

The Catholic Courier

And Journal

Official Paper of the Diocese of Rochester... Published at 317 Andrews St., every Friday by THE CATHOLIC COURIER and JOURNAL, Inc.

Subscription Rates: One Year \$2.50, Foreign, one year \$3.00

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Advertisements: All communications for publication must be signed with the name and address of the writer...

Friday, June 26, 1931.

IS THE WORLD GOING MAD?

The world is not going mad. In spite of the serious disorders, troubles, riots, desecrations, sacrileges and uproar against religion in Spain, Italy, Russia, Mexico, China and elsewhere, this world is not going mad.

The world is very sane, even if it is not very safe in some countries. Spain, aged daughter of the Church, will not break away from religion or right living.

Italy, dominated by an aggressive giant, long years hence will still turn her eyes in filial love towards the Vatican, and in reverent love towards God.

Mexico, unhappy daughter of the Church in the New World, has had troublous days and sorrowful days. The sun of Faith, shining brilliantly for a few brief months, is being overcast again with clouds of bigotry and of bitterness.

China, running red with blood in its internecine warfare, has never been a bed of roses for the Church; never a flower-land of Faith. It is still a mission land, but not so cold and barren as of old.

Russia is the one land in which tangible evidences may be found that the world is going mad. Here religion is not being merely persecuted, religion is being murdered, torn from the hearts of children, and killed in the temples of its ancient faith.

Thus grateful is one soul for the hands that carried the light that guided him to the place where he exchanged sunlight for darkness, substance for shadow.

God Bless You

This is the month of wedding bells— Ah, what a tale their chiming tells! Hearts beat high and love sings low; Together down the aisle you go.

Happy may you always be, Little girl at mother's knee; Sad am I to see you go, For, you see, I love you so.

Small and sweet when first you came, Grown up, now, you seem the same; Yet another holds your heart— God grant you wisdom as you start.

On the new life-trail you choose May your courage never lose; Love and work—and smiles and tears, These your portion through the years.

This is the month of wedding bells, June, what a tale their chiming tells! Hearts beat high and love sings low; Together down the aisle you go.

—Agnes Hofmaster In The Christian Family.

when we seek to make all lands and all peoples mad with the lust of living, mad with the revelry of life, mad with the body and not the soul as our temple of prayer, we are living a life hostile to Nature and Nature's God.

OUR FRIENDS OF OTHER FOLDS

Under the above title, a Presbyterian minister in Seneca Falls, N. Y., the Rev. Robert D. Merrill, paid a beautiful tribute to the Catholic Church in a sermon to his people the other evening.

"Let us lay aside all sheer slanders about the Roman Catholic Church, of which there are many; let us lay aside also the half truths which distort facts sadly, and let us try to focus on some points of Catholic organization and practice which are of clear value."

If all ministers in the United States would say that to their congregations next Sunday, and follow it up by action, there would be no more Ku Klux Klans in the United States, no more vituperant Tom Hellins, no more breeding of suspicion and distrust between neighbor and neighbor.

It is a beautiful and God-like thing to live in harmony, in good will, and in mutual respect and confidence with all our neighbors, methods, of its teachings and its ideals. We cannot hate our neighbors and love God at the same time.

Time and again the Bishop of this Diocese, in dedicating new churches to the honor and glory of God, has made this announcement to all people: "The doors of this church will always be open to the people of other churches, and our friends among the Jews and Protestants will always be cordially welcome to come here and pray."

The Rev. Mr. Merrill—and all other sincere persons—may be sure, therefore, that they will receive every courtesy from our priests and our people in any study they may wish to make of the Catholic Church, her work or her methods.

SUNLIGHT FOR DARKNESS

Mother earth, newly-spaded, covers in sanctified ground the grave of John L. Stoddard, for more than two-score years one of the best known lecturers, writers and travelers in the world.

Thus grateful is one soul for the hands that carried the light that guided him to the place where he exchanged sunlight for darkness, substance for shadow.

THE POPE OF ROME

The Supreme Court of the U. S. is infallible, but only in matters that pertain exclusively to the laws and Constitution of the country. The Pope is infallible, but ONLY in matters that pertain exclusively to religion.

U. S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICES WHITE AND TANEY WERE CATHOLICS.

show them the sheltered port. A little thought, a little kindness, a little touch of sweet spirituality—the old Irish way of doing something "in the name of God," and we will have many homeless waifs exchanging sunlight for darkness and blessing us for showing the way.

THE NAME "CATHOLIC"

The Summer Assembly of the Church of England held its annual meeting last week in London, under the presidency of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Our good friends are asking a great deal at this late day when they are asking us to drop the name Catholic. For it is more than eighteen hundred years since that word was used in connection with the Church—long centuries before Henry the Eighth of England led his followers into fields with fences that had gaps permitting divorce.

At the beginning of the third century, the great authority Father d'Herbigny writes, "the dogmatic sense of the word 'Catholic' is evident; the true Church is the Church that is called Catholic."

Clement of Alexandria, Origen, Tertullian, and many other great leaders of the Church in the early ages used the word Catholic frequently. St. Augustine uses it as a synonym of the Church 240 times in his writings.

The word "Roman," while it is frequently used in some parts of the world in referring to the Church, has never been officially accepted by the Church. Indeed, the Church objects to it because of its origin, its heretical intent and its novelty.

The Church has worn the crown Catholic on her brow for well-nigh two thousand years. It is quite presumptuous to put it mildly, to ask her to remove it now.

OUR LIFE, BUT NOT OUR SILENCE

In the midst of all the tumult and excitement of the break between Pope Pius XI and Mussolini one star shines forth, beautiful and serene.

brief, impromptu on the troubles. He said: "One can ask for our life, but not our silence, when all the things that form the delight of our heart, and the delight of God, are being ruined."

Just a plain and simple statement. No attempt of the heroics. No stress or strain of excitement. Yet these words, quietly spoken, are a proclamation to all the world that the Supreme Pontiff stands for truth, stands for justice, stands for liberty, and above all things stands for the absolute independence of the Church in the furtherance and progress of her work—the salvation of human souls, and the training of her children that they may give praise and glory to God rather than to men.

Napoleon's Old Guard, riding to their death at Waterloo—because the Old Guard died, but never surrendered—gave not half the example of bravery, of devotion to duty, of loyalty to a cause, that the Holy Father did in this crisis.

BOOK REVIEWS

Copies of the new Ave Maria readers, published by the American Book Co., for Catholic schools, have reached us. They are edited by the Rev. John I. Barrett, Ph.D., LL.D., J.C.L., superintendent of schools in the Archdiocese of Baltimore, Md., and by Mary F. Fanning, A.B., teacher of primary reading and special instructor in reading methods, New York City.

It is a pleasure to commend these books. They are well edited, beautifully printed, neatly bound, and the illustrations, numerous and most artistic, are in colors. The text and the illustrations have been selected with particular care.

In Book Three, for instance, one finds selections from Robert Louis Stevenson, Aine Kilmer, Cecil C. Alexander, Henry W. Longfellow, Eugene Field, Joyce Kilmer, Samuel Francis Smith, Father Faber, Anna Sewell, Dinah Mulock-Craik, a Sister of Notre Dame, and many others.

FORTUNATE ELMIRA

In the city of Elmira, on Wednesday this week, the beautiful nine-story Nurses' Home at St. Joseph's Hospital was dedicated by the Rt. Rev. John Francis O'Hern, D.D., Bishop of Rochester.

The Edward Joseph Dunn Memorial represents not merely a stately and beautiful building, but a sustaining and devoted charitable interest of more than a decade of years in St. Joseph's Hospital.

WAYSIDE WHEAT

By the Managing Editor

A crowd of masked men hung a part-time preacher to a chandelier in a Baptist Church in Texas, and he barely escaped with his life. He's lucky he wasn't a full-time preacher.

We read a great deal at times about crooked policemen in New York City. Less than two score men out of ten thousand were involved in the last police scandal in the metropolis.

Good work is always appreciated. And when good work is combined with loyalty and sacrifice it is priceless. How well this is appreciated may be judged by the will of a wealthy woman who died two weeks ago at her home in White Plains, N. Y.

PULPIT INFIDELS

Again and again we are impressed by the staunch manner in which church groups not of our faith are rallying to the defense of the sacredness and solidity of marriage vows.

At a convention of Lutheran young people in Pennsylvania this week, Professor Walter A. Maier, of a Lutheran Theological Seminary, denounced the "popular pulpit infidel" and the "highly publicized traitors" who are leading young people away from Christ's truths and from spiritual honesty.

It is wholesome and heartening to find this spirit in such vigorous form among the good Christian people of America. Thousands of young men and women are going out into American life this month from our colleges and universities, and it is good to know that they are not going to be cursed by false ideals of marriage when they go to their home churches to pray.

It was through the influence and good work of Mr. Dunn, and the generosity of himself and Mrs. Dunn, that the present surgical building was erected nine years ago. From that date to the day God called him from life in 1927, Mr. Dunn assumed the heavy interest on an indebtedness of more than three hundred thousand dollars.

Archbishop Thomas F. Hickey, lifelong friend of Mr. Dunn, said truly in his sermon at the dedication of the home on Wednesday: "We are here to-day because of the faith, hope and love of one of the Church's devoted sons, a good man who needs no eulogy."

This great new hospital building, inspired by Faith and built by Love, will stand for long years as an expressive and beautiful eulogy of the generosity of the man who helped make it possible.

Fortunate is the city of Elmira—and fortunate any city in the land—in having citizens and friends like Mr. and Mrs. Edward Joseph Dunn. Love of God inspires in their hearts love of humanity, and from the combined loves there blossom into fruition charities like the new Nurses' Home; charities that bless and brighten a city and its people, and that help draw all peoples nearer and nearer to God, to His ideals and His teachings.

Long ago St. Paul, speaking with inspired tongue, said: "And the greatest of these is Charity." In Charity this great new building, impressive in its fine stories of height, was shaped, built and dedicated. In Charity it will be conducted beautifully and well by the good Sisters of St. Joseph, reflecting at all times the love, the devotion, the kindness and the true Catholicity of its generous donors.

When You Make Your Will

Always, in every Diocese, there are churches and institutions which have heavy financial burdens, and whose work is handicapped by these burdens. When you make your will, the best way in the world to help these needy ones is to insert a paragraph something like this in the will:

"I give and bequeath to the Rt. Rev. John Francis O'Hern, D.D., Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Rochester, N. Y., or his successor or successors in office, the sum of \$_____ to be used at his or their discretion for the work of the institutions of the Diocese."

If you are interested in some particular church, charity or institution a clause like this may be added: "I am interested particularly in _____ Requests, large or small, are a great blessing to religion, and it is highly edifying to read of them in any will. No Catholic will should be without one or more such bequests."