Groups allow Catholics to live out teachings

By Rob Cullivan Staff writer

Ancient Order of Hibernians & Ladies Auxiliary — Founded in 1836 for the Irish and those of Irish descent. Sick and death benefits are available. Promotes Irish customs and traditions. Monroe County Board: Kevin B. Murray, 716/428-2040; Kevin Barry Division #2: Christopher Mulholland, 716/385-4949; Division #7: Sean Kelly, 716/586-8960.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas — Founded in 1903 to propagate and preserve the faith, serve the community and to assist the bishop in his seminary program and with other projects directed toward the religious as well as educational and social needs of women and girls. Sally Rytlewski, 432 E. State St., Albion, 14411 (716/589-4534).

Catholic Golden Age — Shares benefits and opportunities designed especially for members 50 and older. Monthly meetings held for spiritual, physical and emotional advantage of members. Other projects include community activities, charitable undertakings and legislative advocacy. Irene H. Peters, P.O. Box 67544, Rochester, 14617 (716/467-3398). Chapter has recently formed in Hornell.

Catholic Physicians Guild Upholds Catholic principles in practice of medicine. In addition to hosting retreats and seminars, this group is active in supporting Catholic outreach programs for the poor; school children; women facing crisis pregnancies; and the terminally ill. For information on membership, as well as answers to medical, ethical and moral issues, call 716/464-3620, or 461-5046.

Catholic Scouting — Boys: More than 150 packs, troops and posts are organized by many parishes. Annual scout retreat held last full weekend in September. Open to boys ages 8-18. George D. Herbert, 452 Huffer Road, Hilton, 14468 (716/392-5336). Girls: Christine Koslick, 242 Andrews St., Rochester, 14604 (716/454-7010).

Catholic Women's Club of Rochester — Raises money to provide scholarships for young Catholic girls. Also engages in extensive charitable work and fundraising for Catholic outreach centers and convents. The group plans Organizations offer number of activities

Numerous opportunities exist for diocesan Catholics to join organizations devoted to such activities as spreading the faith, promoting devotions and encouraging ethical professionalism.

The following list comprises several groups active throughout the diocese. An address and/or phone number is included with each group's description. All addresses are located in New York state.

The list does not include every organization in the diocese. Catholics are encouraged to contact their own

parish for information about groups active in their area.

Organizations not listed are encouraged to call the Catholic Courier at 716/328-4340 and speak to Jeanne Morin, circulation manager. Morin will explain to group representatives the procedure necessary for inclusion in the diocesan directory, which is published annually.

Organization members are also encouraged to send press releases about their events to the Courier, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624-1899.

a membership drive in May. Please call Kathleen Sherman, 716/671-0575, or 461-9173.

Church Office Professional Employees — Open to all diocesan parish and special ministries office professionals such as secretaries, office managers, administrative assistants and bookkeepers. Members meet every other month in their own region. Joan McGlynn, St. Mary's Church, P.O. Box 725, Honeoye, 14471 (716/229-5007).

Cursillo Movement — Calls Catholics to a deeper commitment to the Gospel, encouraging cursillistas to become witnesses for Christ in their own environments. "Make a friend, be a friend and bring that friend into fellowship with Christ." Tony Rocchi, lay director, 266 Caldwell Ave., Elmira, 14904 (607/733-5193).

Knights of Columbus — Fraternal benefit society chartered in 1882. Encourages Catholic education through scholarships and endowments. Also active in numerous charitable and social causes. Raymond C. Weidmann (315/986-3020). St. John Neumann Columbiettes Auxiliary (Women) -Mary Rose Cantatore (716/671-6047).

The Knights also promote the First Friday Club, which meets for monthly Mass at the Knights' Rochester headquarters, 670 Thurston Road. Mass begins at 11:45 a.m., followed by lunch at Ĭ2:15 p.m.

Knights of St. John and Ladies Auxiliary — Founded in 1873, the Knights of St. John are a fraternal organization providing sick and death benefits. The Knights serve as honor guards at religious ceremonies and assist their church pastor in various projects. Frank Meleca, 18 Omega Drive, Rochester, 14624 (716/889-2919). Ladies Auxiliary: Ruth Martindale, 460 Pinegrove Ave., Rochester, 14617 (266-7949).

Legion of Mary — Founded in 1921 in Dublin, Ireland, this lay group seeks to sanctify its members; intensify Catholic life; reclaim marginal Catholics; and seek out new converts.

The Legion has contact people in the following regions: Monroe County: Margaret Nordbye, 166 Linden Ave., Rochester, 14620 (716/271-3167); Rochester: Bernadine Begley, 1418 Latta Road, 14617 (716/663-8722); Finger Lakes: Virginia Wallace, 114 E. Genesee St., Auburn, 13021 (315/252-3538); Genesee: Marjorie Morsch, 71 Elizabeth St., Dansville, 14437 (716/335-2552); and Southern Tier: Francis Phillips, 254 E. 3rd St., Corning, 14830 (607/962-6814).

Merton Society — Promotes the late Trappist monk/writer Thomas Merton's vision of humanity's oneness and his thoughts on transculturalism. Membership is open to Catholics and non-Catholics alike; fall and spring lectures on Merton slated with roundtable discussions. Society will also provide speakers to interested groups. Members pay \$5 annually and receive a newsletter. Katherine Heininger

Nocturnal Adoration Society -Men and women who spend one hour each month before the Blessed Sacrament to atone for all indifference shown to the Holy Eucharist and to pray for God's blessing on the diocese and community. The society meets at the parishes of Sacred Heart Cathedral, Blessed Sacrament, St. Helen, St. Andrew, Holy Name and St. John of Rochester. Eugene Gilman, 25 Wyman Drive, Rochester, 14622 (716/544-2686).

St. Thomas More Lawyers Guild — This guild comprises Catholic attorneys who provide a forum for the Catholic position on moral and legal issues; defend the church's position; demonstrate fidelity to the pope and the magisterium. Michael DiPrima (716/292-0170).

Society of St. Francis De Sales — International organization which provides an opportunity for Gospel-based spiritual growth. Members nurture such growth through friendship and a Salesian spirituality. Meetings are held every third Saturday of the month, usually at the Mercy Motherhouse, 1437 Blossom Road, Brighton. Dorís Verrarelli (716/663-7309).

World Apostolate of Fatima (Blue Army) — Encourages devotion to Our Lady of Fatima through such practices as recitation of the rosary and wearing of the scapular. Mary Kelley, 8 Log Cabin Circle, Fairport, 14450; (716/377-1158).

Haiti program scheduled at Southern Tier church

PAINTED POST - A Lenten program on Haiti is scheduled for Sunday, March 28, from 2-4 p.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 155 E. High St.

Margaret Wehrer, former Haiti project coordinator for Pax Christi USA, will relate information on the situation in Haiti since the 1991 military coup. A Haitian refugee will also share his experiences.

The program is sponsored by the Southern Tier Office of Social Ministry, the Corning-Painted Post Roman Catholic Community and area members of Pax Christi USA and Amnesty International

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An old woman cries, while a Bosnian defender peers out from behind a balcony in Gorazde on August 15, 1992. Hundreds of people have been killed and wounded since the start of the Serblan blockade of the town.

Today more than ever, Catholics need comprehensive information on the critical Issues confronting their faith.

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