

St. Peter's Square, filled here by onlookers for an April 9 beatification ceremony for Redemptorist Father Francis X. Seelos and four others, will be the site of Pope John Paul II's Easter vigil Mass.

Outdoor vigil Mass set

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — So many pilgrims want to celebrate Easter with Pope John Paul II in this year of the Great Jubilee that the Vatican has decided to hold the April 22 evening Easter vigil Mass in St. Peter's Square.

The Mass, which will begin at 8 p.m. with the blessing of fire and a procession with the Easter candle, usually is held inside St. Peter's Basilica.

The Vatican press office said April 11 that the vigil Mass was being moved outdoors because of the tens of thousands of requests for free Mass tickets.

St. Peter's Basilica holds about 8,000 people seated. The piazza, when filled with chairs, can accommodate five times as many.

The following is the pope's schedule as released by the Vatican:

- Mass April 16 in St. Peter's Square for Palm Sunday and the local celebration of World Youth Day.

- Celebration April 20 of the Chrism Mass in the morning in St. Peter's Basilica.

- Mass of the Lord's Supper in the evening April 20 in the basilica. During the Mass, the pope will wash the feet of 12 priests and a collection will be taken up for the victims of flooding in Mozambique.

- Early in the evening Good Friday, April 21, the pope will preside over the liturgy of the Lord's Passion in St. Peter's Basilica. At 9:15 p.m., he will lead the Stations of the Cross at Rome's Colosseum.

- Celebration of the Easter vigil April 22 in St. Peter's Square.

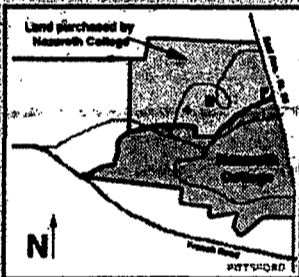
- Easter morning Mass April 23 followed by the papal blessing *Urbi et Orbi* ("To the City and the World").



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Civilly disobedient Catholics



Cautious — the person sitting next to you in church one Sunday may be sitting in a jail cell the Sunday next. And that person might even cite Catholic teachings as the reason for having exchanged a pew for a prison cell.

Maybe that nice man sitting next to you faces jail time for trespassing at the School of the Americas, a U.S. Army training facility in Fort Benning, Ga. Its critics contend that the school trains Latin American soldiers to repress poor people, labor activists and Catholic Church workers.

Or that soft-spoken woman praying quietly next to you has been held in custody by sheriffs for crossing onto a restricted area at a U.S. military facility in hopes of persuading the government to stop its low-level war against Iraq.

What unites such Catholic law-breakers is growing frustration with a government they believe does not wish to acknowledge that its policies are killing innocent people.

John Doughty, youth minister at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish in Brighton, has twice been arrested in civil disobedience actions during the past two months, first in New York City and then in Syracuse. And this is a man who said he's never even been issued a traffic ticket, much less been arrested for any crime until this year.

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STORY BY ROB CULLIVAN