

World, Nation, People . . . in Brief

Focus on Today's World

Provided by NC News Service

World

Pope Praises Peace Efforts

Vatican City — Pope John Paul II has praised the efforts of Colombia to seek a negotiated settlement to the conflicts in Central America. "It is a great comfort to me that in Colombia there is active collaboration with other countries to re-establish peaceful relations among the peoples of Central America," the pope said April 16 when he accepted the credentials of Colombia's new ambassador to the Holy See, Miguel Escobar Mendez. Colombia, Mexico, Venezuela and Panama form the Contadora group which is trying to foster regional negotiations in Central America.

\$25 M Changes Minds

Cape Town, South Africa — A \$25 million pledge by the Mariannhill Missionaries has played a key role in the South African government's decision not to relocate 12,000 blacks. The government has accepted an offer by the Mariannhill Fathers to spend \$25 million on developing the town of St. Wendolin's, where the blacks live. The new decision reverses a decision of 18 years ago to clear the area for occupation by Asians.

China Next for M. Teresa

Rome — "We are trying to get into China," Mother Teresa of Calcutta told Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, Vatican secretary of state, April 14. Mother Teresa met Cardinal Casaroli and other Vatican representatives after her speech to more than 3,000 young people during the Holy Year celebration for youths in Rome. She spoke of her hopes of entering the country where the church has been oppressed since the 1949 Communist revolution. Several journalists attended the meeting.

Penance, Eucharist Linked

Vatican City — The Holy Week liturgies show the link between the sacraments of penance and the Eucharist, said Pope John Paul II during his Holy Week general audience April 18 in St. Peter's Square. "The great liturgical events of these days direct our attention to the victory of Christ over sin and death, and to the two great sacraments which mediate this mystery of grace to us, namely the Eucharist and the sacrament of penance," the pope said.

Nation

High Court Ruling Protested

Washington — The Supreme Court's April 17 decision to allow sweeping Immigration and Naturalization Service searches of factories for illegal aliens makes Hispanics targets of discrimination, said a bishop and several other Catholic officials familiar with INS raids. Bishop Roger M. Mahony of Stockton, Calif., said the court's majority opinion "portrays the most idealistic scenario. Raids are portrayed as informal, friendly walk-throughs. In my experience that is not the case -- uniformed officers block the doors, sometimes guns are drawn, people panic," he told NC News. In its 7-2 decision, the high court said searches in which agents block the exits do not violate privacy rights guaranteed by the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution.

School Decline Slows

Boston — There are 31 fewer Catholic elementary and secondary schools in the United States this year than in 1982-83, the smallest decline since the 1960s, according to a National Catholic Educational Association report. The Data Bank of the NCEA, in its report released April 23 in conjunction with the NCEA convention in Boston April 23-26, also found an increasing number of non-Catholic and minority students in Catholic schools.

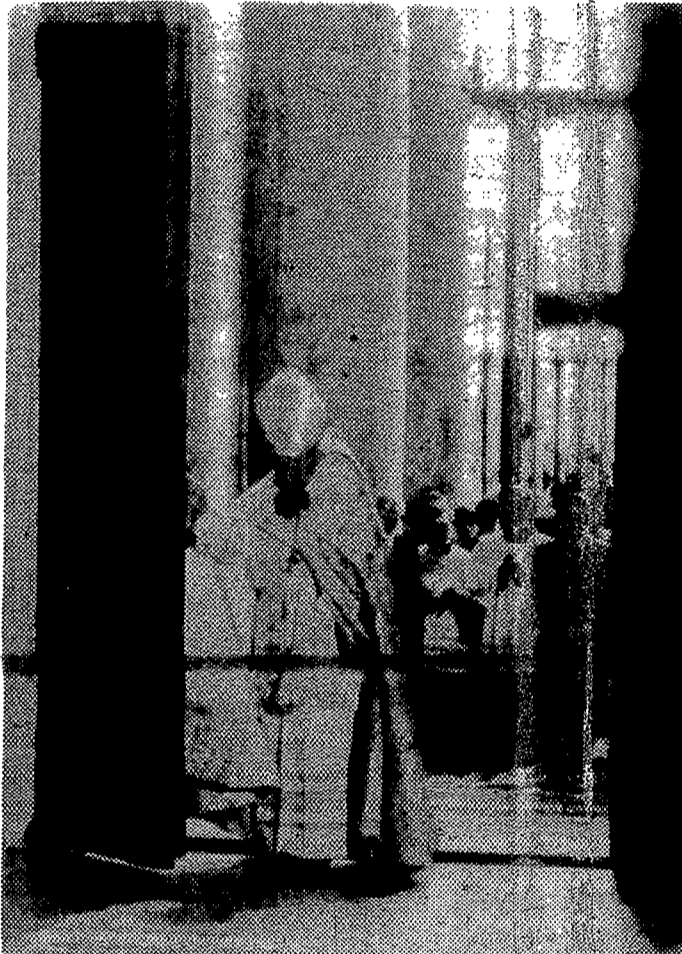
People

Names Make News

Imelda Marcos, wife of President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines, met Pope John Paul II April 21 at the Vatican. During her Eastertime visit to Rome and the Vatican, Mrs. Marcos also received messages of concern for the plight of three priests and six lay workers charged with the murder of the mayor of a Philippine town. . . Pope John Paul II has named a new auxiliary bishop in Covington, Ky., and promoted auxiliaries in Scranton, Pa., and Jackson, Miss., to head those dioceses. Auxiliary Bishop William R. Houck of Jackson was named bishop of Jackson. Auxiliary Bishop James C. Timlin of Scranton was named bishop of Scranton. Father James Kendrick Williams, pastor of Holy Trinity Church in Louisville, Ky., was named an auxiliary bishop of Covington. . . Elizabeth Bouvia, the 26-year-old cerebral palsy victim who staged a lengthy legal battle to be allowed to die, changed her mind Easter morning and asked for help "to get better." At a Tijuana motel April 22 she had her first solid food in seven months, a Mexican sweet roll, according to a San Diego Union reporter who was with Ms. Bouvia.



Salvadoran presidential candidate Jose Napoleon Duarte, second from left, talks with lawyers and a relative of one of the four American church women killed near San Salvador in 1980. The lawyers represent families of the missionaries. The trial of the Salvadoran National Guardsmen accused of the murders is expected to begin following the May 6 elections. (NC Photo)



At an Easter ceremony, Pope John Paul II closes the Holy Door, marking the end of the Holy Year. (NC Photo)



Father James Raymond Sharp hugs his wife, Beverly, after his ordination to the priesthood at St. Bernard Church in Dallas. Father Sharp, 48, has three children and four grandchildren and is first of three former Episcopal priests in the Dallas area to be ordained under Vatican guidelines. The Sharps joined the Catholic Church a year ago. (NC Photo)

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the Saints *by Luke*



ST. PEREGRINE



ST. PEREGRINE WAS BORN IN 1265 IN FORLI, ITALY. AS A YOUNG MAN HE LED A GROUP FOSTERING CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE AND OPPOSITION TO THE POPE.

WHEN ST. PHILIP BENIZI WAS SENT AS AN APOSTLE OF PEACE TO THE CITY OF FORLI, PEREGRINE MET HIM IN THE STREET AND STRUCK HIM IN THE FACE. FORGIVEN BY PHILIP PEREGRINE THEN EXPRESSED DEEP REMORSE AND BEGGED FOR PARDON AND ADVICE.

PEREGRINE GAVE UP HIS OLD WAY OF LIFE AND COMPANIONS AND WAS ADMITTED INTO THE SERVANTS OF MARY (SERVITES) BY ST. PHILIP. HE DEVOTED HIS LIFE TO PENANCE, PRAYER AND CARE OF THE SICK IN HOSPITALS. EVENTUALLY, PEREGRINE'S LEG BECAME INFECTED WITH AN INCURABLE DISEASE, AND A DOCTOR ORDERED AN AMPUTATION. REFUSING THE OPERATION, HE PRAYED TO THE SAVIOR; MIRACULOUSLY HIS LEG WAS CURED THAT NIGHT.

ST. PEREGRINE DIED IN 1345. HE WAS CANONIZED IN 1726.

ST. PEREGRINE IS THE PATRON SAINT OF THOSE AFFLICTED WITH CANCER. HIS FEAST IS MAY 4.

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