Bps. oppose contra aid, contraceptive clinics

WASHINGTON (NC)—U.S. bishops at their fall general meeting approved a Central America policy statement opposing U.S. military aid to the contra rebels in Nicaragua and expressed their opposition to school-based health clinics which distribute contracentives.

Meeting at the Capital Hilton Hotel in Washington Nov.

16-19, the approximately 300 bishops attending the meeting of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and U.S. Catholic Conference also approved:

► A new national collection to ease the retirement burdens of religious orders.

► A national pastoral plan for Hispanic ministry

► A new rite for use in celebrations of marriage between persons of different faiths. The rite still needs approval of the Vatican before it can be used.

► Establishment of Dec. 12, the date Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared in Mexico in 1531, as a feast day. (See BISHOPS APPROVE, page 28)



Holy Cross provides food for Thanksgiving

by Margaret Nelson

More than 1,500 people received food for Thanksgiving at the Holy Cross Food Pantry in Indianapolis.

People like Mary Murphy need the food.

Mary is an elderly widow with no family, who lives in a converted garage. Her parish is her family.

is her family.

And the Martins bring their two young children to "help" them carry food from the Holy Cross line. For one thing, they could never reford to pay a paby sitter.

never afford to pay a baby sitter.
Jobless, John Martin was doing mechanical work on his truck so that he could do hauling and use it for job hunting. But he had to stop that work until money could be saved for a new radiator. In the meantime, the license (and insurance) on the truck expired. Defore the couple could save money for these expenses, someone stole the truck! The only work Ann Martin has been able to find is her part-time job in a fast food restaurant, where she earns §2 an hour.

Thanksgiving is a time when most faithfilled people remember that others might be less fortunate. And they find ways to help

these pe ple.
Those who donated money, food, transportation, strength, or time to Holy Cross Food Pantry assisted those in this eastside neighborhood who are struggling to survive at this time in their lives. It is thought to be the largest single food distribution operation in the archdiocese.

Volunteers who came to help assemble the "baskets" for the first time last Sunday must have been surprised. The building and the large room they entered at Ohio and Oriental were obviously church property. But the altar was dwarfed by the tons of food. And, under the direction of Thanksgiving. Christmas Pood Basket Program Coordinator Mark Scott, volunteers quickly filled 350 boxes in an assembly-type line, with staples like onions, potatoes, crackers and canned goods. These cartons were placed on the pews to await the addition of the bread, milk, and boxed chickens on Tuesday. Then nore volunteers helped the recipients to get the food

All of these baskets in the church were distributed to people who had preregistered. Cards containing names of needy families were submitted by concerned neighbors,



MADONNA OF THE POTATOES—The statue of Mary seems to bless the 2,800 pounds of potatoes used in Thanksgiving "baskets" at Holy Cross Church. (Photo by Margaret Nelson)

friends, parishioners, school staff, those who participate in the weekly food pantry, and those who must request food for themselves. In this way, food was given to about 1,000 people who would not have otherwise enjoyed a Thanksgiving dinner.

Holy Cross. The parish receives lots of help in this project, according to Sister Marie. Besides the parishioners and neighbors, Catholic elementary and high schools, college students, parishes, groups and individuals make the food pantry a service project. And St. Elizabeth Seton Church, Carmel, supports its "sister parish" with this and other ministries in the inner city parish. One public health nurse encourages donations of food from public schools she visits.

school gym to help sort individual food donations. An additional 350 needy people, who came to the church on Tuesday without

registering, received these parcels of food.
There is always "plenty of canned food,"
according to pastoral associate Franciscan
Sister Marie Werdmann. "But sometimes we

of those (in the gym)," she added.

Sister Marie went out into the neighbor-

hood herself and talked with people she thought might need help at Thanksgiving. Some people she visited did not have much themselves, but were extremely concerned about others around them who were alone and had even less in the way of necessities.

The parish, which runs the pantry in cooperation with the St. Vincent de Paul Society,

The notice about Thanksgiving registration was kept posted in the food pantry for several weeks, since each family may only

receive food there every two weeks through the year. But the unemployed people who

volunteer at the food pantry "chose not to sign up for food until they saw that there

would be enough," Sister remarked. And these are the people who unloaded the large

quantities of onions and potatoes for this week's distribution.

Father Patrick Doyle is administrator of

delivered some baskets to shut-ins.

Scott begins the assembly of baskets by asking the close to 200 workers to pray for those who give and receive the food.

trose win give an receive unit of the for Christmas, Holy Cross extends its food pantry boundaries to include St. Philip Neri Parish. In turn, St. Philip's collects clothing and other gifts for both parishes, which are wrapped and distributed from the Rural Street convent.

Packing of food baskets for Christmas will be done at Holy Cross Church on Sunday, Dec. 20 for the Tuesday, Dec. 22 distribution.

Looking Inside

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Archbishop reports on new CRS efforts in Ethiopia

by Stephenie Overman

WASHINGTON (NC)—Catholic Relief Services is facing the challenge of alleviating a new hunger crisis in Ethiopia, Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara of Indianapolis said Nov. 17

The archbishop, chairman of the CRS board, gave a progress report on the U.S. bishops' overseas aid agency during the National Conference of Catholic Bishops' meeting in Washington Nov. 16-19.

CRS has "the large challenge this year of reawakening the world's conscience to the famine situation in Ethiopia," Archbishop O'Meara said.

The African nation still faces drought and famine problems that will "take to the end of the century" to solve, the archbishop said, describing a barren land. "There is not a bush or a twig or a tree—everything is used for firewood."

The country also faces political unrest, and the archbishop described the recent burning of seven trucks carrying tons of food.

Prolonged drought caused massive famne in Ethiopia in 1984 and 1985. That famine led to "the largest single humanitarian effort in human history" and "CRS was in a leadership role among all the private voluntary agencies," the archibishop said. (See CRS AID, page 25) the criterion

from the editor

Contraceptives in public school clinics

One of the statements issued by the U.S. Catholic bishops during their annual meeting last week was against the grow ing campaign to provide contraceptive services through public school-based health clinics. It is a statement that should be considered carefully by all Americans, irrespective of their

A natural reaction might be some

thing like, "Sure the bishops are opposed to contraceptives in the schools. The Catholic Church is opposed to all birth control, so what else is new?" This is not why the bishops are opposed to distributing contraceptives chool health clinics

They are, however, opposed on both moral and practical grounds. Not only is the idea immoral because it encourages teenage sexual activity, the bishops say, but studies show that, far from solving the problem of teenage pregnancy, it aggravates the problem

THE RISHOPS SAY that "the sobering reality is this Teenage pregnancy rates have risen because sexual activity among unmarried teenagers has increased dramatically; access to contraceptives has also greatly increased, but this has not led to reductions in pregnancy rates among teen-agers. In fact, such access may have helped to confirm nagers in their sexually active behavior. In recent years birth rates among sexually active teenagers have dropped but only because of a massive increase in abortions performed on teenage girls

The bishops first address the moral issue, then the

From the viewpoint of morality, they say, this approach teenage pregnancy is wrong because it "fails to respect the dignity of parents, teachers, and teenagers themselves. The statement stresses that parents have "an origina primary and inalienable right" to guide their children's education and health care.

There is no justification for a double standard that requires schools to obtain parental consent before a school nurse can dispense an aspirin for a headache, but provides for access to contraceptive drugs and devices without parental consultation," they say. They particularly object to contraceptive programs that undermine the moral and lues that parents try to impart to their children.

A SCHOOL-BASED program for providing contracep-tives fails to respect teenagers, the bishops say, because it takes a promiscuous lifestyle for granted and resorts to the deception that premarital sexual activity is without so long as pregnancy is avoided.'

Comparing the problems of sexual activity and drugs. the bishops say, "Most parents and teachers would presumably oppose the distribution in the schools of sterile intravenous needles to prevent transmission of AIDS, since this gesture would undermine efforts to teach students to 'say no' to drugs. The distribution of condoms to prevent preg-nancy and the sexual transmission of AIDS deserves similar

But how else can the problem of teenage pregnancy be fought if not through contraceptives? The obvious way is by encouraging teens not to engage in sexual activity and the bishops disagree with those who consider such an approach as impractical. They devote eight pages to a positive approach that includes efforts to strengthen the character-forming task of the schools, to improve social and economic opportunities for young p ple in low-income areas, to support parents in their task of passing on healthy values to their children, and to establish programs of education promoting the values of chastity.

They recognize that we live in a pluralistic society with a diversity of moral and religious views, but say that "the moral case against permarital sex for minors is not simply a matter of denominational dogma. Such moral formation can and should be a task for public schools, as well as for parents who are the primary educators of their children
Our public schools should not evade their obligation in this rd on the grounds that they cannot teach morality.

They point to a number of non-denominational programs cation in chastity that have already been developed and tested in public schools.

THEY ACKNOWLEDGE that their agenda might see unrealistic to some, but they invite those who disagree with them to consider the alternatives. There are only three: We can continue on the same road of ambivalence as at present, whose results according to most observers will continue to be disappointing; we can explicitly decide to eliminate moral and religious qualms about teenage sexual promiscuity in order more wholeheartedly to indoc-trimate all our young people in a contraceptive mentality; or we can work together to build a society in which family values can become meaningful and effective in young peo

Only the third alternative offers a ray of hope, the bishops say, and they invite all Americans to contribute to that effort "so we may face this and other challenges to our society's children in ways that fully respect their dignity.

Mass and dinner for 250 held at Barton Apartments

by Margaret Nelson

Handshakes and smiles seemed even more appreciated than the homemade meal at a special Mass and Thanksgiving dinner at the Barton Apartments last Saturday. The idea for the dinner began six years ago when Father Mauro Rodas became

stor of St. Mary's Church in downtown Indianapolis. After he visited the shut-ins in the nearby apartments, a couple of people decided to have a Mass and bring Thanksgiving dinner to the dozen or so people there. Byron DeCapua of St. Alphonsus, Zionsville, and Bill Yeadon of St. Joan of Arc, were on the beginning team.

This small beginning has grown to this year's Mass and dinner, when about 250 people ate a Thanksgiving meal in the Barton Apartments' lounge on East Street. About 100 people, young and old—from parishes throughout Marion and Hamilton counties, helped the guests find the readings and songs in the missalettes during the Mass. Then they carried plates to the tables of residents and street people who heard about the meal

The food was donated by these and other ple from their parishes. It consisted of 22 eys, homemade breads and desserts and "all the trimmings."

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Father Rodas gave a dialogue homily for those in attendance. Delores Yeadon observed, "These people turn him on." In simple terms, he explained the meaning of parts of the Mass for the non-Catholics in attendance. One man who came in off the street for the dinner said, "When there is a preacher here, maybe a dozen people come But look how many people come when we feel like he cares

The guests ranged in age from a three year-old girl, who attended with her parents. to the very elderly. Some of the women from the apartments were dressed very smartly in their "Sunday best." Catholics from the apartments meet every Saturday to pray the



BIG DINNER-Bill Yeadon (left) and Dolores Yeadon get ready to distribute 250 dinner plates elpers from many parishes who are there to serve residents of Barton Apartments.

Vatican to release annual budget report

by Jerry Filteau

WASHINGTON (NC)-Cardinal John J. Krol of Philadelphia announced to the U.S. bishops Nov. 18 that for the first time the financially strapped Vatican will soon ase an annual statement on its budget and finances

The cardinal also announced preliminary plans to establish some form of U.S. foundation or endowment fund to provide an ongoing source of income for the Holy See to help reduce a growing operating deficit.

Cardinal Krol addressed the bishops as a member of the Council of Cardinals, a group of cardinals from around the world estabished in 1981 to help advise the pope on Vatican structures and finances

In council meetings "I have been a darn nuisance on the question of publicity" of Vatican finances, the cardinal said.

He said the bishops would soon be receiving from the Vatican "an audit report for 1986 and the budget for 1987," and for the first time "it will come without that darn little

word on top, 'riservato.' "
"Riservato," Italian for "reserved," is the Vatican equivalent of the "top secret" stamp on a U.S. government military or

intelligence report.

Cardinal Krol said the Vatican would also include an audit statement on the operation of Vatican City State, which has no deficit.

Because the financial documentation will not be secret, the cardinal told the bishops Use it. Make it public. Share it with your editors.

His stand with the Holy See, he said, has been that they could keep their finances secret if they ran a balanced-budget opera-tion or sought to make up the deficit through private sources.

'But if you want to make an appeal for a deficit, you'd better tell people what it is and why it is," he said. He said Peter's Pence, the annual collec-

tion from Catholics used in recent years to offset the deficit, is no longer sufficient.

At the suggestion of Cardinal John J

O'Connor of New York, also a member of the Council of Cardinals, plans are being formu lated to create a foundation or similar structure in the United States to provide a more stable source of ongoing inco ne for the Holy See. Cardinal Krol said.

He called the plan a possible "pilot pro ject for the world."

"The United States is one of the most generous nations in the world" in giving to charitable projects, he said.

He cited recent figures that said U.S. giving to charitable and philanthropic causes last year totaled \$87.22 billion, of which \$71.72 billion was given by individua

The Holy See's annual budget, he said, is 'austere'' \$115 million

He stressed that the Holy See budget refers only to the operations of the pope and Vatican departments serving the whole church, not the operations of Vatican City State or of the Vatican bank, whose funds are mainly deposits by religious orders.

Cardinal Krol said the administration of the Holy See's operations is "good but not perfect.

Archbishop O'Meara's Schedule

Week of November 29, 1987

SUNDAY, Nov. 29 — First Sunday of Advent, Eucharistic Liturgy at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, Indianapolis, 10:30 a.m.

Advent Vespers Service, SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, Indianapolis, 5:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY, Dec. 2-3 Catholic Relief Services Board meeting, New York.

FRIDAY/SATURDAY, Dec. 45 — Joint meeting of the Board/Advisory Council of the Indiana Catholic Con-ference, Catholic Center, Indiana-

Holy Angels evangelizes school pupils' parents

by Margaret Nelson

When parents enroll their children in Holy Angels School in Indianapolis, they agree to attend Catholic orientation sessions

It doesn't matter whether they are Catholic or not, new parents are expected to attend seven sessions in the fall and seven in the spring.

The intention is not to convince the parents to become nembers of the Catholic Church, but to help them understand the faith their children will be exposed to and to strengthen their own faith. Nothing negative is said about any other religious denomination

According to Lillian Hughes, coordinator of the Holy Angels evangelization project, most non-Catholic parents have been taught a lot of negative things about the Catholic Church. "I sense people going away with a better understanding, if not a greater respect," she observed.

Another misconception: "We have to break down the myth that the Catholic Church is 'a white church.' This year we have added more information about black Catholics in the church." Hughes noted.

The two-hour sessions are arranged to accommodate the parents' work schedules: Tuesday nights, Wednesday mornings, and Saturday mornings for the seven weeks The fall sessions were concluded on Nov. 21. If parents have an important reason for missing a session, the staff will try to help them make it up.

Basically, it is an orientation to the



EVANGELIZATION—St. Joseph Sister Kathleen Karbowski speaks to Holy Angels parents

Catholic faith. Participants are encouraged to worship in the church of their choice. It is an effort to nurture their faith, since the mission of the school is to combine efforts of the church with those of the home and

At the first parent session, information is requested about the church the family attends. Letters are sent to the pastors of all these churches. The responses are "in-teresting," according to Hughes. Some parents are quite active, but others are inactive and some the pastor has "never heard

"It is a sad thing," observed Hughes, "that 31 or 32 of the 171 parents indicate that they have no church connection." This mes her priority group for home visi

Parents are initially asked what they Parents are initially asked what they already know about the church and what they would like to know. These questions are compiled and as many as possible are answered at the next session. But these concerns are all covered at some time during the

Also requested at the first session are the reasons the parents sent their children to Holy Angels School. Since the usual reasons the staff feels it is justified in requiring that parents are informed enough to help these qualities "take root" at home, said Hughes.

Most of the parents who have recently enrolled their children in the school have students in kindergarten or lower grades. Since they sign the form that they will attend the sessions at registration, their children could be refused entrance in future semes-ters if the parents fail to comply. "Everyto it. It's a good overview of the Catholic faith. We really can't shorten it,"

The program is presented by a team that includes the pastor, Father Clarence Wal-don, who serves as the archdiocesan Director of Evangelization; DRE St. Joseph Sister Kathleen Karbowski; and Lillian Hughes This is Hughes' second year of coordinating the parents' program, which began in the parish one year before she became involved. "This year we have it down to a system. We don't have to reinvent the wheel every time, like we did last year.

"The other thing is that some parents who come are non-practicing Catholics," Hughes explained. "They may have gone to the school years ago and come back with their children. This is another priority—to try to work with them and get them back in the church.

Those unchurched parents who request additional information about the Catholic Church are moved from these sessions into the inquiry classes. Last year, Holy Angels had two new members from the school evangelization program.

"Some of the parents come in with a according to Lillian lot of obstacles. Hughes, "but they go away as indirect ambassadors.

Wall hanging commemorates Brebeuf School's 25 years

A wall hanging commissioned by the Mothers' Association to commemorate Brebeuf Preparatory School's 25th anniversary will be presented to Jesuit Brother M. Patrick Sheehy, president of the school and Jesuit Father Bernard P. Knoth, principal, on Monday, Nov. 30 at 9:30 a.m.

The four by eight feet textile mural designed by artist Marilyn Price will hang in the school's lobby outside the chapel. Special lighting and a custom-made frame have been designed and installed by Jim Cunningham.

Kay Ivcevich and Ann Frick chaired the project committee. Price, whose son Nathan was a 1984 graduate of Brebeuf, used photo-

was a 1984 graduate of Brebeut, used photo-silkscreens from yearbook files, with school symbols and colors, to create the design. Art classes, taught by Bob Lampert, observed the work as it progressed in Price's studio. Some suggestions from students and

mural, which was begun fifteen months ago.

mural, which was begin infeen monus ago.

The Mothers' Association committee embroidered designated areas of the mural before the piece was quilted and bound.

A coffee will be held when the Silver Anni-

versary wall hanging is unveiled Monday. Artist Marilyn Price will be honored along with embroiderers and quilters, Clare Clark, Marybeth Crossin, Jan Foster, Ann Frick, Mary Jane Hamburger, Barbara Hayford, Mary Kay Holland, Kay Ivcevich, Marlene McGuire, Cathy Roberts, Judy Strain, Siter Trudgen, and Betty Stanford, who helped with photo selection.

The artist commented, "To design a piece of work with purpose and communication is a challenge I thoroughly enjoy and find satisfying on many levels. Collaboration is another process which can be stimulating and rewarding.

Matters Temporal

by Msgr. Gerald A. Gettelfinger Secretary for Temporalities

BIG Numbers: Operational Income

Last week I began to identify some large dollar items of income that support

the archdiocesan budget. Assessments on parishes used to sup-port the operational budget were almost one million dollars. Another four million were service fees which pay for insurance and retirement



The Archdiocesan Annual Appeal generated slightly over \$1,500,000. Note that it was short of the established goal of \$2,050,000. This portion of our annual income is a critical element since it is the major income source that funds our departments and agencies to provide pro grams and service to the entire archdiocese. The annual appeal (\$1,500,000) and parish assessments (\$941,000) form the operational income pool. Whatever short-fall in these areas must be made up from investment income.

Contributions to National Appeals

There were over \$872,000 collected for national and world-wide works of the national and world-wide worlds of the church. This amount includes your gifts to the Propogation of the Faith, Campaign for Human Development, Catholic Relief Fund, Black and Native American Col-

Public Support

Many may not be aware of the significant amount of public support we receive for our social and youth outreach programs. Last year income in excess of \$1,600,000 was realized from grants, primarily government, and from the United Way of Central Indiana and Terre Haute. It should be remembered that the host institution, namely the archdiocese, is expected by United Way to support the recipient agencies too. Among the

be Catholic Social Services in Indianapol Catholic Charities in Terre Haute and Catholic Youth Organization in Indianapolis. Further, many of us who contribute to the archdiocese also contribute to the United Way and federal and local govern-ments. This is a helpful return.

There is a large sum of money reflected as income that is immediately paid out. The archdiocesan purchasing department assists parishes and institutions to buy supplies and equipment at considerable supplies and equipment a considerators savings. In doing so, bills are sent from the purchasing department to the parish; the parish remits the money including a handling charge; purchasing then pays the invoice to the company providing the item accurate. This income amount, (and or service. This income amount (and expense) exceeded \$1,000,000. Similarly, The Criterion generates income through advertising, subscriptions and services; this income represents slightly less that \$1,000,000 which is immediately spent to provide the weekly paper. Similarly there are fees charged users of services; these would include Catholic Cemeteries, maternity and adoption services, retreat programs, and youth programs.

This category captures the income from bequests, Easter Sunday collection and other areas that have clear designa-tions attached to them. This portion of income amounts to just over \$1,100,000. Note that this includes the new St. Mary's Child Center building which is reflected as income in the amount of \$650,000.

To complete the income areas there remain investment income, restricted funds' income and miscellaneous. These total \$1,616,700 in comparison to \$1,988,900 in the previous year. Investment income was down almost \$400,000 due to low interest rates and less money invested because of large building projects in several of our

Next we begin a look at the expense side of our annual report on archdiocesan operations.

Madison schools kick off campaign to raise \$1 million

On Saturday, Nov. 14, the board of directors of Friends of Shawe and Pope John Schools, Inc., of Madison kicked off a campaign to raise \$1,000,000.

Phase I of the drive, to be called "Excellence Today and Tomorrow," will span two years with an initial goal of \$500,000. Pledges made during that time may be paid over a

Board members have pledged nearly \$60,000 themselves to start up the campaign. Board president Lawrence Truax noted The pledges and gifts of members of our board of directors is a testament to their belief in the mission and quality of the Catho lic schools. Their generosity and commitment provide a strong base from which we can move ahead with pride.

Board member Bobbe Suchocki added, 'Friends' was formed in July of 1986 by parents and interested business people to provide an ongoing source of support to guarantee the continued excellence of the private Catholic education offered to the community at Pope John and Shawe.

nately one-half of the money

endowment. The interest from the invested funds will earn an income which will be used to make grants for such projects as teacher development, computer science and library materials. The remainder of the funds will enable

the board to purchase new equipment for classrooms, help with specific capital im-provements and provide some annual fund-ing to the two schools. The schools serve a five-county area in Indiana and Kentucky

Arthur Politz, principal of the two schools, observed, "The announcement of this campaign occurs at a significant moment in the history of Catholic education in this area. Our recent excellent evaluation by the Arch diocese of Indianapolis and our two first class commissions by the Indiana Department of Education permit us to begin looking at the future from a new vantage point The future looks very good indeed

Friends of Shawe and Pope John Schools Inc., will direct the campaign from its office located at 201 State Street, Madison, Ind.,

COMMENTARY

The Bottom Line

Now is the right time for moral outrage at greed

by Antoinette Bosco

Something unsettling is happening in the United States now. There is so much talk of money and wealth that many people don't want to acknowledge the poverty that exists in their own nation

Though people talk about the homeless and raise money for the hungry, their concern is a

Most of us don't brush shoulders with poor people. If they come too close, we send them off to an agency, a soup kitchen, a shelter or

of them. Someone recently related an incident in

Manhattan where a homeless, middle-aged

and a local supermarket. He was courteous and careful to bring bottles that had been cleaned so as not to offend the store clerks.

After waiting his turn patiently, he held his hand out to receive the nickels to which he was entitled. Just then the young clerk reached behind her back for Lysol disinfectant spray and proceeded to humiliate him Her colleagues laughed uproariously

Hearing this account and others, such as en-agers who set fires to the homeless as they sleep in streets and parks, I ask: What is there about the poor that causes such disrespect and brutal behavior

I think it has something to do with the fact that as a society we have come to love wealth and its packaging so much that those outside this framework are discardable beings

All around us are signs of wealth. Should

anyone question this, just turn on the TV set The programming, including commercials, shows wealth in most of what is aired, not only on "Lifestyles of the Rich and Fame

Or pick up a magazine or newspaper Again, everything we see or read speaks of the "good life," from clothes, food and furni-

ture to daily investment tips.
Who's important? Only the wealthy witness the spread in Fortune magazine listing the 400 wealthiest people in the country. And if you missed the magazine, USA Today reprinted the names so we could be sure to know who's worthy of having their names in the paper.

We are innundated with images of wealth; so much so that I think the message is starting to sink in: Money is the best, go for it. People who are poor aren't worth our

Thus it becomes permissible to elimina the poor with discourtesy, disrespect and dismissal.

I know something of how it feels to be I know something of now it feels to be unwanted because of poverty. Once when I was about eight, I was the only one not invited to a birthday party for a friend in my class at school. She told me I wasn't invited because her mother said I was too poor to

After this friend opened my eyes, I took on my poverty as I took on tonsilitis. I was diseased momentarily.

Fortunately, the church always has valued the poor, from Christ to the many great saints to people like Mother Teresa and the priests, Religious and lay people today who work in soup kitchens and shelters, and who try to raise funds to help the poor



The Catholic Church witnesses to the e of persons, not wealth. But our ability to hold on to Christian values is threatened when all around us we are bombarded by images that glamorize the wealthy

If this attraction to the glitz of money and power pervades society to the point that a supermarket clerk thinks nothing of symbolically spraying away a poor man, we are a society in great trouble.

Perhaps it is time to express moral out-rage over the age of greed that is descending upon us as a country

Everuday Faith

How far has the church come in the last 25 years?

I never hear the words "Tridentine Mass" ithout thinking back to a priest I interviewed a decade or so ago who told me about a conversation he'd had in about 1960 with

a seminary classmate.
"Do you think we'll
ever celebrate Mass in ever celebrate Mass in English in our life-time?" he asked the friend. "Don't count on it," the friend answered. Two years later, the Second Vatican Council was under way and, by 1965, Mass in the verar was permitted, changing forever the

way in which Catholics would perceive the tral act of worship in their faith I was reminded of the story recently when a video of the Tridentine

duct was produced by Chateau Creek Marketing and Communications (2001 Brown & Williamson Tower, Louisville, Ky, 40402) For \$29.95, plus \$3 for shipping and handling, it offers the consumer a VHS, Beta or 8mm look at the Tridentine Mass in color. As Chateau notes in promotional material. "Most young Catholics have never seen this Mass at all; many others will see elements never observed by a congregation. The value of this video lies in its information and instructive nature, and it should be of keen orical interest to every Roman Catholic

The folks at Chateau are surely correct that many of today's Catholics have never seen a Tridentine Latin Mass. The last one I can recall attending—at a time when the Mass, in any language, didn't much interest me—was about early 1966. So if the video serve a part of our Catholic heritage that would be unknown otherwise, I'm all for

But watching the video did more that

reawaken memories for me. It reminded me forcibly how far we have come in the past 25 years in our worship. Yes, the Tridentine Mass (faithfully preserved in every detail in the video) had a majesty and sacredness to it that has perhaps been lost in our move to the vernacular. But it also seems more like a theater piece than an act of participatory worship: We watch the priest perform, the readings are in Latin and seem to have no connection to our lives (no wonder Protestants knew the Bible better than we did in those days), and there is an overwhelm ing sense that what was going on up there was between the priest and God. I'd forgotune how shockingly true it was that the folks in the pews were spectators, not participants. How far we had grown from the original intention of the Mass

That the readings were in Latin seemed especially ing it related to our lives. Back then, the

tian for all that we understood of it How blessed we are to hear the Word of God proclaimed in our own language, so that we can take it to heart at once. This seems to me an inestimable gift from the counci

We still hear today of some Catholics who ould have us return to the Tridentine Mass Where it is permitted, I see nothing wrong with using that rite, for those who wish to do so. But watching the video convinces me anew that many of those who would have us return to 1962 have forgotten how distant that Mass was from our participation. It's worth the \$29.95 to recall the past and preserve history, but mostly to see for ourselves how privileged we are to celebrate the Mass in our own language, as fully participating members. I wouldn't have it any other way.

(Lou Jacquet has been named the editor of Our Sunday Visitor, the national Catholic weekly newspaper published in Huntington,

Behind the Headlines

Two lessons from the bishops' synod on the laity

by Dick Dowd

The World Synod of Rome was expected to be a learning experience for the Catholic

to be a learning experience for the Catholic Church. Who was teaching and who was learning may not always have been obvious. Some expressed the hope that the pope and his bureaucrast in the Vatican would learn from the bishop delegates about the "real" local church Others local church. Others hoped, on the other hand, that the local

bishops and their bureaucrats would learn from the Vatican about the "real" universal Anyone, however, could have learned at

ast two lessons from the recent synod on the laity:

"American" aberration. Lesson 2: We (in the United States) are NOT the world in the view of either the

Vatican or the bishops from other lands.

Ireland's ex-seminary rector and now
Cardinal Archbishop of Armagh, Tomas O'Fiaich, is credited with the conclusion that the subject of women in the church is no

longer an "American aberration."

It was not a hard conclusion to reach

since 15 percent of the bishop delegates from around the world chose to use their allotted few minutes to discuss women, society and the church from their cultural viewpoints

At the same time the exact question which has bedeviled American and other First World bishops—opening up more offi-cial ministries to women—did not make it to the final 54 recommendations.

What did, noted the synod special secre



tary French Archbishop Pierre Eyt, was a recognition that we really don't have "a sufficiently clear picture" of what the church's ministries are. So Proposition 18 calls for a new look at formally instituted ministries in light of the situation in the local

What does it all mean to you and me? The first lesson is important because it demonstrates clearly that the women's movement is not about sex but about free-dom. Anyone who is still benighted enough to think in terms of trying to "beat" feminists or "put the ladies on the shelf" or "keep them in their place" has already taken the wrong road.

Feminism wears many faces, not all of them painted and few of them alike. What psychology likes to call "bonding" is gradually taking place among all the women of the world as the voices of many bishop

delegates at the laity synod made clear.
What should have become obvious both to
the bishops and the Vatican is the increasing difficulty men will have in being accepted as suitable and appropriate voices for women in the church. It is already a serious problem in the west.

The second lesson is the necessity of patience on the part of the church in the United States in recognizing the difficulty headquarters has in drafting universal prin ciples which can be implemented locally

At the same time, the Vatican, which has the responsibility of serving the total church (emphasis on the word service) must insure that any principles drafted for the universal church are suitable to the experience and life of the local church in every culture.

These are difficult but not impossible tasks, for after all, we believe that all things are possible with God.



P.O. Box 1717, Indianapolis, IN 45706

to the editor

Sexism within the church

Greg Erlandson, in a Nov. 13 Criterion Greg Eriandson, in a Nov. 15 Criterion article titled "Women's Issues Big at Synod But Left Out of Final Document," pointed out the fact that discrimination against women will continue in the Catholic Church because proposals to allow women to "officially" be lectors, servers and acolytes (does this also include Eucharistic ministers?) were deleted. In effect, these proposals will not be presented to the pope.

I think this is another example of sexism within the church. Has repression of one group by another ever been justified or moral? On what grounds is sexism within the church permitted? Tradition. It was the law by tradition that women were not allowed to vote in this country. It is a tradition that many receive lower pay for equal work. Discrimination has been a tradition in many

Other traditions in the church have changed through the years. Priests in the early church were permitted to marry. This is no longer the case in the modern church.

Eucharistic ministers distribute Communion. Formerly only priests could. The Mass is no longer in Latin and the priest faces the congregation. Most communion rails are gone. Reconciliation may now take place face to face. Fasting from midnight to receive Communion is no longer the practice. Eating meat on Friday and Lenten fasting rules are different than before Vatican II. Women are no longer required to cover their women are no longer required to cover their heads in church. Devotions to the Blessed Virgin Mary, such as the rosary, novenas, litany, etc., are rarely a part of modern church liturgy. Why?

Who determines which traditions will remain? Who determines that the tradition

of repressing women's rights in the church is moral? More importantly, why are won not equal in the Catholic Church?

I believe "cultural and theological-pastoral objectives" mentioned by Archbishop John Foley in the article should be overcome by church policymakers who are actively committed to the Christian tradition of justice

Agostino Bono, in the same Nov. 13 issue of The Criterion, mentioned Third World countries being against progress for women. We cannot wait for Third World countries we cannot wait for Third world countries to evolve in their thinking toward women. They must be enlightened. Where are our leaders? Or perhaps "our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth (Ps. 124:8)

We need bishops who will "let justice roll down like water, and righteousness like an

down like water, and righteousness her an ever-flowing stream" (Amos 5:24).

The morality of the women's issue remains tangled in threads of the past.

Women do not need more guidelines to tell them what they cannot do in the church. We need a church of love and acceptance, for

Virginia Winchell

Give thanks to the religious

sharing our blessings, wouldn't it be good to remember the religious orders who have staffed, or still staff, our Catholic schools?

One way to help would be to send a donation directly to their director

Another way to help them and yourself Another way to help them and yoursel would be to obtain a copy of the Indiana State Income Tax Schedule CC-40 (Rev. 5-87) and study the list of Indiana colleges and universalized. sities on the reverse side. By making a donation directly to the college, the taxpayer can credit his or her total tax by 50 percent of the donation up to \$200 for single taxpayers or up to \$400 for those who file jointly.

up to \$400 for those who file Johnty.

Several Catholic colleges are listed, including: Marian College (Sisters of St. Francis), St. Mary of the Woods College (Sisters of Providence), and St. Meinrad College (Benedictine Order).

Communism and Nicaragua

More than a billion dollars worth of Russian arms have been delivered to the Nicaraguan communists while we quarrel about \$100 million to the anti-communists. Those eapons will be used to export violence and war to the countries neighboring Nicaragua

Unless we will help the Nicaraguan peo-ple oust their Marxist dictatorship we abandon those poor people and their neighbors to further and worsening bloodshed. We tell them, "You can't be part of the free world.

That isn't what you want. What you want is peace." Are we prepared to make that decision for the Nicaraguan people?

It took force to remove the communist

dictatorship from Grenada. The political executions there have ceased. The people are free. The people of Grenada are profuse in their gratitude to us for doing so. The Nicaraguans would be as well. It took force to remove the communists in Greece, Chile, and Indonesia. Those people are at peace, and are free.

Ortega recently returned from Russia where he goes regularly to receive his instructions. It seems clear that he was told that this is the time to apply Lenin's "two steps forward and one back" in achieving World Revolution. The one step back is to go along with the Arias peace treaty. The objective is to get rid of the contras. The importance to them of disbanding the contras confirms what we should have known: In spite of the lopsided aid against them, the contrast were staying in the field. They could not have done so had they not been supported by the Nicaraguan people. With more aid they would clearly win the field, returning Nicaragua to the Nicaraguan people.

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point of view

Thanksgiving prayers vary

by Shirley Vogler Meister

Midst family laughter and the hustle-Midst family laughter and the fusure bustle of Thanksgiving preparations at my sister's home one year, each relative or friend arrived bearing his or her offering for the celebration, just as the Pilgrims and Indians must've done at the original feast. Weeks before, I was asked to do something I at first thought would be easy: choose the grace to be said before mealtime.

It wasn't easy

Not that gratitude to God is difficult. Thanking God for blessings is as natural as breathing. What was hard was finding a prayer that would draw everyone into the spirit of the day in a special way.

I read and researched prayerbooks, Bible, and poetry. I wrote original devotions. I considered using the tried-and-true "Bless Us, O Lord..." And then one of my daugh-Us, O'Lord.

Hild use the tark, while playing a record that was a favorite at the time, said, "Why not use the Thanksgiving prayer from 'Godspell'?"

At first, I couldn't recall Thanksgiving as being a part of that musical production; but, as I heard the words coming from our stereo, I knew my daughter was right.

So, before the big meal at my sister's home, I read the lyrics to "All Good Gifts" from "Godspell" by Stephen Schwartz.

We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land, but it is fed and watered by God's Almighty hand. He sends the snow in winter,

the warmth to swell the grain the breezes and the sunshine and soft refreshing rain.

All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above. Then thank the Lordoh, thank the Lord for all his Love

We thank thee then, oh Father, for all things bright and good the seed time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food. No gifts have we to offer for all thy love imparts but that which thou desirest our humble, thankful hearts.

("All Good Gifts" from "Godspell" by Stephen Schwartz 1971 by Range Road Music Inc., Quartet Music Inc., and New Cadenza Music Corporation. All rights administered by Herald Square Music Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Everyone related well to this because "Godspell" was popular contemporary music at the time. Some even hummed or sang the words along with me.

After the day was over, I thought of all

After the day was over, I thought of an the time I'd spent preparing for those few minutes. "Wasted time," I first thought, then recanted immediately, realizing that the time was actually wonderfully spent. Each moment I worked on my project was a prayer in itself.

Everything we do each day—even futile actions—can be prayers, especially if, upon awakening each morning, we offer up all our words and deeds to God. Life itself is our ultimate prayer.

We thank thee then, oh Father, for all things bright and good the seed time and the harvest our life, our health, our food

Oh, thank the Lord for all his Love



Hand me that drumstick

by Cynthia Dewes

Are we thankful yet? Are we properly festive, as stuffed as the hapless turkey, cranberries and mincemeat and other things we never eat during the rest of the year'

Have the relatives gathered, like the wolf on the fold, to share the event, and are we thankful for

In keeping with the popular attitude dis-played on most other national holidays (holydays!), Thanksgiving

really is a secular event.

The pilgrims "gave thanks" and all that, but the day began as a non-religious harvest feast/be-pals-with-the-Indians celebration.

What a relief for all the modern hedonists who like their holidays free from association with religious events and thus free from any related guilt. Nevertheless, there is still the nagging obligation to give thanks for some-thing. It's our national duty.

Should we be grateful because Aunt Nell's new boyfriend was looking the other way when Billy zapped Irene with the mashed potatoes? Shall we give public thanks because the cat remembered to use his litter box while holiday company was present?

Are we happy because the bomb has not fallen, or because California is still more or less intact, or because the sun has not yet exploded and destroyed our solar system? In fact, have we anything positive to be thankful

In a word, yes.

Cataclysmic events aside, we all have options in this life which can lead to thankfulness. This is true despite some compell-ing evidence to the contrary. Take kids, for instance. An Ann Landers survey said that most people would not have children if they had it to do over. They were definitely not grateful for ha ing had them.

But the trick to thankfulness is in the choosing. We can opt to welcome kids, to take the time to raise them attentively, to enjoy them, to accept their love and return it, to learn from them, to support them in their trials and bear with their immaturity. Or we can choose to breed kids, to fit them into our schedules and our molds, and to teach them only by careless example.

We can wind up thankful by choosing

to accept other kinds of commitments, warts and all. It's better to see a long-time beloved—spouse, friend, whomever—across the turkey carcass on Thanksgiving Day, than to be looking at our own loneliness. By actively choosing, we may enjoy the com-pany of church or blood-related family, coworkers, teammates, fellow students.

Thankfulness is always personal and it always involves choice. We choose to work. to study, to recreate, to give praise, to serve others. We choose to live, in other words, and living we will find everything we need to be thankful.

Speaking of choosing, hand me that left-

check-it-out...

"Therese," a movie about St. Therese, the Little Flower of Jesus will begin showing at the Greenbriar Theatre in Indianapolis on Friday, Dec. 4. Admission \$2. The film won the Special Jury Award at the 1986 Cannes Film Festival in France.

Christmas Concert XXVI will be pre sented at 3 p.m. and again at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 20 in the Church of the Holy of Jesus, 17th and Albany, Peech Grove. Jerry Craney, parish music directo will conduct the concert, featuring traditional and contemporary music of the season performed by a choir of men and boys, a girls' choir and a folk group, accompanied by orchestra, guitar and organ. Tickets at \$3 may be obtained by calling Helen Gasper at

Kevin Barry Division #3, Ancient Order of Hibernians will hold its Annual Irish Christmas Party beginning with cocktails at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 13 at Msgr. Downey K of C ballroom, 511 E. Thompson Rd. Mary McGonigle, the "Voice of Ireland," will per-form at 3 p.m. Tickets are free for those who attended the last St. Patrick's Day banquet, since her performance then was cancelled. Other admissions are \$8 at the door. Canned goods are requested for city food pantries For more information call 317-783-9441.

St. John the Evangelist Parish in Enochsburg will hold a Public Auction conducted by a professional auctioneer at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 5 in the parish hall Antiques to be auctioned, among the many other items which will be sold, include a roll top desk, china cabinet and picture frame Profits will be used for religious education

A Memorial Service honoring the fe women missionaries martyred in El Salvador on December 2, 1980 will be held at Salvado of December 2, 2500 Cold Spring Rd. For information call 317-926-5654.

The Franciscan friars at St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Clarksville will hold special Advent Services, featuring guest speakers at weekend Masses on the following topics: Concepts of Communication on Nov. 29, Art of Communication, Dec. 6, Results of Communication on Dec. 13, and Recapitulation and Wrap Up on Dec. 13. A Mass of Healing and Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 6.

VIDS...

Jeff Porter of St. Monica School in Indianapolis recently won the Indiana State Museum Christmas Tree Ornament Contest, representing Marion County in the youth category. Using natural materials, adult and student contestants in the state-wide contest made ornaments which illustrated a trait of their county. Ornaments from each county will be displayed on the Indiana State Christmas Tree at the museum from December 5 through January 1, 1988. Grand prize, first and second place overall winners will be chosen later.

The 43rd National Council of Catholic Women Convention was held Nov. 8-12 in Minneapolis, Minn. Among the 2,500 delegates who attended the convention, whose theme was "Gentle Woman: A Model for All Women," were 11 representatives of the Indiwere in representatives of the Indianapolis Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW). They included: ACCW moderator Father John Elford; province director Evelyn Kesterman, ACCW president Presentations. dent Rosemary Bruns; and ACCW offices and committee members Lou Miller, Frances McAvoy, Virginia Back, Dorothy Munoz, Freda Malooley, Linda Staten, Ilene Adams and Ruth Clifford.



HOMECOMING-St. Joseph University Parish at Indiana State University, Terre Haute, takes part in the homecoming parade with this float. Marking the beginning of the St. Joseph's sequicentennial year by riding on the float to represent the parish are (from left) Paula Newman, Richard Boye, Alice Wert, and Kathy Cleary. (Photo by Martha Brennan)

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'For the first time I belonged—I had come home'

Edna Sandlin never thought she would become a Catholic—that is, until the day she
went into St. Nicholas Church in Sunman to went into St. Nicholas Church in Sunman to see her grandson baptized. "When I walked into that church, a door opened for me," she said, "and it was like for the first time I belonged—that I had come home."

Sandlin almost didn't go because she did not have a good dress. But her daughter and son-in-law assured her that the congregation would accept her as she was.

Immediately after her conversion, Sand-lin began attending Mass at St. John the Baptist Church in Osgood near Versailles where she lives. She and her daughter, Carol, also began attending inquiry classes at St. John's. Her daughter has since moved to New Mexico

Sandlin is now in the catechumenate program and will be received into the church this Easter. Her fear is that her health may worsen before then. Only her faith that God has led her this far curbs her impatience.

She was never baptized because of a conflict between her parents over religious beliefs. Her father was Baptist while her mother was a member of a Holiness Church in Kentucky where she grew up.

But that didn't stop Sandlin from searching for faith even as a young girl. When she was eight, she and her sister attended a revival. Sandlin decided she wanted to be baptized but her mother rejected the idea because she felt her daughter didn't know what she wanted yet and because they could not afford a white dress for the event

But Sandlin's parents never stopped her From attending church services. She even attended a Mass with Catholic friends, but said she never really understood anything about the service. Her interest in faith was so strong that she wanted to be a missionary when she grew up but found this career required an education her family could not

Later she married a man who formerly belonged to the Holiness Church but had stopped believing by the time he was grown. But he never stopped her from attending church services, either.

"All my life I have gone to different churches," she said, "but never felt one was for me." That is, until she entered St. Nicholas. It was only then that she again felt the same peace she remembered feeling as a child when she first wanted to be baptized. "It took all those years of going from one church to another to really know what I had been looking for," she said.

The Bible has been a steady source of in-

spiration to her during her search. Though she reads it every day, she said she receives new insights each time she reads it.

Since entering the catechumenate pro-gram, she has developed a special feeling for Virgin Mary and prays the Rosary regularly. Blessed Mother was and is to her son and us as his brothers and sisters," she said. "It makes me sad to think of the sufferings she must have gone through during Christ's pas-

Her own goal now is to spread the good news of Jesus Christ to anyone who will listen so they can know the joy she has found in coming home to her Catholic faith.



BIBLE READER-Edna Sandlin, Versailles has lived by the precepts of the Bible all her life. She feels it has been a supporting reason for her conversion to Catholicism.

Penance services for Advent

Parishes throughout the archdiocese have announced communal penance services for Advent. Several confessors will be present at each location. Parishioners are encouraged to make use of the sacrament of recon-ciliation at a parish and time which is con-

Following is a list of services which have been scheduled, according to deanery:

Indianapolis West Deanery

notanapous west Deamery
Co. 3, 7:30 p.m., St. Susanna/St. Thomas
More, at St. Thomas More, Mooresville.
Dec. 3, 7 p.m., St. Malachy, Brownsburg.
Dec. 7, 7 p.m., St. Bridget.
Dec. 9, 7 p.m., Bt. Disper.
Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m., St. Joseph/St. Christopher,
at St. Christopher,
Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m., St. Michael

Dec. 13, 2 p.m., St. Michael. Dec. 13, 2 p.m., Holy Trinity. Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m., St. Monica.

Dec. 15, 8-11:40 a.m., Ritter High School. Dec. 20, Assumption/St. Anthony, at St. Anthony

Indianapolis South Deanery

Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m., Our Lady of the Greenwood Greenwood.

wood, Greenwood.
Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m., Holy Name, Beech Grove.
Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m., St. Jude.
Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m., Nativity.
Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m., St. Barnabas.
Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m., St. Mark.
Dec. 22, 7:30 p.m., St. James the Greater.

Indianapolis East Deanery

Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m., St. Philip Neri. Dec. 10, 7 p.m., Our Lady of Lourdes

Who's the Winner?

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday deadlines the winner of the November 20 Ad Game will be announced in next week's issue of The Criterion.

Wishing you a bountiful Thanksgiving.

Dec. 13, 7 p.m., St. Simon. Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m., Holy Spirit. Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m., St. Rita.

Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m., St. Kita.
Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m., Holy Cross/St. Mary, at
Holy Cross.
Dec. 16, 7 p.m., St. Michael, Greenfield.
Dec. 17, 3 p.m., Little Flower.
Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m., Little Flower.
Dec. 18, 7:30 p.m., Little

Batesville Deanery

Dec. 10, 7:30 p.m., St. Anne, Hamburg. Dec. 13, 2 p.m., St. Maurice, Decatur Co. Dec. 13, 4 p.m., Immaculate Conception,

Millhousen.
Dec. 13, 7 p.m., St. Maurice, Napoleon.
Dec. 14, 7 p.m., St. John, Osgood.
Dec. 14, 7 p.m., St. Louis, Batesville.

Dec. 14, 7 p.m., St. Louis, Batesville.
Dec. 15, 7 p.m., St. John, Dover.
Dec. 16, 7 p.m., St. Mary, Aurora.
Dec. 16, 7 p.m., St. Mary, Aurora.
Dec. 17, 7 p.m., St. Mary, Greensburg.
Dec. 17, 7 p.m., St. Mary, Greensburg.
Dec. 18, 7 p.m., St. Leon, St. Leon.
Dec. 18, 7 p.m., St. Mariy, Yorkville.
Dec. 20, 2 p.m., St. Paul, New Alsace.

Connersville Deanery

Dec. 10, 7:30 p.m., St. Michael, Brookville. Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m., St. Elizabeth, Cambridge City.

Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m., St. Gabriel, Connersville. Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m., St. Anne, New Castle. Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m., St. Bridget, Liberty. Dec. 16, 730 p.m., St. Bridget, Liberty.
Dec. 17, 7 p.m., Holy Family, Richmond.
Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m., St. Mary, Rushville.
Dec. 19, 12:05 p.m., St. Mary, Richmond. Dec. 21, 7:30 p.m., St. Andrew, Richmond.

New Albany Deanery

Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m., St. John, Starlight. Dec. 10, 7:30 p.m., Holy Family, New

Dec. 10, 7:30 p.m., Holy Family, New Albany.
Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m., St. Mary of the Knobs.
Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m., Our Lady of Perpetual Help, New Albany.
Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m., St. Anthony, Clarksville.
Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m., St. Mary, Navilleton.
Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m., St. Paul, Sellersburg/St. Joseph Hill/St. Michael, Charlestown, at St. Paul, Sellersburg.

Dec. 18, 7:30 p.m., St. Mary, New Albany

ec. 20, 7:30 p.m., St. Augustine/Sacred Heart at Sacred Heart, Jeffersonville. Dec. 21, 7:30 p.m., St. Mary, Lanesville.

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My memories of Cathedral High School are many yet varied, yet I treasure them all for the signficant influence they have had, and will continue to have on my life.

What type of memories does Cathedral conjure up for me?

I remember a faculty that was supportive of the student body and that challenged them to be active and not passive participants in the world, especially when dealing with questions of social justice.

I remember a classroom setting that demanded discipline yet allowed for open discussion and debate on matters pertinent to the course subject.

I remember the emphasis placed on leadership and Christian responsibility and learning that the latter need not be compromised to attain success. Finally, I remember the spirit and friendship associated with the Cathedral

Family, an intangible which remains with me to this day! memories which linger; which provide fuel for continued growth and

success in my life. This is what comes to mind when I am asked to reflect on the value of a Cathedral High School education.

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Self-discovery leads to helping other people

by Elizabeth Callahan

This past summer Pam Doyle came to an important realization about herself. She came to see herself as her own person-to do and be whatever she wanted

life. In addition to studying at IUPUI in Indianapolis, she is ter at St. Michael's Parish in Greenfield.

Doyle had been active at St. e wanted. Michael's working with the From this realization, youth even before the idea of

gested. Last year, she was a group leader in the confirmation program and found the experience fun and rewarding. So when Father Steve

Banet, pastor at St. Michael's suggested that Doyle start a youth group, she was in-trigued. "I thought there was a need for one," she said. "But I had never considered (doing) it (myself).

Although she has been working as a youth minister for only a few months, she is already finding pleasure in her new position. "I really, really enjoy it," she said. "Sure it's challenge, but it's fun and I like working with high school

The youth program is start-



BIRTHLINE-Director Grace Hayes (from left) visits St. Gabriel School on "Spirit Day-A Celebration of Life" to receive baby gifts for Birthline. Helping are Sara Gushrowski, 5th grade: Rebecca Oslos, 1st grade: and Fred Bennet, 7th grade, with Margaret Lynn, art

Youth events

For more information: call 317-825-2944 for Connersville Dean-ery events, 317-632-9311 for CYO events, 812-945-0354 for New Albany Deanery events, 812-843-5474 for Tell City Deanery events and 812-232-8400 for Terre Haute Deanery events. Or call your

The calendar will appear every other week. Deadline is 10 a.m. fonday of the week the calendar appears. Send information to outh Calendar, P.O. Box 1717, Indpls., Ind., 46206.

- Francis
 Registration deadline for the CYO "I Want to Live"
 retreat on peace and justice to be held at Jan. 15-17 at
 the CYO Center in Indpls.
 Registration deadline for CYO Search retreat to be held

a lot of potential and expects the program to become suc cessful. She has held a number of planning meetings to find out what the youth think and letting them know what the

CYO has to offer.

Her goal for the St.

Michael's group is "that the
CYO program and the youth become not just a part of the church but also a part of the community.

(Callahan is a member of the youth group at St. Michael's, Greenfield.)

Music and Life

Grateful Dead: Beating the blues

TOUCH OF GRAV

Must be getting early/Clocks are running late/Look, my love, the morning sky/Looks so phony/Dawn is breaking every-where/Light a candle, curse the glare/Draw the curtain, I don't care, because/It's all right

Refrain: I will get by/I will get by/I will get by/I will survive see you got your fist out/Say your piece and get out/Guess get the jist of it but/It's all right/Sorry that you feel that yay/The only thing there is to say/Every silver lining got a touch of gray

It's a lesson to me/The ABCs we all must face/The child will keep a little grace

I know the rent is in arrears/The dog has not been fed in years/It's even worse than it appears/But it's all right He can't read at 17/The words he knows are all obscene/But

it's all right The shoe is on the hand it fits/There's really nothing much to it/Whistle through your teeth and spit/Because it's all right/ O wear a touch of gray/Kind of suits you anyway/That was all I had to say/And it's all right

-Recorded by Grateful Dead; Written by Garcia and Hun 1987 by Arista Records I

It has been a long time coming—17 years. That is how long the Grateful Dead waited for their first Top Forty hit. In fact, the "Dead" seem to have mall achievement. risen from their musical grave. Not only is "Touch of Gray" rising in the charts, but Reach out to others Volunteer one hour a week to they also produced a new

As the title suggests, the song focuses on "grayness." It seems to symbolize a life full of problems, a life that has lost all real color and whose attitude seems to be "I will get by. I will survive.

album and are touring nation-

However, our lives are meant to be much more than gray, drab existences. We all have ways of putting some vibrant color into our lives. If you seem to be lacking a colorful spark in your life, try some of these ideas:

► Take on a new challenge While we need to stay within the bounds of common sense, we can experiment in some area of our lives. Doing so will add a bit of zest and satis-

► Set a few goals to achieve within six months or less. We get much more enthused about goals that are close at hand than those that are far off. Don't try to change your whole life, but discover how you can affect your life with a new,

a group that will benefit from your presence. If you have an idea on this, ask a teacher or counselor at your school, or someone at your parish how you might proceed.

► Commit yourself to read book on self-improvement. Ask teachers or parish youth leaders for suggestions.

Note that the control of the contro responsibility for putting some actions into our lives that build happiness.

Life need not be just a touch of gray. Many experi-ences, opportunities and chalthe gray in the closet and find out how colorful life can be. (Your comments are wel-

come always. Please address them to Charlie Martin, 1218 S. Rotherwood Ave., Evansville, Ind. 47714.)

parish youth minister or pastor.

- ov. 29 CYO Advent in Indpls. (vespers service and dance)
 cc. 44 Connersville Deainers' junior retreat in New Castle
 6 New Albany Deanery Performing Arts Festival 1:30
 m., Harelwood Jr. High auditorium in New Albany
 11-12 CYO Quest retreat for freshmen and sophomores at
 CYO Center in Indpls.
 12-13 New Albany Deanery Freshman retreat at Mt. St.

- Jan. 28-31. Connersville Deanery sophomore retreat in Brookville New Albany Deanery sophomore retreat rell GIV Deanery lock-in at St. Paul's in Tell City Registration deadline for TeV CO Christian Awakening retreat to be held Feb. 17-20 Registration deadline for Teval Patlate Deanery senior retreat to be held Feb. 17-20 in Indpls.

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Bps. approve Central America paper

WASHINGTON (NC)-With only one audible vote of dissent, the U.S. bishops Nov. 19 approved a policy paper that terms U.S. military aid to Nicaraguan rebels "legally doubtful and morally wrong" but also repu diates human rights abuses from whatever source and endorses regional peace initia

Approval of the "Statement on Central Approval of the "Statement on Central America" occurred by voice vote on the last morning of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops-LS. Catholic Conference general meeting in Washington.

It was not immediately clear which bishop cast the sole "no" vote.

Drafted by the U.S. Catholic Conference Committee on Social Development and World Peace, chaired by Auxiliary Bishop

World Peace, chaired by Auxiliary Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan of Brooklyn, N.Y., the document survived last-minute attempts to postpone it or replace it with a terse, sub-stitute measure submitted by Cardinal Bernard F. Law of Boston

Most of the bishops' debate involved the document's treatment of Nicaragua, where the Marxist Sandinista government is battling rebel contra troops backed to varying degrees over the last several years by the

U.S. government. Critics suggested that the statement ould be perceived as an endorsement of one faction or another in Central America and would hinder the peace accords adopted by Central American nations, including Nicara

The bishops did adopt an amendment to the document noting that "we meet at a time of unprecedented hope for peace in Central America (and) celebrate the wisdom and courage of those who made at least more probable what was deemed almost impossi-ble brief months ago.

"We are fully sensitive to the delicacy of

these present weeks in which the schedule

ment added. "We wish our words here to be seen both as a further expression of our strong support for the unfolding peace process as well as the expression of our continual effort to reflect critically on the moral issues at stake," added the amendment, proposed by Archbishop John R. Roach of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minn.

Archbishop Roach's amendment, accepted as a "prologue" to the document, also emphasized the prelates "continue to insist that true peace can come about only when the fundamental causes of the conflicts, especially the historic denials of social justice, are sincerely faced."

Cardinal Law, whose short replacement statement for the document was voted down. suggested the bishops limit their remarks in order to express concern "without running the risk of one or another party in the region being able to manipulate our statement for its own propaganda purposes

Rather than issuing a detailed statement

on all of Central America, "our more appro priate stance is in support of a regional agreement," the cardinal added, citing concerns about timing of the bishops' effort. Cardinal Law's approach "does help the

peace process and acceptance of the whole document would certainly hinder the peace process," Archbishop Philip M. Hannan of New Orleans said.

The substitute measure, like the original cument, urged peaceful settlement of conflict but lacked the lengthier document's denunciation of military support for the contras and the assessment of problems facing Cental America.

A move to postpone issuance of the state-ment failed as well.

Bishops approve Hispanic Pastoral Plan

by Stephenie Overman

WASHINGTON (NC)-The U.S. bishops Nov. 18 unanimously agreed to undertake the "monumental task" of meeting the needs of Hispanics in the church

At their general meeting in Washington the bishops approved a National Pastoral Plan for Hispanic Ministry that calls for small ecclesial communities, parish renewal, youth ministry, promotion of family life, and leadership formation adapted to the Hispanic culture.

Speaking in support of the plan, Archbishop Patrick F. Flores of San Antonio, Texas, said it "sounds like a monumental task" but that that "may be the price we have to pay.

Fundamentalists are "enticing Hispanics" away from the church, Archbishop Flores said, something that "always breaks my heart.

He said that when he asks Hispanic Catholics why they left, "the answer I always get is 'we did not get nourishment from the

Earlier in the meeting Bishop Ricardo Ramirez of Las Cruces, N.M., had warned that the church could lose "as many as 50 percent" of its Hispanic members to fun-damentalist sects if Catholics do not get out

Cardinal Joseph L. Bernardin of Chicago who estimated that he has 800,000 to 1 million Hispanics in his archdiocese, called this "a critical moment in the life of the church in United States" and said "what we do or don't do" regarding Hispanics will affect "not just Hispanics but the whole church.

At a press conference before the plan was approved, Bishop Ramirez said, "I feel we haven't done our job. I'm fearful that if we don't do something we may lose as many as 50 percent" of Hispanic Catholics, who will either join other religions or drop out al-

Asked if Catholics should compete with the Protestant sects in Hispanic areas, Bishop Ramirez said that he preferred to see it not as a competition but as part of the Catholic Church's commitment to the

"One of the very specific items" in the n is "knocking on doors, making the parish a missionary parish," the bishop said

Bishop Ramirez said a unique aspect of the proposed plan is the "formation of small communities."

These small communities are small groups organized for more intense personal and community relationships among Catholics and for a greater participation in the

Although 83 percent of Hispanics say they consider religion important, 88 percent are not active in their parishes, according to statistics reported by the bishops.

Archbishop Robert F. Sanchez of Santa

Fe, N.M., chairman of the bishops' Commit-tee on Hispanic Affairs, introduced the pastoral plan, which is the result of the bishops' 1983 pastoral letter "The Hispanic Presence: Challenge and Commitment." According to the national pastoral plan,

Hispanics are being stripped of their cultural identity and have marginal participation in

Yet they can be "a prophetic presence and a source of renewal for the church in the face of the materialism and individualism,

according to the proposed plan.

The pastoral process "offers some exciting possibilities on both social and religious levels: more active participation in the church, a critique of society from the per-spective of the poor and a commitment to social justice," the plan states

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Retiree Norb Kuzel spends days in school

by Margaret Nelson

Norb Kuzel combines his zeal in serving his church with his professional and avoca tional skills to make important contributions to his parish school

Kuzel retired two years ago from the Scientific Information Services division Eli Lilly Inc. But he doesn't spend much time

In fact, the children at St. Andrew School. Indianapolis, probably think he's a full-time

Norb Kuzel's job involved administration of technical micro-computer work. He at first began employing this knowledge in the Catholic school by cataloguing all the school library cards on the computer. His wife, Helen, has served as a volunteer in the library for 10 years.

The catalogue cards were very expensive to buy. And it was taking a lot of time for volunteers to type all the cards for the growing facility. (Part of the reason it was growing was that Norb and Helen followed every lead for book sources with late-edition discounted or discarded copies.)

Next, Kuzel put a special computer elec-tive class in the school. By the end of the year, one of his students was able to publish a school newsletter with very little assis nce. The elective class has grown so that there are students at seven (soon to be eight)

This year, he gave a workshop for all the teachers so that each student in the school can have at least one-half hour of supervised computer study a week

Signs, programs, or booklets for the chool or the Small World all come from Kuzel's computer.

Kuzel is versatile, but his favorite hobbies involve sound systems and making things

Since he arrived at St. Andrew's 27 years ago, he has handled many of the sound needs of the parish, including public address sys-tems in the school gym, the microphones in church, background tapes for dinner theater performances and dance music for parish gatherings. At times he has combined his interests, such as building a cabinet for the huge gym speaker.

When the need came for more school

library shelves, Kuzel ripped out two rows of lockers and built wood shelves to fit the space. This followed his love of working with wood that grew from building things.

The parish learned that Kuzel was "good with wood" when the new church was built in 1976. He headed up a team of 65 volunteers to convert the pews from the old church to fit the modern design of the new church. The crew stripped and refinished the furniture under his direction. In fact, young and old physically carried the "new" pews up to the church from the old basement location after a Saturday night Mass

Still involved with the parish property ommittee, Kuzel and Allison retiree Bob Hebenstreit (whose wife, Patty, also works in the library) are among the group saving the school thousands of dollars by fixing and



NORB KUZEL-Teaches St. Andrew computer ses. (Photo by Margaret N

hanging doors, doing electrical work, painting, and checking the boiler when there is a problem. Both men are available when state inspectors or fire inspectors need to talk over technical details

But Kuzel seems to have the most fun when he uses his musical resources to pro-vide a pleasant backdrop for school or parish gatherings. Jazz is his favorite, but he also has big band music and "anything but hard rock," explained Helen. Kuzel even dresses me when he plays the music for the

school Halloween party.
At the request of St. Andrew's science teacher Rick Wiese, Kuzel is soon going to speak to the students who might want to enter the science fair competition. He will

give them an idea of what the judges look for and what is involved in the preparation of an exhibit for entry. Helen explained, "He is on call for a lot of different things that come up at school. He loves to do it.

Kuzel now serves as the parish repre-sentative on the board of the Urban Parish Cooperative. Having long ministered as a lector, Eucharistic minister and usher, he is serving for his 11th year on the parish coun-

cil of which he was president for two years. Norb Kuzel still gets calls from people who want him to serve as a professional con-sultant. But Helen Kuzel observed, "He loved working all those years, but he is really enjoying what he is able to do in his retire-

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Prayer is caught more than it is taught

by Fr. Eugene LaVerdiere, SSS

Wouldn't it be wonderful to know what it was like for Jesus to pray, to get inside his prayer

Jesus' prayer surely was extraordinary. We know from Luke's Gospel that it filled the disciples with awesome respect. They never would have thought to interrupt him. On one occasion they waited respectfully until he finished praying before asking that

he teach them how to pray.

In the presence of Jesus at prayer the disciples felt the need to pray. And their first prayer was that he teach them how to do so. Jesus answered their prayer with the gift of the Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:1-4)

Jesus did not really explain to the disciples how to pray. He modeled it. Like a smile, prayer is caught, at least in its first expression. Only then could Jesus

teach the disciples how to pray.

Prayer is born in us. It leaps to life in experiences which draw us out of ourselves—the deep still of night, the quiet light of dawn, a child smiling, a deer leaping over an embankment, two elderly people gently caring for one another. All of these can make us draw a breath, pause quietly and sense the pres-ence of one who puts it all together. At those moments, inner noise becomes part of a great harmony. Prayer is born.

There is a big difference between prayer which is caught or born in us and self-centered prayer. The first gives life. It is creative. It helps us to be what we are called to be. It moves us beyond ourselves and puts us in touch with other human beings, with crea tion and with God himself. Such prayer has wonderful

restorative powers

Self-centered prayer draws everything into our selves and transforms everything and everyone including God into something to satisfy our needs. It often becomes a prayer of desperation. This kind of prayer crosses our lips only when we cannot manage on our own. Of course, there are times when our needs are so overwhelming that this is the only prayer we can manage. And we know in that moment that

God loves us and listens to us.

If we take the time to look back, my guess is that all of us can find a few special moments when we caught the smile of prayer. They may have been brief moments but they left their mark.

For me, one such moment takes me back to my childhood in Maine. My grandmother asked if I would go to the church and make the Way of the Cross with her. It was Lent. I was 4 or 5 years old. I had not been in the church before unless there was Mass. We nbed the stairs to old Notre Dame Church above the school. The statues were quieter than usual.

Grandma held my hand and I followed from sta tion to station. I had no idea what a Way of the Cross was but I knew it was important. Standing beside my grandma in that church I could feel it.

I learned that day that there was something, or rather someone, much bigger than my grandmother whom she loved and to whom she prayed. And that taught me there was something much

I look upon this childhood experience of my grandmother at prayer as one of those great moments when I felt God's presence. It was awesome, but in my grandmother's presence it also was warm and gentle. I still can draw upon that moment and say: "Lord teach us to pray.

A second experience occurred only a few months ago. I was flying to the Carolinas and an elderly woman, a nun, sat next to me quietly, apparently resting. After a while I noticed she was fingering her ros ary. In the bustle on the plane she had brought her religious world with her. There was something too beautiful there to interrupt.

As I think of her, I think of my grandmother and of the disciples who long ago spoke for us and asked Jesus to teach us how to pray

I think that people who know how to pray do not pay much attention to what they pray for. They pay attention to God, to those around them and to all the little things that make up God's world. Maybe that is what it was like for Jesus to pray



Hearing the voice of God in everyday life

In the early morning light, the mountain climbers In the early morning ight, we hold make paused to adjust their ropes. As the climbers looked down, an eagle rose from a nest and flew off into the canyon below. Their awe blended with nature's hush until Marion spontaneously broke the silence: "Praise God for the wonders he gives us!

It was one of those moments-like the moment a child is born-when God seems visible and prayer comes naturally. More common, Marion and I agreed, are the moments when God seems invisible

Scripture advises people to "stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is to happen" (Luke 21:36). But what do mean to "stay awake"? How do people remain attentive to God's voice in a life of mostly ordinary days?

This Week in Focus

Prayer and spirituality step into the spotlight this week in Today's Faith. The various articles look at the role of prayer in daily life as well as how we learn how to pray. Also included are suggestions for people who want to make prayer more a part of their lives at home during Advent

► Tom begins his day with calisthenics. Ignoring the routine and the sweat, he has a thoughtful conver-sation with God at the same time. A coach in an body in shape or the kids will run over me. I need the time with God or I can't be on top of the kids'

►Gloria and Harry read a scripture passage each night and reflect on it, often together with their children. Gloria works for an agency that cleans apartments after renters move out. It's not her life's work, but with her husband recuperating from emer-gency heart surgery she had to find a job quickly. Gloria identifies with Christ's suffering and his unfaltering compassion, which is "always there." She says she is "able to bring dignity" to her job and can even get a laugh out of the nutty things people

► Dorothy was a brilliant lawyer, married late in life and now pretty much without family. After she broke her hip, she was moved to the nursing section of her retirement home. But the staff began to question her mental clarity. They told me, "She talks to a person who is not in the room." I responded that Dorothy frequently prays out loud. I didn't find it strange, since I grew up in a family that prayed that way a good deal of the time—much like having a running conversation with an intimate friend.

When I told Dorothy of the staff's concern her comment was as mischievous as her eyes: "They're the ones out to lunch.

► Jack says, "In our house, with our gang of five, finding a quiet place for prayer" is hard. So the family built praying into the celebration of family anniversaries and religious holidays, the blessing of food and family members. This has created "a family bonding" which has led members to turn naturally to God when the unexpected occurs, Jack explained Much of the family's prayer is spontaneous, reflecting what Jack called "an unconscious instinct embedded in our family's pattern of life."

► Then there is Henry. He said that as a young man he "was making it without God. In my mind, Hann lie was for those less smart who needed help." Henry and his wife "were so busy scaling the ladder" that they "hardly had time for one another, let alone God." But in their 50s, the couple began to ask "what it has been all about."

"We have started going to church," Henry said,
"where we still feel like aliens." He and his wife find
the Mass more welcoming and more comforting today. But the prayers of their childhood "seem as remote as the children we once were." Their question is, "How can we know God?"

God does not usually pop out of blazing bushes to gain people's attention. More commonly, the divine voice is heard through the human voices in people's lives or in Scripture. And God is present in a baby's hand curled around our finger, in the sacraments, in the peaceful faces of the elderly.

All God's wonders are the stuff of conversation with him for those who "stay awake.

Ways to make prayer. part of family life in Advent

"Outside of grace at meals, we don't seem to be able to pray much as a family," said a mother participating in a parish discussion group. Understanding heads nodded in agreement.

Prayer was the evening's topic and the mother's remarks stirred lively conversation. It wasn't long before amusing stories began to surface about how one's own parents had made heroic attempts at introducing family prayer, such as the rosary and novenas only to have them somehow self-destruct. Still, the memories of those occasions appeared warm, even when they went awry.

Family prayer undoubtedly is difficult today. The pressures on modern families are such that they are fortunate if they can gather regularly to say grace at meals. Still, much can be done, particularly when some creative thought is given to utilizing the liturgical seasons.

Advent's arrival offers a good opportunity to pray as a family. Frequently Advent becomes either a holding pattern for Christmas or it focuses too narrowly on decorations, Advent calendars and the like. The true meaning of Advent is one of expectation, of longing, of hoping and praying for the coming of God's reign in peace and justice. It is the dark before the dawn of the Son of God.

One family I know observes the feast of St. Nicho-las Dec. 6. The saint's life is retold by the parents with special emphasis on him as a gift giver. Che gift giving is described as a foretaste of the joy and peace

that is to come with the birth of the Messiah. Thus, all are called to be "Nicholases"—givers of gifts that help bring peace and justice. All in the family are invited to pray for ways they can be better gift givers to each other and to those outside the family. The celebration ends with the exchange of small but thoughtful gifts.

Another family uses a special prayer practice to observe Advent. Early in the day, the mother in this family bakes bread. The rich aroma of baking bread is a signal to all that tonight before dinner there will be a special prayer.

When the family assembles for dinner, the parents wedding chalice is first passed around the table empty. Each person prays into the chalice on one of the themes of Advent—peace, justice, hope. The prayers fill the cup like spiritual drink. Then after everyone has prayed, grape juice is added and the cup is once again passed and drunk from. Then the freshly baked bread is blessed and also passed. Because this prayer is so tactile, it is particularly appealing to the younger children.

Another family prayer form for Advent involves bringing out a globe or world map and identifying a particular country or region that especially needs the healing presence of the Prince of Peace. The fam ily spends time, either before meals or at other times, praying for the people of that area.

A related technique is to have family members identify and pray about a person or a group of people whose situation was reported in the newspaper and



who could benefit from the blessings of Jesus' coming A family also may choose to view the evening news together and then spend a brief time afterward talking about and praying for people or situations that

need to experience the joy and peace of Christmas.

Advent can be more than a prelude to Christmas Advent prayer helps us not only prepare for Christ's coming. It also can be a means by which we wait and watch, hopefully, expectantly, with and for others.

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The Bible and Us

Praying in the biblical style

by Fr. John Castelot

King Hezekiah was at death's door and was in no hurry to break it down. He "turned his face to the wall and prayed to the Lord" (Isaiah 38:2-3).

When Isaiah assured him that his prayer was answered, he gave heartfelt thanks: "You have given me health and life; thus is my bitterness transformed into peace ... For it is not the nether world that gives you thanks ... Neither do those who go down into the pit await your kindness. The living, the living give you thanks, as I do today.

Hezekiah's prayer, a sort of "pious deal," is not uncommon in the Bible. The petitioner says to God that if he dies, no one wins. For dead people (in the early Old Testament view) cannot pray. They cannot thank God or give

these honors

This "arm-twisting" to get God to give us what we want is still in vogue. And it is far from worthless. For it does keep the lines of communication open between people and God. It is a kind of dialogue, perhaps a bit one-sided, but a dialogue nonetheless. And that is what prayer is in essence: conversation with

Communication, sincere dialogue, honest conversation are needed to maintain any kind of relationship. And a remarkable thing about biblical prayer is its honesty: People tell God what is on their minds, in no uncertain

Jeremiah, often depressed by his futile efforts to get God's message

across, broke down and complained bitterly that God had tricked him: "You duped me, O Lord, and I let myself be duped."

The same kind of frank expression

recurs frequently in the Psalms. The psalmists, impatient for help, tell God to wake up and get going. "How long, O Lord? Will you utterly forget me? How long will you hide your face from me? How long shall I harbor sorrow in my soul, grief in my heart day after day? ... Look, answer me. O Lord, my God" (Psalm 13:2-3).

Still, when one stops to think of it, why should prayer be anything but honest? A pain that is not shared is not healed.

The variety of prayers in the Bible is as rich as the whole range of human

emotions. Often people turn to God in humble acknowledgment of their own failings. "Have mercy on me, O God, in goodness . For I acknowledge my offense and my sin is before me always. Against you alone have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight (Psalm 51:3.5).

Frequent, too, are heartfelt prayers of praise and thanksgiving. "Exult, you just, in the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord on the harp; with the 10-stringed lyre chant his praises" (Psalm 33:1-2).

Jesus prayed, Paul prayed. Everyone who has ever been conscious of his or her relationship with God has prayed. For it is only by constant com-munication and candid conversation that the relationship can be kept alive and healthy

Children's Story Hour

What God showed Julian of Norwich

Julian lived in Norwich, a village in England, more than 500 years ago. Nothing at all is known about Julian's childhood. There is no record of where she was born, who her parents were, where she grew up or even whether Julian was her real name.

But what is known about her life reveals a remark-

able, fascinating woman.

Julian spent her whole adult life in a little cottage attached to the Church of Sts. Julian and Edward in Norwich. Her cottage had only two or three small

Julian lived there all alone. She was not a hermit because hermits usually live far from cities, prefer-ring the desert or mountains. She was an "anchora woman who lives alone so she can spend most

of her time praying. Julian liked to be near other of her time praying. Junan inset to be near outer people, but she did not go out into the town. Some of the people going to church made a habit of leaving food and money for her. Others came to her with their problems. She listened and shared their pain. Then she helped them find happier ways to live.

Julian became well known as a spiritual counselor and people came long distances to talk with her. At 30, Julian became deathly ill. On May 13, 1373.

while she was still very sick, she felt the presence of Jesus Christ in the cottage with her.

It was a remarkable experience. Julian believed she actually saw Jesus on the cross. At that moment she realized she was no longer sick. She was con-

vinced that Jesus had cured her.

During the rest of that day she had 14 more powerful experiences of God. She called them "showings."

God showed her Mary holding her Son and how Jesus

suffered before his death. God gave her a glimpse of the Holy Trinity. She came to know better what God is really like.

Julian wrote down everything she saw that day in those unusual experiences. She spent the rest of her life thinking and praying about what God had shown her. Fifteen years later she wrote a longer description

of her "showings" and what she learned from them.
Julian believed that God gave her these special
insights so she would share them with others. Julian called God a "courteous, loving Lord," whose love embraces all creation. For her God is love. She wrote that God is like a loving, mother as well

as a father.

No one knows just when Julian died, but it probably was before 1423. People have been reading her two books ever since. Her writings help many Christians learn of God's love

For Group Discussion

- (These questions are based on the articles on pp. 11-13) · Prayer is caught, not taught-at least at its beginning point, says Father Eugene LaVerdiere. What
- does he mean? Father LaVerdiere tells a story of his grandmother Through her actions he discovered that there was
- something-someone-bigger than she was, someone she loved and to whom she prayed. Can you recall a similar story from your own life's history about a time when, through someone else's actions, you gained an insight into life's meaning, God's presence or human dignity?
- · How do people you know observe the season of
- . Do you think there are factors in your life that tend to overshadow Advent each year and make it difficult for you to observe the season? After reading Neil Parent's article, what are your own thoughts about ways to observe Advent at home?

For Further Reading

►In "Opening to God: A Personal Guide to Prayer for Today," missionary Jesuit Father Thomas Green talks about how prayer is a constant and basic human value in so many parts of the world. His book is designed to help people begin to pray. The desire to pray, he writes, is already a clear sign that the Lord is present. (Bantam Books Inc., 666 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10103. 1987. Paperback, \$2.95.)

►In "First Fast," by Barbara Cohen, two boys named Bernie and Barry make a wager shortly before Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement cele brated by the Jews. The wager is that if Harry, the youngest, fasts the whole day of Yom Kippur, he will be allowed to play with Bernie and his friends. Harry succeeds in fasting the whole day, but Bernie neither fasts the whole day nor does he keep his part of the bargain about letting Harry play with him and his friends. But that doesn't matter so much to Harry. What really matters to him is what he has done and that he has kept his end of the wager (Union of American Hebrew Congregations, 838 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10021, 1987, Hardback. \$7.95.)

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Ouestion Corner

A born-again friend

by Fr. John Dietzen

Q I believe I am a reasonably tolerant person about other people's faith and beliefs. I am getting a quite different attitude from my friend who says he is a born-again Christian. By this he means he was born I believe I am a reasonably tolerant person about again spiritually, not by baptism as I understand it.

Basically he is stating that you cannot be born again through our "man-made" institutions of baptism and confirmation. He says that only the Holy Spirit chooses the time and place for someone being born again. Could you enlighten me in a way

to deal with this phenomenon? Perhaps since my friend refuses to be a member of an organized church, he has no other way to receive the Holy Spirit. (Pennsylvania)

A This born-again phenomenon has many facets which interweave. We have centuries-old historical, theological and biblical background for our

traditional Christian practices concerning baptism and confirmation. These are readily available if you wish earch then

I hope, therefore, you will not think I am dodging your question when I point out again, as I did recently in response to a similar topic, that the real difference between you and your friend is something more basic than specifics about the sacraments and the Spirit

It has to do here rather with our understanding of the relationship between Jesus and his church from the beginning

According to the Gospel (Matthew 28:20), Jesus promised that until the end of time he would be with his disciples, his community of believers, who were to teach and baptize in his name.

We place very strong faith in what we call tradi-tion (which simply means those things that are handed down to us) because we believe that Jesus takes his promise very seriously, that he has kept it and keeps it to this day.

For this reason above all, we would believe that anyone who says the Christian churches have been all wrong about things like this until now have a lot of explaining to do. This is not to deny that past and present groups who have held such theories have much truth on their side.

For one thing, they can help all of us keep in mind certain truths about God's action that we can easly let

We believe also that the church can grow and develop in its faith. In light of new circumstances and events of history, it can and always will see new things in the Gospel message, which is simply another way of saying it will always come to know Jesus Christ more deeply.

We are, after all, not dealing here with fringes of our faith. The sacraments, especially baptism and Eucharist, have roots going back even into the Old Testament. They have been, and still are, held by Christians to be essential and integral elements of our life with Christ.

anyone says that the church has been wrong on this important point all through the centuries, our response is simply that we prefer to believe in Christ and his promise (John 15 and 16) to guide and preserve us in whatever is essential in keeping his church, his community of believers, faithful witnesses to him until the end of the world.

(A free brochure answering questions many ask about Mary, the Mother of Jesus, is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father Dietzen, Holy Trinity Parish, Bloomington, Ili. 61701.

(Questions for this column should be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address.)

Coping with

bad relatives

by Dr. James and Mary Kenny

bankruptcy through a bitter legal suit. Since that time

we moved to my home community and are starting new careers. The rest of my husband's relatives keep

bringing up our past experience.

They talk about revenge or praise his parents and

brother while degrading us to our face. Terrible rumors have been started. I have ignored this type of

activity but have mentioned it to my husband and this

Is there a way to put an end to this behavior and

these rumors? Also how do we avoid a confrontation with my husband's family? We haven't made any type

husband and I have forgiven them for what happened.

We do not hate them but are unable to have love for them and do not care to establish a relationship with

Answer: You and your husband have survived an

extremely stressful situation and apparently you are now beginning a new and better life. You seem to have dealt with your husband's relatives by avoiding

of contact with them for more than three years. My

and one brother forced us out of farming and into

Dear Mary: Three years ago my husband's parents

Family Talk

angers him.

them. (Iowa

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choice If you find that every contact leads to rumors attacks upon you and talk of revenge, you can hardly profit from greater contact. You say that your husband becomes angry when

them. At this point in your lives it may be the wisest

you bring up the subject of his relatives. If the unkind-ness which they show hurts you who have married into this family, imagine how much more it must hurt him. Perhaps the only way he can express the pain he feels is through anger at you for bringing it up. Accept the reason behind your husband's anger. If

you need to talk out the pain you feel, perhaps you can do so with a close friend and confidant rather than with your husband.

Your own relationship must be strong to have survived the upheaval of the past three years. Instead of talking about his relatives, let your husband know what a wonderful person you think he is and how much you value your marriage.

At the same time, try to build ties in your new community. Since it is your home community, this should not be too difficult. Try to meet other couples, join community organizations, develop friendships

with your neighbors and your family.

Having a strong marriage is a wonderful thing, but you need a larger circle as well.

Although you have lost the relationship with your husband's family for now, try to build on the opportunities which are available as you begin a new life.

(Reader questions on family living and child care to be answered in print are invited. Address questions: The Kennys, Box 872, St. Joseph's College, Rensselaer, Ind. 47978.)

the sunday Readings

80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 Corin. 1:3-9 Mark 13:33-37

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 29, 1987

by Richard Cain

It was a brilliant fall afternoon Leaves covered the park with a golden cloak. The sky was a dazzling blue. The priest and I were walking no more than a yard or two apart, but I felt a million miles away from him. I was so frus-

My Journey to God The rosary and the cross

eading in a book on Medju-learned that Mary has re-dly recommended a certain vay of praying the glorious myss of the rosary. She recom-ded that one pray them alone re the cross.

Her suggestion intrigued me and so I tried it. What happened is that I gained a deeper appreciation of how the wonderful blessings Christ words for us come through the myster of his passion. At Localiza to the state of the passion at Localiza to the state of the passion at Localiza to the state of the passion. tery of his passion. As I continue to bring the glorious mysteries closer to the cross in my prayer, I suspect I will grow in my ability to be gen-erous and forgiving toward others— especially when it hurts.

(The book, "Open Your Hearts Mary, Queen of Peace," is a practical primer on developing a living prayer life. It is available free from: The Riehle Foundation, P.O. Box 7, Milford, OH 45150. You might include \$1 to help pay for postage.)

and your tipe on and experiences of prayer to: My Journey to God, P.O. Box 1717, Indpls., IN 46206.) trated in my faith. I wanted to have faith, an inner certainty that God was really there. But all I felt was an emptiness that no effort on my part seemingly could fill. The priest couldn't fill it either. I felt so frustrated-both with the priest who could not give me his faith and with the beautiful day that was shouting in vain of the glory of

Looking back now at that difficult time in my life, I see that it was OK to have those feelings. Even Jesus had to experience during his passion that agonizing feeling of being abandoned by God. Difficult as these times are, they serve a purpose. They teach me that everything-even faith-comes from

This Sunday's first reading from Isaiah is the prayer of a person who felt Israel had been abandoned by God. The prayer was written probably in the years immediately following the 70 years of exile in Babylon.

Small groups of Jews had returned to Jerusalem. But the city was still in sad shape. The temple was burned and in ruins. The memory of Israel's past experiences hung like an oppressive gloom on the people.

Even those with great faith felt the gloom. But for one Israelite, this dark night of the soul became an opportunity for a powerful and honest prayer. To me it seems a model of how to turn despair into faith. I know that when I pray like this, I usually feel stronger and more peaceful afterwards. The problems may still be there. But I know that God is there to help me face them.

I begin by acknowledging who God even though the feelings were probably not there. God is a parent—someone I have a deep relationship with and on whom I can count. I can be totally honest. God is also my

The Pope Teaches

Miracles are sign of Jesus' continuing power to heal

by Pope John Paul II remarks general audience Nov. 18

Today we continue our reflection on "the mighty works and wonders and signs" by which God affirmed the divine sonship of Jesus. These miracles Jesus performed in his own name, conscious of his own divine power and at the same time of his intimate union with the Father.

The Gospels describe many occasions on which Jesus miraculously cured the sick and brought the dead back to life. All of these episodes in the life of the Savior are an expression o his will and power. They reveal that he is able to give people health, healing and new life. Of particular note is the account of the raising of Lazarus as described by St. John. "Jesus looked ward and said: 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I know that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd, that the may believe that you sent me.' Having said this, he called loudly, 'Lazarus, come out,' and the dead man came out." Here we find clear confirmation of the words of Jesus: "My Father is working still, and I am working." Jesus raised his friend Lazarus from the dead by his own power and in union with the Father



Jesus' power and dominion extend also over the forces of nature, as we see in the miraculous catches of fish which took place at his command. We also see this power in his action of changing water into wine at the mar-riage feast of Cana in Galilee.

After the Lord's Ascension, similar "wonders and signs were done through the apostles." And, in fact, in every period of history, even in our own time, we find miracles worked in Jesus' name. These are continuing signs for us of the grace and the power of the Son of redeemer. In the end it is only God who can deliver me from all my troubles.

Then I proceed to "tell it like it is." God, I feel abandoned. Why do you let me wander? If I am totally depen dent on you, why do you withhold what you know I need? I pray best when I acknowledge to God how I really feel. After all, God already knows, so why not be up front?

I also remember all that God has done in the past for me and others. This becomes the basis for my hope that God will do again what God has done

I ask God to make it active in my life

before. God is faithful. I need to spend time drawing strength from all the times I have experienced God's faithfulness in the past

I need to be honest about where God and I stand with each other. God is faithful. But I am not always faithful. God can't heal what I won't let God heal. But I don't need to dwell on my failings either. As St. Therese of

Lisieux said, "When you fall, quickly look up.

Finally, I place myself in God's hands. God made me. God loves me. God will not desert me now

This kind of prayer can also be made on behalf of another person or group. In fact, the reading is an example of one person who prayed this kind of prayer on behalf of all God's people. This kind of prayer is especially appropriate during Advent when we adopt an attitude of expectant waiting for the Lord to come into our lives in

The gospel reading is a parable stressing the need for this attitude of expectant waiting for God. In fact, an attitude of watchful readiness is one of the signs of a follower of Jesus. One way that helps me to "stay awake spiritually is to read a passage from the gospels each morning. I spend enough time with it to let its meaning penetrate me. Then during the day I call it to mind, especially when I am tempted or discouraged, and I ask the Lord to make this passage living and active in my life.

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ENCERCAINMENT

Viewing with Arnold

Plot of 'Suspect' is right out of the news

You expect television to create and produce timely melodramas about real-life events before the headlines are dry, but theatrical movies have a much longer lead time.

Thus the producers of "Suspect" most likely are the beneficiaries of sheer blind luck.

This screenplay by Eric Roth is about a scandal surrounding Supreme Court vacancy, and highly placed Washington, D.C., politicians, officials and judges scrambling to cover up ambitious misdeeds that occurred during their youthful early careers. It's souped-up of course. The misdeeds here are collu-sion and murder, but otherwise it's

events on the Six O'Clock News. Mainly, however, "Suspect" is a star vehicle for Cher, the first in which she sheds her somewhat disreputable screen image as a sympathetic lowlife Now she's a lawyer and Irish, named Kathleen Riley, an idealistic public defender burning herself out on behalf

getting harder to tell movie plots from

of accused murderers and rapists. Why? Someday she may save an Well, she certainly finds her opportunity. Her client (Liam Neeson) is a big man with a resume that touches nearly every aspect of the pitiful. He is poor, one of Washington's thousands of wandering street people. He is deaf and cannot speak. That's because he was psychologically traumatized by killing people without reason in the Vietnam War. His wife left him, and now he's found with the valuables of a D.C. secretary found floating in the Potomac with her throat cut.

It's obviously a lost cause, but Riley, played by Cher as a somewhat humorless, low-key workaholic, goes for it.
Since the defendant is mute, communicating (via notes, blackboard, com-puter) becomes an interesting dramatic device. As she works through it, the heroine manages to link up the crime with much of the official corruption going on in the background

From a moral perspective, "Suspect" belongs with the other recent films that, in one way or another, reflect what has become an appalling ethical environment among the upper crust. Since its specific locale is Washington, it's closest to "No Way Out." but there are some instructive differences

Since "Suspect" has a female protagonist, the action scenes are quite different. Cher's Riley is usually on the defensive, wandering bravely but dumbly into scary situations and quickly becoming a potential victim in need of rescue. It's also (and this is plus) much less sexy. This educated woman is a bit older and not promiscuous. In fact, Kathleen is given no con-text life at all-no family, no traumatic



POLITICAL THRILLER—Cher plays public defender Kathleen Riley who is assigned to defend a deaf-mute homeless man, played by Liam Neeson, charged with murder in "Suspect," a Tri-Star release. Cher delivers a "winning performance," the U.S. Catholic Conference says, in a well-acted, engrossing film, classified A-III. (NC photo)

past, not even hobbies, like cooking or TV-watching. So, while Cher shares a smootch now and then with co-star Dennis Quaid, there is no hanky-panky between them, on or off-screen.

There is no question what writer Roth and director Peter Yates want to say about the dark moral climate of the capital, which hangs over the film like a fog. The first time we see Riley, her car is stopped in traffic, some kids smash her window with a brick and run off with her purse. That weekend, a colleague tells her, there were 102 felony arrests in the city. The film suggests it's a sick city, top to bottom.

The movie also aims to draw our

attention to the homeless, who are more or less omnipresent, a strange realistic ingredient in an otherwise familiar sort of thriller. At one point, Quaid even gives the shoes and socks off his feet to a baglady, not in Franciscan zeal but to

pay for a clue.

Quaid's Eddie Sanger is the oddest quirk in the story. He's a ruthless Con-gressional lobbyist (for the milk industry, of all things), not above wooing a lonely Congresswoman (E. Katherine Kerr) for her vote. Somehow he ends up on Riley's jury, and without apparent motive seems determined to help her win the case. This illegal alliance between the unscrupulous juror and the ethical but desperate lawyer is at the heart of the tension, as the audience frets, not over the ethics but whether they'll get caught and blow the case

Director Yates ("Breaking Away," "Eleni") and cinematographer Billy Williams ("Gandhi," "On Golden Pond") have top-drawer skills that help make amends for the script's fundamental absurdity.

(D.C. courtroom thriller, incredible but thoughtful; language; minimal sex and violence; satisfactory for mature youth and adults.)

USCC classification: A-III, adults.

Recent USCC Film Classifications

A-II Cry Freedom Legend: A-I—general patronage; A-II—adults and adolescents; A-III—adults; A-IV—adults, with reservations; O—morally offensive. A high recommendation from the USCC is indicated by the • before the title.

Television starts the Christmas season with carols

Christmas carols from England's Ely Cathedral resound in "Jessye Norman's Christmas Symphony," airing Monday, Nov. 30, 9:30-11 p.m. on PBS.

Opera singer Jessye Norman is accompanied by the American Boychoir of Princeton, N.J., the Vocal Arts Chorus and the Choristers of Ely Cathedral, with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra conducted by Robert DeCormier.

The music was arranged and composed in the form

of a symphony for Miss Norman by composer Donald Fraser. It consists of four movements, the first of which consists of religious carols sung over the cens in the cathedral.

The second movement is devoted to traditional songs of the season, such as "The Holly and the Ivy." It includes a new song written by Fraser especially for Miss Norman: "Jessye's Carol: This Christmas tide." It may not become a classic, but it conveys with happy gusto the feeling and imagery of the

The third movement returns to the traditional carols with songs of Mary and the Child. The final section ends with songs of triumph and joy at Christ's birth and finally an "Amen" especially composed for

Miss Norman's operatic voice.

The concert and its setting emphasize the religious character of Christmas and is for anyone who loves the old carols. Miss Norman's interpretation is joyful, tender yet commanding, and her singing is well integrated with that of the assembled choruses.

grated with that of the assembled choruses.

The staging of the performance makes good use of
the magnificent medieval cathedral and its stainedglass windows, statuary and side altars. Program host
Derek Jacobi provides a short history of the cathedral, which dates back to 673 A.D., when it was founded as a monastery.

Ely Cathedral, located just north of Cambridge

has special significance for American World War II veterans stationed in air bases in the area. The lights

and towers of the cathedral, set in the flat landscape of the marshes, served as a beacon to airmen return-ing from bombing missions over Europe.

The program is a co-production of Thames Tele-



TV FARE-Jadrien Steele plays Colin Craven hypochondriae invalid, and Gennie James plays Mary Lennox, a newly orphaned girl who changes his life in "Secret Garden," a Hallmark Hall of Fame presentation Nov. 30 on CBS. (NC photo)

vision and Windsor International Productions of New York. It is a worthy addition to the Christmas programs television insists on airing during Advent.

TV Programs of Note

Sunday, Nov. 29, 7-8 p.m. (PBS) "Christmas Eve on Sesame Street." Rebroadcast of a musical Christmas special with the cast of "Sesame Street," the Muppets and skaters from "Holiday on Ice."

Sunday, Nov. 29, 9-11 p.m. (CBS) "The Long Journey Home." A wealthy heiress (Meredith Baxter Birney) is considering remarriage when her husband (David Birney), long presumed missing in action in Vietnam, suddenly reappears and the two become involved in a web of betrayal, murder and international intrigue. Whether or not the romantic suspense story's contrived plot proves anything more than a vehicle for the Birneys, it's inappropriate fare

Monday, Nov. 30, 8-9:30 p.m. (PBS) "The Sleeping Beauty." An ice ballet of the classic fairy tale with Robin Cousins, Rosalynn Sumners, Patrica Dodd, Shaun McGill and other world-class skaters enacting the tale to the music of Tchaikovsky as performed by the London Symphony Orchestra.

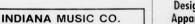
Monday, Nov. 30, 9-11 p.m. (CBS) "The Secret Disagreeable orphan (Gennie James), sent to stay in a rural English manor, discovers a long abandoned secret garden, and its magic changes her for the better. The story is the children's classic written by Frances Hogson Burnett. The supporting cast includes Billie Whitelaw, Michael Hordern and Derek Jacobi. The "Hallmark Hall of Fame" produc-tion is by veteran Norman Rosemont. It promises to be superior family entertainment.

Thursday, Dec. 3, 8-8:45 p.m. (PBS) "Christmas with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and Shirley Verrett." Rebroadcast of last year's holiday concert by the Mormon Choir and Miss Verrett in a program of carols, mostly of traditional English origin



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Archbp. May: Women's role key issue at synod

WASHINGTON (NC)—The role of women in the Catholic Church and the need to address the issue "forthrightly and now quickly became a major concern of the world Synod of Bishops on the laity, Archbishop John L. May of St. Louis said Nov. 19.

The president of the National Conference on Catholic Bishops also said another central topic was lay movements and their relation-ship to the local church.

Archbishop May made the remarks during the bishops' annual general meeting Nov 16-19 in Washington in a report on the synod, which was held last October in Rome.

The report was to be an oral report but was issued in written form because of time constraints.

Interventions from bishops all over the world and reports from the 'circuli minores' emphasized the need to address this issue forthrightly and now," said Archbishop May, who was a synod delegate.

'There is a serious and profound need to admit women to decision-making positions at all levels of the church, including the international level," he continued in the

He said interventions from the U.S. bishop-delegates "often asked specifically for this, also that ministries of acolyte and lector be open to women."

Bishops from other countries asked for "serious study" of opening the permanent diaconate to women, he added.

Archbishop May also noted that at an press conference Oct. 20 during the synod he press conference oct. 20 during the synon ne had said that "opening non-ordained ministries to all Catholics, in keeping with local circumstances and pastoral judgments is a matter of principle based on the radical equality of all the faithful in baptism.

Although specific recommendations on women were not in the message from the synod or in propositions sent to Pope John Paul II, Archbishop May said, the synod reinforced a growing conviction in the United States that "the issue of women's role in the church and society must be addressed effectively by the church in the United States.

He said the U.S. bishops as a conference will commit themselves "to cooperation with women, welcoming their involvement and leadership both in church and society."

"We look to the pastoral letter on the con-cerns of women, now being prepared by our conference as a significant contribution to this effort," he said.

A writing committee of bishops, headed by Bishop Joseph L. Imesch of Joliet, Ill., is preparing a full first draft to be ready by March 1988.

The issue of lay movements focused on the emergence of large lay organizations, especially in Europe, that are "deeply committed to various forms of the apostolate, Archbishop May said.

Such groups "are so centrally organized



Archbishop John L. May

that they operate in parishes and dioceses oftentimes independent of local responsi-bility and accountability," he pointed out. For some, the groups "are signs of the direction of the Holy Spirit in our times," the

prelate said.

"For others, their charism needs to be discerned on the local level by the bishop and their apostolate endeavors coordinated by him with the other efforts in his diocese.

Archbishop May said synod discussions recognized that the Holy Spirit is often present in such organizations, but they under-lined that local bishops have the responsi-bility to discern a particular movement's role in the pastoral plan of dioceses.

They also urged such movements to make

a deeper commitment to justice and serving the poor, he added.

He praised the consultation process pre-ceding the synod that took place in U.S. dioceses at all levels and included parishes, diocesan bodies, small communities of faith,

lay movements and organizations.

He said the process helped the bishops who went as delegates to discern the topics they presented, such as the parish's role in life of the laity, women in the church, politics and the church and world, and the spiritual

richness and needs of laity.

Other topics of concern to laity were the relationship between clergy and laity and the contemporary Christian family, he said.

The consultation was "a serious and cred conversation," he said, adding that during the synod the U.S. bishops learned that laity around the world share similar

Draft of pastoral on women to be ready by next March

WASHINGTON (NC)-A full first draft of the U.S. bishops' proposed pastoral letter on the concerns of women should be ready for the U.S. bishops' Administrative Committee by March 1988, said Bishop Joseph L. Imsech of Joliet, Ill., writing committee chairman. He said the committee of bishops writing

the pastoral was to meet Nov. 19-21 to refine and finalize the draft to be presented to the Administrative Committee

Bishop Imesch commented on the pastoral in a written information report sub-mitted to the U.S. bishops during their general meeting Nov. 16-19 in Washington.

The committee's tentative target date for completing the pastoral is November 1989.
Bishop Imesch noted in his written report

that if the Administrative Committee approved the final first draft, it would be distributed nationally, and diocesan consul-

tations on it would be held during the remainder of 1988.

Consultations will be coordinated by diocesan task forces and a format will be pro-vided to dioceses for gathering information. Comments also will be sought from national women's organizations and from scholars.

Bishop Imesch said that last June the writing committee met for three days in Pittsburgh to review a rough first draft and refine it in light of criticisms made by consultants who had been asked to review the document.

Since June the draft has been rewritten and again sent to committee members and consultants

of U.S. bishops agreed in The body November of 1983 to embark on an in-depth analysis of women's concerns, with an eye toward issuing a pastoral letter

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November 27

A Compulsive Overeaters' Retreat will be held at Mount St. Francis Retreat Center. Call 812-923-8817 for information.

November 27-29

A Tobit Weekend for engaged couples will be held at Alverna Retreat Center, 8140 Spring Mill Rd. Call 317-257-7338 for infor-

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A Sign Mass for the Deaf is celebrated at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday in St. Joan of Arc Church, 42nd and Central.

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November 30

Separated, Divorced and Re married Catholics (SDRC) will meet for a fathers' discussion of child custody at 7:30 p.m. in the Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St. For information call 317-236-1596 days or 317-844-5034 or 317-291-3629 evenings.

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A Deanery Workshop for parish level leadership on the bishops' economic pastoral will be held from 6-10 p.m. at St. Ann Parish,

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ish, Richmond will celebrate its patronal feastday with morning prayer at 6:40 a.m., Mass at 7 a.m. and evening prayer at 5:10 p.m. The parish will hold an Advent Evening of Spiritual Growth and

Renewal from 7:15-9:30 p.m. in

December 1 Little Flower Altar Society will sponsor a bus trip to the Water Tower in Chicago. \$32/person includes breakfast and dinner. Call Marilyn Jeffers 317-357-6656 or Georgie George-cu 317-353-9625.

Father Hillman Hall.

A public program about the message of Fatima and Medjugor-je will be held at 7 p.m. at St. Lawrence Parish, 4650 N. Shade-Dragga Ivankovic of Medju-gorje will speak at 6 p.m. at St. Michael Parish, 30th and Tibbs and at 8 p.m. at Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, Greenwood.

A Scripture Day on the "In-fancy Narratives" will be pre-sented by Kevin DePrey from 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St. Child care provided. Pre-registration and \$5 deposit required. Adults \$8; children \$3/each. Call 317-545-7681.

December 2

A Deanery Workshop for parish level leadership on the bishops' economic pastoral will be held from 6-10 p.m. at the Aquinas Center, New Albany.

An Over 50 Day on "At 50 You Begin to Look at Life with Wisdom" will be presented by Jesuit Father Gerald Streeter from 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St. 83 cost; \$5 deposit and pre-registration required. Call 317-545-7681.

Loft Lectures presented by Loft Lectures presented by Franciscan Sister Sandra Schweit-zer continue with "Devotional Space: Marian Shrines and Eucharistic Chapels" from 6:45-8:30 p.m. in SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral choir loft. \$5 cost.

A social hour, dinner and lec-ture by Benedictine Father Matture by Benedictine Father Mat-hias Neuman on the "Place of Mary in Catholic Faith and Spiri-tuality" will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the basement of St. Michael Church, Cannelton. \$5/ticket. Reservations due by Nov. 29. Call 812-547-4226 or 812-547-5004.

December 2-3

St. Mary of the Woods College will present "Christmas at the Woods" traditional Victorian Christmas dinner theatre. Tickets are \$17.50. For reservations call 812-535-5212.

December 3

A Deanery Workshop for parish level leadership on the bishops' economic pastoral will be held from 6-10 p.m. at St. John Parish,

A Liturgical Ministry Forma-tion Program Phase I on "Litur-gical Ministry Today" will be held from 7-9:30 p.m. at the Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St. Call 317-236-1483 for information.

Madonna Circle of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, 1752 Scheller Lane, New Albany will present its Annual Holly Day Dessert Card Party at 7:30 p.m. in Waggoner Hall. Table and door prizes. Tickets \$2.50 in advance or at the door.

December 4

First Friday devotions of Rosary and Way of the Cross at 11:45 a.m. precede the noon Mass at St. Mary Church, 317 N. New Jersey St. Refreshments served afterward.

Channel of Peace charismatic community will hold a soup and bread supper at 6 p.m. and First Friday Mass at 7:30 p.m. at Little Flower Parish, 4720 E. 13th St.

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December 5

Holy Angels Parish, 28th and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. St. will present a city-wide Christmas Bazaar featuring Indy's only black Santa Claus from 9 a.m.-6 p.m Call 317-926-3324

The Office of Worship will con-clude its Cantor Workshop Series from 10 a.m.-12 noon and from 1-3 p.m. at the Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St. Call 212 ages 1400 N. Meridian St. Call 317-236-1483 for information.

Franciscan Father Gilbert Ostdiek will present a day of reflection on "Do This in Memory of Me" at Alverna Retreat Center, 8140 Spring Mill Rd. Call 317-257-7338 for information.

The Annual Christmas Craft Bazaar sponsored by the Parents Club of St. Ann School, 2850 S. Holt

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Retired sisters of Our Lady of Grace Convent, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove will sponsor a Benefit Christmas Bazaar from 8:30 a.m.4 p.m. Handmade quits, afghans, baked goods, decorative arrangements. Proceeds benefit

The Women's Guild of St. Pius X K of C will sponsor a Visions of Sugarplums Dinner Dance from 6:30 p.m.-12 midnight. Music by Jack Brink Orchestra. \$11/person. For tickets call Rita Patterman 317-255-7484 or Linda Van Noy 317-257-1089.

The World Apostolate of Fatima (The Blue Army) will hold First Saturday Holy Hour devotions at 2 p.m. in Little Flower Parish Center chapel, 13th and Bosart. Everyone welcome.

December 5-6

St. Bernadette Parish, 4826 Fletcher Ave. will hold its Annual Christmas Bazaar from 10 a.m.-8, p.m. Sat. and from 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sun. Hand crafted Christmas ornaments, ceramics, quilt raffle, white elephants.

The Ladies Club of St. Joseph Parish, Terre Haute will sponsor a Christmas Bazaar. Crafts, baked goods, jams, jellies.

St. Mary PTO will hold a Trims and Treasures Arts and Crafts Fair from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat. and from 12 noon-4 p.m. Sun. in the

activity center of St. Mary Parish, 206 Fifth St., Aurora Tri-state area artists, kids' secret gift shop, lunch served.

The Altar Society of St. Anthony Parish, 379 N. Warman Ave. will present its Annual Christmas Boutique from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Sat. and from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Crafts, trash to treasures, lunch served.

December 6

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for quiet prayer and reflec-tion from noon until Benediction at 5 p.m. in St. Joan of Arc Church, 42nd and Central.

A Deanery Workshop for parish level leadership on the bishops' economic pastoral will be held from 6-10 p.m. at St. Paul Parish,

The Benedictine Center, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove will hold a Holiday Brunch from 8:30 a.m.-12 noon. Adults \$3; children 3-12 \$2; under 3 free. Balloons, prizes, v. it from Santa.

Mother Theodore Circle #56, Daughters of Isabella will hold its Annual Christmas Party at 2 p.m. in the administration building of St. Elizabeth's Horne, 2500 Church-man Ave. Entertainment, door

A Natural Family Planning class will be held from 9 a.m.-12 noon in reoom B-17 at St. Louis School, Batesville.

Socials:

MONDAY; St. Ann, 6:30 p.m.; Our Lady of Lourdes, 6:30 p.m.; St. James, 5:30 p.m. TUESDAY; K. of C. Pius X Council 3433, 7



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STOP IN - THE COFFEE POT'S ON

CRS aid efforts in Ethiopia

Continued from page 1)

But that hunger crisis in Ethiopia also led to a credibility crisis for CRS.

Because of complaints raised in August 1985 about irregularities and the slow spending of money collected for Ethiopian famine victims, a U.S. government audit of CRS was

The audit by the Agency for International Development accused CRS of improperly handling some funds and of violating regula nanding some tunds and of violating regula-tions by refusing to give government-supplied food to people who could not pay. CRS officials disputed parts of the audit

and a committee of bishops headed by Car-dinal John J. Krol of Philadelphia concluded that the charges were satisfactorily answered by CRS.

Catholic Relief Services no longer is collecting contributions from people who receive food, which had been part of the controversy. Archbishop O'Meara said the money was "a small token" and that the con-"is perfectly legal."

CRS continues to help "counterpart agens" collect contributions, he said.

At a press conference at the bishops

meeting Archbishop O'Meara said CRS is not against the idea of having food recipients donate small sums because it is in accord with "helping the recipients preserve their human dignity" if they contribute something

During the meeting four bishops were elected to the CRS board of directors. They are Bishop Thomas V. Daily of Palm Beach Fla.; Bishop Robert E. Mulvee of Wilmington, Del.; Bishop Thomas J. O'Brien of Phoenix, Ariz. (a native of Indianapolis); and Archbishop Edmund C. Szoka of Detroit.



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My new apartment at Oakleaf Village is perfect for me. I brought my favorite pieces of furniture and knick-knacks and gave the rest of it to Jeri for her to enjoy. One really nice thing about Oakleaf Village is that I just pay rent. I didn't want to pay a big up front fee like they charge you at some places.

A big surprise to me was all of the things my rent covered: a daily, full course meal, weekly housekeeping, all utilities, scheduled transportation,

someone on duty around the clock, plus many other nice amenities and services. All of this plus a lifestyle that's filled with activities and wonderful new friends!

Believe me, I checked out the people who run Oakleaf Village. They really know what I want for my retirement, and I'm so happy now that I'm settled in at Oakleaf Village. And Jeri feels like she's had the weight of the world lifted from her shoulders

For me, living at Oakleaf Village was Jeri's good idea...but it was my great decision.

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Book Reviews

Showcase of religious writing

Ordinary Time, edited by Martha Gies, The Church and the Artist (Seattle, Wash., 1987) 61 pp., \$6.50 postpaid. (Before Dec. 31: The Church and the Artist, 916 Queen Anne Ave. N., #302, Seattle, Wash. 98109; after Jan. 1: Cornucopia Distribu-tion. P.O. Box 85627. Seattle 98145-1627)

Reviewed by Shirley Vogler Meister

Ordinary Time is the result of a literary competition that grew out of a national movement called The Church and the Artist: a Catholic celebration of contemporary arts sponsored Artist: a Catholic Gelebration of contemporary arts sponsored by the Archdiocese of Seattle. The two-year project was com-pleted with the cooperation of the Benedictine monks of St. Martin's Abbey and funding from the Catholic Communication Campaign and the Albert Steiss Trust.

Well-known writers Madeline DeFrees (Magpie on the

of the North American Martyrs; Back in the World) judged the competition that focused on Christian imagination and s. The book contains not only fiction and poetry winners but also other poems of special mention.

In her introduction, editor Martha Gies writes that the book is "a modest way for the church to acknowledge the writer's gifts, rich gifts which mark with precision the small miracles

of ordinary time."

Ordinary Time is no ordinary book, however, in that many

inclusions stress what Judge Wolff said was exemplified in first place fiction winner Stuart Dybek's "The Palatski Man": "... miraculous forms of human experience beneath the glaze of the ordinary."

Dybek's poetry is as vivid as his prose. Example from his em, "Autobiography":... That's how I'd begin, with the poem, "Autobiography": Announcing

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smell of mud,/and icicles slipping into rain/as widows pass/ unbalanced between shoppingbags./ugging mysterious griefs by the scruff to novenas/. there were autobiographies/at every corner/legends, litanies, manifestoes/memories in forgotten tongues.

T.S. Wallace's first place-winning poem, 1.5. wantace's first place-winning poem, "The Siender Confessions of a Man in the First Person," is no less captivating: "There were three wise men,/but I was none of them./ When I left my gift on the altar,/it was not to seek the brother/of my grudge/...My heart's a cave,/a long tunnel/filled with whimper and night

by showcasing writers in Ordinary Time. The Church and Artist succeeds in encouraging a vigorous, fruitful relationship between artist and church through the use of Christian imagery in contemporary forms.

16 talks on prayer

First Steps in Prayer, by Cardinal Jean-Marie Lustiger. Translated by Rebecca Howell Balinski. Doubleday (Garden City, N.Y., 1987). 144 pp., \$14.95.

Reviewed by Fr. Jay C. Haskin

Cardinal Jean Marie Lustiger of Paris presents 16 talks on prayer which were originally given on Radio Notre Dame and later published in the Paris archdiocesan bulletin. As spiritual father, the cardinal offers suggestions for prayer for today's believer in a modern milieu.

Each of the steps in prayer may be taken individually or collectively. They provide a solid basis for daily prayer.

Five of the steps concentrate on two general areas: meal-time and Sundays. In each instance the cardinal highlights the sacred aspects, stressing their "profoundly religious and Christian value.

The current trend toward self service de-emphasizes the communal relationships and narrows the focus to individual nutrition.

Regarding Sunday, he comments that the special day of the Lord is in the process of losing religious significance. One of the roles of believers is to "reinvest that day with

Persons looking for methods to integrate prayer into their busy lives can find many practical suggestions. Mark this book helpful in assisting modern persons toward the

habit of daily prayer.

(Father Haskin is episconal vicar for administration in the Diocese of Burlington, Vt.)

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(The Criterion welcomes death notices from parishes and/or indi-viduals. Please submit them in writing, always stating the date of writing, always stating the date of death, to our office by 10 a.m. Mon-day the week of publication. Obitu-aries of archdiocesan priests, their parents and Religious sisters serv-ing in our archdiocese are listed elsewhere in The Criterion. Order priests and brothers are included here, unless they are natives of the archdiocese or have other connec-tions to it.)

† ALVEY, Delmar E., 75, St. Paul Tell city, Nov. 13. Husband of Beu-lah; brother of Mary Devillez, Catherine Miller and Ralph.

† BURELLO, Tony, St. James the Greater, Indianapolis, Nov. 10. Father of Lynda; brother of Jose Towsend and Carlo.

† CASEY, John, 64, St. Catherine of Siena, Indianapolis, Nov. 15. Father of Julia, Janice and Jill; brother of Bernard, William and Robert

FDEFIZ, Michael S., 35, Holy Name, Beech Grove, Oct. 23. Son of Ralph B. and Marilyn J.; brother of Maureen Klekar, Kathy Westerfield and Janice Self; grandson of Bernadette Dietz Goldsberry; stepgrandson of Roy Goldsberry.

Goidsberry.

† FETTE, Cornelius, 91, St. Paul,
New Alsace, Oct. 31. Father of
Robert, Irvin, Russell, Raymond,
Marvin, Edward, Rist Fox, Irvin,
Midred Meyer and Rosemary
Galle; grandfather of 38; greatgrandfather of 49; great-grandfather of one.

† GULLO, Helen Agnes, 74, St. Joseph, Shelbyville, Nov. 14. Wife of Ralph E.; sister of Henry and Joseph Dew and Audrey Davidson.

HARTLEY, Mary Jane, 73, Holy Name, Beech Grove, Oct. 25. Wife of Everett R.; foster mother of Donald; foster grandmother of three; sister of Franciscan Sister M. Verena and William J. Leh-mann, Frances Walton and Ther-

† HUNDLEY, John Gregory, 40, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, Nov. 12. Husband of Angela K.; brother of Mark A., Russell E., Peggy Pemberton and Roberta Quiett; grand father of Lorene Bauman

† KAULIG, Fred, 76, St. Michael, Cannelton, Nov. 10. Husband of Doris; brother of Frank.

† KOPINSKI, Sophia K., 66, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, Nov. 12. Wife of Klemens; mother of Harriet Liston, Mary Clymer, Theresa, Barbara Wilkes, John, Chester, Joseph and Richard; grandmother of eight; sister of three.

MILLER, Kent Wayde, 29, St. Pius X, Indianapolis, Nov. 6. Hus-band of Cynthia J. (Doll); father of Nicholas; son of Margret A. and Silas O.; brother of Curtis A.

† OLIVER, Mamie M., 69, Holy Name, Beech Grove, Oct. 19. Mother of Diann K. Hable and Jim R.: grandmother of four.

† PRESTON, Lucille Maria, 70, Holy Name, Beech Grove, Nov. 4. Mother of Michael, Charles, Mother of Michael, Charles, David, John, James, Thomas, Eugene, Frances Bisch, Mary Ann Holman, Kathleen and Rose Marie Okey; stepdaughter of Ruth Hall; sister of Harold, Joseph and Cyril Hall and Dorothy Costello; grandmother of 25; great-grandmother

† REDELMAN, Lee T., 53, St Mary, Greensburg, Nov. 15 Brother of Alfred.

† SHANAHAN, Carroll (Vince), 65, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, Nov 10. Husband of Martha.

† SULLIVAN, Mary Agnes, 85, St. James the Greater, Indianapolis, Nov. 13. Sister of Margaret Kirk and John.

THEISS, Arnold J., 78, St. Chris topher, Speedway, Nov. 15. Grand-father of two.

WARD, James, 76, St. James the Greater, Indianapolis, Nov. 10.
Father of Dorothy Wills and
James; grandfather of nine;
great-grandfather of three.

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3 college presidents advocate theological inquiry

WASHINGTON (NC)-Three Catholic university presidents, warning against a too narrow view of "Catholicity, urged room for academic freedom in Catholic higher educations of the catholic higher

At a Nov. 17 forum at Georgetown University in Washington, they advocated tolerance of theological inquiry, recommended structures for theologians and bishops to discuss theological issues, and warned against "fundamen-talism" in Catholic thought.

One president, Jesuit Father Timothy S. Healy of George-town University, also suggested that the Vatican could learn a few things from U.S. Catholic universities and the American democratic system

He was joined in the forum by Jesuit Father William Byron of The Catholic University of America and Holy Cross Fathe Edward Malloy of the University of Notre Dame.

"There are things we know from which the church of God can profit, things we do that the church of God ought to learn to do," Father Healy said.

'I'm talking about a structure of human rights, of the due place of women in the church" alongside men, of procedures of justice that in fact appear to all to ensure justice, Father In addition to questions involving Catholicity, Fathers Malloy and Byron noted that religious universities can encounter pressures over church-state issues that likewise can affect university life.

At any Catholic college or university, "I don't think the

Rather, he said, it involves such varied aspects of univer-Rather, he said, it involves such varied aspects of univer-sity life as academics; the faculty, which he called probably "the most important component of Catholic carrying power over time;" research; pastoral care and "the way we attend to the whole person;" and worship. Father Malloy said one of the dilemmas for Catholic col-

lege administrators is that critics often attack one of these components—such as the choice of a speaker on campus and refuse to consider the total picture of Catholicity at the university.

'If we maintain the view of the whole, then I think there are enough checks and balances to keep us from going awry,

In any religion, he said, "I think there's always the danger of a kind of fundamentalism" which holds that "there are easily discernible right and wrong positions on just about everything. I tend to totally disagree with that perspective,"

"Explicit expression of Catholicity will take multiple forms," agreed Father Byron, whose own campus has con-fronted controversy over the Vatican determination that faculty member Father Charles E. Curran can no longer teach as a Catholic theologian.

I think there is a new fundamentalism in the Catholic community and I think that the only defense we have against that is the university," he said.

Regarding such subjects as theology, Father Byron sug-gested that "the difficulty is that we're so concerned about orthodoxy. As one bishop said to me recently, we are more concerned with orthodoxy than we are with the protection of the university as such.

Theologians and bishops also must find a way to interact

more informally and amicably, he said.

"We need to come up with the right structure...where bishops can be participants in theological dialogue. That bishops can be participants in theological dialogue. That means the bishops are going to have to pay attention to their bibliographies, because you can't participate in theological dialogue unless you yourself are producing some kind of theological reflection." Pather Byron said.

"And if bishops are to critique the work of other theologians but cannot present work of their own, the question arises about

their competence to judge theologically the work of other theologians," he said.



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Bps. approve collection for religious, Hispanic plan

(Continued from page 1)
► Norms for priests' retirement years that call on bishops to recognize the "value and dignity" of aging priests and their retirement.

The bishops delayed action on proposed guidelines for bishop-theologian relations when they ran out of time on the final day of the meeting.

They also heard glowing accounts of the success of Pope John Paul II's September pastoral visit and received reports on such varied items as the progress of a committee examining the morality of nuclear deterrence and the status of their ment portfolio in the wake of October's stock market

The bishops' new Central America statement, updating a statement issued in 1981, calls military aid to the contras "legally doubtful and morally wrong." It also repudiates "legally doubtful and morally wrong." It also repudiates human rights abuses by any side in the Central American conflict and endorses regional peace initiatives. (See article on

Their position on school-based health clinics came in a statement wuch expresses what the bishops say are both moral and practical reasons why such clinics should not distribute contraceptives. The statement said federal and state laws as well as local school board policies should be amended to exclude contraceptive services from public schools. (See "From the Editor" on page 2.)

In approving their pastoral plan for Hispanic ministry, the bishops sought to respond to what one of them warned was the potential loss of up to 50 percent of Hispanic Catholics to other denominations or to no religion at all. The plan calls for small parish-based communities, youth ministry, promotion

of family life and leadership formation adapted to the Hispanic culture. (See article on page 9.)

The new national collection approved by the bishops to

meet the rising retirement costs for religious orders—particu-larly orders of nuns—will be conducted annually for 10 years "unless the need is mot before then." The retirement need, estimated at \$2.5 billion, includes the cost of meeting health care and living expenses of current and future retirees.

Delayed until their next meeting were the bishops' pro-

posed guidelines for improving relations with theologians and resolving disputes over theological or doctrinal matters.

Although the guidelines had been criticized by some bishops for being theologically "lacking," a motion to send them back to committee failed. But further action was suspended with amendments still pending when departures of bishops at the end of the meeting led to the lack of a quorum.

Information reports to the bishops also made up a large part of the meeting

In one report the bishops were told the NCCB-USCC suf-fered paper losses of \$6.7 million in the October stock market drop. The conferences' total portfolio at the end of the month—\$69.7 million—was still worth more than their original investment, but most of the profits they would have gained were eaten up when stocks fell.

They also were told Nov. 18 by Cardinal John Krol of Philadelphia, a member of a special council advising the pope on Vatican finances, that the financially strapped Vatican for the first time will soon release an annual state budget and finances. (See article on page 2.)

Reporting on the progress of the bishops' ad hoc committee examining the morality of nuclear deterrence policies, committee's report next spring also will deal with the morality Strategic Defense Initiative

He said the committee also is examining the effect of

spiraling arms costs on programs to alleviate poverty.

Archbishop John L. May of St. Louis, NCCB-USCC president, reported on October's world Synod of Bishops in Rome on the role of the laity, which he attended as one of four delegates of the NCCB. He said the need to address the role of women in the church "forthrightly and now" quickly became a major concern. (See article on page 23.)

In other actions the bishops:

- Approved formation of a joint commission made up of bishops and female and male members of religious orders, and a separate bishops' Committee on Religious Life and Ministry
- ► Elected Archbishop Daniel W. Kucera of Dabuque, Iowa. as NCCB treasurer for the next three years
- ► Approved a \$29.5 million budget for 1988 for the NCCB-USCC and an increase in the 1989 assessment on U.S. dioceses to help pay for NCCB-USCC activities.
- ► Reversed a committee and reinstated a full-time staff reversed a commutee and reinstated a full-time start position for youth and young adult ministry. Under the pro-posal rejected by the bishops, responsibility for youth would have been shared by personnel in the bishops' new Secretariat for Laity and Family Life.
- ► Approved a resolution pledging greater humanitarian assistance to Lebanon and a separate resolution urging the U.S. government to recognize the desire of the South Korean people for democracy

Bishops' general meeting at a glance

WASHINGTON (NC)—Here at a glance are some of the ms approved by the U.S. bishops at their Nov. 16-19 neral meeting in Washington.

- ms approved by the U.S. bishops at their Nov. 16-19 meral meeting in Washington.

 ▶ A Central America policy statement which opposes littery aid to the Nicaragua contras but also criticizes the indinista government's human rights record.

 ▶ A statement opposing on both moral and practical ounds the dispensing of contraceptives by school-based ath clinics.

 ▶ A netional pastoral plan for Hispanic ministry.

 ▶ A neational pastoral plan for Hispanic ministry.

 ▶ A new rite for use in celebrations of marriage between resons of different faiths.

 ▶ Establishment of Dec. 12 as the feast of Our Lady

 Establishment of Dec. 12 as the feast of Our Lady

- Establishment of Dec. 12 as the feast of Our Lady
- of Guadalupe in the United States, while not proclaiming it a holy day.
- nt a noty cay;

 Norms for the retirement years of diocesan priests.

 Formation of a joint commission of bishops and female and male members of religious orders and establishment of a separate bishops' Committee on Religious Life and

of a separate bishops' Committee on Religious Life and Ministry.

► A \$29.5 million budget for 1988 for the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and U.S. Catholic Conference and an increase in the 1989 assessment on U.S. dioceses to help pay for the conferences' activities.

One other major item on the bishops' agenda—proposed guidelines for improving relations with theologizms and resolving disputes over theological or doctrinal matters—was delayed until the next meeting when time ran out.

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