

Melkite priest receives 51 months

By Rob Cullivan
Staff writer

ROCHESTER — Father Patrick Moloney, the Melkite priest convicted last November of possessing money stolen from a Brink's armored car depot, was sentenced to 51 months in federal prison by U.S. District Judge David Larimer on Monday afternoon, Feb. 26.

Father Moloney's attorneys requested that the priest be incarcerated at a federal prison near New York City, a decision the judge said he would recommend to the Bureau of Federal Prisons.

Jonathan W. Feldman, one of Father Moloney's two defense attorneys, said the priest hoped to be sent to Allenwood, a federal prison in Pennsylvania.

Federal prisoners can trim two months of each year off their sentence for good behavior. Father Moloney would also be eligible to live in a half-way house for the last six months of his sentence, Feldman said.

He added that the priest will receive about a month's credit for his prison sentence because of jail time already served.

Feldman also said Father Moloney would appeal his conviction and that his case would probably be heard in federal appeals court sometime this summer.

The judge handed down his sentence following two hours of arguments and statements made by prosecutors and defense attorneys at the Kenneth B. Keating Federal Building, 100 State St.

Along with Samuel Ignatius Millar, also of New York City, Father Moloney was convicted last November of conspiring to possess money stolen from the Brink's armored car depot on South Avenue on Jan. 5, 1993. Only \$2.2 million of the \$7.4 million in stolen cash was eventually recovered by authorities.

An attempt by the defense to convince Larimer he should give the priest a community service sentence in consideration of Father Moloney's 40 years of charitable work in the New York City

**BRINK'S
Trial
UPDATE**



S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer

Father Patrick Moloney speaks with the media before entering the courthouse Feb. 27 for his sentencing. The Melkite priest received 51 months for conspiracy to receive and possess stolen money from the Jan. 5, 1993, Brinks depot heist.

area apparently backfired.

"Based on your prior life, you should have known better," Larimer told Father Moloney.

Larimer apparently agreed with the contention made by Assistant U.S. Attorney Christopher Buscaglia that Father Moloney's good deeds were canceled out by his bad.

"I have a hard time understanding the idea that because Pat Moloney did good things in the past ... that that entitles him to some sort of 'get out of jail free' card," Buscaglia told the judge.

Father Moloney told Larimer that he bore no ill will toward the court or the prosecution, but reiterated his contention that he was innocent.

"I am, your honor, a victim of circumstances and circumstantial evidence beyond my control," Father Moloney said.

The priest was immediately taken into

custody following sentencing.

One relative expressed the bitterness felt by many of Father Moloney's supporters over the entire Brink's affair.

"He was unjustly convicted, he was unjustly imprisoned," she said.

Other supporters included Monsignor James J. Murray, executive director of the New York archdiocese's Catholic Charities. Sent as an emissary of Archbishop John Cardinal O'Connor, the priest had submitted a letter of support to Larimer on behalf of Father Moloney, but was not allowed to speak on the Melkite priest's behalf at the sentencing.

Despite the case's outcome, Monsignor Murray said he admired Father Moloney's years of social service.

"We had a lot of contact with him," Monsignor Murray said of Father Moloney. "He did an awful lot of good work. That's why we're so bewildered."

St. Patrick's fare includes variety show, Mass, parade

ROCHESTER — St. Patrick's Day festivities this year will include a variety show at Our Lady of Mercy High School, a Mass celebrated by Bishop Matthew H. Clark, and — of course — the annual parade.

The Paddy Noonan Irish Variety Show at Mercy High School, 1437 Blossom Road, is scheduled for 8 p.m. this Saturday, March 4. The show will include accordionist Paddy Noonan; drummer Seamus Greene; singer/songwriter Carl Corcoran; comedienne Geraldine Doyle; piper and multi-instrumentalist John Scott Trotter; the duo Mac and O; and Aoife Clancy, the daughter of Bobby Clancy of the Clancy Brothers.

The Mass is scheduled for 9 a.m. the day of the parade, Saturday, March 11, at St. Mary's Church, St. Mary's Place, followed by a flag-raising ceremony at City Hall, 30 Church St. The annual 10K Run for the Shamrocks Race will get underway at 10:30 a.m. at the Genesee Plaza Holiday Inn, 120 E. Main St.

The parade is slated to begin at 12:30 p.m. The route begins at East Avenue and Alexander Street, will proceed down East Avenue to Main Street, then along Main Street to Plymouth Avenue. It will feature more than 100 parade units, including 13 pipe and marching bands, and is expected to last at least three hours.

Reserved seating for the variety show is available. Tickets cost \$22.50, \$17.50 and \$12.50. To purchase tickets call 716/288-4956.

For information about registering for the Run for the Shamrocks, call 716/234-6438. Preregistration cost is \$10. The registration fee the day of the race will be \$15.

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For applications, please see D. Premnath, Registrar, at SBI. Write to him at St. Bernard's Institute, 1100 South Goodman St., Rochester, NY 14620, or call 716/271-1320, ext. 298.

St. Bernard's Institute

Obituaries

Ronald L. Keller, former DPC chairman, at 65

Ronald L. Keller, former chairman of the Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC), died on Sunday, Jan. 22, 1995, following a heart attack while vacationing in Myrtle Beach, S.C. He was 65 years old.



In an essay about their father, Mr. Keller's children commented, "He loved his church and had a constant prayer for peace in the world."

Born Nov. 17, 1929, in Rochester, Mr. Keller graduated from Edison Technical High School in 1947 before serving a tour in the U.S. Army and then in the reserves.

Mr. Keller worked in the auto body repair business until he joined Prudential Insurance as a district agent in 1957. He became a sales manager in 1960, manager of a Buffalo agency in 1967, then returned to Rochester in 1970 as manager of an agency. After becoming a financial planner in 1980, he founded Keller Financial Consultants, Inc. in 1984.

Over the years, Mr. Keller served in a number of church and civic groups.

In addition to serving as a member and later chairman of the Diocesan Pas-

toral Council, Mr. Keller was a member of the Ministerial and Budget Review Committee. He was also an active member of Fairport's St. John of Rochester Parish.

Mr. Keller's civic involvement included service as past president of the Penfield Lions Club (and was named Lion of the Year in 1965); chairman of the Rochester Charitable Task Force; past chairman of the board of the Genesee Valley Heart Association; and was a board member of Compeer Inc.

Mr. Keller is survived by his wife of 46 years, Marilyn; four children; Janet

and her husband Mark Robertson; Elaine and her husband Slavko Petryk; David and his wife Michelle; and Nancy Keller; eight grandchildren, John and Torey Keller; Oreshya, Demyan and Antin Petryk; Justin and Lydia Keller; and Mariah Robertson; brothers Robert and his wife Louise, and Raymond and his wife Sharon; a sister, Eileen Gorgas; and several nephews.

Donations in Mr. Keller's memory may be made to the St. John of Rochester Building Fund, 18 Wickford Way, Fairport, N.Y. 14450.

— Lee Strong

Sister Rose Teresa Clark; longtime Nazareth Academy teacher

Sister Rose Teresa Clark, SSJ, who spent her entire 46-year teaching career serving at Nazareth Academy, died on Jan. 31, 1995, at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester. She was 86.

Sister Rose Teresa, a Rochester native, entered the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1927 from Immaculate Conception Parish. She was a Nazareth Academy and Nazareth College graduate. In addition, she completed graduate courses from the Eastman School of Music.

During her many years with Nazareth Academy, Sister Rose Teresa taught voice and piano lessons and also trained the

Perosian Choir at the all-girls' high school. She directed high-quality musical productions of *The Mikado*; *The Sound of Music*; *The King and I*; and *Brigadoon*.

Sister Rose Teresa is survived by a sister, Monica Culliton; a brother, James Clark; several nieces and nephews; and her sisters in the congregation of St. Joseph.

A funeral Mass for Sister Rose Teresa was celebrated on Feb. 2, 1995, at the SSJ motherhouse chapel in Pittsford. Monsignor William Shannon officiated at the Mass, and Fathers John Hayes, Joseph Donovan and Donald Curtiss assisted.