# The Catholic Journal

*The Only Catholic Newspaper Published in the Diocese.*

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## *REV. J. P. KIERNAN.*

The sudden announcement last Sunday evening of the death of Rev. James P. Kiernan, vicar general of the diocese, came like a bolt of lightning out of a clear sky, and many a heart was suffused with grief. Father Kiernan was a man that was well liked, not only by our Catholic people throughout the state, but many not of our holy faith sounded his praises as well. Father Kiernan was to our mind an ideal priest—one to whom you could turn for consolation, no matter what your affliction might be, one who would always listen to your tale of trouble with respect, and then his heart would go out to you in sympathy and he would advise you for the best. Of such men as Father Kiernan are the Catholic church made, and of such men as Father Kiernan do our people find comfort and consolation.

Father Kiernan had perhaps a quality of character that made him one of the best loved of priests, and one that will be sadly missed by the people of the Rochester diocese. He was quiet, unassuming, and never would use a harsh word. By his death the Church has lost a dutiful son, but the Master has called him to the reward of a duty well done. Requiescat in pace.

We are under obligations to the Post Express and Morning Herald for courtesies extended this week

Two priests are expected to arrive shortly from Havana, Cuba, who will by appointment of Bishop Sbaretti, follow post-graduate courses at the Catholic University, Washington.

Calvary cemetery, Chicago, whose gates are soon to be closed, is a veritable city of the dead. The bodies of more than 160,000 people are buried there.

An audience was accorded by the Holy Father the other day to Grand Dukes Michael and George, of Russia, an interview which is considered politically of the highest importance.

A Rome correspondent says that the Holy Father has set himself the task of performing twenty visits in fulfilment of the Jubilee prescription. This is the number which the Romans ought to accomplish, but no one appears to have done so many yet. As the Pope does not leave the precincts of the Vatican, he will visit four chapels in St. Peter's, which he has designated for this purpose, and which will replace the three other pilgrimage basilicas. The church will be closed on each occasion.

According to the last census there were in the State of Maryland 376,418 church members, of whom 141,410 were Catholics. In the State of Louisiana there were 339,991 church members, of whom 211,861 were Catholics. In the city of Baltimore 175,995 church members were reported, of whom 77,057 were Catholics. In New Orleans 95,719 church members were reported, of whom 67,144 were Catholics.

## FEAST OF THE POPPIES.

One of the most beautiful customs of Mexico is the "feast of the Poppies," which is an annual celebration that takes place the Thursday after Easter, and hence is called "Poppy Thursday." The favorite church for the celebration is Our Lady of Carmel in the town of San Angel, a few miles from the City of Mexico.

In the churchyard this year were devout Indians, who had brought of their treasures. Poppies with oak leaves, in wreaths and bunches, decorated the walls and facade of the quaint old building in which converts were made before the first colonists had arrived in New England. There were poppy laden booths, and Indian folk, men and women, young people and babies, sat on the ground with their brilliant wares spread around them. In each corner of the yard was a pretty flower decked altar to Our Lady of Carmel and to these the Indians lovingly brought more of their fragile offerings There seemed to be scores of thousands of poppies, red, pink ones, and white.

In the church was a wealth of the same flowers. In the dome over the altar were men and boys, and when the first notes of the "Gloria in Excelsis" rang out a fairylike cloud of pink and white and red petals floated from dome and choir gallery. It was like a snowstorm of exquisite beauty, and the effect was enchanting. The rich coloring of the walls and altar—red blue, gold and white—took an added richness as seen through the poppy cloud. The showers were repeated at intervals through the service

At the close of the service the bell began to ring and a procession marched from the church. A cross-bearer came first with the altar boys, who carried candles twined with poppies A deacon and sub-deacon with the priest walked under a canopy of silk, the pallium and custodia being held before the eyes of the priest. A long string of people carrying poppies and other flowers and lighted candles followed All knelt at the four altars to pray and the "Tantum Ergo" was intoned by the priest. Bells pealed and music from trumpets and many other instruments rang out, while through it all fell more fairy clouds from the church roof and the walls of the churchyard.

Every train and car was loaded with visitors to the lovely village, and all were eager to gather a handful of the "shower of blessings" to take home.

The funds for this unique and beautiful annual ceremony are provided by Senora Carmen Rosas Landa de San Juan.

A fresh conflict has arisen between the French cabinet and Cardinal Richard, whose action at the time of the Assumptionist Fathers trial brought him into serious trouble with the government. He was a notable absentee from the inaugural ceremony of the exhibition, no invitation having been sent him. He was very indignant at this neglect and referred the matter to the papal nuncio there, Mgr. Rinaldi, who declined to intervene. This week Cardinal Richard announced his intention to visit the exhibition in order to bless the pavilions of the Catholic missions. The government refused him permission to do so, according to the clericals at the instigation of the Socialist minister of commerce, M. Millerand, who is said to have characterized the cardinal's intention as a manifest attack upon the government and a clerical protest against the Democratic spirit of the government's labor policy. Cardinal Richard will now appeal to the Vatican, whose action is awaited with interest.

Cardinal Vaughan received 1,200 children from various parts of the archdiocese of Westminster at his residence recently and was presented by them with the collections made to aid the work of rescuing Roman Catholic waifs and strays. One interesting incident was the presentation of a purse subscribed by rescued boys who are now earning their own livelihood. Cardinal Vaughan said the children present represented at least 40,000 little ones, and that they were doing the work of the apostles, and young though they were, they were saving others.

The remains of Chief Justice Roger Brooks Taney have been removed from their quiet resting-place in the cemetery near the Jesuit novitiate at Frederick, Maryland, to the Catholic cemetery on East Third street, of that city. The remains of his mother, Mrs. Monica Taney, who died November 29, 1814, by the side of whom the eminent jurist requested to be buried, were also removed and placed in an adjoining grave in the cemetery. These bodies and about 150 others are being removed from the old burying ground, as the graveyard, which is part of the Jesuit property, will probably be sold after the order transfers its novitiate to the new site on the Hudson, north of Poughkeepsie, for the removal of which active preparation is being made.

Rev. Joshua P. Bodfish is a member of the purchasing committee of the public library trustees of Canton, Mass.

## THE GOSPELS.

GOSPEL : St. John xvi. 23-30.—"At that time, Jesus said to His disciples: "Amen, amen, I say to you: if you ask the Father anything in My name, He will give it you. Hitherto you have not asked anything in My name: Ask, and you shall receive that your joy may be full. These things I have spoken to you in proverbs. The hour cometh when I will no more speak to you in proverbs, but will shew you plainly of the Father. In that day you shall ask in My name: and I say not to you that I will ask the Father for you. For the Father Himself loveth you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came out from God. I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again I leave the world, and I go the Father. His disciples say to him: Behold now Thou speakest plainly, and speakest no proverb. Now we know that Thou knowest all things, and Thou needest not that any man should ask Thee. By this we believe that Thou comest forth from God."

What are we to learn from this gospel?

We should learn to grow in faith and in Christian hope; we should learn to pray in such a manner that our progress may be pleasing to the Eternal Father, so that we may obtain those graces for which we pray through Jesus Christ, and with Jesus Christ.

### FORTY HOURS' ADORATION.

The order of Forty Hours states that the devotions will take place as follows:— May 20. — Montezuma; Immaculate Conception, Rochester; Ovid; Honeoye Flats; Holy Family, Rochester; St. Patrick's, Elmira.

### Weekly Church Calendar

Sunday, May 20th— Gosp. St. John, xvi 23 30—Fifth Sunday after Easter — St Bernadine of Siena, confessor.
Monday, 21— St. Felix of Cantalice, confessor
Tuesday, 22.—St. Julia virgin, martyr
Wednesday 23 — St. John Baptist Rossi, confessor.
Thursday, 24—The Ascension
Friday, 25—St. Gregory VII., pope, confessor
Saturday, 26—St. Philip Neri, confessor.

### COOK OPERA HOUSE.

This popular play house announces a wonderful bill of high salaried acts for next week and great crowds are sure to turn out as the result. Comedy acts are prominent on the programme, and as most people want to laugh there is a feast in store for them Lizzie Evans and company in a new one act farce; the great Golden, illusionist; Jessie Couthoui, a lady monologist, Sharp and Flatt, musical comedians; happy Fannie Fields, the German girl; Terry and Lambert in a singing comedy sketch, and ten new moving pictures on the biograph complete the bill.

### THE BAKER THEATRE.

At the Baker, commencing with Monday evening of next week, with matinees Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, the Baker stock company assisted by Ralph E. Cummings and Miss Frances E. Drake will present Frank Harvey's best play in four acts, entitled "The Wages of Sin," which will be brought out with the full support of the excellent company and in a most pleasing manner.

To morrow evening a grand sacred concert will be given by the Fity fourth Regiment band, under the auspices of the First Fraternal regiment.

### Excursion to Boston, Mass.

The West Shore Railroad will sell excursion tickets to Boston and return from all stations, Suspension Bridge to Syracuse, inclusive, on Friday, May 25th, at rate of $10. Tickets good on regular trains, and good to return on or before Monday, June 4th.

May is the best month in the year to visit the New England city. Some Boston attractions are. Faneuil hall, the even million dollar subway, the navy yard, the historic Common, Franklin Park, the old South Church, etc. For further particulars, call on nearest West Shore ticket agent, or at city ticket office, No. 20 State street, corner Corinthian street, (old Exchange Place), or address J. C. Kalbfleisch, district passenger agent.


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### A Boa Constrictor.

The latest snake story comes from South Africa. It is recorded in the Transvaal, published in Cape Town, as cold fact, that in Sekuguniland a native ran across a boa-constrictor measuring about 47 feet which had just swallowed a young koodoo buck, all except the horns. The horns stuck out on each side of the reptile's mouth. The native recognized the horns as those of a buck he owned, and he ran and got sticks and pinned the serpent, which was dormant, to the ground. Then he got hold of the horns and pulled and twisted. He got the buck out inch by inch until half its body showed, and then it came with a jerk, and the boy fell over on his back.

Before he had time to think twice the snake, relieved of its load of mutton, was upon him, and it seized his head in its mouth and in three minutes the native had taken the place of the buck, only he was all inside; there was nothing left out to pull on, even if a rescuer had come along. Having swallowed the boy, the boa deliberately swung its head around, and, grabbing it tail, swallowed eight feet of it, then closing the mouth and throat, down which the native had disappeared, and making escape absolutely impossible. The Transvaal vouches for the truth of the story.


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### Excursion to Buffalo and Niagara Falls via West Shore Railroad.

The first Sunday excursion of the season to Buffalo and Niagara Falls will be run by the West Shore railroad on Sunday, May 20th, at round trip rate of $1.25. Tickets will be good on regular trains, leaving at 4.23, 4 36, 6.05 and 10.15 a. m. and returning on all regular trains same day.


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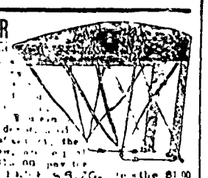

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