

CONTINUED...

Father Vosko

Continued from page 1

Catholic cathedral is supposed to look like today; and the May 9 talk was slated to cover "Art and Music in the Worship Environment."

On May 7, the priest noted that the Catholic Church is renovating many of its churches currently because it has changed the way it views the Mass. For centuries, more a spectacle to be watched, the Mass, since the Second Vatican Council, has been emphasized as something all Catholics celebrate. For example, he said, church liturgical documents now stress the essentially communal nature of the Mass as opposed to the pre-Vatican II era when the Mass was seen as akin to private devotional prayer.

"So when it comes to celebrating Mass in a different kind of way," he said, "it's important to look at our places of worship."

Sacred Heart Cathedral, he said, "was built for a different liturgy for a different

people in a different time." Hence, he said, as the church has done before when its understanding of liturgy changed, the church is reexamining and, in many cases, redesigning its churches to reflect the way it believes the Mass should be viewed now. Examples of such redesign include placing the altar in the center of a church with the congregational seating around it, rather than in the front of several straight rows of pews.

One Sacred Heart parishioner who said she came to the presentation with an open mind about renovation was Catherine Spoto, a eucharistic minister and lector at the parish.

"I don't have a preconceived notion of what the outcome should be," she said. "But I think that it's important to consider thoughtfully what the purpose of our gathering is, and how the facility can enhance that purpose."

On the other hand, Maureen Benvenuto, a parishioner at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Greece, stood outside the academy and held a sign protesting the proposed renovation. Benvenuto said

she wasn't completely opposed to fixing such things as the cathedral's lighting and sound systems. But she complained that Bishop Matthew H. Clark was promoting cathedral renovation in a manner to his liking.

"If the people don't want it, why does he want to change it?" she asked rhetorically.

As if in answer to his critics, during his presentation, Father Vosko repeatedly stressed that his redesigns have been in line with the documents of official church leadership. At the same time, he said, he has a great love for traditional church art, pointing out that his mother was a Ukrainian Catholic, and that he grew up with a love for church iconography.

He added that he has argued for the retention of such features as statues in church redesign, features that other modern church renovators have opposed. He also said said the Cathedral of Los Angeles, on which he is working, will contain the world's largest collection of tapestries picturing saints.



Andrea Dixon/Staff photographer

Maureen Benvenuto and her daughters, Gina, 6, and Mary Pat, 4, parishioners at Our Lady of Mercy in Greece, protest during Father Vosko's lecture.

Trip

Continued from page 1

bishop flew to Moscow the next day for talks with Russian Orthodox Patriarch Alexei II, a coincidence Vatican officials found promising.

The pope visited the Areopagus, the Athens hillside where St. Paul first preached to the Greeks, and venerated an icon of the Apostle. He called Paul a model for the church and a special inspiration to his own papacy.

Throughout his stay, he lauded Greek culture and encouraged the country's new role as a member of the European Community. He met with Greek President Konstantinos Stephanopoulos and other ministers, who said they were pleased that anti-pope demonstrations earlier in the week had run out of steam by the time the pope arrived.

Before leaving for Syria, the pope celebrated a low-key Mass with 18,000 Catholics in an Athens basketball arena, on a small altar placed on one end of the court. The simple liturgy seemed designed to assure Greeks that the pope's visit had no triumphal aims.

The visit to the Umayyad Great Mosque in Damascus marked a milestone in Christian-Muslim relations, and in a talk to Muslims the pope urged others to take note of the historic event.

"It is my ardent hope that Muslim and Christian religious leaders and teachers will present our two great religious communities as communities in respectful dialogue, never more as communities in conflict," he said.

"It is crucial for the young to be taught the ways of respect and understanding, so that they will not be led to



Reuters/CNS

Pope John Paul II embraces a Syrian girl as he arrives at El Quneitra in the Golan Heights of Syria May 7. Pope John Paul II prayed at the ruins of a Greek Orthodox church there. The city was totally destroyed by withdrawing Israeli troops in 1974.

misuse religion itself to promote or justify hatred or violence," he said.

The pope, who greeted the Muslim leaders with the Arabic expression, "As-salamu alaikum" ("Peace be with you"), received long applause and a warm reception from dozens of imams and other Islamic leaders gathered in a courtyard of the eighth-century complex.

After removing his shoes and donning a pair of white slippers, he walked down a long aisle of the mosque's

prayer hall, pausing occasionally for an explanation from his Muslim guide. Then he stopped silently for a minute before a memorial shrine to St. John the Baptist, held by local tradition to be the place where the saint's head is buried.

Syria greeted the pope warmly. He received his first enthusiastic welcome of the trip at an Orthodox cathedral in downtown Damascus May 5. Tens of thousands of cheering Christians — Catholics and Orthodox — lined the streets of the old city and the courtyard of the church, tossing flower petals as he rode in his popemobile with Greek Orthodox Patriarch Ignatius IV.

After listening to a chanted prayer, the pope gave a speech in which he recalled the flowering of the faith in Syria during the early centuries of the church.

He said he was pleased at the generally excellent relations between Syrian Catholic and Orthodox churches today, but urged them to do more in terms of cooperation. A prime example in which the Middle Eastern churches should show leadership, he said, is reaching agreement on a common date for the celebration of Easter.

The pontiff paid a visit to the Syrian Orthodox cathedral the next day, meeting with clergy and laity from all nine of the Catholic and Orthodox church communities in Syria. This time he shared his popemobile with the Syrian Orthodox patriarch.

At a three-hour-long Mass in a Damascus sports stadium May 6, the pope told a congregation of about 25,000 Syrians that Christians, Muslims and Jews were called to work together for regional peace.

He asked them to remember that "Christian identity is not defined by opposition to others but by the ability to go out of oneself toward one's brothers and sisters."

COURIER CLASSIFIEDS

GENERAL

Announcements

ADOPTIONS The Catholic Courier does not publish adoption advertising. To obtain a list of agencies that serve birth mothers and adoptive parents, call 716-328-4340. Agencies wishing to be included on this list may send information to the Catholic Courier.

Card of Thanks

FAVORS RECEIVED FROM the Blessed Virgin Mary concerning health. Thank you. JMP

MERCHANDISE

Wanted to Buy

WANTED TO BUY: older jewelry, paintings, art books, oriental rugs. Call Nancy 716-582-1805.

Miscellaneous

Beautiful unused 18inch white gold **FATIMA MADONNA** with grotto! \$49 crated. Call (716) 234-5568

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted

There are elderly people in our community who are having difficulty dealing with the day-to-day tasks of personal care, laundry, meal preparation and light cleaning. If you want to help, we can provide you the skills you need to be the person who can make a big difference in the quality of their lives! Our Home Health Aide Training Program will prepare you help these clients meet the challenges they face with dignity — enabling them to safely remain in their homes. Interested? You can be part of "The Team" We have a training schedule that will meet your needs! We can be reached Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm at Rural/Metro Medical Services (716) 546-2393

SERVICES

Business Services

HAWTHORN DESIGN logos, brochures and web sites. Personal attention at reasonable rates. Call 716/533-2377. Web site: www.HawthornDesign.com

Call 716-328-4340 to advertise in the Courier classifieds

SERVICES

Carpeting & Floor Care

CONTE'S CARPET INSTALLATION

Tired of paying too much for carpeting?? Don't pay all that overhead anymore!!! Shop with us and save!!! Fully insured - Free estimates. Call 621-8967/415-1078

Ceiling Repair

TEXTURED/SWIRLED CEILINGS: 9' x 12' ceiling only \$59! Water damaged, stained, poorly textured/swirled ceilings repaired, re-textured, re-painted, or made flat again. Any size dry-wall/plaster wall repairs. No job too small. 716/392-5076.

Gutter Cleaning

GUTTER CLEANING & REPAIR

New Heavy-Duty Aluminum & Galvanized Gutters
Bernard K. Bayer & Son
est. 1952 (716) 381-0812

SERVICES

Home Health Care

All Metro Health Care

The Name You Can Trust

Companion, HHA, CNA, LPN, RN

Let us be the One
716-381-6240

Masonry

MASONRY REPAIRS: All types. Brick and cement step repairs. Brick, block, concrete, patchwork. 40 years experience. Al Meyvis Sr. 716-323-1007.

Moving and Storage

K-D Moving & Storage, Inc.

Experience in office, household moving and deliveries.

Big or Small, We do them All!

473-6610/473-4357

23 Arlington St. Rochester NY 14607

NYID 979857

Pet Care

CUDDLES UNLIMITED, PET SITTING: Your home. Animal lover who cares about your pet and home. Call Cindy 716/234-6510.

SERVICES

Painting & Wall Covering

AL MEYVIS, JR.: Painting interior/exterior. Basement walls repaired / painted / wet base-ments: Carpentry, powerwashing, decks, etc. All types home repairs. Small jobs welcome. (I do all my own work. No sub-contractors.) Certified. 392-4435, 323-2876.

BURGMAS-TER PAINTING/PAPERHANGING, textured ceilings, walls, ceilings repaired, rugs shampooed. Insured, powerwashing. Dan Burgmaster, 716/663-0827.

Home Improvement

Ask yourself is your repair man too expensive, unreliable, unpredictable?

#1 IN REPAIRS

- Roof
- Gutter
- Chimney
- Masonry
- Siding
- Doors
- Windows
- Carpentry

- Insulation
- Ventilation
- Chimney Liners
- Basement Walls
- Painted/Repaired
- Water Proofed
- Gutters Cleaned

TOP-TO-BOTTOM
EXPERT EVALUATION • FULLY INSURED
FREE ESTIMATES • GUARANTEED • SENIOR DISCOUNT
Since 1988
Johnathon A. Geer
338-9865
For 24 Hour Emergencies, Call 764-8204
www.toptobtm.com

Need a classified?

e-mail advertising@catholiccourier.com