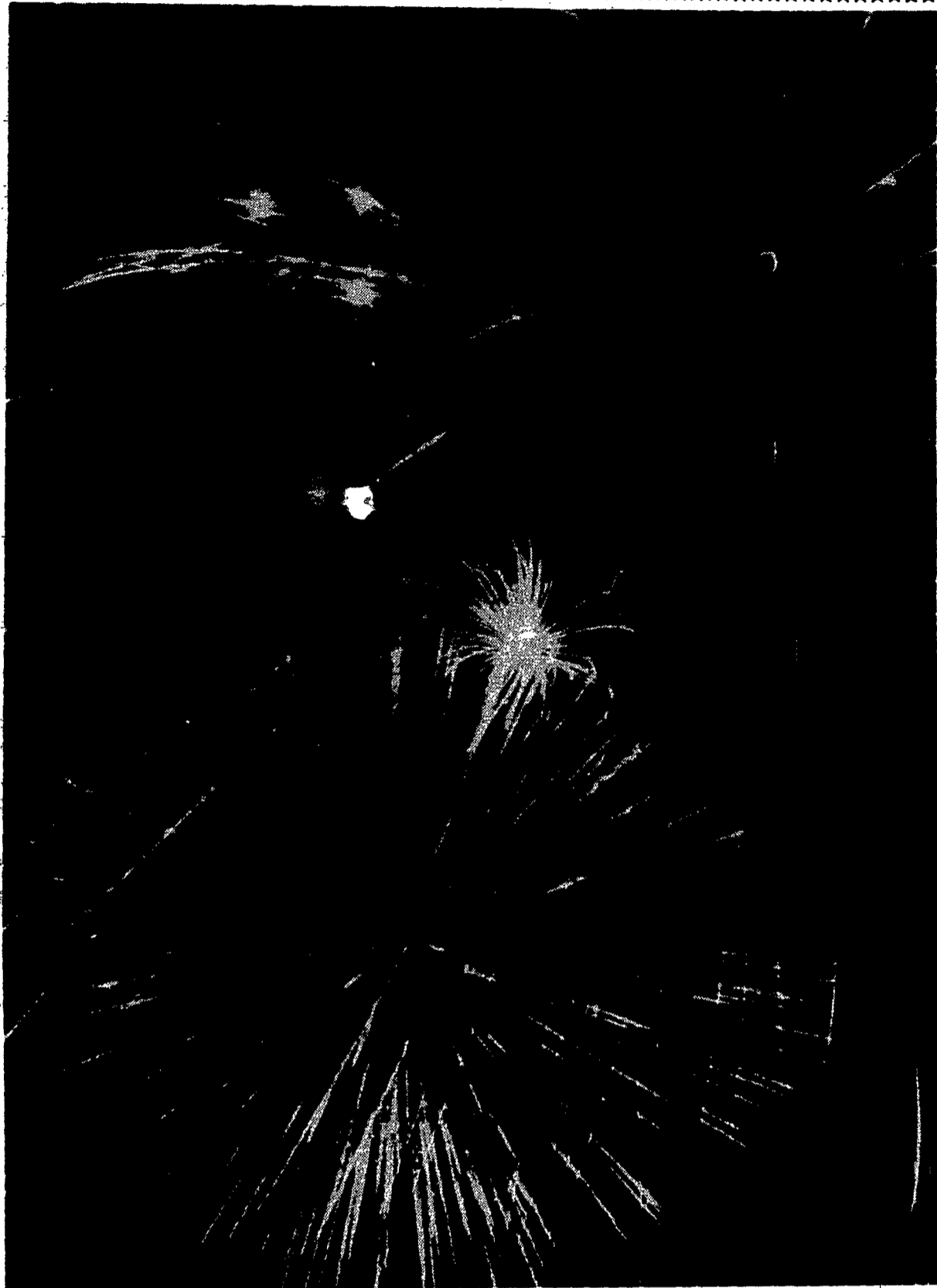


COURIER-JOURNAL

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Star-Spangled

Jeff Goulding/Courier-Journal

Many local communities and groups plan spectacular fireworks displays for tomorrow's holiday. The Courier-Journal wishes all of its readers a wonderful Fourth of July.

Diocesan Catholic Charities Gets New Name, New Board

By Teresa A. Parsons
As part of its ongoing renewal, the diocesan Office of Social Ministry accepted the resignation of the diocesan board of Catholic Charities and has begun building a new board of directors among other actions in a meeting on Friday, June 21.

Prior to the resignation of the former trustees, three new board members accepted appointments from Bishop Matthew H. Clark. They are William E. Wynne, president; Albert T. Brault, vice president; and Sister Elizabeth Hughes, R.S.M., vice president. Also on Friday, the Genesee Valley Office of Social Ministry Nominating Committee, composed in part of former Charities' trustees, appointed 27 board members for the new regional office.

The Catholic Charities board resigned to open the way for a new team to tackle coordinating the three regional offices, enhancing the relationship between social ministry and other diocesan departments, collaborating with the bishop and developing and advocating for programs at the diocesan level.

The new board's first actions were to approve Father John Firpo as executive director of the diocesan office and to vote for a change in the corporation's name from Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rochester to Social Ministries of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester.

"The name change will better convey what we're all about," said Maurice Tierney,

diocesan associate director for Catholic Charities. Specifically, the new name recognizes and attempts to better reflect the inclusion of Justice and Peace and Chaplaincy divisions in social ministry, Tierney said.

The board of the diocesan office will also include three members who will represent each regional office of social ministry — Genesee Valley, Finger Lakes and Southern Tier. One of the representatives from each regional office will be designated a member of the diocesan board's executive committee.

Six special diocesan offices will have representatives on the board. They are: the Hispanic Apostolate, the Division of Urban Services, the Office of Black Ministries, the

departments of Youth Ministry and Continuing Education, and the Financial Advisory Board.

Bishop Clark, who will serve as chairman of the board, is expected by the end of July to name five additional members to round out the board, according to Wynne. The total membership of 24 is scheduled to meet for the first time on September 28.

Between now and then, Wynne said, the transitional team of board members must create a set of bylaws for the new board to work within. "It is a new entity," the new president pointed out, adding that, as the new board is appointed, its members must be oriented to "fully appreciate where we've

Continued on Page 7

Independence

Rockford Hostages Freed; Joliet Priest Not Released

News Service

Yellow ribbons waved from the four corner posts of St. Margaret Mary Parish's steeples in Algonquin, Ill., to welcome home parishioners who had been hijacked and held hostage in Beirut, Lebanon, for 17 days.

Thirty-nine Americans were released June 30, including four members of St. Margaret Mary Parish. Also released were Father James McLoughlin, pastor at St. Peter Parish in Geneva, Ill.; Father Thomas Dempsey, pastor at St. Patrick Parish in St. Charles, Ill.; and Raymond Johnson, a permanent deacon from Annunciation Parish in Aurora, Ill.

The priests, deacon and parishioners, all from the Diocese of Rockford, Ill., were members of a pilgrimage to the Holy Land led by Father P. William McDonnell, pastor at St. Margaret Mary.

Father McDonnell and most members of the pilgrimage were freed in the first days after their TWA jetliner was hijacked by Shiite extremists June 14.

The release of the last of the pilgrims ended the ordeal for families and friends in the Rockford Diocese, but in nearby Joliet, Ill., the family of Servite Father Lawrence Jenco, director of Catholic Relief Services in Beirut, still waited.

Father Jenco was kidnapped in Beirut in January and his family hoped that he and six other Americans kidnapped over the past year-and-a-half would be released along with the hostages from the TWA flight.

Sue Francischini, sister of Father Jenco, said after the release of the 39 Americans, "I feel hurt because the American people haven't been behind the seven. I feel alone."

Andrew Mihelich, nephew of Father Jenco, said in a June 30 press conference in Joliet, "We're glad the other hostages were set free but we are disappointed and depressed about our own."

"We plead for the government to work as diligently on the release of the seven as it did for the release of the 39 hijacking victims," Mihelich said.

Michael Suggs, brother of freed hostage Clinton Suggs, from Merrillville, Ind., also attended the Joliet press conference. "I'm real pleased that my brother was released but I want the government get all our people home," he said.

The staff of Father McLoughlin's parish issued a statement July 1, saying: "We thank God for the safe return of Father Jim and the hostages of flight 847. We grieve with the family of Robert Stethem and continue to pray for the safe release of the seven kidnapped Americans still being held."

Stethem, a Navy diver from Waldorf, Md., was killed by the hijackers.

No Courier-Journal Next Week

In accordance with our postal permit, the Courier-Journal will not be published next week. We will resume publication with the July 17 issue.

Helping Hands

St. Patrick's Church in Seneca Falls prompts a community-wide effort to meet the needs of the unemployed — Page 6.

The Newest Colonists

European and Southeast Asian refugees share their stories and a deep appreciation of Independence Day — Page 11.

Learning Behind Bars

Doree McEvoy helps young inmates begin to believe they can succeed — Pages 10-11.

100 Years Of Grace

St. Columba Church in Caledonia welcomes Bishop Clark and a huge crowd to its birthday celebration — Page 17.