

WORLD & NATION

Mourners congregate at cardinal's grave site

CHICAGO — As employees of the Chicago Archdiocese tried to get back to some semblance of normalcy following the death of Cardinal Joseph L. Bernardin, thousands of mourners continued to brave the cold to pay their respects at the cardinal's final resting place.

Catholic Cemeteries Executive Director Donald Massaro estimated that more than 40,000 people visited the Bishops' Mausoleum at Mount Carmel Cemetery in Hillside in the 10 days following the cardinal's Nov. 20 funeral. Some 15,000 visited in the first four days.

Josephites celebrate 125 years of ministry

BALTIMORE — More than 750 jubilant parishioners helped the Josephites commemorate 125 years of U.S. ministry to African-Americans at a special Mass at St. Francis Xavier Church in Baltimore.

"Against sometimes insurmountable odds, both social and economic," said Baltimore Auxiliary Bishop John H. Ricard, "the Josephites, in collaboration with equally courageous African-American leaders, were able to develop those institutions, parishes, schools and ministries which were an indispensable component in the development of the African-American community in Baltimore."

The bishop is a Josephite and urban vicar in the Baltimore Archdiocese. The principal celebrant and homilist at the Nov. 30 Mass was Baltimore Cardinal William H. Keeler.

Church protest draws clerics' condemnation

BALLYMENA, Northern Ireland — Catholic and Protestant church leaders in Ireland have condemned the continuing blockade of a Catholic church in the town of Ballymena by supporters of British rule in Northern Ireland.

In a joint statement, Catholic primate Archbishop Sean Brady of Armagh, Church of Ireland primate Archbishop Robin Eames, Presbyterian moderator Rev. Harry Allen and Methodist President Ken Best said, "We condemn unreservedly the actions of any who seek to obstruct those attending worship in any place. It is the right of all people to worship in freedom."

Vatican allots money for Palestinian relief

UNITED NATIONS — The Vatican will demonstrate its continuing support of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East by making another symbolic contribution of \$20,000 to its 1997 budget, the Vatican nuncio to the United Nations announced Dec. 5. That is the same amount given to the current 1996 budget and those of several previous years.

Addressing the annual pledging conference for the agency, Archbishop Renato R. Martino said the gifts were meant to express the Vatican's encouragement for the programs helping Palestinian refugees.

Pope promotes genders' equality

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — The equality of men and women must be promoted, but it must be done with respect for the differences between the sexes, Pope John Paul II said.

"Equality goes hand in hand with the recognition of the differences inscribed by creation," the pope told participants in a Dec. 6-8 conference on women sponsored by the Pontifical Council for the Laity.

The meeting was designed to reflect on the experiences and implementation of the 1994 U.N. Conference on Women and to continue a dialogue with and about women called for by the pope, said Archbishop J. Francis Stafford, former archbishop of Denver and president of the council.

The pope told the 130 participants that the Vatican delegation's message at the conference was that "all people must be respected for themselves, in the integrity of their bodily, intellectual and spiritual being, in a way that can never be debased and considered and treated as an object or instrument at the service of political and economic interests."

Respecting women for who they are, he said, includes recognizing and respecting the ways they are different from men, but those differences are not to be used as a basis for discrimination.

Archbishop Stafford told Catholic News Service Dec. 9 the key points of discussion at the meeting were:

- How the equality and differences between women and men must lead to collaboration, unity and communion between male and female as a reflection of the Trinitarian life of God.

- The "anthropological catastrophe" caused by decades of communist rule in Eastern Europe.

"There is little sense of wonder before the gift that is everywhere about us, especially the gift of our differences in the one human nature. So one of the responses to that was the church's responsibility to keep alive the sense of wonder and awe before the gift of creation and redemption," he said.

- The overwhelming "culture of death" in the world, which particularly impacts the woman, "the one who has been especially and primarily entrusted with human life as gift."

Participants explored what they saw as "the prophetic element of what it means to be feminine, and that is to be the guardian of life."

- The concepts of empowerment and rights as they were used at the U.N. Women's Conference, and whether or not they are terms appropriate for use in the context of the church.



CNS/Reuters

Anglican Archbishop George Carey of Canterbury talks with Pope John Paul II at an evening prayer service Dec. 5 in Rome, the day before the Vatican conference on women began. The two leaders signed a declaration stating that the acceptance of women's ordination by the Anglican Communion had created a new obstacle to reconciliation.

"There was a strong affirmation of the Holy Father's desire to take what is best in contemporary culture, and these may be among the better ideas" if placed within a Christian context, Archbishop Stafford said.

- The need for everyone in the church — male and female, ordained or lay — to see and exercise power the way the Blessed Virgin Mary did: listening to the word of God, then accepting God's will for one's life.

"Ours has become a world in which

differentiated being that God said, 'It is not good that you should be alone,'" she said.

"Creation is all good, all beautiful, but the human being of which Genesis 2 speaks has still not reached completion; there is something missing before this work is truly good and beautiful," Costacurta said.

Without the possibility and reality of an interpersonal relationship, she said, humanity has not reached the heights God planned for it.

everyone, men and women alike, is characterized by an overemphasis on the masculine and a diminution of the feminine," Archbishop Stafford said.

"If there is to be a future, we must reappropriate the order and primacy of love and we must learn from woman," the archbishop said in his Dec. 6 introduction to the meeting.

The Virgin Mary is the most perfect model for both women and men, he said. The message of her life is that "the primary human activity is not to seek in order to grasp and acquire, but to receive in order to give back."

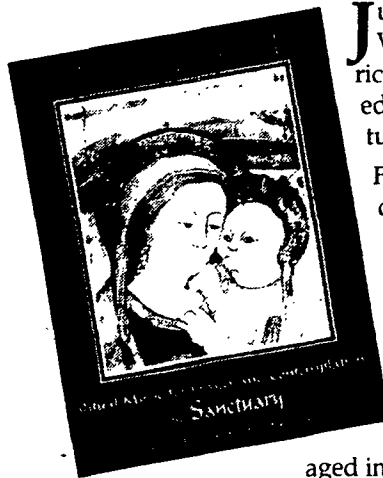
Bruna Costacurta, a professor of theology at Rome's Gregorian University, told participants that the way the biblical creation story is written emphasizes the fact that God had not completed making the human being until he had created male and female.

"It is to the still-undif-

Announcing . . . The Perfect Gift for All Music Lovers

MAGNIFICAT

Ritual Music for Prayer and Contemplation
Honoring the Blessed Mother



Just released by Sanctuary, a music ensemble at Villanova University. MAGNIFICAT offers a rich audio tapestry of traditional Marian chanted prayer with the best in contemporary spiritual sound.

Featuring the haunting *Hail Mary Mantra*, composed by Shawn Tracy, osa, the music rises up in layered mantras beginning with an "Our Father," a series of "Hail Marys" and a final "Glory to God." Lyrical hymns, including the popular *I Shall Sing Your Praise*, weave the vibrant mantras together.

Available in time for Christmas-gift-giving, each Limited Deluxe Edition is packaged in a beautiful gift box and includes a 20-page *Book of Contemplation*, compact disc or audio cassette. Each gift set is just \$20 and cannot be purchased in any store.

Call Toll-Free: 1-800-834-6250 for Credit Card orders. To order by check or money order, return the coupon below.

Please send me _____ Compact Discs of MAGNIFICAT @ \$20 each.
 Please send me _____ Audio Cassettes of MAGNIFICAT @ \$20 each.

Enclosed is my check / money order for \$ _____ (Add \$5 for Shipping & Handling.)

Make checks Payable to: Sanctuary

Mail to: Sanctuary, Villanova University, Villanova, PA 19085-1699.

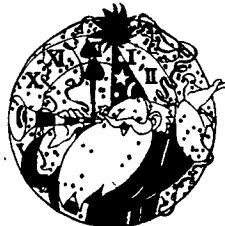
Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: () _____

NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA



Lavish Prime Rib Buffet Including
Leg of Lamb,
Breast of Chicken,
Tortellini Alfredo,
Broiled Fish Fillet

Early Seating 5:00-7:30
\$19.95 pp (plus tax and gratuity)
Late Seating 8:00-10:30
\$29.95 pp (plus tax and gratuity)

FREE Champagne,
Hats & Noisemakers at Midnight!
DANCING UNTIL 2AM!

For Reservations
Call 716-546-2490



1400 Midtown Tower
Free Indoor Parking
in the Midtown Garage