

Diocese's Neediest Families

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incapacitated man unable to provide for his family. Daily, Mrs. D takes care of additional neighborhood children to earn a few extra dollars to supplement their meager income. Exhausted from taking care of her own children and others as well, she almost desperately tries to put enough money together for tomorrow's meal. She knows that she cannot meet the expenses of a small holiday celebration in her home. She turns to organizations like the Catholic Family Center in the hopes of finding comfort and financial assistance.

20. Mrs. I, her emotionally maladjusted nephew and his little boy live in a small ill-repaired house on the city's outskirts. Aged and weakened by years of hard work she willingly gives of herself for the support of this unemployed man and his son. Always needed is that little extra financial support so their Christmas can be brighter and bring with it the hope of better times ahead. Full stomachs from a Christmas dinner would provide some joy and warmth.

21. Deeply upset by overcrowding in the respective families, Tommiee, 19, and Candy, 17, (both names changed) decided upon a "muck marriage" this past May. (A "muck marriage" is a cohabitation arrangement between a male and female field worker based on the simple expediency that two can live cheaper together than the same two can live separately in the same camp.) The two are now expecting a child. Tommiee's job in a processing plant has been an on-and-off thing. Funds are very low. After the birth of her child, Candy would like to have her disfiguring harelip corrected by surgery, if possible.

Case cared for by Father Sebastian.

22. Mrs. T, an elderly widow, struggles to maintain her neat little home with a minimum of help from others. She cheerfully accepts her many physical problems but these add to her financial burdens. Only as a last resort does she turn to social agencies for help. She is proud of her independence but graciously and gratefully accepts help offered her to lighten her burden. She has no family and remembrance at Christmas time will help her feel she is not alone.

Mrs. M

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sent to the address on Page 2A. Please make checks out to Catholic Charities.

The cases listed are all true and are all in the diocese. They, however, represent only a fraction of the cases being cared for year-round by the Catholic Family Center. You are invited to contribute to individual cases but because some may receive a great deal of attention and others none the Family Center reserves the right to use its discretion and expertise in reaching as many people as possible.

Father Sebastian Falcone, OFM Cap., helps cases in the Wayne County area. If you wish to contribute to those under his care use the alternate address on Page 2A.

The mails are heavy. Act now.

Problem Pregnancy?

For free confidential help call Birthright: 716-328-8700.

Office Hours: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., weekdays; 24 Hour record-o-fone to receive messages.



23. C was discharged from the Army not long ago, after five months of Vietnam service, owing to his wife's mental breakdown. There are two children: 7 and 1½. Because of overpayments by the military, C did not qualify for severance pay — and in addition was ordered to pay back \$600. As C tries to mend the broken pieces of his world, "home" is a small apartment above a commercial garage. Rent: \$130 per month.

Case cared for by Father Sebastian.

24. Mrs. J, a mother with severe allergies, and recuperating from major surgery, is trying to care for the needs of her seven children within her welfare budget. They live in a house that provides inadequate heat and excessively high oil bills. As a result several of the children have bronchial conditions and the youngest, 18 months old, has had pneumonia and one constant cold. Better housing is desperately needed. These children will have to go without the luxury of Christmas this year unless they can rely on the kindness of someone in our community.

25. Following her husband's death in a car accident and prior to the 1969 fruit-picking season, Mrs. G moved her family from Florida to a Wayne County rural area. Periodic work in the fields and in a processing plant, together with welfare assistance, have not eased the strain of raising six children, her oldest boy and two youngest having been left with her parents in the South. Her oldest boy, now 21, is due for release following rehabilitation for drug addiction. She would like to have him and the two youngest join her.

Case being cared for by Father Sebastian.

26. Mary, an unwed mother age 17, has a baby boy one year old. They make their home with Mary's mother and sister who is in school. Mary's mother is trying hard to support her family on a very low income each

week. Baby A will not have the bright colorful lights when he walks into the living room on Christmas morning and later in the day the family will not have the festive feast without someone who is willing to give.

27. Mrs. C is trying to maintain a home for her two sons on her small Social Security check. Recently she took into her home and care a nephew after his mother abandoned her family. Because of bad health, Mrs. C is not able to obtain employment. Financial assistance is often needed to purchase groceries. She is desperately in need of clothing for herself and money to pay the bills that are piling up.

28. With her nine children (ages 16 to 5) Mrs. W lives in a three-room "house" (actually a converted storage shed), substandard even for summer and fall migrant workers but totally inadequate, because uninsulated, for winter occupancy. The family lived through a middle-of-the-night kerosene heater explosion. Donations from last year's Courier appeals have provided for a new, reliable heater. Immediate objective: two perimeter electric heaters for the two remaining rooms.

Case cared for by Father Sebastian.

29. Cheri B, age 19, has been known to Catholic Family Center since she was 11 years old when she was placed in one of our foster homes. She graduated from a special education program and has obtained employment, earning an excellent record for her attendance and service. Although Cheri has several brothers and sisters,

Paper Makes Contribution

The Courier-Journal will contribute \$100 to the Catholic Charities Christmas Fund, it has been announced by Anthony J. Costello, general manager.

"The gift is meant as a token of concern," explained Costello. "We hope it provides some incentive for others to contribute to the Catholic Charities' cause which is in the best tradition of Christian work."

"We at the Courier-Journal hope the drive is a success and that every family in the diocese has the best Christmas possible," he added.

acceptance of others," the priest said.

"Every missionary who has been to Africa, Asia, or Latin America will tell you," Father stressed, "that leprosy treatment, prevention, and rehabilitation is urgently needed in the poorest of mission countries where an estimated 15 million people are presently afflicted. Only a minority," Father added, "are receiving help."

"It is through the financial assistance of the 'Propagation' that the needed medicines, surgical appliances, mobile units, building and maintaining clinics, and even the smallest necessities as bandages, crutches, and bed sheets are provided."

Father Reinhart said that persons wishing to contribute funds to leprosy may send their gifts to:

"Christmas Appeal" Father Joseph F. Reinhart, diocesan director, 50 Chestnut Street Rochester, New York 14604.

Where to Send Your Gift

The Courier-Journal Christmas Fund
Care of Catholic Charities
50 Chestnut St.

or

The Courier-Journal Christmas Fund
Father Sebastian Falcone
Catholic Charities
50 Chestnut St.
Rochester, N.Y. 14604

either their whereabouts are unknown or they are not in a position to do much for her. Now living in a group facility, Cheri regularly sees her caseworker for guidance, support and encouragement. Christmas could be very lonely for Cheri but we hope to be able to make it happier for her.

30. Mr. and Mrs. J, in their mid-20s, with a fifth child on the way, dropped out of the migrant stream a little over one year ago. Eight-year-old Billie,

the oldest child, has already been enrolled in four schools and is quite backward in the basic learning skills. A younger child has a respiratory condition. The family lives in a run-down trailer, some 2½ miles from the nearest inhabited area. With payments overdue on his 1964 car, C faces likelihood of losing janitor and car-polishing employment in an automobile agency.

Case being cared for by Father Sebastian.



GIFTS OF LOVE FOR CHRISTMAS

THE HOLY FATHER'S MISSION AID TO THE ORIENTAL CHURCH

For seven years, Msgr. Nolan has journeyed to Bethlehem to participate in midnight Mass on Christmas. He has also taken gifts to our Lord each year, just as the Magi did so long ago. These gifts are gifts of love—thousands of them from good people like yourself who want to help the hungry, the sick and the helpless in the Holy Land, the Near East and India. These are just as much gifts to Christ as those of the Magi. And they occasion no less rejoicing in Heaven. Will you put your gift in Monsignor Nolan's hand before he starts his Christmas journey? Simply fill out the coupon below and enclose it with your gift. We thank you, confident that through sharing, your Christmas will be spiritually enriched.

LIKE THE MAGI

YOU CAN GIVE

- \$200 Builds a home for a family. . . . He had a cave
- \$100 Provides a hospital bed and care for a month. . . . He had only a manger
- \$ 50 Feeds 5-families for a month. . . . He was poor
- \$ 25 Supplies a year's medical needs for a Refugee family. . . . He was unattended
- \$ 10 Provides Braille Readers for a Blind child. . . . He came to give light
- \$ 2 Buys a warm blanket for a child. . . . He had swaddling clothes
- \$ _ Provides love. . . . HE IS LOVE

This Christmas Season you'll have a unique opportunity to see first hand the results of our work you've been supporting so generously. During Christmas Week, December 24th through 31st, you can watch THE UNTOLD STORY, an unusually moving T.V. special about the homeless children of the Middle East, and the remarkable visit of three orphan girls with The Holy Father. CHECK YOUR LOCAL T.V. LISTINGS FOR THE DATE AND CHANNEL IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

Dear Monsignor Nolan:

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