



A letter from death row
As Florida prepared to execute Ted Bundy, another candidate for the electric chair thanked the Ontario parishioners who befriended him. Page 6.



Lion tamers
Two state-ranked girls' basketball teams squared off in Lockport last weekend, as Our Lady of Mercy tamed the Lions for the second consecutive year. Page 13.

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CFC secures state grant to aid permanent shelter

By Richard A. Kiley

The Catholic Family Center has received written state approval to participate in the Homeless Housing and Assistance Program, putting into motion diocesan plans for a year-round, 24-hour permanent facility for Rochester's homeless.

The State Department of Social Services (DSS) has reserved \$570,000 to help finance the conversion of an abandoned warehouse at 547 Joseph Ave., into the Francis Hospitality Center. The center will offer 24 permanent beds, six emergency beds and such support services as mental health, drug and alcohol counseling, job assessment and literacy training.

According to William H. Privett, acting associate director of the Catholic Family Center (CFC), the shelter will serve chronically homeless men and women. The future opening of The Women's Place — at the former St. Augustine's convent — and Sojourner House will, however, enable the Francis center to "deal mainly with men," Privett said.

Two single-room apartments for disabled men or women will also be available.

"This is a major step, to make permanent an emergency, 24-hour, year-round shelter for the

homeless ... one that will offer an array of services," Privett said. "We see this as a major breakthrough in the quality of services to the homeless. We're happy to see the state move on this proposal."

Rochester joins a handful of other major metropolitan areas — including New York and the surrounding counties, Albany and Syracuse — that offer Catholic church-sponsored, year-round shelters for the homeless.

According to Privett, the CFC's original proposal offered 20 long-term, single occupancy rooms and 17 emergency beds, but he said "the state expressed a serious concern for long-term care."

"In discussions with the state, we revised our original proposal and expanded the number of permanent beds from 20 to 24," Privett said. "We're planning on six emergency beds and perhaps (will expand to) nine if necessary."

Privett said that the staff will include a project manager, case workers, part-time volunteer coordinator, as well as volunteers serving as relief and support staff. The project manager will be Mike Asbury of the New York State Department of Social Services Bureau of Supportive Housing.

Asbury could not be reached for comment regarding the project.

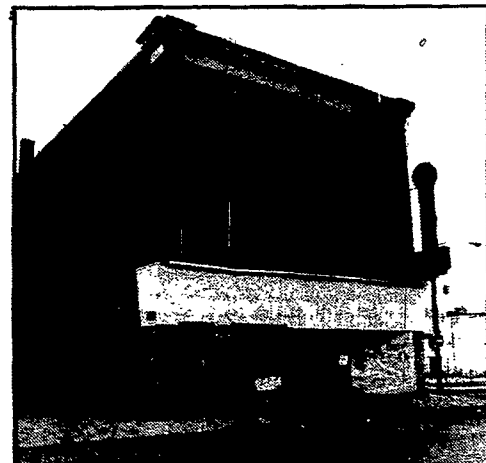
The state grant will allow the parish shelters at Blessed Sacrament and St. Bridget's to close in April, 1990. Corpus Christi's Dimitri House will remain in operation.

Privett said that the Francis Center will "look to incorporate into ongoing operations the involvement of the volunteers" who have staffed the parish shelters.

"The volunteers are appreciated by the shelter guests. We want to continue that (volunteer) component of the service," said Privett, who added that an advisory committee — made up of current staff members from the shelters at Blessed Sacrament, St. Bridget's and Dimitri House — will oversee volunteer operations. Because it will only be necessary to staff one shelter — instead of two — Privett said that it will be easier to coordinate the volunteers.

Linda Rosier, coordinator of St. Bridget's shelter, said parish volunteers consider their work a ministry and that she believes "volunteers are still going to be a vital part of our organization."

Because the project is state-funded, some shelter volunteers have raised questions as to



whether guests at the Francis Center will be required to take part in services provided by the DSS, but Privett said the Francis Center will retain the philosophy of the parish shelter network.

"The name of the center implies openness and hospitality. As people move into the permanent part of the structure, they will be assisted in eligibility for public assistance."

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Doug Meszler

Approximately 500 people from the Rochester diocese traveled to Washington to participate in the rally, joining more than 60,000 other protestors from all over the country.

Decision on abortion marked by annual D.C. rally, rescues

WASHINGTON — Anti-abortion activists, including more than 500 people from the Diocese of Rochester, marked the 16th anniversary of legalized abortion with prayer vigils, statements, "rescue missions" and the annual March for Life in Washington.

President George Bush promised an estimated 67,300 marchers in Washington Jan. 23 that "the president hears you now and stands with you in a cause that must be won." Bush made his remarks over an amplified telephone hookup from the Oval Office, as former President Ronald Reagan has done in previous years. Less than two hours earlier, Vice President Dan Quayle met with 15 anti-abortion leaders in the Old Executive Office Building to assure them of the administration's support.

Speaking to demonstrators gathered on the Ellipse behind the White House for the annual March for Life, Bush said that after years of reflection on the abortion issue, he believes the

Supreme Court's 1973 *Roe vs. Wade* decision legalizing abortion "is wrong and should be overturned."

"America needs a human life amendment," Bush told the crowd just three days after his inauguration.

President Bush also mentioned the need to protect the unborn in his Jan. 20 inaugural address — a theme echoed by Cardinal James A. Hickey of Washington Jan. 21 as he celebrated a Mass to mark the Bush inauguration.

On the same day as the Mass, approximately 350 anti-abortion activists demonstrated in front of Rochester's Genesee Hospital. The demonstration, termed "Project Jericho," was sponsored by Project Life of Rochester. Project Life leader David E. Long, who has led a number of local rescue missions, used the occasion to introduce a new agenda for local pro-life activity.

A rally at St. Jude's Church in Gates on Sunday, Jan. 22 — proclaimed National Sanctity of Human Life Day by former President Reagan — preceded the departure of buses to Washington. An ecumenical prayer service, which included the showing of the film *Slaughter of the Innocents*, was followed by a candlelight vigil.

Earlier in the day, more than 100 people watched the film, *A Matter of Choice*, at St. Theodore's Church in Gates. Father Anthony P. Mugavero, parochial vicar at St. Theodore's, conducted a question-and-answer period after the film.

The newly inaugurated president and sunny skies greeted the pro-life activists who were in Washington for the annual March for Life, which was scheduled one day after the Jan. 22 anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision because the date fell this year on a Sunday.

Marching to the theme "The Pro-Life Job is Ours," the demonstrators walked down Constitution Avenue instead of Pennsylvania Avenue — where work crews were still dismantling reviewing stands used for the January 20 inaugural parade — then headed for the Supreme Court and the Capitol to demonstrate further and to lobby members of Congress.

Speaking via telephone, Bush called for adoption as an alternative to abortion, and expressed "deep personal concern" for "two human beings, the mother and the child" who are threatened by "our American tragedy, abortion."

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Kathleen Eilon of Greece says a prayer during Monday's March for Life on Washington.

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