



The News

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by Sarah Heath

2023 will be a year for new pension reform as per President Macron's promise. Prime Minister, Elisabeth Borne, will meet with unions and business leaders this afternoon and tomorrow to discuss these reforms before presenting an outline draft of government plans on January the 10th. These discussions are predicted to be tense as the opposition and the unions have already rejected proposals to delay the legal retirement age to 64 or possibly even 65.

The call for French communities to help save energy has been abided by in Bordeaux. Since last night, the city has turned off 57% of its public lights between 1 a.m. and 5 a.m. and only the city centre and the main roads will remain lit. The objective is to reduce 25% of the city's energy consumption which will save more than €800,000 per year.

More than 10 days after the attack on the Kurdish community in Paris, a ceremony in tribute to the three people killed has been organized for today in Villiers-le-Bel in the Val-d'Oise. The coffins of the 3 victims will be present during the tribute. About 10,000 people are expected, according to the Kurdish Democratic Council in France.

Tributes are also taking place at the Vatican. Thousands of Catholics congregated yesterday to see the coffin of Pope Emeritus Benedict in St. Peter's Basilica. The funeral of the former pope, who died on Saturday at the age of 95, will take place on Thursday.

And in Brazil, crowds gathered yesterday in Santos, to say goodbye to football legend Pelé. After a funeral wake was opened to the public yesterday at the Santos FC stadium, the Brazilian star's funeral will take place today in the strictest privacy.

And finally to football news. There was success for Rennes last night against Nice when the Bretons won 2 goals to 1 at the end of the 17th day of Ligue 1. A little earlier Marseille beat Montpellier 2-1, Lille drew against Reims 1 goal apiece, and Strasbourg lost at home 3 goals to 2 against Troyes.