

The Junior Observer

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Pope Francis to Visit U.S.

Catholics in Washington, D.C., New York City and Philadelphia are busy. They are getting ready to greet Pope Francis when he visits the United States Sept. 22-27.

While he is here he will offer Masses in each city, speak before the United States Congress and the United Nations, and visit the World

Meeting of Families.

But, as he has done in other countries, the pope will visit with poor people and those in prison while he is here.

People in Philadelphia have been preparing for the World Meeting of Families since Pope Francis announced in 2012 that it would be held there.

Right away, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and World Meeting of Families organizers thought the pope might visit. They started planning as if he would.

In November 2014, the Vatican announced the pope's visit for the family meeting, also called a congress. It will include events for adults and young people.

The pope's outdoor closing Mass at Philadelphia's Benjamin Franklin Parkway could draw more than 1.5 million participants.

He will arrive here from Cuba. His planned U.S. stops are:

Washington, D.C., Sept. 22-24

- South Lawn of the White House,
- Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle,

- Mass at Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception,
- U.S. Congress, and

- St. Patrick Church

New York City, Sept. 24-26

- St. Patrick's Cathedral,
- Headquarters of the United Nations,
- Ground Zero 9/11 Memorial,



(CNS photo/Paul Haring)

This is the official logo of the Pope Francis's upcoming trip to the United States. He will make stops in Washington, D.C., New York City and Philadelphia in September.

- Madison Square Garden, and
- Our Lady Queen of Angels Elementary School.

Philadelphia, Sept. 26-27

- Mass at Cathedral Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul,

- Independence Mall,

- Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility,

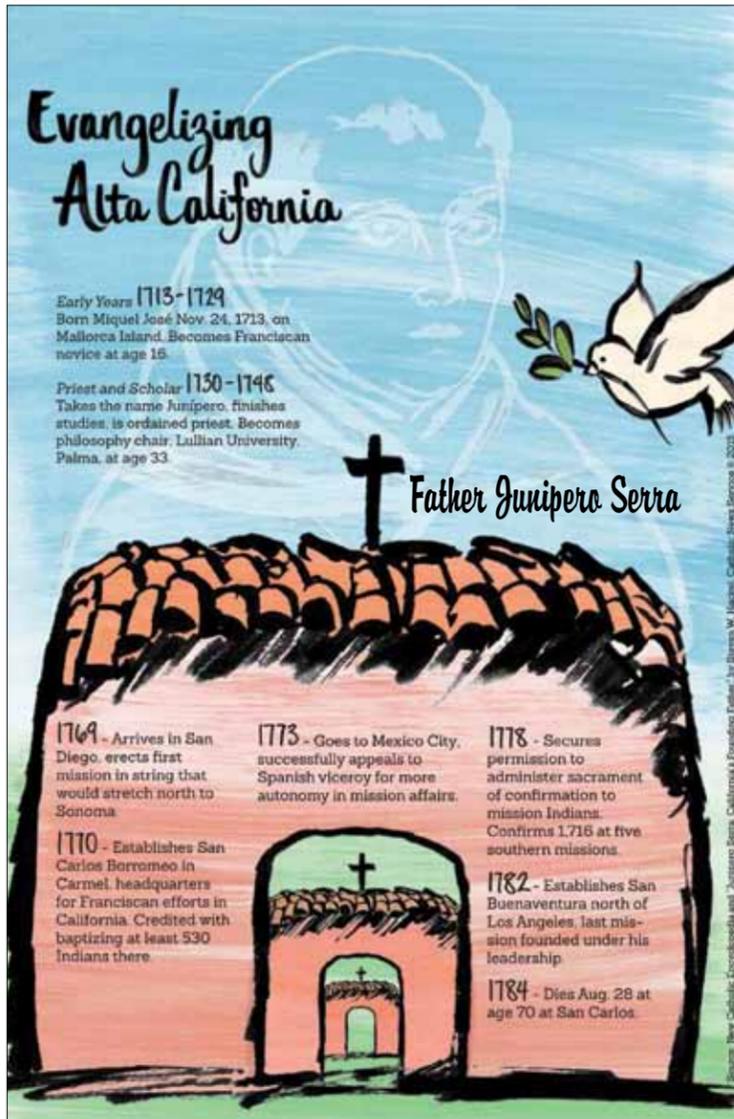
- Mass at Benjamin Franklin Parkway, and

- St. Charles Borromeo Seminary.

While he is in the U.S., the pope is expected to speak mostly in Spanish, his native language, according to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The bishops' organization will provide translators to help everyone understand what he is saying.

The pope has said his main reason for visiting the U.S. is the family meeting. But he will also celebrate a Mass on Sept. 23 to canonize — or recognize the sainthood of — Father Junipero Serra. Father Serra was one of the first Spanish missionaries to what is now the U.S.



A Good News Story

Jesus Tells His Disciples He is The Bread of Life

Catholic News Service

Whenever a crowd gathered around Jesus he tried to create an opportunity to teach the people about the kingdom of God.

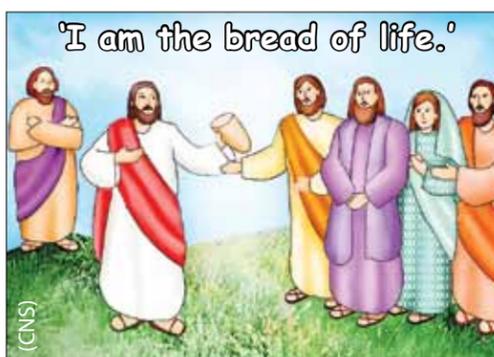
On this day, many people searched for Jesus in boats until they found him in Capernaum. One man asked a question of

Jesus that he knew many others wanted to ask.

“What sign can you do, that we may see and believe in you? What can you do? Our ancestors ate manna in the desert.”

“I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the desert, but they died; this is the bread that comes down from heaven so that one may eat it and not die.”

A wave of murmuring moved through the crowd. The men and women wondered what Jesus meant. Was he a new manna sent by God? How would they eat this living bread



Q&A

What food did Jesus compare himself to?

How did Peter answer the question Jesus asked him?

Read more in John 6.

Jesus talked about? Others were angered by Jesus' response.

Some felt that Jesus was trying to mock the laws of Moses. One of them stood up. He pointed angrily at Jesus and said to the people, “How can this man give us His flesh to eat?”

Jesus motioned for the people to quiet down. He was not angry at His accuser. He smiled and said calmly, “Amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you do not have life within you.”

The disciples who were with Jesus also had

questions. One of them said to Jesus, “This saying is hard; who can accept it?”

Jesus said to His friends: “Does this shock you? What if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where He was before?”

The disciples were embarrassed because Jesus knew they, too, had been complain-

ing. Not one of them could look Jesus in the eyes.

Then Jesus became more serious, saying that it is the Spirit who gives life, not the flesh. He said, “But there are some of you who do not believe.”

When Jesus said this, some followers left and no longer traveled with Him. Then Jesus said to the Twelve, His closest disciples, “Do you also want to leave?”

Peter answered: “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.”