

# Religious Are 'Sign of Contradiction,' Pope Says

Vatican City (NC) — Men and women Religious should be "signs of contradiction," said Pope John Paul II at a Mass Feb. 2 during which the Religious gave him several gifts, including a Bible symbolizing the word of God and a first aid kit representing healing.

"The world has need of the authentic contradiction of consecrated Religious who must continuously be the

yeast of saving renewal," the pope said during the Mass at St. Peter's Basilica marking the end of the two-day Holy Year celebration for Religious.

On Feb. 1, the Religious had come to St. Peter's for a reconciliation service in preparation for their renewal of vows during the Feb. 2 liturgy.

Religious from throughout the world had been invited to send representatives to the

celebration, which was attended by people from 26 countries. During the Mass they presented the pope with several gifts to symbolize religious life and its ministry.

A Bible represented the word of God, the highest rule of life for Religious; a first aid kit, healing; a globe and catechism, evangelization; and a cross, the "church of silence" in countries in which Religious suffer for the faith.

Among the Religious attending were 50 women from Poland, 180 from France and 20 from the United States. The Leadership Conference of Women Religious of United States designated five U.S. nuns working in Rome to represent them. LCWR representatives were Precious Blood Sister Angelita Myerscough, Notre Dame Sister Patricia Frost, Divine

Providence Sister Mary Catherine Hunt, St. Joseph Sister Mary Jane Garry and Servites of Mary Sister Mary Alice Haley.

The Mass also was marked by an exchange of candles between the Religious and the pope. The Religious, in procession, presented the pope with 400 candles.

The pope plans to bless them and distribute them to

mission parishes to use for the Easter season. The pope gave five candles to men Religious and five to women Religious, symbolizing five areas of the world: the Americas, Europe, Asia, Africa and Oceania.

The Vatican reported that the Mass was televised directly to El Salvador, Venezuela, Argentina, Kenya and the Philippines.

## Pope Tells Tribunals: Update Thinking In Marriage Cases

(Text of address, Page 8.)

Vatican City (NC) — Church tribunals must update their thinking in marriage cases, basing decisions on changes in canon law which have simplified procedures and have taken greater account of modern sciences in deciding on the validity of a marriage, said Pope John Paul II Jan. 26.

He cited canons 1095 and 1098 which indicate that among the reasons for which a marriage can be annulled are lack of discretionary judgment about what a marriage involves, psychological difficulties which prevent a person from making a commitment, and deceit.

Another purpose of the new Code of Canon Law, he added, is "to render the administration of justice more flexible and functional by simplifying procedures, streamlining formalities and offering judges more discretionary power."

The pope spoke at an audience with officials and canon lawyers of the Roman Rota, a church's highest appeals court. He said church courts must conform their practices and attitudes to the new Code of Canon Law which went into effect last year and to the spirit of the Second Vatican Council.

In the 20-year period since the end of Vatican II canon law has been in flux and

there have been "abuses and lack of seriousness that must be lamented," he said.

The pope also told judges that it is wrong to interpret the new law as if it were the old one.

The church must promote and defend "the sanctity, dignity, and indissolubility of matrimony," the pope said.

But in doing so judges "cannot forget the real and undeniable progress of biological, psychological, psychiatric and social sciences," he said. Use these sciences to protect "a true marriage and not one which only has the appearances of marriage, not being a marriage from the start," he said.

The pope said that decisions about the indissolubility of marriage must be made without prejudice and that each case must be judged on its own merits and not used "as a means to correct abuses" or as a means "to incorrectly solve pastoral problems."

But before judges can make correct decisions, the pope said, they have to know the spirit of the Second Vatican Council.

"The Code of Canon Law is a new law," the pope said, "and should be understood in the light of the Second Vatican Council to which it completely conforms."

### Deadline

Deadline for news in the Courier-Journal is noon on Thursday, preceding Wednesday publication. The Courier-Journal address is 114 S. Union St., Rochester, N.Y. 14607.

## Holy Year Fete Planned for Clergy

Vatican City (NC) — Mother Teresa of Calcutta will be one of the main speakers during a three-day Holy Year celebration for clergy Feb. 21-23, announced the Central Committee for the Holy Year.

The celebration is for diocesan and religious order clerics, it said.

Mother Teresa plans to address the clergy Feb. 21 on the topic of what the laity seek from the clergy today.

Cardinal Silvio Oddi, prefect of the Vatican Congregation for the Clergy; Cardinal Ugo Poletti, papal vicar for the Diocese of Rome; and Bishop Lucas Moreira Neves, secretary of the Vatican Congregation for Bishops, also will address the clerics.

The second day of the celebration, Feb. 22, is scheduled to begin with the sacrament of penance and Mass at the Basilica of St. Paul-Outside-the-Wall in Rome. Scheduled for the afternoon is adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Peter's Basilica, with Archbishop Edward Gagnon, head of the Pontifical Council for the Family, giving a meditation.

On Feb. 23, Pope John Paul II is scheduled to preside at a ceremony in St. Peter's Basilica.

## Heart Group Offers Brochure on Running

The American Heart Association has issued a booklet entitled, "Running for a Healthy Heart."

Association literature states the 11-page brochure contains sections on the benefits of running; how to get started; the warm-up and the training program

Interested persons are able to obtain a free copy of the brochure by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Running, American Heart Association, 797 Elmwood Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14620.

### Sunday Dance

The 31/61 Club dances will be held 2-5 p.m., Sundays, Feb. 12, 19, 26, at the Hof Brau Hall, 406 Lyell Ave. Further information is available from Dot Benner, 436-7032.

Persons wishing to receive monthly mailings from the association have been asked to consider membership for \$15 per year. Membership benefits include a monthly nutrition newsletter and information regarding heart research developments.

can Heart Association, 797 Elmwood Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14620.

### IWCC in Sesqui

The Italian Women's Civic Club of Rochester will note the city's sesquicentennial and the 65th anniversary of its own founding at a dinner, 6 p.m., Feb. 16 at Arena's Party House. County Clerk Patricia Adduci will be guest speaker.

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