He really enjoyed his Friday night fish fry.

Bishop Hickey also had a dry wit and could hold his own in any debate.

Just when you thought you were one up on him, he'd come right back at you.

He was a churchman absolutely, through and through. He had a great love of Christ, of prayer and spirituality, and of church.

He's going to be a very, very great loss to the diocese.

Father Peter Bayer, chaplain at St. Ann's Community, a steady dining partner of Bishop Hickey's for 10 years

You don't easily find someone who is absolutely respected by old priests and young priests alike ... That comes once in a generation. He respected people. You knew that. It becomes almost impossible to become cross with a person like

#### Father Joseph A. Hart, diocesan vicar general and pastoral office moderator

People felt they could confide in him and get very good feedback and counsel when they spoke with him. We would have wonderful conversations that would go on for some time. He enjoyed talking about and reflecting on what was going on in the news.

He loved that motto: "To serve is to reign." And he reigned gloriously.

> Father Kevin McKenna, diocesan chancellor



Mike Mergen/Photo intern

#### Bishop Clark censes the casket of Bishop Hickey at the conclusion of the funeral Mass.



Mike Mergen/Photo intern

Bishop Hickey's niece, Mary Campbell Caldwell, returns from the Communion line, as her husband, Patrick drinks from the

## Continued from previous page

bother to anybody," Vogt said. "Everybody always loved him." Deacon Thomas Cass, director of the diocesan Office of Deacon Personnel, assisted Bishop Clark at the funeral Mass and the Holy Sepulchre service. He spoke with affection about Bishop Hickey.

"He was always inviting and gracious, and always made you feel special when you were in his presence," Deacon Cass said. "I'm just happy to be part of this to send him off to see the Lord."

Several relatives of Bishop Hickey's were present for the two days, including his cousin Paul F. Moran of Little Meadows, Pa. Moran said he was raised to believe in a God of fear, but that Bishop Hickey had gently taught him about a God of love. He added that everyone he knew who met the bishop - Catholic and non-Catholic alike - was impressed by him.

"I know he made me a much better Catholic," Moran said. Also at the church were Bishop Hickey's niece, Mary Caldwell of Washington, D.C., her husband, Patrick Caldwell, and their children, Nick, 16, and Alison, 15. The Caldwells remembered "Uncle Dennis" as a kindly, grandfatherly figure who was always welcome at family gatherings.

You never felt there was a huge, vast distance between us as far as (the bishop) being an older relative," Nick said.

"He had a good sense of humor," Alison added. "He wasn't hard to talk to.'

Bishop Hickey's wit and wisdom will be sorely missed by both those who knew him and by a church that needs people like him with the gift to mediate disputes, Patrick Caldwell said.

"I guess what's really upsetting is there's not a lot of folks like him left," he said. "It appears to me, in our daily life, we need people like Dennis Hickey to bring us back to where we ought to be.

Caldwell added that Bishop Hickey was willing to listen to people on all sides of any dispute or debate.

"I think he was a non-polarized guy working in a polarized world, trying desperately to do what was right for the church and the world,"

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#### Memorial donations

Donations in memory of Bishop Dennis W. Hickey may be sent to the Bishop Hickey Memorial Fund, c/o Development Office, Diocese of Rochester, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, NY 14624.





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