Pope's invited to Madonna

By MARGARET MILLER

A letter inviting Pope John Paul II to visit Madonan College in Livonia is on its way to the Vatican with the warm greetings of two Madonna administrators who just crossed paths with the Holy Father twice in Europe.

Sister Mary Danatha and Sister Mary Laurana, for 11 years Madonna's president and academic dean team, were close to the pope at Czestchowa and later had the opportunity to greet him in Rome in the course of their recent three-week trip.

By the time they were starting home they were thinking about an invitation to bring the pope to the college, operated by the Felician Sisters, an order that had its beginnings in Poland The letter was sent off by Sister Mary Francilene, current Madonan president, even before last week's official announcement tad John Paul III would travel to the United States in September.

'I think he will come to this part of the country," said Sr. Danatha, "and we're not that far away,"

"This could be his stop for a pause to refresh himself, "added Sr. Lauriana.

THE TWO EDUCATORS — Sr. Danatha now is director of cooperative education and Sr. Lauriana vice president for development — returned late in June from a journey designed to "touch base with our heritage."

Touch base with our heritage. Both are second-generation Polish nationals. Sr. Danatha's parents came from Wadowie, the home town of the pope, and Sr. Lauriana's father was from a small village near Poznan, and, as Felicians, they have ties to Krakow, where their religious congregation was founded, and to Rome, where their motherhouse is located.

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So the long-planned trip held excitement for both, even before it turned out that Pope John Paul II would be in Po-

ment for both, even before it turned out hat Pope John Paul II would be in Poland at the same time. They worried just a little that their four, which was planned by Palmar Tavel Agency and took them all over Poland and to Rome and Lourdes, might be disrupted because of the crowds bound to see the Pope. But it was only at Czestochowa that there was any change. "They told us the Holy Father would be there at the same time we would," Sr. Lauriani sald, "and we had the choice of accepting lesser hotel as we the lines at the markets to buy

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place.
"Everyone chose to be where the pope would be."
It worked out that their bus took them into the town where a monestary houses the Black Madonna painting, said to have stopped the Tartar invasion in the 16th century.
"The roads were blocked, but we had an escort into town," Sr. Danatha crealled. "We could look out and see all the thousands of people walking. There were so many there — there was an excitement you cannot forget."

THE TWO SISTEMS said they had

were so many there — there was an excitement you cannot forget.

THE TWO SISTERS said they had front row positions for the pope's motorcade appearance because "the Poles have a great respect for the religious and they lifted the ropes for us to go through."

Pope John Paul II, they said, spot at the shrine "and talked of great love for those who are "all and those who care for theil."

"He was bestowing a special blessing on those who help the sick," Sr. Danatha added.

They were particularly moved, they said, but the feeling in Czestochowa or the state of the state of the side of the state of th

tender, gentle, calm," Sr. Lauriana added.

In Rome, the nuns said, they again managed to be close to John Paul II when he appeared in St. Peter's Square at the end of a rainstorm.

"When he was close, I said to him, "Warm greetins from Livonia, Madonna College." Sr. Danatha said. "He asked what we were doing in Rome, and when I told him we were Felicians sisters his face peally briethened." sisters, his face really brightened.



Sister Mary Lauriana and Sister Mary Danatha (second and third from left) were close to Pope John Paul II twice during their recent

"But after seeing them," mused Sr. anatha, "you almost forgot there was n ocean separating us. I still feel that ay."

meat — people would wait two, three hours and still don't get any meat.

"And there is a great shortage of children's clothing — none are made there now, so there is inspection of the loggage of everyone who leaves the country so no children's clothing will be taken out."

All the relatives, the nuns said, we share the repart of the repart of the properties of the repart of the Krakow, was another memorable experience.
"Everything is made of glass, and it books like crystal," Sr. Danatha said. It is possible to go down several levels into the mine, and its lower reaches house a hospital for those with repiratory diseases. They said the mine as a site for visitors soon would be closed so

visit to Poland and Rome. This picture was taken in St. Peter's Square.

Encouraging music

is possible to go down several levels into the mine, and its lower reaches house a hospital for those with reparation of the try diseases. They said the mine as site for visitors soon would be closed so that hospital could get top bline and the trip was stop at Assis, home of St. Francis.

"We are Franciscans," Sr. Lauriana pointed out, "and in 1881 the Franciscan orders will mark the 800th anniversary of the birth of St. Francis."

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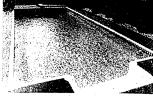
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