

# Sheen Group Opens Anniversary Drive

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan last week endorsed the tenth anniversary appeal of the Bishop Sheen Housing Foundation. The group's drive for funds opens on Thanksgiving Day. According to Georgia DeGregorio, president of the group, this is the fourth diocese-wide fund-raising effort in the history of the group.

"We are very grateful for Bishop Hogan's endorsement," she said, "and for his active concern for our work over the years."

Established in 1968, the foundation continues today with more than 30 volunteers who oversee the work of assisting low and moderate income families with no-interest loans for down payments and/or closing costs to buy a home, foundation literature states.

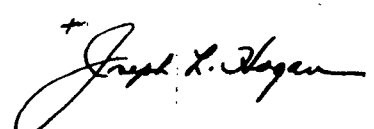
In addition, the foundation funds non-profit housing organizations and provides educational forums on housing throughout the diocese.

Following is the text of Bishop Joseph L. Hogan's letter on the Bishop Sheen Housing Foundation.

My Dear People:

I ask you to join with me in celebrating the Tenth Anniversary of the Bishop Sheen Housing Foundation. I have been a member of the Foundation since I have been Bishop and know the effective work that this group has accomplished in helping poor people throughout our Diocese by extending interest free loans to obtain decent housing and to rehabilitate substandard housing.

I would ask you to consider our call from God to provide shelter for the poor and homeless by almsgiving to the Foundation in this time of worsening housing crisis in both our urban and rural areas. I am confident you will respond to this appeal with true love and charity.



Mrs. DeGregorio noted that the very success of the foundation is the reason for its need to increase its fund balance. The number of applications for help increases every year, and, by necessity, the pay-back is over a long

period of time. New applications must look to new contributions for funding."

The address of the Bishop Sheen Housing Foundation is 750 West Main St., Rochester, N.Y. 14611.

# Catholic Worker Gives Archives to Seminary

By JOHN DASH

They staged a press conference last week at the Catholic Worker Community's St. Joseph's House of Hospitality, a press conference to announce the rather solemn business of entrusting St. Bernard's Seminary Library with the archives of both the Catholic Worker movement locally and the House of Hospitality.

But somehow whimsy started drifting about, and although there was an on-target seriousness to the words spoken, the ritual was redolent with a sweet goofiness.

In the first place, Father Dan O'Shea had set up a small stage with a table for two, replete with coffee cups and spoons. It was across this table that he would pass, for the benefit of the local television cameras, emblems of his archives to Father Jasper Pennington, St. Bernard's librarian.

When the cameras started rolling, however, Father O'Shea decided to invite into the minuscule frame of action, six or seven additional folks who are associated with the house. The visual effect, combined with the portentousness of the words spoken, was akin to that of a soap-opera, one wag pointed out.

By the end of the session, everyone was laughing.

"That's Brother Dan," one house member said.

At the heart of the event, however, was the news that St. Bernard's archives will now house a complete bound collection of the Catholic Worker newspaper since its inception in 1933; tapes of the history of the Rochester community since 1938; artwork by such luminaries as Fritz Eichenberg, Ade Bethune and Eric Gill; copies of the minutes of the local group; photographs, papers and other memorabilia.

Father O'Shea noted that not only will the archives serve to document the role of the Church in various peace and justice struggles, it will remain an indicting reminder and presence to the Church community and those preparing for ministry that we must continue to minister alongside the poor and oppressed."

Also present for the conference were representatives of the recently established Bethany House for women, also an outgrowth of Catholic Worker endeavors.

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## Insights in Liturgy

### A Young, Wandering Feast

By FATHER ROBERT J. KENNEDY

It is the youngest of all of the feasts in honor of the Lord, having come into existence in 1925. It was also a terribly misplaced celebration, since the secular year determined its date (the last Sunday of October) instead of its inner powerful meaning.

This young, wandering child is, of course, the Feast of Christ the King, and it has found at last a good and lasting home on the last Sunday of the liturgical year. For as the earth is placed into its winter grave, our spirits are lifted beyond death to the kingdom that is promised in Christ and will surely come. Christ, who is the beginning, is also the ending, the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last.

The beginning in Christ, however, is not Christmas or the Annunciation; rather it is the resurrection and ascension of Jesus as

Christ and Lord. He is "the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep." (Reading II) His breaking the bonds of death and his enthronement as Lord and King combine in the "opening act of his final eschatological reign, and his continued heavenly rule between the Ascension and his return mark the progressive defeat of the powers of evil." (Reginald Fuller) For "Christ must reign until God has put all enemies under his feet." (I Cor. 15:26)

The Feast of Christ the King celebrates the final impact of the ministry of Jesus, the hope of the kingdom to come, yet which is already here. And it celebrates it by celebrating the King himself, who is the personification of the kingdom.

In his ministry, Jesus was a shepherd: gathering the scattered sheep, seeking out the lost, bringing back the stray, binding up the injured, healing the sick, guiding them along the right path. (Reading I and Psalm)

But Jesus is also the Lamb who is slain, the

priest who offers a sacrifice of peace. (Preface) He gives his life for the sheep in one summary act of love, and God raises him from the dead and finds him worthy of strength, divinity, wisdom, power and honor. All life resides in him, for he destroys death (Reading II) and breaks evil and makes all things new (Opening Prayer A).

Christ the conqueror of the cross now reigns from there over a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love and peace (Preface). It is an eternal, universal kingdom.

But there are qualifications. As King he is also judge, and Christ still carefully watches over his sheep, to decipher the sheep from the goats, the true believers from the impostors. For the kingdom of Christ is entered only by those who recognize the King. To dwell as a citizen of this kingdom of reconciliation, one must find in the scattered, lost, strayed, injured, and sick the face of Christ; true believers find him in the hungry, thirsty, stranger, naked, imprisoned, and ill. (Gospel) And in imitation of him, they reach out to refresh, guide and nourish, to feed, clothe, welcome and visit, the needy.

This celebration of Christ the King, then is also a day of the Church's rededication to promoting the kingdom: "Open our hearts . . . to rejoice in his peace, to glory in his justice, to live in his love." (Opening Prayer B)

And we acclaim him Lord, the King of Creation. It is he, who in his ministry and in his glory, makes us a new creation; in him all will come to life again. "The Lord will reign forever and ever, and will give his people the gift of peace."

## NCCB Adopts Budget

Washington, D.C. (RNS) — Each Catholic in the United States will contribute eight cents to the work of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops (NCCB) and the U.S. Catholic Conference (USCC) next year, an increase of one cent over what they have been assessed.

The increased payment, which is not made individually but through an assessment to each diocese, was voted at the fall meeting

of the bishops here. Earlier, the NCCB adopted a \$16.4 million budget for 1979, an increase of some \$5 million, mostly for emigration and refugee services. Government grants will cover about \$4.4 million of the increase.

The increased assessment, approved by a 130-116 vote, will cover next year's projected deficit of some \$500,000.

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