

Bishop, Mayor, Laud Refugee Helpers

Mrs. Stephanie Story and Mrs. Virginia O'Neill were commended last week by Bishop Matthew H. Clark and Mayor Thomas Ryan for their help in resettling refugees here.

According to James Delaney, United States Catholic Conference refugee resettlement officer here, "these two highly motivated people, with children and grandchildren of their own, virtually singlehandedly resettled eight refugee families in Rochester."

"Your unselfish and seemingly tireless voluntary efforts on behalf of newly-resettled refugees has significantly enhanced both the diocese's and the United States Catholic Conference's ability to provide the many and varied resettlement services so sorely required by new refugee arrivals," the bishop wrote to the two women.

Mayor Ryan cited them for their "civic mindedness and humanitarian concern;" and said their work "significantly

contributed to the refugee's ability to more smoothly assimilate into the local mainstream and to more confidently begin their challenging journey on the road toward early self-sufficiency as productive members of the Rochester community."

The program through which the women worked has in the past several months voiced a "critical need for refugee resettlement sponsors," both on the individual and parish levels.

In addition, Delaney said,

parishes and individuals may help the effort by volunteering in a number of other capacities. He listed them as:

• **Cosponsorship** — Local refugees who have not attained an adequate level of self-sufficiency are very often placed in the onerous position of providing full resettlement sponsorship for newly arrived refugee relatives. Their burden would be considerably reduced if volunteers would assist by extending cosponsorship to the new arrivals.

• **Transportation** — De-

spite a generally favorable response to the periodic appeals for donated household items and clothing in support of the refugee resettlement program, and owing to our complete reliance on the beneficence of van and truck

owners and drivers in the area to effect pick-ups and deliveries, the office is often unable to respond to many donation offers. If a sufficient number could dedicate a vehicle once a month for three or four hours, the impact on the diocesan refugee resettlement efforts would be enormous.

To that end, Delaney designated Mrs. O'Neill volunteer transportation coordinator; and William Cafer and Mary Majauskas, volunteer refugee resettlement aides, as follow-up personnel.

• **Volunteers** — There is an on-going need for volunteer refugee resettlement aides to help with the program. Delaney has named Mrs. Story coordinator of the volunteer program and Kathy Lambert and Debbie Buskey as follow-up personnel.

Persons interested in the program have been asked to call Delaney at his offices at the Catholic Family Center, (716) 546-7220.

Fr. Paul J. Cuddy



On the Right Side

Catching Up On the Mail

To Father Kevin McKenna, Rome:

"A favor, if you can. As you know, Fathers Paul Wobrab, Ray Heisel and I go to Kenya, East Africa, come Jan. 16. If possible, we should like to stay at 'Foyer Unites - Piazza Navone'. I do not know whether Foyer Unites is a place or the name of the religious community. It is an order of Dutch nuns who furnish hostel hospitality to travelers, and whose work is to act as guides around Rome, to explain Rome and its history with a Catholic sympathy.

"So many Roman guides portray Rome's history as if it were all Borgias and scandals, and no Ignatius of Loyola or Catherine of Siena and holiness. I got the above address from Father Ed Dillon, who is assisting Msgr. Dick Quinn at Perpetual Help, but he did not know much about the place.

"Our itinerary gives us three and a half days in Rome. Then on to Kenya. Then three days back in Rome when we will go to Assisi. We should like to jell housing and program before we get there. I am sending this letter to you through Father Heisel since he writes to you frequently — and he can pay the postage.

"Msgr. Frankie Burns was 89 years old Nov. 18. Father Larry Gross, who succeeded Msgr. Emmett Murphy as pastor of Holy Apostles, where Msgr. Burns is in residence, gave him a grand luncheon. There were 25 priests there, all of whom had been connected with St. Bernard's Seminary.

"He is in fine fettle: sharp in mind, reasonably mobile, and still bangs away at the piano with gusto. He keeps abreast with theological currents in the Church, though I wish he would put his conclusions publicly, e.g. through an occasional letter to the editor. He is thoroughly loyal to the pope.

"Do you know Father Tom Brennan? He has spent most of his pastoral priesthood in Corning. He is around a dozen years younger than Msgr.

Burns, and active as a columnist. I heard him give several homilies, and have engaged him for my funeral homily. He will be interesting, literate, and he will emphasize the priesthood rather than me. And he won't weasel about Purgatory. He gave the homily at Father Leonard Kelly's funeral and gave a fine conclusion on Purgatory and prayers for the departed.

"Well, I started off with a simple request, but you will be glad to get news of the diocese. Prospera!"

To Arsaud de Borchgrave, author Washington, D.C.:

"Kevin Doran, manager of radio station WLEA, Hornell, sent me a cassette tape of the interview with you done in October. I was impressed by your exposure of the work of the Soviet KGB and its Cuban counterpart, and used it for a column in our Rochester Courier-Journal, which has a circulation of nearly 70,000. I am a confirmed conservative within the Catholic Church, which annoys some of our liberals, but I suppose that puts a bit of pepper in the reading pot.

"I have recommended your 'The Spike' with misgivings. It is so heavy with sex that some of my readers would be greatly turned off. One told me, 'I started it, but could not stomach all the sex. However, she did read 'Moumbo', and accepted the more limited sex in that.

"After 'Moumbo' gave her 'Verpers in Vienna' by Bruce Marshall, about the Russians corralling the displaced persons in Vienna after World War II. Marshall was there at the time as an officer in the British Army — Intelligence, I think — which gives authenticity to the book. But he has not larded the story with sex.

"Will you tell me: why the heavy sex in 'The Spike'? Is this a ploy for readership? Is it exaggerated from fact? Is it necessary to the story? God knows, I am grateful for your exposure of the Soviets and the Castro-ites, and pray for your prosperity with God and the rest of us."

Homeless Network In Need of Help

The Parish Network for Homeless Persons, the diocesan response to the need to shelter those without homes, is in operation.

Blessed Sacrament's shelter, which opened its doors Nov. 1, has been operating at or above its 15-person capacity. St. Augustine's hospitality center which houses 10 persons opened Nov. 20, and St. Bridget's next Sunday, also accommodating 10 persons.

Sister Marie Brown, Father William Trott and Father Robert Werth, the leaders of the program at the three parishes, and volunteer coordinators were credited

with the establishment of the homes by Catholic Charities.

Each center is staffed, including overnight, by volunteers, according to Charities. A warm place to stay, two light meals and hospitality are provided.

The most frequent guests, according to Eileen Early, Parish Network coordinator, are the chronically homeless and transients, unable to receive the services of other agencies.

"Our program operates under the premise that every individual has the right to shelter," Ms. Early said.

Throughout the length of the program, until April 30, there will be a need for volunteers at the centers, Ms. Early said. Also needed will be operating funds and food and supplies. Anyone interested should contact the Catholic Charities Homeless Fund, 50 Chestnut Plaza, Rochester, N.Y. 14604.

Anyone interested in volunteer work may contact Blessed Sacrament at 244-1017, St. Augustine at 328-1505, or St. Bridget at 232-6079. Other information is available from Eileen Early at 328-6400.

GARTL Meets

Seneca Falls — The Seneca County Chapter of Geneva Area Right to Life will meet 8 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 6, at the home of Debbie Fox, Stanton Meadows, 19 A. Discussion will include current library project, the 1984 bus trip to the March for Life on Jan. 22. Further information is available from Kathy Peters, (315) 539-8006.

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