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Catholic Response To Refugees Called 'Magnificent'

(See Pages 6 and 7)

Washington, D.C. [RNS] — The efforts of individual Roman Catholics and Catholic agencies in finding homes and jobs for some 53,000 Southeast Asian refugees were praised by the president of the U.S. Catholic bishops' conference here, who called for further efforts for the "assimilation" of refugees into mainstream America.

In a letter to every Catholic bishop in the U.S., Archbishop Joseph L. Bernardin of Cincinnati declared that local diocesan response to his plea last Spring for resettlement of refugees "has been magnificent."

Pointing out that the last of the refugees have been resettled and the camps closed, Archbishop Bernardin said, "This is largely due to the endeavors of our religious and laity who have found homes and jobs for nearly 53,000 persons in every diocese in our nation, including Alaska, Guam and Hawaii."

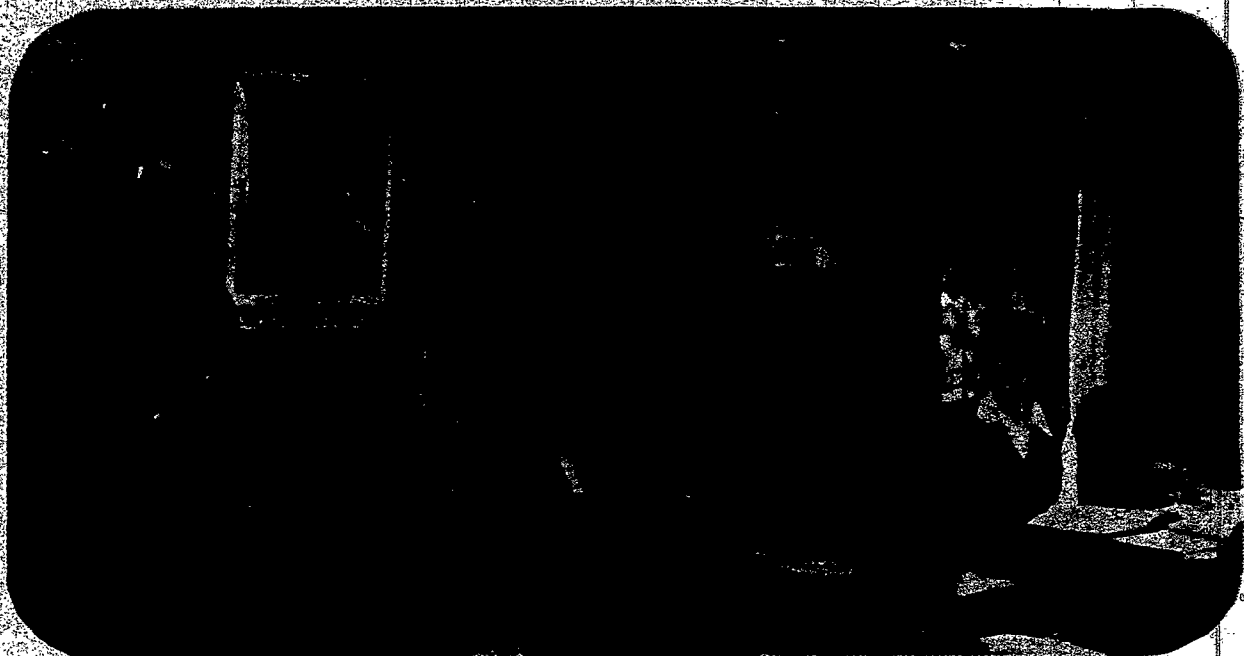
The Catholic Family Center

reports that 250 Vietnamese refugees were sponsored in the Rochester diocese in cooperation with the United States Catholic Conference.]

He said that it is beyond question that the resettlement programs have pointed up a "worldwide dimension" of the "strength, concern and humanitarian endeavors of our Church. It has been an effort of which we all should be proud."

Archbishop Bernardin said that although the initial phase of the refugee resettlement effort is completed, further efforts aimed at total assimilation of the refugees into the mainstream of American society must be carried on to the fullest extent.

"You may be assured," he told the bishops, "that arrangements have been made for continued interest, help and assistance for these new arrivals on the diocesan level."



Bishop Hogan addresses Sisters Council. Story on Page 2.

Photo by Susan McKinney

Courier-Journal Christmas Fund

Record \$42,290 Collected From 1,951 Contributors

For the seventh straight year the Courier-Journal is able to announce that its Christmas fund drive exceeded the previous year's. This year, \$42,290 was contributed, more than ever before. The previous high was last year's \$33,904.

Perhaps more significant than the amount donated, however, is the number of contributors — 1,951, which is more than 200 more persons contributing than did the previous year.

Anthony J. Costello, general manager of the Courier-Journal, sees the increasing number of contributors as noteworthy.

"The fact that so many are participating is particularly heart-warming," he said. "It is a real people-to-people program. I also think it is important to realize that the fund keeps growing despite the poor economic climate."

The drive is conducted annually

in conjunction with Catholic Charities. As has become traditional, the Courier-Journal publishes the 100 neediest cases in the diocese. They are provided by Catholic Charities and come from across the diocese. These cases serve to illustrate the need existing in our area but actually many more families and individuals are assisted through Catholic Family Center.

'Life' March To Protest '73 Ruling

The Rochester area Right to Life Committee has scheduled a March for Life at 2 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 24. The march notes the third anniversary of the Supreme Court ruling which declared abortion on demand legal.

The area March for Life is in conjunction with a national demonstration in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 22, urging national leaders to ban abortion. Cardinal Terence Cooke, chairman of the Committee for Population and Pro-Life Activities, has urged all dioceses to participate in some way.

March for Life will begin at Washington Square Park on Clinton Avenue and will proceed by way of Clinton and Main to the Liberty Pole. The marchers will then return to the park.

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan will participate in a prayer service at St. Mary's Church, across from Washington Square, at the end of the march. March for Life will be shorter this year to allow sufficient time for the service. The service is scheduled to begin at approximately 2:45 p.m.

Other plans in the diocese include a Mass for the Innocents at St. Michael's Church in Newark. The Mass will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 21, the eve of the Washington march.



Photos by Susan McKinney

Helen Moulton, 93, receives First Holy Communion from Father James Moynihan, Highland Hospital Chaplain, Jan. 10.

New Communicant Welcomed at Age 93

A woman who said she had been thinking all her life of becoming a Roman Catholic was received into the church Saturday at the age of 93.

The new member is Helen Moulton of Garfield Street, who has been a patient at Highland Hospital since she was injured in a fall Jan. 3.

Her daughter, Ruth Hyland, raised Catholic as if by chance, said of Mrs. Moulton's decision, "It was all her own."

Prepared for the step by Father Paul McCabe, pastor of St. Augustine's, the aged woman received her First Communion from Father James Moynihan, hospital chaplain.

Mrs. Hyland told the story this way: neither of her parents was Catholic, but her mother, an

Episcopalian, was a High Church. Ruth, as yet unbaptized, began her schooling at Blessed Sacrament, and the late Msgr. Thomas F. Connors baptized her. Thereafter, Mrs. Moulton raised this only daughter in the Catholic faith, and Ruth married a Catholic, the late Walter Hyland. She also taught for 11 or 12 years in St. Augustine's School.

She said her mother was "working hard at ceramics" until her accident and recently had made two chalices for St. Augustine's.

Mrs. Moulton is dependent on a wheelchair and walker now. Her mind is "very clear," Mrs. Hyland emphasized. "And she made it up all by herself. It was what she wanted."



Father Moynihan congratulates Mrs. Moulton.