

World, Nation, People . . . in Brief

Provided by NC News Service

World

Rome Honors John XXIII

Rome -- Rome has dedicated a square to Pope John XXIII and named it in his honor. The square is on the Tiber River at the foot of the four-block-long street leading into St. Peter's Square. At a dedication ceremony June 23, City Assessor Mario Debartolo called Pope John, who reigned from 1958 to 1963, a man "so dear to the memory of all, believers and unbelievers."

Ecumenicity Pushed by Pope

Vatican City -- Pope John Paul II urged Greek Catholic bishops to continue ecumenical dialogue with their "Orthodox brothers," but said their efforts toward full reconciliation would require the healing effects of time. Pope John Paul reaffirmed the primacy of Rome, led by the pope, as the "vital center" of the church, in his talk to the bishops who visit the Vatican as a group every five years.

Nation

Too Convincing for Court

St. Louis -- Jesuit Father Francis X. Cleary, a St. Louis biblical scholar, was barred from testifying against the death penalty at two murder trials after the jury at an earlier trial was apparently moved by his arguments. Father Cleary said he had been testifying during the sentencing phase of murder trials for several years at the request of the St. Louis County public defender's office. Judge Bernhardt C. Drumm Jr. refused to permit the priest's testimony in a murder trial, calling Father Cleary's arguments "coercive and intimidating."

Sect Founder in Hiding

Spokane, Wash. -- The founder of the schismatic Tridentine Rite Latin Church, ousted in June by his former chief assistant, has gone into hiding and is under court order to return \$250,000 to the sect. Bishop Francis K. Schuckardt, who has led TRLC since he founded it in 1968, and Frater Denis Chicoine, his former vicar general who now claims leadership of the group's estimated 5,000 adherents, have excommunicated each other and traded accusations of immorality. The sect claims to be the only true remnant of the Catholic Church, which it says was taken over by Freemasons during the Second Vatican Council.

Prelates Give Nuke Views

Washington -- Cardinal Joseph L. Bernardin of Chicago and Archbishop John J. O'Connor of New York at a congressional hearing June 26 criticized deployment of U.S. Pershing and cruise missiles in Western Europe. They also asked for a reconsideration of deployment of the MX missile and expressed skepticism over the proposed "star wars" space-based defense system. But they praised other aspects of U.S. defense policy, including President Reagan's remark in his 1984 State of the Union address that "nuclear war cannot be won." More details, Page 1.

Religious Order Inaugurated

Washington -- Three nuns and Archbishop James A. Hickey of Washington inaugurated a new archdiocesan religious order June 16. The pioneer community of Sisters of St. Mary of Washington has been recognized as unique by the Vatican because of its direct tie to the archdiocese and its archbishop. While living the consecrated life of poverty, chastity and obedience, the nuns will receive their apostolic assignments from the archbishop.

Reagan Position Lauded

Washington -- A Reagan administration position paper on population control can signal a redirection of U.S. policy "toward an approach which is more balanced and more respectful of human dignity," said Msgr. Daniel F. Hoye, U.S. Catholic Conference general secretary. In a letter to President Reagan supporting key aspects of the position paper, Msgr. Hoye said he hoped that those features will be retained in the final U.S. document to be presented in Mexico City in August at the International Conference on Population.

Focus on Today's World



Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen of Seattle and Bishop Robert Cochrane of the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia, Wash., sign a covenant promoting unity between the two churches during vespers at St. James Catholic Cathedral in Seattle. (NC Photo)



Death penalty protester Mary Stewart is overcome with emotion during a vigil in Tallahassee, Fla., to express opposition to the execution of Carl Shriver in

Florida's electric chair. The demonstrators held cardboard headstones with names of the five other men executed since Florida's death penalty was reinstated in 1977. (NC Photo)



In a hospital in Einsiedeln, Switzerland, Pope John Paul II kisses a newborn baby. The pope made the brief stop during the fifth day of his Swiss tour. (NC Photo)

the Saints *by Luke*

MARIA GORETTI WAS BORN IN 1890 AT CORINALDO, A SMALL VILLAGE IN ITALY. SHE WAS ONE OF SIX CHILDREN. THE EARLY DEATH OF THEIR FATHER LEFT THEM VERY POOR. MARIA HELPED HER MOTHER AND WALKED A LONG DISTANCE TO ATTEND CATECHISM CLASS IN TOWN.

ON TWO OCCASIONS, A YOUNG MAN OF 19 TRIED TO SEDUCE HER, BUT MARIA CRIED OUT THAT SHE'D RATHER DIE THAN SIN. "GOD DOES NOT WANT IT, YOU WILL GO TO HELL!" SHE CRIED OUT TO THE YOUNG MAN. IN HIS FRUSTRATION, HE STABBED HER WITH A KNIFE 14 TIMES AND LEFT HER TO DIE. AT THE HOSPITAL, SURROUNDED BY HER PARISH PRIEST, HER MOTHER AND SOME NUNS, SHE FORGAVE HER ATTACKER, AND WITH GREAT PEACE SAID, "IT IS JESUS I AM SOON GOING TO SEE." SOON AFTER SHE DIED, AT THE AGE OF 11.

YEARS LATER, HER MURDERER WAS CONVERTED AND BECAME A MAJOR WITNESS FOR HER BEATIFICATION. HER MOTHER, ASSUNTA, WAS PRESENT AT HER 1950 CANONIZATION.

ST. MARIA GORETTI IS PATRONESS OF BOYS AND GIRLS AND HER FEAST DAY IS JULY 6.

St. MARIA GORETTI



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