

World, Nation, People... in Brief

From NC News Service

World

Partially Pastoral

Rome — Pope John Paul II's trip to Nicaragua will be pastoral and he will not go as a head of state, said Bishop Julian Brani, secretary of the Nicaraguan Bishops Conference. Since the Vatican and Nicaragua have diplomatic relations, protocol would require that if the pope were to go as head of state he would be received by top government officials. There are several priests in high government posts despite the pope's strong objections and criticism from the Nicaraguan hierarchy. The pope prefers not to greet the priests. **Other story, Page 1.**

Church Leaders Protest

London — Two top church leaders in Great Britain have urged nuclear disarmament initiatives by Britain and a third revealed that he is waging a tax protest against England's military spending. The actions took place as the general synod of the Church of England (Anglican) was preparing to debate a report that recommends unilateral nuclear disarmament. Catholic Archbishop Derek Worlock of Liverpool said Jan. 30 that Great Britain should take unilateral initiatives to stimulate multilateral disarmament. He called British military expenditures "an affront to the starving peoples of the Third World." On Jan. 25 Anglican Archbishop Robert Runcie of Canterbury declared that "full-scale nuclear war cannot possibly qualify as a just war" and called for urgency in working for disarmament. Anglican Canon Paul Oestreicher said in a letter that he was withholding part of his income tax to protest British government nuclear weapons policy.

Abortion in the Curriculum

Toronto — A new Ontario law which calls for family planning courses in the province's high schools has passed after being fought by Ontario pro-life groups but backed by political officials. The law was modified in a last-minute move by Ontario Premier Bill Davis to allow Catholic and other independent schools to set up their own health education programs with the approval of a regional Ontario medical health officer. Critics say the curriculum was developed with the help of Planned Parenthood and includes sections on contraception and abortion.

Nation

Tax Credit Bill Praised

Washington — Msgr. Daniel Hoye, general secretary of the U.S. Catholic Conference, praised the introduction of tuition tax credit legislation in the 98th Congress, saying, "We have waited a long while. It is now time for some action." He added, "I expect that the nonpublic school community, its supporters and all fair-minded people will rally around this legislation and make the urgency of their concern felt by Congress." Sen. Robert Dole of Kansas introduced the bill the day after President Reagan met with him and other members of Congress to urge speedy passage of tax credits.

'Project 150' Unveiled

St. Louis (from Society of St. Vincent de Paul) — A major new multi-faceted campaign "Project 150" has been announced by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Scheduled to coincide with the society's 150th anniversary this year, the project was called "one of the most energetic endeavors ever undertaken by the society" by its president, John Simmons. The project includes plans to increase membership, a special food distribution program, an educational program designed to enhance the person-to-person helping skills of society members, and a plan related to the "store operation" of the society.

Lithuanians Protest

Brooklyn — Two thirds of Lithuania's Catholic priests have protested to the Soviet government, saying its religion regulations are contrary to the gospel, to Church law, to the Helsinki Accords and to the Soviet constitution, according to an underground report that has reached the West. Arguing that "we must obey God rather than men," the priests said they could not in conscience follow regulations that prevented them from carrying out their ministry. At issue are rules that give the state complete control over priest assignments and the admission of priesthood candidates to the one seminary still allowed to exist. **More details, Page 9.**

People

Names Make News

Pope John Paul II has accepted the resignation of 75-year-old Cardinal James Darcy Freeman as archbishop of Sydney, Australia. He will be replaced by Archbishop Edward Clancy of Canberra... Auxiliary Bishop Andrew B. Schierhoff of La Paz, Bolivia, who formerly served as a priest in St. Louis, Mo., has been appointed vicar apostolic of Pando, Bolivia.

Focus on Today's World



▲ A statue of Mary appears to be taking notes right along with other participants during a workshop at St. Leander parish in San Leandro, Calif. The workshop was part of a diocesan Congress on Worship and the statue simply was resting in its normal location in a meeting room. (NC photo)



▲ Composer Ray Repp of Trumansburg has been awarded an Angel Award in Hollywood for a television special on Christmas religious music. (NC photo)



The Vatican Philatelic Office will put on sale March 10 a series of four stamps marking the 1983-84 Holy Year. The 300- and 350-lire stamps show the crucifixion and Christ the redeemer. The 400-lire stamp shows the pope opening his arms to the world and the 2,000-lire stamp shows a dove, representing the Holy Spirit, passing through the Holy Door in St. Peter's Basilica. (NC photo)



▲ This bumper sticker was spotted on a car in Joliet, Ill. The car belongs to Bishop Joseph L. Imesch of Joliet. (NC photo)

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COURIER-JOURNAL

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Vol. 94, No. 22 March 2, 1983

Courier-Journal (USPS 135-580)
Published weekly, except for one week after July 4 and one week after Christmas, by the Rochester Catholic Press Association. Subscription rates: Single copy 35¢. 1 year subscription in U.S. \$15. Canada and Foreign \$20. Offices: 114 South Union St., Rochester, N.Y. 14607 (716) 454-7050. Second Class Postage paid at Rochester, N.Y. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Courier-Journal, 114 S. Union St., Rochester, N.Y. 14607.

the Saints *by Luke*

ST. JOHN JOSEPH of the CROSS

CARLO GAETANO WAS BORN IN 1654, ON THE ISLAND OF ISCHIA, NEAR NAPLES. AT 16 HE BECAME A FRANCISCAN OF THE ALCANTARINE REFORM AT SANTA LUCIA DEL MONTE CONVENT IN NAPLES AND TOOK THE NAME JOHN JOSEPH OF THE CROSS. ORDAINED IN 1677, HE BECAME NOVICE MASTER AT THE MOTHER HOUSE.

JOHN JOSEPH SERVED AS SUPERIOR OF THE MONASTERY AT PIEDEMONTE DI ALIFE THREE TIMES.

WHEN A DISPUTE BROKE OUT BETWEEN THE SPANISH AND ITALIAN ALCANTARINES OVER A PAPAL BRIEF INSISTING THAT THE MINISTER PROVINCIAL MUST BE SPANISH, HE HELPED TO RESOLVE THE MATTER BY FORMING THE ITALIANS INTO A SEPARATE PROVINCE, OF WHICH HE WAS ELECTED MINISTER PROVINCIAL. HE DIED ON MARCH 1, 1734, AT NAPLES, AND WAS CANONIZED IN 1839. HIS FEAST IS MARCH 5.

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