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## Italian Oblate Fathers Get Warm Welcome to America

### Four Members Of Congregation From Asti, Italy, Inaugurate Labors In America—Civic Greeting For Them At Pittston, Pa.

Pittston, March 14.—Heralded by martial music, greeted by thousands of their native countrymen and welcomed by the mayor, city officials, priests and laity of all races and creeds, four members of the Congregation of Oblates of St. Joseph arrived in this city, Sunday afternoon.

The missionaries came from Asti, Italy, at the request of the Rt. Rev. Thomas C. O'Reilly, Bishop of Scranton. Their coming was eagerly awaited not only by Italian-speaking residents, but by Catholic and non-Catholic alike.

The setting was perfect. The day was Spring-like. The flag of America, the flag of Italy and the papal colors bedecked the buildings along the line of march.

Welcomed At Station. The missionaries, accompanied by Bishop O'Reilly, the Italian consul, Fortunata Tiscar, several priests of the Diocese, and the reception committee who went from this city to meet them, left Scranton by automobile at 3 o'clock. At the Pittston city line a police escort, the Montedoro band and members of the Italian societies met the delegation.

The party then formed a procession under the leadership of Charles Grassano, grand marshal, and proceeded to St. Rocco's church on Tompkins street. At the head of the procession was the Montedoro band followed by the police escort, the members of the city council in automobiles, the altar boys of Our Lady of Mount Carmel church, the Bishop, the mayor, the Italian consul, the missionaries and many clergymen of the Diocese in automobiles. The members of the Holy Name Societies of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. Rocco's churches followed on foot.

As the procession moved down William street, it was greeted by the children of St. John's parish who stood in groups on the church steps and the adult members of the congregation who thronged the opposite side of the street.

The bell on St. Rocco's church announced that the procession was approaching that edifice. The thousands who stood on the sidewalk moved back; the members of the Holy Name Societies formed a guard of honor. The Bishop, the mayor, the Italian consul, the missionaries, the clergymen and the reception committee went to a position in front of the temporary altar.

The approach of the Bishop was the signal for silence. Dr. Vincent Gallisi, chairman of the reception committee, introduced the various speakers. The first was Mayor William H. Gillespie, who officially welcomed the four missionaries. The Rev. Eugene Gherlone, the Rev. John Regio, the Rev. Emil Boccacatte, and the Rev. Martin Galoni.

Next, Fortunata Tiscar, the Italian consul, welcomed in the name of the Italian people, those missionaries who, he said, "have come from Rome with the zeal of the missionaries of old to spread the faith among their countrymen."

Bishop Greets Missionaries. Then the Rt. Rev. Bishop officially welcomed the missionaries into his Diocese and into their new foundation. In presenting the Italian Oblate Fathers to the people of Pittston, he said, in part:

"The greatest blessing for people who have to leave their native country to establish homes in strange lands is to have their priests accompany them. No land can ever be home without God and to keep God with us we must have His representatives to teach, to guide and to minister to our spiritual needs.

"Today four great spiritual leaders, Oblates of St. Joseph, come to this city from the center of Christendom, to work among their fellow-citizens, to dedicate their lives to their service, that the peace of Christ may reign in the Kingdom of Christ.

"As the Shepherd of this Diocese, I bid them welcome. I thank His Holiness, Pope Pius XI, for blessing their mission, the Sacred Congregation of Religious for granting them the permission to accept our invitation and I thank their Superior for permitting them to come to us and I now present them to you as your spiritual leaders.

"I regard the coming of these devoted priests at providential at this hour, when a cordial understanding has been established between the Church and Italy. I look for a rekindling of the bright light of faith in the souls of your people and a constant progress in the religious life of your people everywhere, until in the old land, Italy will be worthy to be called the faithful daughters of the Church, and in the new land of this western republic, your people will be an example of Christian living to all their fellow-citizens."

Following the Bishop's address, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was then given. The thousands of worshippers joined in the singing of the hymns. The procession then returned to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church where Bishop O'Reilly addressed the members of the congregation. Father Gherlone spoke in behalf of the missionaries. Rev. Father Casu, pastor, welcomed the missionaries in behalf of his congregation.

This is the first time members of the Congregation of Oblates of St. Joseph have undertaken labors in America. Established 50 years ago, the Congregation is a regular religious Order of priests whose members take the three vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. It was founded about 50 years ago by an Italian Bishop. The cause of beatification of the saintly founder has already been introduced at Rome.

Although comparatively young, the various provinces, Lombardy, Piedmont, etc., of Italy. The motherhouse is in Asti. The religious have colleges in the several provinces, and have established missions in Brazil and in the Philippine Islands.

Pastoral work in connection with parish churches is the special work of the Congregation. The Fathers are especially interested in the welfare of the youth of the parishes in which they labor.

## Organist, Tutor Of Cardinals And Gov. Dies

New York, March 11.—Funeral services for Daniel A. Meehan, dean of the church organists in New York City, were held Thursday from St. Martin of Tours Church.

Mr. Meehan had been an organist for 51 years and was 68 years old. Born in New York, he began his musical career at the age of 10 years in the Paulist Choristers. Among the churches at which he served as organist were St. James Pro-Cathedral, St. John's Chapel, St. Thomas Aquinas and the Church of the Transfiguration in Brooklyn. Last July he went to St. Martin of Tours Church.

In addition to his duties as organist, Mr. Meehan was a vocal teacher. Among his early pupils were Cardinal Hayes, Cardinal Mundelein and former Governor Alfred E. Smith.

## Medical Society Honors Teachers

St. Louis, March 11.—Dr. Joseph Grindon, professor of medicine at St. Louis University Medical School here, was honored by the St. Louis Medical Society on Saturday, when he completed 50 years as a doctor of medicine. On this occasion a portrait plaque of Dr. Grindon was presented to the Society.

Dr. Grindon was born in St. Louis in 1858, and received his degree Doctor of Medicine in 1879. During his 50 years as a physician, Dr. Grindon has been president of the St. Louis Dermatological Society, the St. Louis Medical Society, and the American Dermatological Association.

## Americans Receive Indulgence Granted By Spanish Primate

Toledo, Spain, March 9.—The Cardinal Primate of Toledo has announced a special indulgence of 200 days for the faithful who attended the Mass celebrated in New York, on Thursday, for the late Queen Mother of Spain.

The Mass celebrated by Father Pablo in the Church of Our Lady of Guadalupe, New York, marked the lapse of a month since the death of the Queen Mother.

## JEWISH HOSPITAL RECEIVES \$500 FROM CARDINAL

New York, March 14.—Cardinal Hayes has contributed \$500 to Beth Israel Hospital, New York, it has just been announced by Representative William W. Cohen.

The new Jewish hospital, which is to be opened this month, will provide individual rooms for all patients, regardless of race, religion or financial condition.



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## Priests Cannot Join Rotary

National President of Society, Home From Rome, Tells of This Ruling (By N. C. W. C. News Service) New York, Mar. 14.—Following his visit to the Vatican in connection with the recently expressed view of the Church with regard to luncheon clubs such as Rotary, I. D. Sutton of Tampico, Mexico, president of International Rotary, returned to America arriving here on the liner Berengaria.

Explaining that before he had reached Rome the Consistorial Congregation had decided, on February 10, that Catholic priests would not be allowed to join Rotary clubs, Mr. Sutton said:

"While the position of the Vatican on the priesthood was final, there has been no decision as to laymen participating in Rotary or similar clubs." He went on to say that articles published in Civiltà Cattolica, an Italian Catholic paper, had condemned Rotary on the ground that it sought to set up a religion without God, but that an explanatory statement by Jim setting forth Rotary aims was to appear in the same publication on March 15, accompanied by editorial comment.

"I feel certain," he said, "that when this article and the comment appear the question of debate will have resolved itself into amiability."

## Catholic Guild Editor in the East

Bert Ennis, editor of the Guild News and chairman of the publicity committee of the Catholic Motion Picture Guild, left Hollywood recently on a flying trip to New York. He has been called to the East on several business matters of importance including the consummation or arrangements for the life story of Sophie Tucker, famous vaudeville headliner, which Ennis is to write for one of the national magazines, and the titling of several features.

The Guild News is rapidly assuming a brighter and newer aspect each issue, and within the near future it is planned to introduce an additional policy in connection with this magazine, which will place it in a class with one of the most widely read and circulated publications dealing with the movie industry.

While in New York, Ennis will publicize the various activities of the Guild, including the forthcoming Gambol, in order to acquaint those in the Eastern ranks of the motion picture industry with the remarkable growth of this organization during the past year.

## Mass Celebrant To Hallow People In Holland Church

Harlem, Holland, March 1.—The new Bishop of Harlem, Msgr. Aengent, has given his approval to several church projects that call for the erection of the main altar at the entrance of the Sanctuary and for an altar so constructed as to allow the priest to celebrate the Sacred Mysteries facing the people and in full view of them, as it was done in the early Church and until choir was turned out of the Sanctuary and placed in the back of the church.

Film Stars Aid Loyola U. Los Angeles, March 14.—The Motion Picture Producers' Association is making elaborate plans for the benefit show to be staged in the Shrine Auditorium on April 10; all funds from which will go towards the construction of an arts building on Loyola's campus.

Cleveland, March 14.—The Rev. Joseph J. ... of Cleveland, ...

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 Cleveland, March 14.—

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