

Congratulations to ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH 100th Anniversary

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Growth of Devotions To 'Perpetual Help' At St. Joseph's Told

Jubilee Recalls Redemptorists In Charge of Special Wednesday Devotions Honoring the Mother of Perpetual Help Begun in 1873

By THE REV. WILLIAM A. DOHERTY, C.S.S.R. Hearts are rejoicing with Jubilee gladness at old St. Joseph's today. Jubilees are victories; victories over the countless hazards we encounter; victories over life's relentless foes: decay and death.

The field of the century lies strewn with the remnants of battle: broken hopes and ruined fancies; bleached relics of unrequited ambitions; gaunt spectres of sorrows that were. But our eyes are not turned that way now. They are toward the joys towards the resplendent, sun-gilded, glorious present the conqueror of the defeated Past.

On occasions like this we delight to cull from the past only the pleasant things, those glad moments which thrilled us with life's joyousness, that remind us that we have been blessed with the lavish gifts of God, that tell us that out of thousands we have been chosen as the recipients of some exceptional heart-cherished token from the Son of God.

Precursors of Mary God sent the Redemptorists to Rochester. As sons of Saint Alphonsus that glorious Champion of Mary, they are the precursors of

the Mother of God under Her own self-chosen title of Perpetual Help. Our Mother of Perpetual Help came to Rochester many generations ago in the little chapel of Mary in St. Joseph's. She was introduced on July 2nd, 1873. Through the years now she has gazed down upon the prayerful, pleading faces of Her children. And they know that Heaven's stooped down and Our Mother of Perpetual Help had embraced them. The cad that was planted then has borne now and the flower sends forth its celestial fragrance.

The Wednesday devotions to Our Mother of Perpetual Help are the blossoms of a deep-running faith in the power of our Lady's prayer, they are the beautiful, exquisite expression of a soul's tender love for the Mother of God. They are the votive's plaint of pleading sorrow-ridden hearts.

To many people it may seem that these devotions are a novelty. But we must remember that novelties are never enduring. True, that in Rochester they are of rather recent origin. They began in St. Joseph's in June, 1877, after a novena had been preached as a preparation for the Feast of Our Blessed Mother. The Rev. John Lieberth, C.S.S.R., then pastor of St. Joseph's, stood at the Shrine and spoke of our Lady of Perpetual Help to Her first public hearers.

Services Added They were but a handful, occupying not more than three or four weeks. Each Wednesday they increased, until the preacher found it necessary to conduct the service from the high altar. The history from here on is known to all. Service after service had to be added to satisfy the ever-increasing devotion to the Loving Mother Who had actually proven Herself the Perpetual Help of thousands.

In 1873 a confraternity was established in the Redemptorist Church of St. Alphonsus, Rome, whose purpose was to promote devotion to the Mother of Perpetual Help and the patronage of St. Alphonsus. Pope Pius IX on July 11, 1874 raised this to the dignity of an Archconfraternity so as to embrace the world. It has in 1874 this same Archconfraternity as a branch in St. Joseph's with an enrollment of 1200 members. Today it has more than 32,000.

Our Blessed Mother has borne and attract the young and the old. A school of Her Shrine, those loved beneath their arched brows those with the bearing freshness of youth upon their brows. And what a beautiful story it would make if we could delve into their lives and read the story of how each one became a devotee of this Beautiful Mother of hearts. She leads us in Her Feet by various ways. She persuades us to make Her our life our sweetness and our hope. And it is not unusual for Her to make use of Her clients as the unsuspecting instruments of Her mercy.

A very notable surgeon was visiting a patient of his in the hospital in one of our larger cities, and he noticed she was improving. He thought a little humor would help along. He took the booklets she was reading and he read a little to him and what he read lent itself to his purpose. "I hope you do not believe that," he said. "You would not expect me to believe anything like that. If I thought that were true it would destroy my conception of the Blessed Virgin. I receive of Her as being God's masterpiece, the embodiment of everything that is grand and beautiful and sublime. She is the personification of kindness and gentleness. Why to even think that the Blessed Virgin would tolerate anyone would destroy all that I have."

From the corner of his eye he glimpsed the tears on his patient's cheek. When he left the room he thought that his gracious apology had ended the incident. Later he heard that he was practically losing his faith. The patient had repeated the incident and one day a priest laughed the Doctor on the shoulder and said in friendly humor "Say what do you know of our Mother of Perpetual Help?" He was amazed but answered that he knew practically nothing. "Well," said the priest, "drop into

SPECIAL CONCERN GIVEN THE DEAF AT ST. JOSEPH'S

By Rev. Wm. A. Doherty, C.S.S.R.

There is a little congregation in the Diocese of Rochester that you perhaps have never heard of. They worship in a beautiful chapel of their own and have two priests ministering to them. Occasionally someone strays up into St. Joseph's Hall and stands in awe and amazement when they behold "The Chapel of St. Francis De Sales for the Deaf."

About thirty years ago a Redemptorist priest interested himself in the spiritual care of the Deaf Mutes of the city. Two years later the Rev. William Kessel, C.S.S.R., organized an "Ephpheta Society" in their behalf. Both he and the Rev. Aloysius Enghardt, C.S.S.R., gave instructions to about twenty-five Deaf people twice a month in St. Joseph's Church. This excellent beginning was carried on later by the Rev. Joseph Schornbrunn and the Rev. Strausz, both of the Redemptorist Order.

In 1924 a far-famed missionary to the Deaf was assigned to the Rochester Community. After futile endeavors to find a priest of the Diocese who would take over the work, the Most Rev. Bishop Luombardi, D.D., appointed the Rev. Charles Burger, C.S.S.R., as the Diocesan Chaplain of the Deaf in Rochester. He has been in these columns before. I had to resolve myself into a eulogy of the priest who gave his life, his health and all he had for the cause of his beloved Deaf.

Father Burger attended not only to the Deaf of the city, but travelled many tedious miles to the surrounding towns and cities of the Diocese giving instruction in illustrated lectures on Religion. It was to his unfulfilling soul that we owe the Chapel of St. Francis de Sales. And to that same zeal we must credit the astounding faith and devotion that these people evince today. He arranged to give them every service that is known to the hearing people and would have tolled for them down to the end to satisfy the ever-increasing devotion to a blessed reward on August 20th, 1934.

In August 1931 the Rev. William A. Doherty, C.S.S.R., was appointed to Rochester. Father Burger instructed him in the work of the Deaf and he was appointed Chaplain after Father Burger's demise. In 1935 the Rev. Gerard Kuan, C.S.S.R., was sent to Rochester to assist Father Doherty.

In January 1936 the Rochester Ephpheta Society was inaugurated for the Catholic Deaf as a social club using the C.Y.M.A. building, which was graciously offered for that purpose.

Besides the adult Deaf there are about fifty at the Rochester St. Joseph's for the Deaf that receive religious instruction every Friday afternoon and are also brought to the Chapel every Sunday morning and Holy Days for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

In the fact that Rochester has a center for the Deaf work it is again singularly blessed. In many parts of the nation the Deaf are yearning for the ministrations of a priest. The present incumbent has received letters from the Deaf of other cities begging him to do something to secure priests to administer to them even if it be only once a month or so. During the past few years there has been an impetus given to this important work. May God inspire more priests to give their lives to the care of God's Deaf.

The rectory some day soon. The Doctor left the priest's house with a large image of Perpetual Help and the instruction to place it in his room and touch it every day. The story of the miracle picture and from his own lips comes unstinted praise of Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

He thinks that this devotion is the greatest given to Mary and never a day passes without his hand touching that Sacred Image without him offering Her his homage. In return he has performed many difficult operations but they are always under the protection of the Mother of Perpetual Help. Her Immaculate Hand that guides the scalpel in his Perpetual Help in Rochester. And many have been led to Her in ways just as curious as the way She alighted the Doctor. Once in Her arms you are there forever. She will hold you safely for the Son that died to save you.

Hold First Bazaar For O.L.O.S. Church First annual bazaar for the benefit of Our Lady of Sorrows Church will be held at Genesee Institute, Central Park and North Union Street on Friday and Saturday evenings, Oct. 9 and 10.

Committees arranging for the affair which will offer many amusements and attractions are being directed by the Rev. Patrick Moffatt, pastor of the church, and his assistant, the Rev. Albert Simonetti.

Hibernian Auxiliary Plans Party Nov. 12 Ladies' Auxiliary No. 1, Ancient Order of Hibernians at the last regular meeting made arrangements for a social to be held at 40 North Fitzhugh Street on Nov. 12. Mrs. Paul Shannon is general chairman. Tickets are being distributed by members. At the meeting sympathy was extended to the Kelly family on the death of their brother in Ireland and a sister in Syracuse.

COMMITTEES NAMED FOR CENTENNIAL

80 Active Workers In St. Joseph's Parish Prepare for Jubilee

Cooperating with the Redemptorist Fathers in arranging for the 100th anniversary of St. Joseph's Church Centennial beginning Sunday are 80 active members of the parish.

The reception committee consists of Joseph T. Otto, Henry Bamann, Edward J. Meyer, Frank Gores, Thomas Appenleiter, Charles L. Gerstner, Philip Hartman, Louis Bohrer, Frank H. Biel, Ray Ernst, Larry Fisher.

Frederick Hafner, Alphons Klem, William J. Hauser, Louis Stupp, William F. Leckinger, Raymond Bayer, Walter Bayer, Fred J. Herman, Charles Bayer, Fred Hartman, John McDowell, William A. Ewaldig, Elizabeth Kress, Anna Verhoeven, Mrs. Charles L. Gerstner, Mrs. Joseph Schornbrunn, Josephine Hoffmann, Mrs. Z. Zagwitz, Mrs. Richard Kahl, Louise Brown, Lucille Dietz.

Mrs. William A. Zwalg, Mrs. Charles Bayer, Julia Fisher, Mrs. Frederick K. Bauer, Dorothy Schlitzer, Julia Wolf, Arline Schwab, Louise Delgart, Mary Fisher, Jessie Minga, Eunice Verhoeven, Mary Klem, Louis Ackerman, Mrs. Joseph T. Otto, Mrs. Caroline Rotholz, Martin Ernst, Mrs. Joseph Flannery, Louis Loh, Mrs. Agatha Luther, Elizabeth Fisher, Millie Armbruster, Claire Herman, Emma Schickler, Dorothy Klem, Cecelia Yerman, Mary Keller.

Entertainment will be in charge of George Minga, Frederick J. Bauer, John J. McManus, J. Eustace Leinen, Gerard J. Hartman, Edward J. Leinen, William Schiefer, Edward Schuchart, Oscar Schuchart, and Armand Hanna.

Decorations will be handled by Gerard J. Hartman, William Zimmerman, George Minga, Bernard Hartman, John J. McManus, J. Eustace Leinen, Alfred Hartman, Urban Hartman, Charles H. Mura, Joseph W. Hanna and Girard Hanna.

Benedictine Comes For Father's Rites Benjamin Paul Shonker, 51, who died suddenly on Oct. 1 was buried Saturday morning after Roman Requiem Mass at Corpus Christi Church.

Celebrant of the Mass was the Rev. Robert Kelleher, deacon, the Rev. Charles R. Reynolds, sub-deacon, Fr. Pinton Raymond Shonker, a son of the deceased and a member of St. Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe, Pa.

The Rev. Mr. William M. Hart, C. was present in the sanctuary.

Interment was in the family plot at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery where the Rev. Cornelius Silke officiated assisted by Monsignor Hart and Fr. Pinton.

Mission Church Holds Card Party on Friday Church of the Annunciation will hold a card party Friday evening, Oct. 9 at the church hall, Norton Street near North Goodman begins at 8:30 o'clock.

Table and other prizes will be awarded. Refreshments will be served. Tickets are 25 cents each. The Rev. George Weinmann, pastor invites friends of the mission to attend.

Bliss Cornerstone Ottawa, Ont. The cornerstone for the \$150,000 seminary being erected in Ottawa East in connection with the University of Ottawa by the Ottawa East Diocese will be laid at an impressive service by the Most Rev. Guillaume Forbes, Archbishop of Ottawa.

Beautiful Interior Of Church For Jubilee

In preparation for the centennial observance of St. Joseph's Church, the interior was completely decorated by Aloys Schneider.

Carried out in soft pastel colors the decoration gave a desired effect characteristic of Renaissance architectural texture. The artist, Mr. Aloys Schneider also restored four huge mural paintings in the transept.

Materials for the work were furnished by George H. Walz, Inc. of 145 State St. Master Decorators.

Movie Guide, Page 2 Coming of Morester Page 10, This Issue

Sunday's Mass A GUIDE TO THE LITURGICAL YEAR

By The REV. PAUL RUSSARD (Editor, The Leaflet)

FEAST OF THE MOTHERHOOD OF MARY In 1931 the Catholic world celebrated the 1000th anniversary of the Council of Ephesus. This was the Council which condemned the heresy of Nestorius and proclaimed the doctrine that the blessed Virgin was truly the Mother of God.

Pope Pius XI the same year had the beautiful mosaic in St. Mary Major Church in Rome re-mounted. This mosaic had been put there by Pope Sixtus III (431-440) as a commemoration of the Council of Ephesus. In an encyclical letter Pope Pius XI called attention to the 1500th celebration and invited every one to have the Blessed Virgin as both patron and pattern in life.

Finally he instituted the Feast of the Motherhood of the Blessed Virgin. Mary and ordered it to be celebrated every year on the eleventh of October.

The Epistle, taken from the Old Testament, was originally meant to refer to wisdom. Its position in the Mass makes it apply, however, to the blessed Virgin, who is the "Mother of fair love, and of fear, and of knowledge, and of holy hope. In her is all grace of life and of the truth. In her is all hope of life and of virtue." One can see how beautifully it may refer to the Mother of God.

(N.C.V.C. FEATURES)

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(St. Joseph's Old Parish Building)

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