

## Washington, D.C. 💮

(NAPSA)—Washington, D.C. has a new resident that's fast becoming the talk of the town.

It is the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center—a one-of-a-kind facility that combines modern architecture, interactive computer exhibits, information about Catholicism and other religions and fascinating stories about faith and culture.



This Madonna and Child portrait is part of the new Pope John Paul II Cultural Center exhibition.

For art lovers, there are rotating exhibitions from the Vatican Museums. The initial exhibit, The Mother of God: Art Celebrates Mary, consists of 38 multicultural depictions of the Blessed Mother spanning the 2,000-year history of the Catholic Church. Many of these works have never before been seen outside the Vatican. The exhibit includes stirring images of the Madonna and Child in sculptures, carvings, and paintings that have been displayed in public viewing areas of the Vatican Museums and private papal quarters-even the bedroom of Pope Paul VI.

"The extraordinary images of Mary are a great interest to everyone, Catholics and non-Catholics alike," said Rev. G. Michael Bugarin, the Center's Director. The exhibition runs through June 2002.

The Center is open everyday except Mondays. Admission is \$6 to \$8 and children under three are admitted free. To learn more, visit the Web site at www.jp2cc.org or call 202-635-5400.