

# COURIER-JOURNAL

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## Furious flags at Aquinas

During band camp at Aquinas during the last week in August, the flag corps puts in some extra time to polish their maneuvers for a busy year ahead. The marching band will perform during halftime ceremonies at football games and is also slated to participate in state competition later on in the year.

## Pope says refugees need language, culture in services

By John Thavis

Vatican City (NC) — The church should furnish refugees with services in their own language and culture, in order to ease their "drama of integration," Pope John Paul II said in a message for World Migrants' Day.

The pope said the church's duty to welcome refugees was made more pressing by the attitudes of host societies and societies that have, in some cases, forced them to relocate.

"Recently, in fact, migration has frequently taken on the inhuman aspect of persecution, be it political, religious, ideological or ethnic," the pope said. "This impresses its stigma on the faces of the refugees, the deportees, the exiles: men and

women, young and old, even children, often tragically deprived of their parents."

The message, dated July 16, was made public by the Vatican Aug. 29 in several languages. The date for the celebration of World Migrants' Day is chosen by individual local churches.

In the United States, the message will be included in materials distributed for National Migration Week, Jan. 6-11. The annual observance is sponsored by the U.S. bishops' Committee on Migration and Tourism.

Integration of migrants in societies is often a "traumatic experience" for them, the pope said in his message. Besides their own natural reserve and their failure to adapt, migrants often face societies that are "hostile, narrow-minded and intolerant toward anything

considered to be different" or "likely to cause social or economic discomfort," the pope said.

When such members are integrated into local churches, their cultural identity should be retained — even if it creates pastoral problems, the pope said.

Refugees "must be able to remain completely themselves as far as language, culture, liturgy and spirituality, and particular traditions are concerned," he said. Such diversity enriches the universal church, he added.

Local churches should provide priests, other Religious and lay workers who can celebrate the liturgy in their native languages and make personal visits to the migrant families, the pope said.

## Annual appeal changes format

By Karen M. Franz

Overburdened by the administrative chores of the past four Thanks Giving Appeals, parish staffs sought relief in responding to a follow-up survey after last year's appeal. The appeal office has responded to that plea by redesigning the appeal process, primarily by eliminating in-hall solicitation.

"The major thrust of this campaign is by mail, in response to parish requests to simplify," said Father James M. Moynihan, appeal co-chairman. Father Moynihan explained that in past campaigns, administrative work on the appeal often occupied parish staffs for the entire two-to-three-month period preceding the actual collection period.

The new system — a combination of personal and mail solicitation — is also designed to remove the burden of increasing diocesan financial needs from the shoulders of moderate-income donors, he said. It was developed in conjunction with fund-raising consultants from the Martin J. Moran Company of New York, and Moran representatives Shawn Donnelly and Michael Mintern have been working with the appeal office since mid-June.

Father Moynihan, pastor of St. Joseph Church, Penfield, explained that although the diocesan need has increased, the amounts raised in the previous four campaigns have been approximately equal, about \$3 million. Moreover, the number of donors has declined — from 77,663 in 1981 to 68,761 in '84, placing a heavier burden on donors.

The average donation in 1984 was \$41.24, he said, and about 55 percent of the potential contributors made donations. Although the diocese is ahead of the national participation ratio of 40 percent for fund-raising campaigns of this sort, Father Moynihan noted that we are well below the national average donation of \$58-59.

"We need to bring the local average at least up to the national average, and one obvious way to do this is to highlight the 'advanced-gift' segment," he said.

This year's appeal is divided into three phases. The advanced-gift segment — Phases I and II — is expected to reach a combined 20 percent of potential donors.

Phase I, which began Monday, Sept. 9, is a series of 15 receptions at various locations around the diocese. During the receptions, Bishop Matthew H. Clark will discuss diocesan needs with the 5 percent of potential donors believed able to contribute \$540 or more. Donnelly explained that through socializing, prayer and a period of reflection, Bishop Clark will challenge those in attendance to make sacrificial gifts.

"Bishop Clark wants to do this, and is personally going to make presentations to several thousand people to begin the campaign and to ask them for some help up front," Father Moynihan said. "Bishop Clark needs to approach people whom he feels can help him most in whatever he attempts to do." Through the receptions, Bishop Clark will approach those people

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Three local Sisters of Mercy describe their experiences on a visit to the troubled nation of Chile — Page 4.

### Not just for children

A new approach to religious education of children stresses the need for parental involvement — Page 6.

### Reflecting on women

This week the diocese begins a series of reflection forums on the role of women in today's Church — Page 7.

### Nearing 100

St. Bernard's Institute begins its 94th academic year with Eucharistic ceremonies at Colgate — Page 8.