

DIOCESAN NEWS

Parish to hold auction

Father Roy Kiggins will be your golf caddy. Father Jim Hewes will lead a guitar sing-along for your next gathering. Father Paul Bonacci will cook dinner for you in your own kitchen.

That is, if you are the highest bidder for any of these items at a silent auction May 6.

The auction, along with a golf tournament and buffet dinner the same day, have been planned to help alleviate debts of the Roman Catholic Community of Geneva. Among other items to go on the auction block will be a weekend at Bill Koebel's Seneca Lake cottage, a dinner cruise for four, photography and antiques.

"We have high expectations," said Ed Dailor, co-chair of a joint fundraising committee for the two Geneva parishes, St. Stephen's and St. Francis de Sales. "We seem to think our only problem is making sure we have enough room for people to sit."

The event will be held at Seneca Lake Country Club. The golf tournament will begin with one shotgun start at 8 a.m. and another at 1 p.m. Dinner will follow, and the auction will be held from 6 to 8 p.m.

The fundraising event is new to the community. St. Stephen's has discontinued the 26-year-old June Happening, which had featured a lakeside run, food, games, music and dancing. Last year's event raised about \$6,000 plus \$10,000 from a raffle, Dailor said.

"Just about everyone had to donate a day," he said, adding that almost 240 people worked at the last June Happening. "It seemed to be an awful lot of work for that much money."

St. Stephen's and St. Francis de Sales did co-sponsor a Millennium Raffle this year, splitting the \$10,000 proceeds.

"Right now the finance committee is trying to come up with balanced budgets for both parishes," Dailor said, declining to name the amount of debt they confront. "We are faced with how to allocate expenses between two parishes — we have two churches, two schools, two convents that are underused."

Father Kiggins, pastor of the community, noted in a recent newsletter that the parishes have work to do to be eligible for debt relief through the diocesan Jubilee Forgiveness Fund.

Referring to a recent joint meeting of the finance committees, Father Kiggins wrote, "All present realized that any hope of even partial debt forgiveness hinges on our success in getting operating expenses onto a pay-as-you-go basis."

How much the golf day will raise is something everyone is waiting to see, Dailor said. "We don't know what's going to happen when the bidding starts..." (Father Hewes) is looking for a \$500 opening bid. He's definitely worth it.

For sponsorship information, call Don Graham, 315/789-0696, for golf or dinner tickets, call 315/789-1124 or 789-0930.

—Kathleen Schwarz

Deacon religious about the census

By Rob Cullivan
Staff Writer

ROCHESTER — You may not like the federal government, but if you like the Catholic Church, you'll fill out your census questionnaire, according to Deacon Ray Datz, a clerk in Monroe County's Census 2000 office.

Governmental bodies — and church groups — rely on census data to plan their programming, he said.

"I'm here solely because I believe the census is vitally important," he said, sitting in one of the rooms at Census 2000 Monroe County headquarters at 121 Lincoln Ave.

"So much of what we do depends on statistics that are gathered in the census."

Conducted every 10 years by the federal government, the census is used to determine the number of seats allotted to each state in the U.S. House of Representatives, as well as to plan various government undertakings. The first phase of the census ended April 1, the date by which the government asked those to whom it had mailed census questionnaires to return them. Deacon Datz emphasized that even if you didn't return your census questionnaire by April 1, you can still send it. In late May, census workers will begin going door-to-door to count people who did not respond to the initial mailing, he said.

It's vital that people respond to the census, according to Jack Balinsky, director of Catholic Charities, which oversees social ministry agencies and programs in the Diocese of Rochester's 12 counties.

"If there's an undercount, New York State is hurt in terms of allocation for (federal) funding of its programs," Balinsky said. "Certainly, in terms of our own planning — where we locate programs, what we do — it affects us as well."



Andrea Dixon/Staff photographer

Deacon Ray Datz explains to students from Rochester's School 9 why computers are an important part of his work at the Census Bureau, on March 29 at the bureau office in Rochester.

Both Balinsky and Deacon Datz pointed out that Catholic social ministry programs use census data to apply for funding grants from both private and governmental sources. Deacon Datz, who formerly served at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Hamlin, pointed out that the census informs his work as a liaison between Bread and Thread, an area food cupboard, and Hamlin Association of Ministers, an ecumenical group.

"It gives me a picture of the financial situation of the community I've worked on," he said of census data. "It gives me a statistical basis for asking for grants."

Information from the U.S. Census Bu-

reau confirms the importance of such data. For example, the bureau noted that senior citizens in one New England community persuaded county commissioners to build a new community center by using census data. And when Hurricane Andrew hit South Florida in 1992, census information aided the rescue effort by providing estimates of the number of people in each block.

Deacon Datz said that citizens concerned about their privacy should have no fears since federal law prohibits the Census Bureau from sharing their answers with anyone. In fact, the Monroe County office sports several posters that emphasize that census information can't be shared with such agencies as the CIA, the FBI, the Internal Revenue Service or the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Anyone who breaks this law can receive up to five years in prison and \$5,000 in fines.

"We're not here to hurt people, we're here to help people," the deacon said.

He also pointed out that the bureau interviews everyone it can, including the homeless and the imprisoned, to find out their status and needs.

Deacon Datz is on a leave of absence from the diocese while working for the census. He expects to receive his next deacon assignment, which will be unpaid, after the census job ends in June. When asked what made him so enthusiastic about his census job, the 66-year-old responded:

"I served my country in the U.S. Navy, and it seemed appropriate for me as my last working assignment to work in a service-oriented position for my country."

For additional information on Census 2000, call the regional center in Boston at 617/424-4977, or visit the bureau's Web site at <http://www.census.gov>.

McQuaid appoints principal

By Rob Cullivan
Staff Writer

Father James J. Fischer, SJ, president of McQuaid Jesuit High School, Rochester, has announced the appointment of Father Philip G. Judge, SJ, a former McQuaid teacher, as principal effective Aug. 1.

Father Judge, assistant principal at Fordham Preparatory School in the Bronx, will succeed Franklin L. Kamp, McQuaid's principal for the last nine years. At Fordham, Father Judge oversees student scheduling and academics as well as faculty supervision and development.

Ordained in 1993, Father Judge, 37, has held several faculty and administrative positions, including stints at Regis High School in New York City and Loyola Academy in Wilmette, Ill. A Queens native, he taught English and theology at McQuaid from 1986 to 1989.

"I loved Rochester when I was there," Father Judge said in a phone interview from Fordham. "I've always liked the family environment of Rochester and the seriousness with which education is taken in the city."

In a press statement issued March 28, Father Fischer noted that McQuaid was looking forward to the new principal walk-

ing the school's halls once again.

"He has many friends within the McQuaid family who remember and treasure the three years he spent at the school," Father Fischer said. "They will be a wonderful support to him as he makes the transition to principal."

Father Judge holds a bachelor's degree in English from Fordham College, and a master's degree in philosophy from Fordham University. He also holds master's degrees in sacred theology and divinity from the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley, Calif., and a master's degree in English from the University of California at Berkeley.

The priest is also president of the New York Catholic Forensic League and a member of its executive committee; co-chairman of the Eastern Region Assistant Principals of the Jesuit Secondary Education Association; and Jesuit vocation coordinator for New York City.

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Our chef selects a new combination daily \$5.95

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Private accommodations
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**EASTER
SUNDAY
AND
MOTHERS'
DAY**

SERVING 1PM TO 8PM

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SERVING DINNER
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