

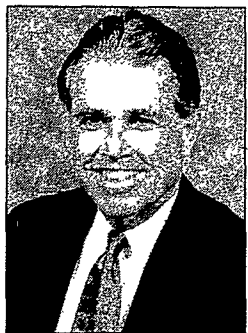
McQuaid names first lay president

Mike Latona/Catholic Courier

BRIGHTON — After 27 years in the telecommunications industry, James E. Whelehan said, he accepted a position at McQuaid Jesuit High School in 1998 because "I had pretty much decided I wanted to do something different. I wanted to do something that mattered."

Now, following more than four years as the school's vice president of institutional advancement, Whelehan is once again making a change: This summer he'll become the first lay president in McQuaid's 50-year history.

Whelehan's pending appointment was announced Jan. 7 by the school's board of trustees. Whelehan, 54, will



begin his new duties July 1, remaining in his current position until that time. He will succeed Jesuit Father James J. Fischer, who has been McQuaid's president since 1992. Father Fischer will remain on as the school's chancellor, taking over many of Whelehan's duties.

Whelehan said he emerged as a candidate for the presidency once it appeared unlikely to the search committee that a qualified Jesuit priest

would be available. However, Whelehan noted that Franklin Kamp, McQuaid's long-time principal who retired in 2001, had already proved himself as "a wonderful example of how ... lay people can continue the legacy of Catholic education." McQuaid's current principal is Jesuit Father Philip Judge, in his second year.

While overseeing McQuaid's administration and faculty, Whelehan said he plans to approach that new role in the spirit of a partnership. "I get to lean on a cadre of 10 Jesuits," he remarked. "We're fortunate to have a very strong Jesuit presence here."

Whelehan said he doesn't foresee major changes early in his tenure,

saying, "My goal would be to make this transition, certainly initially, as transparent as possible." However, he acknowledged that the chief future challenges facing him — as well as other Catholic-school administrators — will be the declining number of clergy as well as the cost of tuition.

McQuaid currently has 850 students enrolled in grades 7 through 12, with tuition set at \$6,400 per year. Whelehan expressed a strong desire to expand tuition-assistance programs so that low- and moderate-income families can afford to attend McQuaid. "If you need financial aid and you're academically qualified, you ought to be able to go to school here," he commented.

Whelehan is a 1966 graduate of St. Andrew's Seminary High School. He earned his bachelor's degree in business from St. John Fisher College and master's of business administration from Rochester Institute of Technology. He was a long-time employee of Rochester Telephone Corp. and its successor, Frontier Corp., serving as chief executive officer of Frontier Cellular and executive vice president of Frontier Communications before retiring at the end of 1997.

He and his wife, Kathy, reside in Byron, Genesee County, and are members of St. Joseph's Parish in Batavia. They have seven children — all of whom, Whelehan noted, are products of Catholic schools.

"Catholic education is something my wife and I have fully supported. It's something I fervently believe in," he said.

Six parishes to test capital campaign

Mike Latona/Catholic Courier

The Diocese of Rochester is embarking upon a significant capital and endowment campaign to be conducted over the next three to five years.

Dubbed "Partners in Faith," the campaign is being tested in six pilot parishes around the diocese between January and March. The project will be launched on a diocesan-wide basis within the next few months, at which time Bishop Matthew H. Clark will announce the campaign's overall financial goal.

Partners in Faith is intended to provide funding for the following ministries or endeavors:

- **Diocesan parishes** — 50 percent of the funds raised from a given parish will be returned to the parish for its own needs.

- **Department of Catholic Schools** — endowment funds will be used to maintain school tuition at an affordable level.

- **Sacred Heart Cathedral** — 12 percent of proceeds will go toward the cathedral preservation and renovation project, which is scheduled to take place over the next couple of years.

- **Priests' pension fund** — proceeds will help stabilize the existing pension fund while providing additional retirement benefits as well as care for priests who are infirm.

- **Thanks Giving Appeal** — a portion of proceeds will be used to support diocesan pastoral and social services that are normally funded by this annual campaign, which will be suspended during the first year of Partners in Faith. The TGA will be reinstated in 2004.



- **Catholic Charities** — endowment funds will support Catholic Charities programs as well as technological updates for the department.

- **St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry** — 5 percent of proceeds are earmarked for construction of a new Pittsford facility for the graduate institute for lay ministry, which has outgrown the space it currently rents at Colgate Rochester Divinity School.

- **Diocesan Office of Evangelization and Catechesis** — endowment funds will support catechist formation and expansion of youth ministries.

- **Campaign expenses** — the diocese has retained Community Counselling Service, a New York City fundraising company, to manage the Partners in Faith campaign.

Jim Gallagher, an executive director of Community Counselling Service, noted that his company is currently managing capital campaigns in several dioceses around the United States. He added that CCS recently conducted a campaign in the Diocese of Syracuse where \$50 million was raised, far surpassing the initial goal of \$33 million.

Partners in Faith has been in the planning stages for the past 1½ years, according to Dan Healy,

diocesan director of the Office of Stewardship and Development. Healy said the campaign is the result on an ongoing feasibility study.

"There are needs in the church. These are some of the more critical needs. This (campaign) doesn't solve everything, but it's a step in the right direction," Healy said.

Healy acknowledged that Partners in Faith is being started at a challenging time, given the struggling economy and the scandal over priest sexual-abuse cases.

"These are not the best of times economically or for having trust in institutions, including the church. But we have real needs. A campaign of this magnitude is necessary if we're going to be where we want to be in the next couple of years," Healy said. He added that none of the monies from Partners in Faith would go toward legal costs for sexual-abuse cases involving former diocesan priests.

Father Joseph Hart, a diocesan vicar general and moderator of the Pastoral Center, said that Partners in Faith marks the first time "in quite a number of years" that the diocese has conducted a capital campaign this extensive. He expressed hope that Catholics in the diocese will be supportive of this initiative.

"Even at times when people have had less money, such as during the Depression, the percentage of their income given to such projects was greater than it is today," Father Hart said. "(But) we're not asking people to put their financial future in jeopardy. We ask them to be generous, and others to not feel guilty if they can't participate."

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