

Dinner Dance Raises over \$40,000 in Support of Senior Priests, Remembers Kathie and Christopher Lawler

Over 250 attend dinner dance honoring Bishop Joseph Sullivan to support the needs of senior priests through the Kathie and Christopher Lawler Endowment Fund.

Douglaston, NY (February 5, 2010) – The Lawler Family and the Alive in Hope Foundation hosted its Second Annual Kathie and Christopher Lawler Dinner Dance at the Immaculate Conception Center in Douglaston on February 5, 2010. The dinner honored Bishop Joseph Sullivan, for his years of service to the people and communities of Brooklyn and Queens, especially as a pioneer for social justice in serving as Executive Director of Catholic Charities for 11 years and as Vicar for Human Services.

Bishop Sullivan shared poignant words about the importance of all, not just senior priests, to “grow old with grace...and be people who are compassionate, forgiving, and faith-filled.” He thanked the Lawler family and the Alive in Hope Foundation for their commitment to assisting priests in their golden years. It was clear that the words shared were those of a legend; all present were moved.

There was plenty of reminiscing, lively auctions and raffles, and generosity of spirit; the festivities actuated tremendous support of senior priests in the Diocese, with over \$40,000 committed. The proceeds will help add to the accomplishments of the Kathie and Christopher Lawler Endowment Fund, which in the past year has developed an extensive transportation program and sponsored several social outings, while continuing to provide for other extraordinary medical and recreational needs of the senior priests.

In one of the highlights of the dinner, Tom Lawler unveiled the opportunity for individuals to volunteer their time to help senior priests. Calling these volunteers “Lawler Luminaries”, he explained how he had envisioned a volunteer program to further assist senior priests, and to expand the outreach of the Kathie and Christopher Lawler Endowment Fund. Several individuals pledged their support as Lawler Luminaries during the evening.

On behalf of the Lawler family, the Alive in Hope Foundation thanks all who attended and supported the event, pledged their support as Lawler Luminaries and those who donated items to the Silent Auction and Choose Your Chance.

The Alive in Hope Foundation extends a special thank you to Tom Lawler and his children, Brendan, Jennifer and Katelyn, and all who made it a night to remember.

[Click here to become a Lawler Luminary](#), either by volunteering your time and talents for the senior priests or championing the fund.

To learn more about the Alive in Hope Foundation or the Kathie and Christopher Lawler Endowment Fund, contact us at 718-965-7375 or e-mail info@aliveinhope.org.