COURIER-JOURNAL

Wednesday, March 9, 1983

COURIER

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THE POPE

'I Ask the Lord to Move Hearts'

Vatican City (NC) - Following is the translation of the Vatican Text of Pope John Paul II's Spanish-language message to Central America broadcast in seven Central American countries and Haiti on Feb. 28, two days before the Pope began an eight-day visit to those nations.

Beloved brothers in the Episcopate, dearest brothers and sisters:



In a few days I will, with God's grace, begin the Apostolic journey which will take me to your lands of Central America, Belize and Haiti. I therefore wish to send you this message now, by TV, to give my affectionate reminder to all inhabitants of the countries which have the intention to visit: Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Panama, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Belize and Haiti. A deferential greeting above all to the authorities and others with responsibility for

these nations.

Like all preceding Apostolic journeys, my visit is going to have an essentially religious character, deriving from the



Prayer: God's F **Guiding Hand**

Prayer and spiritual direction invite one to move into the journey of peacemaking within one's self, within the relational aspects of life, and within commitment for the Kingdom.

Spiritual direction is a traditional term. It has come alive with renewed appreciation in this age of searching for meaning, for inward peace, for spiritual significance. Today the term can describe the reality of two or more believers meeting each other in a context of faith. Here is another description: God doesn't need anyone to help Him relate to His people, but the human person does seek help to develop his/her relationship with God.

In the accompaniment of Deliever WICH SHOULDEL

embark upon a spiritual journey: to build one's provisional identity: to be married, single, celibate, mother, father, nurse, teacher, service man/woman, politician, skilled laborer. This provisional identity is supported by roles and expectations.

Another invitation comes in the middle of life to embark upon a second spiritual journey: to be uniquely who one is at one's depths. One's real identity emerges through the progressive conversion of 'losing one's life, to find one's real life." The ongoing conversion and rebirth are proportionate to allowing God's action into one's life through a prayer relationship.

Those persons whose lives have been consciously touched by God will not really or readily come to the journey's peace-filled end without prayer. As a person's authentic life is strengthened by the power of the Spirit, an outward movement in service unfolds. When a person has been sufficiently freed from anxieties, anger, and other fixations, to care about the Lord's love for His people, the Lord will enable the person to share in His mission of peace toward the self, others, the human community.

Church's mission and the ministry entrusted by Christ to Peter and his successors: To preach faith and salvation in Christ Jesus to the man of today, in this concrete case, to you, since you live in that geographical area; to confirm you in the faith and to see that this faith shall be incarnated and inspire your everyday existential reality ever more deeply.

It is precisely that reality in which you live which impelled me to plan this journey, to get closer to you, children of the Church and of the countries with Christian roots: you who are suffering so intensely, you who experience the scourge of division, of war, of hatred, of centuries of injustice, of ideological confrontations that shake the world and find the scene of their struggles in innocent populations yearning for peace.

I am going to undertake this journey during Lent, the liturgical season which leads us toward Christ in his mystery of sorrow and hope: In the bloody tragedy of Good Friday, inseparable from the paschal joy of His triumph over death and suffering.

I would ardently hope that my visit, through which I wish to share the Gethsemane and Calvary of your peoples, may foster effective change, above all in interior attitudes, through its message of faith, brotherhood and justice: interior attitudes capable of opening up so many hearts to well founded hope in a better future. I am moved by this desire, I am impelled by love for man and the - so very often violate - image of God's love which he bears on his forehead. I am convinced that every heart can and should feel the touch of grace, which urges man to improve his moral ways. And so I prepare myself to meet with you in your churches, streets and plazas, as a humble encourager of the humble, as a brother infusing confidence in the brethren.

I recommend this intention to your prayers. Very many millions of children of the Church throughout the world join in those prayers, since they are aware of the importance of this visit, because of the circumstances of the people to whom they are directed, and the meaningful example that they can have in other parts of the world.

I too ask the Lord to move hearts, to pour out the abundance of His graces upon the purposes of this visit, to give a little relief to so many souls in tribulation, and that you may be confirmed in your Christian faith and reconciled in brotherhood, that you may embrace in yearned-for peace and so go on to grow in justice and respect for the dignity of every man on your way toward the Father.

May the Virgin Mary, the common mother of all, whom you love so fervently in all your nations, be your consolation and hope, and may she be with you always.

With a cordial "Hasta pronto" (see you soon), I bless you from my heart. Above all I bless those who are suffering, the sick and infirm, orphans and refugees. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Trumansburg Parish Sets Renewal Mission

Trumansburg — Capuchin Father Noel Scanlon will conduct a five-day preaching mission at St. James Church munity effort to deepen our beginning March 13. The Christian life." From Monday veteran preacher will speak at three services a day for the general public.

parish mission since 1974," the priest noted, "and the time is ripe for this sort of com-



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Father W the rector: scholarly p passion for precision. Cleary, the fective cha University, rectory. Fa ordained, v and humor ceeded Fatl and John E into a wellpattern.

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An invitation comes in the early part of life to

how can one person kelp another? The director helps the person pay stickion to God as He reveals Himself. The paying attention has to do with prayer. Prayer is paying attention to Ged in one's heart.

Prayer is a place in-volvement because of place ourselves in the Jesus Light. His Light comes to bring peace, to free, to heal, to challenge. Prayer is risky ... Am I willing to be changed by Jesus? Will I like the new me? Within the spiritual direction relationship, the director can help the person recognize his/her reactions and decide on a response to God. A person seriously entering into prayer comes to discover defensiveness, unforgiveness, anger, guilt, fear. Or a praying person may be led to pray on unfinished business: life hurts which have not been resolved in the Light of Jesus' peace. Or a person may discern within prayer the leadings of the Lord for mission for the upbuilding of the Kingdom - right here, right now within the global community.

(Sister Rita is director of religious education at St. Michael's Parish, and assistant spiritual director at St. Mark's Parish, both in Newark. St. Mark's is a congregation of the Episcopal Diocese Rochester.)

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In addition, he will offer an afternoon of recollection for the Confirmation class Sunday, and a special high school program Wednesday afternoon. Because the mission ends on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, the parish will close the spiritual event with a St. Patrick's Day dinner at 7 p.m., according to Father Robert Kanka, paştor.

"We have not enjoyed a



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GOOD UNTIL APRIL 30, 1963

on, there will be daily Masses at 6:45 and 9 a.m., and an evening Mass at 7:30 p.m.

Open forum discussions will be held following the evening service.

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