



File photo

Hogan (right) — joined by Archbishop Luigi Raimondi (left) and Cardinal Terence Cooke

— compassionate and outgoing to the poor and unlearned.

During the trip, we also visited Fathers Ed Golden and Peter Deckman in La Paz, Bolivia, and the Sisters of Mercy in Chile.

In Chile, we stayed with the Columban Fathers. Not long before our arrival, the *Dina* (Secret Police) had searched the Columban residence looking for fugitives. Bullet holes in the walls were still visible when we visited. People had been murdered right on the spot.

Something special was happening in all three countries we visited. New life was flourishing, and we learned our missionaries were making a difference.

The South American people were not the only individuals whose suffering touched the bishop. In June, 1972, a flood caused by Hurricane Agnes unleashed its ravages on Elmira, Corning and Hornell. Bishop Hogan flew to the Southern Tier by helicopter. He had begun his priestly ministry in 1942 at St. Mary's in Elmira, and so his heart was very much with those victimized people.

Although his response to the flood and to the missions were all an important part of the Bishop Hogan's time as Bishop of Rochester, the Magna Carta of his years in episcopal leadership is to be found in his monumental document *You Are Living Stones*.

Issued on Nov. 28, 1975, the sixth anniversary of his installation, this pastoral letter spoke of his vision for the local church, cultivating gifts and stewardship. The bishop praised those wonderful people and groups who were truly the living stones of the church.

The letter concluded with special initiatives or special tasks to be accomplished. Included was the desire to have the permanent diaconate operating in two years; ongoing continuing adult education; strong church presence in the inner-city; diocesan planning in all areas of church work; serious and realistic regard for our Catholic elementary schools.

The document ended with the bishop stating, "My litany of concerns expressed here is not intended to exhaust the possibilities of our initiatives. What I have proposed is, rather, my vision of what is sufficient to today and a statement of my fond hope for what can be reasonably accomplished at this moment of our history."

The agenda in *Living Stones* is still with us and undoubtedly will impact the upcoming diocesan synod.

Bishop Hogan's episcopacy included pleasant journey's as well.

In mid-September 1975, we took part in a pilgrimage to Rome, Italy, to commemorate the canonization of Mother Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Bishop Hogan contacted the late Monsignor Richard K. Burns to travel along on the pilgrimage. Ever gracious, fluent in Italian and certainly the only one who "knew the ropes inside out" best describes this much beloved priest and friend. Much to our amazement and delight, Monsignor Burns arranged for us to celebrate Mass at the Altar of the Chair of St. Peter.

I will long remember and treasure this trip, together with the one in June 1977 to commemorate the canonization of Bishop John Neumann.

When we left for Rome on June 15, 1977, we had just received word that the beloved Bishop Lawrence Casey of Paterson, N.J., and former auxiliary bishop of Rochester has just passed away. The bishop wanted to offer Mass for the repose of Bishop Casey's soul shortly after we arrived in the eternal city.

Bishop James E. Kearney had died on Jan. 12, 1977, at the age of 92. A blizzard was raging at the time.

Bishop Hogan preached at the Mass of Christ the High Priest for Bishop Kearney, saying, "We meet tonight, my dear friends to mourn the passing of James Edward Kearney. He was the patriarch of the Diocese of Rochester. The most enduring monument that a bishop can



Surrounded by members of St. Margaret Mary School band at a 1969 farewell reception for their pastor, Bishop-designate Hogan showed his prowess with a flute.

leave is his own good example. James Edward Kearney exemplified four virtues in particular: reliance on Our Lady, loyalty to the church, Christian optimism and patience in suffering."

Throughout the years, the needs of people and groups, sacramental celebrations, desk work and meetings dictated Bishop Hogan's calendar. The popularity of the bishop's weekly column, "Pastoral Perspective," grew with each edition of the *Courier*. But behind the scenes I can tell you that the weekly discipline of writing a column demanded lots of reading, introspection and drafting before the finished product hit the streets.

During Bishop Hogan's tenure he ordained nearly 50 men to the priesthood. He always took great pride in his men and was always saddened when one or another could no longer walk with him in ministry. A number of clergy, young and senior, were called home to God over the bishop's 10 years in office.

Bishop Hogan's presence at local parishes was always felt important by diocesan Catholics. Confirmation celebrations, in addition to other occasions, provided hands-on contact. The bishop and his two auxiliary bishops — Dennis W. Hickey and John E. McCafferty — also made rounds to the parishes.

Coordinating confirmation schedules was sometimes complex, yet only once did a mix-up occur. Bishop McCafferty was scheduled for confirmation at St. Patrick's in Seneca Falls, but for some reason or other he had never been notified of this.

Dashing to the phone from a school meeting, Bishop Hogan instructed the late Father Leo Lynch to "celebrate Mass, give a talk and sing lots of hymns and I will be there." The bishop raced from the school meeting and drove to Seneca Falls, arriving in the sanctuary as Mass was concluding. Undaunted, Bishop Hogan walked out on cue.

Before long the days and the years began to add up. Bishop Hogan's health began to deteriorate. Calling me to his residence one day he told me of his need and desire to retire. I concurred, but was saddened.

"In recent months it has become clear to me that my health will no longer permit me to lead the Rochester Diocese in the manner I think it deserves," his statement read when it was released Nov. 29, 1978.

Joseph of the Old Testament was a dreamer as well as a good provider for his people. Joseph of the New Testament lived his life in faithful obedience to the will of God — a just man.

Joseph of Rochester has been a good and faithful servant whose sole ambition was "to do justice, to love tenderly and walk humbly with his God." (Micah 6:8).

Currently the pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Penfield, Father Conboy served as Bishop Hogan's secretary from 1969 to May, 1978.



Hogan made the first of two Latin American trips in March and April of 1970, visiting Brazil, and also traveling to Bolivia and Chile.

Bishop Hogan mentioned that we went to Latin America. Diocesan people had already begun providing water filters for rural missions — a project that got a positive response and which had helped many families. We coordinated the first of two Latin American trips in March and April of 1970.

Port and narrow Brazilian beds were available at each and every stop for Bishop Hogan. Nevertheless, he proved utterly adaptable to the unfamiliar South American culture.

Insight