

WORLD & NATION

Catholics among 200,000 at D.C. rally for children

By Mark Pattison
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Whether wearing T-shirts or habits, whether carrying banners or staffing information tables, Catholics made their presence known at the June 1 Stand for Children rally in Washington — and at events before and after.

The Catholics were among an estimated 200,000 people who flocked to the Lincoln Memorial that day to ask that children be put at the front of the national agenda.

Sister Mary Geraldine Yelich, assistant principal of Holy Family School in Grand Junction, Colo., was flown to the rally by her order along with two of its other sisters and one of its lay associates.

"My community thought we definitely should be represented," said the Sister of Charity of Leavenworth, who added she has worked with children all her life, including more than 45 years in religious life.

Since she entered religious life, "our society's different. The family's different," Sister Yelich said, "so our schools are different. Some of our children are needy.

They need more affection.

"The climate has changed."

Davis, who teaches at Billings, Mont., Catholic Central High School and works with runaways, said the rally "is really going to make me aware of issues at the national level and the state level. I'm going to go back with a lot of fuel and energy."

Daryn Hunt, a social worker for St. Stephen's Community House in Columbus, Ohio, was part of a delegation of 10. The house serves 200 youths from 6 weeks old to 18 years old.

The activities the house offers "keeps kids off the street, keeps 'em busy," Hunt said.

Some of those activities are dependent on federal funds, which was an issue for some rally participants — especially those who stayed in Washington to lobby their representatives in Congress June 3 on children's interest legislation.

If federal funds were cut, "I don't think we'll close," Hunt said, "but we want to offer a quality program."

East of the Lincoln Memorial rally site were several tents. One was a prayer tent. One was an "interfaith" tent, where reli-

gious-based organizations offered information on pro-child activities.

Network, the national Catholic social justice lobby founded by women religious, had a booth. Sister Anne Curtis, a member of the Sisters of Mercy of Rochester and a Network associate staffing the booth, noted that among the 3,700 endorsers of Stand for Children were the Leadership Conference of Women Religious and the Sisters of Mercy.

Later that day at the rally, a video image of a huge banner proclaiming "Sisters of Mercy Stand for Children" was beamed onto the big-screen televisions flanking the Reflecting Pool.

Sister Curtis had at the ready an "Activist Update Welfare Reform" paper prepared the day before the rally, as well as a prayer for children, sized just right for rally-goers' pants or jacket pockets.

"We'd like people to know about legislation on children, especially children who are poor," she said. "A lot of people have been really interested in the debate on welfare reform."

Josephite Father Tom Frank brought

about 40 people from Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Washington, where he is pastor, including children from an after-school program run by parishioner Hannah Hawkins.

"The most dangerous time for children is between 3 and 6 (p.m.). We want to stand for children and commit our own programs for them," he said. "We can also learn new ideas on what other people are doing."

At least 10 — and as many as 20 — diocesan affiliates of Catholic Charities USA made the trip from their home dioceses.

On board from each diocese were staffers, volunteers, and the people helped by Catholic Charities and the agencies it funds, according to Catholic Charities USA's Sharon Daly.

Catholics were also invited to take part in a post-rally Mass at St. Aloysius Church less than a mile north of the Capitol. The parish, too, had endorsed Stand for Children.

Daly said the homily, music and general intercessions at the Mass were to be mindful of "children before and after they are born."

CALENDAR

All Dioceses

Religious Activities

■ **JULY 11-15** — Reservations required: Pilgrimage to Canadian shrines; sponsored by Church of Assumption in Fairport; for more information or to make reservations, call 716/377-8589 or 388-0535.

■ **SUN, JUNE 9** — Mass of Thanksgiving for the work of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts in the Diocese of Rochester; Ss. Peter and Paul Church, 720 Main St., West, Rochester; 10:30 a.m.; Bishop Dennis Hickey, celebrant.

■ **SAT, JUNE 15** — Martyrs' Shrine: at Auriesville, N.Y.; Cenacle of the Marian Movement of Priests; begins with 11 a.m. Mass of the Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary; for more information, call Fr. Severson, 518/581-1750.

Workshops

■ **JUNE 14-16** — Marriage Encounter weekend: Notre Dame Retreat House, 5151 Foster Road, Canandaigua; 7:30 p.m. Friday through 5 p.m. Sunday; call 716/637-0601 or 1-800-795-LOVE.

Chemung Schuyler

Fundraisers

■ **FRI, JUNE 7** — '96 Gala: and sweepstakes; sponsored by Holy Family School, Elmira; held at the Elmira College Campus Center, Elmira; \$100 per ticket, includes cocktail party with open bar; for ticket information, call 607/734-6339.

■ **JUNE 13-15** — Rummage sale: St. Pius Tenth Church, Main St., Van Etten; Thursday & Friday 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m.-noon (bag day).

Monroe County

Education

■ **SAT, JUNE 15** — Lecture: "Thomas Merton: Spirituality as Lived Wisdom"; Msgr. William Shannon, speaker; Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse, 4095 East Ave., Rochester; 2 p.m.; reception following.

Entertainment

■ **FRI, JUNE 7** — Performance: by Bishop Kearney High School Color Guard and Dance Ensemble; Bishop Kearney High School, 125 Kings Highway, S., Rochester; 7 p.m.; \$3; tickets can be purchased at the door.

■ **THU, JUNE 13** — Concert: "A Silence in Heaven: Sacred Choral Music in the Time of Henry VIII, Elizabeth I & Mary, Queen of Scots"; presented by Musica Spei (Music of Hope); St. Anne Church, 1600 Mt. Hope Ave., Rochester; 8 p.m.

Fundraisers

■ **FRI, JUNE 7** — Golf Classic: sponsored by Bishop Kearney High School alumni; Deerfield Country Club, 2879 Clarkson Parma Townline Road, Brockport; registration and lunch begin at 11:30 a.m.; 12:45 p.m. shot-gun start; cocktail reception 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m.; day's events \$95, dinner reservation only \$30; for more information, call 716/342-4000.

■ **JUNE 7-8** — Garage sale: Trinity Montessori School, 501 South Garfield St., East Rochester; Friday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

■ **SAT, JUNE 8** — Car wash: DiPrima's Mobil Station, Corner of Jefferson and Fairport Road, Fairport; 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; donations accepted; all proceeds to benefit the Advent House.

Meeting

■ **WED, JUNE 12** — Luncheon meeting: sponsored

by Catholic Women's Club of Rochester, held at the Century Club on Strathallan Park, Rochester; call 716/461-9173.

Religious Activities

■ **CONTINUES TO JUNE 24** — Novena: to Our Lady of Perpetual Help; 1089 Joseph Ave., Rochester; 7 p.m.

■ **FRI, JUNE 7** — First Friday Mass: sponsored by Catholic Women's Club of Rochester, at the clubhouse, 492 East Ave., Rochester; noon; Fr. Bernard Dollen, celebrant; 11:45 a.m. rosary for peace followed by coffee at the clubhouse; call 716/461-9173; (Note: there will be no First Friday Masses during July, August or September; next Mass Oct. 4.)

■ **FRI, JUNE 7** — Mass: and teaching on the Holy Eucharist; St. Andrew's Church, 923 Portland Ave., Rochester; 5:30 p.m.; Fr. Timothy Horan, celebrant and homilist; sponsored by the Glory of Yahweh Secular Franciscans.

■ **FRI, JUNE 7** — Evening of Taizé style prayer: Mercy Motherhouse Chapel, 1437 Blossom Road, Rochester; 7:30-8:45 p.m.; Sr. Virginia Wilson, RSM, and Sr. Jacquelyn Reichart, RSM, leaders; freewill offering; sponsored by Mercy Prayer Center; call 716/473-6893.

■ **SAT, JUNE 8** — Centering prayer: Borromeo Prayer Center, 3011 Dewey Ave., Rochester; 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; \$10; call 716/663-5856.

■ **JUNE 9, 10, 12, 15** — Devotional services: featuring icon of Our Lady of Guadalupe; 7 p.m. June 9 at Holy Trinity Church, 1460 Ridge Road, Webster; 7 p.m. June 10 at St. Joseph's Church, 43 Gebhardt Road, Penfield; 7 p.m. June 12 at Assumption of Our Lady Church, 20 East Ave., Fairport; and 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 4536 St. Paul Blvd., Irondequoit; sponsored by District 107 of the Knights of Columbus; for information, call 716/381-5771.

■ **MON, JUNE 10** — Charis-

matic Mass: Christ the King Church, 445 King's Highway, S., Rochester; 7:30 p.m.; Fr. Paul English, celebrant.

■ **TUE, JUNE 11** — Divine Mercy Devotion: St. Rita's Church, 1008 Maple Dr., Webster; 7:30-8:30 p.m.; all welcome; call 716/671-5275.

■ **TUE, JUNE 11** — "Women at the Well": Evening of reflection, sharing for women; Sisters of St. Joseph, 4095 East Ave., Rochester; 7:30-9 p.m.; call Sr. Judy Reger, SSJ, 716/586-1000, ext. 177.

■ **WED, JUNE 12** — Mass: in honor of St. Anthony; Holy Cross Church, 4492 Lake Ave., Rochester; 7:30 p.m.; celebrated in Italian and English by Fr. Michael Costanzo; traditional Italian songs sung by The Padre Beatini Choir; procession to shrine after Mass; wine and cheese party; all welcome.

■ **FRI, JUNE 14** — Rosary: in Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary on the Feast of the Sacred Heart; Wooded Area Shrine, 237 Rye Road, Greece; Fr. Lance Gonyo to lead rosary; 7 p.m.; bring a lawn chair.

Social Activities

■ **JUNE 6-9** — Mayfair and carnival: Christ the King Church, 445 Kings Highway, Rochester; includes Friday night fish fry and Saturday chicken dinner served 5-7 p.m.; Sunday pasta dinner 4-6 p.m.

■ **JUNE 7-8** — Festival: Holy Rosary Parish, 414 Lexington Ave., Rochester; Friday 5-11 p.m. and Saturday noon-11 p.m.

■ **JUNE 8-9** — Irish Festival: Gates Memorial Park, Spencerport Road, Gates; Saturday noon-11 p.m.; Sunday beginning with 11 a.m. Mass followed by entertainment at 12:30 p.m.; \$5 adults, \$3 seniors and children under 16; children 6 and under free; \$15 family pass.

■ **SAT, JUNE 8** — Movie night: sponsored by St. Thomas More Club Singles' Club; Marketplace Mall General Cinema, Marketplace mall, Henrietta; 6:30 p.m.; call Anne,

716/482-5656.

■ **SUN, JUNE 9** — Cabin party: Letchworth State Park Day, Trailside Lodge, south end of park; noon; call Anne, 716/482-5656.

■ **SUN, JUNE 9** — Picnic: hosted by The Casa Italiana of Nazareth College; Stewart Lodge in Mendon Ponds Park; 1-4 p.m.; open to public ages 21-45; tickets \$12; call the Casa Italiana, 716/586-8744.

■ **THU, JUNE 13** — Picnic: sponsored by The Bishop Kearney High School Parents Alumni; White House in Webster Park; \$8.50 per person; for reservations, call 716/342-4000.

■ **JUNE 14-15** — Festival: St. Christopher's Church, 3350 Union St., North Chili; 6-11 p.m. both nights.

Steuben County

Social Activities

■ **JUNE 7-8** — Festival: St. Ignatius Church grounds; 343 Canisteo St., Hornell; 6 p.m.

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Religious Activities

■ **JUNE 7-9** — Charismatic retreat: Notre Dame Retreat House, Canandaigua; for more information, call 315/394-5700.

Social Activities

■ **SUN, JUNE 9** — Parish fair: St. Dominic's Church grounds, 6 Canandaigua St., Shortsville; 1-5 p.m.

■ **SAT, JUNE 15** — Pig roast: dance; St. Januarius Church, 180 N. Main St., Naples; in the church hall and garden; 5:30 p.m.; \$10 per person, \$5 for those aged 12 and under.