



Your Heritage

Dec. 8, 1776. George Washington crosses the Delaware River for the first time, bound from Trenton to Pennsylvania. The crossing of his army, Dec. 3-8, was at Colvin's Ferry, now Morrisville, opposite Trenton. The colonial troops were actively aided by the owner of the ferry, Patrick Colvin, an Irish-born Catholic who lived in Trenton.

When Washington recrossed the Delaware on Dec. 25 to fall upon the Hessians at Trenton, he used McConkey's Ferry, farther north. But most likely he returned to Pennsylvania with his 1000 Hessian prisoners on Dec. 26 by Colvin's Ferry.

A few days later Washington's troops, bound for Princeton, were again ferried across by Colvin. Colvin likewise took care of Washington's crossing in the summer of 1781, when the General was bound for Yorktown.

Because of his loyal and constant helpfulness, Colvin was given the privilege, on Feb. 21, 1789, of ferrying across the "Father of His Country," who now was en route to New York, with a distinguished company, to take the oath of office as the first president of the United States. — Rochester Diocesan Bicentennial Commission.

DPC Meets Sunday

Reports from the committees studying the five areas of concern will be the major activity of the Diocesan Pastoral Council on Sunday, Dec. 7. Bishop Hogan will open the meeting, which will take place at St. Francis DeSales Hall in Geneva from 1 to 5 p.m.

The third meeting of the council will continue organizational efforts, and information and reactions from throughout the diocese will take up the greatest part of the meeting. The committees examining the five areas of concern — Pastoral Organization, Supportive Ministries, Worship and Life, Social Mission, and Teaching Mission — will report on progress since the September meeting. The members will hear also reports on Parish Ministry, and from the Nursing Home Task Force.

PCNY Raises Questions

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on to broaden this process to involve the religious and laity in this process.

A third recommendation of the Canon Law Society provides for the submission by a diocesan group, to be established for the purpose, of the names of potential candidates for bishoprics and their qualifications to the ordinary.

While there was general consensus on the first two recommendations there were many questions about the third, since it was felt it would be contrary to the present norms of the Holy See.

Neediest Cases

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3. a girl, 19 months, and a baby girl born three weeks ago.

35. Mr. and Mrs. C., a very old couple who live alone in a three-room apartment, are in desperate need of assistance. Both Mr. and Mrs. C. are in bad health. Mrs. C. has had five pacemakers over the last few years; is constantly in and out of the hospital and walks with a walker. Mr. C. suffers from a blood disease; high blood pressure, overweightness and water on the legs. Each has adult children from previous marriages, but the children do not have time for them now that they are elderly.

36. Mrs. W., a widow with five children, is depressed and struggling to maintain a family life for her children. Her husband died last year and she has had to apply for Public Assistance. This grant only meets the most immediate needs of the family. The children range from ages 11 to 17. Mrs. W.'s family will have a gloomy Christmas unless kind-hearted people, through their generosity, lend a hand.

37. Millie, 73, lives in complete isolation in a very delightful garden type complex for "seniors". She believes that all her neighbors are trying to cause her trouble. They make noise to disturb her, and they call the police to give her trouble, after she hasn't been seen for days. She is very poor and quite helpless. Since she can't face her problems and loneliness, she drinks too much. She needs to know people care, although she acts as if she doesn't need anyone.

38. Anna is a pleasant lady, 68, who is legally blind. She is very friendly, loves people, music and poetry. She even likes to write poetry. She reads braille and types on a braille typewriter. She cares for herself and her needs. However she is very poor and isolated. She never leaves her apartment.

39. Frank is 81, and lives alone. His wife died a little over a year ago. He can't adjust himself to this loneliness. He cries a lot, and can't understand why he can't go to live with his son. Since this is impossible, he just sits alone. He is unsteady on his feet so the only place he walks is to church. Besides this, Frank is also very poor.

40. Jane D. is 19, her brother, Herman is 18. Last year Jane and Herman's mother and father both died in unrelated sudden illnesses within two months of each other, leaving Jane, Herman and 11 other younger children. Jane's parents both worked, father as laborer, mother as seamstress; scant insurance covered burial and caught up bills but that was it. Jane quit college and Herman postponed college so that they could avoid the family separating. A little extra boost at Christmas would be appreciated.

41. Franklin's family just hasn't caught on to the Christmas spirit yet. Franklin's parents arrived in Rochester out of the migrant stream from Florida in 1972. By 1975 they had saved enough money to purchase a home. After signing an agreement with the owner, Franklin's father was laid off from work as the company closed up shop. This did not discourage Franklin's father however, who knew he would be able to find work elsewhere! On route to a very promising job interview, Franklin's father was in an auto accident and subsequently spent four months in the hospital in traction. Because his previous medical insurance had lapsed and he was not eligible for medicaid, his hospital bills were paid with the savings for his house. Franklin's dad still hasn't found work. The real estate deal has obviously fallen through — with Franklin's parents being sued

for breach of contract and they are contemplating bankruptcy. A surprise Christmas would be great for Franklin, his parents and his two brothers and sisters.

42. Mrs. A. is a widow with three daughters, ages 14, 12 and 8. She has a most difficult time managing on a small income; frequently her S.S.I. checks are late and, too, the clothing needs of three growing girls are extensive. There is no money for any extras to make the Christmas season bright.

43. Mrs. B. is a mother of six children, five daughters, ages 16, 15, 14, 12, and 8, and a son age 18 months. Her husband deserted the family 15 months ago and his whereabouts are unknown. One of the daughters has a heart condition which is an added worry to Mrs. B.

44. Mrs. R. is an elderly lady living alone. She has no relatives and is very lonely except for visits by her social worker. She has a very difficult time managing on her very small inadequate income. She has a serious heart condition. Any contribution would be appreciated by this very deserving woman.

45. Mrs. Y. and her four children have a very difficult time making a living on their welfare check.

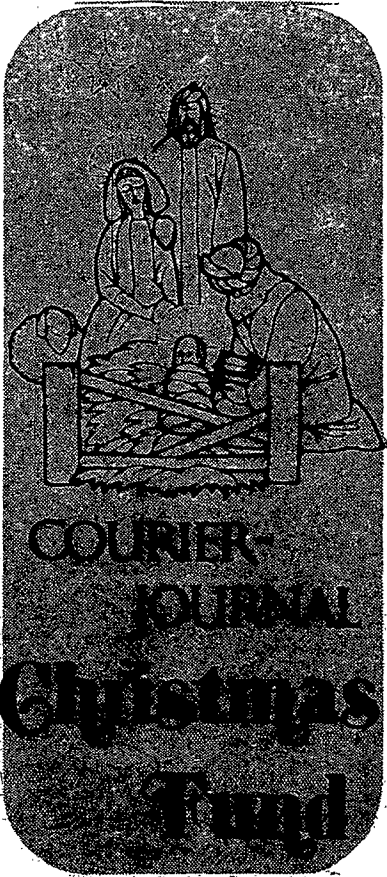
46. Mr. M. has a hard time on his S.S.I. check and has difficulty in walking because of problems with his legs. He likes to read a great deal, but cannot get around. Books of any type would be greatly appreciated.

47. Mrs. W. has been having a hard time since her husband had a mental breakdown and he has not worked for several months.

48. Mr. D., now working for just a few weeks, has very little money and his salary is almost that of a welfare recipient; therefore, he cannot afford any clothing for work (suits). Any donations of money towards clothing would be greatly appreciated.

49. Mrs. S. and her five children have had a trying existence since her husband left the family two years ago. Mother and her three daughters, age 11, 10, and 5 and her two sons, age 3 and 2, live on an income which does not provide for adequate clothing especially for five growing youngsters. Any donations would help make their Christmas happy.

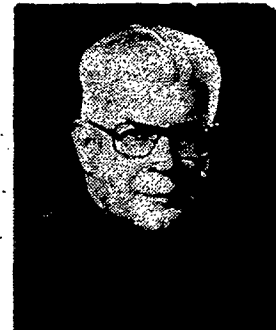
50. Mrs. C. is a widow with three children, a boy, age 13 and two girls, age 12 and 11. Because her husband, who died nine years ago, did not work steadily, the family had no financial benefits after his death and are receiving Public Assistance. Life holds little happiness for this family except what they give each other.



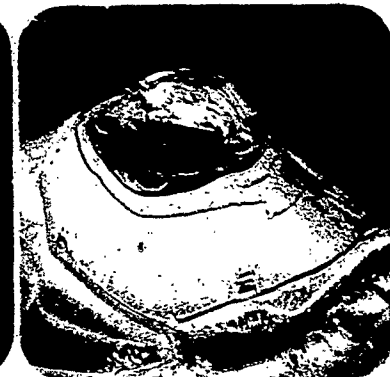
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