

The Catholic Journal

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY AT
 27 Cortland Street, Rochester, N. Y.
 BY THE
CATHOLIC JOURNAL PUBLISHING COMPANY

If paper is not received Saturday notify the publisher.
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
 Per Year, In Advance \$1.00
 Entered at second class mail matter.
ROCHESTER TELEPHONE 9303
 Friday, Mar. 26, 1909

Ad Multos Annos.

To the Rt. Rev. Bishop of the diocese, Dr. Thomas F. Hickey, to Rev. A. M. O'Neil, M. R. of the church of the Immaculate Conception and to Rev. F. W. Kavanaugh, of St. Bridget's church, the Catholic Journal extends sincere congratulations upon the twenty-fifth anniversary of their ordination to the holy priesthood which fell on Thursday of this week. Because of the Lenten season no public celebration was possible but that may come later on.

All three jubilarians have been zealous laborers in God's vineyard. As student, as curate, as chaplain at the state Industrial school, as rector of the Cathedral, as vicar-general Dr. Hickey worked hard and developed the qualities which impelled his brother priests and the late Bishop McQuaid to select him as the latter's coadjutor with right of succession. The Catholic Journal wishes Bishop Hickey as long and successful an episcopate as his predecessor.

Father O'Neil as pastor, as public man and as writer has done yeoman service for his Church and for the community at large. A similar tribute may be paid to Father Kavanaugh.

The Catholic Journal adds only Ad Multos Annos.

Sign It

The Legislature of New York state has passed again the bill to make October 1st a legal holiday under the title of "Columbus Day."

Governor Hughes vetoed the bill last year on a technical objection. He should sign it this year.

Writing on this subject, the "Catholic Standard and Times" says:

"To the proposal that the dignity of a legal holiday be accorded the date of Columbus' birth, some newspapers offer objections which do not credit to the writer's conception of the fitness of things in historical order. Some appear to be unable to realize the conception of what a great man is. The world never had a man so great as Columbus in the field of noble pursuit of a mighty idea, nor had it ever one who pursued such an idea with so noble a heroism to success. We cannot wonder at a reluctance to add to the number of holidays, considering how many there are already in the calendar, but surely the memory of the man who first discovered a new hemisphere, so to speak, is a consideration that ought to be paramount."

What is the matter with the Irish?

From all parts of the country last week even the not over-friendly press associations brought the news of rousing St. Patrick's day parades, so large indeed, as even to compel the metropolitan dailies to give up columns of space with by headlines, to describe an unprecedented tribute to Ireland's patron Saint.

In New York the dailies estimate that 75,000 men turned out.

on parade. Boston was not far behind, Chicago was on the line, Albany, Troy, and Cohoes Hibernians combined in a big procession in Albany, Syracuse Hibernians were out on parade too. All around but not one in Rochester.

What is the reason? There are any number of enthusiastic Irish-Americans in Rochester. Even the non-Catholic's had St. Patrick's day celebrations. But there was no public demonstration and even the religious observance was not so well attended as it should have been.

Why not a St. Patrick's day parade in Rochester?

Pious Jack Tars.

It is the custom, we fancy, to class sailors as "a bad lot" and to think of them as intemperate and immoral.

According to the Ave Maria there is another side to the story. Says our contemporary:

A story which it will edify our readers to hear has been told to us by a near relative of the late Admiral Franklin, U. S. N. He was a convert to the faith, and seems never to have lost his first fervor. His religion was the greatest thing in the world to him - "the pearl of great price," for the possession of which he would have parted with all else.

A young lady meeting him in the vestibule of St. Matthew's Church in Washington, whither he had gone for his regular visit to the Blessed Sacrament, remarked: "Why, Admiral, I did not know you came here too?" "Certainly, Miss -," was his reply. "I have to report every day to my Commander-in-chief, you know."

What is it, we wonder, that is so conducive to piety in a "life on the ocean wave"? One of the most pious persons that we know of is an officer of high rank in the Japanese navy; and not long ago an English admiral applied to us for the best life of a saint, to whom he has a special devotion. Of the sailors of the American navy, a Catholic chaplain once said that many of them were "as pious and good as seminarians."

Church Insurance.

The "Catholic Universe" of Cleveland is a strong advocate of policy that the Catholic church should carry its own fire insurance. In support of this contention, the Universe quotes with approval a recent statement by John D. Rockefeller in the World's Work as follows:

"Here is an example of one of the ways in which we achieved certain economies and gained real advantage. Fires are always to be reckoned with in oil refining and storage, as we learned by dear experience, but in having our plants distributed all over the country the unit of risk and possible loss was minimized. No one fire could ruin us, and we were able thus to establish a system of insuring ourselves. Our reserve fund which provided for this insurance could not be wiped out all at once, as might be the case with a concern having its plants together or near the other. Then we studied and perfected our organization to prevent fires, improving our appliances and plans year after year until the profit on this insurance feature became a very considerable item in the Standard earnings. It can easily be seen that this saving in insurance and minimizing the loss by fire affected the profits, not only in refining, but touched many other associated enterprises: the manufacture of by-products, the tanks and steamers, the pumping stations, etc."

Rt. Rev. John Farrelly, spiritual director of the American College in Rome, has been named as bishop of Cleveland, in succession to the late Bishop Horstmann. The Catholic and secular papers of Ohio hail it as splendid.

AUBURN, N. Y.

The funeral of Mrs. Mary Hart who died during the week was held from the family home Lansing St., with services at the Holy Family church. The remains were laid to rest by the side of her husband in St. Joseph's cemetery. The bearers were, Michael Dunn, John Rafferty, Owen Callaghan, Thomas McGovern, Patrick Murray and Michael Doran.

The annual retreat of St. Mary's church will open April 4th and will close on Easter Sunday.

Mrs. Bridget Mannron who died in Buffalo last Tuesday was brought to this city and was buried from the Holy Family church Saturday morning. Many of the former friends in this city of Mrs. Mannron were present at the church. Many beautiful flowers were sent by the friends of the deceased. Burial was made in St. Joseph's cemetery.

The Knights of Columbus will hold a grand ball Tuesday April 13th, 1909, and they are putting forth their best efforts to eclipse all of their former events. The committee of arrangements are Frank Flynn, William McQueany, Joseph Hankin, Terence Donlin, Louis Schmitz and Frederick McCabe.

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