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OUR 96th YEAR

20 Cents

Christmas Fund in Tenth Year

The Courier-Journal this year celebrates a special birthday, of sorts. The annual Courier-Journal Christmas Fund, which opens today, is 10 years old.

The fund, run in conjunction with Catholic Charities, has each year since its inception raised increasingly higher amounts of money to be used for the poor of the diocese.

This year, money not distributed at Christmas time will be held in a reserve fund and meted out through the year to persons and families in crisis situations.

"Thanks to the very generous Courier-Journal

subscribers, the Courier-Journal Christmas Appeal has always been successful," Anthony J. Costello commented this week. "This year the fund will be used not only at Christmas time, but any surplus will be distributed through Catholic Charities to those in special need during the year."

Maurice Tierney, chief of the Catholic Charities operation, said that last year more than 2,200 diocesan responded to the Christmas Appeal with more than \$42,000.

"This is just a fantastic response to the needs of the poor across the diocese," he said. "I would expect the same

kind of generosity this year, considering the fact that so many diocesan are aware of the severe pockets of unemployment that dot the face of the diocese."

In the past five years nearly 10,000 diocesan readers have contributed almost \$200,000 to the Courier-Journal Christmas Fund

Because Catholic Charities and the Courier-Journal are already geared up to handle the campaign there are no start-up, operating or administrative costs. All of the contributions go directly to those in need.

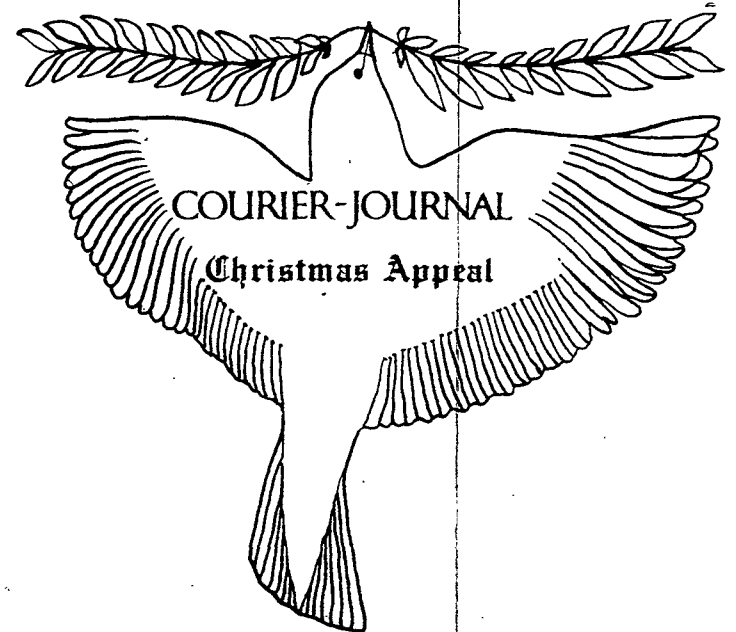
Cases are from both rural and urban areas throughout

the diocese. All parishes are invited to contact Catholic Charities with any special requests.

While readers may contribute to individual cases, because some may receive a great deal of attention and others none, the administering agencies must use their expertise so that as many as possible are helped.

All contributions should go to:

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



Bishops Tackle Liturgy Reform

Washington, D.C. — American Catholics most likely will be permitted to receive Holy Communion more than once a day, and probably also will be able to take both bread and wine at regular Sunday Masses. Voting in the National Conference of Catholic Bishops indicated acceptance of both proposals, but the tally is incomplete, pending a mail poll of bishops who did not attend the fall meeting here last week.

Of the 279 bishops eligible to vote, 248 were present.

They quashed a proposal for an annual communications collection that would finance increased use of media at national and diocesan levels. It was assumed that the mail poll would not overturn the negative vote.

The bishops also reversed a budget decision to close down several national offices, including that of Msgr. George Higgins, social action leader.

They issued a statement on the Camp David Middle East accords that pointed out the continuing crisis in Lebanon, the uncertain fate of the Palestinians and the unresolved status of Jerusalem.

At the end of the four-day meeting, a delegation of high ranking prelates discussed NCCB concerns with President Carter. They spoke of what they called "government interference through regulatory agencies in the affairs of the Church," the effects of inflation on poor people, tax relief for parents of private school children. They offered the services of Catholic agencies in the resettlement of Vietnamese "boat people."

The NCCB president, Archbishop John R. Quinn of San Francisco, reported that the 20-minute talk with President Carter was "frank, cordial and positive."



Photo by Anthony J. Costello
Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, with his auxiliaries, Bishops John E. McCafferty and Dennis W. Hickey, at the bishops' meeting last week in Washington.

He was accompanied by Cardinal Terence Cooke of New York, Archbishop John R. Roach of St. Paul-Minneapolis, who is vice president of the NCCB, and

Bishop Thomas C. Kelly, general secretary.

The bishops' vote for Holy Communion more than once a day was 220-28. Vatican

approval is necessary, and conditions are imposed. The Masses must be "significantly

To 2

Neediest Cases

1 The A family lives in a rural area. The father of the family of six has been laid off from work. They rent an apartment, and at present their income is such that they cannot meet their expenses for rent, utilities and food stamps. At times their food supply is down to a couple of cans of soup.

2 Mrs. A. is a widow with three children. As a recovering alcoholic, she is just barely getting her life together and needs counselling and support regularly. Her income from a parttime job is enough to pay the rent, buy groceries, or pay the fuel bills.

3 M and her two children have fled their home because of an abusing father who is alcoholic. They have nothing to begin a new life with. The children need medical and psychological help. The mother has neither work experience nor an education beyond the eighth grade.

4 The Ls, a family of four, live in the back "hollows" of the hills far removed from the highway. Their home is in extreme need of repair, and very drafty and cold in winter. Many times there isn't enough money for cooking fuel — so they cook with turpentine. The electricity has been shut off because they can't afford to pay the bill.

5 E is blind and recently widowed. She lives on a country road far from shopping centers and both

To 4

Pope to Nuns . . . Re-Think Habits

BY PAMELA MENDELS

Vatican City (RNS) — Pope John Paul II doesn't like the idea of nuns wearing secular clothing in public.

In an address to 600 mother superiors of religious orders and congregations, the Pope urged them "to reflect on the importance of the religious habit."

Women religious, he said, should wear some "simple and suitable" habit as "the exterior sign of consecration to God."

"This," he insisted, "is the means for you to remind yourselves constantly of your duty, which contrasts with the spirit of the world. It is a silent but eloquent testimony. It is a sign which our secularized world must find on its path

(In an earlier address to priests, Pope John Paul II urged the wearing of clerical dress. "We must preserve the sense of our unique vocation and such uniqueness must express itself also in our exterior appearance. We must not be ashamed of this.)

Warning the women religious superiors against being overwhelmed by "public opinion, even an ecclesiastical one," the

pontiff said nuns should not permit any feminist claim to overshadow their call to a chaste, poor and obedient life.

The Pope addressed the mothers superior just four days after a gathering of American nuns and Catholic laywomen in Baltimore, Md., in which admission of women into the Catholic priesthood was demanded. (See Page 8.)

Special Mass Scheduled

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at Sacred Heart Cathedral at 9 a.m. tomorrow, Thanksgiving Day.

Earlier in the morning between 7:10 and 7:30 he will be a guest on the Eddie Meath Show on WHEC-TV Channel 10.