

Annual appeal critical to life of diocese

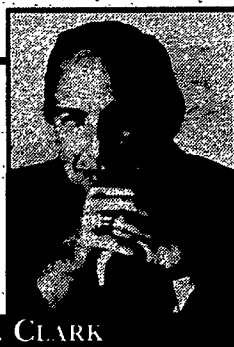
Late this afternoon volunteers from parishes around Monroe County will gather at the Eisenhart Auditorium on East Avenue for a meeting in support of this year's Thanks Giving Appeal. This will be the third in a series of four preparatory sessions. We have already met in Auburn and Shortsville with volunteers from those areas. The last meeting in this series will be held in Elmira.

These meetings are a shot in the arm for me. They put me in touch with generous and committed people from our parishes. They are occasions for grateful awareness of the strength of our diocese and of the good work so many individuals and communities are doing to build the kingdom of God. They provide an opportunity to acquaint those in attendance with what your gifts to the Thanks Giving Appeal have achieved over the years. They allow a moment to indicate how we are trying to move into the future in constructive ways, and to say how your gift this year will help us to do that.

I have been delighted that we have had a solid cadre of veteran workers at our sessions. They have been at it for some time, so their experience pays off in teaching parishioners the best ways to conduct the Thanks Giving Appeal in their respective parishes. That valuable experience helps

along the way

BY BISHOP MATTHEW H. CLARK



not only their communities. It helps all of us because the evaluation meetings we conduct each year allow us to learn from their experience and to share that information with others who may find it useful.

Of note also has been the presence of other women and men who join us for the first time at this level of volunteering for the Thanks Giving Appeal. Anyone who works in annual projects such as this one knows how encouraging it is when new people step forward to help. They bring new enthusiasm, fresh ideas and connections with people who may not have become familiar with this endeavor. We can all be a bit shy at first meetings, so we try always to encourage new volunteers to ask whatever questions they may have. They can do that at the meeting or by phone call any time thereafter.

You may remember from notices pub-

lished in the *Catholic Courier* and elsewhere that these latter volunteers are not the only new faces at our meetings this year. Two outstanding new professionals from our Development Office have provided key leadership. Dick Rosati is the new director of the office. Jennifer Myszka is our director for annual giving. I must say that the confidence and competence they have brought to their new positions have been most encouraging.

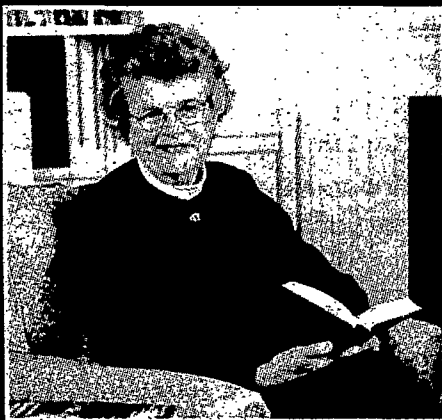
The Thanks Giving Appeal is critical to the life of our local church. Our appeal:

1. Provides a privileged opportunity for our diocese corporately to express our thanks to God for blessings received,
2. Reminds us of our need to connect in mutually supportive ways with all of the people in our diocese,
3. Enables us to achieve our common goals, and
4. Helps us realize our vision to become a more joyful, vibrant and compassionate church.

I will be most grateful to you for your support of this year's Thanks Giving Appeal. Please pray for the success of the appeal. Please make a gift to it. Encourage others to contribute by your encouragement and good example.

My thanks to you.

Peace to all.



"When looking into retirement communities, I made sure I understood the variety of options available to me. With no entrance fee, I feel I get a real value because I'm not locked into any type of program. And having that kind of freedom allows me to travel extensively, which I have always enjoyed. Then, when I return to the security and comfort of my home at Chapel Oaks, I continue to relive my excursions by presenting travelclips of my fabulous trips, both near and far."

Marguerite "Peg" Pinner
Irondequoit, New York

We're 85% leased. Call us today!

"I Fell in Love with the Incredible Value."

The French call it *joie de vivre*, or love of life. That ability to approach life joyfully and fully appreciate all that each day has to offer. Every day, residents of Chapel Oaks, Rochester's newest and finest rental retirement community, are finding the joy of retirement living. Once you've experienced life at Chapel Oaks, you may find yourself falling in love with the true joy of living all over again.

Fall in love with the *tradition* of St. Ann's of Greater Rochester, Inc., who for 125 years has provided senior adults with a truly fulfilling retirement lifestyle. The *location* of being perfectly situated on 14 beautiful, secluded acres of the St. Ann's campus and just minutes away from Rochester's finest shopping, entertainment and cultural activities. The *independence* to continue an active lifestyle without routine maintenance and tiresome daily chores. The *value* of a rental concept with no entrance fee, which makes Chapel Oaks Rochester's most affordable retirement living option. The *convenience* of exceptional services and amenities, and the spacious one- and two-bedroom

apartment homes. Or, fall in love with the *security and peace of mind* that comes from having priority access to a full continuum of health care services right on the St. Ann's campus.

Retirement is your time to seize the day and enjoy life to its fullest; to experience your "joie de vivre." Please call (716) 342-3052 for more information about Chapel Oaks or to arrange your personal tour. Once you see all that we have to offer, you may just find yourself falling in love with the true joy of living all over again!

CHAPEL OAKS

A GROWING TRADITION.

1550 Portland Avenue Rochester, NY 14621

(716) 342-3052

An affiliate of St. Ann's of Greater Rochester, Inc.

