

President Reaffirms Anti-Abortion Stance

Washington (NC) -- Addressing the National Religious Broadcasters meeting Jan. 30, President Reagan reaffirmed his support of a constitutional amendment banning abortion, tougher laws against child pornography, and optional prayer in public schools.

The president's address to the convention in Washington was his first public appearance since announcing his plans Jan. 29 to seek re-election. He stressed his own religious convictions and told the broadcasters, "God is the center of our lives."

He reminded the audience that he had declared 1983 as

the "Year of the Bible" and said it was "the year more of us read the good book. Can we make a resolution here today that 1984 will be the year we put its great truths into action?"

"My experience in this office I hold has only deepened a belief I've held for many years: within the covers of that single book are all the answers to all the problems that face us today -- if only we'd read and believe," he said.

"Under this roof some 4,000 of us are kindred spirits, united by one burning belief: God is our father; we are his children; together, brothers and sisters, we are

one family," the president said.

President Reagan said that legalized abortion denies a basic human right and said, "this nation cannot continue turning a blind eye and a deaf ear to the taking of some 4,000 unborn children's lives every day -- one every 21 seconds."

He called for tougher laws against child pornography, saying, "we want parents to know their children will not be victims of child pornography."

The president also told the broadcasters that "Americans are getting angry" about the ban on voluntary prayer in public schools. "People want a constitutional amendment making it unequivocally clear our children can hold voluntary prayer in every school across this land. And if we could get God and discipline back in our schools, maybe we could get drugs and violence out."



Knights Present Chalice

The Bishop James E. Kearney Assembly, Fourth Degree, of the Knights of Columbus recently presented a chalice to the Canandaigua Veterans Administration Hospital for the use of the priests who minister to the veterans. From left, Father John Proppe, VA Hospital chaplain; Raymond Pfeiffer, Master of the Fifth District; Father Ignatius, VA Hospital chaplain; Edmund F. Doyle, Faithful Navigator of the Assembly; and Michael Tedone, Commander of the Rochester Catholic War Veterans.

Bishop Rakes South Africa Over War against Namibia

Pretoria, South Africa (NC) -- South Africa's war against guerrillas seeking independence for Namibia has been criticized by the president of the Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference.

The president, Archbishop Denis Hurley of Durban, South Africa, called the fighting a "tragedy" and said South Africa wanted to prevent Namibian independence on any terms except its own.

Archbishop Hurley's views were expressed in his president's report at the annual plenary session of the bishops' conference which began Jan. 24.

South Africa has ruled Namibia (South-West Africa), a former German colony, since the end of World War I. The South-West African People's Organization, a black liberation movement, has been fighting

a guerrilla war against the white-minority South African government.

Archbishop Hurley said South African raids in Namibia and in southern Angola where the guerrillas have bases may also be aimed at preventing the African National Congress, a South African black independence movement, from using neighboring countries as bases.

"Destabilization is aimed principally at forcing South Africa's neighbors to deny assistance and facilities to the African National Congress," said Archbishop Hurley.

The African National Congress has claimed responsibility for acts of sabotage, including car bombings which have cost lives. It has been declared illegal by the government.

Cantor Training

The diocesan Office of Liturgy is sponsoring a two-part workshop for those interested exploring or deepening their knowledge of the ministry of Cantor, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 21 and Thursday, Feb. 28 at the Church of the Assumption in Fairport. The sessions will discuss the role of cantor/leader of song, voice skills, leading the congregation and current repertoire. The registration fee is \$4. Further information is available from the Office of Liturgy, (716) 328-3210.

CDA Meets

Carl Zuehlke of the Literacy Volunteers of Rochester will give a slide-tape presentation on the problems of illiteracy and his organization's work to ease those problems at the next meeting of Court Our Lady of the Cenacle of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, 7:30 p.m., Feb. 21 at St. Philip Neri Church.

Fr. Paul J. Cuddy



On the Right Side

Questions About The K. of C.

How long have you been a Knight of Columbus?

Over 40 years. A class was being formed in Ithaca, where I was stationed under Father William Byrne. My brother Frank, who was a zealous Knight and financial secretary for the Auburn K. of C., suggested that I join. So I did.

Have you been active?

Not very. Like many, I paid my dues and went to special functions. But I was, and am glad to be associated with a fraternity of 1,200,000 men who are pledged by their degrees and membership to be outstanding Catholics, practicing the Faith in their personal lives, and as an organization, carrying on works of charity and having great loyalty to the Church and the Holy Father. I know some Knights who do not even go to Mass. How do you square that with "outstanding Catholics"?

A Knight who is careless about his religion is a bit of an anomaly, but membership in the Knights does not remove the tensions from the seven capital sins, any more than baptism does. Pride, covetousness, lust, anger, envy, gluttony and sloth are urges in all of us as a result of original sin. But I think if you will analyze the spiritual life of any thousand Knights, you will find an exceptionally good average of virtue, loyalty and integrity.

What do the Knights do that you esteem them so?

You mean as an organization? That varies from council to council. Years ago there was some complaint that all the Knights did was drink beer and play cards. I suppose that was true in some councils. Not all Knights are flaming idealists. Our own Webster council is outstanding. It has a membership of over 300 men,

practically all of them exceptionally faithful in their religious practices. There are many spiritual programs. They sponsor a Mass every two weeks for a large nursing home, providing the priest-celebrant, the workers who wheel the patients to the Mass room, frequently a choir, ushers, sacristans, etc. The annual Charity Ball raises a lot of money which is given to many charities, including Holy Childhood, St. Joseph's House of Hospitality, scholarships, etc. It joins with the national program of promoting vocations to the priesthood, and holds an annual dinner of recognition of religious priests, sisters, seminarians. Webster Council built a fine council home on Barrett Drive where many social and fund raising events take place: a weekly bingo on Tuesdays; fish fries and other menus on Fridays; a social section for the thirsty. The home is also rented out for wedding receptions, business men's meetings, e.g. Xerox has used it for some meetings. Oh, it is an active council. Do the Knights accomplish their potential?

Who ever accomplishes his complete potential? But they average well. One thing I would emphasize is a greater reading of our monthly "Columbia". Did you know that it has the largest circulation of any Catholic magazine in the country -- 1,200,000 (Playboy does better, with 5,200,000). Its features are outstanding: Report from Rome, from Washington, the movie and TV section. I suspect that more wives of the Knights read "Columbia" than the men.

What about the ladies?

The Lord bless them forever! They are the Auxiliary Ladies of Columbus, and this article cannot include them, because they are something special. Enough to say that without the backing of the ladies, and their own program and assistance, the Knights would not be the fine organization that it is.



New Prexy

Dr. Rose Marie Beston, dean for academic affairs at Castleton State College in Vermont, will become the seventh president of Nazareth College July 1. She will replace Robert A. Kidera, who has been president since July 1976. The appointment climaxes a 10-month search which drew 67 applications and nominations.

Business in Diocese



Robert Malone and Jean Herrera, partners in Century 21 Home Spirit, recently celebrated the first anniversary of their real estate office. Malone is Eucharistic minister at St. Augustine's Parish, where his wife, Beth, also serves as folk group leader. Mrs. Herrera and her husband, Jesse, are active at St. Helen's Parish where they served as chairpersons of The Country Fair. In addition Mrs. Herrera is a member of the Rosary Altar Society. The partners' office was recently named "New Office of the Year" by Century 21's regional organization.

Achiever

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Caputo announced last week that their daughter Mary Ann, a fifth year student at the College of Applied Science and Technology at

Rochester Institute of Technology, has not only been named to the dean's list but also was the recipient of the Davis Leadership Scholarship Award.

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