

The Catholic Courier And Journal

Official Paper of the Diocese of Rochester Published at 237 Andrews St., every Friday by THE CATHOLIC COURIER and JOURNAL, Inc.

With the Approval of the Right Rev. John Francis O'Hern, D.D., Bishop of Rochester TELEPHONE MAIN 1567

Courier Established 1929 Journal Established 1889 Subscriber to the N. C. W. C. News Service Entered at the Postoffice at Rochester, N. Y., as Second-Class Mail Matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES Payable in Advance One Year \$2.50 Foreign, one year 3.00 Make all checks payable to Catholic Courier and Journal, Inc.

Editorial Staff: Priests of the Diocese, Maurice F. Sammons, Managing Editor

All communications for publication must be signed with the name and address of the writer, and must be in the Courier office by Tuesday preceding the date of publication.

Friday, February 28, 1930.

RUSSIA IS ANGRY

The Soviet government in Russia is very angry with Pope Pius XI, because the Pope has asked all the Christian world to unite in prayer on March 19, St. Joseph's Day, for the amelioration of the dreadful persecutions Christian people are now suffering in Russia.

Meanwhile, all Christendom has been aroused by the letter of the Supreme Pontiff on the Russian atrocities. Nation after nation has taken official cognizance of the matter in their legislatures or houses or houses of parliament.

Here in America considerable effective action has been taken, and more will follow. The Anglican Church, both in America and in England, paid gracious tribute to Pope Pius for his appeal for widespread prayer, and officials of that church have asked all their people to join in prayer for the same purpose as requested by the Pope.

Friends of the Soviet government in America are protesting against the act of Pope Pius, and against every action taken in this country. These friends include the American Association for the Advancement of Atheism, and the Freethinkers of America.

TRIAL MARRIAGE CONDEMNED

The Colorado Supreme Court has called trial marriage by its right name—"nothing more, in effect, than an attempt to legalize prostitution."

The above quotation is taken from an opinion written by Chief Justice Whitford of the Colorado Court. Brought before the court was the matter of the estate of a Denver physician who had prevailed upon his wife to sign a pre-nuptial contract to the effect that, if married, they should live together only as long as agreeable to both parties.

Death is something no man can bargain with, and the physician eventually went the way of all flesh. When his will was probated, the discarded wife entered a protest to the terms of the will, from which she was entirely eliminated, and she sued for her widow's rights of one-half of the estate.

Either marriage is something sacred and uplifting, or it is the other thing. It is heartening, in these days of fads, fancies and loose living, to have a high court of justice say it is not the other thing; that no pre-nuptial contract of any kind can vitiate a marriage contract, and that the wife remains a wife in law, as well as in fact.

The Catholic Church stands irrevocably against the dissolution of marriage, and against any and all "trials" or "isms" that tend to lower or degrade the relations between men and women. Marriage is a sacrament in the eyes of the Church and of all Christians, and from time immemorial has been regarded as a sacred bond.

A Lenten Thought

Under the star-made shadows lay The Garden of Gethsemane; With foot-logs heavy-sorrowing He Went up to meet His Calvary.

Life, love and all the things of earth, Sweet music, dancing, joy and mirth, All these must be for us, yet we Must come to our Gethsemane.

Must know our time of heavy grief, Must feel the thorns, without relief, And dark as blackest night will be The hour of our Gethsemane.

A ray of light! A fluttering star! A note of hope—a whisper far! A sweetened breeze—O, Christ! 'tis He! To help us bear Gethsemane.

is no marriage. It is just what the Colorado Supreme Court has called it, and what all decent people have felt it to be ever since it was foisted upon the world by the fads and follies of irresponsible people.

THE LENTEN PERIOD

Next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the forty days of Lent. During this period the Church asks us to devote extra time to prayer, to fasting, to penance for our sins, and we are urged to give alms, to help the poor and needy, and to do other works beneficial to our spiritual lives and to our souls.

There will be special services and devotions in all of our churches during Lent. Fortunate will be the man or woman who regularly attends these with deep devotion, and with simplicity of mind and honesty of purpose. They will help warm the fires of faith in his soul.

Lent is not only a time of special grace for us all, but it is good for the churches and it is helpful for the pastors. It brings men and women, boys and girls, into closer touch with their respective churches. It helps them know and appreciate all the Church means to them in life.

Many of us are careless about helping our churches. We seldom think of the great burden every pastor has—the double burden, financial and spiritual, and how he needs and appreciates every bit of help we can give him. The cost of maintaining a church property to-day is almost appalling.

It will be quite appropriate for us to think about these things in Lent, and to make firm resolutions to help, and to put into active practice our willingness to help. Fasting and prayer are wonderfully good in themselves, but St. Paul has told us that if we have not charity, we have nothing.

The Church asks us to eschew entertainments and social events during Lent, and to give our souls as wholly as possible to the spiritual things of life. If we do this in the right spirit, the results will be a revelation to us all. We will find ourselves stancher and stronger in our faith; happier and more contented in mind, and with a deeper and truer love for God and for his holy Church.

Students, parents, teachers and pastors should pause at the close of the first scholastic semester to consider what has been their contribution to its success or failure. If the pastor has carefully seen to it that the school building is all that the financial status of the parish will permit in point of lighting, heating, ventilating, floor space and classroom equipment; if he has provided the legal number of school days, filled each one of them from opening to closing with school activities exclusively; if he has regularly encouraged the children to strive for higher standards, to him indubitably is due a large measure of the scholastic success which his school has scored.

DID YOU DO YOUR PART?

For this last Sunday before the opening of Lent, the Church gives us the following Collect of the Mass to pray: "Graciously hear our prayers, O Lord, and unloose the bonds of sin, guard us from all adversity."

First, then, we are to beg God to grant our wishes: "graciously hear our prayers." Mother Church knows that the Lord will graciously hear us if we approach Him with child-like faith and confidence. In today's Introit she tells us how natural it should be for us to have confidence in Him: "... for thou art my strength and my refuge."

Existence of Church Proves Divinity

The Catholic Church was founded by Jesus Christ, true God and true Man. He proved His claim to be God by credentials that have successfully stood the acid test of countless assaults during 1900 years.

CHAULIAC, THE FATHER OF MODERN SURGERY AND THE MODERN HOSPITAL, WAS A CATHOLIC ECCLESIASTIC

REVELATION BROADCASTED

We should make use of the creatures of time to set forth the truths of eternity. One of the purposes of creation was to manifest the omnipotence of the Godhead. Even broadcasting throws some light upon the idea of a divine revelation.

If each morning has found the teacher ready and eager to start anew her labors with Christ's chosen little ones; if she has allowed nothing to prevent her thorough preparation for the day's new teachings; if, while directing her best efforts in behalf of the weaker students, she has generously, aye, if necessary, heroically meted out to all from the fullness of her knowledge, her share of credit in the scholastic attainment is far from negligible.

Let us now consider what part of this momentous institution depends upon the parents, since it is now an almost universally accepted belief that with the parents rests the most important part of the child's education. It is the duty of the father to keep informed, by the regular and consistent study of the report card, of the progress which his child is making in school.

Students, teachers, parents, pastors, did you do your part to make it a success? us in the song which occurs just before the Gospel story: "Sing joyful to God, all the earth; serve ye the Lord with gladness. Come in before His presence with exceeding great joy. We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture" (Tract).

Sunday's Liturgy

By Dom Ambrose Wittman, O.S.B.

Prepared for the N. C. W. C. News Service by the Liturgical Press, Collegeville, Minn.

For this last Sunday before the opening of Lent, the Church gives us the following Collect of the Mass to pray: "Graciously hear our prayers, O Lord, and unloose the bonds of sin, guard us from all adversity."

Who of us can claim that his charity has all those qualities which St. Paul here states are the characteristics of true charity? The more our charity fails to measure up to these demands, the more necessary is it that we make the Church's prayer for the "unloosing of the bonds of sin" our very own.

Louvain, Feb. 27.—A student from the Louvain Catholic University, Dr. Joseph Schockaert, won first prize at the Belgian inter-university competitive examination for medical sciences. It will entitle him to a year's scientific travel abroad, at the expense of the State, with the obligation of furnishing a report of his research work at his return.

WAYSIDE WHEAT

By the Managing Editor

Three banks in Texas closed their doors a few days ago, all on the same day. It would be unkind, under such conditions, to remind the Texans that they broke the historic Democratic record of their State and went for Hoover in the late Presidential election. So we won't say a word about it.

Raymond Johnson, the driest dry in the Iowa State Legislature and a front-seat church member, when Volstead services are held on Sundays, has just been fined \$300 for public intoxication, and given a suspended sentence of three months in jail. That's real tough on Raymond, we would say. Expecting him to talk and fight for the Volstead law, and not get a nip now and then. Moral uplifters will get discouraged if this thing keeps up.

One thousand years from now most of us will be forgotten, even by our creditors. But in Gandersheim, Germany, a few days ago, the 1000th anniversary of the birth of Roswitha, a Benedictine nun, was celebrated with great acclaim. She had the distinction of being the first woman dramatist in Germany, and she dramatized a number of Biblical subjects with such skill that she made many converts to the Church.

The Mexican government has requested all Governors of States to take steps to combat the excessive use of alcoholic drinks within their respective jurisdictions. They are to do this, not by restrictive measures, but by persuasion and education. Furthermore, it is understood that no new licenses will be granted for saloons, and that no licenses can be transferred. A widespread propaganda movement will be inaugurated against the use of liquor, developed along educational lines.

In a talk on "The Woman of To-day", before the Catholic Women's Club of this city a short time ago, Mrs. Frank A. McGowan of Canton, O., said many modern women think it is the smart thing to do to drink bootleg liquor, and she said this feeling is quite common among school girls. After emphasizing the dangers of using liquor, Mrs. McGowan said: "I hope our Catholic girls will set a good example by leaving liquor alone, and by cultivating the virtue of temperance."

March 2

Quinquagesima Sunday

Book By Priest Used In Several Nursing Schools

New York, Feb. 28.—The book "Ethics and the Art of Conduct for Nurses," published some months ago by the Rev. Edward F. Garesche, S.J., has already been adopted as a text book for the study of Ethics by 48 of the leading non-Catholic schools of nursing in the country.

Catholic Student Wins Scholarship

Louvain, Feb. 27.—A student from the Louvain Catholic University, Dr. Joseph Schockaert, won first prize at the Belgian inter-university competitive examination for medical sciences.