CATHOLIC COURIER DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER, N.Y

## **Convicted priest posts** bail; sentencing in Feb.

### By Rob Cullivan Staff writer

ROCHESTER – Father Patrick Moloney, one of two men convicted in the Brink's depot heist, was released on \$1 million bail Dec. 23.

Fourteen supporters from New York City, New Jersey and Florida pledged property and cash to secure the New York City priest's release

until his February sentencing. One such supporter was Joe McManus of Queens, a realtor and longtime friend

of the priest, who to came Rochester to for Father Moloney's bail hearing. Mc-Manus put up his \$150,000 home – and a \$45,000 interest he owns in an apartment co-op - as part of the bail money.

When asked why he would risk so much for the convicted priest, McManus said he had developed a strong trust in Father Moloney over the last decade.

"He's been very committed to the community and the people," McManus said. "He's an honest and upfront individual."

Father Moloney was thankful for his friends' efforts on his behalf.

"Now is the time for joy and gratitude," he said after the bail hearing at the Kenneth B. Keating Federal Building. "The people that rely on me have stood by me.'

The Melkite Catholic priest had been held in Wayne County Jail since late November, when he was convicted in connection with the 1993 \$7.4 million heist of the Brink's armored car depot on Rochester's South Avenue. Along with Father Moloney, Samuel Ignatius Millar, an illegal Irish alien from Queens, also was convicted of conspiring to receive and possess stolen cash.

Two other men, Thomas F. O'Connor, a former Rochester police officer, and Charles M. McCormick, a social worker and teacher from Manhattan, were acquitted in the trial.

According to his attorney, Jonathan Feldman, the priest is currently confined to his residence at Lazarus House, a home for troubled youths in Manhattan, and must wear an electronic surveillance anklet. Judge David G. Larimer ruled that Father Moloney must report for sentencing in U.S. District Court in Rochester at 10 a.m. Feb. 9.

In granting bail to Father Moloney, Judge Larimer sternly warned the priest

several times not to flee. "It seems to me whatever you Trial UPDATE

stand for or believe you stand for would be destroyed in a second if you fail to appear here," the judge told the priest. During the proceedings,

Judge Larimer still seemed upset over earlier statements Father Moloney had made after his conviction last November.

As he was escorted by authorities into a police vehicle waiting to take him to jail, the priest said that American justice had been "laid low" by the jury's verdict.

He also reiterated a vow to go on a hunger strike, a vow he had made after Judge Larimer revoked the \$25,000 bail on which Father Moloney had been out since he was first arrested.

Father Moloney shortly thereafter dropped his pledge to go on a hunger strike, and apologized for his remarks about the court.

Nonetheless, at the bail hearing, when Feldman expressed gratitude to the court for its cooperation in arranging Father Moloney's bail, Judge Larimer observed, "I think Father Moloney might mention that when he states how the criminal justice system sank so low ...."

# Kwanzaa!

The diocesan Office of Black Ministries sponsored a celebration of the African-American tradition of Kwanzaa at Immaculate Conception Church, 445 Frederick Douglas St., Rochester. The Kwanzaa celebration teaches and passes on aspects of African-American culture through music, prayer and dance. (Above) Valerie Medley dances to African rhythms during the Dec. 26 service.

## **Cannon named new director of Synod**

#### By Lee Strong Senior staff writer

Bishop Matthew H. Clark has appointed Kathleen Cannon as the diocese's new Synod implementation director. The appointment is effective Jan. 9.

Cannon, who has served as director of diocesan Urban Services since 1991, replaces Deacon Thomas Cass, who led the Synod from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1994. Cannon said diocesan officials ap-

proached her in December about becoming Synod implementation director. She noted that she had not considered applying for the position, but that she now is excited about her new post.

In that post, Cannon will work with the Synod Implementation Commission as it analyzes implementation plans due from parishes by Feb. 1.

These plans will indicate how parishes will begin implementing the diocesan pastoral plan produced as a result of the Synod. (The pastoral plan is included in the second-section of this newspaper.) They also will be used in setting the Pastoral Center's budget for the 1995-96 fis-

cal year, and to guide future diocesan actions and policies.

In addition, Cannon will be involved in helping to annually assess diocesan priorities in light of parish efforts and needs, as parishes continue implementing the Synod's four goals. Cannon said she is looking forward to seeing synodal goals actually being implemented and to the role she will play in that process.

"My belief and my witness is that the Holy Spirit has been present through this whole process and will continue to be rooted in the process," Cannon said. "It's an exciting moment in the church."

Cannon's involvement with the Synod has been long and active. She was a member of a writing team that helped to develop one of the themes considered during the synod process. That theme was, "How can we support our parishes in being faith-filled communities?"

In addition, Cannon served as a member of the writing team that developed the diocesan pastoral plan and of the analysis team for Goal Three ("Recognize and value the dignity of women in church and society"). The pastoral plan's four goals are based on priorities set for the diocese at the October, 1993, General Synod.

S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer

During her three years as director of diocesan Urban Services, Cannon helped to promote the growth of the Ministry to Vietnamese and Asian-Pacific Catholics; assisted with the formation of the Roman Catholic Community of the 19th Ward (a cluster of urban parishes); worked with and oversaw implementation of some of the goals of the Societal Injustice Task Force; and helped to develop guidelines on multiculturalism in diocesan liturgies.

Cannon noted that her biggest challenge initially will be analyzing the parish plans and working with Pastoral Center staff to develop responses to help parishes in implementing their plans.



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## St. Anthony's to display Sibley's nativity scene

ROCHESTER - The life-size nativity scene that once graced the windows of the former Sibley's department store in downtown Rochester will be on display at St. Anthony of Padua Church, 60 Lorimer St., this weekend. The display will be available for public viewing from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jan. 7, and from 2-6 p.m. Jan. 8.

Handcrafted in London, the 15character scene cost Sibley's \$50,000 in 1972. Kaufmann's Departments / Stores, which bought out the Sibley's chain, later donated the scene to St. Anthony's Parish.

By displaying the scene this weekend, St. Anthony's continues its tradition of presenting an open house featuring the scene on the Feast of the Epiphany, which falls on Jan. 8 this year. This year also will mark the first time St. Anthony's will celebrate the feast as part of the Holy Apostles/St. Anthony of Padua Parish Cluster. 

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