

# World, Nation, People . . . in Brief

Provided by NC News Service

## World

### Pope Hits Anti-Semitism

Vatican City -- Pope John Paul II condemned anti-Semitism and urged Catholics and Jews to work together to better humanity during a meeting with representatives of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith March 22. Regarding anti-Semitism, "the Catholic Church, even before the Second Vatican Council, condemned such ideology and practice as opposed not only to the Christian profession but also to the dignity of the human person created in the image of God," said the pope.

### World Dedicated to Mary

Vatican City -- Pope John Paul II defended the indissolubility of marriage and consecrated the world to the Blessed Virgin Mary at a Holy Year celebration for families March 25. After an outdoor Mass in St. Peter's Square attended by 150,000 people, the pope prayed that Mary would help the world avoid the "incalculable self-destruction" of nuclear war. During the Mass, Pope John Paul stressed the importance of remaining faithful to one's marriage, and said married love is meant to be prolonged by procreation. (More details, Page 6.)

### Chemical Warfare Decried

Vatican City -- Pope John Paul II has decried the use of chemical weapons in the war between Iran and Iraq. His condemnation came March 28 during his weekly general audience and two days after the United Nations issued a report that "chemical weapons in the form of aerial bombs" have been dropped in Iran. The pope said that he has been concerned about the war since it started more than three years ago, but he now has a "more grave concern, after an authoritative investigation has concluded that means of fighting are being used which are contrary to international agreements which exclude use of cruel weapons and those which cause indiscriminate destruction."

## Nation

### Nun Gets Dispensation

Providence, R.I. -- Dispensation papers for Arlene Violet, who left the Sisters of Mercy to run for Rhode Island attorney general, have been received from the Vatican, according to Ms. Violet's campaign manager. The campaign official, Lee Blais, said that Ms. Violet was informed that the papers formally releasing her from her vows were in Rhode Island but that she had not received them as of March 23. Ms. Violet's former provincial and other members of the order were participating in a chapter meeting until March 28 and could not be reached for comment. Blais said Ms. Violet would be given the papers after the chapter meeting ends and said she intends to sign them.

### Latin Culprit: Injustice

Boynton Beach, Fla. -- Policies which seek only to fight communism in Central America cannot address the real cause of the region's unrest, said Archbishop Arturo Rivera Damas of San Salvador. The current turmoil is the result of years of injustice and "selfishness" on the part of the rich, the Salvadoran archbishop said at a March 20-23 symposium on church and state in Latin America, sponsored by the St. Vincent De Paul regional seminary in Boynton Beach. Communist infiltration is real, speakers at the symposium said, but addressing it as the only problem will prevent long-lasting solutions.

### Africa Priority Seen Lacking

New York -- The Reagan administration has not given African drought relief the priority it deserves, and its opposition to some relief programs is "politically motivated" against Marxism, said Lawrence Pezzullo, director of Catholic Relief Services. Pezzullo, in an interview after a trip to Africa to survey the CRS program there, said all governments and agencies working in drought relief efforts must form a "global strategy" to meet the needs of the hungry. He added that helping the hungry calls for a long-term effort which is not now underway or visible on the horizon.

# Focus on Today's World



Flanked by attorneys, Father Bernard Pagano walks toward U.S. District Court in Wilmington, Del. Father Pagano is suing four state police officers for false arrest in the "Gentleman Bandit" case.



Cardinal Joseph Bernardin of Chicago tapes a segment of his four-part televised mission in the Chicago studio of station WGN. The mission will be aired during Holy Week on many cable outlets in the United States carrying the Chicago station.



U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican William Wilson, right, is greeted at Rome's Leonardo da Vinci Airport by Msgr. Mario Carломagno of the Vatican Secretariat of State. Wilson arrived in Rome to take up residence as the first U.S. ambassador to the Vatican.

Photos provided by NC News Service

## On the Inside

At Your Parish	24
Bishop Clark	3
Business in Diocese	18
Calendar	6
Child	5
Classified	23
Crossroads II	7
Cuddy	22
Editorial	21
Faith Today	Center
Hohman	15
Liturg	7
Movies	19
Opinion	21
Pope	3
RapAround	10
Shannon	16
Television	19

## the Saints *by Luke*

ST. VINCENT FERRER WAS BORN AT VALENCIA, SPAIN, IN 1350. AT 18 HE JOINED THE DOMINICANS AND BEGAN STUDYING THEOLOGY. FOR THREE YEARS HE READ ONLY SCRIPTURE AND KNEW THE BIBLE VERY WELL.

HE WAS CALLED THE "ANGEL OF THE JUDGMENT," BECAUSE OF HIS ELOQUENT PREACHING.

HE PREACHED THROUGHOUT SPAIN, SWITZERLAND, FRANCE, ITALY, ENGLAND, IRELAND AND SCOTLAND. PREACHING IN HIS NATIVE SPANISH, HE WAS SAID TO BE UNDERSTOOD IN ALL TONGUES. THOUSANDS OF SINNERS WERE REFORMED; JEWS, INFIDELS AND HERETICS WERE CONVERTED. CONVENTS, ORPHANAGES AND HOSPITALS AROSE IN HIS PATH.

HE ALWAYS PREPARED FOR PREACHING BY PRAYER. HIS MOTTO WAS, "WHATEVER YOU DO, THINK NOT OF YOURSELF, BUT OF GOD." HE CURED THE SICK, THE BLIND, AND THE LAME. VINCENT BECAME ILL IN BRITAIN AND DIED IN 1419.

THE FEAST OF ST. VINCENT FERRER IS APRIL 5.

## ST. VINCENT FERRER



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