

DIOCESAN NEWS

Nazareth College president to retire in August of 1998

By Rob Cullivan
Staff writer

ROCHESTER — Dr. Rose Marie Beston, president of Nazareth College for the past 13 years, will resign her position effective August 1, 1998.

Beston said she plans to retire, and move with her husband, John, to Santa Fe, N.M., where the couple has been vacationing for 10 years. In an interview with the *Catholic Courier* Beston said she and her husband — a part-time English teacher at Nazareth — particularly like the Hispanic church they attend in Santa Fe.

"It's very vibrant and alive," she said of the parish. "They have magnificent singing and participation."

Beston said she wanted to stay at Nazareth until the independent, liberal arts college concludes its current capital campaign next summer. The campaign, launched 15 months ago, has raised \$7.7 million so far, more than three-quarters of its \$10 million goal.

The campaign was created to increase Nazareth's endowment fund, and to fund several initiatives ranging from student scholarships to library technology. The co-educational institution was founded in 1924 by the Sisters of St. Joseph, although it is now independent from the order.

In addition to the capital campaign — the first such campaign in the college's history — Beston, a native of Portland, Maine, leaves behind several other achievements, according to an Aug. 6 press statement announcing her retirement.

For example, Nazareth College has been ranked among the top 10 percent of the nation's colleges for the last three years by *Money* magazine.

Beston also told the *Courier* that the 1997 freshman class will have a mean Scholastic Aptitude Test score of 1,125, the highest in the college's history. The highest possible SAT score is 1,600.

"I have worked hard to raise the academic reputation of the college by empowering the advancement of our faculty and



students," she said.

Beston instituted graduate programs in physical therapy, art therapy, music education, management and gerontological nurse practitioner; undergraduate majors in economics and international studies; undergraduate minors and certificate programs in sports management, multicultural studies and international business.

Beston also instituted the "Partners for Learning" program in which Nazareth students assist in Rochester city schools, and she has placed a high emphasis on student community service. According to the college, 83 percent of the students reported doing some sort of volunteer service during their years at Nazareth.

Several area leaders praised Beston's tenure at Nazareth, in statements issued by the college.

Dennis O'Brien, president emeritus of the University of Rochester, credited Beston with infusing Nazareth with new life.

"In an era when many traditional colleges have struggled merely to survive, Nazareth has flourished and much of the credit is due to Rose Marie's clear sense of direction," he said.

The college has also announced that the not-for-profit Academic Search Consultation Service of Washington, D.C., will assist a search committee to find a new president.

The committee will begin meeting Aug. 25, and consist of seven Nazareth trustees, and several faculty, staff and student representatives. John K. Purcell, retired vice president of Frontier Corporation, and a college trustee, will chair the search committee.

A new president should be selected by early 1998, the college said.



Greg Francis

Marching with Mary

The National Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima was in the lead Aug. 9 in a Pro-Life Rosary March through the streets of Rochester to the front of Planned Parenthood of Rochester & the Genesee Valley, 114 University Ave. Above, Carol Ann Payne and Marcel Blackman carry the statue. At left, Rebecca Olek, 7, holds a sign across the street from Planned Parenthood offices.



Livingston churches hear appeal

By Kathleen Schwar
Staff writer

Catholic Charities of Livingston County is staging its third annual appeal throughout August, with a goal of \$10,000 — a 33 percent increase over last year's collection.

"To the extent that people have been aware of us, people have been generous," said Tim McMahon, executive director, noting previous collections brought in \$6,800 and \$7,500.

"I also think a number of people generally in the community and parishes may not be aware of us," he added.

Departing from the previous lower-key approach, the appeal includes talks in the county's eight parishes during August by McMahon and board members.

The office's programs serving low-income and disadvantaged people have received 62 percent more requests for help in the first nine months of this 1996-97 year than in all 12 months of the 1994-95 year, McMahon said. The office opened in October 1995, bringing such programs together under one roof.

Citing increasing need, he said the pro-

grams served 246 families in 1994-95, 333 in 1995-96 and 398 so far in 1996-97 (October through June).

Such families include "Tom" and his wife, both in their early 60s and disabled with chronic medical conditions. Medicaid insurance wouldn't cover a medication Tom's physician considered most effective and the couple couldn't afford it. So Catholic Charities paid the \$20.29.

"There is no question that there are now more people in need and with the coming impact of welfare reform we expect to see this trend continue, with more people turning to private, not-for-profit agencies for assistance," McMahon said.

"I think we're beginning to see the front end of that wave now," he added. "It will be unfolding over the next couple of years as more people are required to move from welfare to workfare programs."

The need for transportation to work, as well as child care, for instance, he said, will add costs to people's budgets.

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Obituary

Jack' Powers, Scipio Center grocer; 68

John Leo "Jack" Powers of Scipio Center died June 4, 1997, in Auburn Memorial Hospital. He was 68.

Mr. Powers was a member of St. Bernard's Church and its Holy Name Society. He was a fourth-degree member of the Auburn Knights of Columbus, and was a member of the Auburn Knights for 50 years. He also was a 51-year member and former chief of the Scipio Volunteer Fire Department.

With his wife Joan Scollan Powers, he had owned and operated Powers Red & White Grocery, established by his parents in 1924.

Father Robert Downs, retiring pastor of St. Bernard's, celebrated his funeral Mass June 9, in St. Bernard's. Interment was in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

Survivors include his wife; and three sisters, Sue Bourke of Auburn, Rita Bangs of Ithaca and Jane (Gordon) Cummings of King Ferry. He was predeceased by his parents and two brothers, William M. and Joseph E. Powers.

The family has asked that memorial contributions be directed to St. Bernard's Church or to the renovation fund of St. Mary's Church, Auburn.

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