



Tens of thousands of people gather to pray in a floodlit St. Peter's Square early today at the Vatican. The pope's condition worsened after he suffered blood poisoning from an infection.

WAITING FOR POPE'S REIGN TO END

BY MATTHEW SCHOFIELD
Knight Ridder

Legacy is remembered, grieving begins as crowds gather for vigil

ROME — By late Friday, tens of thousands of Romans filled the streets, crowding historic squares, praying, grieving and yet rejoicing in the Polish man who has led the Roman Catholic Church for 27 years — and waiting for news that most thought had become inevitable.

Word that the life of Pope John Paul II was slipping away came Thursday night, just as political leaders were preparing to debate one last time before regional elections.

They stopped talking politics and used the televised debate to

explain the importance of this pope and what he'd meant to Italy, and to the world.

Then Rome started to grieve. Throughout Friday, Italians held their heads in their hands in cafes, sat with thousand-mile stares in piazzas and gathered by the thousands in sacred spots around the city.

Caron Miglio said the seriousness of the situation hit her when she woke Friday morning.

"You could just feel the difference between the other times he's been sick," she said. "This is a very sad city."

In her apartment only blocks from the Vatican, she turned on the television in the morning and watched the news. As night fell, she felt the need to walk the ancient cobbled streets to St. Peter's Square, and join the thousands standing in the curves of Bernini's colonnade.

Together, they prayed and sang and stared up at the two lit windows of the pope's corner apartment, so often a sign that he was hard at work for the church, but this night simply sad.

"Look, I'm not even

Catholic," Miglio said. "But he's such a lovely man. He's like everyone's grandpa, isn't he? We'll all miss him."

Barbara Wiessenfels, 37, said she couldn't step outside Friday without thinking of him.

"He was in my mind with every step today," she said.

Danilo Ciarniello, 27, said it was no mystery why the pope's failing health had such an effect on Rome. Ciarniello had come out to spend the evening at the final Mass at San Giovanni in Laterano, the home church of the pope, out of a sense of obli-

gation.

"He's done so much for us, for me," he said. "Even now, in his last months when he was suffering, he was teaching us lessons, about the value of life, and about facing death with dignity. These are lessons that will stay with us, even if he doesn't."

A nun, Sister Pino, said that anyone who loved the church understood what he had meant to it.

"His whole life has been reaching out to the world; he has touched so many people," she said. "He was a great pope."

Brother Moacyr, a Brazilian professor of church law, said this last lesson of Pope John Paul II's was one of many that would last beyond the life of the pope.

"Life has value, every bit of it, he's shown that to us," he said. "The last moments of his life are such a strong testimony. Aging does not mean you have nothing of value left to offer; this lesson came through in these last months. Life matters even if you are suffering. And these lessons are so appropriate with this pope, because his whole life was testimony. That's why the church will miss him, why the whole world will miss him."

Potential successors

Francis Arinze

Position: Arinze, 72, is head of the Vatican's Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of Sacraments.

Personal: He converted as a child from animism; would be the first black pope in centuries; a known conservative.

Pro: Well-liked; represents a part of the world where the church is expanding.

Con: A black African pope would be an even more radical departure from tradition than a Polish pope.

Godfried Danneels

Position: Danneels, 71, is archbishop of Mechelen-Brussels.

Personal: European but non-Italian, with a middle-of-the-road reputation.

Pro: The right age for a midrange papacy.

Con: Reputed to have health problems; may be too young for a transitional papacy if he doesn't.

Dario Castrillon Hoyos

Position: Hoyos, 75, is head of the Vatican's Congregation of the Clergy.

Personal: Colombian; known as a strident conservative theologically.

Pro: From Latin America, where the church is booming.

Con: May be too conservative.

Claudio Hummes

Position: Hummes, 70, is archbishop of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Personal: A Franciscan born in Brazil to German parents; traditional theologically, but known as an advocate for social justice; regarded as likely to place more power in the hands of national bishops.

Pro: Multilingual; gets along with left and right.

Con: Conservative Western Europeans probably won't go for him.

Lubomyr Husar

Position: Husar, 71, is head of the Greco-Catholic Church in Ukraine.

Personal: Born in Ukraine but fled communism with his family to Austria, then United States; educated and ordained in United States; seminary teacher and parish priest in Kerhonkson, NY; later studied in Rome and joined the Studite Monks.

Pro: Known as bright and articulate.

Con: As an Eastern or "Greek" Rite Catholic, he's part of a small minority within the Rome-based church.

Wilfrid Napier

Position: Napier, 63, is archbishop of Durban, South Africa.

Personal: Born in South Africa; studied in Ireland; appointed by John Paul II as Consultant to the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples

Pro: English-speaking; could appeal to those who don't want an Italian.

Walter Kasper

Position: Kasper, 71, is head of the Vatican's Council for Promoting Christian Unity.

Personal: A native of Germany; prolific author; taught at Catholic University in Washington in 1983; headed dialogues with many other Christian fellowships and with Jewish leaders.

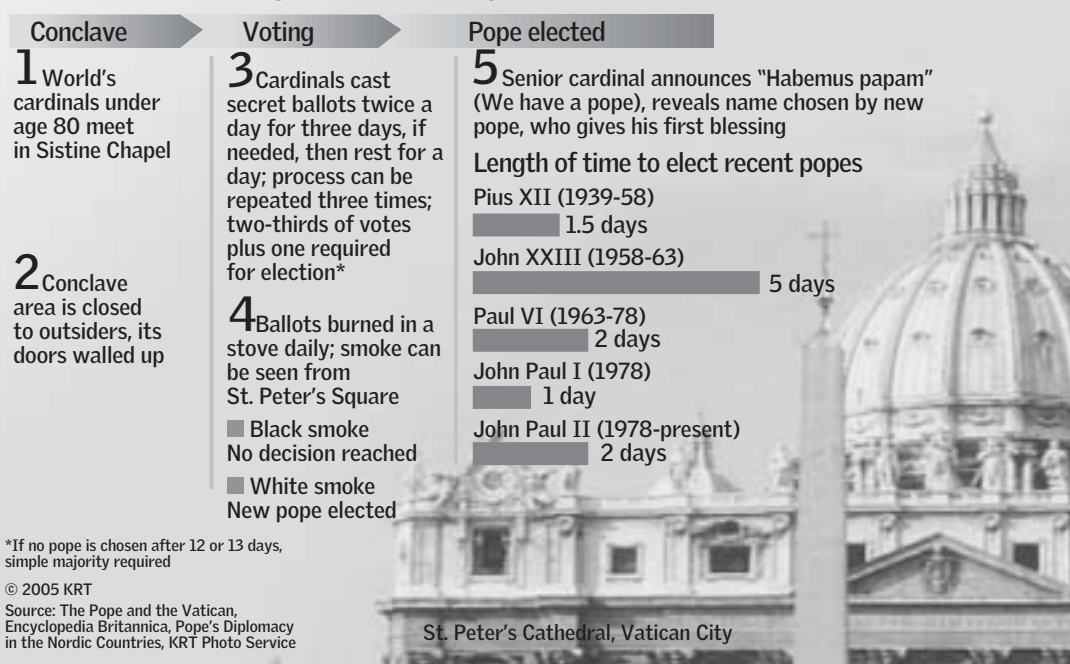
Pro: A bright theologian; ecumenically oriented.

Con: May be too liberal.

Source: Cox News Service

Electing a pope

Popes rule for life, and within 20 days of a pope's death, an electoral process established in the 1500s begins at the Vatican City.



Next pope won't be carbon copy of John Paul II; cardinals diverse

BY RACHEL ZOLL
Associated Press

Pope John Paul II has named nearly every cardinal who will elect his successor, but that does not mean the next pontiff will be just like him.

The world's cardinals hold diverse and often conflicting views about what are the most pressing issues for the Roman Catholic Church and will likely seek out a leader with different qualities than John Paul's.

"The cardinals, when they come in the conclave, they follow their conscience and they see what's useful for the church today," said Belgian Cardinal Godfried Danneels, in a recent interview with The Associated Press. "There is not that kind of nepotism in the church — I appointed all the cardinals so there will be exactly my copy. No. We are a bit more intelligent than that."

Among the cardinals mentioned as potential future popes are Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, a German who is the Vatican's doctrinal watchdog; Brazilian Cardinal Claudio Hummes; and Cardinal Oscar Andres Rodriguez Maradiaga of Honduras. Others also considered possible successors to John Paul include Cardinal Francis Arinze, a Vatican-based Nigerian; Cardinal Christoph Schoenborn of Austria and Cardinal Dionigi Tettamanzi of Italy.

The next pope will confront a range of challenges, including scientific advances that may conflict with Catholic teaching; the de-

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Godfried Danneels
Cardinal of the archdiocese of Mechelen-Brussels, Belgium

cline of religious observance in Europe and North America; an explosion in church membership in the Third World; and a dwindling number of priests in the West.

He will be taking over at a time of sometimes deadly interfaith tensions, and during a period of enormous global unrest, as world leaders confront terrorism in ways the church does not always condone.

Yet, when the cardinals decide who among them can handle these issues, some of their concerns may seem mundane.

After a quarter-century of John Paul's strong personality and hands-on management style, some want Vatican officials to stay out of the day-to-day operations of dioceses. Others believe officials in Rome should stay deeply involved to crack down on dissent.

Some church leaders believe cardinals and bishops should have more say in church governance, while others think that

power should remain mostly with the pope.

In simple terms, the new pope could be the kind of boss the cardinals want for themselves.

They also will look for a man with a strong command of English and Italian, to communicate with the world's Catholics and with church officials in charge of the day-to-day operations of the Vatican.

Age may also be a factor. John Paul's papacy of 26 years has been one of the longest in church history, and the cardinals may back an older candidate as a "transitional pope" — someone whose tenure may not be quite so long.

"Most cardinals don't think a really long papacy will be a good idea," said James Hitchcock, a historian and church expert at St. Louis University. "But with modern medicine, if they elect a man who is 70, he could live until he was 95."

Geography also will influence the vote. John Paul was the first non-Italian pope in 455 years. Vatican observers disagree over whether there will be pressure in the conclave to return the papacy to an Italian, or whether they will want to send a signal to the burgeoning ranks of Catholics in the Third World by choosing an African or Latin American candidate.

"This is one of the real dividing lines they're going to have to consider," said David Gibson, a former Vatican Radio newsmen and author of "The Coming Catholic Church."

Potential successors

Joseph Ratzinger

Position: Ratzinger, 77, is prefect of the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith and Dean of the College of Cardinals.

Personal: He is German, the son of a police officer, and served in the auxiliary anti-aircraft service in the last months of World War II; President of the commission that spent six years preparing a new Catechism of the Catholic Church. Known as chief architect of the Pope's strict moral policy.

Pro: Could be short-term "transitional" pope after the lengthy tenure of John Paul II.

Con: Has made enemies with his blunt, hard-line approach.

Oscar Andres Rodriguez Maradiaga

Position: Rodriguez Maradiaga, 63, is archbishop of Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Personal: Trained in classical piano and clinical psychology; founded Catholic University of Honduras; considered less rigid than some other Latin American cardinals.

Pro: Multilingual; known as a dynamic pastor willing to take on issues of human rights.

Con: Most of his work has been in Latin America.

Giovanni Battista Re

Position: Re, 71, is prefect of the Congregation for Bishops.

Personal: An Italian with a doctorate in canon law; served Vatican diplomatic corps in Panama and Iran before being called to Secretariat of State.

Pro: A Vatican insider who is knowledgeable about the church around the world.

Con: Has never served as a diocesan bishop; most cardinals head dioceses.

Dionigi Tettamanzi

Position: Tettamanzi, 70, is archbishop of Milan, Italy.

Personal: A former theology teacher and seminary official.

Pro: Gets along with conservatives and liberals.

Con: Non-Italians aren't as enthusiastic about him as Italians are.

Camillo Ruini

Position: Ruini, 73, is the vicar of Rome, president of Italian bishops conference.

Personal: Known conservative.

Pro: Admired theologian; generous to Third World churches.

Con: Health not good.

Jean-Marie Lustiger

Position: Lustiger, 78, is archbishop of Paris.

Personal: A Polish convert from Judaism whose mother died in a Nazi concentration camp; known as a moderate but a defender of John Paul II.

Pro: Known as a preacher; old enough that if cardinals pick a transitional pope they could assume he would not be around too long.

Con: Not known as a "heavyweight" or leader in the college.

Angelo Sodano

Position: Sodano, 77, Vatican secretary of state.

Personal: Italian, sometimes fills in for John Paul II at events; celebrated Mother Teresa's funeral Mass.

Pro: A safe choice; good diplomat.

Con: May be too much of an insider; reputation as uninspiring speaker; may be too old.

Source: Cox News Service