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Fast to Help Those Starving, John Paul's Lenten Request

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Washington (NC) -- Fast during Lent and help the "hundreds of millions of people" who lack food, Pope John Paul II urged Catholics in his annual Lenten message.

"I cannot remain silent, we cannot remain silent or inactive" in the face of "this scourge which rages on a worldwide scale," the pope said.

Besides fasting during Lent and direct aid to the hungry, the pontiff urged major social changes such as land redistribution and more adequate compensation for farmers in order to combat "intolerable" situations that help cause hunger.

The papal message was released in Washington by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops Feb. 12, eight days before Ash Wednesday.

The pope deplored the "distressing situation...when hundreds of millions people are lacking food, when millions of children are irreparably marked by hunger for the rest of their lives and thousands of them are dying of it."

"To think of those who suffer is not enough," he said. "In this time of Lent, conversion of heart calls us to add fasting to our prayer, and to fill with God's love the efforts that the demands of justice toward neighbor inspire us to make."

In addition to immediate assistance to help the hungry, he urged structural changes so that fewer will face hunger in the future.

Bad weather and drought are unavoidable, "but their consequences would often be less serious if people would not add mistakes and sometimes injustices to these natural causes," he said.

As examples of injustice he cited "those farmers who do not receive just compensation for their hard work... (and) rural people who have been ousted from their productive lands by individuals or groups, already abundantly provided for, who amass wealth at the expense of the hunger and suffering of others."

Pope John Paul asked all who have done "anything that could cause hunger to even one of our brothers and sisters in the world" to make amends for it.



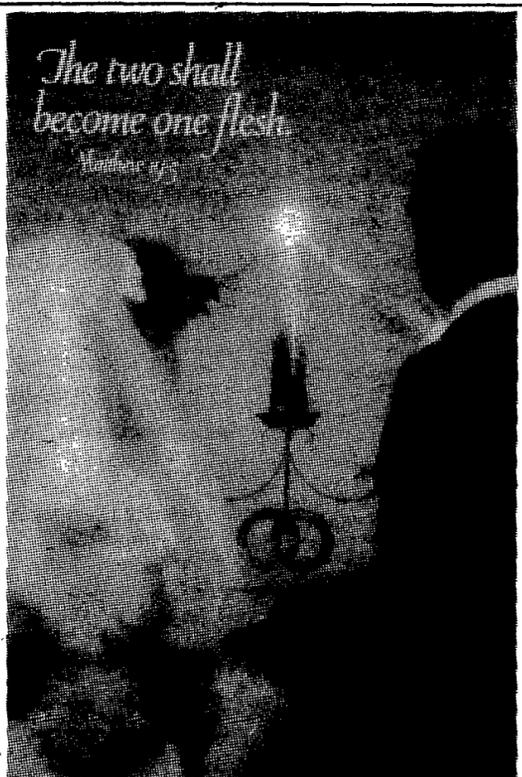
Pope John Paul II bows his head as Cardinal Ugo Poletti, vicar of Rome, marks him with ashes during a 1984 Ash Wednesday Mass. (NC Photo)

He urged people to share with the hungry "our surpluses and even what we need, for this is the true practice of fasting."

To share, he said, is only "to give to others what God

intends for them and which is only entrusted to us."

He also included in his message a plea for those who "are also hungry and thirsty for dignity, freedom, justice, for food for their minds and souls."



The two shall
become one flesh

Wedding Supplement

The annual Courier-Journal wedding supplement is included as a pullout section in this edition. It contains the Pre-Cana schedule as well as helpful advice and information.

Father Reddington Funeral Rites Held

Funeral rites were Feb. 17 and 18 for Father Thomas M. Reddington who died in an automobile crash Feb. 14, 1985, at the age of 68. The rites were at Holy Name of Jesus Church of which parish the priest was founder and former pastor.

The son of Arthur B. and Margaret M. Breen Reddington was born April 29, 1916. He attended Blessed Sacrament School and St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries.

He was ordained June 7, 1941, by Bishop James E. Kearney in Sacred Heart Cathedral.

He was first assigned to St. Michael's Church in Newark, and then to St. Alphonsus in Auburn.

From 1945 to 1946 he served as chaplain in the United States Navy, with the Eighth Service Regiment of Fifth Marine Amphibious Corps in the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign and the occupation of Japan. Later he served with the Fourth Marine Regiment in China.

In 1946, he was named assistant pastor of St. Paul of the Cross in Honeoye Falls. The following year he began



FR. REDDINGTON

a 10-year stint as assistant at St. John the Evangelist Church on Humboldt Street. He served at St. Monica's Church from 1957 to 1962, and at St. Charles Borromeo in Rochester from 1962-1964.

He was named pastor and assigned to found a new parish, Holy Name of Jesus on Bonesteel Street, in 1964.

Father Reddington retired the pastorate in 1983, moving to an apartment with his brother, Father John Red-

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