

DIOCESAN NEWS

Director predicts \$4.88 million total for TGA

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

ROCHESTER — Despite a decline of more than 1,000 donors, the 2001-02 Thanks Giving Appeal raised more funds than did the previous year's campaign.

According to statistics provided by Dan Healy, diocesan director of stewardship and development, the appeal is expected to raise approximately \$4,880,000 in pledges by its cutoff date of June 30. As of May 8, the appeal had generated \$4,874,200 in pledges, with \$4,737,500 collected. This slightly surpasses the 2000-01 campaign's final tally of \$4,856,000 pledged and \$4,706,300 collected.

Although it appeared that the 2001-02 campaign will fall a bit short of its goal of \$4,931,000, Healy said, "We feel that when the day is all said and done we will have the money to fund everything fully."

The annual Thanks Giving Appeal, begun in 1981, serves as the Rochester Diocese's primary source of fundraising and provides approximately half the diocese's annual budget. This year's theme was "Love One Another as I Have Loved You."

Thanks Giving Appeal gifts are accepted all year long. Gifts received by June 30 will go toward the current campaign; any ensuing gifts will be put toward the 2002-03 appeal. People may donate by cash, check or credit card to diocesan offices or through their parishes. Those wishing to donate securities or stock options should call the Office of Stewardship and Development at 585/328-3228, ext. 278, or 800/388-7177, ext. 278.

Healy said the 2001-02 TGA was affect-



ed both negatively and positively by the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the United States. The tragedies occurred less than a month before the appeal kicked off.

"A lot of people who had a set amount set aside (for TGA) sent it somewhere else — Catholic Charities, Red Cross, United Way or right to New York City," Healy explained.

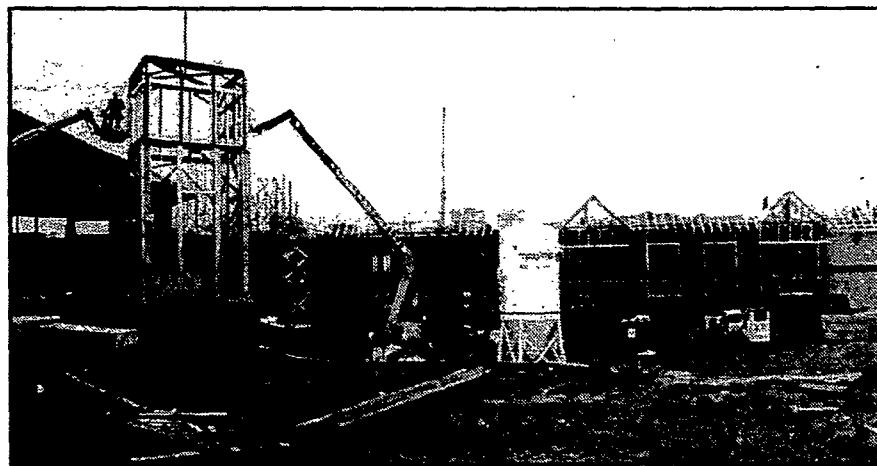
And yet, the 2001-02 appeal has raised more than in 2000-01 — even though there will only be a projected 46,000 donors to the current campaign, compared with 47,300 donors last year.

"People were a little more heightened in their sense of charity," Healy said. "We feel we did very well. We're grateful to those who gave to other places and still gave here. They remembered to take care of things at home."

Healy credited parish leaders for their efforts at spreading the good news about the TGA. He also noted that TGA publicity offered detailed explanations of the disbursement of campaign funds, listing projected allocations for various diocesan offices, programs and ministries.

"Some people felt the brochure had better information than in the past," said Healy, who began his position in January 2001.

Healy said he expects to make available a full report of the 2001-02 appeal when



Andrea Dixon/Staff photographer

New motherhouse in progress

Progress continues May 9 on construction of a new motherhouse and infirmary for the Sisters of St. Joseph, who have sold their former facilities to Nazareth College. Being erected on French Road in Pittsford, the new facility will serve as headquarters for the congregation and house approximately 150 sisters plus a handful of retired diocesan priests. Ground was broken for the project on July 7, 2001, and it is to be completed by Jan. 17, 2003.

the 2002-03 TGA campaign begins this fall.

He doesn't foresee any wholesale changes for the 2002-03 campaign, although there will be a strong effort to reconnect with past donors who did not give to the 2001-02 TGA. "We would like them to consider coming back and understanding why their gift is so important," he said.

Healy also remarked that the TGA and its good works should be emphasized in the wake of recently announced news that Bishop Matthew H. Clark has removed six diocesan priests from ministry due to allegations that they sexually abused minors. The diocese said it has found the allega-

tions against the priests to be "credible."

"What's in the news now is basically negative," Healy said. "What we're doing is positive. People lose sight of the good things going on."

Although Healy said "it would be foolish not to be concerned" that the sexual-abuse crisis might negatively affect next year's campaign, he also expressed confidence that parishioners will continue to strongly support the TGA.

Both Healy and James Rinefierd, diocesan chief financial officer, emphasized that no TGA funds are used toward legal expenses or financial settlements related to cases of sexual abuse by priests.

Fisher

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to step down as provost if a new provost is appointed before the end of his two-year term. Bain has publicly stated he will step down if a new provost is chosen.

Keough is also to meet at least once a month with a rotating group of faculty as well as assembly-appointed representatives to discuss matters of governance. The resolution called for the board of trustees, or board representatives, to meet with faculty about the same issues at least once a month, and for faculty, trustees and administrators to cooperate in creating a strategic plan for the college. Thomas F. Bonadio, chairman of the board of trustees, declined to comment for this article.

Dr. David Sanders, an English professor who chairs the assembly, said that he believed some faculty members didn't want to support the no-confidence vote because they didn't want to be seen as voting against Bain. He expressed some skepticism of the Sashittal measure, saying, "They're great principles, but very wishful."

Dr. Lisa Jadwin, an English professor who chaired the provost search committee, severely criticized Keough's handling of the provost search. She said Keough had set aside minimal time for meetings with the candidates and had given no explanation for rejecting the committee's choices. Keough said that hiring a provost involves personnel issues of a confidential nature, and that she had a duty to remain silent about her reasons for rejecting the committee's choices.

"I have respect for the work they did," Keough said of the committee. "There is no disrespect if I don't accept the candidate."

Jadwin added that the provost controversy was merely one in a series of incidents that have led faculty members to become disgruntled with Keough's style of management.

"This provost search is not an isolated

incident," she said. "It's kind of the end of the rope that people have reached."

On that note, "a majority" of faculty members now support establishing a teachers' union called Fisher Faculty United, according to Dr. James Bowers, professor of political science. The union, which has not been certified, has been in the works for three years now, he said, although he declined to state the number of faculty members supporting it. The union organizers maintain a Web site at www.fisherunion.org and are affiliated with New York State United Teachers and the American Association of University Professors.

Bowers said that the union has been gaining in popularity because many faculty members are unhappy with Keough's management style, which he characterized as "paternalistic."

"I don't think she has shown respect for the faculty," Bowers said. "We are to be manipulated and used and managed."

Bowers cited a litany of grievances against Keough, and said he believed the union was necessary because it would allow the faculty to formalize its desire for governance input related to hiring, curriculum and other matters.

Keough can be credited for putting Fisher on the map, Bowers said, through such accomplishments as getting the Buffalo Bills to locate their summer training camp at the college. However, she has repeatedly acted in a manner that shows contempt for the traditional idea of shared governance that should mark relations between a college faculty and its president, he added.

"As big a success as she has been on the outside, she is equally a disaster on the inside," he said.

Among the charges Bowers and the union made was that Keough had undermined the hiring procedures of various departments by interviewing recruits and changing the terms departments had previously offered them; failed to consult various faculty committees regarding program and hiring issues; cancelled sabbatical leaves without consulting the

faculty; and circumvented various governing procedures of faculty committees and overrode those committees' decisions.

A two-page statement from Keough listed how she had responded to the union supporters' grievances, and her efforts to correct whatever mistakes she may have made. For example, the statement read, she reinstated faculty leaves and acknowledged that she should not have canceled them. In an interview, she added that she has statutory authority to set salaries and contract terms and hire faculty. In at least one case, the statement said, it was necessary for her to "act swiftly" to hire a candidate because of exceptional circumstances, and that she was compelled to forego the traditional hiring process.

Sashittal said he did not support the union, and had no personal problems with Keough. However, he said that faculty had "a point" about the administration, and blamed a lack of communication between faculty and administration officials for creating the rift. He said he believed his resolution represented the "vast middle" of the faculty who wanted the rift healed without the extreme measure of a no-confidence vote.

"I think the president is listening now, and I think the faculty has caught her attention," he said.

Dr. Pasquale J. Arpaia, professor of mathematics, was far less diplomatic in his comments about the union. Arpaia maintained that one-third of the union supporters were "anti-Catholic" and wanted to move the college away from its roots. Founded in 1948 by the Basilian Fathers, Fisher is currently considered an independent, private college, although the school identifies itself as operating in the "Catholic tradition." Arpaia maintained that some union supporters want to get rid of Keough, in part, because she supports strengthening the school's Catholic identity. A self-described "orthodox Catholic," Arpaia said he believes he is unable to get elected to a faculty committee

because of his outspoken beliefs.

Last year, the faculty assembly overwhelmingly voted against Fisher's adoption of *Ex Corde Ecclesiae*, a papal document that sets forth requirements that colleges must fulfill in order to call themselves Catholic. The committee exploring whether Fisher should sign on to *Ex Corde Ecclesiae* voted 4-2 against it, concluding that it would unduly impinge on the college's academic freedom and hiring procedures, according to Dr. Judiana Lawrence, an English professor who chaired the *Ex Corde* committee. Keough said, however, that the board of trustees has voted to establish another committee made up of students, faculty, staff and trustees that will begin reexamining the document this September.

Lawrence, who voted against adopting *Ex Corde Ecclesiae*, said her committee had recommended that the college set up a committee to explore defining the college's identity — not revisit the papal document. She also vehemently disagreed that there was anti-Catholic sentiment in Fisher Faculty United.

"In all the union meetings that I have attended, I have not heard anything that could be construed as anti-Catholic," she said.

Dr. John Halligan, who retired last year from his position as chairman of the religious studies department, served on the *Ex Corde* committee with Lawrence, and voted for the school to adopt it. He said he felt the school was moving away from its Catholic foundations, and dismissed the idea that Fisher needed a union. He said he believes union supporters want to "overthrow" Keough and run Fisher, not share governance with her.

"If you do your research, if you do your teaching, you really don't have time for that," he said of activity he termed "politicizing."

As for Lawrence, she said that she was not confident that relations would improve between faculty members and Keough. However, she said, "I'll reserve judgment and see what happens."