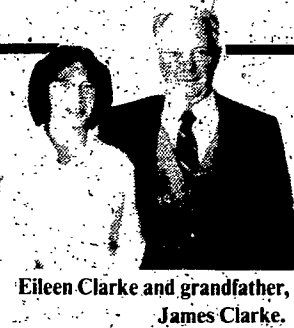


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Eileen Clarke and grandfather,  
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# COURIER-JOURNAL

NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

24 Pages — 2 Sections

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OUR 97th YEAR

25 Cents

## Christmas Fund for Needy Begins

The Courier-Journal/Catholic Charities Christmas Fund this week enters its second decade of providing help to the neediest members of our diocesan family.

In 1979, Courier-Journal readers contributed more than \$50,000 to the fund, established to help the most economically

psychologically depressed people in the diocese.

Poverty exists in every corner of the diocese, urban and rural. Annually, this newspaper prints the 100 "neediest" cases. They all are true and documented but are only representative of many more.

While many people may

respond to the needs of a particular case cited and no one to other cases, officials of the agencies of Catholic Charities must use their expertise in distributing the aid so that as many as possible are helped.

Organizations and parishes participate, or are invited to take part, in the fund, by contacting Catholic Charities.

According to Maurice Tierney, Charities director, none of the donations goes to administrative costs which are absorbed by Charities and its participating agencies.

Contributions should be sent to:

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



Photos by Terrance J. Brennan

### Dedication

Bishop Matthew H. Clark was on hand to bless the new offices of the Courier-Journal at an open house Sunday. The newspaper recently moved to 114 S. Union St. Standing to the rear of Bishop Clark in photo above is Anthony J. Costello, publisher and general manager of the paper. A statue of Francis de Sales, patron saint of journalists, graces the Courier-Journal foyer. The statue has been dedicated to the memory of Thomas O'Connor, a longtime editor with the Courier-Journal. Members of Mr. O'Connor's family stand with Bishop Clark. From left, they are daughter Mrs. Helen Viola, grandsons Daniel and Paul Viola, and his widow, Mrs. Helen O'Connor.



### Up Help For Poor, Bishops Ask

Washington — New York State's Catholic bishops called on Gov. Carey and the State Legislature to bridge the eight-year-old "survival gap" for the state's 1.3-million needy and enact a substantial increase in the Basic Public Assistance Grant during the special session of the Legislature.

The statement was issued here by Cardinal Terence Cooke on behalf of the more than 30 bishops from the state who were meeting at the annual convention of U.S. bishops.

The statement, signed by Cardinal Cooke and Bishop Howard Hubbard of Albany, chairman of the State Bishops Public Policy Committee, and the other bishops of the state, uses the government's own figures to show that a family of four in the state on public assistance currently receives \$113 less than what the state says is a survival income.

"It is unconscionable and disgraceful that this matter has dragged on for so many months as the gap between what a family needs and what the government provides grows ever wider," the bishops said.

Noting that 70 percent of the needy (more than a million) are children who cannot work and cannot provide for themselves, the bishops urged the state's lawmakers to consider their needs and enact an immediate increase.

The current aid level in New York is based on a 1972 standard of living and was enacted in 1974.

### The Neediest In Diocese

**1** Miss O is 75 years old. She has lived for years with a friend in the friend's home. Her life has been devastated by the friend's recent illness and subsequent sale of the home. Miss O is now faced with the need to find and furnish a new home for the first time in 20 years — and she is on a fixed and limited income.

**2** The Rs are a six-member single-parent Hispanic family with many needs. The eldest son is in a group home for the mentally retarded; the mother is illiterate and can neither speak nor read English; the older children are embarrassed to go to school in mismatched clothing.

**3** The As are a three-member family; a couple of borderline intelligence and their year and a half old daughter. The parents are loving and concerned but lack the knowledge of good parenting practices. They are well motivated and sincere, but their income is quite limited.

**4** B is a highly motivated single parent of four children, three of whom are in foster care because of medical neglect and poor supervision. B's own parents were poor parenting models. She desperately desires her children to return and has learned with guidance that she must provide a proper environment for them. She is in need of financial help to

provide her children with a decent home.

**5** J and A are an elderly black couple living in a shack in a rural area. The couple is in very difficult straits, with medical and heating expenses. Providing proper papers has become an insurmountable barrier to the couple's receiving financial assistance.

**6** F is elderly, receiving limited assistance, and confused about his surroundings. He lives in a single room without access to cooking facilities and therefore he eats mostly cold foods. His income does not provide sufficient money for clothing.

**7** A is a mother of seven children who has many bad memories of her own childhood, but is striving to be a good mother to her own. She is poor and intellectually limited, but she tries hard to give her children a cheerful home with spiritual and emotional nurturing. She is unable, however, to purchase gifts for a Christmas celebration.

**8** Mrs. P is a widow who has had two heart attacks and a stroke. Her son has also recently died, an event which left her devastated. She lives on a very limited income.

**9** T is an elderly woman who is wheelchair bound and is paralyzed on one side. She refuses.

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