

1974-1975 Diocesan Financial Review Diocese of Rochester

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OFFICE OF THE BISHOP



December 31, 1975

My dear People:

As we bring another calendar year to a close, I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity to the Church of Rochester during the past fiscal year. Your financial contribution has enabled the Church in our Diocese to reach out in our ministries to reconcile, to comfort and to challenge one another to greater generosity as we share our personal talents and material gifts.

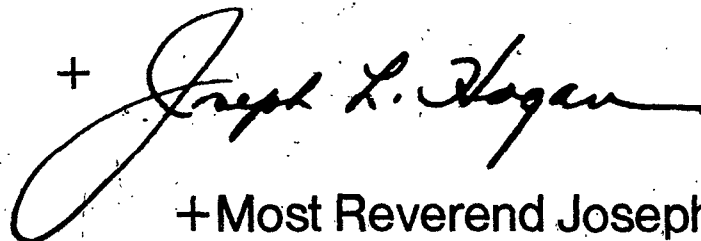
The following financial reports of the Diocese of Rochester, St. Bernard's Seminary and Becket Hall show that the effects of the inflation on our resources have been dramatic.

The result of operation of the Diocese of Rochester indicates a net deficiency in the General Fund which is principally due to the absorption of a non-recurring charge relative to the Council of Inner-City Parishes deficit operation and other financial support. Both St. Bernard's Seminary and Becket Hall have indicated a net deficiency in the reporting of their finances which is a reflection of reduced income and increased expenses.

As I mentioned to you in my Pastoral Letter, which you had an opportunity to read in the *Courier-Journal* edition of December 17, 1975, gratitude is at the heart of our Christian communion. As we open our hearts and hands to the Giver of all gifts, we are forcefully reminded that our life is not to be clung to possessively, but to be shared and finally given away. A deep understanding of the virtue of gratitude makes us receivers instead of takers. May we always be challenged to look around us to see what we can do for others. May we always remember that the gifts we have received should be given as gifts.

Thanking you for your past generosity and with every best wish for a Blessed and Happy New Year, I remain

Gratefully yours in Christ,

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+ Most Reverend Joseph L. Hogan, D.D.
Bishop of Rochester