

NEWS IN FOCUS

Bomb Halt Evokes Blessing

VATICAN CITY — More than one personal message has been sent by Pope Paul VI to President Johnson with the upsurge of peace hopes arising from the President's declaration of a bomb halt in North Vietnam, according to indications at the Vatican.

The Vatican's statement came welcoming President Johnson's action. It said the Pope's ceaseless appeals for peace had been "renewed in these hours of growing hope with messages to the one who took the responsible decision."

'Renewal Sunday' for Christ King

EVANSVILLE, Ind. — Bishop Paul Leibold of Evansville advocated observing the last Sunday in October as "Renewal Sunday" in the Catholic Church instead of the feast of Christ the King.

Preaching to 800 in the Methodist Church here the prelate noted that in Protestant churches the day is traditionally known as "Reformation Sunday."

"This new title contains within it both the basic concepts on which your (Protestant) traditions have been built and the basic concept of Christ the King of the universe — for renewal in our context cannot be realized outside the total reign of Christ," Bishop Leibold said.

The Catholic prelate said the world needs a renewal today. He called for a purging out of men's hearts their selfish pride, egotism, covetousness, lust and anger.

"We must begin," he said, "by giving full allegiance to Christ the King and acknowledging His rights in every aspect of life — in domestic life, in the schools, in the factories, in businesses and professions, in civic councils and legislative halls and in international deliberations."

Rocket Kills 19 in Church

SAIGON — A Viet Cong rocket attack on this city 24 hours before the U.S. suspended its bombing of North Vietnam killed 23 persons, including 19 in Christ the King church.

Viet Cong gunners dropped 13 rockets into the city. One rocket hit the Catholic church during the 6 o'clock Mass. The church was crowded with 800

Catholics. The rocket landed outside between the church and a cigarette factory next door. In addition to those killed, 64 persons were injured, including women and children.

Father Thomas Nguyen van Tri, pastor of the 4,000-member parish, said that the cries of the injured women and children were pitiful.

The dead and injured were quickly removed to a hospital.

'Violence' Enemy of Rites

KINGSTON, Jamaica — (NC) — "Violence is the enemy of human rights," Archbishop John J. McEleney, S.J., of Kingston said in an address commemorating Human Rights Year.

Social ills, such as inadequate housing, inadequate education and lack of job opportunities, had helped cause the violence, the archbishop said.

"But," he continued, "it would be ironic if that very violence and its repercussions should draw our attention away from the urgency on the part of every one of us to offer healing to those areas of social sickness.

"Violence is not the answer," Archbishop McEleney went on. "Violence is the enemy of human rights. Add hatred to violence and we reject human rights and human dignity. On the contrary, let us favor every effort and make every sacrifice to bring it about that our poor are lifted up from their subhuman conditions, from the status of social inferiority which breeds hatred."

Squeeze on Charity Services

CHICAGO — (NC) — The administrator for Catholic Charities here said five Catholic child care facilities will be forced to close sometime next year unless state financial aid is increased.

Msr. Vincent W. Cooke also warned that the day care and foster home programs would also be shut down. At least 4,500 children will be affected if the multiple programs are eliminated.

He said, "The cost of caring for children will substantially increase each year, not only because of the increased cost of living, but especially because the state regulations require more professional personnel whose annual salaries increase each year.

"In short," he said, "the state is asking us to provide more costly care but is not reimbursing us in proportion to that increased cost . . ."



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Parishioners Are Hunted In the 'Yellow Pages'

Denver — (NC) — A pastor took the hint from those telephone company TV commercials — "let your fingers do the walking through the Yellow Pages."

Father Albert E. Puhl, pastor of Holy Trinity parish in suburban Westminster, wants to make sure the word gets around that everyone is welcome at the parish church services.

So he placed an ad in the Yellow Pages church section which labeled Holy Trinity as an "Interracial Congregation" and after the Masses schedule inserted the words "For Afro-Americans, Indians, Caucasians, Eurasians, Orientals."

He said the idea came from a group of parishioners who want to make Negro families feel welcome, although there are no known Negro residents in the area. There are a few Indians, Japanese, Spanish-speaking and Russian families in the parish, Father Puhl said. But you can't please everyone. Father Puhl related: "We thought we were being smart. But one group, the Hispanos, felt they were not welcome and were being discriminated against because they aren't named specifically in the ad."

'Be Apostles,' Pope Tells Teachers

Vatican City — (NC) — Pope Paul VI (Nov. 4) spoke to approximately 1,000 members of the ninth annual congress of Italian teachers, asking them to be "apostles" in spreading the teaching of the Church (Nov. 4).

The Pope exhorted the teachers to "live the Christian vocation in filial faithfulness to the law of God and the teaching of the Church in order to transmit it and be its apostles."

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