

# Along The Way

With Bishop Matthew H. Clark



I have never mentioned the Annual Thanks Giving Appeal in this column and to the best of my recollection the word money has never appeared here either.

This has always been a "non-business" effort -- a place where we share our journeys, get better acquainted and, I hope, find some encouragement for Christian living.

My intention is that it will remain that way. But, I speak of the Thanks Giving Appeal this week because gratitude to you for its success have been very much a part of me these days.

Thank you very much for your generous support -- for your prayers, your donations of time and energy and for the money you have offered so that we can meet our common responsibilities as a diocese.

One of the long-range goals of the Thanks Giving Appeal is that it will become an ever more effective vehicle for our common education in the faith. My hope is that the people of our diocese will become increasingly aware of the important work we are doing together as a faith community. And my conviction is that the more you know and understand what you are achieving the prouder you will be of one another.

I am very much aware that this work of education cannot be done completely through the Thanks Giving Appeal, nor do I think that the Appeal substitutes for other educational programs.

The work of updating, renewal and growth is a lifelong one which requires from each of us an awareness that we need to work to keep pace with the ongoing life of our faith community. Beyond that we need the courage required to change when the ongoing life asks that of us.

It is in pursuit of these ends that we need such efforts as the Thanks Giving Appeal. And it is for your generous commitment to this work that I am so grateful these days.

● If you read these words, you are a reader of the Courier-Journal -- and I thank you for that, too.

I am the president of the board of the Courier-Journal and, as you know, a frequent columnist.

What you may not realize is that I am a faithful reader of these pages and consistently find in them material which informs, challenge, amuses and inspires me.

In short, I learn a lot I need to know about the Church -- here and in other places -- when I read the Courier-Journal. I am convinced that anyone who reads it on a regular basis will derive from it the benefits I do.

So, let me ask you to think about two possibilities.

1. Commit yourself to read each week for the next month some feature of the paper you have been wanting to read, but have not read as yet.

2. If you enjoy the paper, find some way to introduce someone else to it so that you can share the benefit you receive.

● One last request: If you have received a form for the Courier-Journal readership survey being conducted by McGraw-Hill, please take a moment to complete it and mail it in. It will be a much appreciated contribution to our continuing efforts.  
Peace.

## DPC Challenges Grant To Women's Peace Camp

**Palmyra** — Decisions by diocesan groups which will affect the entire diocese should be studied by diocesan leadership before they're made, the Diocesan Pastoral Council recommended Saturday.

The recommendation to Bishop Matthew H. Clark stemmed from the \$350 grant made in June 1983 by the Finger Lakes Office of Social Ministry for educational programs at the Women's Encampment for a Future of Peace and Justice, then just being organized. The Camp, adjacent to the Seneca Army Depot in Romulus, was organized to oppose the deployment of new nuclear weapons systems in Europe.

The council approved, 18-12 with one abstention, a motion calling for diocesan leaders to develop guidelines to guarantee that such actions, which may affect pro-

grams being sponsored by other diocesan groups, are reviewed by diocesan leaders before they are made.

The council unanimously approved a motion applauding the Finger Lakes Office of Social Ministry for its success in getting its operations under way. The second motion was proposed to express the council's support for the overall operation of the office.

Following the council's action, Bishop Clark said he was grateful the commendation had been approved. But he said the council's first motion was based on the presupposition that the diocese had no procedures to review such matters. He said he doesn't know of any statements which hadn't been adequately reviewed, "including this one," he said, referring to the \$350 donation.

He said such a donation is not a guarantee of good conduct by the recipient. For example, he said the diocese can not guarantee that the recipients of tuition subsidies won't vandalize the school they are then able to attend.

He said he remembers asking at the time of the donation if it would cause problems. He said he was told it wouldn't, as the money would only be used for educational efforts regarding world peace.

He said the staff and board of the Finger Lakes Office did not exceed their authority in making the grant. "It's not to say we didn't make a collective mistake," he said.

The DPC's action followed a similar recommendation which was contained in the report of the Ministerial Review Committee. The council spent most of Saturday's meeting at St. Anne's in Palmyra studying the MRC

report and making recommendations to the bishop regarding diocesan programs.

The council defeated two motions designed to change the diocesan Thanks Giving Appeal.

John Dengler proposed that the diocese stop returning to parishes a share of the amount collected in excess of their quotas. Currently, 80 percent of any money collected in excess of the goal is returned to the parish.

Dengler said donations to the appeal are to support diocesan activities, and he feels the diocese should keep

the money. Jack McCarthy disagreed, saying many parish workers wouldn't work as hard on the appeal if they didn't think some of the money might come back to the parish.

The motion was defeated with 10 in favor, 19 opposed and 2 abstaining.

The council also defeated, when 20 people abstained, a motion calling for money raised by "unique fund raisers" to be excluded from parish income used to determine parish appeal quotas.

Later, Bishop Clark noted that Bingo receipts are not included now. He also de-

scribed efforts to improve the way the quotas are determined. "We're searching for ways to make that more equitable," he said.

The council also unanimously recommended an increase to a "more appropriate level" in the amount the diocese allocates for tuition subsidies for elementary and secondary students.

This year the diocese provided \$147,072 in subsidies, but was only able to fund about 60 percent of the requests.

## Catholic Family Center Provides Shelter Funds

Catholic Family Center has received funds from the United Way to provide emergency shelter allowances for persons residing in Monroe County.

These funds are federal funds which are subcontracted to local agencies and are available until March 31.

## Schools Celebrate In a Big Way

St. Charles Borromeo School has scheduled registration for new students during the week of Jan. 30 to Feb. 3 between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. daily and from 7-8 p.m., on Tuesday Jan. 31. Also there will be an open house each day from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The school has also scheduled a family Mass

The monies allocated to CFC will provide emergency rent or mortgage assistance (one month maximum) to avoid immediate eviction and will also cover emergency shelter costs for homeless men and women.

CFC serves families and individuals without regard to age, or economic, ethnic or

religious background, who are in a financial crisis.

Ongoing counseling is available to insure ability to meet future rent or mortgage payments and access to permanent housing.

Further information and appointments are obtained by calling the Intake Coordinator, Catholic Family Center, 50 Chestnut St., Rochester, N.Y. 14604; 546-7220.

## O.N.E. Plans Unity Service

A Church Unity Service, sponsored by the O.N.E. Council of Churches in Gates-Chili will take place from 4 to 6 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 29, at St. Christopher Church, Union Street in North Chili.

The service will consist of hymns, prayers, Scripture readings and group discussions of the readings. An Agape Meal, consisting of bread, cheese, fruit and beverage, will follow. The meal is free, but proceeds from a voluntary offering will be used to defray expenses and to continue the O.N.E. Council. Everyone is invited.

## Black History Art

"Art for Black History Month," featuring 20 local black artists will run Feb. 2-25, in the Foyer Gallery, Nazareth Arts Center

## Donations Hike Tioga Ministry

**Owego** — Donations exceeding the expected amount by nearly \$10,000 meant the women religious working in Tioga Rural Ministry were able to give more help to the poor in the second half of 1983.

Sisters Sheila and Nancy reported the results recently.

They had anticipated \$6,500 in contributions, but actually received \$16,170 during the period, allowing them to dispense more help with food, fuel and other needs.

Cash distributions, budgeted at \$4,377, actually

amounted to nearly \$13,000.

The Tioga Rural Ministry is supported by five organizations and by contributions. The sponsors are the Sisters of Mercy and the four parish units of the county.

At holiday time, the ministry packed and delivered 73 baskets of food; 176 fruit baskets to the elderly and shut-ins; and an undetermined number of toys. Other activities included 164 visits, 115 donations of emergency food; 53 nursing home visits; 36 hospital visits, and 16 hours providing transportation.

## J. McKiernan Invested as Malta Knight

John (Eoin) McKiernan, originally from Geneseo, was invested as a Knight of Malta in ceremonies Monday, Jan. 16, at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City.

McKiernan, who moved to St. Paul, Minn., 14 years ago, is the founder of the Irish-American Cultural Institute, and publisher of Eire-Ireland, a scholarly journal. He also distributes a newsletter to 26 countries and has an honorary doctorate from the National University of Ireland.

According to his wife, Jeanette, the cathedral was filled as 128 new members, a particularly large group, were invested.

The Knights of Malta is the oldest order of laymen and prelates in the Church. Known originally as the Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, the order was founded in 1113 to protect the Holy Sepulchre and to minister to the poor. It is now devoted to humanitarian and welfare concerns.

## St. Joseph

**Penfield** — A Mass for the Charismatic community will be celebrated 5 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 5 at St. Joseph's Church.

## Canon Law, Blacks Topic for Jan. 28

Msgr. Leonard G. Scott of the Camden (N.J.) diocese will present a discussion on Canon Law 1983 and its significance to black Catholics at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 28, in the large Conference Room of the Pastoral Center, 1150 Buffalo Road.

Msgr. Scott, one of the few black canon lawyers of the Church, has been conducting such presentations since the Fall of 1983. He is the of-

ficialis (chief judge) of the Tribunal of the Camden diocese and is a member of the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus, the Canon Law Society of America and the Eastern Regional Conference of Canonists.

Open to the public, the discussion will be free, including coffee and lunch at no cost. Further information is available from the Office of Black Ministries, 328-3210, ext. 268 or 269.

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