

World, Nation, People... in Brief

Provided by NC News Service

World

Nations Told to Settle Up

Vatican City -- Pope John Paul II has called for the prompt settlement of territorial disputes between Argentina and Chile. The call came in a letter to the bishops of both countries. The pope said he was responding to a joint message he had received from Argentine and Chilean bishops Oct. 12. He called the Oct. 12 message "an evident sign of the profound hope of the two peoples" who want "an official agreement as soon as possible." The pope's letter, dated Oct. 28, was published in the Vatican newspaper, L'Osservatore Romano, Nov. 7.

Penal Code Said Too Severe

Khartoum, Sudan -- While supporting the Sudanese government's call for moral reform, Archbishop Gabriel Subeir Wako of Khartoum expressed concern over the adoption of Islamic penal codes in Sudan. In a Sept. 23 letter the archbishop said the church objected to many aspects of the code "because they are degrading," are too severe and can "dull the moral and human feelings of the nation." He wrote, "If we pursue the principle of 'an eye for an eye,' we shall soon become a nation of blind people."

Albanian Persecution Hit

Vatican City -- Vatican Radio said Nov. 2 that the "systematic persecution" of the Catholic Church in Albania was continuing and that the Vatican had received reports that a bishop and two priests had been killed at the hands of the Albanian government. The broadcast said Bishop Ernest Coha, apostolic administrator of Scutari, Albania, had been beaten to death in a concentration camp in 1980. The priests were reportedly executed in 1981 and 1972 for baptizing infants.

Oberammergau Play Assailed

New York -- The Oberammergau Passion Play in West Germany is still anti-Semitic, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith said. In a statement from its New York headquarters, the ADL said the pageant's 350th-anniversary performances next year "will offer audiences a view of Christianity transmitting not love, but anti-Semitic prejudice," despite inter-religious efforts since 1980 to get the 1984 text changed. While the play's producers have made some changes, the ADL said that they had adopted only five of 28 changes which ADL proposed as the "bare minimum" needed to eliminate the anti-Judaic content of the play.

Nation

Drive for Tuition Credit

Washington -- The Committee for Private Education launched its "all-out drive" for tuition tax credit support in anticipation of possible Senate action on legislation. Msgr. Edward F. Spiers, director of the committee, which was founded by the Knights of Columbus, said Nov. 7 that he was convinced tuition tax credit legislation would be brought up in the Senate the week of Nov. 14. Msgr. Spiers asked parents, teachers and parishioners to write their senators supporting the measure.

ERA Addendum Endorsed

Washington -- A controversial proposal to add an anti-abortion sentence to the Equal Rights Amendment has been endorsed by the U.S. Catholic Conference, public policy arm of the U.S. bishops. Msgr. Daniel Hoye, USCC general secretary, urged members of Congress in a Nov. 8 letter to support the additional sentence, which reads, "Nothing in (the ERA) shall be construed to grant or secure any right relating to abortion or the funding thereof." More details, Page 1.

Nun Shot, Killed

Detroit -- Immaculate Heart of Mary Sister John Clement Hungerman, 49, a physics teacher at Marygrove College, was killed Nov. 7 in an apparent robbery attempt, police reported. Sister Hungerman, who used exercise as a treatment for her rheumatoid arthritis, was shot while walking home from a class at Marygrove. She had been a faculty member there since 1965 and was academic dean from 1978 to 1982.

People

Father J. Bryan Hehir, 43, chief adviser for the U.S. bishops on their pastoral on war and peace, has been named to succeed Msgr. Francis J. Lally as head of the bishops' secretariat for justice and peace issues. Msgr. Lally, 65, will continue as secretary for Social Development and World Peace of the U.S. Catholic Conference until he receives a pastoral assignment in Boston, his home archdiocese. Father Hehir is being replaced immediately as director of the USCC Office of International Justice and Peace by Holy Cross Father William M. Lewers of Holy Cross Novitiate in Cascade, Colo.

Focus on Today's World



After nearly 17 years, Justo Gallego, 57, says it will take him another four years to complete the church he plans to turn over to the town of Mejerada del Campo near Madrid, Spain. The former seminarian is the architect, financier, and sole construction worker on the project.



Miguel Rodriguez, father of Marine Sgt. Juan Carlos Rodriguez who was killed in the Beirut terrorist bombing, weeps over his son's coffin during funeral services in Miami.




At Camp Elmore in Norfolk, Va., Father (Capt.) Lawrence F. Keefe, left, Navy chaplain from Boston, and Rabbi (Lt.) A.I. Slomovitz participate in a memorial service for Marines killed in the Oct. 23 terrorist attack in Beirut. About 750 Marines and sailors from the Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic, attended the service.

Photos provided by NC News Service

the Saints *by Luke*

ST. GREGORY the Wonderworker



GREGORY, CALLED THEODORE BY HIS RELATIVES, WAS BORN ABOUT 213 TO A DISTINGUISHED PAGAN FAMILY IN NEOCAESAREA, PONTUS. HE STUDIED LATIN, RHETORIC AND LAW IN PONTUS AND IN ABOUT 233 BEGAN READING THEOLOGY UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF THE THEOLOGIAN ORIGIN IN PALESTINE.

GREGORY INTENDED TO START A LAW PRACTICE IN HIS HOMETOWN BUT UPON HIS RETURN FROM PALESTINE WAS ELECTED BISHOP. HE PREACHED ELOQUENTLY AND WON SO MANY CONVERTS TO THE FAITH THAT HE BUILT A CHURCH. HE BECAME KNOWN AS "THE WONDERWORKER" ("THAUMATURSUS" IN GREEK) AND WAS SOUGHT FOR HIS WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE.

HE MINISTERED TO HIS PEOPLE DURING A PLAGUE AND THE INVASION OF THE BARBARIAN GOTHs.

AT HIS DEATH IN ABOUT 270, LEGEND HAS IT THAT ONLY 17 UNBELIEVERS REMAINED IN THE CITY.

A CENTURY AFTER GREGORY'S DEATH, ST. GREGORY OF NYSSA WROTE THAT GREGORY WAS THE FIRST SAINT TO WHOM THE VIRGIN MARY APPEARED IN A VISION. HIS FEAST IS NOV. 17.

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Bishop Matthew H. Clark
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Editor

Rev. Louis J. Hohman
Episcopal Advisor

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