

Catholic Courier

DIocese OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK ■ VOL. 115 NO. 17 ■ THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2004 ■ www.CatholicCourier.com ■ 75¢ ■ 16 PAGES

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Changes ahead for Courier

On Oct. 5, 1889, the *Catholic Journal* — the newspaper now known as the *Catholic Courier* — published its first edition. In the nearly 115 years since, the publication has gone through numerous name and format changes, with one more on the way. In April, the existing *Courier* will be replaced with two new publications — a monthly newsmagazine and a four-page weekly newsletter — plus a vastly expanded Web site.

Catholic Courier Monthly — which will be launched during Holy Week — will contain at least 40 pages each edition and will be mailed to every Catholic home in the diocese for which the diocese has a valid address. The *Catholic Courier Weekly* — to be launched the weekend of Palm Sunday, April 3-4 — will be produced in three customized versions, one for each of the diocese's three regions: Southern Tier, Finger Lakes and Monroe/Livingston areas. *Catholic Courier.com*, the paper's existing Web site, will again be expanded to feature all stories that appear in *Courier* print editions as well as breaking news and some Web-only feature content.

The interrelationships among the three products will enable the *Courier* to be more timely in its news reporting, even as the core publication is transformed into a monthly, according to Karen M. Franz, the *Courier's* general manager and editor in chief.

The *Catholic Courier Monthly* will be printed on a heavier, bright-white newsprint and will offer the same level of high-quality, full-color photography that has appeared in this newspaper since October 2002. It will feature background and analysis of news of interest to Catholics, as well as "Faith and Family" feature stories, Catholic columnists and Bishop Matthew H. Clark's "Along the Way" columns.

The bishop's columns also will appear on the Web site and in the weekly newsletters, which will feature region-specific news and feature stories, calendars of events, obituaries and advertisements. Occasionally, news that is especially relevant to the entire diocese will appear in all three editions of the *Catholic Courier Weekly*.

These changes are necessary in order to make the *Catholic Courier* a more user-friendly publication, according to Father Joseph A. Hart, diocesan vicar general, moderator of the Pastoral Center and vice president of the Rochester Catholic Press Association Inc.,

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Tom McEvoy, assistant supervisor of the Rochester *Democrat and Chronicle's* printing facility, checks the quality of the *Catholic Courier's* Jan. 29 edition as it comes off the "gripper," a conveyor that carries freshly printed newspapers to the mailroom for distribution. The *Democrat and Chronicle* has printed the *Courier* since October 2002.

Story by Jennifer Burke • Photos by Mike Crupi

