Provided by NC News Service



## **Italian Priest Arrested**

Naples, Italy — Italian police May 14 arrested Father Girseppe Romano, 49, and accused him of abetting a woman wanted for membership in the Camorra gang, the Naples equivalent of the Sicilian Mafia. Police investigators said there was "irrefutable proof" linking Father Romano, a 49-year-old parish priest, to Rosetta Cutolo, 46, who has managed for nearly two years to evade police. The priest's arrest took place at dawn at his sister's home in the village of Somma Vesuviano, a Naples suburb. Investigators accused Father Romano of shielding Miss Cutolo from capture by driving her regularly to the Rome area, using his clerical garb to avoid questioning by police. Before arresting him, police informed his superior, Bishop Giuseppe Costanza of Nola, who last year had written a pastoral letter condemning the activities of the Camorra.

### **Tridentine Mass Blocked**

Vatican City — Father Georges De Nantes, a suspended French priest who has accused Pope John Paul II and Pope Paul VI of heresy, tried to celebrate a Tridentine Mass in St. Peter's Basilica May 13 but was blocked by Vatican officials. Father De Nantes went to the basilica with about 200 of his followers to celebrate the Tridentine Mass, which was supressed in the liturgical reforms of Vatican Council II. When basilica officials told the priest that he could not celebrate Mass as he requested, he and his followers -- who call themselves the Catholic Counter-Reformation -participated in a Mass celebrated by Italian priests according to the currently approved rite. Father De Nantes, 59, was suspended from priestly functions in 1968 because of his writings against Pope Paul VI and Vatican II.

### Statue Blessed

Vatican City - Pope John Paul II May 13 unveiled and blessed a U.S. sculptor's statue of Our Lady of Fatima in the Vatican gardens. The six-foot bronze statue became the first modern art work and the first sculpture by a U.S. artist to be displayed in the Vatican gardens. The statue by Frederick Shrady of Waston, Conn., recalls Mary's first appearance to three shepherd children at Fatima. Portugal. on May 13, 1917. Shrady and several relatives and friends attended the unveiling. Shrady, a convert to Catholicism, has works on display in many parts of the United States. An unveiling of a duplicate of "Our Lady of Fatima" is scheduled for May 29 at the National Shrine of the North American Martyrs in Auriesville, N.Y. Bishop Howard Hubbard of Albany, N.Y., is to preside.

Nation

### **CRS Continues Aid**

Washington — The U.S. Agency for International Development and Catholic Relief Services, overseas aid and development agency of U.S. Catholics, have signed a \$2.4 million grant agreement to continue the reconstruction and rehabilitation of private health and educational facilities in Lebanon. Announcing the signing of the agreement on May 11, an AID spokesman said CRS has been carrying out the reconstruction program since 1979. AID has provided \$8.7 million in grants to support the Lebanon programs. CRS has a staff of 12 in Lebanon under the direction of Joseph Curtin of Colonial Beach, Va.

### Canonical Appeal Planned

Silver Spring, Md. —. The national administration of the Sisters of Mercy of the Union said it is considering a canonical appeal of the Vatican's dispensation from vows of Agnes Mary Mansour, who left the order so she could keep her job as director of Michigan's Department of Social Services. "The experiences of the last three months demonstrate the need for reconciliation within the church," said a May 11 statement from the order's central administration, based in Silver Spring. Ms. Mansour received a canonical dispensation from her vows May 9 after she declined to comply with a Vatican order to resign her job, which involved the funding of abortions. The statement of the Sisters of Mercy said, "We mourn the action of the Holy See" in Ms. Mansour's regard. A spokeswoman for the order said May 16 that they had reached no decision on filing the appeal.



# **Glenmary Names President**

Shelbyville, Tenn. - Glenmary Father Francis A. Ruff, pastor of two parishes in the Nashville Diocese, has been elected president of the Glenmary Home Missioners, the society of priests and brothers announced May 12. Father Ruff, 47, is also a member of the board of directors of The Tennessee Register, newspaper of the Nashville Diocese. He is to be installed on May 31 in Cincinnati at the beginning of the Glenmary general chapter meeting. During his four-year term of office, Father Ruff will supervise the work of 85 priests and 25 brothers working in 12 states in the Southeast.

World, Nation,
People . . . in Brief

Focus on Today's World



Sister Mary Jesus Ochoa of the Poverello of Assisi Retreat House in San Fernando, Calif., shows off a 1952 Dodge sedan she restored with the help of several other nuns. Sister Ochoa said she spent about \$6,000 restoring the car and plans to raffle it off to obtain furniture for a senior citizens' home now under construction. (NC Photo)



"Judgment Upon the Horror of Babylon" is one of a group of controversial paintings by Douglas Van Dyke on exhibit at the University of Illinois Chicago campus. Calling 34 of the 40 paintings "blatantly anti-Catholic," protesters, including the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights, have called for the removal the exhibit. (NC Photo)



Wearing masks to protect relatives in Central America, a Guatemalan family is making its temporary home in the convent of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Concordia, Kan. The nuns have declared their home a public sanctuary for the family. (NC Photo)

# On The Inside

COURIER-JOURNAL Bishop Matthew H. Clark

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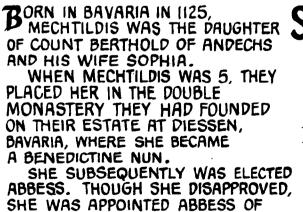
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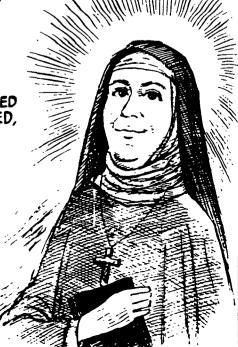
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EDELSTETTEN AT AGE 28 AND CHARGED WITH THE TASK OF REFORMING THAT CONVENT. MANY OPPOSED HER REFORMS BUT EVENTUALLY SHE SUCCEEDED

WHEN THE MALCONTENTS WERE EXPELLED.

SHORTLY BEFORE HER DEATH SHE RESIGNED AND RETURNED TO DIESSEN, WHERE SHE DIED ON MAY 31, 1160. HER FEAST IS MAY 31.



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