CATHOLIC COURIER DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER, N.Y.

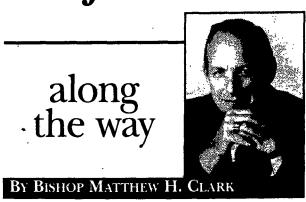
## Parishioners share faith; more on Friday fast

Some notes about what is happening: 1. This Thursday I will be joining a group of 300 people from our diocese for a journey to Kansas City and the National Catholic Youth Convention. Believe me when I say that I look forward to the event with great joy. There is nothing quite so exciting as experiencing our young people as they celebrate and share their faith with one another. That is true when teens from the regions of our diocese gather for our local programs. And it is certainly true at national events when kids from all parts of our nation meet and share their faith experience with one another.

Anticipation of the Kansas City experience makes me grateful for the notable growth of youth ministry in our diocese in recent years. Several factors have contributed to that development: Pope John Paul II's visit to Denver for World Youth Day, the commitment you made to ministry with and for our youth in our Synod process, the leadership of Mike Theisen, diocesan coordinator of youth ministry, and the great gifts and generosity of the adults and youth all around our diocese who give themselves to this work.

2. Deacon Jim and Donna Fitch ... Nancy De Rycke, SSJ ... Father Robert Hammond ... Sister Mary Ann Binsack, RSM ... Caryl Ann Funke ... Father Robert Kennedy ... Sue Versluys.

I would guess that many readers of "Along the Way" would know one or another of the persons named above. They are all quite active in our diocese. But I wonder if you know why I mention



them as a group just now. It is because they are the first recipients of the Roots and Wings Award for excellence in catechetics presented by our Department of Evangelization and Catechesis.

The eight award winners were honored at a dinner last Friday evening. It was quite moving to hear the citations that recognized their contributions. The citations beautifully recognized the gifts, achievements and generosity of the honorees. They also reminded us who were present of the commitment we have made through our Synod process to offer opportunities for growth in faith to persons of all ages and conditions.

3. Congratulations to Father Jim Callan of Corpus Christi, Rochester. Jim is this year's recipient of the Charles F. Crimi Pax Humana Award. He is being recognized for his leadership at Corpus Christi, which in Jim's years of pastoral service has grown from 200 to 2,200 parishioners. During those years the parish has developed a range of outreach efforts. They include Dimitri House, a shelter for the homeless; Corpus Christi Center, which provides health services for 15,000 people each year; and Rogers House, which is a home and a restaurant run by people who have been released from prison. I offer best wishes to Jim and sincere thanks to him and to all at Corpus Christi for the strength of their service to the community.

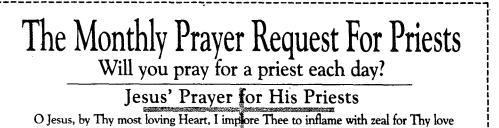
4. A final note: I was a little puzzled by the publicity given to Friday abstinence after the recent meeting of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops held in Washington last week. It is true that our Pro-Life Committee made a proposal calling for a re-emphasis of Friday abstinence and that they had in mind that people would make such a sacrifice for the intention of greater respect for life.

That proposal, at least as stated, did not receive strong support. Both our National Advisory Council and the bishops thought that the proposal was too narrow in scope and intention. Both groups encouraged a fuller corporate reflection on Friday as a day of penance and sacrifice in honor of our Lord's self-gift on the cross. They also wanted to see a re-thinking and re-presentation of other ways to celebrate our Fridays: fasting, alms giving, corporal and spiritual works of mercy, etc.

I expect that we will take up the matter again at our June meeting. I will keep you informed. In the meantime, let me remind you for the record that the church still encourages all of us to abstain from meat on Fridays.

Peace to all.





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Solemn Choral Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament for the Solemnity of

CHRIST THE KING



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preach Thy word, that on fire with holy zeal, they may snatch souls from the devil and lead them into the shelter of Thy Heart, where for ever they may glorify Thee. Imprimatur: E. Morrogh Bernard, Vic. Gen. Westmonasterii, May 5, 1953 Prayer Suggestions: Mass, Posary, Fasting, Day Offering, Eucharistic Adoration, Offering Sufferings, Divine Mercy Chaplet						
<u>Nc</u>	ve	: m	b e	r,	19	97
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Sunday 23 November 1997 4:00 P.M. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM



Choral Music Peters: Festiva Entrata Wyton: Magnificat; Vittoria: Jesu Dulcis Memoria Hymn Tunes Gelobt sei Gott: Christ is the King; St. Thomas: Tantum Ergo; Ich Glaub an Gott: To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King Organ music Frank Bridge: Andante; Henri Mulet: Tu Es Petra

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