

# Report: Diocese Sees Rapid Tuition Fund Growth

In August 1974 the Episcopal Task Force on Secondary Schools recommended the establishment of a Diocesan Tuition Subsidy Fund.

The purpose was to aid the children of the most economically poor to receive the benefits of Catholic secondary education by using fund re-

sources to complement tuition payments of poor families who could not afford to pay full tuition. This recommendation became a reality in 1976-77 when \$15,000 was allocated to be used as subsidy for students attending Catholic secondary schools in our diocese.

Since then the diocesan subsidy has grown from \$15,000 to \$135,000 and includes the 75 elementary schools throughout the diocese as well as the secondary schools. This money is derived from the Annual Diocesan Thanksgiving Appeal. There were 800 applications submitted this year through the school at which students were registered. Two committees reviewed the applications. Members included: Sister Mary Louis Whalen, SSND, Andrew Boone, Rose Boice, Pilar Vivar Glasgow, Mary Walker, Jim Mulcahy, Sister Rosemary St. Peter, SSSJ, and Pat Mannix. Sister Virginia Steinwachs, SSSJ, assistant superintendent of Catholic Urban Education, is responsible for administering the Tuition Subsidy Program and is chairperson of the two screening committees.

Fr. Paul J. Cuddy



On the Right Side

## A Taste Of What You Missed

To Bishop Dennis W. Hickey:

We were sorry you could not attend the Roast at Sweet's in Webster to celebrate my 75th birthday, but I do thank you for your message to the committee, and am greatly amused at your gently written roast: "Father Cuddy thinks the bishops are taking the Church down the drain." Believe you me, any bishop who is loyal to our Holy Father and the teachings and directions of the Church has my sincere gratitude; and I bless God that you are such a bishop and as good a friend to me.

The Roast was the happiest event I've experienced in years. The roasters were fine. Father Hart set the motif as he was readying the crowd of 500 for grace. He somberly declared: "My mother taught me that you should never roast an old bird. You boil him." The crowd roared in appreciation.

The priest roasters you know: Fathers P.J. Ryan, Dan Karl, Ray Heisel, Gene McFarland. You may know the Master of Ceremonies, Kevin Doran, who is manager of radio station WLEA, Hornell, and is the godfather of our "Magnify the Lord" program, sponsored by the Hornell Legion of Mary these past dozen years.

My nephew, Jim Cuddy, is a city judge in Auburn. He and his wife, Laila Curtin, met in Washington when she was a student at Trinity College and he was studying law at Georgetown. Steve Murphy is a French teacher at Fairport, and a neighbor in Webster. I often stop at his home to sense the casual domesticity of the household: wife Alice, seven active children and Aunt Mary. Steve is a bit of a Jesuit-o-phile, and was taught in New York by McQuaid's Father William O'Malley of Exorcist fame.

Eileen O'Toole Cichello was most kind to Father Curtin in Clyde when she was school nurse 25 years ago. She used to write letters to the Courier denouncing me for my square ideas. She was gloriously funny, and told me: "I've been waiting 25 years to say this."

The crowd was a wondrous mix: many from Holy Trinity parish

and area; friends from Rochester and environs; many who have been on tours with me; friends from Hornell, Auburn, Clyde, Savannah, Brockport, and even Elmira and Dansville. Many priests and Sisters came, which was a special kindness I cherish.

I was very touched by the coming of several friends of military days 40 years ago. Jim Corrigan came from Florida. Alex Yankaskas came from Connecticut. My assistant in France, Joe Fazio, a scrounger equal to MASH's Radar O'Reilly, and his wife came from Elmsford. George Deep of our 409th Bomb. Group, whom I hadn't seen since 1945, came from Sherbourne.

A very special couple were Bob Kennedy and his wife, Edythe Holycross of Spencerport. I married them at Napier Field, Ala., in 1944, right after he got his wings and commission. What a handsome couple they were, and still are. I was happy to see good delegations from the K of C, CDA, and Legion of Mary.

I read that President Reagan has not appreciated women sufficiently, and Bella Abzug, NOW and ERA and such feminists are highly mad at him. My experience is that when women take on an enterprise they are superlative.

The Roast was a mystery to me, since I was scarcely consulted by the committee: Kay Tichacek, Betty Schreiber, Carolyn Haas, Mary Quinn and Dorothy Smith of Holy Trinity, and Marj Doyle, wife of Deacon Greg Doyle, of West Webster. Everything ran happily, and on Sept. 14 they took me to lunch at Shadow Lake, Penfield, and presented me with a check for \$1,000. I am sending \$500 to Mother Angelica for her Eternal Word TV satellite program which reaches 1,300,000 homes; and \$500 to Father Jim Callan to send to some Sister in Haiti who works among the poorest.

The Knights of Columbus gave me a unique gift — a card pasted in a cardboard take-out fish fry carton which read: "To Father Cuddy. Good for 75 suppers at the weekly K of C fish fry, Fridays at the K of C Hall in Webster."

I should be pleased if you will join me some Friday. The Knights and their ladies do a good job, and even I cannot eat 75 suppers alone.



This year 83 subsidies were awarded to families of secondary students, 171 to families of students attending elementary schools in Rochester and 111 to families of students attending elementary schools outside the city of Rochester. Two-hundred and three families who met criteria to receive some subsidy had to be eliminated because of a budget overrun of some \$80,000. The program has grown from 324 applicants to 800 in just three years. This year an outreach was made to the Spanish community. Applications in Spanish were available and informational meetings were held.

The ministry of education "To Teach as Jesus Did" is an important one. A quality education is a gift beyond price. The Catholic Schools' Office of Rochester is studying means to effectively reach more families with assistance.

# Priest Has Rare Title

BY John Dash

When Aquinas Institute opened its doors this Fall, a few short blocks away a singular priest quietly tended to his duties — a priest with a rare distinction: he is the sole surviving member of the original faculty of that institution.

He is Rev. Dr. Walter Kohl, 87 years old and residing at Holy Rosary Parish.

Father Kohl's first priestly assignment was to Rochester Catholic High School, the institution which shortly after his assignment became Aquinas Institute.

In those days, he recalls, diocesan priests and area women religious staffed the school. And in those days, too, a new building was being constructed on Dewey Avenue.

In a recent interview Dr. Kohl recalled having to make do with unfinished classrooms and laboratories in those early days. He taught physics and chemistry, and occasionally filled in for other teachers of other subjects.

In those days, basketball was the pride of the school, and Father Kohl recalled a tournament which necessitated a cross-country journey with the team.



FATHER KOHL

The behavior of the Aquinas team members on that trip was exemplary, he said.

In 1930, Father Kohl was assigned to teach at St. Andrew's Seminary, and in 1945, he was named pastor of St. Mary's of the Lake Church in Watkins Glen, a post he held for two years, when he was named pastor of St. Boniface Church in Rochester.

Ten years later, a fire destroyed the church building, and he directed a campaign to renovate and repair the parish plant.

Due to failing health, Father Kohl retired in 1959.

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