

Rescheduled visit gives pope extra day in the U.S.

NEW YORK (CNS) — New Yorkers who originally planned to see Pope John Paul II last October will get a one-day bonus for waiting a year.

The Vatican announced March 2 that the pope will visit the United Nations, several New York and New Jersey sites, and Baltimore Oct. 4-8.

This will make his stay in the New York area one day longer than was called for in last year's plan, which had to be canceled because of the pope's slow recovery from surgery on his thigh bone.

No detailed schedule of the visit was available immediately, but it is expected to be similar to last year's.

Among local events expected to be carried over to the new schedule are:

- Mass for young people in the New York archdiocese.
- Visits to St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York; Sacred Heart Cathedral in Newark, N.J.; and the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen in Baltimore.
- Outdoor Masses in Giants Stadium in New Jersey and Oriole Park in Baltimore.
- A prayer meeting at Shea Stadium in the Brooklyn diocese.

From a global standpoint the centerpiece of the papal trip will be an Oct. 5 visit to the United Nations.

Last year that visit was to mark the U.N. International Year of the Family. This year it will mark the 50th anniversary of the United Nations, which was formed Oct. 24, 1945.

Pope John Paul's U.S. arrival Oct. 4 will be the anniversary of another historic occasion. It will be 30 years to the day since the first time a reigning pope set foot on U.S. soil.

On Oct. 4, 1965, Pope Paul VI landed in the morning, visited St. Patrick's, met privately with President Lyndon B. Johnson, spoke at and toured the United Na-

tions, celebrated Mass in Yankee Stadium, visited the Vatican Pavilion of the World's Fair and left late that night to return to Rome.

Cardinal William H. Keeler of Baltimore said planning for this October's trip will take up where it left off last September, when the 1994 visit was postponed.

"We will welcome a man who, in the past several months, has seen his book become an international best seller, has been named Time magazine's 'Man of the Year' and who in his trip to the



AP/Wide World News

Repatriation

An Ethiopian refugee receives \$40 in resettlement funds from an official of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The woman was among 50 Ethiopian refugees evacuated from northern Kenya. The repatriation effort will return approximately 3,000 Ethiopian refugees to their homes.

Young

Continued from page 6

"Decades ago poverty haunted large numbers of our elderly citizens," they said. "As a society we decided this was intolerable and put in place Social Security, Medicare, and other measures to protect the dignity of the elderly — with an impressive drop in poverty among their population."

"Now, our children are more likely to be poor, but our government spends less on children's needs," the bishops wrote. "Children don't vote; they don't contribute to political campaigns, and therefore, they are more likely to be ignored by governments and policy makers."

Robert J. Ferst, president of the Food

Research and Action Center, said the rally pointed up "a historic low point in the nation's commitment to meet the nutritional needs of hungry children."

Citing a "groundswell of opposition" to the block-grant plan from educators, physicians and others, Ferst said, "It is senseless to leave to chance 50 different state experiments of reinventing the wheel, and risk the health and development of our nation's most vulnerable citizens — our children."

"For the richest nation on earth to deny food to its own children is a shortsighted betrayal of our values and our future," the Physicians Committee on Childhood Hunger said in a statement on the proposed cuts. "In the name of our nation and its children, we call upon reason to prevail in Congress."

Philippines has attracted one of the largest crowds in history," the cardinal said.

As originally planned, Pope John Paul is expected to fly to Baltimore on the final day of his visit and return to Rome from Baltimore-Washington International Airport.

Archbishop Renato R. Martino, papal nuncio to the United Nations, said the pope's U.N. visit "will reaffirm that the popes have recognized the great service of the United Nations for promotion of peace and development in the world."

It will also "encourage increased awareness among the nations that the problems of each country are the problems of all, and the total world community must help resolve them," Archbishop Martino added.

He said Oct. 5 was chosen instead of Oct. 4 for the U.N. visit because Yom Kippur falls on Oct. 4 this year.

Cardinal John J. O'Connor of New York said the same dioceses would be on the pope's itinerary this year as were

scheduled last year. "We hope to be able to announce shortly the exact details" of the new schedule, he said.

Bishop Thomas V. Daily of Brooklyn said, "I believe each of us needs to hear the voice of this courageous and inspiring successor to the apostles as he carries the Gospel message to us."

When the 1994 papal visit was postponed, Archbishop Martino said that U.N. and Vatican officials had tentatively agreed on rescheduling it for late November 1995.

The bishops of the dioceses involved asked for an earlier time, however, because of concern about the difficulties that cold and bad weather could pose for outdoor events that late in the year.

Vatican sources said it was likely that the 74-year-old pontiff will make the U.S. trip only two weeks after an anticipated visit to Africa. The pope has been planning to cross the African continent north to south in a ceremonial closing of the African Synod of Bishops, held last summer in Rome.

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