



**Shrine Vistor**

Gracielita Tillinghast, a freshman at Nazareth Academy, leaving the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. Gracielita was on a tour organized for language students of Upstate New York. Asked what impressed her most about Mexico she said, "The Mexicans' devotion to Mary."

**Exhortation**

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between God and the individual Religious which comes through Religious life.

"This intimate and profound knowledge of Christ is actuated and grows deeper day by day through the life of personal, community and liturgical prayer proper to each of your Religious families," he said.

The pope cited the documents of the Second Vatican Council and Paul VI on Religious life and called Religious consecration a "fuller expression of baptismal consecration."

"The church thinks of you, above all, as persons who are consecrated. Consecration determines your

place in the vast community of the church, the people of God," he said.

"And at the same time this consecration introduces into the universal mission of this people a special source of spiritual and supernatural energy: a particular style of life, witness and apostolate, in fidelity to the mission of your institute and to its identity and spiritual heritage," he added.

The vows of poverty and obedience emphasize redemptive love while chastity "places greater emphasis on the spousal character of this love," the papal document said. The pope cited Christ's exhortation of freely choosing chastity for the Kingdom of God (Mt. 19:12) and St.

Paul's statement to the Corinthians that virginity is better than marriage (1 Cor. 7:38).

"Through the vow of chastity, consecrated persons share in the economy of the redemption through the free renunciation of the temporal joys of married and family life," the pope said. "On the other hand, precisely by their 'having made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven,' they bring into the midst of this passing world the announcement of the future resurrection and of eternal life: life in union with God himself through the beatific vision and the love which contains in itself and completely pervades all the other loves of the human heart."

The pope added that the reference to freely chosen chastity and to virginity as having a higher place than marriage does not contain "any lack of esteem for matrimony."

"The evangelical counsel of chastity," he said, "is only an indication of that particular possibility which for the human heart, whether of a man or a woman, constitutes the spousal love of Christ himself, of Jesus the 'Lord.'"

The pope praised evangelical poverty as a means of imitating Christ.

In the Gospel call to renounce one's possessions to follow Jesus "there is hidden the testimony of the infinite richness of God which, transferred to the human soul in the mystery of Grace, creates in man himself, precisely through poverty, a source for enriching others not comparable with any other resource of material goods, a source for bestowing gifts on others in the manner of God himself," he said.

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**NOW Says Reagan Caused Bombings**

By NC News Service

Members of the National Organization for Women and other abortion advocates picketed the White House March 22, claiming the Reagan administration is "directly responsible" for what they said was a wave of violence aimed at abortion clinics.

NOW president Judy Goldsmith said that Reagan's "inflammatory rhetoric" comparing abortion to slavery and the Nazi holocaust is encouraging a "climate of terror and domestic terrorism." She said she had sent a telegram to Reagan demanding that he order the FBI and the Justice Department to conduct investigations into what she called a "wave of violence."

A White House spokeswoman said the Reagan administration "certainly doesn't condone anything that would constitute a violent attack."

**New Order Established To Serve Washington**

Washington (NC) — Archbishop James Hickey of Washington announced that he has approved the formation of a new community of women Religious which will serve the Archdiocese of Washington.

Members of the new community, the Sisters of St. Mary of Washington, will receive their assignments directly from the archbishop in the same way as do the priests and deacons in the archdiocese, he said.

The women will observe the regular Religious vows of poverty, chastity and obedience and will live in community.

In consultation with their own superior general, three Sisters of Notre Dame de

Namur will start the initial community.

They will form the Sisters of St. Mary according to procedures specified by the Vatican Congregation for Religious and Secular Institutes, the announcement said.

**Parish Deadline**

Parish correspondents are advised that the deadline for submissions to At-Your Parish is noon on Thursday, preceding Wednesday publication. The Courier-Journal address is 114 S. Union St., Rochester, N.Y. 14607.

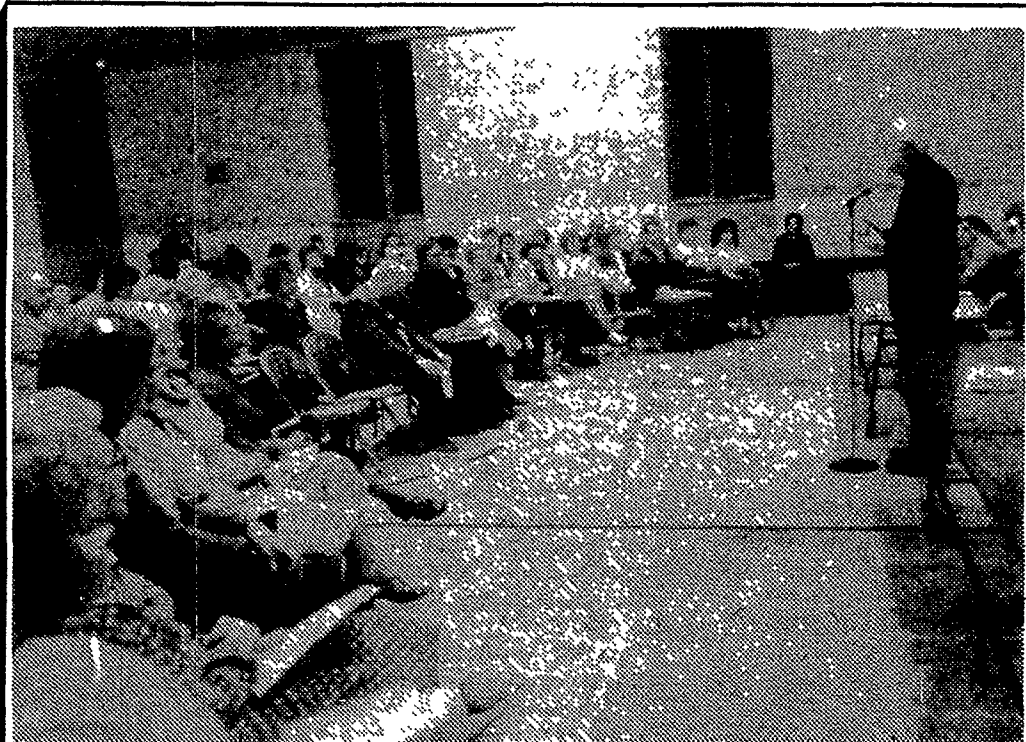
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**Parish Plans Census**

Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey, pastor of St. Thomas More Church, introduces the plan for a parish census to more than 100 volunteers last Tuesday night in the parish gymnasium. The census will be from 1:30-5 p.m. on Sunday, April 8, and includes the visitation of over 800 homes in the parish. The theme of the census is "Reaching Out in Friendship," and another organizational meeting is scheduled for tonight. Right, Dr. Michael Diodato, co-chairman of the census with wife Carol (behind him), addresses the volunteers at the meeting.



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