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Pope Probed Causes of Poland's Woes

By NC News Service

Pope John Paul II, during his June 16-23 visit to his native Poland, focused on the moral issues underlying the country's domestic turmoil of the past three years.

He specifically commented on workers' rights and other human and civil rights won in the labor strikes of 1980 but then suppressed or severely restricted by the nation's communist government with the imposition of martial law in December 1981.

The pope also beatified three Poles, dedicated a church and blessed the cornerstones for 100 planned churches, received honorary degrees from two Polish universities where he studied or taught, and crowned several revered images of Mary enshrined in Poland.

But even in religious beatification ceremonies and speeches on Mary the pope found ways to go far beyond the calls to personal morality and spirituality usually associated with such events by most Catholics. He used such religious symbols instead as the heralds of deep messages about social morality and the common good in the Polish nation.

In public speeches the pope came close to explicitly endorsing the now-outlawed independent labor union, Solidarity.

He declared on several occasions that the social reform agreements the union extracted from the government in 1980 are matters of fundamental human rights, and are therefore an "indispensable" basis for resolving

the country's current crisis and restoring peace.

It was only after the pope was in Poland, and apparently as a result of personal bargaining June 17 between himself and the country's communist leader, Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski, that the government agreed to allow a meeting between the pope and Solidarity's leader, Lech Walesa.

In his first major speech in Poland, a homily in Warsaw's cathedral shortly after his arrival June 16, Pope John Paul fired his opening salvo against the lack of rights and freedoms in Poland. He urged Poles to take the courage of the late Cardinal Stefan Wyszynski, Polish primate 1946-81 who was imprisoned in the 1950s, as their model for facing the nation's present "Calvary" in the wake of martial law.

"Together with all my compatriots — especially with those who are most acutely tasting the bitterness of disappointment, humiliation, suffering, of being deprived of their freedom, of being wronged, of having their dignity trampled upon — I stand beneath the cross of Christ," he said. But with the faith of the late primate, he said, Poles could turn the cross into victory, imprisonment into spiritual freedom.

That evening a pro-Solidarity march flowed through the streets of Warsaw, drawing about 50,000 demonstrators before it was broken up — peacefully — by police. It and subsequent demonstrations at stops along the papal route drew government warnings that disorders would slow progress toward the eventual lifting of martial law.

On June 17, in a nationally televised address to the government leadership, Pope John Paul declared the 1980 social reforms "indispensable" for Poland's recovery from its "internal crisis." Sharply rejecting the whole philosophy behind the martial law crackdown, he declared that dialogue among all concerned parties is the only way "to resolve social conflicts."

At an outdoor Mass in Warsaw June 17 the pope reiterated his plea for domestic peace and unity, again repudiating current government policy by stating that national unity can only come through social consensus and on the basis of "the fullness of civic rights."

Traveling from Warsaw to Czestochowa June 18, with a stop at the Franciscan monastery of Niepokalanow

to honor the martyr of Auschwitz, St. Maximilian Kolbe, the pope met in Czestochowa with half a million young people.

Saying that "we are fighting for the future form of our social life," he spoke of the difficulties of achieving freedom in Poland but told the youths, "it is what costs that constitutes value."

Meeting later with pilgrims from Szczecin, a Solidarity stronghold in the north, he said many of them had come "with a wound in your heart and with sorrow, perhaps even anger" from "the experiences of the recent year."

The pope continued his public attacks on government suppression of human rights June 19. Addressing Poland's bishops in Czestochowa, he backed

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Trip Highlights

By NC News Service

Here are day-by-day highlights from Pope John Paul II's major actions and speeches on conditions in Poland during his June 16-23 visit to his native land:

● June 16, at Mass in Warsaw cathedral: Poland's situation since the martial law crackdown of Dec. 13, 1981, is a "Calvary." "Together with all my compatriots — especially with those who are most acutely tasting the bitterness of disappointment, humiliation, suffering, of being deprived of their freedom, of being wronged, of having their dignity trampled upon — I stand beneath the cross of Christ."

● June 17, in a nationally televised address to government leaders in Warsaw: The 1980 social reforms achieved by the now-outlawed labor movement Solidarity and since suppressed under martial law are "indispensable" for Poland's recovery from its "internal crisis." Dialogue and social consensus are essential "to resolve social conflicts." Meeting privately afterward with Poland's prime minister, Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski, Pope John Paul extracted government permission to meet later with Solidarity leader Lech Walesa.

● June 17, at an outdoor Mass in Warsaw: "The fullness of civic rights" is essential for social peace in Poland.

● June 18, to young people in Czestochowa: "We are fighting for the future form of our social life." While achieving Polish freedom is difficult, "it is what costs that constitutes value." To pilgrims from Szczecin, a Solidarity stronghold in the north, events of the past year have caused "a wound in your heart. . . perhaps even anger."

● June 19, to Poland's bishops in Czestochowa: "The social doctrine of the church and the true aspirations of workers do not pass alongside each other, but truly meet," and this requires of the church "honest solidarity with workers."

● June 19, at Vespers in Czestochowa: The pope offered to Our Lady of Czestochowa, patroness of Poland, his sash torn by a bullet in the 1981 attempt on his life. He prayed to Mary to bring Poland back to "truth, liberty, justice, social solidarity" on the basis of the 1980 agreements.

● June 20, in rural Poznan: Defending private ownership of the land, the pope praised the efforts of Rural Solidarity to achieve "the fundamental rights of the human person" before the martial law crackdown.

● June 20, to workers in Katowice: "Human work really is at the heart of all social life. Through it justice and social love are formed, if the whole working sector is governed by a just moral order. But if this order is missing, injustice takes the place of justice and love is replaced by hatred." The 1980 strikes centered not just on wages but on "the moral order itself in relation to human work." The right to free unions "is a properly innate right. . . not given to us by the state."

● June 21, to workers in Wroclaw: "I bring my solidarity and that of the church" to workers. Their hunger and thirst for justice "manifested in a particular way during these recent years. . . cannot be destroyed or suppressed. It cannot be ignored."

● June 22, at a Mass beatifying two Poles, Carmelite

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Courier Offices Closed

Courier-Journal offices will be closed the week of July 4, to reopen Monday, July 11. No edition will be printed July 13.



Holy Year Opens With a Hug

One worshipper of the 400 gathered at Sacred Heart Cathedral last Wednesday night is embraced by Bishop Matthew H. Clark following the Mass opening the Holy Year in the diocese. More photos on Page 6.

Photo by Terrance J. Brennan



Bishop Launches Appeal in Auburn

Auburn — Bishop Matthew H. Clark introduced his plan for the 1983 diocesan Thanks Giving Appeal to some 30 regional pastors and associates last Monday, June 20, at St. Mary's Church, Auburn.

The Auburn meeting was the first of three scheduled last week across the diocese to introduce this year's appeal drive. St. Thomas More parish on East Avenue was the site of the second meeting on Wednesday, June 22.

More than 100 attended that meeting.

On Friday, June 24, some 30 priests of the Southern Tier met at St. Mary Our Mother parish, Horseheads, for the final session.

The bishop opened the

meeting here with a formal statement during which he stressed four focus points around which this year's appeal will strive.

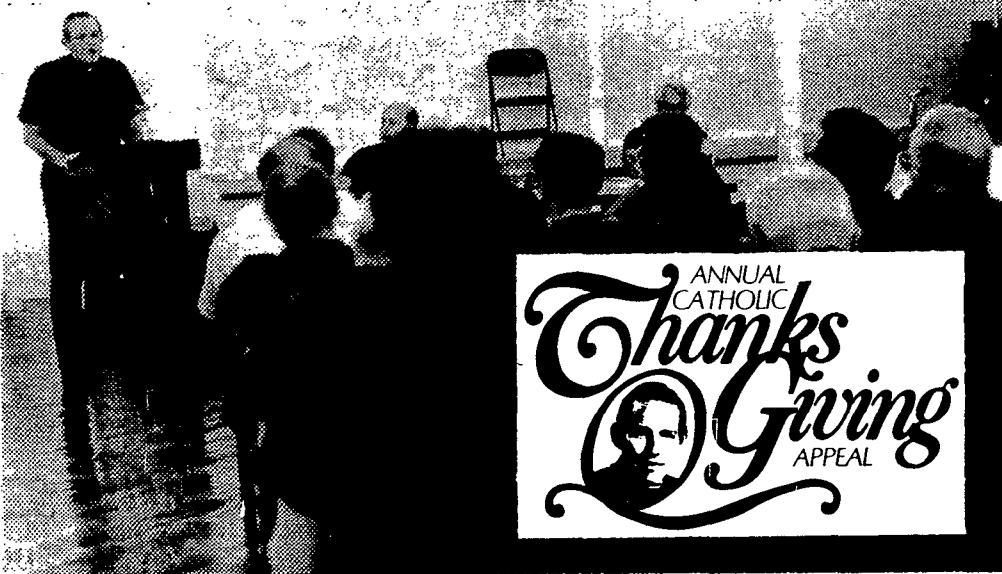
They are Eucharist, stewardship, evangelization and education.

Bishop Clark mentioned that this year's goal is set at \$2,729,000, an increase of seven percent over last year's goal. Last year's appeal goal was set at \$2.5 million and to date more than \$3 million has been collected.

The bishop pointed out that funds collected this year will go toward the establishment of a religious education office for the Finger Lakes region and appointing a diocesan coordinator "to work on the challenge of teenage sexuality."

Bishop Clark also noted some major changes on figuring each parish's quota. This year the diocese will raise each parish's deduction from \$100 to \$300 per student, and raise from 15 per-

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Bishop Matthew H. Clark addresses some 30 diocesan priests at the opening meeting of this year's diocesan appeal at St. Mary's Church hall, Auburn. To the bishop's left are Fathers Peter Bayer, operations manager; and James Marvin, appeal coordinator.