

# DIOCESAN NEWS

## Courier staff brings home 10 national awards

BALTIMORE — The *Catholic Courier* won 10 awards in the Catholic Press Association 2000 Press Awards contest.

Awards were announced May 26 at the CPA's annual convention, held at Baltimore's Hyatt Regency Hotel. *Courier* General Manager Editor Karen M. Franz officially began her two-year term as the CPA's president during the convention.

The *Courier* staff earned first-place honors in:

**Best Analysis/Background/Round-Up Writing** (The Gerald E. Sherry Award) to Staff Writer Rob Cullivan and former Associate Editor Lee Strong for their Feb. 4 and March 4 stories on Corpus Christi Church. Judges said the stories "provided timely, steady, reliable information, including two-way information gathering from readers, which served a vital purpose through a trying time."

**Best Reporting on a Special Age Group** to Staff Writer Mike Latona for his May 13 story on teen taunting, which judges called "a hard-hitting view of taunting from two victims' anguished perspective. It's strong, emotional and thought-provoking."

**Best General News Photo** (black-and-



white or color) to Mike Mergen, former photo intern, for his photo of Bishop Matthew H. Clark at Bishop Dennis W. Hickey's funeral. Judges termed this photo "a private moment captured from

a distance with wonderful lines and composition. Clearly the strongest photo in the category which, as a whole, had some excellent work."

Second-place awards were earned in:

**Best Front Page** for tabloids using two or three colors. Judges remarked that the front pages of June 24, July 1 and July 8 "made good use of a bold flag by using it as a centerpiece and running a story above it. Photos and graphics were also well-handled."

**Best Local/Regional News Writing** (40,001-and-up circulation) to Latona and Assistant Editor Kathleen Schwar for their Aug. 12 and 19 coverage of Bill White and end-of-life issues. Judges commented that "a lot of credit has to go to the tenacious reporter (Latona), especially for getting

the interview with the dying man. They added that Latona and Schwar "laid out both sides of the complex right-to-die issue, as well as church teaching on the matter, while never losing sight of the human dimension."

The *Courier* garnered third places in:

**Best Investigative News Writing** to Latona for his Oct. 7 story on treatment of disabled people in end-of-life issues. Judges commented the article is "a concisely written but deeply significant piece that should spark lengthy discussion on society's proper attitude toward the severely disabled."

**Best Regular Column**, in general commentary, to Sister Patricia Schoelles, SSJ, for "The Moral Life." Judges remarked that her Feb. 18, May 20 and Aug. 19 columns were written by "a precise, to-the-point columnist. Sister Schoelles makes a witty segue from Teletubbies to the topics of weight, women and the media."

**Best Headline** (tie) to Cullivan for "Masses at Masses may need Christmas passes." Judges praised the headline, for a story about overcrowded churches at Christmas, as being "clear, clever, fun. This headline sings the spirit of Christ-

mas while still communicating the article's meaning."

Finally, the *Courier* earned honorable mention in **Best Local/Regional News Writing** (40,001-and-up circulation) for: Cullivan and Strong's Feb. 4 and March 4 Corpus Christi stories; and **Best Seasonal Issue** for the Dec. 23 Christmas issue.

Also, Father Charles Curran, a Diocese of Rochester priest, won first place in **Best Book by a Small Publisher**, for *The Catholic Moral Tradition Today: A Synthesis*, by Georgetown University Press.

## SSNDs observe special jubilees

Three School Sisters of Notre Dame in the diocese are celebrating golden jubilees this year, while a fourth is celebrating her 75th. They celebrated with other sisters of the Northeast Province May 6 at the motherhouse in Wilton, Conn.

**Sister Mary Marian Rotonno** not only marks her 75th jubilee this year but in September also will celebrate her 100th birthday. She was born in Rochester, and was a member of



St. Patrick's Parish. She entered the novitiate in Baltimore in 1921 and professed her final vows in 1925. Sister Rotonno taught in Baltimore for a number of years before returning to spend the rest of her teaching career in Rochester at Bishop Kearney High School.

She taught at Bishop Kearney for 25 years, from the school's inception in 1962 until her retirement in 1987. After her retirement, staff and students honored her by naming a road encircling the school in her honor. Sister Rotonno now lives in the SSND motherhouse in Wilton.

**Sister Dorothy Mary Leising**, a Buffalo native, entered the congregation in 1947 and professed her final vows in 1950. She taught at St. Margaret Mary School, Irondequoit, from 1977 to 1983. She also taught in Baltimore, Washington, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.



Sister Leising lives at Holy Ghost Convent in Rochester and serves as a pastoral associate at Holy Apostles Parish.

**Sister Yvonne Nadeau** was born in Rochester and attended St. Theodore Parish. She entered the candidature in 1947 and professed her vows in 1950. Sister Nadeau taught at Bishop Kearney High School in Rochester from 1963-69 and 1970-84. She also taught in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and elsewhere in New York.

She currently is pastoral associate at Holy Ghost Parish, Rochester.

**Sister Miriam Therese Roncinske** was born in Rochester and attended Holy Family Parish. She entered the candidature from Holy Family in 1947 and professed her final vows in 1950. For more than 30 years she taught elementary and high school students in Maryland, New York and New Jersey.



Sister Roncinske is a receptionist at Bishop Kearney High School.

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"Jubilee 2000 is a wonderful time to begin sponsoring a child!"

Archbishop James P. Keleher, Kansas City, Kansas — who sponsors José Muños of Honduras.



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