

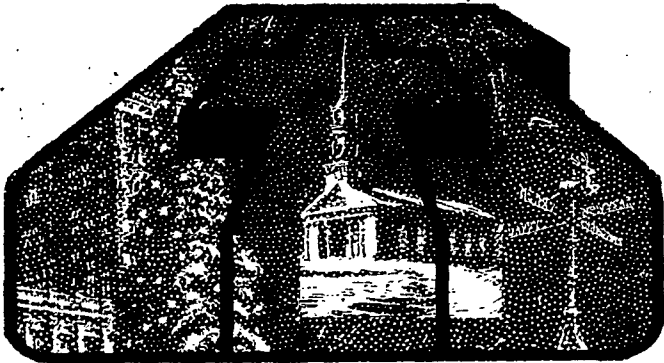
COURIER-JOURNAL

NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER
Our 98th Year

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COURIER-JOURNAL Christmas Fund

Now's the Time To Help Needy

Time is getting short for the D family. Mrs. D is diabetic and her husband is partially disabled. Because of this, their three daughters, 14, 13 and 11, are in foster care. The parents pray they can welcome home their daughters for Christmas.

Time also is critical for E, who is pregnant, alone in the world and who is in desperate need of a place to live and furniture and clothing to start a new life for her and her baby due in the new year.

An empty Christmas also nears for M and his family, including three small children. He recently lost his job and is severely depressed over being unable to provide for his family. He eagerly seeks employment but in the meantime . . .

These cases are all real and all within our diocese. They recount some of the human miseries facing thousands of our neighbors who will not be able to join the celebration of Dec. 25 unless help comes from those of us who are more fortunate.

Time is getting short for contributions to the annual Courier-Journal Christmas Fund, reminds Anthony J. Costello, publisher and general manager of the Courier-Journal.

Neediest Cases

76 J is living in a car. She has her three children, all under the age of four, living with her. The family subsists on eggs and cheese.

77 E has recently arrived in Rochester without either clothing or money. She hitch-hiked here more than 500 miles to escape her abusive husband.

78 B left her family because she feared her alcoholic parent. When she arrived in Rochester, she discovered that the living arrangements she had

"The days tend to fly by ever quicker as Christmas approaches," Costello said. "Celebrations, shopping, decorating all seem to whirl us rapidly toward the big day and we may tend to put aside some things, put off some plans, until it is too late.

"We must stop and remember that many will not have any Christmas this year unless we help . . . now," he said. "The earlier we contribute to the drive the sooner our unfortunate neighbors will know that they, too, will be joining in the celebration."

The Courier-Journal annually lists 100 cases of the neediest in the diocese, as provided by the agencies of Catholic Charities. The 100 cases, however, are only representative of many more throughout the diocese helped through the expertise of the various Charities agencies.

Any parish or organization wishing to participate may do so by contacting Catholic Charities.

Contributions should be sent to:

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

made had fallen through. She is under extreme mental duress.

79 L and her four children, only one of whom is school age, endured her abusive husband as long as possible. She has now begun looking for a new home for herself and her children.

80 M was released from prison and discovered that she had nowhere to go. She is dependent on drugs and on alcohol, and for a time turned to

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Photo by Terrance J. Brennan

Wintry Tableau

Five-year-old Timothy Kelly, a kindergarten pupil at Sacred Heart School, Virginia, after classes last Thursday. The Cathedral provides the background as mother and son begin the trek to their Ridgeway Avenue home.

Pope, Bishop Ask Prayers For Poland

Bishop Matthew H. Clark asked all diocesans to pray for a peaceful solution to the problems in Poland where martial law was declared over the weekend in the ongoing dispute between the government and Solidarity, the nation's labor unions.

"I ask prayers for Polish people everywhere but particularly for those in our own diocese and their relatives in Poland," the bishop said. "I pray for a peaceful solution in Poland and there be no bloodshed in that great country."

In Vatican City, Pope John Paul II appealed to his countrymen to pray for peace. "Polish blood must not be spilled," he said. "Too much of it has already been spilled, especially in World War II."

Reportedly, the pope had previously intervened with both Soviet and Polish officials to warn against the use of military force.

Sunday, the pope spoke at the end of his regular weekly audience in St. Peter's Square. He directed his words, in Polish, to a group of about 200 Poles in the audience who had been singing hymns and patriotic Polish songs.

Publication Change

The Courier-Journal will not publish on Wednesday, Dec. 30, because of Christmas. The deadline for the Jan. 6 issue will be noon, Tuesday, Dec. 29.

Nuclear Arms Protest Set Dec. 19 in Geneva

Geneva — Father William Spilly, spokesman for the newly organized Finger Lakes Citizens for Peace (FLCP), said last week that a public protest against nuclear weapons at Romulus has been set for 1-2 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 19, in downtown Geneva.

Marchers, he said, will gather at the parking lot on Seneca Street and will proceed through the downtown area. Plans include leafletting and the gathering of signatures on a Call to Halt the Nuclear Arms Race. The demonstration will end at the Post Office with a mailing of petitions and letters to public officials.

Following the demonstration, a prayer vigil will assemble at the main gate of the Seneca Army Depot, where, it is alleged, are stored nuclear armaments.

The vigil, slated for 2:30 to 4 p.m., will include prayers, responsive readings and songs of peace and of the holiday season. A delegation from the group will request a meeting with the Commanding Officer of the depot, to discuss such issues as evacuation plans in case of a nuclear catastrophe on the Romulus site, and disaster plans should a nuclear-related transportation accident occur in the area.

More than 100 persons attended the last such vigil

Nov. 1. Father Spilly said last week. The event drew demonstrators from Syracuse, Rochester, Ithaca and Geneva.

Further information on the organization and on nuclear weaponry are available by contacting Father Spilly, (315) 789-2686.

Cohocton Advent On Nuclear Arms Said 'Rewarding'

Cohocton — Religious leaders here were described last week as "very encouraged" at the results of a unique ecumenical Advent service which focused on nuclear armaments.

Father Eugene Sweeney, pastor of St. Pius V Church and an organizer of the event which embraced the Catholic, Lutheran, Methodist and Presbyterian traditions, described the leaders as "very pleased at the dialogue that went on. It was a very rewarding night for the four of us."

The event, which included a screening of the film, "War Has No Winners," a dinner and a prayer service, drew 45 persons from the various denominations for a discussion of the moral issues surrounding nuclear weaponry and the alleged stockpiling of nuclear arms at the nearby Seneca Army Depot.

The movie, Father Sweeney said, was a

documentary featuring, among others, persons whose careers have been in the military, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the late President Dwight Eisenhower. The film explored the philosophy of the United States in regard to nuclear armaments.

The entire evening, "from the point of view of education, was very helpful," Father Sweeney said. The prayer service included petitions for peace and the directions of leaders in their decisions on nuclear arms.

At the conclusion of the event, a group of volunteers formed to organize a task force to work with legislators on the question of nuclear armaments.

The religious leaders, he said, felt "that people were learning things and talking about things never before brought to their consciousness," and for that reason the program was deemed very successful.