

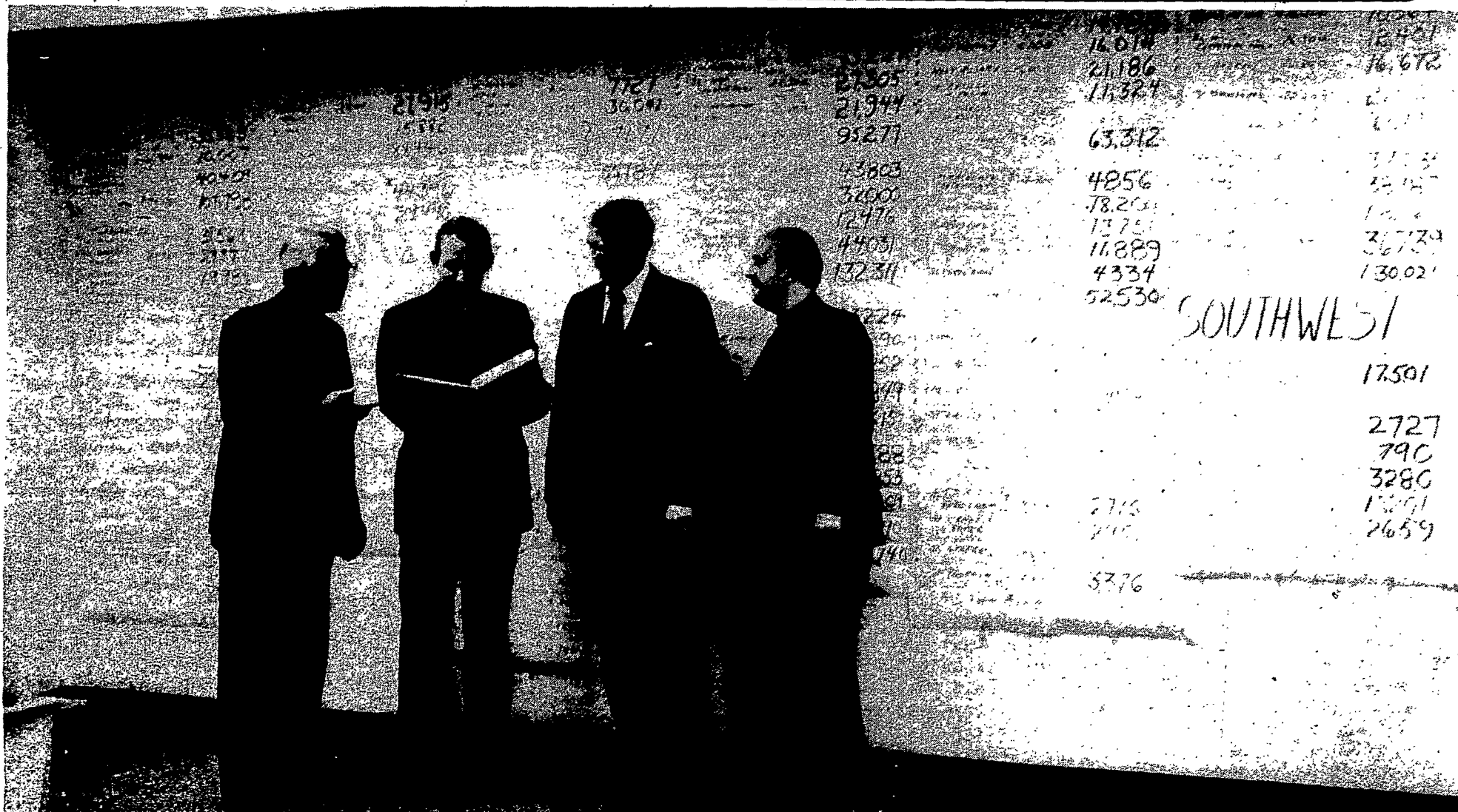
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Father Marvin, Bishop Clark, John Glavin and Father Bayer study parish reports.



DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER
1150 BUFFALO ROAD • ROCHESTER, N.Y. 14624
(716) 328-3210

November 15

I wish to thank from my heart all who have given spiritual and material support to our first Annual Thanks Giving Appeal.

Your generosity is a sign of the vitality of faith among the people of our twelve county diocese.

Please join me in a prayer that what we have begun together may continue to have God's blessing and may draw us closer together in his love.

May Christ's peace be in your hearts.

Your brother in Christ
Matthew Clark

Bishop Clark's personal expression of gratitude.

Thanks Giving Appeal

First Reports Positive

By Carmen J. Viglucci

Just about everyone there agreed that it was just like election night at vote headquarters.

The charts on the walls could easily have been this ward or that precinct. Instead, they represented the some 160 parishes from all over the 12 counties in the Rochester Catholic diocese. And from preliminary reports (the drive will continue until Nov. 30) a feeling of optimism prevailed at "vote headquarters," the diocesan Pastoral Center on Buffalo Road.

Bishop Matthew H. Clark, who shepherded the first annual Catholic Thanks Giving Appeal in the diocese, briefly stifled the clamor of the busy night to thank all who participated, not only the active parish workers but the thousands of diocesans who cared and contributed.

"It's been a massive effort," Bishop Clark told those on hand. "Thank God for all the blessings evident in this very beautiful response." As the bishop spoke, it was clear that even if the results were less satisfactory monetarily, he appreciated deeply the cooperation and participation engendered.

He had particular praise for Father James Marvin, coordinator of the appeal; Father Peter Bayer, operations manager; Norm McGowan, program consultant, and John Glavin,

general chairman.

Father Marvin, in a short talk, noted that it was the bishop's personal involvement that provided the appeal's momentum. He also revealed that he had accepted the bishop's invitation to head up next year's campaign.

"I could not have succeeded this year without Peter Bayer. (Next year) I will need Peter Bayer again," Father Marvin said.

Glavin voiced gratitude for all the parish workers who gave time to the appeal.

Some of the area chairmen or their representatives were on hand for "the count," election style. Those from parts of the diocese remote from the Pastoral Center, telephoned in results to Lee Pelkey, Joan Zaia and Anne Eckert, who were kept busy at tabulation.

Appeal officials stressed that even though some parishes had not reached their assigned quotas, the appeal is not over. Many individuals had not been contacted as of Sunday.

The appeal, the goal of which is to raise \$2,204,000 in the first year of what will be the diocese's major fund-raising drive, will support essential diocesan-wide programs.

The funds derived will replace the necessity of the parish assessment plan

previously used. Aside from the financial aspect, Bishop Clark pointed out that the appeal to individuals "will foster a new awareness among our people of the proud story of the work of the Church in our diocese."

In addition to being relieved of the annual assessment, each parish will receive 80 percent of the amount gathered over its goal.

Haitian Decision Deplored

By John Dash

After a six-month search, the White House last week settled on Fort Drum, the Army base at Watertown where the temperature drops to 30 degrees below zero and the annual snowfall is more than 12 feet, to incarcerate people fleeing the tropical island of Haiti.

John Walker last week called it "the strongest, most basic case of racism in this country."

Walker, executive director of the Office of Black Ministries and a key member of the Haitian Refugee Committee, was but one voice in a storm of protest to the move from religious and

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