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Photos by Terrance J. Brennan

Sunshine Olympics

The bright sunlight and warm temperatures last Tuesday were fitting tributes to mark the 1980 Sunshine Olympics at St. Ann's Home on Portland Avenue. Participants from six area homes and hospitals took part in athletic and culinary activities such as electric and manual wheelchair races, horse shoe toss, hole-in-one golf, bowling and a cookie bake-off. Above, 78-year-old Rebecca Aroeste of the Jewish Home and Infirmary shows the strain of the hard ball toss competition. Right, Angie Closson, 84, of the Rochester Friendly Home, waves the baton proudly upon finishing second in the walkathon relay race. Other homes that participated included St. Ann's Home, Monroe Community Hospital, Park Ridge Nursing Home and St. John's Home.



Diocese Launches Drive to Assist Cubans, Haitians

Bishop Matthew H. Clark and the Rochester diocese are spearheading a community drive to resettle "100 units" of Cuban and Haitian refugees in this area.

The diocese has scheduled a special collection on the weekend of July 5-6 with the hope of raising \$35,000 toward an overall community goal of \$50,000 to get the program under way.

Bishop Clark has opened the drive with a donation of \$3,000 to the cause which grew out of a request from Archbishop John R. Quinn, president of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, to help in the crisis.

Some 135,000 refugees are already in the United States and although the flow has leveled off, the figure may continue to rise.

The effort in this area will include assistance from the Protestant and Jewish sectors as well as from the community at large.

The Rev. Larry Witmer, executive director of Genesee Ecumenical Ministries; Rabbi Judea Miller, president of the Board of Rabbis; and Mayor Thomas Ryan of Rochester are among many community leaders on the Community Committee on Cuban-Haitian Refugees.

Timothy Sullivan of Waldert Opticians, a member of the board of Catholic Charities, is chairman.

Funds collected will go to a special Cuban-Haitian Emergency Appeal, 123 East Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14604, for distribution. While the diocesan-wide collection is key, the campaign will be on-going, with donations from the community going to the above address.

A unit may consist of an entire family or of a single person. Many of the Cubans are individual men who have left their families in hope of bringing them here later.

In addition to the raising of funds, the community commitment to the campaign will include such services as sponsor development, health care, acceptance, jobs, language assistance, places to live, etc.

The diocese will appeal to parishes to institute sponsorships, much as has been done with Indochinese "boat people."

As of now, the 10,000 Haitian refugees are unclassified as to refugee status, so their possible governmental benefits are cloudy.

The Cubans have been designated "asylees" rather than "refugees," which means that their assistance from the government is less.

The local community group

also will work to get both classified as refugees so that they will become eligible for all government benefits, such as Medicaid, SSI, CETA. As asylees, the displaced persons may only receive food stamps and Title XX assistance.

Another important aspect of the classification is the fact that the government will pay \$500 for the resettlement of each "refugee." It is estimated to cost a total of about \$1,100 for each individual resettlement, so the government allowance will be vital to the local program.

Kateri Raised To New Status

Amid the splendor usually attendant on such rites, Kateri Tekakwitha was solemnly pronounced "Blessed" by Pope John Paul II, last Sunday.

Attending the rites were Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Terrance, members of St. Michael's Parish in Rochester, and tribal kin to the "Lily of the Mohawks."

Bishop Matthew H. Clark and his secretary, Father Charles Latus, also represented the diocese.

Blessed Kateri, as she is now called, was born on what is the present site of the Shrine of the North American Martyrs in Auriesville. She died, 300 years ago, in Canada.

According to an analysis by Religious News Service writer Edythe Westenhover, Catholic devotion to the saints is currently experiencing a revival with strong support from Pope John Paul II. Privately, she said, "the pontiff has altered the rules to speed up the process of canonization for persons he thinks would be good role models for 20th century Catholics." That view was also expressed recently by Father Joseph McBride, U.S. head of the cause for canonizing Blessed Kateri. In her case, he said, the requirements of miracles, extraordinary healings usually were waived in favor of the

maiden's demonstrated "heroic" virtues.

Westenhover said, "Pope John Paul has now decided to place more emphasis on the evidence of the personal holiness — usually defined as the ordinary virtues of everyday life practiced in an outstanding manner. The pope also wants a greater diversity of saints — more people from modern times, more from countries outside of Europe, more diocesan priests.

"Traditionally, most men and women canonized have been members of religious orders, especially their founders, since these congregations — in view of the supposed prestige that comes with the official recognition — have been willing to shoulder the expense of the process. Such expense includes not only the elaborate final ceremonies at St. Peter's but also the various hearings at which experts and others with knowledge of the person must testify, as well as translation and secretarial costs.

"The research includes a review of everything the proposed saint ever wrote to see if it accords with Church doctrine. Msgr. Norbert Kelly of Albany, the only surviving member of the diocesan tribunal that did the local investigation of Kateri in the

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