

# WORLD & NATION



Michael Okoniewski/CNS

Thousands cheer the arrival of Pope John Paul II in Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J., on Oct. 6, the second day of the pope's Oct. 4-8 visit to the United States.



Michael Okoniewski/CNS

Pope John Paul II blesses a Dominican Sister from a cloistered community as he enters a packed Sacred Heart Cathedral in Newark, N.J. Oct. 4.



Reuters/CNS

Pope John Paul II gestures toward the sky as he leaves the plane upon his arrival at Newark International Airport Oct. 4.

for small businesses and new farming techniques to enable poor rural populations to achieve agricultural self-reliance.

In clear support of that emphasis, Pope John Paul said, "As you know, relieving the sufferings of the many modern Calvaries which clamor for your attention and help means not only working to alleviate immediate suffering, but also, in the light of the Gospel, striving to foster self-respect and solidarity among the poor themselves."

"The best kind of assistance is that which encourages the needy to become the primary artisans of their own social and cultural development."

"This approach respects the authentic subjectivity of people," he added.

The pope also stressed that the work of charity and justice requires fighting unjust social structures.

"There is a need," he said, "for innovative strategies and creative approaches to resolving the structural problems of underdevelopment which themselves are often the result of insensitivity and injustice."

Before leaving from Baltimore-Washington International Airport, Pope John Paul urged Americans to "love life,

cherish life, defend life, from conception to natural death."

He also met with Vice President Al Gore, who told the pope he and President Clinton were grateful for the pope's peace efforts in Bosnia-Herzegovina, especially his planned Oct. 17 Vatican meeting with the bishops of the former Yugoslavia.

In his public farewell address to the pope, Gore thanked him for "blessing the people of the United States" with his Oct. 4-8 visit.

"You have lifted up our hearts to the Lord and we are grateful," the vice president added. "You affirmed the dignity and faith of a nation."

Also during the trip, the pope.

- Blessed the building that houses the Holy See's mission to the United Nations Oct. 7.

- Met informally with leaders of other religions at the residence of Cardinal John J. O'Connor of New York.

- Ate a meal of chicken and rice casserole with about a dozen adults and seven children at a Baltimore soup kitchen Oct. 8.

- Visited Baltimore's Cathedral of Mary Our Queen.

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