

LPGA week includes Mass, prayer service

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

PITTSFORD — In addition to causing huge traffic problems on Jefferson Road, the Rochester International can turn lives upside down with its time constraints.

Not to the point, however, where all Ladies Professional Golf Association players, volunteer workers and spectators put their faith on hold.

Close to 150 people crowded into the tiny Carmelite Monastery chapel last Saturday, June 27, to attend a 5:30 p.m. Mass following the conclusion of third-round play at Locust Hill Country Club. The monastery is located at 1931 Jefferson Road, right next to the site of Rochester's biggest sporting event of the year.

Mass has been held on Saturday evening for the last 10 years of the Rochester International. The original celebrant was Father John Rosse, current pastor at Holy Name of Jesus Church, St. Martin's Way, Greece. He was followed by the late Father Charles Lavery, former president of St. John Fisher College. Father Louis Hohman, pastor of St. Louis Church, 60 S. Main St., Pittsford, now serves as celebrant.

Ginny Kellogg, a St. Louis parishioner who serves as the Rochester

International's hospitality chairperson, was instrumental in getting this Mass started.

"There's no way I could go to Mass otherwise ... I have to be here by 6 a.m. on Sundays, and the earliest Mass (at St. Louis) is at 7:30," said Kellogg.

"It's usually standing room only," Kellogg added. "People even sit on the altar."

Sister Malachy Madden, OCD, extern sister at the Carmelite Monastery, noted that "people have been stopping all week. The chapel is open approximately 11 hours per day."

LPGA professionals also drop in quite frequently to the Mass. In fact, not only were Cathy Marino and Dale Eggeling among last Saturday's congregation, but Connie Chillemi, a fellow pro, volunteered to do both readings. She also read during one previous stop in Rochester.

"I get the satisfaction of giving something back to the volunteers and the players," Chillemi, a 16th-year player, told the *Catholic Courier*.

Players and caddies of all denominations had the opportunity to participate in another prayer service during tournament week. This fellowship meeting, held in the Locust Hill media room on June 25, was conducted by Cris Johnson, who represents



Babette G. Augustin/Photo editor
(Above) Father Louis Hohman delivers the homily during a Mass at the Carmelite Monastery following the Rochester International's third round June 27. Connie Chillemi (right) and Jon Shield were among those who attended the service.



the Seattle, Wash.-based Alternative Ministry.

"There's a core of about 25 players, but we had 60 to 65 one week. A number of the people have been raised Catholics," observed Johnson, who travels with the LPGA tour to nearly every tournament site throughout the year. She said that LPGA players donate more than 90 percent of the expenses incurred through the ministry.

Johnson also conducts individual counseling appointments with the players.

"I encourage them in their spiritual life," Johnson said.

Ex-NFL stars to play in benefit tournament

ROCHESTER — Several former and current National Football League players will be on hand for the 1992 Cadillac Golf and Tennis Invitational.

The event is scheduled for Sunday and Monday, July 12-13. Proceeds will go to the National Kidney Foundation of Upstate New York.

The two-day invitational will include a cocktail party on July 12 at the Ocean Club, 1225 Jefferson Road, and golf and tennis play on July 13. Each golfer will have one NFL player in his or her group.

The July 13 closing dinner will take place at Irondequoit Country Club, 4045 East Ave., Pittsford, site of the golf tournament.

Some of the guests scheduled to



take part in this event are former NFL stars Willie Lamer (Kansas City), Floyd Little (Denver) and Jerry Butler (Buffalo). A number of current Buffalo Bills will also participate.

Entries are available for golfers, tennis players and hole sponsors; tickets can also be purchased for the cocktail party or dinner only. Call Phyllis Lasky at 716/264-0420.



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