

Decoration, Pastor's Gift, Beautifies Saint John the Baptist Church

WORK ON ELMIRA EDIFICE ACCLAIMED As New Triumph For Noted Decorator

ELMIRA.—The Pastor's gift to his parish—that's the explanation of the two months' renovation and remodeling just completed in Saint John the Baptist Church at 227 Lake Street. The donor is the Reverend John Baptist Monahan.

In charge of the work was Aloys Schneider, of Rochester, an interior decorator and painter whose work, especially in Catholic churches, is winning him new admirers after years of success in Europe.

While the remodeling was in progress, the church interior today is a tremendous improvement over the old. The floor has been refinished, the woodwork and furnishings, fresh paint and the skill of Mr. Schneider and his staff, has removed any suspicion of age into cheerful brightness and beauty. The color here is toned to various shades of blue and ivory.

All remodeling has been done in a tasteful manner. From the beautifully decorated ceiling, hung in new colonial-style lantern lights of hand-wrought iron. A new carpet and standing sanctuary lamp of hand-cast wrought iron have been installed. The altar has been completely re-decorated; the old altar removed. Behind the altar blue and silver dossal curtains have been hung. A new silver and gold crucifix is suspended over the main altar.

All Statues of the Cross and various holy pictures have been redecorated in every available color. A stone tablet which has been used to commemorate the Renaissance architecture of the edifice. This stone tablet effect has transformed the entire wainscoting part of the church and this is especially effective in the sanctuary.

Mr. Schneider has achieved some of his most effective work in the sanctuary background in gold-leaf and blue work, hand-painted on plaster.

A new shrine and baptistry will be built in the vestibule of the church. The background of this shrine will be made up of a costly painting of the Blessed Mother. This painting, imported from Paris many years ago, originally hung over the main altar of a certain church that was once affiliated with St. John's Church. When this mission church was razed the picture was moved here.

Before starting the work here in November, Mr. Schneider visited in charge, had the finished work redecorating Saint Andrew's Church in Rochester.

A native of Germany, Mr. Schneider studied the years in art school in Berlin, Germany, and in Berlin. His father had been a church decorator before him. Mr. Schneider has carried out such ecclesiastical art projects in Germany, France, Poland, Luxembourg and old Austria.

In addition to his ecclesiastical art studio work, he is a teacher of interior decorating in Monroe High School, Rochester. One of his best pieces of work in this section of the country was painting of windows 28 feet high, at Lyons, New York.



Shown here in section is the sanctuary of St. John the Baptist Church in Elmira as Aloys Schneider of Rochester, widely known artist along ecclesiastical lines as he put finishing touches on beautiful church interior. Note the stone effect of sanctuary wainscoting.

St. John's Church Boasts Of 28 Pioneer Members

ELMIRA.—Every parish has its aged people to whom it looks with appreciation and respect. St. John the Baptist parish is no exception. Last week one couple, Mr. and Mrs. August Mechnike, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Other living couples married over 50 years include Mr. and Mrs. John Rohde, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph East and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Uttinger. Among other living "character parishioners" are found Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lutz, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Blyley, Madames Rose Klaffer, Max Meyer, Abbie Springer, Henry Precht, Mary Schiefen, Caroline Kover, Joseph Grift, Charlotte Walitt, Katherine Schaefer, Messrs. John Ketter, Joseph Friedman, Gottlieb Rohde, Joseph Bridgman, Stephen Mathew, Albert Brown, Charles Brown.

On January 1st, 1938, Mr. Charles Kerschow and Mr. Gustav Rohde, after having served as trustees for 30 and 27 years respectively, retired. The present trustees are Joseph Fischer and Louis Lutz, Jr.

OFFICERS OF SOCIETIES

ELMIRA.—Active organizations at St. John the Baptist Church are headed by the following officers. St. John's Society: President—Louis Lutz, Jr. Vice—President—Joseph Rohde. Secretary—Frank A. Rohde. Treasurer—Joseph Fischer. Altar Society: President—Agnes Saback. Secretary—Mrs. Charles Kasper. Treasurer—Helen Rhode. Holy Name Society: President—Louis Fischer. Vice-President—John Ruhmel, Jr. Treasurer—Charles Ruhmel. Secretary—Edward R. Resbeck. Immaculate Conception: President—Anna Frances Kelly. Vice-President—Philomena Terpelt. Treasurer—Ellen Hardman. Secretary—Lillian Buchholz.

Youngest Mayor in U. S. Installed As Head of Boys Town

BOYS TOWN, NEBR.—The youngest Mayor in the United States was installed in office here New Year's Day. He is Sam Turner, 21-year-old choir boy, who New Year's Eve was elected Mayor of Boys Town by the 200 little citizens of Father Flanagan's Boys' Home. Also installed into office were the six City Commissioners.

The Mayor and his City Council will serve as officials of the "City of Little Men" for six months. Boys Town is actually a city for it was incorporated under a special charter by the State of Nebraska in 1934. Mayor Turner ran on the "Progressive Ticket." His ticket carried into office two city commissioners, the "Conservative" also winning the other posts. For two weeks the candidates conducted spirited campaigns. The entire group was taken part in a political rally over Station KOL, Omaha.

St. Theresa's Church Hears Financial Report

STANLEY.—The annual financial report for St. Theresa's church for the year 1938 shows receipts \$1,881.54. Principal sources of revenue listed are: Pew rents \$47.50, plate collections \$1,020.00, entertainments \$100.00, Excess \$133.34. Expenditures are listed as \$1,851.21 leaving a balance on hand of \$30.34. The report is signed by the pastor, Rev. Edward K. Ball, treasurer, John V. Murray and Joseph Deller, trustees are Andrew Bolger and Andrew Muckel auditors.

takes two to make that kind of bargain. The conclusion is that he will turn his attention to the East in the direction of Turkey and the Ukraine in the hope of securing necessary supplies. The supplies shown with Dr. Schacht is interpreted as an indication that he will try further "massive" subsidies to get the Reich out of the trouble. The financial situation in which it is now involved.

CHURCH CALENDAR

ELMIRA.—The Church Calendar at St. John the Baptist Church here, is as follows: SUNDAY: Masses: 7, 8:30, 10:30 A. M. Benediction: 1 P. M. WEEKDAYS: Masses: 7:15 and 8 A. M. Confessions: Saturday and Thursday before First Friday, 8 and 9:30 P. M. MEETINGS: St. John Society: First Monday. Altar Society: Third Monday. Sodality: Fourth Monday. Holy Name Society: Last Tuesday. Boy Scouts: Every Wednesday evening. Girl Scouts: Every Tuesday afternoon. INSTRUCTIONS (Catechetical): Grammar School: Sunday, 9:15 A. M.; Monday, 3:30 P. M. High School: Monday, 7 P. M. ...

Auburn Group Stages Minstrel Show

AUBURN.—The first annual minstrel show of St. Peter and Paul Church was staged on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday at the Ukrainian Home, corner of Park and Washington Streets.

The show was supervised by Leo J. Kroger. The bill part of the minstrel included several dances and songs sung by Miss Clara and Miss Annie, Ukrainian dances and a tap dance by Miss Marie. Much of the success was given by J. ...

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MELTON V. SCHAEFER NAMED MARSHAL FOR SCOUT MASS, SUNDAY

Scout Sunday observance will be held Sunday, January 29 at St. Andrew's Church, Portland Avenue when all the Catholic Boy Scouts and Scout Leaders, assist at Mass and receive Holy Communion at 8:30 A. M. Breakfast will be served to all the Scouts and Scout leaders after the Mass.

Most Reverend James E. Keating will deliver the sermon. Rev. George W. Eck is Pastor of St. Andrew's Church.

Franco Soldiers In Christmas Box

LA CORUÑA.—Every Catholic soldier in Franco's army received a Christmas box together with gifts in his Christmas box. This was proposed by His Excellency Pedro Cardinal Gomara Texar, Archbishop of Toledo and Primate of Spain.

In a special allocation, His Excellency said: "Let two Spanish soldiers be without his image of the Crucifix. Redeemer to protect and comfort him, to remind him why he fights, suffers and conquers. An image of Jesus Christ to accompany him in his hours of agony and of victory."

Manila Vice General Dead Manila.—Mig Jose Bustamante, Vice General of Manila, first World War to carry the flag in the American army, died Feb. 25. He was 77 years old. He was a large sportsman in 1920.

DO YOU KNOW That the CATHOLIC COURIER has been published every Thursday for nearly 50 years?

Greetings to FATHER STEMLER and Parishioners of ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH WALSH & REAGAN ELMIRA'S BUSIEST FURNITURE STORE 114-116 West Water St. ELMIRA, N. Y.

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