

# COURIER-JOURNAL

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3

## Thanks Giving Appeal over the Top

### \$2.9 Million Is Pledged

The second Annual Catholic Thanks Giving Appeal received pledges of approximately \$2.9 million, exceeding its goal of \$2.55 million, Bishop Matthew H. Clark has announced. The total cash received to date is approximately \$1.7 million. About 145 of 183 parishes have reached their goals. Many have substantially exceeded their goals. A full report will appear in the Courier-Journal in the near future.

Bishop Clark attributed the excellent response to "the amazing generosity of our people who have shown their support and concern for diocesan programs."

The bishop said, "I am, of course, pleased by the obvious financial support reflected in the total, but I am even more delighted that the appeal enabled us to explain the work of the diocese to all interested. I find especially heartwarming the genuine community spirit evidenced through such widespread cooperation with the appeal."

Bishop Clark voiced gratitude for the thousands of volunteers "who served so unselfishly" and for the diligent work of the appeal's leaders.

"There are so many to thank," Bishop Clark said, "but I am particularly grateful to Theodore Altier, our general chairman, and his very capable committee; Father James Marvin who coordinated the appeal, and Father Peter Bayer, our operations manager."

Father Marvin said, "I was

pleased not only with financial success, but also because the person in the pew had the opportunity to know what the Diocesan Church is all about, what his bishop is all about and what his staff does. I was happy with the educational aspect of the appeal... people got to know what the Pastoral Center is and does."

Father Marvin added, "There also were spinoff

benefits to the parishes. The fact that 15,000 volunteers took part is amazing. So many have sent us thanks for the opportunity to get to know their own parishes better through home visits. It was a genuine awakening of Church."

Other factors were cited for the overwhelming response. Among these were the wholehearted support offered by individual priests and pastors, the fact that the structure of

the appeal itself offered practical assistance to parishes by relieving them of their annual assessments and also that 80 percent of all funds collected over quota is being returned to the individual parish.

The success of the appeal enables the diocese to establish and support new programs which will be of direct assistance to the people and parishes. Included among these are:

- A Finger Lakes Office of Social Ministry.
- A Department of Youth Ministry (serving ages 13-18).
- Programs for Young Adult Ministry (serving ages 18-35).
- Additional hospital chaplain services in Rochester.
- Campus chaplain in Geneva.

- Training programs for Religious Education teachers.
  - Expanded staffing of the Southern Tier Office of Social Ministry.
  - Additional staff to serve the Hispanics of the diocese.
- The appeal's success permits the diocese to continue to develop its ministry to all persons and parishes within the Diocese of Rochester.



Members of the Thanks Giving Appeal diocesan leadership team are, from left, Richard Chapman, Northeast area; Dr. John Coyle, Southwest area; Constance Mitchell, Northwest area, who has since resigned due to illness; Donald C. Quick, Southeast area; Theodore Altier, general chairman; Bishop

Matthew H. Clark; Father James Marvin, diocesan coordinator; Joseph Campbell, Northwest area; Ellen DeBuono, Northeast area; and Joseph D. Coffee Jr., Central area. Inset into the photo, from left, are Father Peter Bayer, operations director; Bishop Clark; Father Marvin; and Kay and William Spohn, Northwest area.

## Churches Open Doors to Shelter Homeless

In an ironic update of a 2,000-year-old story, the inns are closed again. But a number of city Catholic churches are opening their doors this winter to shelter those they can of the estimated 200-400 homeless persons in this area.

Responding to a plea from Bishop Matthew H. Clark, Corpus Christi Church, Blessed Sacrament Church and St. Boniface Church are welcoming homeless people on a night-by-night basis. Other churches are joining their ranks.

But the coordinator of the program, Pat Mannix of the Office of Justice and Peace, has issued a plea for volunteers to help staff the church facilities.

"There is a desperate need for volunteers," she said,

adding that there are churches ready and willing to open their doors to the homeless, but there are no persons either on staff or in the neighborhoods able to supervise the shelters.

The question of housing the homeless, particularly during the winters, has become a critical problem in the past several months. Facilities for such shelter have become fewer and fewer.

Last month Bishop Clark wrote to the city parishes "to ask you to consider opening your church facilities, your rectories, convents or schools to house, on an emergency overnight basis, three or four people who seek refuge from the winter nights as the need arises."

"A simple cot in a warm room may prevent the deaths and injuries we witnessed last year," he wrote.

The bishop said, "This appeal comes to you as a last resort, only after a great effort has been made unsuccessfully to secure a central facility. If we all share in the work, enough warm beds can be found to see our brothers and sisters through the winter."

His letter explained that "in the past 18 months, diocesan agencies and staff have given much attention to the plight of homeless and transient persons in the City of Rochester. The Convening on Homeless/Transient Persons, brought together by Maurice Tierney of Catholic Charities, has been seeking both long and short term solutions to the problems of housing."

"Despite the best efforts of a wide variety of Church and secular agencies, 200-400 persons will be homeless in

Rochester during this winter," he said.

Volunteers wishing to help staff the church facilities are asked to contact Pat Mannix at the Office of Peace and Justice, 750 W. Main St., Rochester, N.Y. 14611; (328-6400).

## Pope, Shultz Discuss Poland

By Father Kenneth J. Doyle

Vatican City (NC) — Pope John Paul II and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz discussed the situation in Poland during their 30-minute meeting Dec. 13 at the Vatican.

The Vatican released no information about the topics

discussed, but Shultz said at a later press conference that Poland was one of the issues. Shultz, however, did not mention the content of the discussions. Shultz said he also met Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, papal secretary of state, who told him that in meeting Pope John Paul, Shultz had talked to "the greatest Vatican expert" on Poland.

The day before, Dec. 12, Poland's martial law government had announced plans to suspend most of the martial law regulations on Dec. 31. The pope and the U.S. government have been pressuring Poland to end martial law, which was imposed by the communist government on Dec. 13, 1981.

## No Courier On Dec. 29

The Courier-Journal will not be published Dec. 29; the next issue will be Jan. 5, 1983. Deadline for that edition will be Thursday noon, Dec. 30.

The management and staff of the Courier-Journal wishes all its readers peace and happiness during the holy season.