

30. These laws and standards for religious art apply in a stricter and holier way to sacred music because sacred music enters more intimately into divine worship than many other liberal arts, such as architecture, painting and sculpture. These last serve to prepare a worthy setting for the sacred ceremonies. Sacred music, however, has an important place in the actual performance of the sacred ceremonies and rites themselves. Hence the Church must take the greatest care to prevent whatever might be unbecoming to sacred worship or anything that might distract the faithful in attendance from lifting their minds up to God from entering into sacred music, which is the servant, as it were, of the sacred liturgy.

31. The dignity and lofty purpose of sacred music consist in the fact that its lovely melodies and splendor beautify and embellish the voices of the priest who offers

Mass and of the Christian people who praise the Sovereign God. Its special power and excellence should lift up to God the minds of the faithful who are present. It should make the liturgical prayers of the Christian community more alive and fervent so that everyone can praise and beseech the Triune God more powerfully, more intently and more effectively.

32. The power of sacred music increases the honor given to God by the Church in union with Christ, its Head. Sacred music likewise helps to increase the fruits which the faithful, moved by the sacred harmonies, derive from the holy liturgy. These fruits, as daily experience and many ancient and modern literary sources show, manifest themselves in a life and conduct worthy of a Christian.



## News of Note

### Consistory in May to Examine Petrine Ministry

#### *Central Theme of Meeting Will Focus on Recent Apostolic Letter*

VATICAN CITY, FEB. 26, 2001 (Zenit.org).- John Paul II will convene an extraordinary consistory May 21-24 of all the Church's cardinals in order to analyze, among other things, the Petrine ministry and episcopal collegiality.

### Bills Would Aid Pharmacists Under Conscience Law

NEW YORK, MAR. 15, 2001 (Zenit.org).- Lawmakers in four states are pushing legislation that would provide job protection to pharmacists who refuse to dispense legal drugs, such as the "morning-after pill," on moral grounds, the Fox network reports.

The bills, being proposed in Ohio, Indiana, Kansas and Kentucky, are versions of a 1998 South Dakota law that lets pharmacists refuse to fill prescriptions if it conflicts with their beliefs, Fox said.

Supporters of the job protection bills say the proposed law offers pharmacists the same protection already available to doctors and other health-care workers who can cite ethical considerations when making medical decisions.

Both sides are watching a case heading into court in May in which a former pharmacist for Kmart is suing the giant retailer for wrongful termination because she was fired for refusing to fill a prescription for the morning-after drug.

In 1996, Karen Brauer refused to dispense the drug that prevents the implantation of an embryo because it constitutes an abortion. After she was fired, she filed a federal wrongful termination lawsuit against the company, claiming the termination violated an Ohio law that allows pharmacists to refuse to participate in medical procedures that result in abortion.

However, Kmart responded that dispensing pills is not a medical procedure and that pharmacists are not protected by the conscience law.