

IN BRIEF

Italian youths avoid Mass
MILAN, Italy — Slightly more than 15 percent of Italian Catholics between the ages of 15 and 30 fulfill the weekly Mass obligation, according to a nationwide survey by an Italian Catholic weekly magazine. The survey showed that 84.5 percent had not fulfilled their Mass obligation the previous week and 73.6 percent had not fulfilled it during the previous three weeks.

Diocese wants new neighbor
HONOLULU — Hawaii Planned Parenthood may move its offices, where it performs abortions, from a building adjacent to Our Lady of Peace Cathedral. The land on which the office building sits is owned by the the Honolulu Diocese. The Hawaii State Health Planning and Development Agency has approved Planned Parenthood's request to move to another site. The move was expected to take place around Sept. 1.

Schools getting more aid
HARRISBURG, Pa. — Pennsylvania Catholic schools will get additional funding during the 1989-90 school year for transportation, drug education, computer lessons and therapy for speech and hearing problems thanks to \$3.7 million in new state aid. Some 260,000 students in Pennsylvania Catholic schools and their parents should benefit from state aid allocated for the coming year, according to a statement issued Aug. 21 by the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference. The conference's education director, Henry Aschenbrenner, said increases affecting Catholic schools were "equivalent to the increases in the state's subsidy to local school districts."

Priest says covens abound
LAFAYETTE, La. — Satanic cults are more widespread than people realize, said a Louisiana parish priest who counsels victims of satanic cults. "There is not a satanist behind every tree," according to Father Joseph F. Brennan, pastor of St. Genevieve Parish in Lafayette. "But they're out there and they have to be healed." Father Brennan estimated that there are 8,000 covens in the United States with 100,000 members nationwide.

Gorbachev appeals to pope
ROME — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev has sent a personal message to Pope John Paul II asking for a strengthening of Soviet-Vatican ties, the Soviet news agency Tass reported from Moscow. The message was delivered a day before the pope discussed religious freedom for Catholics in the Soviet Union with a high-level delegation of the Russian Orthodox Church, which opposes legalization of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Nun cleared in charge
ABINGDON, Va. — Sister Bernadette Kenny has been cleared of a charge that she had violated a court order by impeding coal traffic to show support for the coal miners strike in Dickenson County. Sister Kenny, a member of the Medical Missionaries of Mary, was among 16 people arrested July 12 for driving slowly and allegedly delaying Pittston Coal Co. trucks. This strike tactic has been used by the United Mine Workers in their five-month-old strike. The nun has admitted sympathy with the strikers, but denied she was assisting them, saying that she was driving slowly while delivering medicine from St. Mary's Hospital.

Tutu slams police acts in S. Africa

By Bronwen Dachs
Catholic News Service
CAPE TOWN, South Africa — Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu said South Africa is on the brink of disaster if police continue to act in a "reckless manner." He directed his Aug. 23 warning to Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok amid widespread protests and police action in Cape Town. In an incident Aug. 22, the archbishop, leaders of other churches and several hundred students were tear-gassed by police.

Archbishop Tutu said police had shown "incredible impatience and eagerness to use the full range of their armory."

"We are on the brink of a major catastrophe," he said.

Dominican Sister Kevin Campbell, principal of St. Mary's Catholic School in Nyanga, was among those tear-gassed with the archbishop. She said the incident occurred after a meeting of black teachers and pupils at St. Mary's Anglican Church in Guguletu, a black township near Cape Town.

Thousands of students met in a Guguletu school hall and planned to march to the township's police station to demand the release of detainees in the Western Cape, said Sister Campbell. However, police in vans and helicopters arrived and told the students not to march, she said.

Archbishop Tutu's press secretary, John Allen, said the prelate urged the students not to march and went with a delegation of



Police in Cape Town, South Africa, arrest 20 members of Black Sash, the women's civil rights organization, which participated in a demonstration against apartheid. In a separate incident near Cape Town, police used tear gas against an ecumenical group of religious leaders and students after a meeting at a church.

students and teachers —including Sister Campbell — to the police station to present their demands.

The archbishop was not able to speak with the appropriate police officer, so the group returned to the church, Allen said. There, the archbishop asked students to disperse quietly.

"As the archbishop and other leaders emerged from the church ahead of most of the students, a group of students were dancing in the street outside. Most of the congregation was beginning to disperse," Allen said.

Police warned the dancing students to disperse, and when they did not, used tear gas.

"At this stage Archbishop Tutu was in-

side the church," said a police report.

However, Archbishop Tutu has denied that he was still in the church and has asked police for an apology.

The archbishop walked through the clouds of tear gas and told policemen, "You can't tear-gas them. They haven't done anything."

On Aug. 23, police used tear gas on about 2,000 students staging an anti-apartheid protest near the mainly white University of Cape Town. They also arrested 20 white women who were demonstrating. The 20 were members of the anti-apartheid group Black Sash.

The demonstrations were part of a nationwide anti-apartheid defiance campaign launched Aug. 2.

Men, women religious convene to plan for future

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (CNS) — Men and women religious meeting in Louisville Aug. 19-23 took stock of the present and tried to foresee the future as it pertained to their calling.

About 1,000 religious attended the national joint assembly of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious and the Conference of Major Superiors of Men under the theme of "Tradition and Transformation in Religious Life."

While acknowledging their traditions, they discussed whether new traditions would enhance their charism as religious.

Dominican Sister Nadine Foley told the 800 women religious at the assembly Aug. 21, "The issue for us as a conference is whether or not it is consistent with our mandate to promote religious life to make 'women's issues' one of our priorities."

U.S. bishops' Labor Day statement urges church, unions to defend human dignity

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The church and the labor movement are called upon to take part in the "common task of defending work and human dignity," said the U.S. Catholic Conference's 1989 Labor Day statement.

Union members "have a duty to use their unions not only for their own self-interest, but also for the good of the whole society," said the statement from Auxiliary Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan of Brooklyn, chairman of the USCC's Committee on Domestic Policy. The statement was issued in Washington.

"The value of democratic labor unions to a free society must be recognized at home as well as abroad," Bishop Sullivan said in the statement, titled "Freedom, Justice and the Role of Unions." "Through unions, workers can not only have more, they can be more."

Catholic social teaching for nearly 100 years "has supported the rights of workers to organize and to bargain collectively," Bishop Sullivan said. "It is the God-given dignity of workers that gives them the right

Sister Foley, outgoing president of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, took exception to the use of the words "radical feminism," "compensation" and "mission and consecration" as terms that cause "separation and alienation in the current questioning about the nature of religious life."

For someone to state that the Catholic Church is a "patriarchy" is "not to espouse a position of radical feminism," Sister Foley said. "It is to state a self-evident fact."

Adequate compensation, she added, is "a simple question of justice" and not "somehow contrary to the vow of poverty and therefore incompatible with an authentic religious life."

Sister Foley said, "We need to reject the false dichotomy between consecration and

to make that choice freely, without interference or intimidation from management or labor representatives."

Workers in Poland, Hungary, China, South Africa, Siberia and the Ukraine are making gains, but "in the United States, ironically, workers are measurably worse off than they were 10 years ago," Bishop Sullivan said.

"Structural changes in the economy, increased reliance on imports, union-breaking efforts and a growing shift to lower-paid, part-time employment have left millions of Americans without the protection of unions. For many, this has meant lower living standards, no health benefits and less security for their families."

As a result, Bishop Sullivan said, there are "unprecedented gaps in income and assets between high- and low-income Americans," with rich Americans "caught up in the cult of having."

Bishop Sullivan referred to the teaching of Pope John Paul II's 1988 encyclical *On*

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