



Bishop Hickey with his sisters, Kay, left, and Helen, right.



Bishop Hickey's first ordination was of three Basilian priests, Father Donald F. Hyatt, far left, Father Michael J. Wesley, far right, and Father Ronald G. Schwenzer, second from right, at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Dec. 14, 1968. Father John R. Whitley, CSB, is at the bishop's left.

always encouraged me in my preaching and told me he got a lot out of it, and that was very encouraging to me, coming from a bishop."

Bishop Hickey served as director of personnel for the diocese until 1982, when he became pastor at St. Thomas More Church, Brighton.

In 1998 he told the *Courier*, "My heart was always in parish ministry," but his duties in diocesan administration hadn't permitted him to serve as pastor for much of his career.

Sue Morrison recalled working for Bishop Hickey while he was pastor of St. Thomas More.

"We had a good relationship. I could talk about everything with him," recalled Morrison, who remembered the bishop as a capable administrator who never flaunted his authority.

"He was very kind," she said. "He did everything in a nice way. He didn't get upset with everybody, and he was a good leader. The way he went about things seemed to be the right way."

What is an auxiliary bishop?

The death of Bishop Dennis W. Hickey leaves the Diocese of Rochester without an auxiliary bishop.

Officially, he had retired from the position in 1990. At that time Bishop Matthew H. Clark told the *Catholic Courier* he would consider requesting another auxiliary bishop.

But Father Joseph A. Hart, a diocesan vicar general and the moderator of the Diocesan Pastoral Office, said recently, "There is no plan at the present to ask for an auxiliary bishop."

According to Father Hart, if one were requested, it would be done by submitting a *terna*, a list of three potential names, to the Holy See. But there is no requirement that the pope choose from that list.

An auxiliary bishop has the same powers of the bishop he serves, but must have that bishop's permission to perform them within that bishop's jurisdiction. An auxiliary bishop has no right of succession—in other words, it is not guaranteed that he succeed the bishop he serves. An auxiliary bishop assists the bishop in administrative and pastoral duties.



Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, center, with his future auxiliary bishops: Dennis W. Hickey and John E. McCafferty.

I never met anyone who was such a gentleman and who always had questions to ask. He never drew attention to himself and I found that very commendable about the man.

He probably was the epitome of what one would want for a fatherly figure. Whatever you say about him, as long as you put it in superlatives, it will certainly meet the mark.

Father Daniel McMullin,
pastor, Corpus Christi
Church, Rochester

A few years back, Bishop Hickey came to Holy Name for a confirmation. He said, "I'm looking for a place to say daily Mass and I'd love to come down here." I said, "Sure, the people would love having another Mass."

He did the 9 a.m. Mass for five years, until I retired in 1998. His sermons were humorous and very profound. He always had something interesting to say. The parishioners loved him.

He would also cover Masses that I couldn't do. If he couldn't switch his schedule with me for some reason, he was so apologetic. He hated to tell people he couldn't do something.

I also remember that when I was chaplain at St. Mary's Hospital, he lived in the area and asked for a key to the chapel so he could get in there and say his prayers.

He was the most unselfish person I ever knew. He always put everyone else ahead of his needs. He never wanted to interfere or get in anybody's way; he never thought of his own personal comfort.

Father John Rosse, former
pastor, Holy Name of Jesus
Church in Greece

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BISHOP MATTHEW CLARK

To recognize the Faith Communities
Who have signed the

COMMUNITY PLEDGE FOR LIFE

When: Wednesday, October 27
Where: Sacred Heart Cathedral
296 Flower City Park, Rochester
Time: 7:00 p.m.

INFORMATION?

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