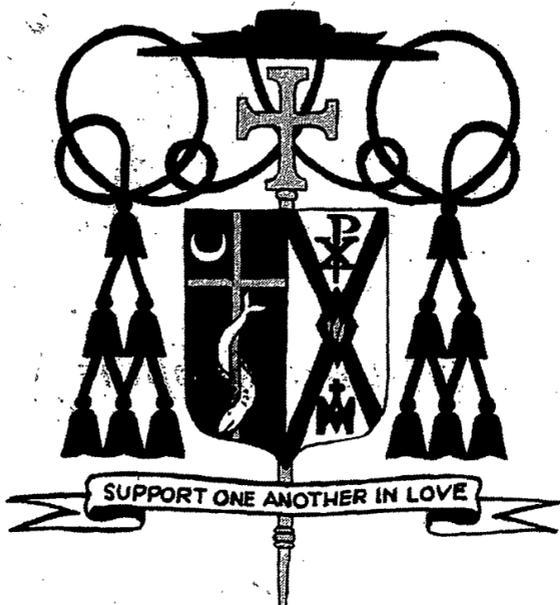


COAT OF ARMS



By Rob Cullivan
Staff writer

A careful examination of Bishop-designate James Michael Moynihan's coat of arms reveals a priest devoted to the Holy Spirit, the Blessed Virgin Mary and the New Testament's teachings on love.

Designed by P. Sullivan & Company of Narragansett, R.I., the coat of arms also features information illustrating the bishop-designate's Rochester roots as well as symbols of his service over the last four years in the New York City area as associate secretary general of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association.

The shield on the coat of arms' right side features personal symbols illustrating various facets of the former pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Penfield and ex-chancellor of the Rochester diocese.

Composed of a silver field on which a red saltire — or "X" with a lozenge, or diamond, at the center — is placed, this configuration is taken from the arms of the bishop-designate's native Diocese of Rochester. The configuration also echoes the St. Patrick's Cross which makes up most of the Archdiocese of New York's arms.

In the center of the "X" are three golden tongues of fire representing the Holy Spirit. Bishop-designate Moynihan credited the presence of the tongues on his personal coat of arms to his mother.

"My mother got me to saying a novena to the Holy Ghost way back," the bishop-designate commented.

The coat's *Chi-Rho* (Greek letters representing Christ) is green, signifying

Bishop-designate Moynihan's Irish heritage. The coat's monogram intertwines "A" and "M" for "Ave Maria" in the traditional Marian blue.

"I certainly rely upon the rosary a lot," the bishop-elect said when asked about the Marian monogram.

The left side of every bishop's coat of arms' shield is traditionally the coat of the diocese he will oversee. In Bishop-designate Moynihan's case, the arms of the Syracuse diocese consist of a blue field with a gold cross.

Entwined around the cross's lower arm is a silver dolphin, which was the emblem on the coins of Syracuse — the chief Greek city of ancient Sicily.

A silver crescent on the upper left side honors the Virgin Mary in her title of the Immaculate Conception, patroness of the United States.

The coat's external ornaments feature a gold processional cross, placed at the back of the shield and which extends above and below the shield, and a pontifical hat, known as a galero with its six tassels, in three rows on either side of the shield, all in green. These are the heraldic insignia of a bishop as laid down in an instruction of the Holy See issued in 1969.

For his motto, Bishop-designate Moynihan chose "Support One Another In Love," a phrase taken from the second verse of the fourth chapter of St. Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians. The motto reflects the bishop-designate's belief that Christians are bound together and therefore compelled to do all that they can to support each other lovingly.

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— Psalm 96

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on your new appointment

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"The faithful must cling to their bishop, as the Church does to Christ, and Jesus Christ to the Father, so that everything may harmonize in unity, and abound to the glory of God."

— Lumen Gentium, #27

Together,
as businesses and individuals
of Penfield, New York,
we salute you,
Bishop James M. Moynihan,
on your installation as
Bishop of Syracuse.

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The Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester
are particularly pleased to offer their
prayers and good wishes to
Monsignor James M. Moynihan
on the occasion of his appointment as
ninth Bishop of the Diocese of Syracuse.

We experience great joy in knowing an alumnus
of Nazareth Hall has earned this
opportunity to assume Diocesan leadership.

