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Loccum Report: Use Politics, Not N-Threat

Informal translation, Page 7
By NC News Service

Western and Soviet-bloc Christian church representatives have urged that political activities replace the threat of nuclear destruction as a tool for preserving global peace, according to a report issued by the interdenominational group following the three-day conference in Loccum, West Germany.

Bishop Matthew H. Clark of Rochester was among a group of three representing the United States at the conference. The others were Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Sullivan of Brooklyn and Edward Doherty of the U.S. Catholic Conference.

Nations should renounce force, seek mutual security and promote social justice, the interdenominational group said.

But switching to the political alternative will require "an intensive and possibly protracted effort," the group said in its report. The conference theme was "Peace as Mission of the Churches."

The group also proposed establishing a panel of experts to monitor developments in the nuclear arms race.

Bishop Clark said the discussions were "open and frank."

Members of the Catholic, Lutheran, Reformed and Russian Orthodox churches were at the May 27-30 conference. Participants came from the United States, West Germany, East Germany and the Soviet Union.

Divinity Schools, St. Bernard's, Renew Original Agreement

St. Bernard's Institute and Colgate Rochester Divinity School will sign a new covenant agreement at 10 a.m., Thursday, May 31, in the Ambrose Swasey Library on the Goodman Street Campus.

The new agreement signals the success of the initial covenant, signed three years ago, which placed the two institutions on a single campus.

Joining in the signing of the new agreement will be the administrative heads of the institutions -- Father Sebastian Falcone, dean of St. Bernard's Institute; and Dr. Larry L. Greenfield, president of the Divinity Schools -- as well as members of the boards of trustees of both schools.

"The new covenant achieves a new level of cooperation which honors our distinctive religious and educational identities and advances a shared purpose," Dr. Greenfield said.

"Our experience has shown that significant ecumenical cooperation is possible and workable," Father Falcone said. "It is my conviction that both institutions are the stronger for this cooperative effort."

According to a press release from the Divinity Schools, the new agreement gives special focus to the unification of the libraries, which are a major theological assemblage of Protestant, Anglican and Roman Catholic collections.

As in the original agreement, both schools will continue to maintain their own boards of trustees, faculty, and financial accounting. There is provision for growing levels of cooperation in program and resources.

Under terms of the new agreement, which extends to May 1989, the libraries will be integrated with full cataloging, interfiling of catalog records, and inter-shelving of public collections. The identity of special collections, including the Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Archives, will be maintained.

Bishop Matthew H. Clark said, "My participation in the board meetings, liturgical celebrations, and the commencement exercises lead me to believe the next five years will provide even greater opportunities for growth."

"I am especially pleased that, in addition to the benefit of our Roman Catholic tradition, there is ecumenical enrichment for our students in their theological and ministry studies."

"St. Bernard's Institute has added its resources and strength to the already impressive faculty and theological library at the Divinity School, and brought Protestant, Anglican and Roman Catholic theological studies into a constructive cooperative stance which will benefit us all," said former Episcopal Bishop Robert R. Spears Jr.

Celibacy, Commitment Reported as Deterrents To Priestly Vocations



Photo by Terrance J. Brennan

'Rosario de Cruz'

Pedro Nunez harmonizes as part of a larger group of musicians during the Puerto Rican celebration of the "Rosary of the Cross of May," last week, May 20-28, at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel parish. The musical program, coordinated by Nunez, features songs honoring Our Lady and is part of the year-long celebration of the parish's 75th anniversary, according to Father James Hewes, pastor. All festivities will culminate at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 7 with Bishop Clark celebrating the anniversary Mass at the church, followed by dinner at 7 p.m.

Salvadoran Conviction Called Only First 'Step' to Justice

By NC News Service
The conviction of five ex-Salvadoran National Guard members in the murders of four U.S. women missionaries is "a step in the right direction" but "justice demands that the next step be the investigation of the involvement of higher officials in the crime," said a statement issued by the Maryknoll Sisters May 24.

The statement was issued after a five-member jury in El Salvador found the ex-

guardsmen guilty of the murders in December 1980 of Maryknoll Sisters Ita Ford and Maura Clarke, Ursuline Sister Dorothy Kazel and lay missionary Jean Donovan.

"The trial and conviction of the five guardsmen is unique. It is the first time El Salvador's judicial system has tried and convicted military personnel for murder and held the military accountable for their actions," said the Maryknoll statement issued at the U.S. missionary

society's headquarters in Maryknoll, N.Y.

"In a country crippled by the violence of civil war, it is an indication of an attempt to call on the rule of law where law has been suspended," it added.

The three-paragraph statement, however, said the ex-guardsmen may have acted under orders and a further investigation is needed.

The statement also de-

Continued on Page 4.

Washington (NC) -- Requirements of celibacy and permanent commitment and a lack of encouragement from parents and priests may be among the main reasons for the drastic drop in U.S. vocations to the Catholic priesthood, says a new study published by the U.S. Catholic Conference.

It is also "plausible," though not yet established by research, that confusion about what a priest should be has contributed to the vocations shortage, the study said.

While requirements of celibacy and permanent commitment were not considered significant obstacles to priestly vocations in the past, that situation has changed, the report said.

It also cited many other factors, from parental religious practice to family size to ethnic background, as having possible influences, not yet adequately researched, on vocations.

The report, "Research on Men's Vocations to the Priesthood and the Religious Life," was released May 23.

Fr. Sansom Retires

Father Lawrence W. Sansom, 70, is included among diocesan priests retiring this year.

Born Jan. 4, 1914, Father Sansom was ordained in 1941. He served as assistant pastor at St. Joseph's, Wayland; St. Anthony's, Elmira; St. Agnes, Avon; Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Rochester; St. Theodore's, Gates; St. Mary's, Corning; St. John the Evangelist, Spencerport, and Holy Family, Auburn.

He assumed his first pastorate at St. James the Apostle in Trumansburg in 1966 and later was named pastor of St. Mary of the Lake, Watkins Glen, and St. Benedict's, Odessa. In 1973, he left the diocese to work in another diocese.



FATHER SANSON

Faith Today, Centerfold