

COPYRIGHT: The news items contained in the in this special report from Vatican Information Service may be used, in part or in their entirety, by crediting the source (V.I.S. - Vatican Information Service).

OVERVIEW OF POPE JOHN PAUL'S PONTIFICATE: 1999-2003

1999

JANUARY

- Friday, 8: Audience for Massimo D'Alema, president of Italy's Council of Ministers.
- Friday, 15: Audience for Pandeli Majko, president of Council of Ministers of Albania.
- Monday, 18: Visit by President Leonel Fernandez Reyna of the Dominican Republic. Start of Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.
- Friday, 22: John Paul II leaves on 85th foreign pastoral visit: Mexico City, Mexico and St. Louis, U.S.A. to close Synod for America. Pope signs and dates Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation "Ecclesia in America." Presents it to bishops the following day.
- Tuesday, 26: Pope John Paul and U.S. President Bill Clinton meet upon Pope's arrival in St. Louis, U.S.A. Presentation of new rite of exorcism of the Roman Book of Rites (from Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of Sacraments).

FEBRUARY

- Thursday, 4: Holy See and Israel sign "Legal Personality Agreement."
- Monday, 8: New Hungarian Ambassador, Pal Tar, presents Letters of Credence. Holy See Press Office issues final report on 1998 Swiss Guard deaths.
- Thursday, 11: 70th anniversary of founding of Vatican City State.
- Friday, 12: Pope and bishops of Laos, Cambodia meet together for first time. Bishops are in Rome for "ad limina" visit.
- Friday, 19: Audience to Yasser Arafat, president of the Palestinian Authority.
- Saturday, 20: Pope receives Jason C. Hu, foreign affairs minister of the Republic of China (Taiwan).

MARCH

- Monday, 1: Announcement that Pope has given permission to start the cause of beatification for Mother Teresa of Calcutta, dispensing from norm which states that five years must pass between person's death and start of cause.
- Thursday, 11: Audience for Seyyed Mohammad Khatami: first visit by a president of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Pope John Paul.
- Saturday, 20: Visit by president of Colombia, Andres Pastrana-Arango.
- Thursday, 25: Pope receives President Robert Kotcharian of Armenia, and Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong of Singapore in separate audiences. Holy See statement on NATO bombings of Yugoslavia, which began last evening.
- Monday, 29: Pope and Italian President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro meet.

- Tuesday, 30: High level Vatican meeting studies Kosovo crisis: includes ambassadors to Holy See from NATO member countries and permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

APRIL

- Thursday, 1: Statement on today's mission to Belgrade by Archbishop Jean-Louis Tauran, secretary for Relations with States.
- Sunday, 4: Easter. Pope writes Letter to Artists: published on April 23 in eight languages.
- Sunday, 18: Papal Letter to His Holiness Alexis II, Patriarch of Moscow and all the Russias, on the occasion of the latter's trip to Belgrade to find peaceful solution to Kosovo conflict.
- Thursday, 22: Pope welcomes President Alvaro Arzu Irigoyen of Guatemala.
- Monday, 26: Visit by Israeli Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon.
- Tuesday, 27: Pope writes U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan on eve of Annan's departure for Europe to seek peace in Yugoslavia.
- Thursday, 29: Holy See and Cook Islands establish diplomatic ties.

MAY

- Sunday, 2: Capuchin Padre Pio of Pietrelcina is beatified.
- Friday, 7: Pope departs for three-day trip to Romania: 86th foreign apostolic trip. Includes meeting with Orthodox Patriarch Teoctist. Pope participates in Orthodox liturgy, and Patriarch in Catholic liturgy.
- Monday, 10: Pope welcomes Kosovo Albanian leader Ibrahim Rugova. Rugova holds press conference in Holy See Press Office.
- Tuesday, 18: John Paul II turns 79. He welcomes German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder.
- Sunday, 23: Pentecost. Three priests ordained in Russia, the first in 82 years.
- Sunday, 30: Pope travels to Ancona, 135th trip within Italy.

JUNE

- Thursday, 3: John Paul II receives U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan.
- Saturday, 5: Pope leaves for Poland, his 87th foreign pastoral trip. Until June 17.
- Friday, 11: Warsaw, Poland: Pope's first ever address to a national parliament.
- Wednesday, 30: Holy Father's Letter on "Pilgrimages to the Places Linked to the History of Salvation."

JULY

- Thursday, 8: Note is published by Pontifical Council for Legislative Texts on the authentic interpretation of canons dealing with care of Eucharist.

- Monday, 19: Diplomatic Relations with the Lesser Antilles.

AUGUST

- Saturday and Sunday, 7, 8: Cardinal Angelo Sodano represents Pope John Paul at the closing celebrations of the European Youth Meeting, being held in Santiago de Compostela, Spain from August 4-8.

SEPTEMBER

- Saturday, 4: One-day apostolic trip to Salerno, Italy: Pope John Paul's 136th such trip within Italy.
- Sunday, 5: Audience at Castelgandolfo with Yasser Arafat, president of the Palestinian National Authority.
- Monday, 13: Audiences to Bishop Carlos Filipe Ximenes Belo, apostolic administrator of Dili, East Timor, and Prime Minister Pakalitha Bethuel Mosisili of Lesotho.
- Thursday, 16: Pope receives President Guido de Marco of the Republic of Malta.
- Saturday, 18: Pope receives King Abdullah Bin Hussein of Jordan.
- Sunday, 19: One-day apostolic trip to Slovenia: the Pope's 88th foreign pastoral trip.
- Thursday, 30: Audience for Hugo Rafael Chavez Frias, president of Venezuela. Holy Father blesses newly restored facade of St. Peter's Basilica in an early evening ceremony, accompanied by fireworks, in St. Peter's Square.

OCTOBER

- Friday, 1: A concelebrated Mass in St. Peter's Basilica opens the Second Special Assembly for Europe of the Synod of Bishops. During the Mass, Pope John Paul proclaims St. Edith Stein (Benedicta of the Cross), St. Bridget of Sweden and St. Catherine of Siena co-patronesses of Europe.
- Friday, 15: Holy Father's annual Message for World Food Day, on the theme "Young People Against Hunger."
- Saturday, 16: John Paul II marks the 21st anniversary of his election as Pope. His pontificate is the 10th longest in history (St. Peter's is considered the longest).
- Tuesday, 19: Official visit by Italian President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi. Also, an announcement that a joint team of Catholic and Jewish scholars will be formed to review published volumes of Church archival material covering the World War II period.
- Friday, 22: Final message of European Synod of Bishops.
- Saturday, 23: Closing Mass for Second Special Assembly for Europe of the Synod of Bishops.
- Tuesday, 26: Publication of "The Letter of His Holiness John Paul II to the Elderly."
- Thursday, 28: Pope receives Franjo Tudjman, president of Croatia, and Croatia's foreign affairs minister, Mate Granic.
- Friday, 29: Pope grants audience to President Rudolf Schuster of Slovakia, and Slovakia's foreign affairs minister, Eduard Kukan. Holy Father and world's religious

leaders gather in St. Peter's Square at conclusion of Inter-religious assembly in the Vatican.

- Sunday, 31: Joint Declaration on the Doctrine Justification signed in Augsburg, Germany by Catholic Church and World Lutheran Federation.

NOVEMBER

- Thursday, 4: Cardinal Cassidy attends enthronement of new Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, Karekin II.

- Friday, 5: Pope leaves for five-day trip to India and Republic of Georgia on his 89th foreign pastoral visit. The Latin, Greek-Orthodox and Armenian patriarchs of Jerusalem announce that Holy Land shrines will be closed November 22 and 23 to express disapproval of the building of a mosque near the basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth.

- Saturday, 6: John Paul II signs Post-synodal Apostolic Exhortation "Ecclesia in Asia" in New Delhi.

- Saturday, 13: Audience to King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden.

- Monday, 15: Visit by President Abdelaziz Bouteflika of the Republic of Algeria.

- Friday, 19: Pope receives Fernando Henrique Cardoso, president of Brazil.

- Monday, 22: Audiences to Carlos Saul Menem, president of Argentina, and Sheikh Hamad Bin Essa Al-Khalifa, emir of Bahrain.

- Tuesday, 23: Audiences to Martti Ahtisaari, president of Finland, and Jordan Sokolov, president of the Bulgarian parliament.

DECEMBER

- Friday, 10: Publication of papal Message to Catholics in China for the Jubilee Year.

- Saturday, 11: John Paul II inaugurates completely restored Sistine Chapel.

- Monday, 13: Audiences to president of Eritrea, Isaias Afwerki, and to His Beatitude Nerses Bedros XIX, patriarch of Cilicia of the Armenians.

- Saturday, 18: Audience to Vaclav Havel, president of the Czech Republic.

- Monday, 20: Promulgation of decrees by Congregation for the Causes of Saints: includes Popes Pius IX and John XXIII among those who will be beatified.

- Friday, 24: Pope John Paul II opens Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica, to start the Jubilee Year 2000. Presides at the celebration of Christmas Midnight Mass.

- Saturday, 25: Christmas Day "Urbi et Orbi" Message and Blessing. Pope opens the Holy Door at the patriarchal basilica of St. John Lateran.

- Friday, 31: Vespers and traditional end-of-the-year "Te deum" of thanksgiving in St. Peter's Basilica. At midnight Pope appears at his window and wishes the crowd gathered in St. Peter's Square a Happy New Year, new millennium and Jubilee year. He imparts his "Urbi et Orbi" blessing.

.../HIGHLIGHTS 1999/... VIS 20000128 (1130)

2000

JANUARY

- Saturday, 1: 33rd World Day of Peace. Pope John Paul opens Holy Door at St. Mary Major Basilica and celebrates Mass.
- Sunday, 2: Jubilee of Children: 150,000 children and adolescents join the Holy Father in St. Peter's Square.
- Wednesday, 12: Diplomatic relations established with the State of Bahrain.
- Monday, 17: Pope welcomes Cuban Foreign Minister Felipe Perez Roque.
- Tuesday, 18: Start of the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The Holy Father opens fourth and final Holy Door of the Jubilee Year 2000 at St. Paul's Outside-the-Walls.
- Monday, 24: Costa Rica's President Miguel Angel Rodriguez is received in audience.

FEBRUARY

- Wednesday, 2: Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord and Jubilee of Consecrated Life: papal Mass at 10 a.m. in St. Peter's Square.
- Saturday, 5: Pope receives Indonesian President Abdurrahman Wahid.
- Friday, 11: Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, and Jubilee of the Sick: Mass in St. Peter's Square.
- Tuesday, 15: Basic Agreement is signed between Holy See and Palestinian Liberation Organization. Holy Father receives Yasser Arafat and Palestinian delegation in audience. He also received Rudolf Schuster, president of the Slovak Republic.
- Thursday, 17: Audience for Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle, president of the Republic of Chile.
- Friday, 18: Jubilee of Artists: Mass in St. Peter's Basilica presided over by Cardinal Roger Etchegaray, followed by address by Pope John Paul. Inauguration of three-day Jubilee of Permanent Deacons by Cardinal Dario Castrillon Hoyos at St. Mary Major Basilica.
- Saturday, 19: Audience for Roberto Flores Facusse, president of Honduras.
- Monday, 21: Audience for Arpad Goncz, president of Hungary.
- Tuesday, 22: Jubilee of the Roman Curia, and papal Mass in St. Peter's Basilica.
- Wednesday, 23: Liturgy of the Word celebration in the Paul VI Hall, presided over by Pope John Paul in commemoration of Abraham, "Our father in the faith." This event in the Vatican represented the first stage in the Pope's Jubilee Year pilgrimages to places linked with the history of salvation.
- Thursday, 24 - Saturday, 26: Papal pilgrimage to Mount Sinai: John Paul II is first Pope to visit Egypt. This was his 90th foreign apostolic trip.
- Tuesday, 29: Audience for King Letsie III of Lesotho.

MARCH

- Thursday, 2: Papal audience for Salim El Hoss, prime minister and foreign minister of Lebanon.
- Saturday, 4: Pope welcomes President Kim Dae-jung of the Republic of Korea, first Korean head of state to be received by John Paul II. He also received President Valdas Adamkus of Lithuania.

- Sunday, 12: First Sunday of Lent. Concelebrated Mass in St. Peter's Basilica for the Day of Pardon of the Holy Year 2000.
- Friday, 17: Publication by the Pontifical Council for the Family of a communique concerning the March 16 European Parliament resolution that equates families with "de facto" unions.
- Saturday, 18: The Jubilee of the Chaldean Church with a liturgy in the basilica of St. Mary of the Angels and Martyrs.
- Sunday, 19: Jubilee of Artisans, Mass in St. Peter's Square. Jubilee of the Syro-Malabar Church with a liturgy in the basilica of St. Mary of the Angels and Martyrs.
- Monday, 20 - Sunday, 26: Start of week-long papal pilgrimage to the Holy Land, Pope John Paul's 91st foreign apostolic trip.
- Thursday, 30: Presentation of Holy Father's annual Letter to Priests for Holy Thursday: Letter was signed on March 23 in the Cenacle in Jerusalem.

APRIL

- Thursday, 6: Audience for President Ali Abdullah Saleh of Yemen.
- Friday, 7: Audiences for Joseph Fischer, foreign minister of Germany, Jan Carnogursky, justice minister of Slovakia and Pavol Hrusovsky, vice president of Slovak parliament and Kofi Annan, United Nations secretary general.
- Sunday, 30: Second Sunday of Easter, henceforth to be known as Divine Mercy Sunday: Canonization of Blessed Maria Faustyna Kowalska.

MAY

- Monday, 1: Jubilee of Workers celebrated at Tor Vergata University.
- Tuesday, 2: Audience for Polish Prime Minister Jerzy Buzek.
- Saturday, 6: Adolf Ogi, president of Switzerland, received by Pope.
- Sunday, 7: Pope presides ecumenical celebration at the Colosseum for Witnesses to the Faith in the 20th Century.
- Friday, 12: Pope departs for Fatima, Portugal on his 92nd foreign apostolic trip.
- Saturday, 13: Beatification in Fatima of the two shepherd children, Jacinta and Francisco Marto. Cardinal Angelo Sodano, secretary of state, reads a text on the "Third Secret" of Fatima at the shrine, following the beatifications.
- Thursday, 18: Pope John Paul's 80th birthday and the Jubilee of Priests: concelebrated Mass in St. Peter's Square with 80 cardinals, 300 archbishops and bishops and 6,000 priests.
- Saturday, 20: Diplomatic relations established between Holy See and Djibouti.
- Monday, 22: Audiences for Boris Trajkowski, president of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Nadejda Mihailova, Bulgarian foreign minister.
- Friday, 26: Audience with Ismael Omar Guelleh, president of the Republic of Djibouti.
- Sunday, 28: Jubilee of the diocese of Rome: papal Mass in St. Peter's Square.
- Monday, 29: Pope receives President Denis Sassou-N'Guesso of the Congo, and Romanian Foreign Minister Petre Roman.

JUNE

- Friday, 2: Papal Mass in St. Peter's Square for Jubilee of Migrants and Itinerant Peoples.
- Monday, 5: Audience for Russian President Vladimir Putin.
- Saturday, 10: Vigil of Pentecost. Papal Mass in St. Peter's Square for the Jubilee "Day of Reflection and Prayer on the Duties of Catholics Towards Other Men: Announcing Christ, Witnessing and Dialogue."
- Tuesday, 13: Ali Agca, who attacked the Pope in St. Peter's Square on May 13, 1981, and has been in prison in Italy since then, is granted clemency by Italian President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, and extradited to his native Turkey.
- Thursday, 15: Pope hosts lunch in Paul VI Hall for 200 poor and homeless as part of Jubilee year celebrations.
- Monday, 19: Audience for Said Musa, prime minister of Belize.
- Friday, 23: Audience for Fra Andrew Bertie, prince and grand master of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta.
- Monday, 26: Presentation of Third Secret of Fatima in Holy See Press Office. Papal audiences for Hugo Banzer Suarez, president of Bolivia; Atal Bihari Vajpayee, prime minister of India; His Royal Highness, Prince of Asturias, Felipe de Bourbon.
- Tuesday, 27: Audiences for Ghennadi Nikolaevich Seleznirov, president of the Duma (Russian parliament), and Mikhail Sergeevic Gorbachev. Cardinal Angelo Sodano welcomes Hang-mao Tien, minister for foreign affairs of the Republic of China.

JULY

- Monday, 3: Audience for Hipolito Mejia, president-elect of the Dominican Republic.
- Tuesday, 4: Audience for President Stipe Mesic of Croatia.
- Thursday, 6: Declaration published by Pontifical Council for the Interpretation of Legislative Texts which reaffirms ban on communion for divorced Catholics who re-marry.
- Saturday, 8: Audience for His Royal Highness, Grand Duke Jean of Luxembourg.
- Sunday, 9: Jubilee in Prisons. Pope says Mass in Rome's Regina Coeli prison.
- Thursday, 13: Pontifical Council for the Family publishes declaration on embryo reduction, stating that this constitutes "selective abortion."
- Thursday, 20: Apostolic Letter of the Holy Father John Paul II for the Third Centenary of the Union of the Greek-Catholic Church of Romania with the Church of Rome.

AUGUST

- Tuesday, 15: Pope opens 15th World Youth Day in Rome.
- Saturday, 19, and Sunday 20: Vigil and papal Mass close the 15th World Youth Day in presence of more than 2 million young people. Pope announces that 2002 youth day will be in Toronto, Canada.
- Thursday, 24: Declaration from Pontifical Academy for Life on production and scientific and therapeutic use of human embryonic stem cells.
- Tuesday, 29: Pope declares at a congress that human cloning is morally unacceptable.

SEPTEMBER

- Sunday, 3: Pope beatifies Popes Pius IX and John XXIII, Bishop Tommaso Reggio, Fr. Guillaume-Joseph Chaminade and Abbot Columba Marmion.
- Tuesday, 5: Presentation of document of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith: "Declaration 'Dominus Iesus' on the Unicity and Salvific Universality of Jesus Christ and the Church."
- Sunday, 10: Mass for Jubilee of Universities.
- Monday, 11: Audience for Mireya Elisa Moscoso Rodriguez, president of the Republic of Panama.
- Tuesday, 12. Olusegun Obasanjo, president of Nigeria, welcomed.
- Thursday, 14: Cardinal Roger Etchegaray on third trip to China: visits Beijing September 14-16 to participate in symposium on "Religions and Peace." Pope welcomes Andrej Bajuk, prime minister of the Republic of Slovenia.
- Friday, 15: Jubilee of Pontifical Representatives: Mass with Cardinal Sodano and audience with Pope John Paul.
- Saturday, 16: Holy See and Lithuania sign Accords.
- Sunday, 17: Jubilee of the Elderly, Eucharistic celebration in St. Peter's Square.
- Friday, 22: Pope welcomes Hungarian President Ferenc Madl.
- Sunday, 24: Mass for 20th International Mariological-Marian Congress and for Jubilee of Shrines.

OCTOBER

- Sunday, 1: Pope canonizes 123 Blesseds, including 120 Chinese martyrs. He assures Catholic faithful in China of his prayers.
- Friday, 6; Pope receives Emil Constantinescu, president of Romania. Bishops, at start of their Jubilee, collect \$49,000 to give to Pope.
- Saturday, 7: For Jubilee of Bishops. Pope, bishops, and faithful pray the rosary in St. Peter's Square before the statue of Our Lady of Fatima, brought to the Vatican from Portugal.
- Sunday, 8: Papal Mass concludes Jubilee of Bishops, attended by 80 cardinals and over 1,500 bishops. Act of Entrustment to Mary.
- Friday, 13: Audience for Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, vice president of the Philippines.
- Saturday, 14: Start of Jubilee of Families: 300,000 gather for afternoon celebration with John Paul II. Pope receives President Gustavo Noboa Bejarano of Ecuador.
- Sunday, 15: Mass for Jubilee of Families. Pope marries 8 couples.
- Tuesday, 17: Pope John Paul's pontificate becomes 7th longest in history, including that of St. Peter. Holy Father welcomes Queen Elizabeth II to Vatican.
- Thursday, 19: Jubilee of Sovereign Military Order of Malta.
- Sunday, 22: Mass for World Mission Day and the Jubilee of Missions.
- Sunday, 29: Mass in Rome's Olympic Stadium for Jubilee of Athletes.
- Tuesday, 31: Apostolic Letter in form of 'Motu Proprio' proclaiming St. Thomas More as Patron Saint of Statesmen and Politicians.

NOVEMBER

- Wednesday, 1: Solemnity of All Saints, 50th anniversary of dogmatic definition of the Assumption of Mary into heaven. Eucharistic celebration in St. Peter's Square.
- Thursday, 9: Holy Father welcomes His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of all Armenians.
- Sunday, 12: Mass for Jubilee of Agricultural World.
- Sunday, 19: Mass for the Jubilee of the Armed Forces and Police. Start of Jubilee of the Syro-Antiochean and Syro-Malankara Churches.
- Tuesday, 21: Pontifical Council for the Family publishes document entitled "Family, Marriage and 'de facto' Unions." Pope welcomes Islam Abduganievic Karimov, president of Uzbekistan.
- Thursday, 23: Publication of document by Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith "Instruction on Prayers for Healing."
- Friday, 24: Jubilee of Catholic Jurists. Basic Agreement between Holy See and Slovakia. Pope receives Prime Minister Mikulas Dzurinda of the Republic of Slovakia.
- Sunday, 26: Mass for Jubilee of the Laity and World Congress of Catholic Laity.
- Tuesday, 28: Audience for King Juan Carlos I and Queen Sofia of Spain.
- Thursday, 30: Pope receives President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea.

DECEMBER

- Sunday 3: First Sunday of Advent. Mass for Jubilee of the Disabled.
- Sunday, 10: Jubilee of Catechists and Teachers of Religion.
- Monday, 11: Audience for Vojislav Kostunica, president of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.
- Sunday, 17: Mass for the Jubilee of the World of Entertainment.
- Monday, 18: Audience for President Rudolf Schuster of Slovak Republic.
- Monday, 25: 2000th anniversary of the Nativity of Our Lord.

2001

JANUARY

- Tuesday, 2: Cardinal Roger Etchegaray, president of the Central Committee for the Great Jubilee 2000, celebrates Mass in Bethlehem to mark the close of the Jubilee in the Holy Land.
- Saturday, 6: Feast of the Epiphany; Pope John Paul closes Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica, thus closing the Jubilee Year 2000 after 379 days. Publication of Apostolic Letter "Novo millennio ineunte."
- Sunday, 21: John Paul II names 37 new cardinals.
- Sunday, 28: Holy Father names 5 new cardinals, reveals 2 "in pectore" (Cardinals Marian Jaworski, Ukraine, and Janis Pujats, Latvia).

FEBRUARY

- Saturday, 3: First "ad limina" visit by Albanian prelates since end of communist dictatorship.
- Saturday, 17: Apostolic Letter (dated February 2) for 1700th anniversary of Baptism of the Armenian People.
- Wednesday, 21: Consistory for the creation of 44 new cardinals.
- Thursday, 22: Pope concelebrates Mass with new cardinals, bestows cardinal's ring.

MARCH

- Sunday, 11: 233 Spanish martyrs are beatified; largest beatification ceremony in history.

APRIL

- Monday, 23: Audience for Rafik Hariri, president of the Council of Ministers of Lebanon.

MAY

- Friday, May 4: John Paul II starts trip to Greece, Syria and Malta, his 93rd foreign apostolic trip. He is the first Pope to visit Greece in 1,000 years, the first Pope ever to visit Syria and the first pontiff to enter a mosque. Trip concludes May 9.
- Tuesday, 8: Publication of the Fifth Instruction for the Right Implementation of the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy of the Second Vatican Council, "Liturgiam authenticam."
- Monday, 21: Consistory of Cardinals opens in Vatican City: 155 cardinals are present. This is the sixth extraordinary consistory called by Pope John Paul II.
- Monday, 28: Holy See declaration on participation by Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo, emeritus of Lusaka, in a marriage ceremony of the Unification Church.

JUNE

- Sunday, 3: Pentecost Sunday and 38th anniversary of the death of Blessed John XXIII, whose incorrupt body, in a crystal and bronze coffin, was in St. Peter's Square during Mass celebrated by the Pope. It was later placed in its final resting place near the main altar of St. Peter's Basilica.
- Tuesday, 12: Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples issues "Instruction on the Sending Abroad and Sojourn of Diocesan Priests from Mission Territories."
- Saturday, 23: Pope departs for Ukraine, start of 94th foreign apostolic trip. On June 26, he presides at first beatification ceremony in Ukraine's history. Trip ends June 27.

JULY

- Tuesday, 17: Public canonical admonition is issued to Archbishop Milingo through a notification from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

- Monday, 23: At Castelgandolfo, John Paul II welcomes U.S. President George W. Bush.

AUGUST

- Wednesday, 1: Pope holds 1,000th general audience in St. Peter's Square.
- Monday, 6: Pope receives Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo.
- Tuesday, 14: Archbishop Milingo writes to John Paul II, announcing that he will resume his life in the Catholic Church, will renounce living with Maria Sung and will sever his relations with Reverend Moon and the Federation of Families for World Peace (Unification Church).

SEPTEMBER

- Tuesday, 11: In a telegram to U.S. President George W. Bush, Pope John Paul expresses "shock at the unspeakable horror of today's inhuman terrorist attacks against innocent peoples in different parts of the United States."
- Wednesday, 12: Pope dedicates general audience to the terrorist attacks in U.S., calling them "a dark day in the history of humanity."
- Thursday, 13: At Castelgandolfo the Pope welcomes new U.S. ambassador to the Holy See, James Nicholson, and offers prayers for America, condemning terrorist attack.
- Sunday, 16: Papal trip to Frosinone: 140th pastoral visit within Italy.
- Saturday, 22: Holy Father leaves for Kazakhstan and Armenia, his 95th foreign trip.
- Sunday, 30: 10th Ordinary Synod of Bishops on theme of episcopal ministry is opened by John Paul.

OCTOBER

- Tuesday, 16: 23rd anniversary of election of John Paul II: his papacy is now seventh longest in history.
- Thursday, 25: In a Message to Rome meeting on "Matteo Ricci: For a Dialogue between China and the West," John Paul II urges normalization of relations between Holy See, China.

NOVEMBER

- Thursday, 1: Holy Father marks 55th anniversary of priestly ordination.
- Thursday, 22: John Paul II promulgates and transmits via Internet Postsynodal Apostolic Exhortation "Ecclesia in Oceania."
- Monday, 26: Holy See issues "unequivocal condemnation" of in vitro cloning of human embryo announced in the U.S.

DECEMBER

- Thursday, 13: Pope presides over meeting in the Vatican on "Peace in the Holy Land and the Future of Christians."

2002

JANUARY

- Friday, 18: Members of the Priestly Association of St. John Mary Vianney, a group of followers of Archbishop Lefebvre in the diocese of Campos, Brazil, return to full communion with the Chair of Peter.
- Thursday, 24: The Pope participates in the Day of Prayer for Peace in the World, celebrated in Assisi, Italy.

FEBRUARY

- Monday, 11: Declaration on the elevation today of four apostolic administrations in the Russian Federation to diocese by the Holy See.
- Wednesday, 20: Announcement that documents from 1922-1939 during the pontificate of Pope Pius XI will be available for consultation starting in 2003.
- Saturday, 23: The Pope will not visit Roman Basilica of St. Pudenziana al Viminale tomorrow due to pain in his right knee.

MARCH

- Monday, 4: The Pope sends the "Assisi Decalogue for Peace," signed at the end of the Day of Prayer for Peace in the World on January 24, to all heads of State and government.
- Friday, 8: Delegation of the Holy Synod of the Greek Church participates in work sessions in Rome from March 8-13. The Pope receives them in audience on March 11.

APRIL

- Tuesday, 23: Pope receives in audience twelve American cardinals and different members of the Roman Curia who are meeting in Rome in order to elaborate ways to confront the issue of sexual abuse of minors by priests.

MAY

- Wednesday, 1: Cardinal Roger Etchegaray travels to Jerusalem as the Pope's special envoy to express his concern for peace in the Holy Land.
- Thursday, 2: Presentation of the Apostolic Letter *Motu Proprio "Misericordia Dei"* on certain aspects of the celebration of the Sacrament of Penance.
- Sunday, 5: Pastoral visit to Ischia, Italy.
- Wednesday 22 - Sunday 26: Apostolic trip to Azerbaijan and Bulgaria. It is the 96th papal trip outside of Italy.

JUNE

- Sunday, 16: Canonization of Blessed Padre Pio of Pietreclina, Italy, born Francesco Forgione, priest of the Friars Minor Capuchins.
- Friday, 28: Approval of Statute of the Neocatechumenal Way.

JULY

- Tuesday 23 -Thursday, August 1: Apostolic trip to Toronto for 17th World Youth Day, Guatemala City and Mexico City: 97th outside of Italy.

AUGUST

- Friday 16 - Monday 19: Apostolic trip to Poland, 98th outside of Italy and eighth to his native land since start of papacy.

SEPTEMBER

- Wednesday, 11: In the general audience, the Holy Father prays for the victims of the attack on the Twin Towers in New York, in Washington and Pennsylvania on the first anniversary of the tragedy.

OCTOBER

- Sunday, 6: Canonization of Blessed Josemaria Escriva de Balaguer, founder of Opus Dei.
- Monday, 7: His Beatitude Teoctist, Orthodox patriarch of Romania, makes an official visit to the Holy Father and to the Church of Rome from October 7-13.
- Wednesday, 16: On the 24th anniversary of his pontificate, the Pope signs the Apostolic Letter "Rosarium Virginis Mariae" and adds five new mysteries, the "luminous mysteries." He proclaims October 2002-2003 the "Year of the Rosary."
- Friday, 18: Presentation of the Instruction, "The Priest, pastor and leader of the Parish community."

NOVEMBER

- Thursday, 14: The Pope visits the Italian Parliament for the first time in history.
- Tuesday, 19: Presentation of the document "Consecrated persons and their mission in schools. Reflections and orientations."
- Saturday, 30: Pope accepts resignation of Cardinal Bernardin Gantin as dean of College of Cardinals: he is succeeded by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger.

DECEMBER

- Friday, 13: Declaration by Cardinal Bernard Law in which he expresses his gratitude to the Holy Father for having accepted his resignation as archbishop of Boston, U.S.A.

2003

JANUARY

- Thursday, 16: Congregation for Doctrine of the Faith publishes "Doctrinal Note on Some Questions Regarding the Participation of Catholics in Political Life."

FEBRUARY

- Thursday, 13: Holy Father receives Rome's new Chief Rabbi Riccardo di Segni.
- Friday, 14: Pope welcomes Iraqi vice premier Tariq Aziz.
- Saturday, 15: Papal envoy Cardinal Roger Etchegaray meets with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in Baghdad.
- Tuesday, 18: Pope receives U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan.
- Wednesday, 19: Holy See addresses U.N. Security Council on Iraq Question
- Saturday, 22: Holy Father receives British Prime Minister Tony Blair.
- Thursday, 27: Pope receives Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar of Spain and Seyyed Mohammad Reza Khatami, vice president of Iran's Islamic Consultative Assembly.

MARCH

- Wednesday, 5: Papal envoy Cardinal Pio Laghi speaks with U.S. President George Bush on Iraqi crisis.
- Thursday, 6: Publication of "Roman Triptych, Meditations," book of poetry by Pope John Paul.
- Sunday, 16: "Never again war!" Pope exhorts international community at Angelus.

APRIL

- Thursday, 17: start of Holy Week: Publication of Holy Father's Encyclical "Ecclesia de Eucharistia": Pope writes meditations for Good Friday's Way of the Cross at the Colosseum.
- Saturday, 26: Publication of papal letter to Cuban President Fidel Castro asking clemency in the sentencing of dissidents.
- Wednesday, 30: Pope John Paul II's pontificate becomes fourth longest in history at 24 years, 6 months and 8 days, following Pope Leo XIII and Pope Pius IX and St. Peter.

MAY

- Saturday, Sunday, 3 and 4: Apostolic trip to Spain: 99th foreign trip.
- Sunday, 18: Pope turns 83.

JUNE

- Monday, 2: Pope receives U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell.

- Thursday, 5: Start of apostolic trip to Croatia: 100th foreign papal trip. Letter from Cardinal Sodano to U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan, expressing Holy See support for U.S. role.
- Sunday, 22: Pope to Bosnia-Herzegovina: 101st foreign trip.
- Saturday, 28: Publication of Post-synodal Apostolic Exhortation "Ecclesia in Europa."

JULY

- Thursday, 31: Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith publishes document "Considerations Regarding Proposals to Give Legal Recognition to Unions Between Homosexual Persons."

AUGUST

- Sundays: 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Holy Father dedicates Angelus reflections to Europe, its culture, history and institutions and the future European constitution, emphasizing each time Europe's deep Christian roots.

SEPTEMBER

- Thursday, 11: Start of Pope's 102nd foreign apostolic trip: to Slovakia, until September 14.
- Monday, 22: Authorities in Georgia withdraw from signing bilateral accord with Holy See officials present for ceremony.
- Sunday, 28: Pope names 31 new cardinals, calls consistory for October 21.

OCTOBER:

- Saturday, 4: Pope welcomes Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams.
- Tuesday, 7: Trip to Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary of Pompeii.

JPII-ANNIVERSARY/OVERVIEW 1999-2003/... VIS 031010 (5070)