



Changing tide

In its 70th year, Charles Settlement House is responding to the changing needs of its neighborhood with an ambitious plan to expand facilities and services. See page 8.



City-Catholic clash

McQuaid and Cardinal Mooney, two undefeated City-Catholic powerhouses, battled this week looking to gain an early edge in the race for a league title. See page 12.

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Bishops oppose 'safe sex' as prevention for AIDS

By Julie Asher

Washington (NC) — The U.S. Catholic bishops in a major new statement on AIDS said the only "morally correct and medically sure ways" to prevent spread of the disease are sexual abstinence outside of marriage and fidelity within it, as well as avoidance of intravenous drug abuse.

The statement opposed promotion of "safe sex" as prevention, but supported inclusion of factual information on condoms in AIDS-education programs if such programs are grounded in a "broader moral vision."

The statement, called "The Many Faces of AIDS: A Gospel Response," was released December 11 and was the work of a bishops' task force on AIDS, which was formed last March.

The wide-ranging, 7,700-word statement was approved in November by the U.S. Catholic Conference's Administrative Board, a governing panel of 50 bishops.

AIDS — Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome — is transmitted by intimate sexual contact, by transfusions of infected blood, and by shared intravenous drug needles.

In the statement the bishops addressed facts about AIDS; prevention of the disease; appropriate medical and pastoral care; and Catholic response to AIDS victims, their loved ones, those with related viruses, and members of high-risk groups.

The bishops also emphasized that to combat the disease, society must address the social and economic problems that lead people to high-risk behaviors, namely drug abuse and "short-term physical intimacy."

The bishops did not review in detail medical facts about AIDS, but noted that currently the disease is incurable, cuts across "all racial and ethnic lines," affects children as well as adults and cannot be contracted

Bishops take sides regarding statement's stance on condoms — see page 6.

through ordinary, casual contact.

In regard to prevention, the bishops called all people to "live in accord with the authentic meaning of love and sexuality" found in permanent commitment and "openness to new life."

"Human sexuality as we understand this gift from God is to be genitally expressed only in a monogamous heterosexual relationship of lasting fidelity in marriage," they said.

The bishops said they opposed the "safe sex" approach to AIDS prevention because it promotes promiscuity. They noted that studies have shown such an approach is not "absolutely safe."

The bishops said they would support government education programs that provide accurate information on the disease, but also said they have a responsibility as religious leaders to focus on the moral dimensions of public policy.

Because of possible church-state conflicts regarding use of value-based instruction in public programs, they said they would be willing to participate in discussions on how to incorporate "a fuller understanding of human sexuality" in public schools.

The bishops also supported inclusion of factual information on "prophylactic devices" in education programs if those programs are based on moral values.

Continued on Page 6



Caroling Clarks

Sister Margaret Caufield, RSM, conducts the Clark Caroleers as they practice for the reception honoring Bishop Matthew Clark's 25th anniversary of ordination. Below, Patricia Clark sings along with her daughter Elisabeth, 6.

Bonnie Trafelet/Courier-Journal



Preliminary figures point to successful bishop's appeal

By Lee Strong

Although final figures are still being tabulated, diocesan officials report that the 1987 Thanks Giving Appeal has exceeded its goal of \$3.584 million.

As of December 11, \$3,643,500 — 102% of the goal — had been pledged by 58,685 donors.

Based on the fact that 59 parishes have not yet submitted final reports, and that in past years, those reports have revealed substantial additional revenues, Patrick O. Sullivan, diocesan appeal director, predicted that \$150,000-\$200,000 more might be raised.

"An encouraging factor is that 58,685 donors have contributed at this point, and there are still 59 parishes that haven't submitted their final reports yet," Sullivan noted.

As of December 12, 1986, 59,628 donors had contributed to last year's appeal, which

exceeded its quota by more than \$200,000. The final donor count for the 1986 appeal was 64,200 contributors — a figure Sullivan believes will be exceeded when this year's outstanding reports come in.

Sullivan also cited the amount given per contributor as another positive sign. Last year, the average gift was \$57.05; this year's average figure is \$62.09.

Father James Moynihan, diocesan appeal coordinator, agreed that the increase in the average amount given is a significant factor in the success of this year's campaign.

"I think many people are beginning to realize that to give \$75 to \$100 a year to a diocesan ministry is reasonable," Father Moynihan suggested. Although he hadn't seen final donor lists, he speculated that the number of contributions in this higher range increased this year. "A lot of people are beginning to figure that (because of) infla-

tion, they need to increase what they give to their parishes and the diocese to support Church ministries," he concluded.

Increased communication about how appeal money is spent on diocesan ministries was among the factors Father Peter T. Bayer, diocesan chancellor, credited for the success of this year's campaign. As part of this communication process, three promotional brochures, each emphasizing TGA-supported ministries in one of the regions of the diocese — Genesee Valley, Finger Lakes and Southern Tier — were distributed in parishes. In addition, individuals involved in diocesan ministries visited parishes to explain how appeal funds are used.

Father Bayer also praised the efforts of parish leaders and the generosity of donors as vital components of the campaign's success.

The return of the overage program was cited by Sullivan as another major factor affecting this year's appeal. Under this program, a parish receives 50% of all funds raised above its quota. "The parishes that have exceeded goal have done a really bang-up job," he noted. "That has made a dramatic impact (on the campaign)."

Ninety-four parishes had exceeded their quotas as of December 12 — several by substantial margins. Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish, for example, surpassed its \$51,960 goal by \$14,817. The Church of the Transfiguration reported \$36,418 in pledges — nearly double its quota of \$18,886. A number of other parishes exceeded their quotas by 15 to 30 percent.

Sullivan acknowledged that a parish's success or apparent failure to achieve its quota could be due to the method used in determining such goals. The formula employed to establish parish quotas uses the 1980 census to determine adjusted average household income within a parish. This amount is multiplied by the average number of pledges made to the appeal over several years. The resulting figure is then compared with the adjusted household income of all parishioners in the diocese who made pledges.

The appeal formula works for the vast majority of parishes, according to Sullivan. But in cases where the parish is new or has undergone substantial demographic changes since the 1980 census was taken, the appeal quota may be too high or too low.

Pittsford's Transfiguration Parish is one example of a new, rapidly growing community, Sullivan noted. Thus, the numbers used to determine its quota don't accurately reflect the parish's current financial situation. In such cases, quotas will be gradually adjusted year by year until results from the the 1990 census are available. Those results should help to establish more accurate appeal quotas.

Other parishes have experienced demographic changes that could lessen their ability to meet established quotas. St. Ambrose is one parish that has become more urban since the 1980 census. Parishioners' average household income has declined in comparison to other parishes. Since the 1980 income

Continued on Page 18

Index

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Around the Diocese..... | Page 2 |
| Calendar..... | Page 10 |
| Classifieds..... | Page 17 |
| Columnists..... | Pages 14-15 |
| Echo..... | Page 11 |
| Editorial & Opinion..... | Page 16 |
| Features..... | Pages 8-9,20 |
| Local News..... | Page 3 |
| Obituaries..... | Page 19 |

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Sports..... | Page 12-13 |
| World & Nation..... | Pages 4-7 |

