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Friday, December 5, 1919.

Centenary.

It was a fitting Thanksgiving and centenary celebration that was held in St. Patrick's Cathedral. Old parishioners, their children and their grandchildren gathered in the historic church to offer up the Holy Sacrifice of the mass celebrated by the second Bishop of Rochester who also preached the sermon, eloquently reminiscent of the splendid memories which hover around St. Patrick's. According to a secular contemporary, Bishop Hickey, as would be expected, paid fitting tribute to the great accomplishments of Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid, the first bishop of Rochester, and the wonderful growth of religion since the establishment of the diocese fifty-one years ago. He spoke of the two supreme ideas or operations which possessed the soul of him who was destined to lay the foundations for the wonderful growth of clergy, churches, schools, religious institutions with their teaching body during the past thirty-five years. "Since 1868," said he, "sixteen churches and two chapels have been built in Rochester, thus showing the rapid growth of our city.

"In 1868 there were less than forty priests in the diocese; now there are almost six times that number. Then the diocese included only eight counties; now, for some years, twelve, with about eight thousand square miles of territory. Then, a small number of religious women; now they number hundreds." He spoke at length of the development of the two seminaries of the diocese, known now the world over for educating young men for the priesthood, and of the parochial school system with over 25,000 children, as being the greatest monuments to the late leader. He told of the enormous saving in taxation to the citizens by reason of Catholic education in whose schools loyalty, patriotism, respect for law and order, and obedience to authority are taught, no matter what language they may speak.

"Now," said he, "knowing full well what great things our Catholic people have accomplished in this span of years, building churches, schools and institutions, which they gladly supported, what is it, I ask, that has made it all possible? I answer it is because nothing less than the lives of men and women have been thrown into this work, yes, sacrificed for the cause. It is easy enough to give money, especially for the rich, but I tell you that nothing less than the very lives of men and women dedicated to the service of God and their fellow men have been spent for the young, the sick, the orphan, the delinquent and the aged. God bless our noble people for their sacrifices, but I feel certain their generosity has but approached the sacrifices of lives, the supreme

offering of the human soul for religion and humanity."

Political Duty.

This advice is offered to Catholic women by one of their fellow-ladies: "Since women have the right vote it would seem that there is a corresponding duty involved. At least Catholic women ought to take interest enough to see to it that those inimical to their faith should not occupy positions of great power in the Councils of the State and the Nation. Generally Catholic women are not ardent politicians.

Still, because of threats that are constantly springing up they ought to be sufficiently alert to safeguard their rights. We can recall at least one state in which the Catholic population is more than a third of the total, where both parties among the women have dangerous leaders. One of these is an avowed and bitter anti-Catholic.

Of course when it occurs to this lady that publicity for this fact will not be a particular help, she will be keen enough to conceal her attitude. Distasteful though participation in party politics may be, there are enough Catholic women interested in public life to see to it that their enemies are not intrenched to injure them and their Church."

Cardinal Mercier K. C.

"Cardinal Mercier termed it an honor to have become a member of the Order. It is an honor—to the Knights of Columbus." In these few words the "Columbiad" sums up a great event in the history of the Knights of Columbus—the proffer to and acceptance by His Eminence, Cardinal Mercier, of honorary Fourth Degree membership in the Knights of Columbus—the great American order of Catholic laymen.

As Archbishop Hayes well said at the wonderful dinner in New York where the degrees were accepted, at which 1400 Knights including the Supreme Officers of the Order were present: "I am beginning to think His Eminence is the greatest American of all. In fact, I believe he was an American all the time but he did not know it."

Long after he is gathered to his fathers, will the memory of this courteous but militant churchman be revered in America. Really, he typifies the true ecclesiastic and gentleman in the fullest sense of the word.

Not Highly Rated

Gilbert Chesterton presents this rather low rating of the Protestant "Reformation":

"I am firmly convinced that the Reformation of the sixteenth century was as near as any mortal thing can come to an unmixed evil. Even parts of it that might appear plausible and enlightened from a purely secular standpoint, have turned out rotten and reactionary, also from a purely secular standpoint. By substituting the Bible for the Sacrament it created a pedantic caste of those who could read, superstitiously identified with those who could think. By destroying the monks, it took social work from the poor philanthropists who could deny themselves, and gave it to any rich philanthropists who chose to assert themselves. By preaching individualism while preserving inequality, it produced modern capitalism. It destroyed the only League of Nations that ever had a chance; it produced the worst wars of nations that ever existed; the wars in which not only the men, but even the gods were enemies. It produced the most efficient form of Protestantism which was Prussia. It is producing the worst part of paganism, which is Slavery."

A million dollar Catholic social center, to rank as one of the best and handsomest in the United States, is to be erected in Boston

under the auspices of the Knights of Columbus.

Patronal Feast

Next Monday, December 8th, is the feast of the Immaculate Conception, the patronal feast of the United States. Fostered under the patronage of the Blessed Mary, it is not to be wondered at that the Catholic Church in the United States has grown by leaps and bounds and has flourished and prospered.

And so let us on Monday say with more than usual fervor the "Hail Mary" with a prayer that Almighty God will continue its freedom from organized official oppression, its freedom to expand, its peace and prosperity. Let us not forget that we are Catholics next Sunday. Always let us remember that the better Catholics we are, the better American citizens we must, necessarily be.

According to a press despatch, Bishop John J. Cantwell, of Los Angeles, accompanied by Archbishop Edward J. Hanna of San Francisco started, Oct. 22d, on a thousand mile trip into Death Valley and the most desolate points in his diocese.

The authorities of the canton of Basle, Switzerland, propose to modify the scholastic law on religious teaching in a manner very favorable to Catholics. Having set aside a number of hours as necessary for religious teaching, they have placed the scholastic buildings at the disposition of priests during those hours, gratuitously.

We hope the Rev. Dr. Jowett does not think that the world and Christianity is to center in the Anglo-Saxons of the United States and England. Returning to England from the United States he is reported to have said: "I see good will hardening into the old suspicious. On one side there is American touchiness and on the other side British superciliousness and British pride. I hear it said that Jonathan has gone back to his dollars and John Bull has gone back to his double-dealing and up-the-sleeve diplomacy. What is to save us? Nothing but the spiritual glow."

We have not heard that the W. C. T. U. ladies have decided to offset the taking away of beer from the men by abstaining from tea and coffee to improve the nerves of the future race; or to leave off soft drinks, or to conserve sugar by leaving ice cream for the hospital patients and bed-ridden invalids.

Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus are demonstrating in Rochester their right to the title "Sir Knight".

Edward F. Boyle has been appointed by Governor Alfred E. Smith chairman and commissioner of the State Industrial Commission in succession to the late John Mitchell.

They do say that Rev. Dr. O'Neill's administration of the New York State Conference of Charities and Correction was a successful one.

James M. Lynch should make a very efficient chairman of the Industrial Welfare Committee of the New York Charities conference.

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

Second Sunday in Advent.
 Gospel, St. Matt. xi. 2-10:
 John Sends his Disciples to Christ.
 S. 7, St. Ambrose, B. C. D.
 M. 8, The Immaculate Conception.
 T. 9, St. Leocadia, V. M.
 W. 10, Translation of Holy House of Loreto.
 Th. 11, St. Damaus I, P. C.
 F. 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe.
 S. 13, St. Lucy, V. M.

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Provided For.
 "Yes, pastor, I am glad that my son, Oh, is now safely provided for for the rest of his life." "Indeed! How is that?" "Well, I don't know how, I only know that we heard from him yesterday from Christiania telling us that some judge had just given him a life term."—Christiania Vikingen.

Debt World Is Apt to Forget.
 The growing goal of the world is partly dependent on unhistoric acts; and that things are not so ill with you and me as they might have been, is half owing to the number who lived faithfully a hidden life, and rest in unvisited tombs.—George Eliot.

Deserves Well of Posterity.
 In 1751, on the 21st of October, James Hillhouse was born in New Haven, Conn. He represented Connecticut in the United States senate. The elm trees which line the New Haven streets, and give the town its name of Elm city, were planted by Hillhouse.

Face the Truth.
 As courage and intelligence are the two qualities best worth a good man's cultivation, so it is the first part of intelligence to recognize our precarious estate in life, and the first part of courage to be not at all abashed before the fact.—Stevenson.

Polite.
 At a wedding recently, when the clergyman asked the bride, "Wilt thou have this man to be thy wedded husband?" she, with a modesty which lent her beauty an additional grace, replied, "If you please."

Canada's Coal Regions.
 Canada has the only two coal regions on the seacoasts of North America. The bituminous coal of Nova Scotia is estimated to last 700 years; that of Vancouver Island has been operated since 1890.

Remedy for Burn.
 If you sustain a burn and no remedy is at hand try common toilet soap at once. Simply rub it over the burn and you will secure immediate relief and there will be no blistering.

Making a Stand.
 Cactus Joe announces that he will not play penny ante, believing as he does that the game ought to be big enough to keep people's minds on it, so they won't quarrel.

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Three R's in Real Life.
 The three R's run all through life—at twenty-five you think of romance, at forty-five you think of rent and at sixty-five of your rheumatism.—Schenectady Union.

Work—the Staff of Life.
 If you want knowledge, you must toil for it; if food, you must toil for it, and if pleasure, you must toil for it. Toil is the law.—John Ruskin.

Banish Doubt.
 Unless you want defeat instead of success to crown your life you will have to get rid of his advance guard—Doubt.—The New Success.

Balloons to Raise Ships.
 A Japanese inventor has patented a device employing balloons to help raise sunken vessels.

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