

Catholic Charities

One of the largest social service agencies in the area, Catholic Charities comprises ten agencies offering programs ranging from adoption services to residential care for the elderly, including marriage preparation, family counseling, youth ministry, neighborhood organization and summer camp. The programs involve more than 600 employees.

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rochester, Inc., is a federation of human service agencies under Catholic auspices. Each agency has its own director, goals, and staff. Father Joseph D'Aurizio, as director of Charities, coordinates activities among the agencies, and with other diocesan departments.

Two of the agencies are operated directly by Father D'Aurizio, Camp Stella Maris and the St. Elizabeth Guild. Two others, St. Joseph's Villa and St. Ann's Home and the Heritage, are independently incorporated.

The other agencies each have their own directors under Catholic Charities: Catholic Family Center, DePaul Clinic, Family Life Office, Catholic Youth Organization, Charles Settlement House and Genesee Settlement House.

Father D'Aurizio points out that his most important function is to coordinate the activities of the agencies, working toward the overall goals of the Church.

To insure cooperation among the

agencies, Father D'Aurizio meets with the directors regularly. Programs with shared sponsorship, drawing on the expertise available in various agencies and departments of the diocese, are the result. One example is youth retreats, co-sponsored by CYO and Teen Seminar, a diocesan department. For consultative services on youth ministry, parishes can turn to the Office of Family Life, and CYO, two Charities agencies, and the Religious Education Department of the diocese.

During the past year, Catholic Charities funded a study with the Office of Human Development examining how banks, utilities and other organizations treat unemployed persons.

Father D'Aurizio also pointed out that the CYO, the Catholic Family Center, the Family Life Office, Genesee and Charles Settlement Houses all work closely with parishes on educational programs and other activities.

Father Edward Palumbos, newly appointed priest executive for diocesan Worldwide Marriage Encounter, will work with Father Robert Collins, director of the Family Life Office, Father D'Aurizio said.

The Catholic Family Center was responsible for the Vietnamese refugee program. During the year, 250 Vietnamese refugees were settled in the diocese. The program was in cooperation with the United States Catholic Conference and the

federal government. The work with the Vietnamese hasn't ended, as the Family Center has assisted the Vietnamese in forming a social and cultural group.

New programs, activities, and services were made available during the year by several of the agencies.

During 1975, \$150,000 was spent on improvements at Camp Stella Maris, bringing it up to state standards and winterizing the main building. The improvements have meant an increase in the use of the camp, Father D'Aurizio noted. In addition to the summer camping sessions, six weeks for boys and girls sessions, and four for family camping, the camp has also been used for Confirmation classes, family retreats, vocation weekends, sisters and priests retreats and by other groups seeking retreat facilities.

A major initiative the past few years, Father D'Aurizio said, is the CYO Youth Development Program. The program includes four different retreat programs for teenagers, and two programs designed to reach groups not previously active in CYO activities. Inner-City Outreach offers programs in four parishes in Rochester's inner city. Project Poder provides similar services for Spanish-speaking youth.

Reaching people with problems is that necessary first step for all the agencies. The services they provide are designed for the problems of the specific person at the time, such as Birthright, psychiatric counseling, residential care, or marriage counseling. The other half

of the work is dedicated to preventative programs: family education, marriage preparation, youth development, or medical care.

The availability of these services is made known on the agency level and by Catholic Charities. Brochures are available on specific programs, and agencies distribute them and conduct public awareness activities in accordance with their programs.

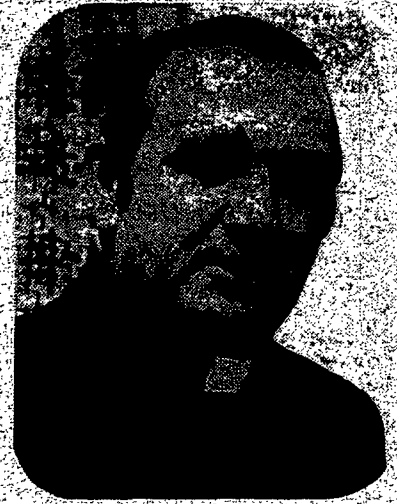
Another activity is the Courier-Journal Christmas Appeal, which raised \$42,290 in 1975. The funds are used by the Catholic Family Center to provide food vouchers to families and individuals. About 1,200 were distributed during 1975.

The Office of Catholic Charities receives no diocesan funding. It derives its budget from three sources: an assessment paid by member agencies, income from an endowment, and donations made directly to the office. The budget for the fiscal year beginning Jan. 1, 1976 for the office is \$66,051, which includes office expenses, salaries, temporary financial aid to persons seeking help, and a program budget.

The Charities agencies receive funding from a variety of sources.

The only agency receiving diocesan funding is the Family Life Office, which receives \$6,000 a year. The remainder of its budget comes from Charities funds.

St. Joseph's Villa, providing residential care for disturbed youth, receives its funding from the



FATHER D'AUZIO

Monroe County Department of Social Services.

St. Ann's Home and the Heritage and Camp Stella Maris are funded by user fees.

St. Elizabeth Guild, directed by Father D'Aurizio, is presently inactive. The organization purchased homes for use as group homes; two have been transferred to St. Joseph's Villa during the last year.

The other Charities agencies are major beneficiaries of the Community Chest drive. For instance, the Catholic Family Center receives 62 per cent of its budget of \$912,000. The DePaul Clinic, CYO, Charles and Genesee Settlement houses also receive Community Chest grants. Total Community Chest grants to Charities agencies for 1975 totaled more than \$12 million. The agencies also receive payments from government sources for services offered under government programs.

Chancellor

During the course of the summer the diocesan chancellor was reviewing and helping rewrite proposals on establishing a new assessment program for the controversial Monroe County Pure Waters tax, granting faculties of the diocese to other priests, granting testimonial letters to those entering marriage, sacred orders or religious life, processing canonical decisions, verifying and certifying all papers, documents, procedures required by canon and/or civil law (from courts, banks and attorneys) relating to the diocese and parishes.

And not at all looking forward to his vacation for which he had

already spent a \$75 reservation fee to work as a deck hand on a sail boat for a few days.

The wryly witty Father William Flynn heads the office at the pastoral center through which passes anything that pertains to legal action either civil or canonical or both.

He has been in the office for seven years, the first five as assistant to Father James Moynihan (whom he describes as "my teacher") and the last two as chancellor.

He has more than 27 specific "functional duties" for the diocese, among them coordinating the annual Catholic Relief Services

Appeal, coordinating the Thanksgiving Clothing Drive, preparing numerous reports required by Rome and other ecclesiastical bureaus, and supervising real estate holdings of the diocese, for which he has a state license.

He's also a licensed insurance broker, a judge on the Tribunal, and an officer (secretary) of the diocesan corporation.

Father Flynn likes his work. He and his part-time secretary are the only employees of the office for which he works a regular five-day week. On weekends he ministers at St. Rose of Lima Church.

And he has "not really found myself curtailed" for want of

money or personnel in his duties.

If anything would change, Father Flynn, "would probably look for an assistant. I'm getting older and I'll need a replacement." Father Flynn is 43.

Seriously, though, he does hope to train another man in the intricacies of the chancery. He sees certain areas, "especially in real estate and civil law better served in the hands of another. A layman is a possibility."

His office works in collaboration with diocesan departments of finance, tribunal, planning, and administration, collaboration he says "is honestly, excellent."



FATHER FLYNN

Ecumenism

The report on the Commission for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs (CEIA) is unique in that it is made not by a director but by an "outsider" so to speak. This is because Father Charles Latus was the director until Jan. 1 when he began to devote fulltime to his co-pastorate at Our Lady of Mercy. His replacement, Sister Kathleen Kircher, has just assumed the directorship as of Sept. 1.

So, in pinch-hitting, James Noonan, Bishop Joseph L. Hogan's administrative assistant, was able to do something which would be considered immodest of the other spokesmen in their reports — praise the director.

Speaking of the progress of the ecumenical commission during the fiscal year ending in June, Noonan said that Father Latus is an "extremely competent individual" he took on very challenging yet attainable goals and did the job.

To learn what Father Latus' accomplishments are, one should understand what his job as director entails as well as what the commission is all about.

The director is chairman of the nine-member commission made up of laity, sisters and priests which meets bi-monthly. He also must be a resource person on ecumenical matters to the bishop, diocesan departments and parishes.

In addition he serves as liaison between ecumenical groups throughout the diocese and the diocese itself. Also when the bishop

or some diocesan agency institutes a program requiring ecumenical action, the CEIA director carries it out.

To understand what all this means it may be helpful to look at the progress report. Noonan said that Father Latus had two main objectives.

No. 1 was "to reactivate the CEIA," which meant adding new members, and to establish concise purposes for the commission's existence. This was done to "rekindle the concern of all people for Christian unity." One of the concrete examples of this approach was the Clergy Conference between Episcopalians and Catholics, led by their respective bishops — "a very meaningful and successful" event, according to Noonan.

The other main objective, according to Noonan was "full participation in restructuring of the Genesee Ecumenical Ministries (GEM)," including the setting up of an executive steering board with two representatives from each faith who are influential decision-makers from their own communions. Msgr. George A. Cocuzzi, vicar for urban ministry, and Father Charles Mulligan, Office for Human Development director, are the diocesan representatives.

Noonan rates the CEIA performance of these objectives as "extremely high."

The budget for the commission was \$12,083 last year, of which \$9,500 went as a contribution to GEM. Father Latus "never asked for more money" and asked that the directorship be continued on a part-time (two days a week) basis.

What kind of services were provided? Training and resource material for members of the CEIA, recruiting members for CEIA and GEM, advising the bishop on ecumenical development and evaluating diocesan commitment and funding, maintaining direct communications with diocesan staff and "advocating ecumenical thrust" of programs; develop such guidelines as Intercommunion and Interfaith Marriage, and providing the Courier-Journal with accurate ecumenical coverage.

It publicizes its services through the diocesan guidelines and policy manual.

The director works closely with the Bishop's Office, Pastoral Ministry, and Liturgy. It reaches the grass roots by relating the support it can provide parish staffs and by publicizing ecumenical development through the Courier-Journal and secular media — "but I heavily emphasize the Courier-Journal," Noonan said.

Hopefully, the office "stimulates initiatives in the area of ecumenism which in turn results in bringing all the people of God closer together," Noonan summed up.



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