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Tuggin' Away

First-grader Kelly Volkmuth concentrates on the tug of war during the St. Ambrose School Olympic Day, June 6. For story and more photos, see Page 5.

Jeff Goulding/Courier-Journal

Ongoing Renewal In Genesee Valley Social Ministry

By Teresa A. Parsons

The final phase of "Catholic Charities of The Future," a five-year diocesan plan to renew the Office of Social Ministry, has begun with the recent opening of the Genesee Valley Regional Office. Headed by Father Michael J. Bausch, who was named executive director for the region last February, the new division is headquartered on the 11th floor of the 50 Chestnut Street building.

Assisting Father Bausch will be three associates. William Privett, formerly associate director of diocesan Catholic Charities, is Catholic Charities (human services) director for Genesee Valley. Sister Christine Wagner, SSJ, previously coordinator for parish services on the International Justice and Peace Commission, is the Genesee Valley Justice and Peace director. Sister Mary Ann Ayers, RSM, will fill the post of director for chaplaincy. Sister Mary Ann comes to Rochester from Buffalo, where she has served as chaplain in a number of institutions, including Mercy Hospital.

The Genesee Valley Office's mission is to coordinate current efforts in the areas of Justice and Peace, Catholic Charities (direct human services) and Chaplaincy Services for the Monroe and Livingston county area. Along with the other two regional offices — the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier offices of social ministry — the Genesee Valley Office aims to fulfill the overall diocesan plan for renewal, which calls for better, more comprehensive pastoral planning in social ministry and stronger ties with individual parishes. All three regional offices can now count on the support of a larger staff at the diocesan Office of Social Ministry, headed by Father John Firpo.

Father Bausch views his task as "making the community aware of what we're doing" in agencies such as Catholic Family Center, the Bishop Sheen Ecumenical Housing Foundation, and the Catholic Youth Organization which are, among others, incorporated under the Genesee Valley Office. As the former executive director of the Southern

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Father Lavery Honored for Contributions

By Karen M. Franz

At a testimonial dinner Monday, June 17, 10 speakers and a gathering of nearly 600 paid tribute to Father Charles J. Lavery, recently retired president and chancellor of St. John Fisher College. The dinner at the Rochester Plaza benefitted a scholarship Lavery established in honor of his parents.

Keynote speaker for the affair was former New York state Governor Malcolm Wilson who cited Father Lavery's efforts to ensure the quality of private colleges and universities in the state.

In 1968, Wilson said, Lavery took charge of Fisher under trying conditions. World War II had made college a necessity, but the price of private education was forcing many students to select private institutions in other states. This "brain drain" was aggravated by the fact that many of these students did not return to New York after graduation.

"It was essential that every young New Yorker with the ability and desire should have the choice between public and private college," the former governor said.

Wilson praised Father Lavery's activism in Albany, where he fought for aid to private colleges, and noted that Father Lavery played a major role in the development or expansion of such programs as tuition credits, Regents scholarships, establishment of the New York Higher Education Assistance Corporation (which ultimately led to the TAP award program), increasing the availability of dormitories, and Bundy aid.

"No single person in higher education was more efficacious in ensuring that private colleges would not be priced out of the market," Wilson said, adding that Father Lavery was in Albany during each session of the legislature.

Among other speakers honoring Father Lavery was Martin F. Birmingham, former chairman of the board of

trustees of the college and regional president of Marine Midland Bank. Birmingham called Father Lavery an example of strong community support of business, and said that there was not a business in town that hasn't at one time or another requested Lavery's time.

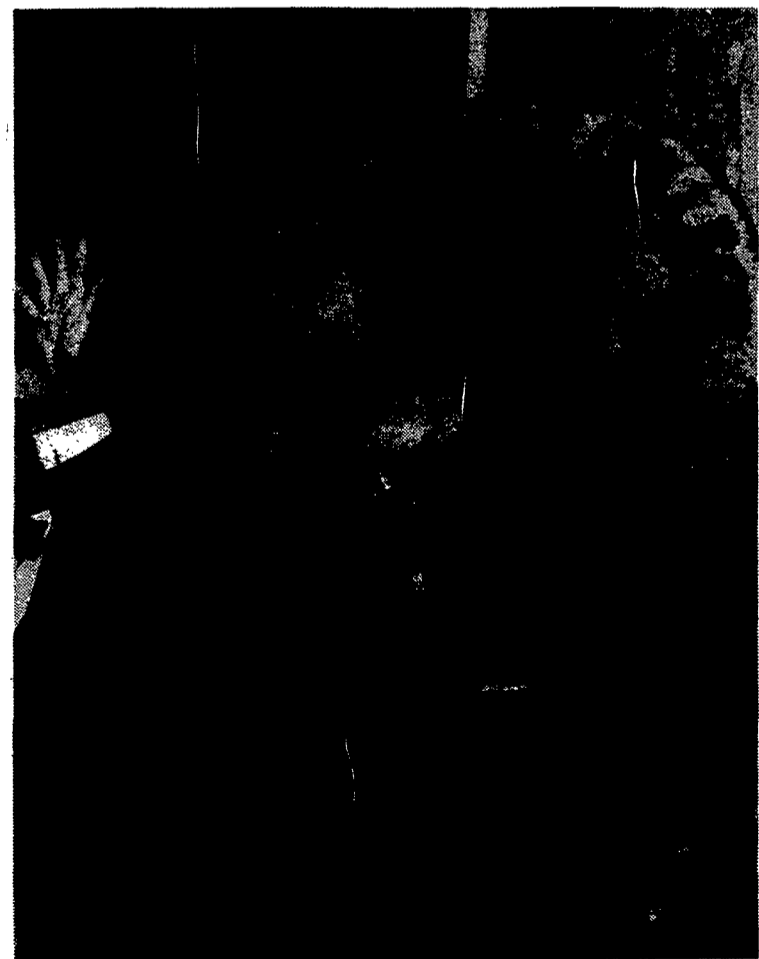
In his tribute to Father Lavery, Thomas H. Hawks, Fisher trustee and former board chairman of Rochester Savings Bank, said there are three types of people: those who live in the community, those who live off the community, and those who live for the community. Father Lavery, Hawks noted, is definitely among the latter group.

Hawks said he could easily count more than 30 organizations to which Father Lavery gives his time "On behalf of Rochester, I thank you, not just for what you have done, but for what we know you will continue to do," he said.

The Diocese of Rochester was represented at the head table by Monsignor John E. Maney, former chancellor and vicar general of the diocese. Monsignor Maney spoke of Father Lavery's service to God and to the community, of his ability to represent God to people. He spoke of the Basilian tradition of becoming part of the diocese to which they are assigned and of parish activity. He noted Father Lavery's dedication to hearing people's troubles, bringing them the sacraments, and bringing God to people. "He will have a wonderful reunion when he goes to heaven," Monsignor Maney said.

In his response, Father Lavery thanked the gathering for their contribution of \$30,000 to the scholarship fund. He noted that he had been approached about a testimonial dinner in the past and had declined. He was only convinced when it was proposed that the dinner be a benefit for the scholarship fund.

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Father Charles J. Lavery exits the Grand Ballroom of the Rochester Plaza after his testimonial dinner.

Inside this Week's Edition

Photo Contest

The Courier-Journal announces a weekly photo contest for young people. More details — Page 2.

Fisher Anniversaries

This weekend St. John Fisher College marked 450th and 50th anniversaries in the life of its patron — Page 6.

100th Birthday

Ithaca's Immaculate Conception School celebrates with some distinguished guests. That and more school news — Page 11.

Mercy Center

Thanks to the Mercy Center with the Aging, one woman found her mother's illness easier to handle — Page 15.