

The Catholic Courier and Journal

Official Paper of the Diocese of Rochester... With the Approbation of the Right Rev. John Francis O'Hern, D. D., Bishop of Rochester... Telephone Main 1567... Subscription Rates: One Year \$2.00, Six Months \$1.00, Foreign, post paid \$2.00.

coming of our second Bishop, the beloved Archbishop Hickey, from our own ranks. And now comes the third, again our own, and with a special gladness to us all, because from recent precedent we had much reason to fear that, although Monsignor O'Hern would surely soon be elected bishop somewhere, it might not be here.

As we pen these lines, we are not forgetting that Bishop O'Hern—and he would be the first to tell us not to forget—is not the only priest of the Diocese of Rochester who, by priestly character and zeal and service, is worthy to be Bishop of Rochester, or of anywhere else. We should be glad of any one of our own; knowing him and loving him, we are especially glad of him.

In the second place, he has chosen for his motto "Servire regnare est." Whatever may be the official translation of that, it emphasizes service. When the sudden and unexpected tidings came to Bishop O'Hern that he was to be Bishop of Rochester, almost his first word was that the cornerstone of his administration would be service—service unto the Church, and unto every good cause. He made the splendid choice, not after long reflection upon what he or the people should like, or what the people should want him to choose, but naturally, easily, and spontaneously, in accord with what had been during all his career hitherto the cornerstone of his priestly administration.

These are two special reasons for Rochester Catholics rejoicing over the consecration of our new Bishop. May we in this place give expression also to a feeling of something other than rejoicing? The man that chooses service as his hand-maid, especially the man who long ago chose it and has been unceasingly faithful to it, stands in some danger, where in larger opportunities of service, of taking upon merely human shoulders a burden too great to bear. We have already placed one victim upon the altar of an overconscientious and over-constant devotion to duty; we are not minded to place there new another.

Wherefore, while we express our gladness in the consecration of our new Bishop, and while we express to him our sincere and cordial and loving congratulations, we beg of him to let his zeal ever be accompanied by a discretion that will remind him of the fact that while the soul is immortal, the body is not!

Our Editorial Policy: The editorial policy of the Catholic Courier and Journal will be a policy of peace, Christian charity and neighborly kindness. There will be no controversies, no bitterness, no uncalled for criticisms of people who differ from us in beliefs or ideals. This paper will stand unswervingly for truth, for justice, for the brotherly love that Christ taught the world.

Consolidated: The Catholic Journal, founded by the late Edward J. Ryan in 1889, and edited and published by him through all the intervening years, until his death on December 9th, 1923, has been taken over by the Catholic Courier and Journal, Inc., consolidated with The Courier and will thus be continued in ways and along lines envisioned by the founder of the paper.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

We believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His Only Son, Our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell the third day he arose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. We believe in the Holy Ghost, THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH, the Communion of the Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

Official Endorsement by Bishop O'Hern

The need of an official Catholic newspaper in the Diocese of Rochester has been felt by clergy and laity, and has led me to take action looking to the establishment of such an organ. The matter has been gone over thoroughly with priests and prominent laymen; and has been considered in its varied aspects as filling a religious need, and as a business proposition. With prudent counsel from men of good judgment, and of experience in business affairs, and with the approval of the Diocesan Board of Consultors, we have constituted "Catholic Courier and Journal" as the official Catholic Newspaper for the Diocese of Rochester.

Saint Patrick

Although St. Patrick's Day must suffer some eclipse in celebration this year, from its conjunction with Passion Sunday, we must not altogether neglect to pay tribute to the great Apostle of Ireland. And we would pay the tribute not merely because Patrick was Apostle of Ireland, but also, and even especially because he was one of the greatest Saints the Church ever knew, and perhaps one of the greatest men the world ever knew!

About this time the shops are brilliant with decorations in which green is the predominant color, because green is the color of old Ireland, for all that the flag of the Irish Free State has upon it also orange and white. Between friends greetings are interchanged in the greenest of green cards, with script and pictures ranging from the sublime to the ridiculous. There will be special events at which the favors will be symbolic, more or less, and mostly less, of things Irish, in green, of course. We shall hear many a concert that will specialize in the dear, sweet-melodious songs of Ireland.

We may not here, and could not if we would, tell the story of St. Patrick. But we may, perhaps, present to him our tribute under the aspects of his boyhood in Ireland as a slave, and his manhood there as a Bishop. There is a picture, first, of a lonely shepherd boy, exiled from home, a slave watching a master's flocks on the Flemish mountains in Antrim. Born in the Christian home of parents of high social degree, Calphurnius, perhaps a Roman soldier, and Conchessa, a relative of St. Martin of Tours, the boy had the advantage of all the culture of his time that was suited to his age, and especially the culture of Religion. Violence carried him from his home and sold him into slavery. There is no evidence that he was treated unkindly; on the contrary, the fact that after his escape, and especially during the years of his preparation for the priesthood, he thought constantly and kindly of the strange peoples of his captivity, is evidence that they had been kind to him and that he had learned to love them.

The story of his return to Ireland is a beautifully romantic and dramatic one. He could have remained in cultured and comfortable Southern Europe. His native genius, great knowledge and sublime character would have carried him far upon the pleasant paths of achievement and preferment. But he heard forever the voice of Ireland calling, calling, calling unto him to return. God's whisper to his soul, and his own heart's desire gave to the calling a music entrancing and inescapable; and for all that a Palladius had failed to Christianize Ireland, Patrick presented himself to Rome for a commission to be its Apostle. The story of the slave's return as Bishop is the story of a hundred miracles. Perhaps they did not all happen, although the writer of this paper, with his consciousness of one miracle in Ireland greater than them all, is inclined to believe them. That one miracle was the conversion of Ireland out of paganism unto Christianity, a conversion of one missionary, accomplished without violence, with, of course, the unseen but unconquerable artillery of the powers of God, but under God through the genius, the prayer, the self-sacrifice, the patience, and the energy of one man. No wonder Ireland loves him!

All Authority is from God.

Lawfully constituted authority must be obeyed and respected. This has always been the teaching of the Catholic Church. In fulfilling her mission to teach all peoples she has never slighted or misrepresented this command from God. In explaining this law the Church always placed on her members both lay and cleric the obligation and duty of praying for those in authority. In this manner must they manifest definitely their respect. Recall the teaching received by you on the Fourth Commandment.

Let in the Sunshine

We know that God's sunlight is a necessary condition for healthful growth. Were you ever in a damp, dark, musty room? How long could you stand it? Do you think that you would grow healthy and strong there? We need sunshine to bring the color to the cheek, the brightness to the eye, and the strength to the physical man.

The Press is the sunshine of the intellect. That it is a power no one will deny. All live interests in the world acknowledge this. The mere fact that it is a power suggests the possibility of abuse. Then its work is evil. It is transformed into an agency not of sunshine but of darkness.

The Catholic Press must be at all times a producer of sunshine. The very word Catholic which qualifies, specifies and determines the nature of its work, designates the dignity of its mission. It goes into the most sacred social abode of life, the home. It comes not as the agent, the intruder or the peddler, but as the friend, the physician, the minister, the counsellor of the family.

Our Consecration Edition

This number of the Catholic Courier and Journal is a special Consecration Number, dedicated to our beloved Bishop, Rt. Rev. John Francis O'Hern, D. D. It has been a labor of love to prepare it, edit it, to obtain and arrange the large number of advertisements that it carries. The unusually large number of pages in this edition is proof of the widespread public interest in the paper and of pride in the fact that, at last, the Diocese of Rochester has its own official paper. Everywhere our representatives were greeted cordially and good wishes were aimed to live up to the expectations of our friends, and to publish a paper that will be a credit to the Diocese and its people.

The Consecration and the Radio

Whether or not, the consecration ceremony of Bishop O'Hern will be the first ever sent out over the radio, surely it will be one of the first, and surely the first ever to reach Rochesterians and others within the range of the broadcasting station. Wherefore, there is a very special interest in the broadcasting of it.

The radio is rapidly becoming the chief medium for the dissemination of communicable thought and emotion, whether vocal in song and speech, or instrumental. Its convenience for the many renders it every day more universal. It can never, in most instances, take the place of direct and immediate communication and reception. One wants to see the singer, or the speaker, as well as to hear him or her, to enjoy the power of a personality that may lend a better interpretation and a greater beauty to the song or speech. But for them that cannot enjoy the direct and immediate hearing, the radio, in so far as it brings to our homes things worth while, true things and good things and beautiful, is one of our greatest present-day material blessings.

There is still in the minds of many of us a question whether it is altogether reverent regularly to broadcast in its entirety the Catholic Sunday morning service. That service is our Holy Mass. To have part reverently in this sublime service, and to partake of its great benefices, one must be present. Many far away, and many of them not Catholic, may delight in the spiritual chant of the Church as rendered by a competent choir, and may through the sermon of the preacher come to a better knowledge of our Catholic attitude towards issues of the day that are involved therein. But the music and the preaching are a small part in our Catholic Sunday morning service; and some of us are still wondering whether what good the broadcasting may accomplish is compensation for the indescribable feeling that we have when the sound of the consecration bell tells us that the Lord of Love is coming to earth again, and we are not where He comes; and for that other feeling we have when we think that to many listening in the sound of the bell means nothing.

However, there is no question in any Catholic mind of the value of the broadcasting of the service of an episcopal consecration. In the first place, it is an event of tremendous importance to all Catholics within the Diocese for which the Bishop is consecrated. Comparatively an infinitesimally small number of them can be present within the Cathedral of consecration. Their minds and hearts are stretching out in an intense interest unto the event especially when it is the consecration of one they know and love. Absent in body, the radio makes them happy in the thought that not only can they be present in spirit, through thought and prayer, but also can have some bodily part in the service as they listen to all the portions of it that can be heard within the Church, and to announcements that keep them informed of all that takes place therein, in which latter regard they may have an advantage over those actually present. Catholics even beyond the Diocese enjoy the same advantage.

Also, the consecration of a Bishop is an event of great importance to his fellow citizens in general, independently of their creed. It is true that in some communities there is much indifference, and perhaps some hostility to things Catholic; there is very little of it, as far as we know, in our community, and against what there is we are constantly dreaming and hoping and praying forward to a friendliness born of the enlightenment of a better day. But, discounting it all, we may surely still believe that a Catholic service of episcopal consecration will be of great interest to many thousands of our citizens in general, especially when, as in our case, the Bishop to be consecrated has been for many years known and loved for an unselfish, devoted and untiring service to every good cause.

About the time of the announcement of Bishop O'Hern's election to the episcopate many columns of all our newspapers were filled with expressions of gladness, of congratulation and of praise from the lips of citizens in general, an extraordinary large number of them non-Catholic, both clergymen and laymen. Surely we may believe that these men represent an interest that is general throughout our city. The other day, in the press, there was announcement that certain pews in the Cathedral were to be reserved, not alone for representative public offices and civic bodies of all kind, but also for representatives of the non-Catholic clergy of Rochester, including a Jewish rabbi and Episcopal Bishop of this district. By the token of their acceptance of the cordial invitation sent to them to be present, surely we may know that there will be interest in the event among people of the churches they represent. Many, therefore, of every class, creed and condition, Catholic, Jew and Protestant, will hear the broadcast of our Rochester Cathedral service on March nineteenth. We hope that they will find it interesting and inspiring.

Why Wait Till Death?

The will of a Louisville attorney who left several million dollars to charity and the Church is being attacked. Attempts are being made to block a bequest of \$100,000 to the Church in Santa Fe, New Mexico; Benefactors who dispose of their superfluous wealth before death obviate such costly suits and the resulting publicity. Michigan Catholic, Detroit.