

# Religious Units Denounce Haitian Policy

By John Dash

The Office of Black Ministries and United Church

Ministries yesterday jointly denounced the Reagan Administration's handling of the Haitian refugee situation,

demanding the severing of all diplomatic relations with the present Haitian government of Jean-Pierre "Baby Doc" Duvalier, "until the government reverses its policy of national persecution," and announced a public rally to educate the public about the Haitians fleeing their homeland.

The churches, Dr. John Walker of the diocesan office said last week, were to "make known their response to the Reagan Administration's treatment of the Haitians as being unjust, double-standard and very cruel."

He specifically referred to the decision to move

thousands of the refugees from tropical Haiti to Fort Drum outside of Watertown where winter temperatures are frequently 30 degrees below zero.

The ecumenical group also would demand an "immediate release of all Haitian minors from prison," Walker said.

In addition, the group will press both the government and Immigration and Naturalization Service "to provide parole status to all Haitians in prison until such time as their status is clarified."

The group will also lobby Congress to consider Haitian

refugees as "political refugees." Heretofore, the treatment of Haitians has been in large measure due to their being considered "economic refugees," a point

loudly scored by many religious leaders in recent months.

The public rally is slated for 7 p.m., Dec. 1, at New Bethel Church.



## A Family Says 'Thank You'

It was a big day for Our Lady-of-Mercy High school and the Stolze family last Saturday, Nov. 21. The school's new soccer field, the William J. Stolze Athletic Field, was dedicated and Stolze's three daughters, all graduates of Mercy, came from California, Connecticut and New York to be present for the occasion. From left: Joan Stolze Waranoff, class of '65; Margaret Bernstein, class of '66; standing: Kathy Stolze, '67, and Mr. and Mrs. Stolze.

## Bishop Names Design Group For Ed. Board

Bishop Matthew H. Clark has named members of a committee charged with the design for the formation of a future diocesan board of education.

Members of the design committee include Sister Walter Anne O'Malley, Sister Mary Ann Binsack, Jean Gilbert, Leona Hickey, Patricia Lawlor, Joseph Mercier, Sister Francella

## Prayer Weekends Slated At SSJ Motherhouse

Prayer weekends for religious and laity are being offered at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse, 4095 East Ave., the weekends of Dec. 4-6, Feb. 26-28, and March 26-28.

Sisters Judith Reger, SSJ,

and Margaret Mary Ganley, SSJ, and Father Vincent P. McDonough, SJ, will direct retreatants in discussions over Scriptures.

The weekends will begin at 7 p.m. on Friday and will end at noon on Sunday. Liturgy will be celebrated on Saturday and Sunday. The offering for the weekend is \$35 and all are welcome. Interested persons should contact Sister Ganley at 473-1130 weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., or at 271-1009/244-8852 evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. Reservations will be accepted up to five days before each retreat weekend.

# The Neediest Cases in Diocese

Continued from Page 1

Christmas. The children are joyous. They will have their "own family" once again.

**13** Mrs. T is a Hispanic single mother with two growing, active sons, ages 5 and 3. Because she can't afford winter clothing, her children many times go to school with light clothing. She tries hard to stretch her meager income, but unexpected emergencies make planning difficult. Sharing some of the good things of life with her during Christmas will surely brighten the season for her.

**14** M, 72, lives in a large old house with her son who has Hodgkins disease. He is a bed patient but refuses to apply for any disability. He claims this is a "death benefit." M is trying to feed the both of them, maintain the house, and pay all other expenses of \$343. Besides this, she is rapidly losing her eyesight and can no longer read. Previous to this, M was attempting to get some part-time employment to supplement her funds. She also wishes to move to a small apartment to save on expenses, but her son refuses to do so.

**15** A is a teenaged mother with three adorable children. Despite her youth, A has worked hard to provide a good environment for her children and is struggling to maintain herself in school. The essentials are difficult enough to A to provide for her children so that any little extras for Christmas will be impossible.

**16** O is an elderly gentleman who lives alone. Recently, O has been ill and sometimes is too ill to leave his tiny apartment. At Christmas, O will probably be alone.

**17** E is a young woman who has five children. E has courageously fought her way off the welfare rolls and holds a modest job. Her salary provides for just the bare necessities in order to maintain her family.

**18** J is 38 years old and is unable to work due to severe physical problems. He recently accepted help from Public Assistance as he's a proud man and refused assistance until there was no other alternative.

**19** Mrs. N is a single parent living with her four boys. Three of the boys are teenagers. The family is dependent upon Public Assistance. She finds it extremely difficult to provide for her family on a fixed income.

**20** M is a young single parent living with her 5-year-old son. Currently their income is limited. She would like to go back to work and is working with her caseworker to obtain permanent employment.

**21** Mrs. B is physically handicapped and lives with her 15-year-old son. Their income is fixed.

**22** Mr. and Mrs. L live at home with their 40 children. He works at a local factory but due to high medical bills the couple has difficulty in meeting financial responsibilities.

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**23** H is a 35-year-old single parent who lives alone with her three children. Through treatment, she has overcome an alcoholic problem. It has not been easy. This Christmas will be hard for the family, and both H. and the children need encouragement and joy at Christmas time.

**24** E is a single parent of a three-year-old girl and E must stay home to care for her elderly and ill father and mother.

**25** Mrs. B is a single parent with three teenage children. The family is a close one and Mrs. B is attentive to the children's school work and has great hopes for their futures.

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