

World, Nation, People... in Brief

Provided by NC News Service

World

Spain Relaxes Abortion Law

Madrid, Spain -- Spain's Cortes (parliament) voted Oct. 6 to legalize abortion in cases of rape, severe malformation of the fetus or when the life of the mother is endangered. The nation's Catholic bishops repeatedly had opposed relaxing the 1944 abortion law. The measure, which passed by a vote of 186 to 109 with four abstentions, was supported by the ruling Socialist Party and opposed by the main opposition party, Popular Alliance, which is appealing the amendment to Spain's highest court.

Delegates 'Struggling'

Vatican City -- Delegates to the 1983 world Synod of Bishops are struggling to discover the "specific contribution of the Catholic faith" in a world marked by conflict, said Cardinal Jean-Marie Lustiger of Paris. The cardinal spoke Oct. 13 at a synod press conference with Bishop Antonio Quarracino of Avellaneda, Argentina, and Auxiliary Bishop Stephen Naidoo of Cape Town, South Africa. They reported on the small group discussions at which delegates are formulating proposals for synod consideration.

Nation

Bishop Abducted, Released

Des Moines, Iowa -- Bishop Maurice Dingman of Des Moines was abducted by two men during a robbery attempt Oct. 8 and released unharmed in the early morning Oct. 9, he reported to police. While the two men, who were apparently smoking marijuana, held him and drove more than 100 miles to Waterloo, Iowa, he kept the car from hitting bridges twice by grabbing the steering wheel, the bishop said. Although Des Moines police were still searching for the two men Oct. 9, Bishop Dingman, 69, had not pressed formal charges against them, a Des Moines police spokeswoman said.

Cardinal Cooke Eulogy

NEW YORK -- Cardinal Terence Cooke of New York was a real New Yorker, a "priests' priest," and a "valiant and effective" defender of life, said Cardinal William Baum at Cardinal Cooke's funeral Oct. 10. More than 100 cardinals and bishops and 1,000 white-robed priests joined Archbishop Pio Laghi, apostolic delegate in the United States, in concelebrating the funeral Mass. Nationally known civil dignitaries, non-Catholic religious leaders, family and friends rounded out the congregation of 2,500 people in St. Patrick's Cathedral for the final rites for New York's 10th bishop.

Finally, Saturday Masses

Philadelphia -- Cardinal John Krol told priests at a clergy conference that beginning Nov. 27, Catholics in the Philadelphia Archdiocese may attend Saturday evening Mass to satisfy their Sunday obligation. Philadelphia was the only diocese in the United States where the Saturday option was not offered. The change begins with the introduction of the revised Code of Canon Law, the cardinal said. One Mass beginning after 5 p.m. Saturday will be permitted.

Explosion Kills Nun

Fall River, Mass. -- One nun was dead and another was in critical condition after an explosion Oct. 11 at their provincial house in rural Dighton, Mass., 10 miles from Fall River. Dominican Sister Marie Therese Pelletier, 76, was killed, and Dominican Sister Vimala Vadakumpadan, 28, was seriously injured in the blast, believed caused when a back hoe ruptured a gas line. A native of India, Sister Vadakumpadan is listed in critical condition at Rhode Island Hospital, Providence, R.I.

Nestles Promises Fulfillment

Washington -- Nestle S.A. will "accomplish its mission" to conform to the World Health Organization's code on infant formula marketing by the end of 1983, a company spokesman said Oct. 13. Infant formula has been blamed for severe infant health problems in the Third World, where mothers can unwittingly mix formula with dirty water, dilute it too much or otherwise misuse it while thinking it is better for their children than breast milk. "We have revised our marketing practice throughout the Third World to conform with every provision of the code," said Dr. C.L. Angst, Nestle executive vice president.

Thousands Mourn Cardinal Cooke

Photos provided by NC News Service



New Yorkers wait in long, winding lines outside St. Patrick's Cathedral to pay last respects to the late Cardinal Terence Cooke.



New York Auxiliary Bishop Francisco Garmendia blesses the body of Cardinal Cooke as it lies in state in St. Patrick's Cathedral.



Among the dignitaries attending the funeral were, from left, Sen. Patrick Moynihan, former President Richard M. Nixon, Mrs. Bob Hope, CIA Director William Casey, New York Mayor Ed Koch, Governor Mario Cuomo and UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Concelebrants file past the casket of the late cardinal for the Mass of Christian Burial.



The casket of Cardinal Cooke is carried into a crypt beneath the altar of St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York after the funeral Mass.

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Fifteen throughout Rochester sessions of 8-10 p.m., the eve of and rally at Park, adjacent Army Depot

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