

voices voices voices



VOLUME IV, NUMBER 4

FALL 1989

1989 Conference Report –

Unity Stressed at WFF-CPC Meeting

400 Attend Sessions

Speakers at the combined conferences of Women for Faith & Family and the *Consortium Perfectae Caritatis* held in St. Louis October 6-8 emphasized the necessity to restore unity in the Church and among women in order to combat the destructive forces at work in the Church and in the world today.

About four hundred religious women, clergy and lay men and women attended the conference talks at the Clarion Hotel near the historic Basilica of St. Louis, King of France (The Old Cathedral) on the St. Louis riverfront. Pontifical masses for the conferences were celebrated at the Old Cathedral on Saturday and Sunday.

Bishop Jeremiah Newman of Limerick, Ireland, Bishop Austin Vaughan, Auxiliary Bishop of New York, Bishop John Myers, Co-adjutor Bishop of Peoria, The Rev. James Viall, co-ordinator of the CPC, Sr. Joan Gormley SSMW, who teaches scripture at St. Mary's College in Emmitsburg, MD, and Dr. Joyce Little, a theologian from the University of St. Thomas in Houston, addressed both conferences.

James, Cardinal Hickey, Archbishop of Washington, D.C., Archbishop John May of St. Louis and Bishop Vaughan were principal celebrants and homilists at the conference masses.

Other speakers for Women for Faith & Family were Mary Ellen Bork, writer, lecturer and wife of

Judge Robert Bork, Rita Marker of the Human Life Center, Steubenville, OH, and the International Anti-Euthanasia Task Force, and Helen Hull Hitchcock of Women for Faith & Family. Compline for the conferences was celebrated by The Rev. Ralph Wright, OSB of the St. Louis Abbey, assisted by Gene Morris, SJ, of St. Louis University High School.

For details on the conference speakers and photographs, see complete story on pages 8 and 9.

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—and more!

inside voices...

Ah, Lord God! Behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power...and nothing is impenetrable to Thee! ... Great in counsel and mighty in work... for Thine eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men: to give every one according to his ways and according to the fruit of his doings...Jeremiah 32:17, 19

As we prepare the last issue of VOICES this year, the country's attention is riveted on the San Francisco earthquake of October 17, which occurred barely a month after the destructive hurricane in South Carolina.

Even television newscasters, hardly known for expressions of piety, have noted that there is a power which dwarfs man's attempt to control the universe. Although we can launch spacecraft like Atlantis and Galileo which can penetrate the cosmos five light years away, we are, ultimately, powerless against the seismic shifting of our own planet. The Bay Area was supposedly "prepared" for this event, having been warned for years by "prophets" in meteorology departments everywhere. And yet...and yet...

Other prophetic voices have been trying to warn us to stop our own destructive tinkering with human life. Since the Supreme Court upheld the Missouri law restricting abortion on July 3, and agreed to render judgment in other related cases, we have seen an unprecedented media blitz on abortion — and at the same time, an iron curtain of censorship. Information that is incompatible with the bias of the elite group who have the power to control information and form public opinion is rarely allowed to penetrate the media fortress.

Even as we write this, arguments are being advanced by "experts" to persuade the Supreme Court justices to secure our "right" to kill our inconvenient relatives, our unborn children by abortion and our disabled sons, daughters, husbands, wives, mothers and fathers, by starving and dehydrating them to death. (This issue of VOICES contains a story on the Nancy Cruzan case. We will be writing to each of the Justices about this, and urge you to do so too.)

Once this extremely cruel and unusually painful means of exercising the "right to die" on our relative's behalf becomes legal, the next step (only a small step for mankind) is to give ourselves permission to order the killing quickly and painlessly by lethal injection as an act of "mercy" to spare our victim from the agony of death by starvation and thirst.

Now, the "experts" giving the court advice — such as the American Medical Association, and a panel of eleven state governors, including Catholic Mario Cuomo, and Michael Dukakis, and even some Catholic medical ethicists, like The Rev. Kevin O'Rourke — do not appear to be monsters. In fact, governors and physicians and Catholic priests enjoy considerable public trust. And a lot of good people have allowed

themselves to be convinced that this torture, this killing of our unwanted and our inconvenient kinfolk is not only not unspeakably cruel and inhumane but "compassionate!" Others do not speak up or act against such horrors because they do not want to be labeled a fanatic and suppose their voice will not make any difference anyway. Why risk ridicule in a futile effort?

If those we count on to lead us — government officials, experts, priests and bishops, even — cannot or will not lead us, maybe our task is to get behind them and *push*.

It is becoming evident that we of this "land of the free" have just about completed our descent into the same moral abyss the Nazi's occupied half-a-century ago. Then as now it took heroes to stand up for moral principles which should have been taken for granted. To say NO to death merchants and profiteers in human weakness. To say YES to life, even if it puts our own skin in jeopardy.

The long, difficult and narrow path which lies before us to climb out of the pit will take courage. And guts. But the Source of our power to begin the ascent is that same One, "great in counsel and mighty in work," who one day in time mercifully "humbled himself to be born of a Virgin" and to "suffer death, even death on the Cross" to save each one of us from ourselves.

If we fail now, we may be sewing ourselves — our children and our children's children — into a seamless shroud.

As we approach the final weeks of this year, preparing to celebrate the Advent of Our Savior into this world, and as we look toward the beginning of the final decade in the twentieth century, let us prepare our hearts and our homes to receive Christ Jesus, and all those who, like Him, are despised, rejected and acquainted with grief.

Heavenly Father

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

INDIA

The **Center for Research, Education, Service and Training for Family Life (CREST)** is conducting "Family Life, Health & Development" programs for Indian women, to provide basic health items. They are also providing college study, counseling and training programs for these women, on topics such as fertility awareness and Natural Family Planning, hygiene and family life.

Mother Teresa of Calcutta affirmed **CREST's** work in a letter to the people in 1989 "Creating Respect for Life" conference: "You know how important 'respect for life' is to me. No one has the right to destroy or kill or murder — neither the unborn child by abortion — nor the old, the mentally retarded or cancer patients — for each one of them have been created by the same loving hand of God for greater things — to love and to be loved." (**CREST - Dr. Marie Mignon Mascarenhas**/ 14 High Street, Bangalore 560 005, INDIA)

Dr. Sr. Catherine Bernard, director of **SERFAC (Service and Research Foundation of Asia on Family and Culture)** writes that she will be on a work tour of Japan and the Pacific Islands September through November which prevented her from attending the '89 WFF conference in the U.S.

"I would have been happy to attend" she said, "especially to meet good friends and make new ones who stand so loyally and courageously for Faith and Family."

(**SERFAC - PO Box 12, 18-A, Patel Road/ Nehru Nagar, Chromepet/ Madras - 600 044, INDIA**)

BANGLADESH

The **Natural Family Planning Centre** provides counselling for parents, teenagers, college students, etc. "with accent on the dignity of women and their relationship with husband and family," writes **Mrs. Maya D'Rozario**, Administrator. She said, "As you know this is a Muslim country and the Muslim attitude towards women is something that cannot be easily penetrated," but that the Center is working to raise the dignity of women in whatever ways they can.

(**Natural Family Planning Centre - 43, Testuri Bazar, Tejgaon/ Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh.**)

MALAYSIA

CICIAMS (the International Committee of Catholic Nurses and Medical Social Assistants) has formed an international study group on family life. The group's purpose is to promote respect for human life in accordance with Church and family life, and to link its five member regions (Asia, Europe, Latin America, Oceania and Africa) in providing services concerning family life, such as counseling, Natural Family Planning information and marriage preparation courses.

Member organizations in the U.S. and Canada are expected to form after **CICIAMS'** 1990 World Congress. So far, the study group has organized a Natural Family Planning workshop in

Korea and is planning another on the Ivory Coast.

(**Richard Lai Pong Chong**, President, **CICIAMS**, PO Box 352, Jalan Sultan / 46740, Petaling Jaya / MALAYSIA)

NIGERIA

Mother Louis-Marie Ezenkwele, of the Immaculate Heart Generalate in the Archdiocese of Onitsha, writes

"...Our Charism is work for women and children (especially in what concerns the all-round betterment of their condition both socially and healthwise). So we work mainly with teachers and medical workers at all levels...particularly in the villages in rural areas. ...We have also recently undertaken social work and work for the old both at home and in other parts of Africa and beyond."

The Order recently celebrated their golden jubilee and has over a hundred postulants and 50 Novices. "We have tried our best to meet the demands [in Nigeria and elsewhere], but leave some people disappointed because of our inability to supply [all the requests for help]."

Donations can be made by an "international crossed cheque" sent to **Immaculate Heart Generalate**, PO Box 1551, Onitsha, Anambra State, Nigeria, West Africa, c/o Mother Louis-Marie.

ENGLAND

The newly formed **Association of Catholic Women** held their "public launch" October 7 in London. Officers are Josephine Robinson, Valerie Riches, Angela Gracey and Ruth Real. Address inquiries c/o Ruth Real, Sec'y., 22 Surbiton Hill Pk, Surbiton, Surrey KT5 8ET.

NEW ZEALAND

Connie Purdue has collected more than 100 signatures to a letter by WFF to the Cardinal Prefect of the Congregation for Sacraments and Divine Worship concerning altar servers. WFF's letter was published in **30 Days** last spring. Mrs Purdue is the Auckland organizer of a publication **AD 2000**, published in Australia. Contact: **Connie Purdue**, 21 Sylvan Ave., Northcote, Auckland, 9, New Zealand.

ARGENTINA

GRAVIDA Center ("Gracias por la Vida"), is an "assistance center for the life of the newly conceived" linked with the Institute for the Family and Marriage. It provides help to expectant mothers and co-ordinates services available to pregnant women. Information: **Juan Martin Reddel**, Director, Virrey Fellú 1750, (1636) Olivos, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

JAPAN

Several hundred rosaries, Miraculous Medals and holy cards were sent by **Seibo No Mikuni** to WFF for the 1989 Conference on the Feast of the Holy Rosary. The special apostolate of Seibo No Mikuni is to work against permissive abortion. They encourage saying the Rosary for the unborn on the fifth day of each month. Contact: **Sr. Maria Passion**, Seibo No Mikuni, 33-2 Aza Ubasaku Oaza Matuzuka Sukagawa-shi, Fukushima 969-04, Japan.

CANADA

Bette Hamon, an original organizer of **WFF-Canada** who until this year attended each WFF conference, has retired from active duty with WFF and with the pro-life movement in which she had been a driving force for thirty years. Her successor at WFF-Canada is **Cornelia Ferreira**. Contact: **Cornelia Ferreira**, 24 Rowatson Rd. Scarborough, Ontario, CANADA M1R 1K1.

Cruzan case may be euthanasia's *Roe v. Wade*

In Southwest Missouri, Nancy Beth Cruzan lies severely disabled as a result of a 1983 auto accident. Though Nancy requires no machinery to sustain her life, she receives food and fluids through a feeding tube implanted into her stomach.

In 1987, Nancy's parents requested that food and water be denied their daughter, saying that she "wouldn't want to live this way." The state-supported nursing facility where Nancy is cared for refused to grant the family's wishes, and the case has been winding its way through the court system since that time. This fall, it reaches the Supreme Court, the high court's first examination of food and fluids for the severely disabled.

"This could well become the *Roe vs. Wade* of euthanasia," Rita Marker said to conferees at the Women for Faith and Family 1989 conference. Mrs. Marker is co-director of the Human Life Center in Steubenville, Ohio, one of the leading prolife organizations in the country.

According to Mrs. Marker, characterizations of the Cruzan case as a "right to die" case are misleading. While media reports have asserted that the Cruzan family is seeking to remove the feeding tube, which they feel constitutes "extraordinary" care, lower court documents show that it is merely the food, not the tube, that the family wishes to have removed. The feeding tube would remain in place to administer medications that would alleviate the suffering associated with starvation and dehydration. "Clearly, the intent is to cause Nancy Cruzan's death," said Mrs. Marker. "This is not a right-to-die case. It is a right-to-kill case."

Lower court documents also seem to dispute some medical descriptions of Nancy Cruzan as being in a "persistent vegetative state." Her care-givers at the nursing home report that she opens her eyes, sometimes laughs, cries following visits from her family and shows a reaction to menstrual discomfort.

Furthermore, there is no evidence that she is unable to chew and swallow. When the feeding tube was inserted in 1983, Nancy was eating a variety of foods, albeit with help. The tube was inserted, not

because she could not swallow, but to make her easier to care for.

According to Mrs. Marker, Supreme Court approval for the withdrawal of Nancy Cruzan's food and fluids will open wide the door to euthanasia by lethal injection. Proponents of so-called 'mercy killing' can and do argue that starvation causes a horrible, lingering death, while lethal injection is quick and clean and easily accomplishes its deadly mission. "Once it becomes acceptable to order health care providers to stand idly by and watch patients starved and dehydrated to death at the request of family, no matter how well-meaning, we must recognize what follows out of compassion and economic considerations—a lethal injection. Death by starvation takes five to 21 days. An injection takes 10 minutes."

The question before the Supreme Court—whether or not human life has intrinsic worth—is one with important ramifications for all disabled, elderly and otherwise vulnerable citizens. Nancy Beth Cruzan is a severely disabled young woman, and she will probably never be able to attain the hopes her family had for her. Her very disability, however, makes it imperative that the state protect her from those who, however guided by compassion, would seek to deprive her of her right to life.

Justices Addresses

We hope you will write to the Supreme Court Justices registering your concern about the Cruzan case. You may find this list helpful:

The Honorable William H. Rehnquist
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court
1 First Street N.E.
Washington, DC 20543

(Addresses of Associate Justices as above)

The Associate Justices are
The Honorable Harry A. Blackmun
The Honorable William J. Brennan
The Honorable Anthony M. Kennedy
The Honorable Thurgood Marshall
The Honorable Sandra Day O'Connor
The Honorable Antonin Scalia
The Honorable John Paul Stevens
The Honorable Byron R. White

WFF VOICES CONCERN IN CRUZAN CASE

In a letter October 21 addressed to Supreme Court Justices, Women for Faith and Family registered the concern of its 40,000 women associates about the Nancy Cruzan case, the second Missouri case this year to be reviewed by the Court.

Like the landmark "Webster vs. Reproductive Health Services" case, in which the Supreme Court substantially upheld the State of Missouri in restricting abortion, the Cruzan case fundamentally concerns the conflict between the basic right to life guaranteed to all by the Constitution and "privacy" rights of family members to terminate the life of a helpless or disabled person.

The text of our letter to Chief Justice Rehnquist is printed here. The letter was also sent to other justices.

The Honorable William H. Rehnquist
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court
1 First Street N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20543

RE: *Cruzan vs. Harmon*, (No. 86-1503, U.S. Supreme Court)

Dear Justice Rehnquist:

On behalf of the more than 40,000 women associated with Women for Faith and Family, we wish to express our concern about the Nancy Cruzan case which the Court will be considering December 6. We support those *Amici Curiae* who have spoken in defense of the right of the severely disabled Miss Cruzan to expect the continued elementary sustenance of nutrition and hydration which maintain her comfort and her life.

While we, along with most Americans, recognize the distress her family must undergo to witness Miss Cruzan's incapacity, and understand their hopelessness about her eventual recovery, we believe their wish to withdraw food and fluids from their dependent relative in the certain knowledge that such action will kill her represents seriously misplaced compassion. We are convinced that the welfare of all handicapped and disabled Americans will be endangered should the Cruzan family be allowed to so order her death.

Even if it were true, as has been alleged, that Miss Cruzan is "in a persistent vegetative state" (although this is questionable, according to the testimony of her caregivers), to force her to die from starvation and thirst is to subject an innocent and defenseless fellow human to a most cruel and unusual punishment which no one should be permitted willingly to inflict on any living creature.

Suppression of the symptoms of the agony and suffering of such a death by administering sedatives through her feeding tube, or in some other way, will not diminish the horror of this cause of death. Indeed, advocates of euthanasia can and do argue that starvation and dehydration is a horrible way to die. Thus, they suggest, death by lethal injection would "result in a comfortable and dignified demise."

If the Supreme Court justices hold that the family of Miss Cruzan has the right to starve and dehydrate her to death, pressure will inevitably be forthcoming to mandate the deliberate killing by "humane" lethal injection of any disabled or handicapped American whose family wishes; and doctors and health personnel can be forced to kill if they cannot cure. This, of course, would also abrogate the liberty of health-care workers to freely exercise their healing profession.

The crucial questions now facing the Court are, we believe, whether human life has intrinsic worth, even though the capacity for enjoyment of it - its "quality" - may be diminished in our view; whether a citizen's constitutional right to life is nullified by his or her inability to physically or intellectually exercise the responsibilities of citizenship; and whether the state has an obligation to protect and defend this essential right for those unable to protect and defend themselves.

In accepting this case for review, the Court implicitly recognizes that these are fundamental questions of far-reaching import, now and in the future. We are also convinced that the Court's review of this case and other cases now pending relating to abortion can help to clarify and strengthen this nation's commitment to the intrinsic worth of all human life - a principle which transcends individual conscience, all sectarian religious beliefs and lies at the heart of all moral and ethical systems.

Because of the controversy surrounding the apparent conflict of the right to life of Nancy Cruzan and others like her and the right of members of the health care profession to administer ordinary life-sustaining procedures to disabled people, with the rights to liberty and to the 'pursuit of happiness' of her family, we realize that your decision will require unusual courage and objectivity.

May your decision, Justice Rehnquist, proceed from a genuine commitment to the dignity inherent in all human lives entrusted to this nation's care. And may God, in Whom our country trusts, inspire and guide you, now and in the future.

Respectfully yours,
Helen Hull Hitchcock, President
WOMEN FOR FAITH AND FAMILY

WFF TALKS TO FATHER MARX

Human Life International (HLI) was founded in 1972 by Father Paul Marx, OSB. Father Marx is HLI president. Katie Masteller of the WFF staff had this conversation with him.

WFF: *What does Human Life International do?*

Fr. Marx: Human Life International aims to educate for family life across the world. That means to build up family life by promoting natural family planning, marriage preparation and to publish literature for these purposes. Also, HLI fights the enemies of the family which are contraception, sterilization, abortion and, of course, euthanasia.

Sterilization is the fastest growing means of birth control right now. Thirty percent of the couples sterilized have been married ten years and have two children. Through our literature we try to make people aware of what's happening and the consequences of contraception, abortion and sterilization. We point out that the West is dying. Right now only three countries – Poland, Malta and Ireland – are reproducing themselves.

WFF: *Regarding your international work, how many countries are you in?*

Fr. Marx: We have 24 international branches. I have travelled to 77 countries and we ship literature and audio-visual aids to 109 countries. We conduct an annual international symposium in this country about life and the family. We do this in foreign countries as well – for example, Split, Yugoslavia, and Lusaka, Zambia.

WFF: *In which countries are the forces against the family the greatest?*

Fr. Marx: In foreign countries our biggest problem is abortion. Right now the greatest danger is in Brazil and, with that, the whole of Latin America. Brazil is the largest country in Latin America by far, and very influential. I went there for the first time in 1972 to try to get something going. I suppose I planted a few seeds at most, but frankly, given the problem today, I don't think we were able to prevent it. Right now in Brazil, more than 30% of married women are sterilized. It is fantastic.

I am quite convinced that the whole of Latin America will have legal abortion – there's no stopping it – given the money and media against us. Also, at the second World Population Conference held in Mexico City in 1984, a plan was worked out whereby abortion would be made available to the whole of Latin America.

WFF: *What means do you use in Brazil to fight the problem?*

Fr. Marx: We are primarily educators. We have a branch in Rio and we did have an international symposium in Brazil last summer. It's the third one we've had so far. We have shipped much literature in Portuguese into Brazil to organize the pro-life forces there. We offer all kinds of advice as we've fought this battle in other countries and know exactly what the enemy is doing. We tell the pro-life forces who their enemies are. We try to organize the clergy and alert the bishops and the Catholic

schools insofar as possible. Through this kind of total approach in education we make people in these countries aware of what is happening to them.

WFF: *How successful has Human Life International been since it was founded?*

Fr. Marx: We were very much a part of the Irish fight to avoid legalized abortion via a referendum there about four years ago. The issue was whether or not to add an amendment to change the constitution, which amendment made it virtually impossible for the government to pass an abortion law. We put \$250,000 all told into our efforts and saw victory – the amendment was added.

We were directly involved in the Philippines getting the constitution to say that life is to be protected from conception on. We did similar work in Guatemala.

WFF: *What about the U.S.?*

Fr. Marx: In the U.S., HLI sends literature all over. Every year we have an international conference. In 1990 it will be held in Miami, April 18-22 in Miami. We lecture all over the U.S. ... HLI publishes five publications.

WFF: *Many people think that natural family planning is too difficult for people to practice. Have you found that to be the case?*

Fr. Marx: No. The fact is that the less educated are the most successful with it. It is the intellectuals who rationalize "Why is the Pope in our bedroom?" Natural family planning would have to be simple because it is what God gave us.

WFF: *How can people help Human Life International?*

Fr. Marx: You ask a good question. We need nothing more than money. We have so many opportunities that it is mind-boggling.

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WASHINGTON, D. C. 20008-3687

APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

August 1, 1989

To the Women for Faith and Family Conference:

It was a pleasure that I learned of the fifth annual conference of Women for Faith and Family to be held jointly with the Consortium Perfectae Caritatis on October 6 - 18, 1989 in St. Louis. On this occasion I would like to offer my personal best wishes for a fruitful and joyous conference.

Our Holy Father learned with joy of this year's theme, "Catholic Women: Unity in Service." On this occasion, the words of His Holiness remind us of Christ's prayer for unity. While at supper with his disciples, he prayed: "that they may all be one; even as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me" (John 17:21). Our Lord prays unceasingly for the unity of his Church because he loves her with the same love with which he loved the apostles who were with him at the Last Supper. May Our Lord's words resound in a special way as you gather in convention and may they foster an even greater unity among us as you dedicate yourselves to the work of the Church.

As a pledge of his solidarity with you, the Holy Father imparts his Apostolic Blessing.

With every good wish and kind regards, I am,

Sincerely in Christ,

Apostolic Pro-Nuncio

Women for Faith and Family
Fifth Annual Conference
St. Louis, Missouri



Left: Recessional, Saturday Mass at The Old Cathedral. Pictured left to right - Bishop Austin Vaughan (principal celebrant and homilist), Bishop Jeremiah Newman, Bishop John Myers.

Below: Bishop Newman, Sherry Tyree, Dr. James Hitchcock and Mary Ellen Bork chat before Saturday evening banquet.



1989 Joint Conference of Women for Faith and

'Unity and Service'

'Catholic Women: Unity in Service' was the title of the Women for Faith & Family conference. Speakers addressed this topic from both the theoretical and the practical aspects.

Several talks focused on analysis of the current situation in which both society and the Church are deeply divided over fundamental matters, beginning with the meaning of human life itself. That women find themselves in the heart of these conflicts precisely because of their capacity for motherhood and their intimate connection with others who depend on them for care, nurture, instruction and guidance was an underlying theme carried through all the addresses.

Helen Hull Hitchcock began her opening address, "To Them Gave He Power..." by reading letters of encouragement from several bishops, WFF's foreign affiliates, and others, and conveying the Apostolic Blessing sent to the conference by Pope John Paul II [see *inside*.] Her talk stressed the divine origin of all authentic power given to human beings - power which is necessary to the accomplishment of the Church's mission to the world.

Joyce Little's talk, "Words, words everywhere and not a thought to think," contained an incisive critique of the politicization of language by feminist ideologues in order to accomplish their revolutionary social and religious objectives.

Bishop Austin Vaughan, who has received national prominence for his involvement in anti-abortion rescue operations,

riveted the audience in his compelling and moving account of his experiences in this action in defense of unborn human life.

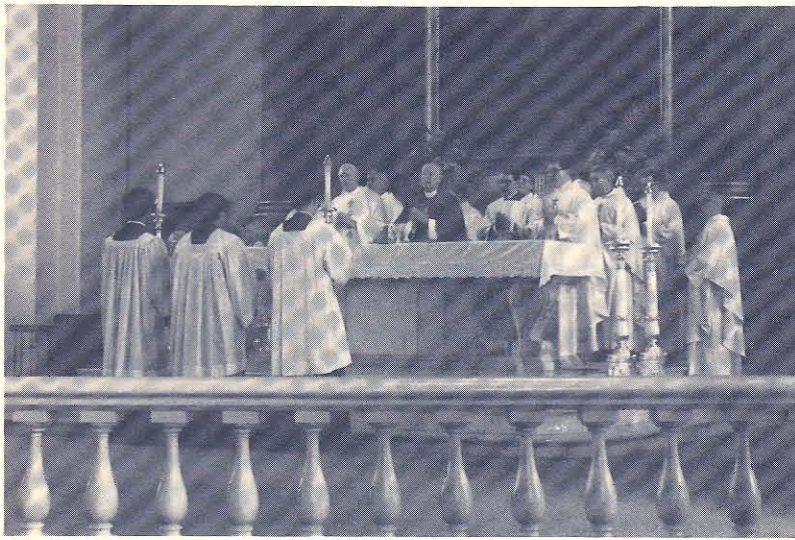
Bishop John Myers spoke forcefully on "Building Unity and Upholding Tradition," emphasizing that attempting to achieving unity apart from the solid foundation of the teaching of the Church is bound to fail.

"The Church: Feminism and Freedom" was the title of Mary Ellen Bork's address. She eloquently made the point that disordered notions of what it means to be a woman, and in particular, a woman in the Church, have led to serious erosion of the Church's mission and to disintegration of religious life as well as of the social order.

Bishop Jeremiah Newman's banquet speech to members of WFF and CPC and their guests, entitled "The Challenge to the Catholic Family," drew on his knowledge as a sociologist as well as his experience as a bishop to deepen his audience's understanding of the plight of Catholic families today, as well as to provide insight in finding answers to these urgent problems.

Sister Joan Gormley, in her address, "Mary and the Role of Women in the Church," expanded on this theme and showed how faithfully modeling our lives on the example of Mary's freely-given obedience to God's will can release women from the trap of self-preoccupation and self-destructive impulses.

Rita Marker, who is also a lay member of the Pontifical Council on the Family, dramatically portrayed the impending threat of government mandated euthanasia brought about in the



Above: Sunday morning Mass at the Old Cathedral. James, Cardinal Hickey, principal celebrant and homilist.

Right (top): Sister greets youngest "WFF-er", Mary Colette Masteller, held by daddy, Quincy.
(bottom): Sr. Mary Elise, SSND, of the *Consortium Perfectae Caritatis*, with WFF's Christine Crowe.



Family and *Consortium Perfectae Caritatis*

death-prone atmosphere of permissive abortion in her talk, "Women as Care Givers, Women as Care Receivers" which focused on the Nancy Cruzan case now being considered by the Supreme Court. [See WFF's letter to the Supreme Court, page 5, and related story, page 4.]

'Unity and Pluralism...'

"Unity and Pluralism in the Church Today" was the theme of the CPC conference. Father James Viall, who is also pastor of St. Rose's Church in Cleveland, welcomed both groups on Friday evening, and read the Apostolic Blessings for each conference given by Pope John Paul II. [See page 7.]

The conferences' opening Mass on Friday at the hotel was con-celebrated, with Archbishop May as principal celebrant and homilist. He reminded the congregation that God is not a "sexual being" and suggested that this should be reflected in language used to refer to Him. He also said that the equal dignity of the sexes created in God's image should lead us to affirm the individual worth of all, so that "we can no longer speak of 'human beings,' but of women and men."

The choir of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George from Alton, Illinois, led the congregation in hymns and Latin service music for Friday evening's Mass.

Saturday's Mass for the Feast of the Holy Rosary began the day at The Old Cathedral. Bishop Vaughan was principal

celebrant and homilist of the concelebrated Mass, and his stirring homily set the tone for the heavily scheduled day of meetings.

In his homily at Mass on Sunday morning, Cardinal Hickey spoke forthrightly on the need for unity within the Church in fundamental matters of faith, and the responsibility of the clergy and bishops to help proclaim the life-giving Truth the Church provides. He offered strong encouragement to the women religious of the CPC and to the Women for Faith & Family movement and told the packed congregation that he would take great pleasure in reporting the events of the weekend in Rome.

The Sunday Mass was concelebrated with Bishops Vaughan, Newman and Myers, Father James Viall, co-ordinator of the CPC, Msgr. John Ronquest, pastor of the Old Cathedral, and nine other priests and clerics who participated in the entire conference. Service music was sung by the congregation in Latin, accompanied by organist, Virginia Curley, while a soloist sang *Panis Angelicus* and *Ave Verum Corpus* during Communion.

All sessions of both the WFF and CPC conferences were audio- and video-taped. A form for ordering audio-tapes is inside this issue. Video-cassettes of individual sessions of WFF speakers are available from the WFF office. For video-tapes of CPC sessions, contact Sr. Mary Elise, *Consortium Perfectae Caritatis*, PO Box 1856, Middleburg, VA 22117 (703-777-8388). [Prices of video-tapes available on request.]

Cardinal Hickey Meets with Sisters

James, Cardinal Hickey, the Vatican-appointed liaison with organizations of women religious, met with the executive boards of two groups, the officially recognized organization of women religious, the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR), and the *Consortium Perfectae Caritatis* (CPC) on Friday, October 6 in St. Louis.

The CPC and LCWR boards had met a day earlier in an attempt to find common ground for discussions aimed at fulfilling a Vatican mandate to heal long-standing divisions between the ultra-“progressive” LCWR and the nuns and sisters belonging to the CPC and to the Forum of Major Superiors of the Institute on Religious Life. The latter two organizations have explicitly maintained fidelity to Church teachings and to the Magisterium in line with the Second Vatican Council.

In a March 29 statement to American bishops, Pope John Paul II re-affirmed the status of the LCWR as the canonical conference for women religious, while urging resolution of the differences among the groups. He called on the LCWR to “find realistic and equitable ways to express the concerns of all women religious” and said that “there is a place for such organizations [as the CPC and Forum] which promote and foster religious life according to the teachings of the Second Vatican Council.” He also asked that bishops help find ways to resolve the divisions.

Speaking of the polarization among women religious, the pope said that religious “must speak to one another about the issues which divide them; they must also rediscover and build on the shared patrimony of the Church’s teaching.”

Earlier, the CPC and the Forum had petitioned for independent canonical recognition of groups such as theirs which were not part of the LCWR.

Among those present at the St. Louis meeting was Sister Nadine Foley, president of the LCWR and prioress of the Adrian Dominican Sisters. In her presidential address to the LCWR August 21, Sister Nadine said that “we women religious are not the only ones who have been cited as proponents of ‘radical feminism’” and charged “some church officials” who use such terms with attempting to “divide, separate and control” women.

“The Church is a patriarchy,” Sister Nadine stated. “To say that is not to espouse a position of ‘radical feminism.’ It is to state a self-evident fact,” she said. Furthermore, according to Sister Nadine, the insights of modern biblical scholarship should lead us to “question some of the...assumptions about the exclusivity of Jesus’ call to only male disciples.”

Commenting on the St. Louis discussion, a CPC representative observed that “it is virtually impossible to ‘dialogue’ when there is fundamental disagreement about nearly every critical issue, beginning with who Jesus is and what the Church is. There are situations when ‘exchanging ideas’ only deepens awareness of the unbridgeable gap which separates us. This is not just a ‘woman thing’ that women can thrash out and settle themselves. We can only hope that Cardinal Hickey and other bishops will realize this, too, and help us.”

What the Feminists Say...

Some quotes from MS magazine

“From slavery to voting rights, the Supreme Court sometimes gets on the wrong side of history. This could be one of those times. There’s a long tradition of civil disobedience to turn to. If Patrick Henry, Frederick Douglass, and Thomas Jefferson had ever been pregnant against their will, they would have been right there rebelling — and so will we.

“For instance: organizing not-so-underground railways from antiabortion states to less restrictive ones; expanding such semilegal, early abortion alternatives as menstrual extraction and RU 486; supporting the many physicians who say they will disregard any antiabortion law; looking to allies among religious groups who still have experience in illegal abortion counseling from the days before 1973; using all the public tactics learned during the Vietnam and civil rights movements; taking this U.S. denial of women’s rights to the United Nations and the World Court. All these would be just a few of our well-justified actions.” “A Basic Human Right,” by Gloria Steinem, *MS*, July/August 1989 (p 41)

“... By some freak of history, some peevish irony, it is our generation — the one that never fought for anything — that is first tasting the bittersweet fruit of liberation, the ‘equality’ somebody else saw fit to grant us.

“... As mothers newly liberated, we are expected to forsake anything so archaic as maternal instinct and schedule our babies, like breakfast meetings, into our already full and complicated lives.

“I think we have been granted an equality not yet livable, and a set of choices mostly irreconcilable. We try to excel in career and motherhood, doing justice to neither. We pare our lives down to the barest of bones, leaving little time, energy, or enthusiasm for anything outside of our jobs and our kids.

“The problem is that most women today aren’t interested in turning back the clock, and neither for the most part are their men. It is estimated that by 1995, 75 percent of mothers of preschoolers will be employed outside the home — and the driving force for most will continue to be financial survival.

“...As one colleague eloquently put it: ‘I was doing a disservice to everyone that mattered to me — my son, my husband, my boss, my friends. Myself. And the worst part was there was nobody or nothing to help make things better.

“... Weaned in an era of social liberation, schooled in the importance of our own identities, we as modern women have little time or enthusiasm for those who urge us to put them on hold in order to take time out from our own achievements, our own egos, for the sake of our children’s.

“...It seems to me that being a woman of my generation really means making choices that few of us can live with. We have the “right” to choose to have a baby — but not to stay at home and watch her grow. We have the “right” to choose a career — but not to take time out to be a mother and know that the career will be waiting for us when we come back. ...” “A Mother’s Dilemma,” by Kim Friedman, *MS*, July/ August 1989, (pp 59,63)

Virginia women head Sex Ed 'Challenge Program'

Do today's teens know the truth about "sexual freedom"? "Everybody's doing it!" "It's a totally natural act!" "Make sure you are responsible in your sexual activity."

These frequently heard messages leave many young people ill-prepared to resist becoming involved in pre-marital sex. Too often teens must pay an unexpectedly high psychological and physical "price tag" for succumbing to these constantly beamed signals. Parents are often unable to have much effect in countering these signals, and seldom receive real help.

The Educational Guidance Institute, Inc. is a non-profit educational organization which specializes in abstinence-based, family-centered sex education programs for young people and their parents.

"The evaluation results from EGI's four-session Challenge Program, which involves parents and teens together, brought about a dramatic increase in the communication between parents and teens concerning sex, dating and social pressures with both groups showing increased confidence in their respective abilities to understand the value of pre-marital sexual abstinence and to deal with negative social pressures," said Margaret Whitehead, Challenge Project coordinator.

The Challenge Program was conducted in communities in Washington, DC, Alexandria Virginia and Prince William County, Virginia, under a partial grant from the Office of Adolescent Pregnancy Programs, U. S. Dept. of Health and Human Services.

Dr. Onalee McGraw, project director of the Challenge Program stated, "We have learned that the bond between parents and their young teens and their willingness to address sexuality issues is increased through a structured program that brings them together in a relaxed, non-threatening atmosphere. This dynamic was consistent among families of diverse cultural and ethnic background," she said.

"We feel that parents today need to have confidence and support to fully and effectively carry out their role as parents in dealing with [sexuality] issues," said Dr. McGraw.

Margaret Whitehead and Onalee McGraw are signers of the Affirmation for Catholic Women.

For further information about the Challenge Program, contact Educational Guidance Institute, Inc., 927 S. Walter Reed Drive, Suite 4, Arlington, VA 22204 (Ph. 703 486-8313)

NEW ABORTION VICTIM

Police brutality to mother kills baby

Debbie Grumbine, mother of eight children, veteran pro-life activist from southern California and an early signer of the *Affirmation for Catholic Women*, was so brutally assaulted by police during a rescue operation last June that her unborn baby was killed. Although Mrs. Grumbine did not know she was pregnant at the time of the incident, she later miscarried, and her physician confirmed that the death of the baby was undoubtedly a direct result of injuries its mother suffered because of the extreme "pain compliance" tactics police used against her.

The wave of persecution against anti-abortion demonstrators by police in recent months has caused physical suffering and injury to many. Most of us have read reports of the outrageous assaults against pro-lifers in Hartford, Pittsburgh and Los Angeles this summer in the Catholic press. These occasions of police brutality and torture are rarely to be found in the major secular newspapers — the same newspapers, we might add, which have been giving unprecedented "coverage" to the abortion issue since the Supreme Court rendered its decision in the Webster case July 3.

Suppression of these appalling stories is further evidence of the malicious shroud of censorship we have come to expect from the media in the matter of abortion.

In a letter to Women for Faith & Family dated September 29, Michael and Debbie Grumbine ask for prayers for "those

who persecute us."

"They are in great need of illuminating grace...Please beg for Our Lord's mercy upon them. Indeed, in these dark days of history, let us implore His grace upon us all."

We know that God, our Father and Creator, loves justice as well as mercy. May we hope that all bishops charged with the responsibility for leading the Church in this country will provide unified guidance and encouragement to the people of the Church as we face persecution for our Catholic faith and for the defense of life.

Retreat for Women

A Eucharistic Retreat for women will be held **December 8-10** at Seton Center, Marillac Provincial House in St. Louis. **The Rev. Brian Mullady, OP**, professor of theology at Holy Apostles Seminary in Cromwell, Connecticut, will conduct the retreat which begins at 4 p.m. December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

Father Mullady has taught at the St. Ignatius Institute in San Francisco and at the Angelicum in Rome. He is a specialist in Thomistic studies, has appeared on Mother Angelica's television program and has given many retreats.

Cost for the entire weekend (room and meals) is \$85. If you wish to commute and attend all sessions plus meals, the cost is \$35. Or you may attend all sessions (no meals) for \$10.

For information call (314)892-7751, or write **Eucharistic Retreat, 21 Cliff, St. Louis, MO 63125. Reservation deadline is November 17.**

WFF Recommends...

New Books...

Inside My Father's House, by Msgr. George A. Kelly, is the candid and fascinating memoir of one of the most dynamic veterans of the "battle for the Church" – and one of its greatest communicators. Msgr. Kelly's wise, witty and often poignant observations and analysis of the seismic changes in the Catholic Church in America which have occurred during his 47 years as a priest of the Archdiocese of New York spotlights the urgent necessity to *defend* the Word in order to *spread* it. (Msgr. Kelly received the "Faith and Family Award" in 1988 in recognition of his valiant service to both.)

Doubleday, 666 Fifth Ave., New York NY 10103, \$19.95 (hardcover).

By Love Refined by Alice Von Hildebrand is a book of "letters to a young bride" which gives wise advice and encouragement and emphasizes the beauty and the responsibility of marriage

Sophia Institute Press, Box 5284, Manchester, NH 03108, \$14.95 (hardcover). Order toll free 1-800-888-9844.

The Lay Members of Christ's Faithful People (*Christifidelis Laici*) is the Apostolic Letter of Pope John Paul II following the Synod on the Laity on the vocation and the mission of the lay faithful in the Church and in the world. Well organized and very readable (Vatican translation), this is a *must* for all who hope to increase understanding of the mission of lay people to evangelize the world in unity with the Church.

Daughters of St. Paul, 50 St. Paul's Avenue, Boston MA 02130.

The Church and Women, edited by Helmut Moll, is a collection of scholarly articles addressed to the current "feminist" crisis from an authentically Catholic perspective. Most contributors are German theologians, including Joseph Ratzinger, Hans Urs von Balthasar, Manfred Hauke, Barbara Albrecht and Jutta Burggraf. Issues examined include the meaning of ordination to the diaconate and the priesthood, the Church's teaching on Mary and the mission of the

Church.

We recommend this book for priests and seminarians as well as for all who speak and write on these issues.

Ignatius Press, 2515 McAllister St., San Francisco, CA 94118.

Breastfeeding and Natural Child Spacing, by Sheila Kippley, is a practical guide to "ecological" mothering filled with useful advice and observations on everything from pacifiers to pollution. New revision of the 1969 original.

The Couple to Couple League International, Inc., PO Box 111184, Cincinnati, OH 45211

The Pope, the Press, the Profs and the People, a pamphlet by veteran journalist, Dick Goldkamp, with an introduction by Father Paul Marx, succinctly comments on the increasing polarization within Catholic universities between the Life of the Mind and the Life of the Spirit caused by dissenters protected by "academic freedom." Appends a useful bibliography.

Human Life International, 7845 - E Airpark Rd., Gaithersburg, MD 20879

Periodicals...

30 DAYS (American edition), an international Catholic news journal, is a relative newcomer to Catholic publishing in the United States which provides in-depth coverage of current Church events and issues on the national and international scene, as well as incisive commentary. Editor of the American edition is the Rev. Joseph Fessio, SJ.

To subscribe, write 30 Days, 2515 McAllister St., San Francisco, CA 94118. Annual rate, \$30.00 (U.S.)

CRISIS is an intellectual journal of lay Catholic opinion on contemporary social and religious issues. Past contributors include Mary Ellen Bork, Donna R. Fitzpatrick, Anne Husted Burleigh, Helen Hull Hitchcock, Joyce Little and many others.

Annual subscription \$19.95 from Bronson Institute, Inc., Notre Dame, IN 46556, or call 1-800-CRISISS.

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Andree Emery - 1900-1989

Dr. Andree Emery, psychiatrist, writer, translator, organizer and member of the secular institute, Society of Our Lady of the Way, died in Los Angeles on September 22 after a brief illness.

Dr. Emery, who was born in Hungary and had lived in the United States since the 1930's, had worked in Los Angeles since 1959 as a psychotherapist and advisor to priests and religious, and to promote the life of dedication to God for people living in the world. She helped to establish communities of the Society of Our Lady of the Way in the U.S., Japan, India and other countries, and was instrumental in establishing a secular institute for priests and laymen. In addition, she taught at St. John's Seminary where she also counseled priests and seminarians. She also advised congregations of women religious.

Dr. Emery's translations of the works of Swiss theolo-

gian, the late Cardinal Hans Urs von Balthasar, made a significant contribution to contemporary Catholic thought. She was a founding member of the editorial board of the American edition of the international theological journal, *Communio*. Dr. Emery continued writing and translating until recently, when her failing health made further work impossible.

Like her contemporaries, Edith Stein, Adrienne von Speyr, Dorothy Day and Simone de Beauvoir, Andree Emery grew to maturity in the intellectual, social and religious ferment of pre-war Europe. For many decades she devoted her outstanding intellectual gifts and her profound commitment to the Catholic faith to strengthening the Church and deepening the faith of others.

We have reason to be grateful for the life and witness of this valiant woman. "Let her works praise her in the gates."

A NOTE ABOUT THIS ISSUE -

This special issue of VOICES is double the usual length because there were so many things we want to communicate to you. You will also notice that the typeface is changed for most of the issue. But the only way we know if VOICES is *useful* to you is if you let us know. We need to know how we can serve you best, and we *do need your continued financial support*. So won't you please just take a minute to complete the form below? An envelope for your response is enclosed.

Dear WFF Staff,

Please keep me on your mailing list. I want to support the efforts of Women for Faith & Family by prayer and

☐ Enclosing my tax deductible gift of \$100. ____ \$50. ____ \$25. ____ Other \$ ____

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☐ I would like ____ copies of "The Pope's Prayer." Enclosed is my donation of .45 each; \$2. for 10 copies

☐ I have questions, suggestions or comments (enclosed.)

☐ Please send **VOICES** to (list names on separate sheet.) I am enclosing \$1.00 per name to cover costs.

Note: please make check payable to **Women for Faith & Family**. All donations are tax deductible.

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Archbishop Bevilacqua writes...

The following message to WFF from The Most Rev. Anthony J. Bevilacqua, Archbishop of Philadelphia, was read at the recent conference:

"It is my delight and privilege to send my warmest and prayerful greetings to you and to all the participants in the annual meeting of Women for Faith and Family which is being held jointly with Consortium.

"As you continue to grow not only in numbers but more importantly in your love for Jesus and the Church and in your loyalty to the Church's teaching, know that you have my blessing, my admiration and

my pledge of continued support. As I witness the great strides you are making in defense of the Church, the dignity of women and the value of the family, I see you as representative of countless thousands of women who, like Mary, are willing to let Christ come and dwell in them so that in and through the Church they might bring Him to others.

"It is my fervent prayer that God will continue to bless all of you with His gifts of courage in the face of adversity, hope in time of frustration and zeal in the moment of challenge. May Mary, the Mother of the Church, guide, comfort and watch over you and your families as you draw closer to her Son and His bride, the Church."

'89 Women for Faith & Family Conference AUDIOTAPE ORDER FORM

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- WFF001 ___ VIALI, The Rev. James - Opening Remarks
WFF002 ___ HITCHCOCK, Helen Hull - "To Them Gave He Power..."
WFF003 ___ LITTLE, Dr. Joyce - "Words, Words Everywhere and Not a Thought to Think"
WFF004 ___ VAUGHN, The Most Rev. Austin - "Why Rescue?"
WFF005 ___ MYERS, The Most Rev. John - "Building Unity and Upholding Tradition"
WFF006 ___ BORK, Mary Ellen - "The Church: Feminism and Freedom"
WFF007 ___ NEWMAN, The Most Rev. Jeremiah - "The Challenge to the Catholic Family"

1) Opening Mass -homilist, *Archbishop John L. May*

2) Mass for Feast of Holy Rosary, *Bishop Austin Vaughn* - homilist

- WFF008 ___ GORMLEY, Sr. Joan SSM - "Mary and the Role of Women in the Church"
WFF009 ___ MARKER, Rita - "Euthanasia: Women as Care Givers, Women as Care Receivers"
WFF010 ___ MASSES (Combined tape).
WFF011 ___ HICKEY, His Eminence, James, Cardinal - homilist Sunday Mass at Basilica of St. Louis

_____ Total number of tapes @ \$3.50 (incl. \$2.00 postage & mailing for first 5 tapes and .25 for each additional tape. Orders will be shipped UPS))

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Note: Save 15% on order of entire set of Conference tapes. Set of 11 - \$32.95 (+ 3.50 post & handling)

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—cont. from p. 12

THE FAMILY focuses on family problems, joys and devotions. It is published by the Daughters of St. Paul.

Daughters of St. Paul, 50 St. Paul's Ave., Jamaica Plain Station, Boston, MA 02130. Annual subscription \$10.

VERITAS MAGAZINE for youth includes a unique mixture of traditional Catholic value and pop conversational style. It examines subjects such as the lives of saints, teenage pregnancies, drugs, and how to be a witness to one's Catholic faith, and features interviews with singers, athletes and Catholic teenagers and young adults.

Annual subscription (six issues) \$14.50. Veritas Communications, P.O. Box 8033, Syracuse, NY 13217.

NEW COVENANT is a monthly which seeks to foster renewal in the Catholic Church, especially in the charismatic, ecumenical, evangelistic and community dimensions. Its articles deal with such topics as growth in holiness and the application of Catholic teachings to life situations.

New Covenant, P.O. Box 7009, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107. Annual subscription \$14.95

THE WORD AMONG US is a devotional monthly which meditatively explains each day's Scripture readings. It includes special sections for feast days and holy days.

The Word Among Us, Box 6003, Gaithersburg, MD 20877. Rates are \$15 per year.

Education...

THE CATHOLIC HOME STUDY INSTITUTE is an accredited Catholic adult correspondence course that may be studied individually for credit or with a group through the parish plan.

Contact The Catholic Home Study Institute, 9 Loudoun Street, SE, Leesburg, VA 22075-3012. Specify whether you are interested in the parish or individual program.

SEX AND SELF-RESPECT is a three-tape video curriculum promoting the value of sexual abstinence to 12-15 year olds, produced by Dr. Paul C. Vitz, well-

known Catholic psychologist and author. It consists of two classroom tapes and a parent-teacher tape, and is in use in many public and private schools. This fall it will be featured on "Focus on the Family."

For information contact Character Curriculums, Inc. c/o Dr. Paul C. Vitz, 110 Bleecker St. (23A), New York, NY 10012 (Ph. 1-800-544-0760).

"COME AND SEE" is a 'Vocation Awareness Video' produced by the Daughters of St. Paul which gives basic information on the meaning of 'vocation' and the life, spirituality and mission of the Daughters. Free rental to families, schools or religious education programs.

Information: Sr. Christine Virginia, 50 St. Paul's Ave., Boston, MA 01230 Ph. 617-522-8911.

Alma Redemptoris

(To be said at the conclusion of the Rosary from the beginning of Advent to the Feast of the Purification, February 2.)

GRACIOUS MOTHER

of our Redeemer, forever abiding.
Heaven's gateway, and star of ocean,
O succour the people,
Who, though failing,
strive to rise again.

THOU MAIDEN

who barest thy holy Creator
to the wonder of all nature;
Ever Virgin, after, as before thou
receivest that Ave
From the mouth of Gabriel;
Have compassion on us sinners.

(In Advent.)

V. The Angel of the Lord declared
unto Mary.

R. And she conceived of the Holy Ghost.

(Pour forth, we beseech thee...)



VOICES

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

At the close of his Apostolic Letter to "The Lay Members of Christ's Faithful People" [Christifidelis Laici], Pope John Paul II offers the following prayer invoking the Blessed Virgin Mary. It seems appropriate to include it here, edited for reasons of space, particularly as we are about to celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, the patronal feast of the United States, on December 8, as well as the Advent and Nativity of Our Lord.

The Pope's Prayer

O MOST BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,
Mother of Christ and Mother of the Church,
With joy and wonder we seek to make our own your
Magnificat, joining you in your hymn of thankfulness
and love.

With you we give thanks to God "whose mercy
is from generation to generation,"
for the exalted vocation
and the many forms of mission
entrusted to the lay faithful.

...

He has sent them forth to shine with the light of Christ
and to communicate the fire of the Spirit
in every part of society
through their life inspired by the Gospel.

O VIRGIN OF THE *MAGNIFICAT*,
fill their hearts
with a gratitude and enthusiasm
for this vocation and mission.
With humility and magnanimity
you were the "handmaid of the Lord;"
give us your unreserved willingness
for service to God
and the salvation of the world.

...

Your mother's heart
is ever mindful of the many dangers
and evils which threaten
to overpower men and women
in our time.

At the same time your heart also takes notice
of the many initiatives
undertaken for good,

the great yearning for values,
and the progress achieved
in bringing forth
the abundant fruits of salvation.

O VIRGIN FULL OF COURAGE,
may your spiritual strength
and trust in God inspire us,
so that we might know
how to overcome all the obstacles
that we encounter
in accomplishing our mission.
Teach us to treat the affairs
of the world
with a real sense of Christian responsibility
and a joyful hope
of the coming of God's Kingdom, and
of a "new heaven and a new earth."

...

O VIRGIN MOTHER,
guide and sustain us
so that we might always live
as true sons and daughters
of the Church of your son.
Enable us to do our part
in helping to establish on earth
the civilization of truth and love,
as God wills it,
for his glory. AMEN

*Given at Rome, in St. Peter's, on December 30, the Feast of the
Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in the year 1988, the
eleventh of my Pontificate.*

—Joannes Paulus PPII

Copies of the complete prayer nicely printed on parchment available from WFF office. Request donation of .45, single copy; ten copies \$2.00. Postpaid. Copies of the *Novena for the Unborn* (VOICES, Vol 4, No. 2) also available.