World, Nation, People . . . in Brief

Provided by NC News Service



TV Network May Go

Chicago -- A study of the Archdiocese of Chicago's communications has recommended the virtual elimination of the Catholic Television Network of Chicago. The television system, organized by the late Cardinal John Cody in 1972, has received more than \$9.4 million in subsidies since that time and employs 37 full-time staff members. The study also recommended major changes in the archdiocese's Department of Communications and a long-term review of the archdiocesan newspaper, The Chicago Catholic.

Peace Culture Urged

Erice Sicily -- Pope John Paul II asked 50 prominent scientists to become architects of a "culture of peace." The plea came in an Aug. 22 telegram sent on the pope's behalf by Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, papal secretary of state, to an international group of scientists holding a seminar on nuclear war.

Cardinal Urges Calm

Manila, Philippines -- Cardinal Jaime Sin of Manila, echoing fears expressed by political leaders, urged calm in the nation after Benigno Aquino Jr., chief political rival of Filipino President Ferdinand Marcos, was assassinated Aug. 21. The cardinal cited Aquino's commitment to political reform without violence, saying, "If we allow his death to fan the flames of violence and division, then he will have died in vain."

Abortion Irish Issue

Dublin, Ireland -- The Irish bishops are hoping for victory in the Sept. 7 referendum on constitutionally prohibiting abortion. Approval "could have a significant impact in a world where abortion is often taken for granted," said the bishops in a statement issued Aug. 22. Currently, abortion is illegal in Ireland but protection for the unborn is not written in the constitution.

Nation

Arms Race Condemned

New York -- Franciscan friars throughout the world were urged to "condemn loudly and clearly" the arms race in a document published in August by the plenary council of the Order of Friars Minor and released by the Franciscan Communications Office. In the document, "The Gospel Challenges Us," the council called for friars to renew their commitments to peace and justice for the poor. The plenary council is held every three years. And in Baltimore, the 16th annual conference of the Franciscan Federation of the United States urged support for the U.S. bishops' pastoral on war and peace and focused on ways to implement the pastoral.

Priest Helped Barbie?

Washington -- Klaus Barbie, a former Nazi Gestapo official escaped from postwar Europe with the aid of the U.S. Army's Counterintelligence Corps (CIC) and a priest with Nazi ties, according to a Justice Department report. In February Barbie, 69, was expelled from Bolivia, where he had lived for 32 years, to France, where he is charged with "crimes against humanity." He was head of the Gestapo in Lyons from 1942-44 and is said to have deported thousands of people to Nazi death camps. More details, Page 4.

Abortion Case Update

Los Angeles -- Dist. Atty. Robert H. Philibosian said Aug. 19 that no one will be prosecuted in connection with the abortions of 16,431 fetuses, whose remains were found stored near Los Angeles 18 months ago. But the court fight between the district attorney's office and the American Civil Liberties Union over whether to bury or incinerate the fetuses remains undecided, according to an Aug. 20 Los Angeles Times report.



Names Make News

Rope John Paul II has accepted the resignation of Archbishop James J. Byrne of Dubuque, Iowa, a bishop for 36 years and archbishop of Dubuque for the past 21. Archbishop Byrne, who turned 75 in July, will be apostolic administrator of the archdiocese pending the appointment of a successor. . . Edmund E. Cummings, retired associate diector of the Migration and Refugee Services of the U.S. Catholic Conference, died Aug. 20 at his home in Sarasota. He was 72.

Focus on Today's World





At the Carpinteria Community in Carpinteria, Calif., participants in the 250-mile Los Ninos tortilla marathon walk stop to rest their feet. The annual walk from Santa Barbara to Tijuana, Mexico, raises money for Mexican orphanages and food for the world's hungry. Among the walkers is Franciscan Brother David Brehm, right, of Berkeley, Calif.



Olympic medalist Linda Fratianne goes through a skating routine with Goofy in Walt Disney's Magic Kingdom on Ice at New York's Madison Square Garden. Miss Fratianne, a member of Our Lady of Lourdes parish in Northridge, Calif., said she loves the applause she has received during more than three years as a professional but misses the challenge of amateur competition.



Cardinal Jaime Sin of Manila prays over the body of slain opposition leader Benigno S. Aquino Jr. who was gunned down when he stepped off a plane at Manila, Philippines.

Photos provided by NC News Service

the Saints White

SIMEON WAS BORN IN 390 TO A SHEPHERD FAMILY NEAR SYRIA. AT AGE 13 HE WAS DEEPLY MOVED BY HEARING THE BEATITUDES READ IN CHURCH ONE DAY AND HAD A VISION THAT HE LATER INTERPRETED AS FORETELLING HIS UNUSUAL LIFE OF PENANCE — LIVING ON TOP OF A PILLAR. HE SPENT TWO YEARS IN A MONASTERY AND THEN BECAME A MONK AT A STRICTER MONASTERY AT HELIODORUS, WHERE HE PRACTICED SUCH SEYERE SELF-DENIAL THAT HE WAS DISMISSED.

HE THEN BECAME A HERMIT AT THE FOOT OF MT. TELANISSAE BUT AFTER THREE YEARS MOVED TO THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN, WHERE WORD OF HIS HOLINESS BEGAN TO ATTRACT CROWDS. TO ESCAPE THEM. HE BUILT AND BEGAN TO LIVE ON TOP OF A 10-FOOT-HIGH PILLAR IN 423. HE SPENT THE REST OF HIS LIFE ON SUCCESSIVELY HIGHER PILLARS - THE LAST WAS 60 FEET TALL. ("STYLITE" IS FROM THE GREEK WORD "STYLOS," MEANING "PILLAR") ALSO AS A PENANCE, HE WORE ANIMAL SKINS AND SLEPT VERY LITTLE. HE DID NOT EAT OR DRINK DURING LENT FOR 40 YEARS. HE PREACHED DAILY, EXHORTING AN ENDLESS STREAM OF LISTENERS TO GREATER HOLINESS. HE WAS CONSULTED BY EMPERORS, BISHOPS AND BARBARIANS. SIMEON DIED ON SEPT. 2, 459, THE FIRST

OF THE "PILLAR SAINTS." HIS FEAST IS SEPT. 2.



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