

POPE SAYS SELFISH ECONOMIC MODELS AT ROOT OF WORLD HUNGER

Catholic News Service
VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Benedict XVI said persistent world hunger was a "tragedy" driven by selfish and profit-driven economic models, whose first victims are millions of children deprived of life or good health.

In responding to the crisis, international agencies should rediscover the value of the family farm, promoting the

Fr Linus Wall gravely ill

Your prayers are asked for Fr Linus all who is in Scarborough General Hospital in Canada and who is reported gravely ill. According to reports doctors attending him have now stopped all procedures as it was decided this was the best thing to do.

Some may remember that in 2009 Fr. Wall celebrated his 90th birthday and his 60th anniversary as a Scarboro priest.

Out of his 52 years in Guyana he spent 42 of them as Parish Priest of Our Lady of Fatima Church, in Bourda.

He left Guyana in 2008.

movement of young people back into rural areas, the pope said July 1 in an address to participants in an annual conference on hunger organized by the Rome-based U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization.

Meeting with the group at the Vatican, the pope strongly emphasized the theme of economic justice that has figured prominently in his encyclicals and other writings. He noted that millions of men,

women and children remain without adequate nourishment today.

"My thoughts turn toward the situation of millions of children, who are the first victims of this tragedy, condemned to an early death or to a delay in their

Pease turn to back page 9

ORPHANAGE MARKS 160th BIRTHDAY WITH A DIFFERENCE

From Sister Mary Peter Ngui



July 02, 2011 marked the 160th birthday of St. Ann's Orphanage for it was on July 02, 1851 that the Bishop brought two homeless girls to the Ursuline Convent and asked the Sisters to take care of them.

The Home has survived all these years simply because people of all walks of life, religion, age, race and social position bring gifts of food, clothing and other supplies to share with the girls. Many times persons come on their birthday or anniversary to bring us gifts.

So, instead of looking for treats and gifts on our birthday, we

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'Dynamic' Nigerian speaker for Charismatic Mission

He was recently described as one "who delivered dynamic spirit-filled messages that inspired the hearts of those who came to have their spirits renewed and restored by the power that comes from the Word of God" Fr. Anthony Ozele, a Nigerian Roman Catholic priest who currently resides in the parish of Brooklyn, New York will be the guest speaker at the three night Catholic Caribbean Mission to be held at Brickdam Cathedral, Georgetown from Tuesday 12 to Thursday 14 July. "Fr. Anthony Ozele, known for his dynamic ministry and powerful witness, has seen people healed just by hearing

the word" wrote another who has followed his career.

Earlier this year he wrote the book Victorious Living in a Dangerous World. Rev. Ozele who holds doctorate degree in Religious Education from Fordham University, is also a professor of Religion at Saint Francis College, in Brooklyn, New York.

He is also the author of "Why Catholics Honor Mary," "Christian Maturity (Dynamics of Growing in the Faith)". An accomplished preacher and teacher, he has worked extensively with Pastoral Ministers, Directors of Religious Education, and the Charismatic Renewal in the United States, the Caribbean and Africa. Another of his books, "Secrets of Effective Prayer" has been described as wonderful catechetical resource.

The mission at Brickdam begins at 6.00 pm each day.

15th WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME BISHOP'S ENGAGEMENTS

Sun 10th July: 07:00 hrs Mass at Cathedral

17:00 hrs Mass at Cathedral

Mon 11th July: 17:00 hrs Planning meeting for Bishops' meeting 2012

Tue: 12th July: 10:30 hrs meet visiting priest and team of Charismatic Renewal

17:00 hrs Justice and Peace Commission meeting

Wed 13th July: 07:30 hrs meet Superior of Missionary Society of Philippines

Thurs 14th July: 17:00 hrs Marian Board meeting

Sat 16th July: 13:00 hrs Ministers Course at RED

16:00 hrs Reception with RCIA

Sun 17th July: 08:30 hrs Mass at Fatima

+ Francis Alleyne, OSB

GAYS, LESBIANS IN THE CHURCH?

The bishops of Canada have issued a letter on the pastoral needs of those adolescents and young adults who question their sexual identity or experience feelings of attraction to persons of the same sex. This thoughtful pastoral communication deserves study by all Catholics and not only by Canadians.

The bishops start by insisting that every human person is created in the image and likeness of God and possesses an intrinsic dignity which must always be respected. Persons with homosexual inclinations must be accepted with respect, compassion and sensitivity.

This leads the bishops to exhort all those exercising a ministry in the Church or working in the pastoral care of young people to be especially careful not to perpetuate injustice, hatred or malice in speech or action (unfortunately still too common among us, the Bishops say) against persons with homosexual inclinations.

While insisting on respect and compassion for young people with same-sex attraction, the bishops

also reaffirm, in the name of the Church, God's plan for human sexuality. Our sexuality is a gift which God saw as "very good" when he created human persons. Through their sexual differences men and women compliment each other and these differences reveal the call of every human being to become a gift for another person.

Sexual relations belong within the marriage covenant between a man and a woman, for it is only within

CATHOLIC STANDARD

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this covenant that the purposes of marriage can be achieved - the deepening of love between spouses and the pro-creation and education of children. Any genital act outside the covenant of marriage cannot fulfil this twofold purpose intended by the Creator and thus is morally wrong.

In its teaching, the Church never condemns persons with same-sex attraction. The Church carefully

distinguishes between an individual's inclinations or feelings and one's actions. While homosexual acts are always objectively wrong, same-sex inclinations are not sinful or a moral failing.

The bishops remind us of the call to chastity - a way of loving for single and married persons, entailing far more than avoidance of sin. Like love, chastity can grow indefinitely. A person with homosexual inclinations is not called to a "loveless" life, but to live in the love and grace of Christ Jesus, entailing both self-giving and self-sacrifice, the marks of true love for God and one's brothers and sisters.

In their letter, the bishops offer guidelines for all Catholics, but specifically for fellow bishops, priests, pastoral workers, parents and educators who wish to help adolescents and young adults who experience same-sex attraction in their journey toward human maturity.

In the final paragraph of the letter, the bishops express their concern for these young people, offering encouragement and advice.

The letter can be found at www.cccbpublications.ca.

THE "IMPLEMENTING DEFICIT"

Formalising Plans and Programmes are necessary in any entity. In discussions, the merits and demerits will surface. The plan agreed upon will have specific objectives considered relevant to the existence, viability and image of the Organisation and in some cases implementing such plans and programs will impact on the lives of citizens.

Considerable time, thought and energy are expended in programme planning with its good expectations. However, the goals may remain a distant dream as a consequence of no follow up action being taken. Considerable emphasis would have been placed on the process and documentation, rather than the end results. That scenario was highlighted recently by Dr. Rudy Insanally, former Guyana's Foreign Affairs Minister and Mr Freundel Stuart, Prime Minister of Barbados. In both cases they were focusing on meetings of Caricom Heads.

Dr. Insanally remarked that at the recently concluded Caricom conference, new decisions would have been taken even as older decisions remained unimplemented. He described the situation as the "IMPLEMENTING DEFICIT" and he remarked that it has contributed to "diminishing confidence" by people of the Region. The need and challenge are to set up an Administrative body with specific responsibility to monitor implementing decisions.

Also looking at Caricom and the recent meetings held, Prime Minister Stuart of Barbados made several comments differentiating between discussions, plans and programmes and that of implementing decisions. He observed "*there must be a whole re-ordering of the way the Caricom machinery does business. When we get past the pomp and pageantry of summitry we must dispense with unwieldy Agenda, eschew the copious reports and lengthy presentations and get back to the simplicity of serious intellectual discourse.*" He contended that meetings should revolve around the matters that are ripe for decisions. Decisions must be clear and concise and in unambiguous language we are fast learning, that how we record and enforce what we decide bears legal

consequences".....

The Libraries and Record rooms in many organisations, both public and private are full of special studies, special reports, strategic plans, short and long term programmes and the like. There is always the inclination to have consultants or specialists advise on administrative and operational issues. Yet, there are low levels of implementing those recommendations, as the problems or issues continue.

An analogy can be drawn to lack of enforcement of Rules, Regulations and Laws designed to bring Order and Discipline. In many areas we see lack of enforcement, thus nullifying the goals which were set.

• LAWS OF THE LAND

The Laws of the Land are intended to bring discipline and orderliness to people. Laws exist here in Guyana to regulate most areas of human activity, yet because of lack of enforcement the problems continue.

• BUILDING CODE

Persons desirous of constructing buildings need to submit a Plan which stipulates dimensions etc. Those laws protect the citizens and will bring about orderliness. But what do we find? Flagrant disregard for such laws, with contraventions being common. What of implementing the regulations?

• THE ENVIRONMENT

At a time when a lot of attention nationally and internationally is being placed on the environment, some basic laws to protect the citizen and the environment are ignored. Those who enacted the laws had good intentions but because of the "implementing deficit" there are man made environmental problems. The same applies to zoning, noise nuisance, littering etc.

It is my view that more emphasis should be placed on results. Rather than, continue to appoint persons to examine and make recommendations on important issues which were previously addressed. It may be practical and more beneficial to re-examine existing reports and recommendations and if satisfied move to implement.

The "Implementing Deficit" will continue if plans and recommendations remain merely plans and recommendations.

Viewpoint By Vibert Parvatan

Sunday



Scripture

15th Sunday in Ordinary time

Year A

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55: 10-11

The rain makes the earth give growth.

Thus says the Lord: "Yes, as the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do."

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 64

Some seed fell into rich soil, and produced its crop.

1. You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain.
2. And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth.
3. You crown the year with your goodness. Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows.
4. The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat. They shout for joy, yes, they sing.

SECOND READING: Romans 8: 18-23

The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons.

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us,

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

The Power of the Word

In one of the New Testament's most important passages on Christian generosity, Paul alludes to Isaiah 55:10. In 2 Corinthians 9:6-15 the apostle links Christian generosity to God's providence in nature. The same God who brings about the natural harvest also promises to increase a spiritual harvest through Christian generosity. There is a chain reaction at work here: God enriches us so we can give materially and reap a spiritual harvest that will in turn glorify him. Isaiah 55:11 may be the quintessential Biblical text that speaks of the power of God's Word. This power – and this Word – require stewarding.

In the case of giving, our stewardship requires more than just our willingness to let go of whatever we hold in our fists. Just as our active stewardship of spreading God's Word necessitates an attitude and approach of reverent care, so giving entails more than simply making certain the monetary flow continues unabated.

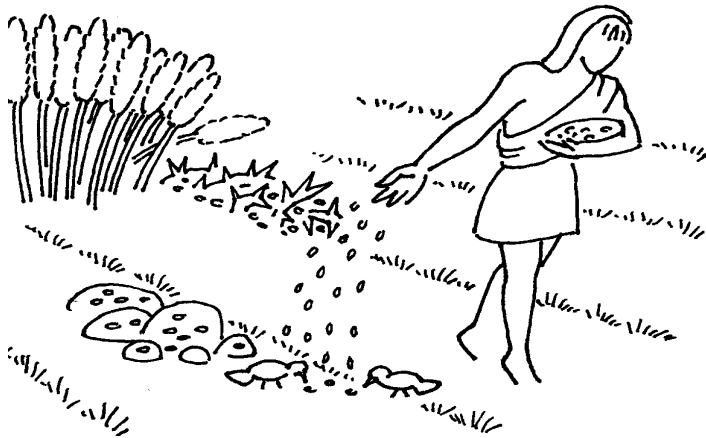
The apostle Paul addresses the relationship between our generosity and the ensuing promotion of God's Word with the following reflections: "You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people

from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 13: 1-23

A sower went out to sow.



Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, "Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!"

The Gospel of the Lord.

but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God" (2Co 9:11-12).

It behooves us, then, to remember two important principles as we steward our giving: (1) intentionality in directing our gifts and (2) awareness that our generosity constitutes an unspoken endorsement of God's Word. Christian givers, whether or not we are aware of it, are functioning as evangelists. What a glorious – and daunting – commission! Thankfully, Paul reminds us of the "surpassing grace God has given [us]. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!"

Questions for reflection:

Does the lure of riches and material goods choke God out of your life? Are you so caught up in worldly activities and anxieties that you have no time for God? These are questions that we all must ask of ourselves if we are going to live as God's stewards.

Prayer:

We pray that the seeds God sows in our lives may take root and lead to greater prayer, participation and generosity.

With thanks and prayers for you.

God's Billboard
Make someone smile today GOD

Letters to the Editor

Repentance and Forgiveness at Large

Dear Editor,

I described in the Stabroek News of July 4, 2011 that I knew three people who helped rig elections. I did not give much spiritual insight, but the little I did give was edited out.

One of the accomplices admitted to me, unprompted, in the face of the charity she was shown in her old age, what she used to do. I count that as repentance before she died. But it is the ultimate Judge of the living and the dead who will have to assess whether that is valid for all those who she helped to cheat.

We Catholics believe if she had properly confessed to a priest it could have been forgiven absolutely. As it is she will have to depend on my level of righteousness before God and as many of you who are generous enough to excuse it when Judgement comes.

That is why Jesus taught us to pray to our Father in Heaven to forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us – so that we who are covered by His blood sacrifice can cancel each other's sins and enter our purification in the age to come as free of encumbrances as possible.

Of course I am well aware that the arithmetic of forgiveness I am suggesting has no currency in the eyes of the world and even of Churches where the 4 last things (Death, Judgement, Hell and Heaven) are no longer taught. I have written it in the hope that at least some who have committed large scale sins will repent while they are still alive.

One committed the deed at the age of 13 and suicide at the age of 18. I only saw when she helped cheat at the 1978 Referendum, not whether she repented; but suicide is incompatible with repentance. I chose at the time to avoid adding to the obvious pressures she would have had. Had I the awareness then that I have now of the spiritual consequences, I might have braved the worldly consequences and counseled her for eternity. Remember her in your prayers.

It is tempting to argue that she was not accountable for her sin. But present practice in the Catholic Church is the contrary: it is seen fit to encourage Confirmation of something as important as our Faith precisely within that age group, without sufficient education and practice in living as a child of God within the Body of Christ. The political leaders who caused this tragedy will be brought to account for it in the age to come, unless they repent now and ask forgiveness from the people they wronged. Meanwhile our church leaders are secure in the hubris of their stewardship of applying the Word of God to the maintenance of the Church. Kyrie, eleison.

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A CREDO for elections

Dear Editor,

As general elections loom on the horizon, the electorate must be made aware and disciplined in their choice at the polls. No well meaning individuals will question these basic facts of reality as presented hereafter.

(1) The implementation of an appropriate programme is the only way forward – the tenets of which will be referred to as the CREDO in any future reference. Shared Governance different personalities are all products of confused thinking and must be relegated to where they belong – the waste disposal. Former freedom fighters had been known to change their coats and become despots who rig elections to remain in power.

(2) No individual, group or for that matter any party can be judged on their past since everything, is undergoing change, either improving or degenerating. What really matters is the status quo what is presently, not what was in the past.

(3) And so a clear cut vow of adherence to a credo that embodies appropriate rules and safeguards is mandatory. This is a sine qua non and any refusal to accept the credo as is must be seen as being unworthy for any consideration. It therefore behoves us all, individuals and all interested groups and parties to help in the institution and implementation of the credo for the benefit for all. This credo embodies the sum total of all that is necessary for the future development of Guyana – intellectual, economic political and spiritual.

To recapitulate let me again repeat if any individual or group refuses to support an appropriate set of rules as seen in the credo they must be considered unworthy and ignored.

JOHN FREDERICKS M.D.

Happy memories of New Amsterdam

Dear Editor,

Many thanks to Leon Suseran for those beautiful pictures of the Church of the Ascension, New Amsterdam, and his well-documented write-up on its history and architecture. It brought back many happy memories of my own few visits to New Amsterdam while I was at Port Mourant. Mr. Neil Mendonsa, Manager of Frandec Travels, who passed away two years ago and used to visit the Fathers at Port Mourant.

Very often he brought lavish gifts, since he was baptized at St. Francis Xavier Church and recovered miraculously from a fatal illness as an infant when placed at the altar in the Church. He told me that it was his father who had donated the awesome stained -glass window of the Ascension of the Lord to the New Amsterdam Church. It is good that he mentioned Mr. M de Mendonsa in the article. That must be Neil's father. Hope everyone is keeping well. With best wishes.
Fr. Joe M Dias, S.J.

Racial, scare tactics being used: W.P.A

Dear Editor,

The Working People's Alliance (WPA) notes the attacks on Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine by the People's Progressive Party (PPP) and some of its supporters, mounted on the state media, since the announcement of the formation of A Partnership for National Unity (APNU). While it is normal for opposing political parties to engage in political criticism of each other, these attacks on Dr. Roopnaraine stretch the limits of civil political debate and discourse. Apart from their bad taste, they represent the ultimate in racial scare tactics. The use of Walter Rodney's memory to disparage the WPA and Dr. Roopnaraine, in particular, is at best cynical. It is also hypocritical, coming from a party which repeatedly described Dr. Rodney in unflattering terms while he was alive and even after his assassination. It is the same PPP, the major beneficiary of Rodney's struggles and sacrifice, which,

The Sacredness of Human Sexuality

In a recent discussion with a small group of adults, (some of them assist in guiding the youths in their parishes,) the topic of sex education came up. Every one of them admitted that they avoid bringing up the topic of sex in their groups because they find it too embarrassing a topic.

Twenty years ago the heart of our message to our youth groups was "Don't have sex." Not a bad message, of course. It's still a big part of what we say today. But we've realized that there's a deeper issue here, one that society is really missing. That is the concept of the "sacredness" of human sexuality.

Before the Sexual Revolution, sex

just wasn't

discussed in polite society. Often this

was taken to extremes, particularly when parents didn't talk to their kids about sexuality. But then came the hippies. They didn't like rules, particularly rules they didn't understand. And since nobody was too sure why sex wasn't discussed in polite society, they decided to discard that "rule."

Ever since then, the world has been imbued with the notion that we're supposed to talk about sex. But, after all of this time, we're still not quite so comfortable talking about sex, are we? Here's the thing: the hippies interpreted their parents' silence on sexual matters as an indication that there was something "wrong" with sex, that it was "dirty." But that wasn't the reason at all.

The exact opposite, in fact, is true. We don't refrain from discussing sex because it's dirty. We refrain from discussing sex because sex is sacred. Our culture can't grasp that, because we have no sense of the sacred. To be sacred means to be "set apart," set aside in a place of honour.

Take the Eucharist, for example. As Catholics, we believe that the Eucharist is the body, blood, soul and divinity of Christ. That's pretty important. So what does the priest do with the Consecrated Host? Does

he misplace it? Leave it lying around the presbytery? Look for it under the sofa cushions? No. The Consecrated Host resides in a place of honour - in a gold box we call a Tabernacle. A lighted lamp or candle alerts us that Christ is present, so that we can honour and reverence Him. Sex is sacred, too. It is very, very important. It is an intimate act of self-giving love between a husband and a wife. It is the act God works through to bring new life into the world. God wants us to keep sex in a special place in our hearts and in our lives. He doesn't want us to feel



By Chris & Noelma Lam

comfortable talking about it the same way we talk about lunch.

When we speak to teenagers, we go out of our way to reassure them that we are not going to discuss the details of how sex works. The collective sigh of relief is usually clearly audible in the room. God made us embarrassed when the intimate details of sex are discussed in our presence. That's good. It's a reminder of the sacredness of sex. We don't want to get over that embarrassment. And we certainly don't want our children to get over it. A natural sense of modesty is protective. So many people don't "get" this.

A few years ago, in Trinidad, a Catholic teacher told us that she was teaching fifth grade sex education, and she was having a hard time getting over her embarrassment. We told her she should listen to that embarrassment. If a 40-something year old married woman was feeling embarrassed, imagine how a room full of children would be feeling.

Look at the example of Pope John Paul II. He spoke and wrote more on the subject of human sexuality than all of his

predecessors combined. And yet, he was never remotely sexually explicit. He maintained that sense of the amazing, awe-inspiring sacredness of sex.

We tell our youths that we won't be discussing the details of sex, we tell them that, if they have questions, they should go to their parents. Sex is a sacred topic. The family is a sacred space. The duty to teach children the intimate details about the gift of human sexuality is a sacred duty, and that duty falls to the parents.

In that context, parents can impart values. And, they can reinforce that

sense of the

sacredness of human sexuality.

Maybe, if enough parents can remember that, the next generation will get it right.

Mind Puzzler Corner

Our last Brain Teaser was:

I have no face, but everyone knows me. I grow stronger and larger as I age, and I am impossible to track. I feed off the innocent, and my followers are weak. I ruin friendships, relationships, and jobs. What am I?

The answer is: "Gossip or Rumours"

Now here's this week's Brain Teaser:

I may run rings around you, or escape your clutching grip. Or leave a treacherous trail that gives a sudden slip. (If you're not careful!) You always end up winning, while I shrink with each new meet:

Our bouts will be my ruin, but you'll come out smelling sweet. What am I?

Look for the answer in our next issue.

the teacher explained.

Little Johnny asked, "What happened to the flea?"

- - A Card Hallmark Would Never Print:

Live each day like it's your last, one day you'll get it right.

- - Answer to Bible Question:

Hadassah. - see Esther 2:7

"And Mordecai had brought up Hadassah, that is, Esther, his uncle's daughter."

- - Answer to Teaser:

To check his web site.

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Spiritual Titbits

- - This Week's reflection:

In Sunday's First Reading and the Gospel, the example of the sowing of seeds is given as a symbol of the Word of God taking root in our hearts. God does not only speak to us in the Sacred Scriptures. God also speaks to us through the events in our lives. But it is the Scripture that helps us to understand what God is saying to us in those events. God's Word comforts, guides, inspires and challenges us. The seed of God's Word, once dropped into the human heart, never dies. It is never too late to act on the Word of God.

God Bless You! Have a Great Week!

- - This Week's Bible Question:

Q. Esther was also called by another name. What is it?
(Answer below.)

- - This Week's Teaser:

Q: Why did the spider go to the computer?
(Answer below.)

- - Today's Bible Verse:

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. - John 14:27

- - Today's Bits of Wisdom / Reflection:

* No man ever choked to death swallowing his own pride.

* For every minute you are angry with someone, you lose sixty seconds of happiness that you can never get back.

- - Humour:

The Sunday school teacher told the class about Lot being told to take his wife and flee out of the city. "Lot got away, but his wife disobeyed divine orders by looking back and was turned into a pillar of salt."

Otto Von Habsburg Remembered As Great Defender Of Christian Values

(CNA) Otto von Habsburg, a Catholic leader for a unified Europe and heir to the defunct Austro-Hungarian Empire, died July 4 at the age of 98. Cardinal Renato Raffaele Martino remembered him as one of the twentieth century's "greatest defenders" of the Catholic faith and human dignity. "Even well into his nineties, Otto von Habsburg campaigned tirelessly to uphold Europe's Christian values and the sanctity of all human life," the cardinal said in a statement from the Rome-based Dignitatis Humanae Institute. "My father was a towering personality," Habsburg's oldest son Karl Habsburg-Lothringen said. European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso praised Habsburg as "a great European ... who gave an important impetus to the European project throughout his rich life." Habsburg's wife, Regina, died last year. Their eldest son Karl has officially headed the House of Habsburg since 2007.

Work, Enthusiasm: Evangelization Council Turns 1

(Zenit) "Intense work and great enthusiasm" are the words that best summarize the first year of the Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization, according to its president. In speaking with Vatican Radio following the June 29 first anniversary of the Pope's announcement of the dicastery, Archbishop Salvatore Fisichella evaluated progress.

Archbishop Fisichella reminded that the "new evangelization cannot be carried out" without "new evangelizers."

"We wish to give signs to the Church," he said, "of the presence of new evangelizers to awaken enthusiasm and to renew the missionary spirit that must be present in our particular communities, in our local Churches."

Fr. Corapi's Order Finds Him Guilty

(CNA) Father John Corapi's religious order has found him guilty of substance abuse, sexual activity and violating his promise of poverty. A July 5 press release from the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOLT) said that while Fr. Corapi was involved in public ministry he had "sexual relations and years of cohabitation with a woman known to him, when the relationship began, as a prostitute." Fr. Corapi expressed his desire to leave the Society and the priesthood in a June 17 statement. He said he felt he was being "unjustly accused," and that "(t)here are certain persons in authority in the Church that want me gone, and I shall be gone." Fr. Corapi has not yet been released from his vows. "Catholics should understand that SOLT does not consider Father John Corapi as fit for ministry," the statement concluded.

Cardinal Bertone Explains Meaning of Assisi Event

"Pilgrims of Truth, Pilgrims of Peace," is the motto of the Assisi meeting called by Benedict XVI for religious leaders from all over the world -- a motto, according to the Pope's secretary of state, which expresses a whole program.

Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone said this in an article from the weekend edition of L'Osservatore Romano. Cardinal Jean-Louis Tauran, president of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, also offered a perspective on the Oct. 27 meeting. Cardinal Bertone recalled how the event continues a series, with earlier meetings held in 1986 and 2002, but which has its own particularities and accents -- as well as novelties, including a first invitation to non-believers. Beatification Cause For Korean-War Chaplain Goes To Rome The Diocese of Wichita, Kansas, has completed the first stage of a cause for the beatification of Father Emil Kapaun, a Catholic chaplain who served heroically in the Korean War. Father Kapaun, who had gained a widespread reputation for his care of the sick and needy, was captured by North Korean



Justice & Peace Desk

troops when he voluntarily stayed with wounded soldiers as US troops retreated. He died in a prison camp in 1951.

The Wichita diocese opened a cause for his beatification in 2008. Having completed the preliminary investigation, the diocese is now sending the cause to Rome, to be studied by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints.

Beatified Spanish Bishop Shows Holiness Is Possible For Politicians, Writer

(CNA) Blessed Juan de Palafox of Puebla, Archbishop of Mexico and Viceroy of New Spain, is proof that it is possible "to be holy as a politician," writes a Mexican columnist. "He had a brilliant career ahead for himself when he discovered the fleeting nature of worldly goods and honors, and thus he chose ecclesiastic life. But that did not save him from continuing to participate in public office during his time," Jose Castellanos noted in a June 29 article published by the Archdiocese of Mexico City's news service.

"He was educated in Jesuit schools and went to the universities of Alcala and Salamanca, and his skills as a jurist in the government led to his occupying important public offices, such as attorney for the Council of War and for the Council of the State," Castellanos said.

Vatican's UN Official Outlines Doctrine on Nuclear Weapons

(Zenit) "A world without nuclear weapons is not only possible, it has now become urgent," says the Vatican's representative to the United Nations. Archbishop Francis Chullikatt made this assertion Saturday, not in the U.N. offices in New York, but in Kansas City. He was invited by that diocesan Human Rights Office to give an overview of Church teaching on nuclear weapons. The extensive address considered the history of the Church's position on the question of nuclear weapons. "New attention is being paid to the unresolved problem of 20,000 nuclear weapons located at 111 sites in 14 countries," the prelate said. "More than half the population of the world lives in a nuclear-armed country. Each year, nations spend \$100 billion on maintaining and modernizing their nuclear arsenals."

"The indiscriminate use and devastating effects of nuclear weapons have led the Church to abhor any use of nuclear weapons," he added.

Catholic Church Calls On Venezuelans To Pray For Health Of Chavez

(CNA) The Catholic Bishops of Venezuela are calling for prayers for the health of President Hugo Chavez, who announced last week from Cuba that he is suffering from cancer and has undergone two surgeries. "We are happy that the veil has been lifted. Today things have been made clear and he urgently needs our prayers," Archbishop Roberto Luckert said on June 1. The archbishop, who has been the target of criticism from Chavez, said the announcement by the president last week finally lifted the veil on his state of health, which has caused uncertainty in the country regarding his long absence. Chavez appeared sluggish and fatigued in a video broadcast on Venezuelan television, in contrast with the usual fiery tone that has characterized his long speeches during his 12 years as leader of the country.

New Amsterdam celebrates Corpus Christi

The feast of Corpus Christi is usually the day on which most parishes around the country and indeed around the world administer the sacrament of First Holy Communion.

The Church of the Ascension in New Amsterdam was one such parish that followed this tradition. Seven children of this Roman Catholic parish received their First Holy Communion last Sunday.

Three boys and four girls: Shawn Anthon, Retano Timmers, Daniel Persaud, Riya dos Ramos, Sheneza Majeed and Shania White, for the first time approached the altar and received their first Communion from parish priest Monsignor Terrence Montrose.

The children also received certificates and gifts from the parish.

They had attended their first Confession on Friday at the church, an essential requirement in order to receive communion.

They had spent one year in First Communion class with their teacher Tricia Williams, listening, sharing, speaking and learning about the Catholic faith.

First Holy Communion the colloquial name for a person's first celebration of the sacrament of the Eucharist in the Catholic Church. Catholics believe this event to be very important, as the Eucharist is one of the central focuses of the Catholic Church.

First Holy Communion is most often celebrated by children around the age of seven or eight, when they have

reached the age of reason and are capable of participating in the sacramental life of the Catholic Church. First Holy Communion is to be preceded by the sacraments of baptism and reconciliation.

First Holy Communion preparation programmes vary from Dioceses, parishes and schools, most preparations programmes are approx 6 - 12 months.

For children who will be preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, many programs feature beautifully illustrated Scripture stories to help introduce the children to the Eucharist in the context of the Mass. This will motivate them to build a firm foundation for their initiation into these two sacraments.

First Holy Communion is normally received at the age of seven or eight. To be eligible to receive First Holy Communion, children will need to register for parish programme. To share in Communion for the first time children must have "sufficient knowledge and careful preparation so as to understand the mystery of Christ according to their capacity" (Code of Canon Law 913).

They must also be able to receive communion "with faith and devotion" (Code of Canon Law 913). Children should understand the mystery of Christ "according to their capacity." They should come to the table with a spiritual disposition. "Children must go to the sacrament of Reconciliation before receiving Holy Communion for the first time" (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1457). Children and their parents are expected to attend Mass frequently (weekly).

The journey for these young Christians is not over, rather just beginning. They will now move forward to Pre- Confirmation which takes approximately two years and then Confirmation which takes another three years or so.

Girls normally wear white clothes to symbolize their purity and a veil with flowers on their heads.

It is certainly a day to make a big deal and fuss about. Everyone remembers their First Holy Communion.

(Leon Suseran)



First Holy Communicants pose with their teacher, Tricia Williams (at centre) and their parents after Mass in New Amsterdam on Sunday

Pope's Prayer Intention for July

General Intention: Those Suffering with AIDS.

That Christ may ease the physical and spiritual sufferings of those who are sick with AIDS, especially in the poorest countries.

Missionary Intention: Religious Missionary Women.

That religious women in mission territories may be witnesses of the joy of the Gospel and living signs of the love of Christ.

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People And Equipment You Can Depend On.

Pope says selfish economic models at root of world hunger

From front page

physical or psychic development, or forced into forms of exploitation just to receive minimal nutrition," he said.

The pope said the cause of such hunger cannot be found only in technical developments such as production cycles or commodity prices.

"Poverty, underdevelopment and, therefore, hunger are often the result of selfish behaviors that, born in the human heart, manifest themselves in social life, economic exchange, in market conditions and in the lack of access to food," the pope said.

"How can we be silent about the fact that even food has become the object of speculation or is tied to the course of a financial market that, lacking definite rules and poor in moral principles, appears anchored to the sole objective of profit?" he said.

The pope said the United Nations' own studies show that global food production is able to feed the world's population -- which makes the situations of hunger all the more unjust.

The international community often limits its food assistance to emergency situations, he said. Instead, he told the experts, it needs to address the problem with long-term strategies that consider the human dimension of development and not just economic benefits.

The pope called for support of international efforts to promote the family farm as a key component of

national economies. The traditional nuclear family, he said, has shown itself to be a competent instrument for agricultural production and for training of new generations in farming.

"The rural family is a model not only of work, but of life and the concrete expression of solidarity, in which the essential role of the woman is confirmed," he said.

The pope said food security also requires protective measures against "frenetic exploitation of natural resources." This is especially true because the race to consumption and waste seems to ignore the threat to the genetic patrimony and biological diversity, which are so important to agricultural activity, he said.

He said the Bible's injunction to "cultivate and care for the earth" is opposed to exclusive appropriation of such natural resources.

Orphanage marks 160th birthday..

From front page

decided this year to follow the Guyanese tradition and take gifts to persons in need. We do not have money or things to share, but we could give of our time, our caring, our conversation. So we went in groups to different places to visit with elderly folk, to play with the babies at the Convalescent Home, to show interest and caring for children in hospital. Everywhere we were welcomed and learnt by experience that it is indeed more blessed to give than to receive. These visits made us so happy, that we will not wait for the next birthday, but try for a repeat soon!

WPA claims racial, scare tactics being used....

From Page 4

after nineteen years in office, has failed to conduct an inquiry into Rodney's assassination even after the passage of a PPP parliamentary resolution that was supported by the PNC but, astonishingly, abstained on by the PPP itself. The WPA calls on the PPP to cease using the name of Walter Rodney to score cheap political points. Rodney represents the best in the Guyanese and Caribbean political culture and should be out of bounds for those who have come to represent the worst of that political culture. It is nothing short of desecration.

WPA's decision to be part of APNU is a collective decision that is premised on our long held view that Guyana can only move forward with a government that represents and is accountable to all of its peoples. This has been our position from our birth as a pressure group in 1974. The PPP knows this. It was after all the basis on which the WPA gave its support to the PPP's August 1977 proposals for an end to winner take all politics and the creation of a National Patriotic Front.

So why attack Dr. Roopnaraine for a party decision? We believe there are a few reasons, but wish to highlight the one we think is primary - race. The PPP

has always deemed Indian- Guyanese leaders outside of its fold to be traitors. Dr. Roopnaraine has been high on that list for the last 34 years. This latest attack reveals an anxiety about the upcoming elections, in particular the threat of APNU to the PPP's stranglehold on the Indian Guyanese electorate. They fear that Dr Roopnaraine could help sway some in the PPP's traditional constituency towards the Partnership. Hence the relentless attempts to besmirch his candidacy in the APNU and characterize him as a traitor to Indian-Guyanese. The WPA hereby puts the PPP on notice that it will vigorously push back against this vile attack on its Co-leader and on our party in general.

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ST. PETER'S BV MARKS FEAST DAY AND OPENING



Church at Betervragting on the East Coast celebrated it's Feast Day on Sunday 3rd of July at their 9.30am Mass celebrated by Parish Priest Fr. James Gonsalves. The church is probably the only one that celebrates it's Feast together with it's opening. The Church was opened on the 29th of June 1875. Two Feast Day traditions that have been maintained are the Papal Flag being flown and the sharing of fish snacks after Mass. Photo shows the new Papal Flag (donated by an overseas Parishioner) flying on and equally new flagpole.

Over one million expected for World Youth Day Closing Mass

Madrid, Spain, July 6 (CNA/EWTN News) .-

The director of activities for World Youth Day Madrid is expecting more than one million people to attend the event's closing Mass on Aug. 21.

So far over 16000 are expected from the USA, 10,000 from Brazil and hundreds from the Caribbean.

Activities director Javier Cremades stated on July 5 that the Cuatro Vientos Airfield will be the site of "a great festival" beginning with a vigil on August 20 and culminating with the closing Mass celebrated by Pope Benedict the following morning. He also revealed that the famous Arfe Monstrance kept at the Cathedral of Toledo will be used during Eucharist adoration led by the Pope at the Saturday night vigil.

In addition, some 17 adoration chapels will be set up throughout the airfield for Eucharistic adoration by the young people during the weekend.

Twenty giant TV screens will be placed at different locations and eight first aid stations will provide any emergency care needed for those expected to attend. "The main priority is to ensure the safety of the attendees," said Eva Hernandez, director of Infrastructure for World Youth Day.

Officials also announced that the World Youth Day Choir and Symphony Orchestra will participate in the final Mass. At the conclusion of the Mass, Pope Benedict XVI will announce the site of the next World Youth Day.

As preparations for the event go into the home stretch, some 420,000 young people have registered to attend so far, and a new radio and TV appeal have been launched to encourage last-minute registrations.

Food and housing is included for young people from countries outside Spain who register by July 8, but Spanish youth can get up to a 50 percent discount if they register before July 15.

More information can be found at <http://www.madrid11.com>

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