

'We Still Have a Dream'

USCC Supports King Memorial March

Washington (NC) -- The U.S. Catholic Conference and a number of Catholic organizations have supported the 1983 version of the march on Washington which attracted 250,000 people 20 years ago.

In 1963 marchers urged freedom and jobs for blacks. The anniversary march is being organized to protest unemployment, denial of basic rights and the arms race.

The 20th Anniversary March on Washington for Jobs, Peace and Freedom, sponsored by the New Coalition of Conscience, will take place Aug. 27 between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial.

March organizers claim that more than 310 U.S. cities will be represented in the march and that 43 state coordinators for the march are reporting "mounting enthusiasm."

The march will commemorate the Aug. 28, 1963, March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom led by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., who delivered his "I have a dream" speech.

"We...deemed it wise to call upon our fellow Americans to remember the full meaning of the American dream, of liberty and justice for all, in a world of peace and freedom in which everyone can live with the hope of a better tomorrow

for our children," the march organizers said in a statement.

"But the American dream is tarnished today as the tides of national self-doubt, aggressiveness and chauvinism of race, sex, class and nation are seriously undermining our national unity and sense of human solidarity," they continued.

The march's theme is "We Still Have a Dream."

"We are watching an administration step by step dismantle every piece of the cornerstone set in 1963," said Mrs. Coretta King, co-chairperson of the march.

"It is therefore appropriate that 20 years later a New Coalition of

Conscience be assembled in this nation to protest an unemployment rate approaching 50 percent among black youth, 10.8 percent in the nation as a whole; to protest the dismantling of those pieces of legislation that ensured freedom; and to speak out against an escalating arms race," she added.

An interfaith service, bringing together Catholics, Protestants, Orthodox and Jews is set for Aug. 26 at the Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church in Washington.

Parishes in the Archdiocese of Washington will have parish-sponsored Masses or

prayer services focusing on the themes of the march Aug. 27, according to Jackie Wilson of the archdiocese's Office of Black Catholics.

Archbishop James A. Hickey of Washington, co-chairman of the march, is expected to lead a prayer service prior to the march.

The USCC, whose headquarters are in Washington, endorsed the march in May and has assigned a staff member to participate in the march's planning committee, said Msgr. Francis J. Lally, secretary of the USCC's Department of Social Development and World Peace.

Other Catholic groups to endorse the march are the

Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace, National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice, Catholic University of America and the Coalition of Black Catholics.

The march is one part of a year-long mobilization planned by the New Coalition of Conscience.

Organizers said the coalition hopes to develop broad-based non-partisan support for basic legislation in the areas of jobs, peace and freedom; to work for passage of legislation declaring Jan. 15 a national holiday in honor of Dr. King's birth; and to implement the coalition's agenda on the state and local levels.

AT YOUR PARISH

St. Philip Neri

The Women's Club of St. Philip Neri Church has slated a "Get Acquainted Picnic," 6 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 13 at Dick and Marge Fenicchia's Willow Brook Farm, 712 Bay Road.

Women 18 years or older who wish to join the club are welcome to participate in the social. Those attending are asked to bring a place setting, a dish to pass, \$1 for meat, and money for dues. The

deadline for reservations is Aug. 31. Further information is available by calling the rectory, 482-2400.

St. Bernard

Scipio Center -- The public has been invited by Father Paul Cloonan, pastor of the triple parish of St. Bernard, St. Hilary of Genoa and St. Isaac Jogues of Fleming, to the final in a series of four presentations on the common journey of faith.

Mrs. Maribeth Mancini, diocesan consultant for adult education, will present "Echoing the Gospel in the Family," 7:30-9:30 p.m., Monday, Aug. 22 at St. Bernard.

St. Patrick

Owego -- Parishioners at St. Patrick's Church here are planning their Fall Festival for Sept. 23-25. The event will open with a chicken barbeque 5 p.m. Friday, and will feature musical entertainment, and an auction. Saturday events begin at 10 a.m. and will include entertainment, movies, a white elephant sale, crafts, baked goods and foods. The Sunday schedule includes a pancake breakfast served 8 a.m.-1 p.m. in the church hall.

St. Stephen

Geneva -- The annual parish picnic for St. Stephen's Church will be held 2 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 21 at Oaks Corners Community Park. Families are asked to bring beverages, table services and a dish to pass. The parish life committee will sell hot dogs and hamburgers. The agenda calls for dining at 2:30 and games at 3:30 p.m.

Festival Advisory

Parish festival chairpersons are advised that the Courier-Journal is restricted by law from publishing notices of games of chance, prizes, raffles, and the like.

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Urban League, Others Won't Go

Washington (NC) -- The National Urban League, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the American Jewish Committee have refused to participate in the Aug. 27 March on Washington for Jobs, Peace and Freedom.

"We support the march's call for a 'coalition of conscience for jobs, peace and freedom' but we believe that the march's focus on a broad range of issues is likely to limit its impact," the National Urban League said in a statement.

The Anti-Defamation League and the American Jewish Committee said they will not endorse the march because organizers have taken a position they believe to be critical of Israel.

The American Jewish Committee took issue with a published call to the march in which organizers opposed "the militarization of internal conflicts, often abetted and even encouraged by massive U.S. arms exports, in areas of the world such as the Middle East and Central America, while their basic human problems are neglected," Morton Yarmon,

AJC press spokesman said.

The Jewish groups also disliked scheduling of the march on a Jewish sabbath, Yarmon said.

The U.S. Catholic Conference still endorses the march, a spokeswoman said.

"We were aware that there were some concerns in the Jewish community about the march, but our assessment was that they could be worked out," said Charlotte Mahoney, staff member of the USCC Department of Social Development and World Peace. She is on the

march's planning committee.

No Catholic groups have openly opposed the Aug. 27 march, Ms. Mahoney added.

The 20th Anniversary March on Washington for Jobs, Peace and Freedom on Aug. 27 will commemorate the Rev. Martin Luther King's March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, which took place Aug. 28, 1963.

A National Urban League spokesperson said individual staff members and Urban League volunteers will not be stopped from participating in the Aug. 27 march.

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Fr. Paul J. Cuddy



On the Right Side

You're Invited To a Party

What's this September 75th birthday bash about?

In mid-July some ladies from Holy Trinity said: "We would like to give a party to celebrate your 75th birthday. Would you mind?" "Oh! Let me think on that!" I remembered that Msgr. Frank Lane of Elmira celebrated his golden anniversary of ordination on his 45th anniversary, saying: "I don't expect to reach 50 years, so will celebrate now." He had a very happy celebration and died three years afterward. I will be ordained 50 years in June 1985 but only God knows if I'll be here or in eternity then. We were 13 ordained for the diocese in 1935. Fathers Walt Fischer, Tom Manley, Frank Hester, Don Lux, John Tressy, Wm. O'Brien, Michael Tydings and James Lane. Five are living -- Fathers Ray Heisel, William Gaynor, Harold Rogers, Msgr. Cuffney and myself. I have always thought it a pity that priests, who have such elaborate funerals, are not alive to enjoy the festivity. The 75th birthday should make a nice substitute.

So the party is on? The next day I said: "Well, that's very kind. But if we're going to have a party, let's make it a GOOD one. Better put K. of C. Ray Pfeiffer on the committee. He's also a good organizer." They were a bit taken aback by my lack of modesty but operations began at once. They said, "Will you give us a list of people to invite?" "That's a problem. I have been in so

many places and the words of Lacordaire about the priest so applies: 'The priest is a member of every family and yet a member of none.' Let me give you a list of the tour friends and the Christmas card listing and work from there. The parish will be notified in the bulletin."

What did they do? Shocked me. They made up a simple notice: "Come to the Grand 75th celebration -- the ROASTING -- of Father Paul J. Cuddy -- Wednesday, Sept. 7, 1983, at Sweet's Party House, cocktail hour: 6:30 (Cash Bar -- complimentary hors d'oeuvres). Buffet: 7:30 p.m. Prepaid reservations by Aug. 26, \$15 per person. Includes dinner-gift gratuity." The ladies sent the notice using the list I gave and added the priests of the diocese.

What shocked you? That it's a roast. But it should be good fun. At the July First Friday priests luncheon-meeting at Father Calimari's, East Rochester, the tempestuous Father John Norris said with a glint in his eye: "I'd like to be one of the roasters on your 75th." Others, sparkled-eyed, declared the same wish. Evidently, a lot of people have a lot of things in their recollections. But it will be great fun, and the world and the Church needs some joy and laughter.

Is the roast open to everyone? To everyone who has the time, the inclination, the transportation and \$15. "The priest is a member of every family." The Whole World is invited.

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