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'Peace Must Be Won,' John Paul II Declares

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Vatican City (NC) -- Declaring that "peace must be won," Pope John Paul II called in his 1984 World Day of Peace message for a conversion of heart, because, he said, "it is man who kills, and not his sword, or in our day, his missiles."

In his text for the Jan. 1 observance, the pope described a world beset by war, human rights violations and fanatical terrorism. The document was released Dec. 23 but dated Dec. 8.

Pope John Paul II also noted society's sense of uneasiness and helplessness as a result of "the build-up of conventional, chemical, bacteriological and, especially, nuclear weapons."

"Humanity's helplessness to resolve the existing tensions reveals that the obstacles, and likewise the hopes, come from something deeper than the systems themselves," the pope said, urging a renewal of heart which would help change society's systems and institutions.

"It is my deep conviction," he said. "It is the leitmotiv of the Bible and of Christian thought and is, I hope, the intuition of many men and women of good will, that war has its origins in the human heart. It is man who kills, and not his sword or, in our day, his missiles."

In the talk, which stressed the danger of the arms buildup, unequal distribution of the world's goods, power struggles between nations, and lack of development in



Pope John Paul II gives a blessing as he arrives for midnight Mass Christmas Eve at St. Peter's Basilica. (NC Photo)

poor countries, the pope said that hope still exists and that people "must refuse to give in to fatalism and discouragement."

"Positive signs are already piercing the darkness," he said. Humanity is becoming aware of the indispensable solidarity which links peoples and nations, he said.

"The reduction of arms, controlled and worldwide, is considered by many a vital necessity," he added. "There are many calls to use every means in order to banish war

from the horizon of humanity. There are also many new appeals for dialogue, cooperation and reconciliation, and numerous fresh initiatives. The pope is anxious to encourage them."

In his talk, the pope noted the obligation of every person "to do his or her share in the establishment of peace in the world without passing on the duty to others."

"In their conversations and actions, they must feel concerned for all their brothers and sisters who are

part of the same human family, even if they live at the other end of the world."

The pope pointed out, however, that political leaders bear a special responsibility to work for peace.

"They more than others must be convinced that war is in itself irrational and that the ethical principle of the peaceful settlement of conflicts is the only way worthy of man," he said.

He acknowledged a country's right to defend

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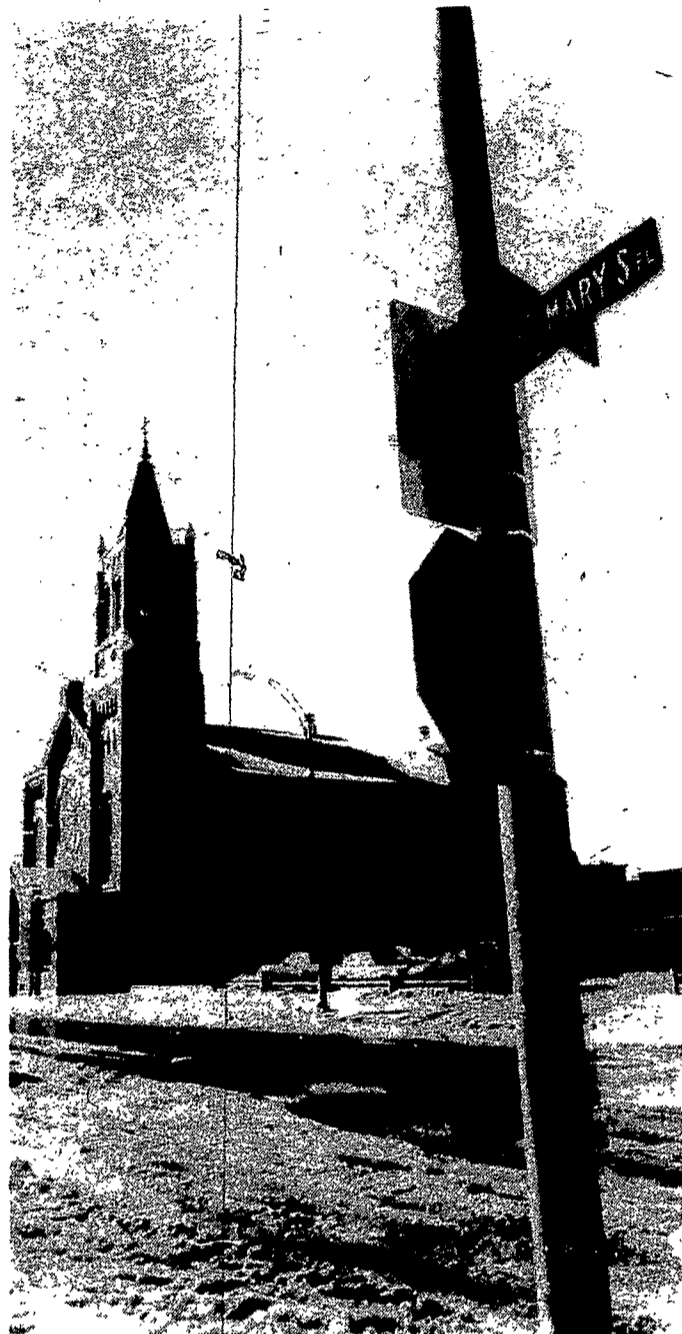


Photo by Terrance J. Brennan

New Name for the Old Place

Mayor Thomas Ryan renamed South Street as St. Mary's Place at a formal dedication program last Friday, Dec. 30, at St. Mary's Rectory. This coming year will mark the 150th anniversary of the urban parish. Pastor of St. Mary's Church is Father James Lawlor. The program also acted as the official kickoff of a year-long celebration marking the sesquicentennial of the City of Rochester.

'Faith Today' Supplement Debuts

The Courier-Journal this edition publishes the first edition of Faith Today, a new, four-page religious education supplement which will appear as a regular weekly feature.

Faith Today is presented as a special service to the thousands of individual readers who spend time with each issue of our paper. Intended as an educational tool for people of all ages, Faith Today may be used in religious classes in schools. Joan M. Smith, Courier-Journal RapAround editor, will coordinate the new section.

Readers will find that the new supplement constitutes interesting and worthwhile reading and that it stimulates good discussions. It is a series that asks how God relates to the areas of life that are most important -- and sometimes most perplexing -- to all of us. It investigates the connections between faith and everyday life, between God and the human situation. It is an important series for all who want to think about the meaning of the church for their lives.

Produced by National Catholic News Service in Washington, Faith Today is a highly readable series packaged in an appealing format. Among its special features are: a "Food for Thought" section to generate discussions of other materials in the week's edition; regular material on Scripture; and a children's story, along with suggested resources parents and catechists will find helpful with children.

It can be found in the center section of the Courier.

Two Veteran Priests Die; Msgr. McAniff, Fr. Szczepanski

Two longtime priests and former pastors died last week in Rochester -- Msgr. James C. McAniff, 74, pastor emeritus of St. Mary's in Rochester who served in many key diocesan positions, and Father Ladislaus J. Szczepanski, 83, who spent 44 years of his priesthood at one parish, St. Casimir's in Elmira.

Msgr. McAniff

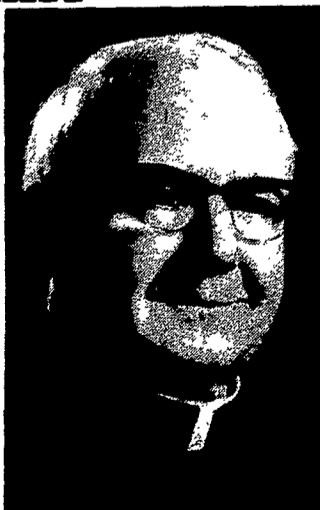
Funeral rites were celebrated last week for Msgr. James C. McAniff, former chancellor and vicar general of the diocese, and former pastor of Old St. Mary's Church, who died Christmas Eve, 1983.

Mass of Christ the High Priest was celebrated Tuesday, Dec. 27; and Bishop Matthew H. Clark celebrated Mass of Christian Burial the following morning at Old St. Mary's.

A memorial Mass for Msgr. McAniff is scheduled for 11 a.m., Sunday, Jan. 8 at St. Agnes Church in Avon.

Msgr. McAniff, the eldest of the children of Bernard and Julia Cross McAniff of Canandaigua, was born Aug. 16, 1909.

He attended St.



MSGR. McANIFF
Augustine's School and St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries before embarking on studies in Rome in 1930.

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Bishop Matthew H. Clark officiated at the Mass of the Resurrection for Msgr. McAniff Wednesday, Dec. 28, at St. Mary's and was scheduled to do the same for Father Szczepanski last Saturday (after Courier-Journal presstime) at St. Ann's Home.

Fr. Szczepanski

Father Ladislaus J. Szczepanski died last Thursday (Dec. 29, 1983) at St. Ann's Home where he was a resident for 13 years.

Ordained June 6, 1925, Father Szczepanski was assigned as assistant pastor at St. Casimir's in Elmira where he became pastor in 1933, serving in that capacity until retirement in June of 1970 -- a total of 44 years at the same parish.

A memorial Mass for Father Szczepanski took place last Friday at St. Casimir Church in Elmira.

Upon his retirement, the Elmira Star-Gazette editorialized: "A pastor whose record of service, it seems safe to say, must be without peer in the Twin Tiers is retiring.



FR. SZCZEPANSKI
He is the Rev. Ladislaus Szczepanski...

The editorial continued: "Father Szczepanski has Continued on Page 6