

# U.S. Clarifies Position On Population Control Aid

Washington (NC) — The White House has issued a policy statement saying it would deny U.S. population control aid to non-government groups which "perform or actively promote" abortion, but it may continue to give population aid to nations in which abortion is part of the population control program.

One of the biggest losers could be the International Planned Parenthood Federation, which could have more than \$10 million a year in U.S. funding withdrawn, or more than 20 percent of its yearly budget.

A new policy statement also would require, as a condition for further U.S. funding, that the U.N. Fund for Population Activities show that it does not fund abortion or coercive family planning programs. The UNFPA gets \$38 million, or one fifth of its budget, from the United States.

When an earlier version of the Reagan administration's position was leaked in June, it drew strong approval from anti-abortion groups and political conservatives but sharp criticism from family planning groups that approve of abortion.

Msgr. Daniel Hoye, general secretary of the U.S. Catholic Conference, the public policy arm of the U.S. bishops, endorsed key aspects of the June draft, including its rejection of indirect abortion funding. He said it could signal a redirection of U.S. policy "toward an approach which is more balanced and more respectful of human dignity."

Msgr. Hoye said July 16 that he had not yet had a chance to study the revised policy, but he welcomed "in principle" any policy which moves in the direction of rejecting abortion as a form of population control.

The new policy statement, revealed July 13, is to be presented at the U.N. International Conference on Population beginning Aug. 6 in Mexico City. It is to serve as the framework for the U.S. delegation's work at that meeting.

Since 1974 the United States has prohibited direct use of its population control funds to fund abortions, but it has funded other population control activities of governments and voluntary organizations which are also engaged in abortion funding. The U.S. Agency for International Development currently spends about \$240 million a year on population programs.

Anti-abortion groups have contended that the 1974 policy indirectly funds abortions because the American funding for other population activities allows the recipient nation or organization to devote more funds from other sources to its abortion activities.

Organizations such as the International Planned Parenthood Federation have met the U.S. requirements by strictly segregating their abortion-related activities from other population activities, using U.S. funds only for the other activities.

The new policy says that the U.S. government will no longer give any funds to "non-governmental organizations which perform or actively promote abortion as a method of family planning in other nations."

The UNFPA says it does not fund abortion, but abortion opponents dispute that claim. The new policy statement permits continued American aid to the UNFPA if it gives "concrete evidence" that it does not underwrite abortion.

Aside from the shift on population control funding to foreign governments, the new policy statement retains essentially the same language and thrust as the earlier draft. Its basic philosophy is that the chief obstacle to development in poor nations is not population growth, but the "pathology" of "governmental control of economies."

## AT YOUR PARISH

### Guardian Angels

**Henrietta** — The Queen of the Americas Guild of Guardian Angels Church holds a perpetual novena in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe 7:30 p.m. each Monday. The public is invited.

The guild also sponsors a First Saturday program which includes a 9 a.m. Mass, recitation of the rosary, 15 minutes of meditation, acts of reparation and consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and a hymn to Our Lady of Fatima, on the first Saturday of each month. The hour-long event "is in reparation for our sins, world peace and the conversion of Russia," according to Phil Drexler, president of the guild. Other officers of the organization are Father Richard A. Hart, pastor and spiritual director; Inez Hennessy, secretary; Tess Schofer, treasurer; Cathy Weston, literary and materials; Gloria Shostad, film; Dorothy Mirabile and Elhel Dame, publicity.

### Lady of Lourdes

**Elmira** — At the recent meeting of Our Lady of Lourdes Holy Name Society it was decided that: 1. at the death of a Holy Name member, an announcement will be placed in the newspaper for all members to gather at the funeral home for prayers for the deceased; 2. because of decreasing attendance at fund raising events, the real effort must be made for the comfort of the present patrons and in the hope of attracting new patrons, and to this end new equipment will be purchased; 3. a new policy will be put into effect barring loaning of chairs and tables from the hall. Persons asking to borrow chairs or tables will be directed to borrow them from the rectory garage.

### Mt. Carmel

The graduating class of 1934 from Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School recently celebrated its 50th anniversary. Twenty eight attended the event at the Pittsford Tavern on the Mall. A Mass was celebrated July 8 for deceased members at the parish church.

### Immaculate

**Ithaca** — Couples planning marriage at Immaculate Conception Church have been advised that Pre-Cana will be held 7-10 p.m., Monday and Wednesday, Sept. 10 and 12 in room 108 of the school. Pre-Cana is required of all couples planning marriage in the parish.

### Assumption

**Fairport** — The youth group of the Church of the Assumption is planning a two-night camp-out Aug. 8, 9 and 10 at Taughannock Falls. The event will be led by Father Robert Ring, associate pastor. Teenagers interested in attending are asked to call Mrs. Atterbury, 385-3186 to register. In addition, the parish has asked for loan of a tent for the venture.

### St. Andrew

The Vacation Bible Camp for St. Andrew's Church will be 9 a.m.-noon, August 6-10. The camp is open to all youngsters between 3 and 9. Further information is available from Lucien Cayer, religious education coordinator, 467-9201.

**Advisory**  
The Courier-Journal is legally restrained from publishing notices of any games of chance or the prizes won for such games.

### St. Patrick

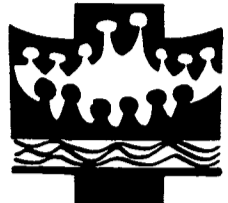
**Corning** — Parishioners at St. Patrick's Church were recently advised of a smorgasbord dinner and bocci tournament, noon-4 p.m., Sunday, July 29 at St. Mary's Church in Silver Springs. Tickets are \$4 for adults; \$2 for children; and free for pre-schoolers. The public is invited.

### St. Ambrose

Applications are now being accepted for St. Ambrose Church's fourth annual Arts and Crafts Sale, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday, Nov. 23. Persons who did not participate last year but who would like to do so this year are asked to contact Liz Casper, 654-8625. Requests will be handled on a first-come-first-served basis.

The parish also issued a request for callers for the St. Ambrose Blood Drive, slated August 6. Interested persons are asked to leave names and telephone numbers at the rectory.

## Insights In Liturgy



By Sister Helen Harber, r.c.

### Listening/Praying

I am a Cenacle Sister. June 2 (Saturday after the Ascension) was the feast of Our Lady of the Retreat in the Cenacle. For more than 25 years I have celebrated this feast with my sisters and friends in the Cenacle. This year, however, I chose another way to celebrate.

I said "yes" to the invitation to lead a workshop on prayer during the RCIA meet at Keuka College. I said "yes" thoughtfully and cheerfully, thinking how similar this gathering was to that of the first Christians — disciples, apostles, and the women — recalling their memories of Jesus, also how they "with one accord bowed themselves to prayer" (Acts 1:14).

It was a buoyant experience to be with the enthusiastic, animated Christians of this community. The workshops beginning at 1:30 p.m. followed a warm, stimulating and challenging presentation by Father Regis Duffy. Our assigned room was a square one below the chapel. Space did not permit arranging chairs for "atmosphere," but that turned out to be no hindrance to the Holy Spirit! Those expected came and sat rather stiffly on chairs around the room, then as the center, their legs or feet comfortably on the floor, and, finally, standing.

Glances fell among the group, as if to say, "I am not alone." The workshop was a time of prayer and reflection. We shared our own experiences of prayer and the presence of God. We shared our own experiences of prayer and the presence of God. We shared our own experiences of prayer and the presence of God.

104. The gentle, expectant "listening" bespoke the Spirit within and among us. We experienced what Vatican II taught us: "God is just as much present in his Word as he is in the Sacraments" (Doctrine on Liturgy).

We learned, too, that faithful listening can be a rich experience in a short time, one does not need hours of time to grow in prayer, but only daily fidelity.

Another truth emphasized more since Vatican II is the place of listening in prayer. We have feelings about any relationships that are important to us. So it is to be expected that God's action on me in prayer will be experienced often as a feeling. Because of this I must take myself seriously, be reflective enough to know my uniqueness, gradually learn to trust what is whispered within me by the Holy Spirit. When I feel strengthened, enlightened we do not have difficulty responding. What if I feel irritated, angry, fearful, uncomfortable by what I hear when I listen? Trust it. Perhaps the Lord wants to reveal and heal some area deep within me (that I would rather not own). At any rate, trust your experience, own it — talk to the Lord about it — then let it be. All God's touches are freeing — but on His timetable.

Our trust rests on the word, leads us our faith — God's abiding love of us. The Holy Spirit is with us, and we are with Him. We are with Him, and we are with Him. We are with Him, and we are with Him.

## Fr. Albert Shamon



Word for Sunday

### Real Worth

**Sunday's Readings: (R3) Mt. 13/44-52. (R1) 1 Kgs. 3/5, 7-12. (R2) Rom. 8/28-30.**

We don't often hear of Solomon in our Sunday readings. But his name surely strikes a bell. Sunday's first readings show that the teenage Solomon is wise even prior to receiving the gift of wisdom. How wise he was to sense his own lack of experience! How wise to go to the shrine of the Lord at Gibeon and offer prayers and sacrifices to God!

How good God is! He is actively involved with his people. Solomon asks for an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong. And God gives it to him. In giving it to him we learn something of God's priorities. God values not wealth, nor long life, nor death to enemies, but knowing life with His mind.

The four gospel stories illustrate an understanding heart. All four stories focus on the followers of the Kingdom: the treasure-finder, the pearl merchant, the fisherman, and the householder.

The treasure-finder and the pearl merchant are alike in that both discover something of great value and they have the good sense to recognize it as such and to sell all in order to possess it. They are unlike in that the treasure-finder comes upon his treasure by accident, whereas the pearl merchant seems to have been actively searching for pearls.

The fishermen and the householders are alike in that they have the ability to make true judgments. The fishermen are able to distinguish between good and bad fish. The householder is able to distinguish be-

tween genuine antiques and new models.

Each parable shows us people who recognize something of value when they come across it, who have the ability to discern between good and evil. That capacity is a kind of Solomonic wisdom.

The summer Olympic in Los Angeles offers us a fifth parable. For more than four years, young athletes, hundreds of them, have sold all they had in order to get the coveted treasure of gold, silver, or bronze medals. They sold their free time, social life and lucrative employment to earn enough skill to buy the treasure. That is all well and good. But by contrast, what efforts do they, or we, expend to win an imperishable crown? Are they, or we, wise in the Solomonic sense?

The Academy Award for Best Picture of 1982 went to "Chariots of Fire." The film presented a true-to-life account which led to Eric Lidell's refusal to run on a Sunday in the 1924 Olympic games and his subsequent victory in the 400 meters. For Lidell, Sunday was the Lord's Day, and a day to honor God. It was not a day to run, even in the Olympics.

Eric Lidell was a man who knew who he was, and consequently knew what he was to do in life. He eventually gave his life being a missionary in China and gave up running to carry out that purpose, until a brain tumor claimed him at the age of 43. On the day he died in 1945, one of Lidell's companions in his diary wrote about Lidell: "He wasn't a great leader, or an inspired thinker, but he knew what he ought to do, and he did it." I think that is what the Sunday readings are telling us about. Know what one must do and do it, no matter the cost! Of such is the Kingdom of Heaven.

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