

World, Nation, People... in Brief

Provided by NC News Service

Nation

Anti-MX Vote Urged

Washington -- The president of the U.S. Catholic Conference has asked all members of Congress to vote against funding of the controversial MX missile. In a triple attack on the administration-backed nuclear system, Cardinal Joseph L. Bernardin of Chicago and Archbishop John J. O'Connor of New York also called for "nay" votes on the MX. Their separate statements and a letter to Congress by the USCC president, Bishop James W. Malone of Youngstown, Ohio, were released simultaneously March 17. Over the past two years the USCC has raised sharp questions about the MX, but the new actions marked the first time that the bishops' national organization came out in direct, complete opposition to any further funding of the multi-billion-dollar system. Bishop Malone said opposition is based on "the potentially destabilizing impact of this weapons system on the nuclear arms race" and its cost "viewed in light of pressing human needs."

Abp. Greets Marshal

New York -- Archbishop John J. O'Connor of New York March 16 greeted Peter King, grand marshal of New York City's St. Patrick's Day parade, even though King supports the Irish Republican Army, the outlawed Northern Ireland terrorist organization. Announcing his decision at a Mass in St. Patrick's Cathedral before the parade, held a day before St. Patrick's feast day, the archbishop said he condemned all violence but would revive the parade as an event honoring St. Patrick and all Irish people. In 1983, Michael Flannery, another IRA supporter, was named grand marshal, and Cardinal Terence Cooke declined to take his traditional reviewing stand on the steps of St. Patrick's Cathedral until Flannery had passed.

High Court Ignores Issue

Washington -- The Supreme Court March 18 refused to take up the question of whether 16,500 fetuses discovered in a storage container in California should be interred, with an accompanying burial service. The court let stand, without comment, a ruling by the California Supreme Court that burial ceremonies for the unborn babies would represent a violation of the separation of church and state. The fetuses were found in an abandoned storage container about three years ago. A lower court in California had ruled that the Los Angeles County district attorney could release the bodies for burial, but that decision subsequently was overturned by higher state courts.

Names Make News

Bishop George L. Leech, retired bishop of Harrisburg, died March 12 in a suburban hospital after suffering a heart attack. At 94, he was the oldest bishop in the United States... Archbishop Joseph T. Ryan, 71, has been named by Pope John Paul II to head the U.S. Military Vicariate, the diocese-like structure that oversees the U.S. Catholic chaplain corps around the world. Archbishop Ryan succeeds the late Cardinal Terence J. Cooke, who held the position while he was head of the New York Archdiocese from 1968 until his death in 1983... Jesuit Father Joseph F. Thorning, 88, once called the "padre of the Americas" for his knowledge of Latin America, died March 8 at Mercy Hospital in Baltimore. He lived in Frederick, Md. A writer, educator and lecturer on Latin American affairs, Father Thorning became known for urging improved hemispheric relations. He gave the invocation to Congress on Pan American Day for more than three decades.

Economic Draft Praised

Washington -- Two Nobel Prize-winning economists March 19 praised the U.S. bishops' draft pastoral letter on the economy and told a congressional subcommittee the bishops correctly are challenging the country to take action on unemployment and poverty. One also suggested, however, that the pastoral is amiss in ignoring population growth in discussing international development. And a Catholic congressman, Rep. George Wortley, R-N.Y., said the bishops had gotten themselves into "deep water" in tackling the economy. The two Nobel winners, Lawrence R. Klein and James Tobin, recipients of the 1980 and 1981 prizes respectively, were among several economists whose reactions to the pastoral's first draft were sought at a hearing called by the House subcommittee on economic stabilization.

Parish Lenten Events

St. Christopher

North Chili -- A Tenebrae service will be celebrated 7:30 p.m., Sunday, March 31 at St. Christopher's Church. The service, meaning "Shadows," dates back to the early Church and depicts the last few days of Jesus' life through scripture and music. In the course of the event lights are gradually extinguished depicting the flight of the disciples and the approaching crucifixion. The parish choir will perform the music. According to Gretchen Dent of the parish liturgy committee, the event is open to the public.

St. Mary Our Mother

Horseheads -- Pupils of St. Mary Our Mother School will perform "To See a Miracle," 7 p.m., Palm Sunday, March 31 in the Church. The performance is open to the public. The story, set to music, concerns Jason who has become a beggar boy, because his father Nathan has lost his sight and can no longer work as a carpenter. The story begins on Palm Sunday and is an account of Jesus' crucifixion, death and resurrection.

Precious Blood

The Most Precious Blood Players will present "Before the Cock Crows," 7:30 p.m., March 27 and 28 in the school hall. The "passion play" deals with the lives of Mary and the apostles from just after Jesus' death to the time of his resurrection. Tickets are \$2.50 for adults; \$1.50 for children and will be available at the door.

Musicians' Conference Scheduled

Area clergy and musicians are making plans to attend the eighth annual convention of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians, June 24-28, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Theme for this year's convention is "Blessed Are the Music Makers."

Workshops in all aspects of music and liturgy will be offered, with special focus on "lay ministry and the pastoral musician."

A highlight of the convention will be the world premiere of "Tongues of Fire," a jazz composition by Dave Brubeck.

For more information on the convention and obtaining a seat on a chartered bus from Rochester, contact John Kubiniec at the Liturgy Office, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624; (716) 328-3210.

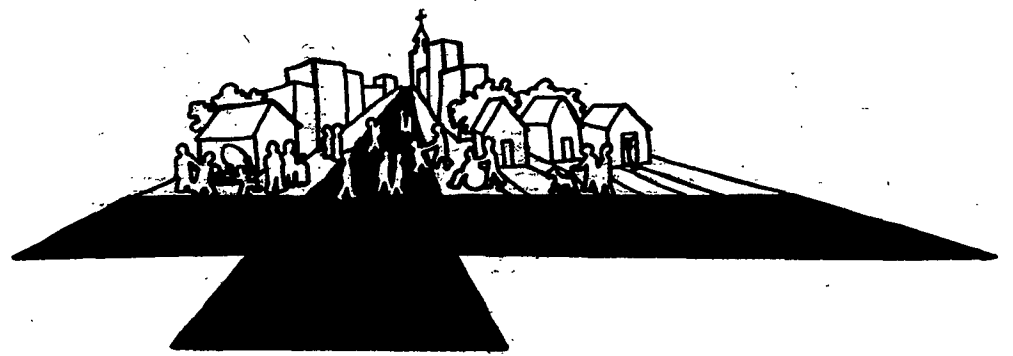
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CROSSROADS III

Sixth Week of Lent

Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 50:4-7, Philippians 2:6-11, Mark 14:1-15:47.

Passion Sunday presents the rich annual message of Holy Week in its readings. The Third Suffering Servant song (first reading) gives voice to the continual Lenten message of suffering and sacrifice being signs of hope. "The Lord is my help, therefore, I am not disgraced."

The second reading is Paul's hymn to the crucified Christ. "Your attitude must be Christ's..." summons the believer not only to look at the suffering Jesus experienced, but also to identify with him and see his mission continued in the Church. By doing so, we proclaim the message of hope: "Jesus Christ is Lord."

The Passion according to Mark gives the timeless journey of deception, loneliness, isolation, pain, desertion and death that gives rise to the intimacy of God, power of love, victory of the cross, and reality of total self-giving. We discover this message repeated over and over during this Holy Week.

Project:

1. pray for the entire Christian Church this week;
2. invite friends and neighbors to join your family's participation in the Holy Week liturgies.
3. take time to pray, reflect, and be open to the spirit of this week. Remember: you, too, are a living sign of hope.

AT YOUR PARISH

St. Bernard

Scipio Center -- The Rosary Society of St. Bernard's Church sponsored a table at the "Charity Bazaar" held recently at the Finger Lakes Mall in Aurelius. The society distributed free literature on Fatima, and many religious pamphlets, small prayer books and leaflets. In addition members sold such religious articles as medals, rosaries, plaques, crucifixes, St. Patrick Day gifts, Cursillo items, catechumen pins, and books for children and adults, under consignment by Agnes Nolan's Catholic gift shop in Auburn. Also on the table were baked goods and a lap afghan made by member Norma Remillard. Father Paul I. Cloonan, pastor, praised the society for its "Catholic action in the marketplace."

St. Philip Neri

The Womens Club of St. Philip Neri Parish is sponsoring a bake sale after the 5 p.m. Mass Saturday, March 30, and after all the Masses the following day. Donations are requested, and may be brought to the hall 1-3 p.m. and 5-7 p.m., Saturday. May Wright and Marge Fenicchia are in charge of the event.

St. Pius

Van Etten -- The annual Easter baked sale sponsored by St. Pius Church will be held 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Friday, March 29 at the Tioga State Bank.

Immaculate

A reunion call was issued last week for all members of the 1960 class of Immaculate Conception School. Further information is available from Michael Connor, 473-0017; or Patrick McGee, 467-7208.

St. Patrick

Corning -- Parishioners of St. Patrick's Church have been advised that a Marriage Enrichment session will be 2-5 p.m., Sunday, March 31. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Volbrecht will lead the program. Reservations are made by calling Bill or Brenda Hatch, 936-8950.

Deadline

The deadline for submitting news for the Courier-Journal is noon on Thursday, preceding Wednesday publication.

St. Joseph

Penfield -- The eighth annual Spring Fling Fashion Show sponsored by St. Joseph's parish life committee will be held 11:30 a.m., Saturday, March 30 at Oak Hill Country Club. Lunch will be served at noon, and the fashion show will begin at 1 p.m. Fashions will be provided by E. Cramer & Son and U.S. Kids. Tickets at \$10 are available by calling 377-4256.

St. Anne

Palmyra -- Parishioners of St. Anne's Church were alerted last week that the annual spring cleaning of the church is slated to start 10 a.m., March 30. Volunteers were asked to bring buckets and rags.

St. Cecilia

The Solo Club will sponsor a dance for all singles 30 and older 9 p.m., March 30 at St. Cecilia's Church. Tickets are \$3.

POPE

Creeds Are Part of Faith

VATICAN CITY (NC) -- Here is the Vatican text of Pope John Paul II's remarks in English at his weekly general audience March 13.

Dear brothers and sisters,
Today I wish to continue my reflections on catechesis by speaking about the Christian creeds. The professions of faith are collections of the principal truths of faith which offer a synthesis of what the church believes. The practice of formulating such creeds is an ancient one, dating back to the earliest centuries of Christianity. The well-known Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed are venerable expressions of Christian belief. In our own day Pope Paul VI formulated his "Credo of the People of God" as a modern expression of the faith of the



church. Each proposition of the creed begins with the words "I believe." By saying these words we mean that we accept as true the contents of what we profess because we believe that God who communicates them is speaking the truth.

In sacred Scripture we find many instances in which man is invited to believe in God, that is, to respond to him in faith. The Second Vatican Council's Constitution on Divine Revelation points out that in the fullness of time it pleased God to make himself known to man by revealing himself in his Son, Jesus Christ. To this act of revelation on God's part, man responds by freely committing himself to God, making the full submission of his intellect and will to God who reveals. Man freely assents to the revelation given to him by God.

For the Christian, then, to believe is to respond to God's revelation of himself in the person of Jesus Christ.