

DIOCESAN NEWS

Development director will leave by summer's end

By Rob Cullivan
Staff Writer

GATES — Richard A. Rosati, director of development for the Diocese of Rochester since June 1998, has announced he will leave his position by the end of this summer.

In an interview, Rosati, 50, said he had no plans as of yet for his future, but was leaving for personal reasons.

"I've thought a lot about myself and how I want to live my life," he said, stressing that his resignation was based on a desire for a different kind of life in his middle years. "My priorities are clear and I am drawn to a simpler pace."

He added with a smile: "For the first time in my life, I'm going off into the sunset and don't know where I'm going."

Rosati noted that his position is currently being advertised by the diocese, and that he would be willing to stay on to help whomever is hired for a transition period.

Married with two grown daughters, Rosati is a parishioner at St. Paul of the Cross Parish, Honeoye Falls.

Prior to working for the diocese, he worked as associate vice president for college relations and development at the Geneseo campus of the State University of New York.

Rosati is a graduate of Holy Cross School and Aquinas Institute in Rochester.

His office oversees various diocesan fundraising efforts, including the annual Thanks Giving Appeal, as well as the solicitation of planned gifts, major gifts and grants.

Rosati said he was most proud of a strategic plan for diocesan development that he and his staff and a planning group created. The proposed plan has been reviewed by the diocesan Priests' Council, the diocesan Stewardship Council and diocesan directors.

In particular, the plan calls for the diocese to promote the concept of "steward-

ship," which is based on the biblical idea that all we have comes from God, and that we praise God when we give back to God, Rosati noted. Traditionally, those who seek to raise funds for a particular project start out by pointing out a need that has to be met, he said, but stewardship places the focus on the person giving.

"In stewardship the (parish's) leaking roof isn't the important thing," he said. "The important thing is praising God."

Rosati has conducted several workshops with parish groups to explain the concept of stewardship. He explains that stewardship manifests itself in such practices as tithing — setting aside 10 percent of one's income, giving half the tithe to

one's parish and the other 5 percent to the diocese and charities.

Stewardship also entails giving one's time and talent to the church, and educating one's children about being stewards, which Rosati sees as fundamental to the Christian lifestyle.

Rosati added that he was pleased to see that his position is now being advertised by the diocese as "director of stewardship and development," a sign of how seriously the concept is being taken.

"Stewardship is our basic response as a follower of Christ," he said. "When you look at Christ and how he lived his life, you define what it is to be a Christian steward."

Recognizing

★ The General Building Contractors of New York State presented St. Joseph's Hospital, Elmira, its "Build New York Construction Excellence Award" April 3. The award recognizes the exemplary design and construction of the hospital's 60,000 square foot, three-story health services building, which opened early in 1999. The building was a cooperative effort of the hospital and Internal Medicine Associates of the Southern Tier. Welliver-McGuire Inc. was the project contractor; the architects were King & King Architects of Manlius, N.Y.

★ St. Joseph's Hospital, Elmira, has presented its "2000 OPPY Award" to Nan Durnin, medical staff coordinator. The award recognized the employee's 35 years of friendly service, courtesy and creation of good will among patients, employees, hospital visitors and the public at large. The hospital also gave out its "2000 Spirit Award" for outstanding service to St. Joseph's and the community to people in the following categories: *Health professional* — Kathleen Reilly, administrative director of clinical support services; *Physician* — Dr. Joseph Navone, oncology; *Volunteer* — Jean Milazzo and Lil Hanmore. The hospital has also given its "Centurion Award" for outstanding volunteerism to St. Joseph's and the community to Donald and Joanne Quick.

★ The New York State Senate has selected Sister Marie Castagnaro, SSJ, president and chief executive officer of

St. Joseph's Hospital, Elmira, for a "2000 Women of Distinction" award. Sister Castagnaro will be honored at a May 23 reception in Albany with other women from around the state.

★ The MONY Foundation of New York City, a life insurance company's program, has awarded a \$5,000 grant to the Sisters of Mercy Regional Community of Rochester and has also pledged an additional \$5,000 to support Andrews Center Foster Home of Rochester. The home cares for children who cannot be placed in a typical foster care home because of serious physical and emotional disabilities.

★ The Jane F. Napier and William J. Napier Charitable Lead Trust has given \$15,000 to Catholic Family Center of Rochester for use in implementing the Catholic Charities agency's technology plan. Meanwhile, the Women's Foundation of Genesee Valley has given two grants of \$3,000 each to CFC's STAR Program (Support To Aged Residents), which works with the elderly who wish to stay in their own homes, and the Rochester Women's Bean Project, which promotes women's economic self-sufficiency. The STAR Program has also received a \$5,000 grant from the B. Thomas Golisano Foundation.

★ The Junior High Youth Group at St. Margaret Mary's Parish, Apalachin, raised \$1,280 in February for World Vision International, a private international Christian organization that provides relief and supports development in 94 countries worldwide.



Mike Mergen/Photo intern

A clean commitment



Above, Ruth Ihrig, right, and Virginia Sawdey, both of Rochester's Holy Rosary Parish, take a short break from a massive neighborhood clean-up May 3. About 200 volunteers from parishes, schools, businesses and other groups joined residents in the project around Driving Park and Lexington Avenue, Rochester. Left, Josephine Ciuffo of Most Precious Blood Parish and Interfaith Action, helps remove litter. The effort was part of a project creating a new vision for the area.



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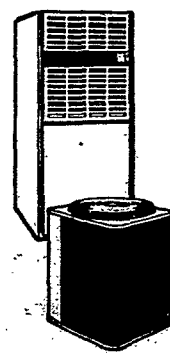
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