

Bp. McCafferty: Must Act Now

Dear Father

Both as Bishop Hogan's representative to the health care facilities of the diocese and personally, may I ask you to make every effort on the weekend of Dec. 3-4, to secure signatures from your parishioners who are concerned for the maintenance of obstetrical services at St. Mary's Hospital.

After the recent action of the State Department of Health ordering the close of the hospital's obstetrical unit by Jan. 1, the only avenue of recourse is through the procurement of a waiver based on a present demonstrated religious need for the services provided by this unit. Obviously, we must act now, and there is certainly such a need.

I am sure you realize St. Mary's is the only full service Catholic Hospital between Syracuse and Buffalo. It is unthinkable that obstetrical services cannot be obtained in a Catholic Hospital in the third largest city in New York State.

Through its obstetrical services, St. Mary's alone offers freedom of choice and freedom from fear for thousands of people, Catholic and non-Catholic, who conscientiously oppose abortion, sterilization as a contraceptive procedure, and many "popular" forms of implementing family planning. St. Mary's requires its staff to counsel only natural methods of family planning.

I know this is a busy time in every parish. It is also a time when the Church celebrates the Advent of the Savior Who has come that we may have life and have it more abundantly. Please do everything possible to accurately inform your people of the situation facing St. Mary's Hospital and arrange for an expression of support by everyone who wishes to support the uniquely Catholic teachings for life which are jealously guarded by St. Mary's. Materials for petitioning the waiver must be in Albany by mid-December.

John E. McCafferty

St. Mary's Petition

PETITION FOR CONTINUATION OF OBSTETRICAL SERVICE AT ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

As a member of the Rochester Community I oppose any action by New York State to close the obstetric service at St. Mary's Hospital or to impose financial penalties for keeping it open; and I urge that St. Mary's Hospital be granted a waiver on the basis of "religious need" to continue an obstetric service in accordance with the religious and ethical convictions of a substantial population of this community.

Name	Address	No. of Persons in Immediate Family	Date
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

St. Mary's

Continued from Page 1

DeChantal will carry the diocesan petitions and "other substantiating data" to Albany to a meeting with Charles Tobin, attorney for the New York State Bishops.

In a letter to be read in parishes this weekend, Bishop McCafferty asks priests, "Please do everything possible to accurately inform your people of the situation facing St. Mary's Hospital and arrange for an expression of support by everyone who wishes to support the uniquely Catholic teachings for life which are jealously guarded by St. Mary's."

Sister DeChantal indicated her strong feelings that "this choice of a religious sponsored facility which adheres to the value of life should be available to the people of the Rochester area."

She noted that she hopes that the grant of the religious waiver "is the last step on the road through all of this problem."

The state is empowered to bring fiscal sanctions against the hospital to force it to close its obstetrical unit should the waiver not be granted.

Sister DeChantal, however, does not think that such would be the state's action. She cites Commissioner Whalen's letter mentioning the waiver to support her point.

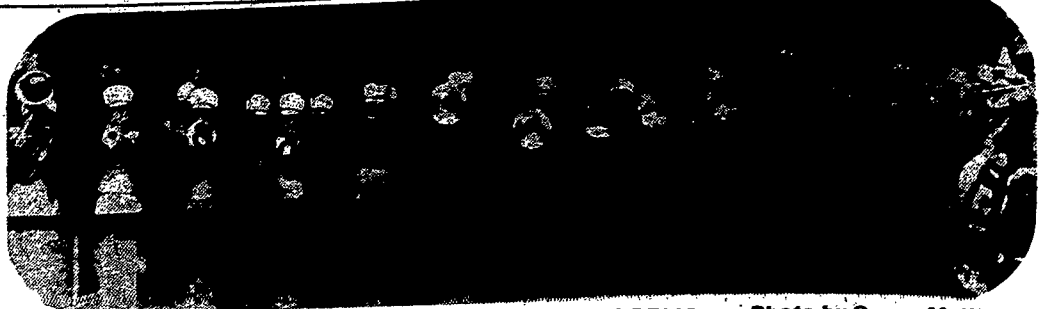


Photo by Susan McKinney

DOWNTOWN RINK OPENS
Rochester's chilly weather didn't keep the Bishop Kearney High School band from participating in the opening of the Xerox skating rink Nov. 22.

Presents' Club 68 and Alone Sets Spoof

The McQuaid Parents' Club is now rehearsing for its production of "Thirty Years Down the Tube," a spoof of past and present television personalities, authored by Father William J. O'Malley, SJ.

The show has a cast of more than 100 parents, teachers and friends of the Jesuit institution. Wendell Howard, choral director at St. John Fisher College, is musical director of the production.

A benefit performance is slated for Thursday, Dec. 1. A champagne reception will be held during the intermission of this performance.

Show dates are Dec. 1, 2 and 3. All performances will be held at St. Agnes High School. The proceeds will go to the McQuaid Development Fund.

MESSIAH

Handel's Messiah will be sung twice this weekend at Strong Auditorium, University of Rochester. The university symphony orchestra, men's and women's glee clubs and chapel choir will perform under the baton of Roger Wilhelm at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, and 8:15 p.m. Sunday.

Continued from Page 1

Journal Christmas Fund was begun nine years ago. Each year, we publish the 100 neediest cases in the diocese as provided by the agencies of Catholic Charities. But these cases represent only a small portion of the cases being cared for.

They come from throughout the diocese - in both urban and rural settings. All parishes are invited to contact Catholic Charities with any specific requests.

Readers may contribute to individual cases but because some may receive a great deal of attention and others none, the administering agencies must use their expertise to help as many as possible.

All contributions should go to:

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

Save Energy and \$\$\$ Fall Furnace Service Special

- Clean heat Exchanger
- Clean all burners
- Clean pilot assembly and adjust flame
- Oil motor
- Check and adjust all controls
- Check and adjust thermostat
- Check belts & filter
- Clean smoke pipe
- Clean base of chimney

GAS UNITS

\$17.95

+ TAX

OIL UNITS

\$19.95

+ TAX

BRANDT Air Conditioning Inc.

277 WINTON RD. N.

288-4270

24 HR Emergency Service

"Duff"
Rund's Periwinkle Pub

LOBSTER TAILS

Includes our Famous Salad Bar (all you can eat), Choice of Potato. \$6.95 Thru Sunday, Dec. 4

Served Daily Lunch or Dinner

EARLY BIRD FEATURE
4:30 to 6 PM Daily
Monday thru Friday

"Duff" **RUND'S PERIWINKLE PUB**

Perinton Plaza
223-4220
Drive East on Monroe Ave.
Rt. 31 to Mosley Rd.
Rt. 250