

World, Nation, People . . . in Brief

Provided by NC News Service

World

Union Support 'Lives'

Rome -- Cardinal Joseph Bernardin of Chicago said he saw strong support for Solidarity, the banned trade union, during a 10-day trip to Poland. The cardinal said, after participating in several Masses, that nearly everyone in the congregation raised a hand to "make the 'V' for victory sign" for Solidarity. "The spirit which gave rise to Solidarity lives on, but where it will lead to in the future, one cannot say," said the cardinal, who was in Rome Aug. 21 at the beginning of a four-day stay following his Polish visit.

Abp. Denounces Law

Valletta, Malta -- Archbishop Joseph Mercieca of Malta asked a Maltese civil court to overturn a law which prohibits Catholic and other private secondary schools from charging tuition, the archbishop's office said. The archbishop claimed in the Aug. 10 lawsuit that the school law denied the constitutional guarantees of worship, free expression, freedom from loss of property without compensation and the right to privacy, the archbishop's office said.

S. America Visit Set

Rome -- Church leaders in Peru and Venezuela said Pope John Paul II plans to visit their countries, as well as Ecuador, in early 1985. The pope is expected to arrive in Venezuela Jan. 26 on the first leg of the visit, which is scheduled to last through early February, they said. A Vatican spokesman has said the trip is under serious consideration. There is usually no Vatican confirmation of such travels until closer to the event.

Death Count Overestimated

San Salvador, El Salvador -- Tutela Legal, the human rights office of the San Salvador Archdiocese, has said it substantially overestimated the number of civilians killed during a Dec. 31, 1983, army operation. The organization said it had confirmed only 16 civilian deaths resulting from the operation in the northern province of Chalatenango, instead of 250, as it had reported in February. However, Tutela Legal also said it had received unconfirmed reports of "many more" deaths.

Nation

Jesuits Support Vote

New York -- Catholics can vote for candidates who support some pro-abortion policies if they believe "these candidates will serve the common good better than their opponents," said the Jesuit magazine America in an Aug. 25 editorial. The editorial said the question remains, however, "how a Catholic politician can, in good conscience, support any pro-abortion policies. None of the answers given so far by any of the leading Catholic politicians is completely satisfactory."

Court Rules on Fetus

Boston -- The Massachusetts State Supreme Court, in a 4-3 decision, ruled Aug. 16 that a viable fetus is a "person" and a driver causing its death may be prosecuted for vehicular homicide. The court said an autopsy showed the eight-and-one-half-month-old fetus in question, whose mother was struck by a car in 1982, "was viable at the time of the incident and that it died as a result of internal injuries caused by the impact of the vehicle."

People

Names Make News

Bishop John L. Morkovsky of Galveston-Houston, Texas, has resigned because of age. The resignation of Bishop Morkovsky, who turned 75 -- the retirement age for bishops -- on Aug. 16, was accepted by Pope John Paul II, according to an announcement Aug. 21 by Archbishop Pio Laghi, apostolic pronuncio to the United States. No successor was named. . . . Benedictine Abbot Jerome Hanus was elected the new Abbot-president of the Benedictine Confederation's Swiss-American Congregation. Abbot Hanus, a native of Brainard, Neb., succeeds Benedictine Abbot Raphael deSalvo and begins his duties immediately. . . . Two more former priests of the Anglican Communion were ordained Catholic priests in August under special Vatican rules which apply only to Catholic dioceses in the United States. Father Patrick Eastman, formerly an Anglican priest in Great Britain, was ordained in Tulsa, Okla., Aug. 14, the first non-American ordained under the Vatican permission given to the U.S. bishops in 1980.

Focus on Today's World



Construction of an altar where Pope John Paul II will celebrate a Mass north of Edmonton, Alberta, Sept. 17 is inspected by representatives of the Canadian Catholic Conference of Bishops and the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. The 186-by-89 foot altar cost \$140,000 to construct for the brief visit of the pontiff. (NC photo)



Father William Cuddy and Sister Patricia Bergan peer from the window of the headquarters of their Syracuse, N.Y., jail ministry. The two and five others recently were convicted and fined \$50 each for their part in the June 4 blockade of the gates at Griffiss Air Force Base. The base is believed to be a deployment site for air-launched cruise missiles. (NC photo)



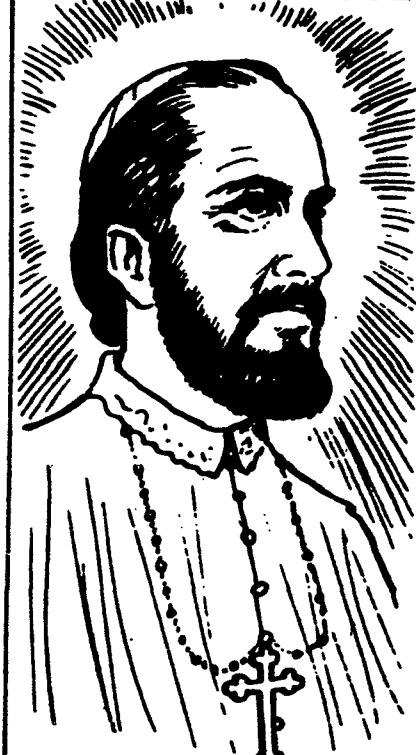
Sister Marie Charles Buford, a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet, pauses in a new St. Louis park which overlooks the Mississippi River and has been named for her. Establishment of the park has been an eight-year project of the Carondelet neighborhood improvement agency which she heads. The park extends nearly a mile along the riverfront. (NC photo)

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the Saints *by Luke*

ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE



ROBERT WAS BORN IN ITALY IN 1542. POOR HEALTH PLAGUED HIM THROUGHOUT HIS LIFE. AFTER HIS ORDINATION AS A JESUIT PRIEST, ROBERT BECAME THE GREAT DEFENDER OF THE CHURCH AGAINST THE FOLLOWERS OF THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION. HE WAS MADE RECTOR OF THE JESUIT COLLEGE, PROVINCIAL OF HIS ORDER IN NAPLES AND THEOLOGIAN TO CLEMENT VIII. HE WROTE TWO FAMOUS CATECHISMS. THE POPE ELEVATED HIM TO CARDINAL BECAUSE HE SAID, "HE HAD NOT HIS EQUAL FOR LEARNING." APPOINTED ARCHBISHOP OF CAPUA, HE LAID ASIDE HIS BOOKS AND BEGAN PREACHING, TEACHING CATECHISM TO THE CHILDREN, VISITING THE SICK, AND HELPING THE POOR. BUT THREE YEARS LATER POPE PAUL V INSISTED ON HAVING CARDINAL BELLARMINE AT HIS SIDE. FROM THEN ON HE WAS HEAD OF THE VATICAN LIBRARY. AS A MEMBER OF ALMOST EVERY CONGREGATION, HE TOOK AN IMPORTANT PART IN THE AFFAIRS OF THE HOLY SEE. HE DIED AT 79 IN 1621. IN 1931 PIUS XI DECLARED HIM A DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH. HIS FEAST IS SEPT. 17.

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