



# Special Report

"What unfathomable riches we bear within us, ...in our Christian communities. We are bearers of the justice and peace of God!"

...The parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus must always be present in our memory: it must form our conscience...

Christ demands an openness that is more than benign attention more than token actions or half hearted efforts that leave the poor as destitute as before... All of humanity must translate (the parable) into contemporary terms, in terms of economy and politics in terms of all human rights in terms of relations between the First, Second, and Third world."

John Paul II, Yankee Stadium, October 2, 1979

By FATHER CHARLES MULLIGAN, Director

The story of the Diocese of Rochester is the story of people sharing faith, praising God, and rejoicing with one another. It is the story of 160 parishes and many diverse institutions. It is the story of Chaplains in jail, in prison, or in psychiatric hospitals. It is the story of skilled response to the needs of troubled families. Every Christian has his or her vocation. We are called to share freely and joyfully the special talents, skills, riches, time, and love with others according to the Spirit of God. The work of Social Ministry is building this earth until, freely, it is ruled by the spirit of justice and love. It is a special preference for those with the fewest options according to the example of Jesus Christ.

I have chosen to present this Annual Report of the many agencies and groups which give life to Social Ministry in the Diocese of Rochester by listing the gifts they give to people. I place in the forefront people helping people because that is the best witness I know to the real presence of God.

## The Hungry

"I was hungry and you fed me..." Mt. 25:35

Last year, in cooperation with the Courier-Journal, Catholic Charities, Inc. raised \$43,700 in the Christmas Fund. This money was distributed all over the diocese in cooperation with agencies, parishes, and the rural staff of the Office of Human Development (OHD). It helped 2,000 families and individuals with food and other emergency needs. Further, \$2,500 from the Mission Collection was used in rural areas of the diocese for emergency needs and \$9,000 from Operation Breadbox was used to help groups that respond to needs for food. Both OHD and the International Justice and Peace Commission (IJPC) seek to coordinate parish response to the network of ecumenical food cupboards that is growing in every part of the diocese. OHD staff with the help of parish volunteers provided crisis help to many. For example, the Southern Tier team helped 300 families last year with emergency food, clothing, furniture, rent and utility help, medical and transportation assistance. IJPC coordinates parish response to Catholic Relief Service activities. In the Thanksgiving period last year over 50,000 pounds of light clothing was sent to the New York warehouse for distribution overseas, while heavy winter clothing was distributed locally on an ecumenical basis. The response of our parishes to the Catholic Relief Service Collection was as generous as usual and we turned over \$81,000 for Overseas Relief.

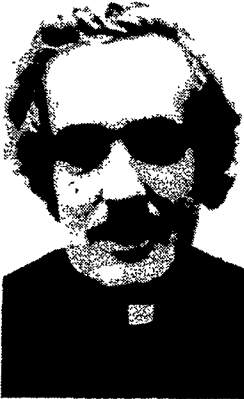
## The Sick

"I was ill and you comforted me..." Mt. 25:36

There are 26 Acute Care Hospitals in the Diocese of Rochester. Eight of these with 3,100 beds are now served by full-time Chaplains, including seven priests and four Sisters. During the past year, chaplaincy coverage was extended to two additional hospitals due to the financial assistance of the Sisters of St. Joseph and the Sisters of Mercy. In addition to pastoral care, these Chaplains promote parish visiting and work ecumenically. Further, three Chaplains work full time in geriatric and longterm care facilities. Two Chaplains work at Willard (Seneca County) and Rochester Psychiatric Centers. In 1978-1979 Bishop McCafferty acting on behalf of the diocese sought to improve the support and dialogue between the Bishop's Office and Health Care Facilities which have Catholic sponsorship: St. Mary's (Rochester), St. James Hospital (Hornell), St. Joseph's Hospital (Elmira), Mercy Health and Rehabilitation Center (Auburn), and St. Ann's Home and the Heritage (Rochester). The De Paul Clinic served over 1,500 people with outpatient therapeutic and counseling mental health services.



POPE JOHN PAUL II



FR MULLIGAN

# The Divisions...

## The Imprisoned

"I was in prison and you visited me..." Mt. 25:36

Approximately 3,200 men live in State prisons within our diocese. Four full-time Chaplains — two priests, a Sister, and a layman serve the Church in prison. In the past year team ministry was developed to serve the three facilities in the Elmira area. Two priests work with youth at Industry and at the Lansing Center in Tompkins County. The twelve county jails range in size from the 300 bed jail in Monroe County to the one in Schuyler County with an average population of five. Each of these jails has an assigned Chaplain. In Monroe County the diocese participates actively in the Rochester Interfaith Jail Ministry (RIJM) which provided visits for more than 300 inmates, utilizing the services of 50 trained volunteers, and RIJM is financed in part by the support of more than 40 parishes of various denominations. The CFC serves 766 people with its Restart Drug Counseling Program in the Monroe County jail.

## Older People

"Listen to your father, with whom you would not exist; When your mother is old, show her your appreciation..." Prov. 23:22

St. Ann's Home and the Heritage have a 591 person capacity for long term health care. They admitted 325 new residents and provided a service that is rated by New York State as the highest quality. Further St. Ann's provides a placement service that will help older persons and families seeking a skilled nursing facility. Collectively, the Catholic Family Center and the Charles Settlement House served almost 2,000 older persons more than 67,000 meals at four senior nutrition centers. The Catholic Family Center counseled 1,100 older persons with housing problems. The Diocesan Commission on Aging sponsored Senior Citizen Sunday on May 6, 1979, which included a greeting from Bishop Hogan and suggestions on parish events.

## Youth

"Teach a child to live and she will remember it all her life..." Prov. 22:6

Our agencies place a high priority on the needs of young people. The Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) developed programs for youth and the adults who support them. CYO offered special training for about 150 adults who coached its basketball, softball, and cheerleading programs. In the inner-city of Rochester a CYO program extended employment and cultural opportunities to 2,660 Black youth. Project Poder, a CYO program unique in serving Hispanic young people, worked with more than 2,500 youth. Recreation programs were conducted by CYO for nearly 4,000 energetic young people. Camp Stella Maris provides Christian camping experience in both summer and winter settings. More than 1,250 young people, some with their parents, gained from this positive experience. At the neighborhood level in Rochester, the Charles and Genesee Settlement Houses also stressed social development for grade and high school students through recreation and sports programs, tutoring and career awareness. Charles Settlement serves more than 1,900 young people and Genesee Settlement about 1,000. St. Joseph's Villa cared for 181 young people aged 6-18 with group residential care treatment in Rochester. The Kinship Group Home program provided 3,149 days of care for 18 girls and boys from Steuben, Schuyler, Livingston and Ontario counties. A growing problem has been the increase in pregnancy among teenagers. The Catholic Family Center aided and counseled more than 300 unwed parents in this situation.

## The Handicapped

"If one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members share its joy." 1 Cor. 12:26

Social Ministry supports a Chaplain for the deaf who works as a part of the Camp Stella Maris parish for the Rochester Institute of Technology. The Chaplain also serves the Rochester School for the Deaf and the deaf community concentrated in the Rochester area. During the past year Social Ministry coordinated a study of the needs of the deaf community in regard to a parish base or center with specially adapted facilities. This report is due in December of 1979. In cooperation with Genesee Ecumenical Ministries, an interfaith Chaplain has been added to the staff of the Monroe Development Center. This person will help parishes in Monroe County serve the needs of the retarded who have been returned to the neighborhoods and towns of that county. The diocese has a fulltime Chaplain at Monroe Community Hospital who has established a Parish Council there which is the continuing voice of the handicapped in the Diocesan Pastoral Council. Our Chaplains at Newark Developmental Center and Craig Developmental Center work with neighboring parishes, parents and families to encourage a skilled response to the handicapped. In a major new development the DePaul Clinic and Catholic Charities, Inc. began developing plans for community residences for our chronically ill and mentally retarded brothers and sisters. These programs will eventually serve Monroe, Wayne, Yates, Seneca and Ontario Counties.

## Families

"By wisdom is a house built, and understanding is it made firm." Prov. 24:3

Strengthening marriage and family life is a critical objective of several Social Ministry agencies. Marriage preparation was provided by the Office of Family Life to 2,500 couples through a volunteer program. The sacramental preparation program is strengthened by presentations on marriage and family life in high schools. The Office of Family Life reinforces its work with these groups by providing training to parish groups on marriage and family enrichment and family to family ministry. A growing program, innovative among dioceses across the nation, is the ministry to Catholics facing a change in marital

status — the divorced, separated and the widowed. This ministry which reached over 2,000 Catholics was highlighted by a special Christian Camping experience for separated and divorced Catholics and their children at Camp Stella Maris serving 150 people. The Catholic Family Center counseled more than 3,500 people with individual, marriage, and family problems; 115 persons dealing with child abuse and neglect; and assisted 200 other people with problem-preventing help. Charles Settlement House offered family services to 475 people. The Human Life Commission began framing a three-part pastoral, educational, and legislative program. Respect Life Sunday activities support the work of this group. The \$16,000 collected on that day in 1978 also supports organizations, such as Birthright, which help women with unexpected pregnancies. A Family Ministry Task Force was commissioned by the diocese to give impetus and direction to these family enrichment programs. Planning was begun for "The Year of the Family." The Diocese through Catholic Charities, Inc. gave a \$5,000 grant to match the Natural Family Planning Program.

## Self-Help Groups

"Your plenty at the present time should supply their need so that their surplus may one day supply your need with equality as a result..." Sec. Cor. 8:14

The Campaign for Human Development (CHD) raised \$115,700 and gave grants to seven local self-help projects totalling almost \$26,000. The two largest grants helped the Well Child Clinic in Tioga County (\$9,986) and Group 14621 in Rochester (\$8,250). Seventy-four thousand two hundred dollars was sent to National CHD. The Office of Human Development (OHD) distributed about \$6,500 from the Mission Collection to help twenty small community self-help groups ranging from Hornell Area Concern for Youth to the Wayne County Rural Ministry. OHD continued its involvement in organizing a multi-racial, multi-issue, grassroots neighborhood organization, The Northeast Area Block Club Alliance in the St. Francis Xavier neighborhood. The International Justice and Peace Commission supported three community food self-sufficiency projects in Mexico, the Philippines, and Upper Volta through Operation Breadbox with \$27,466.

## Legislation

"Love justice, you rulers of the world. Set your minds sincerely on the Lord and look for him with all honesty..." Wisdom 1:1

The Diocese of Rochester is an active participant in the New York State Catholic Committee which is the Catholic public policy arm of the eight dioceses of New York State. The Office of Human Development supported the position of the Catholic Bishops on opposition to the death penalty. Individuals and parishes were encouraged to contact their State representatives. Many agencies within Social Ministry were active in seeking welfare reform, since the level of payments has not been adjusted since 1974. The International Justice and Peace Commission sought to inform parishes of the stand taken by the Catholic Bishops in regard to the Panama Canal treaty. They also sponsored speakers and a community forum in cooperation with other groups on the Salt II treaty. The Office of Family Life through its Human Life Commission was active in legislation opposing abortion and promoting the value of life. Finally, Catholic Charities, Inc. and Catholic Family Center both testified on bills before the New York State legislature regarding child welfare.

## Advocacy

"Keep salt in your hearts and you will be at peace with one another..." Mk. 9:50

Catholic Charities has developed an Hispanic caucus within the staff of its agencies as a gathering point for practical ways to strengthen the presence of Hispanics on the staff and services to the Hispanic Community. The Office of Family Life developed and promoted a special adult education program on the issues of the value of human life. Catholic Charities, Inc., Catholic Family Center, and the Office of Human Development presented testimony on human needs before the Monroe and Ontario County Title XX Social Service Planners. The Office of Human Development worked on special economic issues including the J. P. Stevens boycott and a series of labor issues ranging from strikes (prison guards, Kennedy Valve) to negotiations (Jordan Health Center) to union votes (Mercy Health and Rehabilitation Center). The International Justice and Peace Commission distributed material on the boycott of Nestle's products because of infant formula policies in the Third World. All these efforts are a service to the parish and individual promoting the formation of an alert conscience.

## Justice

"Anyone among you who aspires to greatness must serve the rest..." Mk. 10:43

Persons from all areas of Social Ministry serve the many communities of this diocese through their presence on boards and committees working for the good of the whole. Wayne County Legal Services, the Rushville Clinic, Rural New York Farmworkers, the Child Development Commission, Maxicap, and the United Community Chest of Greater Rochester are a few among the many. In addition more than 300 persons from the diocese serve on the many boards and committees within Social Ministry guiding and inspiring the work. Last year the Office of Human Development sponsored more than 50 sessions on leadership training for parishes and other groups. The International Justice and Peace Commission worked as an integral part of the Social Ministry Board of the Diocese of Tabasco in Mexico. Finally, the many areas within Social Ministry relate to their State and National counterparts, such as the New York State Council of Catholic Charities Directors and the National Campaign for Human Development.