

# WORLD & NATION

## Pope slated for surgery for inflamed appendix

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II's intestinal problems are caused by an inflamed appendix, which will be surgically removed sometime after his Sept. 19-22 visit to France and after an Oct. 6 beatification ceremony, the Vatican said.

"The transitory episodes of abdominal pain along with a fever, noted since Dec. 25, 1995, are related to 'recurring episodes of the inflammation of the appendix,'" said a Vatican statement released Sept. 14.

Pope John Paul, giving his usual Sunday talk to visitors gathered in the courtyard of his summer residence Sept. 15, did not mention his health problem.

According to the Vatican statement, the doctors' diagnosis ruled out any type of abnormal growth.

The pope's personal physician and other medical consultants have recommended surgery, and the pope has agreed to have the operation, the statement said.

"The operation is expected within the course of the present year," said the statement issued by the Vatican press office

with the authorization of Dr. Renato Buzzonetti, the pope's personal physician.

Joaquin Navarro-Valls, the pope's spokesman, told reporters Sept. 14 that Pope John Paul planned to make his trip to France as scheduled and would also preside at an October beatification ceremony that will include Edmund Rice, founder of the Irish Christian Brothers.

The pope will undergo the operation sometime after Oct. 6, he said.

At Christmas Pope John Paul had to interrupt his internationally broadcast Christmas greetings because of nausea, abdominal pain and a fever. Events were postponed or cancelled in March and again in mid-August when the pain and fever recurred.

Because of the pain, the pope underwent a CT scan Aug. 14. The Vatican said the test showed the pain is not connected to a benign colon tumor removed in 1992.

The Sept. 14 statement said Buzzonetti, two professors of surgery and two professors of radiology had examined the pope's medical records Sept. 12. All five agreed the problem was related to recurring inflammation of the appendix, but



Bob Roller/CNS

**Cardinal Bernard F. Law of Boston leads prayers at the U.S. Capitol against the veto of the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act Sept. 12. Eight U.S. cardinals and more than 60 bishops took part in the interfaith vigil. They were joined by leaders from other denominations and more than 1,000 other people. Congress is expected to vote on an override of the veto by the end of September.**

that an emergency operation was not necessary, Navarro-Valls said.

Along with Pope John Paul's abdominal problems, recent concern has focused on the pope's shaking left arm.

The tremor, which has increased in intensity over recent months, was described by Navarro-Valls as an "extrapyramidal" nervous system disturbance. The

spokesman made the remarks to a small group of French journalists in Hungary Sept. 7.

The term "extrapyramidal" can indicate a wide range of possible problems, including Parkinson's disease, a degeneration of nerve cells in part of the brain. In 1994, the Vatican denied the pope was taking medication for Parkinson's.

## CALENDAR

### All Dioceses

#### Education

■ **THU, SEPT. 19** — Registration deadline: for Sept. 26-28 small Christian communities workshop by Fr. Art Baranowski; Holy Name of Jesus Parish Center, St. Martin's Way, Rochester; \$300 per parish; call 716/663-5856.

■ **THU, OCT. 3** — First session: of Faith Sharing & Scriptural Prayer Groups facilitator training; Borromeo Prayer Center, 3011 Dewey Ave., Rochester; 7-9:15 p.m., also Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 14, and 21; cosponsored by diocesan Department of Professional Development; call Borromeo Prayer Center, 716/663-5856.

#### Fundraisers

■ **SAT, SEPT. 21** — Gala: "Enlightened Elegance" benefiting academic, cultural projects at Notre Dame of Batavia; \$25 admission includes entertainment, refreshments; call development office, 716/343-2798, or Tim Dobbertin, 716/344-1520.

#### Religious Activities

■ **SAT, SEPT. 28** — Registration deadline: for Oct. 11-13 Catholic women's retreat at Stella Niagara Center for Renewal; sponsored by St. Francis de Sales Association; Fr. Joe Power, leader; \$95 fee; for registration or information, call Beth, 716/482-3636, or Dora, 716/663-7309.

### Chemung Schuyler

#### Social Activities

■ **FRI, SEPT. 20** — Spaghetti supper: sponsored by Notre

Dame High School Senior Class; Notre Dame High School, 1400 Maple Ave., Elmira; 5-7 p.m.; to be followed by football game against Windsor; \$3.50/adult, \$2/children under 10.

### Monroe County

#### Education

■ **TUE, SEPT. 24** — Lecture: Noontime at Nazareth, "Web of Hate: Hate Groups on the Internet"; Nazareth College Arts Center, Room 13, 4245 East Ave., Rochester; 12:35-1:35 p.m.; presented by Jennifer Burr; for more information call Kathy Urbanic, 716/389-2451.

■ **THU, SEPT. 26** — Benjamin Day: at McQuaid Jesuit High School, 1800 S. Clinton Ave., Rochester; for boys interested in attending McQuaid; call Fr. Costello, 716/473-1130.

#### Fundraisers

■ **FRI, SEPT. 27** — Musical: "Godspell"; for St. Mark's Music Ministry recording fund; St. Mark's Church, 54 Kuhn Rd., Rochester; 7:30 p.m., also Sun., Sept. 29, 2:30 p.m.; tickets \$5 presale, \$7 at door, children half price; call 716/586-4550.

■ **SAT, SEPT. 28** — Can & bottle drive: to benefit Bishop Kearney Performance Ensemble; West Irondequoit; for more information call Bishop Kearney High School, 716/342-4000.

#### Meetings

■ **SUN, SEPT. 22** — Meeting and fundraiser for Catholic Golden Age; St. John Fisher Basil Hall, 3690 East Ave., Rochester; 2 p.m.; speaker to be announced; for information call Irene, 716/467-3398.

#### Religious Activities

■ **FRI, SEPT. 20** — Series:

"The Spiritual Cantic of John of the Cross"; sponsored by SSJ Spirituality Center; St. Joseph Convent Infirmary, 4199 East Ave., Rochester; 9:30-11 a.m.; Mary Lynch, SSJ, leader; also Sept. 27, Oct. 4, 11 and 18; \$10 per meeting; call SSJ Spirituality Center, 716/336-4370.

■ **SAT, SEPT. 21** — Liturgy: for Catholic women, followed by spiritual sharing; sponsored by St. Francis de Sales Association; Basilian House, 3497 East Ave., Rochester; 1:30 p.m.; call Beth, 716/482-3636 or Dora, 716/663-7309.

■ **SAT, SEPT. 21** — Registration deadline: for weekly series beginning Sept. 26 on Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius (Nineteenth Annotation/Retreat); sponsored by SSJ Spirituality Center, 402 Rogers Pky., Rochester; programs at 1:30-3:30 p.m. and 7:30-9:30 p.m.; \$12-\$20 per meeting; call SSJ Spirituality Center, 716/336-4371.

■ **MON, SEPT. 23** — Series: "Contemplation and Non-Violence"; sponsored by SSJ Spirituality Center, 402 Rogers Pky., Rochester; 1:30-3 p.m.; first of 13 bi-weekly meetings; \$10 per meeting; call 716/336-4370.

■ **TUE, SEPT. 24** — Divine Mercy devotion: St. Rita's Church, 1008 Maple Dr., Webster; 7:30-8:30 p.m.; call Barb, 716/671-5275.

■ **TUE, SEPT. 24** — Evening of reflection: "Woman at the Well"; Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse, 4095 East Ave., Rochester; 7:30-9 p.m.; first of monthly series; call Judy Reger, SSJ, 716/586-1000, ext. 177.

■ **THU, SEPT. 26** — Workshop: "Dream Work for the Spiritual Journey"; Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse, 4095 East Ave., Rochester; 7-8:30 p.m.; first of monthly series; call Judy Reger, SSJ, 716/586-1000, ext. 177.

■ **FRI, SEPT. 27** — Red Mass: by St. Thomas More's Lawyers' Guild; Our Lady of

Victory, Pleasant St., Rochester; 12:10 p.m.; pro-life activist Fr. Norman Weslin, OS, speaker.

#### Social Activities

■ **SEPT. 20-22** — 50th Reunion: of Aquinas class of '46; call Regis Mooney, 716/328-3136 or Jack Wigg, 716/377-9187.

■ **SEPT. 20-22** — Festival: St. Jude's Church, 4100 Lyell Ave., Gates; food, games, raffles, auctions.

### Seneca Cayuga

#### Meetings

■ **SAT, SEPT. 21** — Breakfast: meeting of Seneca County D/S/B; Nicastro's Restaurant, Route 96; 9 a.m.; call Carl, Alma, 315/539-2284.

### Steuben County

#### Religious Activities

■ **SUN, SEPT. 22** — Talk: "Genesis and Science: Where's the Beef?"; St. Joseph Church, 206 Fremont St., Wayland; 3 p.m.; Edward Nier, speaker.

#### Sports Benefits

■ **SAT, SEPT. 21** — Golf tournament: for Southern Tier Hospice and Spencer M. Sardinia Scholarship Fund; Indian Hills Golf Club, Painted Post; call 607/962-1662 or 607/734-1570.

### Yates Ontario Wayne

#### Education

■ **SUN, SEPT. 22** — Leo

ture: on conflict resolution, open to all families; for information and to register call St. Michael School, 315/331-2297.

#### Fundraisers

■ **SEPT. 19-21** — Rummage sale: for St. Dominic's Church, Route 21, Shortsville; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Thurs. and Fri., 9 a.m.-noon Sat. (\$2/bag Sat.).

■ **SEPT. 24-OCT. 1** — Bottle and can drive: to benefit St. Michael School, 3320 S. Main St., Newark; proceeds renovation of for gym and rear entrance; volunteers needed; cash donations appreciated; for information call the school, 315/331-2297.

#### Meetings

■ **MON, SEPT. 23** — Informational meeting: for people interested in training sessions to become chaplain's volunteers; board room at F. F. Thompson Health System, 350 Parrish Rd., Canandaigua; 10:30 a.m. or 7 p.m.

■ **TUE, SEPT. 24** — Breakfast: meeting of the Yates County D/S/B Group; Wagners Restaurant, 124 Elm St., Penn Yan; 9 a.m.; for more information call John, 315/536-3629, Dolly/Bill, 315/536-3582, or Finger Lakes Social Ministry, 315/789-2686.

#### Religious Activities

■ **SEPT. 23-25** — Retreat: hosted by St. Michael's Church, Liberty St., Penn Yan; 7-8:30 p.m.; led by Pat and Dick Pelino from The Church of the Resurrection, Fairport.

■ **SEPT. 29-OCT. 3** — "Dare to be Holy": presented by Good News International and St. Stephen's Church, 48 Pulteney St., Geneva; 7 p.m. each evening; for registration and more information call 315/789-1124.