

# DIOCESAN NEWS

## Sharing Light awards symbolize fellowship

By Kathleen Schwar  
Assistant editor

Sharing The Light awards will be presented this year to Helen Mosher Barben of Seneca Falls; the Rev. Daniel T. Benedict of Newark; and James J. Dooley of the Roman Catholic Community of Geneva.

It is the seventh year for the awards, granted by Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes. The awards dinner will be held Tuesday, June 12, at Club 86 in Geneva. Keynote speaker will be Mark D. Gearan, president of Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, and Bishop Matthew H. Clark will attend as a special guest.

Dooley is president and CEO of Finger Lakes Health, a community-owned, not-for-profit system that provides health services at campuses in Waterloo, Geneva and Penn Yan. He moved to the area from Sayre, Pa., to become chief administrator of Geneva General Hospital about 23 years ago.

"The typical person on the street has no idea how fortunate we are he has stayed here," said the Rev. Jim Gerling, the award's first recipient, with Msgr. Gerard Krieg.

Citing Dooley's "skill, integrity, his knowledge of our current health-care delivery systems, the whole field of health care," Rev. Gerling added, "his administrative team has turned this hospital into so much more." It now includes low-income senior housing complexes, nursing home beds, and a dialysis unit, among other upgrades, he said.

Dooley was an organizer of the Geneva Youth Hockey Program in 1979, and negotiated the partnership between DeSales and Geneva high schools to form a combined hockey program. He

now coaches the high-school-aged girls hockey team in Geneva. Dooley has served on boards for the Geneva YMCA, Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce and Jobs for Geneva, and Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes.

He and his wife, Caryl, have two grown children, Paul and Katelyn.

Rev. Benedict lives on a farm in Newark with his wife, Edith. He is the father of eight children, grandfather of 20 and great-grandfather of seven.

"I was especially honored," he said of the award from Catholic Charities, noting, "I've always had an ecumenical attitude." One ecumenical organization with which he has been active is Pastors for Peace. He has gone on Pastors for Peace missions to Nicaragua and Cuba.

Rev. Gerling accompanied him on one of those trips back in 1991. Rev. Gerling recalled his compassion for people in Nicaragua and his helping other pastors understand the needs there.

"There are so many ways he's tried to help bring justice, a sense of fairness to the way our government has responded to the needs of the poor in Central America," he said. "It was a delight traveling with him, he taught you so much about what it truly means to be an affluent person by comparison with the rest of the world, and what it means to have a sense of stewardship and commission."

Rev. Benedict acknowledged trying to live by the motto, "Live simply so others may simply live." He and his wife maintain an organic vegetable garden and provided neighbors and friends with produce. And, he said, "I ride a bike to make pastoral calls as much as I can."

He is 78 years old and has been pastor of the First Baptist Church of Newark for about four years, after initially holding that post from 1970-80. He was ordained in the United Methodist Church, but has largely served parishes of the American Baptist Church denomination, which recognizes his ordination. He came out of retirement in 1986



Barben



Dooley



Rev. Benedict



Karin von Voigtlander/Photo intern

## A pitch for veterans

(Above) Father Elmer W. Heindl, priest in residence at St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Greece, cheers after throwing the opening pitch to Red Wings catcher Frank Charles while Russ Ruter, director of group sales for the Red Wings, congratulates Father Heindl, at the Memorial Day game at Frontier Field. (Right) Father Heindl takes part in a "mass re-enlistment" of Army personnel at the game.



to serve First Baptist Church in Geneva. Rev. Benedict also has served as president of the Geneva Kiwanis Club, a member of Parents Anonymous, and other community groups.

Honoree Barben taught music in public schools from 1923-30, and for 29 years served as the Seneca Falls Methodist Church choir director.

She has been involved in Boy Scout and Girl Scout programs, United Way campaigns, the National Women's Hall of Fame and the Seneca Falls Historical Society. She has held state and national offices in the Daughters of the American Revolution, as well as the Daughters of Founders and Patriots of

America, Daughters of Colonial Dames of the XVII Century and Daughters of 1812. A founding member of the Women's Hall of Fame, she is currently an emeritus board member.

Rev. Gerling noted that the awards symbolize a spirit of ecumenism in the area. "I've been here 21 years and if there's anything that just stands out so strongly for me in the whole time here it is the real strength of the ecumenical bond here and the fellowship that we have," he said.

Tickets may be obtained by calling Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes, 315/789-2686, or by stopping by the office, One Franklin Square, Geneva.

## Diocese funds new, continued ministries

Diocesan grants totaling nearly \$80,000, including Thanks Giving Appeal donations, will help parish groupings provide new and extended ministries. The awards are directed toward needs identified in Pastoral Planning for the New Millennium.

The grants, recently announced, are:  
- \$20,000 for the first of a three-year grant to Good Shepherd parish, southern Cayuga, toward the position of a religious education coordinator.

- \$15,000 for the second year of a three-year grant to Holy Family planning group (Sacred Heart, Perkinsville; St. Pius V, Cohocton; St. Joseph, Wayland; St. Mary, Dansville) toward a residence director for Vincent House comfort care residence in Wayland for the terminally ill.

- \$13,500 for the second year of a three-year grant to Rochester city parishes of Corpus Christi, Mt. Carmel, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, St. Bridget, St. Francis/Holy Redeemer, St. Michael) for a part-time coordinator of youth ministry and youth outreach.

- \$10,000 for the final year of a three-

year grant to parishes of the Tioga planning group (St. James, Waverly/St. Pius X, Van Etten; St. John the Evangelist, Newark Valley/St. Francis, Catatunk/St. Patrick, Owego; St. Margaret Mary, Apalachin) toward the position of director of the Regional Center. The center provides adult education and lay leadership training.

- \$4,500 to the Geneva parishes of St. Francis de Sales and St. Stephen for the second year of a three-year grant for a part-time social ministry coordinator.

- \$4,000 to Finger Lakes parishes of St. Michael, Penn Yan; St. Andrew, Dundee; St. Theresa, Stanley; St. Mary, Rushville; St. Januarius, Naples; St. Patrick, Prattsburg toward the certification and education of two persons in youth ministry and one in pastoral ministry.

- \$3,000 for the final year of a three-year grant to Rochester parishes of Holy Rosary, Most Precious Blood and Sacred Heart Cathedral toward a part-time coordinator of youth ministry position.

- \$3,200 for the second year of a three-year grant for a part-time person to ex-

pand community outreach to Catholic young adults for northwest Monroe County parishes/ministries: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mother, Brockport; St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Hamlin; St. John the Evangelist, Spencerport; St. Lawrence, Greece; St. Leo, Hilton; St. Mark, Greece; the Newman Community at SUNY Brockport; and the Hispanic Migrant Ministry.

Karen Rinefierd, diocesan planning liaison, expanded on what the grants would mean.

"It has been exciting to witness the valuable work this grant program has enabled: a new comfort care facility in Steuben County where there was none before; two youth ministry coordinators in two different parts of urban Rochester creating opportunities for our young people to gather in faith; the adult education and lay leadership training now available to parishioners across Tioga County and part of Chemung," she said.

"We are pleased to be able to provide some of the financial means to extend this work and to enter new areas of ministry."

### Correction

The boy on the far right in the May 10 *Catholic Courier* photograph of children making their first Communion at St. John the Evangelist School, Greece, was T.J. Eastley, 8. He was incorrectly identified.

**Catholic Courier (USPS 135-580)**  
Vol. 112 No. 34, May 31, 2001  
Published weekly except the last Thursday in December.  
Subscription rates: single copy, 75c; one-year subscription in U.S., \$20.00; Canada and foreign \$20.00 plus postage.  
Offices: 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624, 716/328-4340. Periodicals postage paid at Rochester, N.Y.  
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Catholic Courier, P.O. Box 24379, Rochester, N.Y. 14624.

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