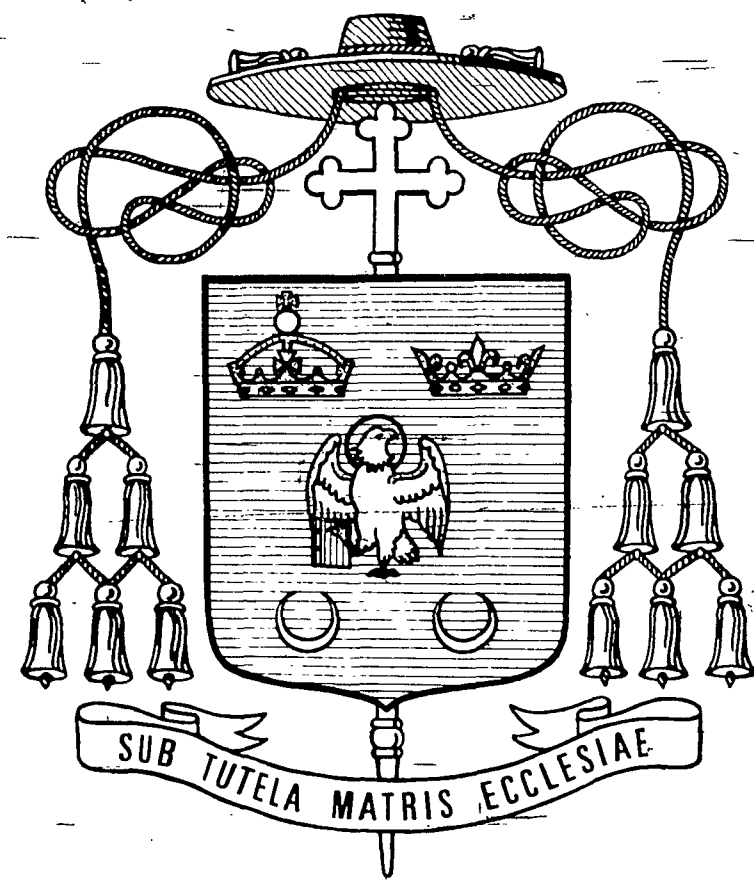


COAT OF ARMS
OF
HIS EXCELLENCY

The Most Reverend Dennis Walter Hickey, D.D.
TITULAR BISHOP OF RUSUCCURU
AUXILIARY TO THE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER

The motto, "Robur Meum Dominus" (God is my strength), reflects the principal charge on the arms of the Hickey family of Ireland, since the lion is the symbol of strength. The motto is taken from Exodus, the second Book of Moses: "The Lord is my strength and my praise, and he is become salvation to me: he is my God and I will glorify him: the God of my father, and I will exalt him" (15:2). A motto briefly expresses an ideal, a program of life, and the spirit of the one who bears it on his coat of arms.

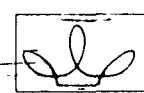


COAT OF ARMS
OF
HIS EXCELLENCY

The Most Reverend John Edgar McCafferty, D.D.
TITULAR BISHOP OF TANUDAIA
AUXILIARY TO THE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER

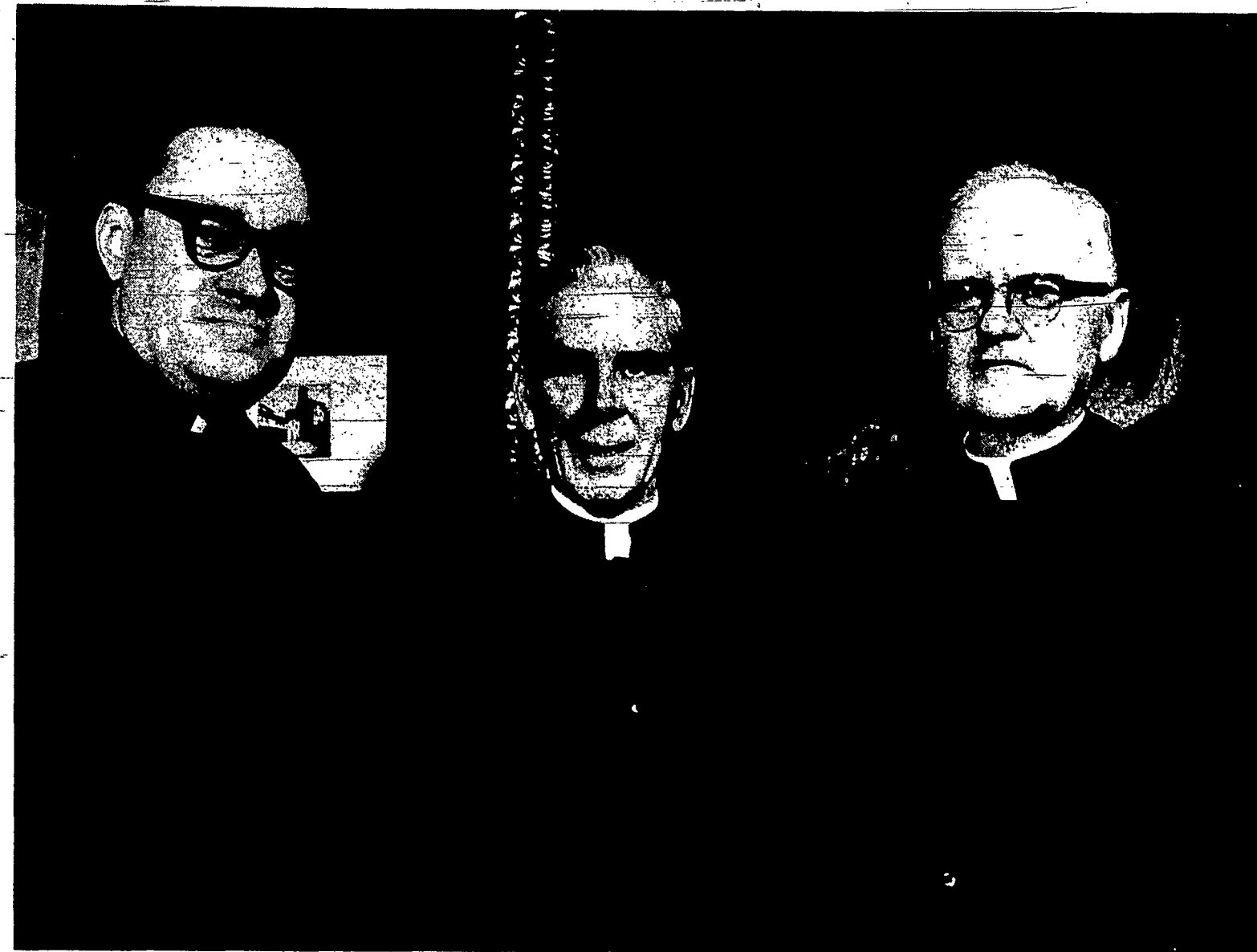
The motto, "Sub Tutela Matris Ecclesiae" (Under the protection of the Mother of the Church), is derived from the title, "Mother of the Church," given to the Blessed Virgin by His Holiness Pope Paul VI in his speech delivered at the closing of the third session of Vatican Council II. A motto briefly expresses an ideal, a program of life, and the spirit of the one who bears it on his coat of arms.

Hearts of the diocese swell with pride at the elevation of Monsignor Hickey and Monsignor McCafferty to the episcopacy. Both these new auxiliary Bishops are revered, respected and loved by the priests, sisters and people of the diocese. We pledge them our prayers and our support in their future responsibilities as successors to the Apostles.



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New Chapter in Diocesan History



Bishop Sheen stands with his newly-named auxiliary bishops, Bishop McCafferty (left) and Bishop Hickey, on the day their appointments were announced (Jan. 10).

Development of the Catholic faith in Western New York — of which founding the Diocese of Rochester was a monumental incident was one of the great events in the making of America.

Looking through the shadows of the past out of which this diocese emerged, we see Most Rev. Bernard J. McQuaid, first Bishop and architect of the diocese — builder of churches, colleges, seminaries, schools, cemeteries in a panorama of forty years.

Beyond the colossal figure of the great administrator, appears Bishop John Timon of Buffalo, his predecessor in this region when it was a part of the Diocese of Buffalo.

Work Begun

But long before Bishop McQuaid began his notable work of extending a spiritual empire and providing the physical properties for it — long before Bishop Timon fell upon his knees to ask for the extension of the Catholic Church over the territory in which he was spiritual administrator — the foundation had been laid for the Diocese of Rochester.

Expansion of the Catholic faith in this region goes back 283 years — to the year 1656 when Jesuit missionaries raised the Cross in Ontario County as the emblem of the Christian faith.

Occasionally an altar was erected in a Catholic home, and Mass was celebrated. Up to 1808 the Catholic Churches in New York State were

governed by church authorities in New York City — placed there by the Most Rev. John Carroll, first Bishop of Baltimore, which was the Mother See of the entire United States.

Priests who came to New York — most of them from foreign countries — were sent throughout the state, to celebrate Mass in isolated communities, to provide for the spiritual needs of families and individuals.

New Diocese Formed

When, in 1808, the progress of the Catholic Church in the United States warranted division of the Diocese of Baltimore, New York was one of the dioceses created, with the Most Rev. Richard Luke Concanen, an Irish Dominican, the first Bishop.

But he died soon afterward.

The Most Rev. John Connolly, who was named as his successor, made an inspection of the whole diocese as early as possible.

Rochester had only a few hundred families at the time, and there were only four priests in his charge, which included all of the state of New York and a part of New Jersey.

Before the time of railroads — with only the slowest means of transportation — the inspection was itself a tedious, slow job.

Priests were sent by Bishop Connolly to Rochester and Buffalo during 1818 and 1819. The first to arrive was

the Rev. Patrick McCormick, administering to the Catholics of Rochester.

St. Patrick's Church

During his pastorate in Rochester, the first Catholic Church — St. Patrick's — was built in this city.

Although there were only fifteen Catholics in Rochester in 1808, the number had increased to 1,500 by 1820 — a great influx of settlers which had been due to the construction of a highway that was opened the year before, running across the state.

When Bishop Du Bois, who had escaped to America during the French Revolution, was named successor of Bishop Connelly upon the death of the latter, there were 150,000 Catholics, eight priests and twelve churches in the Diocese of the whole state.

The Rev. John Hughes of Philadelphia was named to succeed him — and in 1850 was raised to the dignity of the first Archbishop of New York.

During 1842 a census showed 200,000 Catholics in the state of New York, with only forty priests and fifty churches.

On April 23, 1847, Archbishop Hughes erected Buffalo into an Episcopal See, which included all of the region now within the Diocese of Rochester — nearly one third of the state of New York in all.

Bishop of Buffalo
The Very Rev. John Timon, a Visi-

tor General of the Congregation of Missions, was consecrated as the first Bishop of Buffalo.

It is a noteworthy fact that he pontificated at his first Mass at St. Patrick's Church in Rochester on Oct. 22, 1847.

Not only did Bishop Timon perform valiant service in development of the Diocese of Buffalo, but he gave material aid in the formation of the Diocese of Rochester. One of his first official acts was the appointment of the Rev. Bernard O'Reilly as pastor of St. Patrick's Church in Rochester.

There was a discouraging scarcity of priests.

The Catholic population was growing speedily because of the waves of immigration sweeping into the land of opportunity and religious liberty.

This was not only true of Rochester and Buffalo, but also in remote communities, where Catholic families, who had worshipped devoutly while in their former homes, but were here denied the ministrations of priests because there were not enough to serve them.

New Diocese

Formation of the Diocese of Rochester took place on January 24, 1868, through its separation from the See of Buffalo.

The Most Rev. Bernard J. McQuaid was consecrated as its first Bishop by

(Continued on Page 3B)

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