

Peter's Pence

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for the Peter's Pence campaign, Juday said.

Locally, Father Peter Bayer, diocesan chancellor, is heading the effort. Father Bayer explained that the Vatican deficit arises in part from Vatican salaries, supporting papal representatives to 116 countries, disaster relief and Pope John Paul II's pastoral visits to foreign nations.

The pope has been criticized for contributing unnecessarily to the Vatican deficit by making so many trips, but Father Bayer said the trips are an important part of the pope's pastoral ministry.

"My perception is that the pope sees himself very much as an ambassador of Christ," Father Bayer said. "I think he sees himself as personally trying to reconcile (nations), to be a peace maker among the community of nations."

Father Bayer said that the trips are also intended to strengthen the faith of the Roman Catholic community, and to give

the pope a chance "to be a voice for a call to justice" for those who are oppressed.

The Vatican deficit also has been growing in recent years due to increased activities mandated by the Second Vatican Council. According to figures from the United States Catholic Conference, the number of Vatican agencies has grown from 37 to 47, and personnel has increased by 50 per cent since the mid-1960s.

An added factor contributing to the projected deficit in 1989 is the addition to the Vatican budget of the operating expenses of the 116 nunciatures — essentially Vatican embassies in other nations. Previously, the nunciatures had been financed through a fund created by Pope Paul VI. That fund is now exhausted, as are the cash reserves the Vatican had relied on to offset deficits, but those reserves are now depleted.

To address the deficit and the question of Vatican finances in general, Pope John Paul II appointed a Council of Cardinals for the Study of the Organizational and Economic Problems of the Holy See. The

council, which includes among its members U.S. Cardinals John Krol and John O'Connor, has recommended cutting the budgets of Vatican Radio and the Vatican publishing operations, including the Vatican newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*. The two lost \$16 million and \$5.3 million respectively in 1988.

The committee has also called for a restructuring of the Vatican bank, which was plagued by scandals in the 1970s and '80s. Cardinal O'Connor, who addressed the U.S. Catholic bishops in South Orange, N.J., June 16, at his annual spring meeting, said the restructuring is intended to restore trust in the Vatican bank.

At the same meeting, Cardinal O'Connor also reported that a Papal Foundation begun two years ago by Cardinal Krol, Newark Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick and himself, has been built up to \$12 million. The immediate goal of the foundation is \$100 million, but the long-term goal, Cardinal O'Connor said, is \$500 million — a figure that he estimated would ge-

nerate a yearly income of about \$50 million for the Holy See.

Juday noted that the U.S. bishops involved in the foundation hope that it will provide enough money so that the Vatican will no longer be forced to use Peter's Pence so extensively to offset deficits. "It is their goal to set up the foundation so that the Peter's Pence can be redirected towards the pastoral ministry for which it was intended," he said.

The Peter's Pence Collection originated in the eighth century when the church in England imposed a penny-per-household tax for church support. The tax was collected on St. Peter's Day, and acquired the name Peter's Pence. Abolished by King Henry VIII in 1534, the collection was resurrected in the 1860s to offset revenues lost when Vatican territories were taken over by the newly consolidated Italian state.

Contains information from Catholic News Service.

CTNA

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the conference.

Depending on copyright restrictions, the diocese will be able to take excerpts from or offer complete videotapes to parishes. The diocese will also be able to accumulate materials to add to its audiovisual library for future use.

That aspect of CTNA is especially exciting for Kollar.

"It enables people to find time for continuing education in their busy schedules," she said, adding that the popularity of videocassette recorders will enable people to view some programs right in their own homes. "(CTNA) is going to be energizing for me and it will motivate people in continuing education."

Sister Roberta Tierney, SSND, who is stepping down July 1 after 16 years as director of the diocesan Division of Edu-

cation, said CTNA "is definitely the way to go."

"We see it as a way of expanding our services," she said. "By using (taped presentations by) national figures in education, we will be able to offer training for volunteer catechists and professional people like never before."

Becoming an on-line affiliate of CTNA will also enable diocesan education officials to keep updated on the latest development in curriculum, said Brother Brian Walsh, CFC, superintendent of schools for the diocese.

"Telecommunications is the wave of the future," Brother Walsh said.

That wave has absorbed parishioners at St. Mary's in Bath, who began to actively pursue a CTNA downlink "because of the realization of the need for adult education," said Father Robert W. Hammond, pastor of the parish.

The need for continuing education became even greater, the priest said, when

the parish school closed last year. "We needed to somehow make up for what we had lost," Father Hammond said. "When the school closed last year it brought people to the realization that we would have to work even harder to educate the people in the area."

CTNA transmits to the satellites in Rochester and Bath from its headquarters at the Teleport on Staten Island. The cost of the satellite installation at the pastoral center was \$30,000, which included the dish and all the necessary electronic equipment. Membership and service fees for the diocese total \$9,700 annually. The fees will not increase if the diocese chooses to install more satellites.

"It would be my hope to increase (the number of downlinks) within the next several years," Father Norton said, adding that the extreme eastern part of the diocese would be the next logical location for a satellite.

The priest said that money raised

through the annual Catholic Communications Campaign, which was taken up June 10-11, will go toward the cost of CTNA efforts. Half of the money raised in the diocesan collection goes toward local communications projects.

Father Norton added that CTNA will also give the diocese better capability to provide Catholic cable programming on local access channels. He also plans to continue discussions with the Knights of Columbus to bring EWTN into local cable systems.

Deacons

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tion program because of their importance to it. Joan Hurley, Deacon Hurley's wife, observed that sharing in the formation activities "led to discussions about the material, and even about what was going on in our lives."

She also suggested that having married deacons has helped people to understand better what might mean to have a married clergy. "Part of it is the understanding of what it is to be married, to have children, to have other responsibilities," she explained. "It helps people to be comfortable with the things (a married clergyman) can bring and the limitations to what he can do."

The three deacons said they will continue in their various jobs and parish ministries. They will also take on added tasks opened to them by the diaconate such as preaching, performing baptisms, and presiding over weddings and funerals. "I think formation (for the diaconate) has made me much better prepared for being a minister," Deacon Morin observed.

Deacon Bowers, however, perhaps fulfilling his role as elder statesman of the trio, pointed out that in Latin American parishes and even in some parts of the Diocese of Rochester, non-deacons are performing some of the ministries ascribed to deacons — such as officiating at weddings or preaching. He suggested that his ordination may actually do more for others than it does for him.

"I don't look at any of this as being a special, prestigious role to fill," Deacon Bowers concluded. "It just seemed like a natural thing for me to do."

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