

February 23, 2009

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For Immediate Release:

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Allentown held its second annual gala on Sunday, February 23, 2009, with a reception and dinner for 270 guests at the Holiday Inn Conference Center in Fogelsville. *The Most Reverend Edward P. Cullen, D.D.* hosted the event honoring Very Rev. Bernard F. O'Connor, O.S.F.S., President of DeSales University, and Dr. Thomas F. Flynn, President of Alvernia University, for their commitment to the education of students in the field of human services and service to the community.

Gala Committee Co-Chairs, **Ray and Teri Bishop**, were assisted by **Maura Roszyk, Kevin Culligan, Ann Ruggiero, Bob Ford, Jim Friend, Helen Kelleher**, Executive Director of Catholic Charities, and **Lynne Shampain**.

Major sponsors for the Gala included: **DeSales University, Alvernia University, Ray and Teri Bishop, The Young Family, Moravian College, F.A. Rohrbach, Inc., Catholic Senior Housing & Health Care Services, Inc., and Bethlehem Catholic High School.**

Guided by its mission of providing compassionate human services with respect for the sanctity of all human life, Catholic Charities assists the most vulnerable members of the community regardless of race, ethnic origin, religion, gender, age, color, political affiliation, creed, disability, or Limited English Proficiency.

All proceeds from the Gala benefit the social service programs of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Allentown serving residents of Berks, Carbon, Lehigh, Northampton, and Schuylkill counties. For further information, please visit www.catholiccharityAD.org or contact Lynne Shampain, Development Administrator, at 610-791-3888, ext. 310 or e-mail lshampain@allentowndiocese.org.