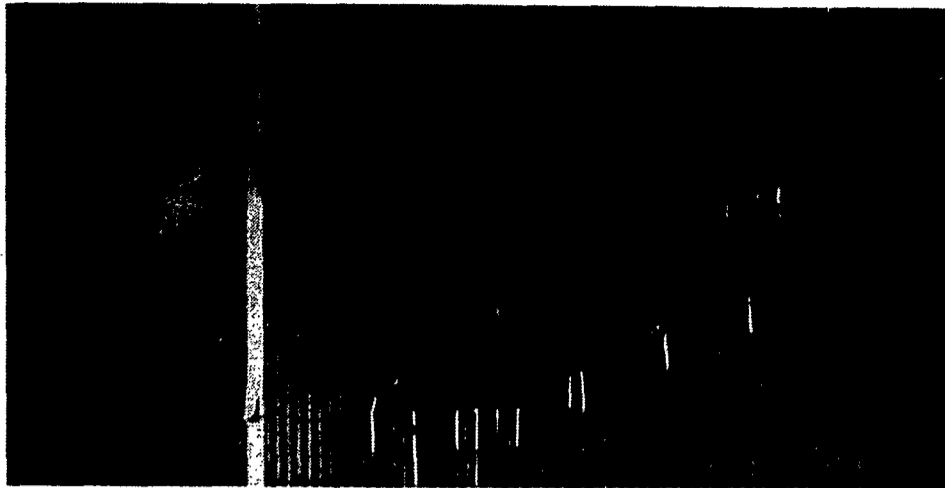


WORLD & NATION



This is a telescopic view of the impact of the first plane attack on the World Trade Center in New York Sept. 11. A second plane attack occurred 18 minutes later.

Reuters/GNS

Attack

Continued from page 1

the first explosion at the World Trade Center. They were watching the smoke from it when a second plane crashed into the center's second tower.

"We have heard screaming in the streets and there is a great deal of fear," he said in a telephone interview with *The Catholic Telegraph*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

Parish secretary Carol Cain at St. Teresa Church, about a mile from the Manhattan crash scene, said one priest from her parish went immediately to a nearby hospital to help out and a second priest went to a church closer to the trade center to offer help and prayers.

Cardinal Edward Egan of New York City anointed some of those injured outside St. Vincent Hospital in Manhattan. The cardinal said the city of New York would work to mitigate the effects of the disaster "with a prayer and a total commitment to everyone's who's hurting."

Richard Poole of Denver, who was attending a meeting in the Capitol when it was evacuated, said, "At about 9:15 a.m. a woman came in to tell us that a plane had crashed into the World Trade Center. Then we heard an explosion" at about 9:30 — apparently from the airplane crashing into the Pentagon across the river.

Bishop James A. Griffin of Columbus, Ohio, said, "Today, we find ourselves in dark hours. We condemn this use of violence." He asked people to pray for all the victims, their families and rescue workers.

Diocese responds in prayer

More than 120 people attending a standing-room-only prayer service in the chapel of the Diocese of Rochester's Pastoral Center in Gates the afternoon of Sept. 11. Bishop Matthew H. Clark led the service, which featured hymns and prayers of petition.

"Lord hear us as we pray this day," the bishop said at the service's beginning. "Help us to grasp the events of this day. Show us the light of your way, and lead us to the kingdom."

Later in the service, the bishop said: "I don't presume to know the burden this day holds for you ... But I, for one, appreciate the chance to note the support of your prayer and the witness of your faith."

The bishop asked those present to vocalize their prayers if they wished. Prayers offered included those for the pastoral staffs in New York City; the victims and their families; rescue workers, medical staff and military personnel; and for world leaders considering the possible effects of retaliating against any terrorists.

"I was deeply saddened to hear of the terrorist attacks carried out today in New York City and Washington," Bishop Clark said in a prepared news statement. "My prayers go out to all victims of this violence and to their loved ones."

Diocesan parishes quickly arranged special prayer services Sept. 11, and in some cases, churches including St. Monica's in Rochester opened their doors for people to come and go in prayer. St. Mary's Church, Rochester, held a special prayer service at noon Sept. 11. According to Father William Donnelly, pastor, more than 50 people attended the ecumenical service, which included song and readings from the books of Lamentations and Isa-

iah.

Evening services were set at St. Monica's Church in Rochester, and St. Alphonsus in Auburn. St. Hyacinth in Auburn planned a holy hour. An ecumenical "solidarity" prayer service was planned for Temple B'rith Kodesh in Brighton.

Nazareth, St. John Fisher and SUNY Brockport colleges cancelled their afternoon and evening classes Sept. 11, and an all-day and evening vigil was held in the chapel of Nazareth's student center.

All seven Catholic high schools in the diocese, according to those schools' officials, opted to carry out the entire school day Tuesday. Most of them, however, cancelled after-school activities.

All the high schools also organized prayerful acknowledgements of the tragedy, such as services and schoolwide moments of silence. Daniel Skinner, principal of Geneva DeSales High School, said he altered lunch schedules so the student body could attend the regularly scheduled 12:10 p.m. Mass at St. Stephen's Church.

The diocesan Department of Catholic Schools issued e-mail and phone advisories to all its schools, instructing them to follow the policies of their home public school districts. The memo also encouraged the schools to engage in prayer services, cancel after-school activities, and help prevent the spread of rumors.

In Rochester, the Greater Rochester International Airport reportedly was expecting 20 planes diverted after the incident. The Federal Aviation Administration shut down air traffic across the country.

Government offices including the Hall of Justice were closed in Rochester.

— Staff reports

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