shroud of Turin is an ancient piece of unbleached linen, preserved at the Cathedral of Turin. The cloth has the image of the front and back of a man who was scourged and crowned with thorns, whose side was pierced and who was crucified. It is believed by many to be the burial cloth of Jesus.

On display March 6 will be a full-scale photographic reproduction of the shroud. The event is sponsored by St. Mary's Altar and Rosary Society. The public is invited.

Correction

The program of educational formation for parish liturgy teams being hosted by the Church of the Nativity in Brockport, will run each Monday evening through May 2, not each evening as previously reported.

Parent Seminar Offered in Elmira

Elmira — A weekend Seminar for Parents of Teens will be offered March 5 and 6 at St. John's Parish Hall, Lake Street, Elmira.

The seminar will run from 8:15 a.m. to 5 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday. The seminar will be given by Ron and Judy Platten, founders of Parentship, Inc., a resource community providing support, guidance and encouragement for the Rochester Marriage Encounter Agency. The Plattens have counseled parents and teenagers, and have six children, four of them teenagers.

The seminar, which they

designed, has been presented to more than 500 parents and is endorsed by the Rochester diocese's Family Life Office.

Sample topics include goals and values, communication, responsibility and maturity, relationship building, peer pressure and family values.

The seminar is open to parents of all faiths. Both parents are urged to attend if possible.

There is a limited enrollment; registrations will be taken on a first-come basis. Details and registration can be obtained by contacting Celia Volbrecht at (607)734-9784 or 796-9668.

Tax Credit

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and secondary school education in this country. If it becomes financially impossible for many of the families now sending their children to non-public schools to continue to do so, the resulting increase in public school attendance will place large and unwelcome new tax burdens on state and local taxpayers. The cost to taxpayers of offering some tax relief to parents, so that they can afford to keep their children in the private schools of their choice is modest compared to the cost of educating their children in the public school," he said.

Reagan's proposal is substantially the same as a bill which died in the Senate last year.

The proposal would give parents of children in non-public elementary and secondary schools tax credits for part of the tuition they pay. The proposal does not cover higher education and would not allow tax credits for parents who send their children to schools which discriminate on the basis of race.

The credits would be phased in over a three-year period. Parents could claim a

maximum of 50 percent of tuition paid of each child up to a maximum credit per child of \$100 in 1983, \$200 in 1984 and \$300 in 1985.

A full credit would be available to families with adjusted gross incomes of up to \$40,000 and would be progressively reduced for people with adjusted gross incomes of between \$40,000 and \$60,000. Anyone with an adjusted gross income of over \$60,000 would not qualify for the credit.

Last year's version of the bill would have eliminated the credit at \$50,000. Jones said he believed there is a good chance of passing the tuition tax credit bill this year and he said Dole's work last year in the Senate Finance Committee provided a good base for the new proposal.

Cancer Talk

Geneseo — Sister Magdalen, professor of art at Nazareth College, will discuss "Living with Cancer," 7:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 28 at the Presbyterian Church on Center and Second streets here. Sister Magdalen's talk is a part of the American Cancer Society's program "Make Today Count." She is a cancer patient.



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Through no fault of their own, thousands of innocent victims in the Middle East are trying to pull themselves together. Hungry boys search out scraps of food. Little girls look through rubble heaps for rags to cover their tired bodies. Cripples plead for crutches; the wounded, bandages; and the elderly, a roof to cover their heads. It goes without saying that during the aftermath of any fighting, guilt-free victims suffer tremendously as they attempt to pick up the pieces of their broken lives. . . . These victims are profoundly grateful for what you are doing for them. Reports an on-the-spot priest: "They spoke to me with tears in their eyes of their losses, but expressed profound gratitude for all Catholics are doing for them."

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BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS

Overlooked by the headlines from the Middle East are our hundreds of priests and Sisters quietly serving the suffering. A non-Catholic observer at a hospital in Lebanon spoke of four nursing Sisters — "They care for the wounded with supreme dedication . . . hours mean nothing to them." We are proud of them for they are truly peacemakers in a troubled area of the world. Pray, please, they'll be safe. . . . Many young girls that logged for a life of service to God now face disappointment. Their families, impoverished by war, have no means to support their training as Sisters. . . . Will you help? A Sister's training lasts two years, costs \$12.50 a month, \$150 a year, or \$300 altogether. Your "peacemaker" in one of our 18 countries will write to thank you.

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Synod

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Spirit so that the disciples of Christ may be found strong in faith and active in work."

Archbishop Tomko said that reactions to the preliminary document came from 42 national bishops' conferences, 21 regional bishops' conferences or individual bishops, four Vatican congregations, 28 catholic organizations, and the Union of Superiors General of religious orders.

Many of the responses to the Vatican synthesized the results of wide consultations, he said.

"For example, the dossier sent by the Chilean bishops'

conference is a synthesis of 25,000 responses prepared in various parish communities," Archbishop Tomko said.

The working document includes sections on first confession for children and confession of venial sins, which were not contained in the preliminary draft, indicating that both topics were raised in the past year's consultations.

Although five other ordinary world synods, and one extraordinary one have been held at the Vatican, this was the first time that a working document has been made public. Previously the preliminary materials for the meeting were sent on a confidential basis to bishops.