

DIOCESAN NEWS

Santa Misi3n: serving the church



Mike Mergen/photo intern



Bishop Mariano Sandovar of Caracas, Venezuela, was preacher for the Hispanic Mission hosted by Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, Rochester, Aug. 16-20. At left, he greets Jasmin Brown Aug. 20. The week's theme was how lay people can serve the church.

Volunteers prepare Catholic Charities event

By Rob Cullivan
Staff writer

Local organizers are gearing up for the national Catholic Charities USA convention slated to take place at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center from Thursday, Sept. 30, to Monday, Oct. 4.

The convention will feature three well-known speakers: Nobel Peace Prize winner and Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa; Millard Fuller, founder and president of Habitat for Humanity, which works with low-income people to build housing; and Sister Joan Chittister, OSB, a widely noted author and lecturer.

The convention's theme is "Images of Our Roots - Visions of Our Future." Workshops will cover such topics as housing, children's issues, welfare-to-work laws, and refugees.

Pat Fox, the convention's local coordinator, said he and other organizers are recruiting volunteers to help out with the event. Currently on sabbatical from his position as director of faith formation at St. Joseph's Church, Penfield, Fox said he needs between 150 and 250 volunteers to aid with convention liturgies, registration and hospitality. He added that people interested in helping out can contact him at Rochester's Catholic Family Center at 716/546-7220.

Already, a number of Catholics have

volunteered to help out with the convention, Fox said, including Chrissie Carpenter, a member of the Catholic Charities board of directors, who is co-chairing the convention with her husband, William M. Carpenter, chairman and chief executive officer of Bausch & Lomb Inc.

Chrissie Carpenter, who volunteers at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse Infirmary, among many other service activities, said she's working for the convention because she believes in Catholic Charities. Single mothers raising children, people with development disabilities, people fighting drug addiction - all benefit from Catholic Charities' work, she said.

"There's so many things that Catholic Charities does," she said. "It's too bad that more people don't know about it."

Another volunteer helping with the convention is Bill Lissow, a truck driver and member of the board of directors for Catholic Charities of Livingston County. Lissow is co-chairing a committee recruiting volunteers to provide hospitality to convention participants. He is a parishioner in the Catholic Community of Mt. Morris and Nunda, which consists of the churches of St. Patrick's, Mt. Morris, and Holy Angels, Nunda.

"(We need) people who aren't afraid to step forward and say 'Hi, how are you?'" he said. Hospitality volunteers will greet people at the airport, chaperon bus trips,

and provide information at the convention center to convention participants, he said.

Lissow added that he's looking forward to the convention as an opportunity to network with other Catholic Charities workers from throughout the country.

Another convention volunteer looking forward to discussing shared issues of concern is Paul Pickering, executive director of Catholic Charities Community & Residential Services in Rochester. Pickering co-chairs a committee overseeing volunteers who will handle convention registration.

Pickering said the convention will provide diocesan Catholic Charities workers an opportunity to see how their agencies fit into the wider, national mission of Catholic Charities USA. He wants to learn more about the national perspective on such issues as the AIDS crisis, as well as what other Catholic Charities' offices are doing for people with disabilities, he said.

He also said not-for-profit social service agencies in New York state have a difficult time offering workers wages that are competitive with for-profit companies. He wants to learn from other states' representatives how they are faring in recruiting and retaining workers, especially given the generally good economic times nationwide.

"It's these kinds of practical issues that are critical," Pickering said.

Pro-life couple to be honored

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

Dr. Thomas and Jeanne Sweeney, longtime pro-life activists in the Rochester area, have been named recipients of the 1999 Leo Holmsten Human Life Award.

The Sweeneys will receive their award Tuesday, Sept. 14, during a banquet at the Rochester Marriott Thruway Hotel. The award is sponsored by the Rochester Area Right to Life Committee Inc., with a number of Catholic and other pro-life groups serving as co-sponsors.

The Sweeneys' pro-life efforts stem back to the 1950s, when they lived in the Boston area. There, Thomas, an obstetrician and gynecologist, and Jeanne, a registered nurse, did extensive work with unwed mothers.

The couple moved to Rochester in 1960. At the request of Bishop Fulton J. Sheen in 1968, Thomas began speaking out against proposed abortion bills at state legislative hearings.

In the early 1970s, the Sweeneys were instrumental in founding two local organizations: Birthright and Rochester Area Right to Life. Both husband and wife also wrote columns for the *Catholic Courier*, known during that period as the *Courier Journal*.

Jeanne served eight years as president of Rochester Area Right to Life. She has also lectured on the pro-life movement at schools, and on television and radio.

Thomas is past president of the National Catholic Physicians Guild and New York State Right to Life Committee. He has practiced at offices in the town of Greece for nearly 40 years.

The Leo Holmsten Human Life Award is named for Dr. Leo Holmsten, a former abortionist and Planned Parenthood medical director who resigned from that organization in 1972 and went on to become a fervent pro-life activist. In fact, Thomas Sweeney was among those who encouraged Holmsten to stop performing abortions.

Holmsten died in 1997, shortly after the first annual award was presented to him. Last year's recipient was David Hoselton, who in the mid-1980s founded Faith Haven, a Christian home for unwed pregnant women. Faith Haven, one of the award's co-sponsors, is located in Naples, Ontario County.

Jeanne Sweeney said the Holmsten award is "definitely an honor," but stressed that she and her husband are accepting it on behalf of others who have worked to "bring back the sanctity of human life."

The Sweeneys attend St. Thomas the Apostle and Christ the King parishes in Irondequoit. They have three children and five grandchildren.

Obituary

Father Joseph Dailey, former vice chancellor; 74

Father Joseph W. Dailey, former vice chancellor of the Diocese of Rochester, died Aug. 18, 1999. He was 74.

An Elmira native, Father Dailey attended St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries. He was ordained June 11, 1949.

Following ordination, Father Dailey was assistant pastor at St. Patrick's Church, Corning (1949-51), St. Cecilia's Church, Elmira (1951-53), St. Ambrose Church, Rochester (1953-64) and St. Charles Borromeo Church, Greece (1964-66).

During his time at St. Ambrose, Father Dailey directed construction of the new church building, and the planning for reconstruction of the parish school, which was heavily damaged in an April 1962 fire. The school's new auditorium was named Dailey Hall in his honor.

In 1966, Msgr. George Cocuzzi, chancellor of the diocese - and Father Dailey's classmate and longtime friend - chose him to be vice chancellor.

"He was a very good organizer," said Msgr. Cocuzzi, homilist at Father Dailey's funeral Mass Aug. 21. "He had a keen financial sense. I felt he would be a very good person to be in the chancellor's office."



Spirit Church, Penfield (1969-71). In 1971, he became director of Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Father Dailey served as pastor of St. Mary of the Lake Church, Watkins Glen, and St. Benedict's Church, Odessa, from 1973 to 1976, when he resigned due to ill health. He subsequently served as temporary administrator of Corpus Christi Church, Rochester (1976-77). In the following years, he served in a variety of assignments, including as associate pastor at Mother of Sorrows, Greece, and several stints in that position at St. Theodore's Church, Gates; temporary administrator of St. Bridget's Church, East Bloomfield, and St. Joseph's Church, West Bloomfield

Archbishop Fulton Sheen, then bishop of Rochester, appointed Father Dailey vicar for pastoral planning in 1967. In 1968, he became co-pastor of Our Lady of Victory Church, Rochester, then pastor of Holy

(1986-88); and temporary pastor moderator of Church of the Annunciation, Rochester. He retired in 1989.

Msgr. Cocuzzi pointed out that Father Dailey had been a good athlete, playing football and baseball, a sport in which he retained a lifelong interest. He was also a history buff with a special interest in the Civil War, collecting an extensive library.

Father Dailey, the monsignor observed, "was a very understanding person. He established very good rapport with people. He was a good counselor."

"He was generous with his time, very much in tune with people's spiritual needs and very much able to understand people's weaknesses and to go from there. He was not judgmental."

Bishop Matthew H. Clark was the main celebrant at Father Dailey's funeral Mass at the Sisters of Mercy Motherhouse Chapel. Interment was at Holy Sepulchre.

Father Dailey is survived by his brother and sister-in-law, John and Louise Dailey of North Carolina; nephews Jeffrey (Jane) Dailey of Ohio and Michael (Trisha) Dailey of Virginia; and niece Elizabeth (Paul) Radke of Ohio.

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