PARISH NEWS

Sacred Heart, Corpus Christi, Holy Family, SS. Peter and Paul's, St. Boniface, St. John The Evangelist

St. John The Evangelist Parish

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Society for Propagation of the Faith

The REV. JOHN S. RANDALL, Director
50 Chestnut St. | Home — Foreign Catholic Missions | Stone 4013

The holy season of Lent hastens to a close The praise of Palm Sunday gave place to accusation, esteem to suspicion, pageantry to torture. The hosanna throngs, tired from their shout of "Hosanna" turned homeward to rest their voices in preparation for Friday's loud cry, "Crucify Him!"

That first Good Friday seemed to write the darkest page in Christian history. It would appear that the Son of Man who claimed to be True God was overcome by His arch enemies. Death seemed to have had its day. However, sorrow quickly gave place to joy. Tears rapidly changed into smiles when on the first Easter Sunday the Man God proved his Divinity by arising gloriously and immortal from the dead. The tomb in which He was laid on Good Friday was powerless to hold Him. The guards placed by Pilate fell back in fear and surprise when, His garments shining like the snow, His face as bright as the noon day sun, stepped forth from the tomb to walk through their midst.

The events of Holy Week, we might say, mark the very beginning of mission activity in the Church. Herein Christ Our Blessed Lord wrought for us our salvation willingly choosing the Death of the Cross. He gave Himself that we might live, not we alone, but all mankind. He excluded no one. But looking out over the world He sorrowed for the souls that would escape His grasp. When on Easter Sunday, He stood in the entrance of the tomb, He again pleaded for those who would be rallied to His side.

Nineteen hundred years having passed He again looks into the world and sees at least two-thirds of its population outside the True Fold. He, the Prince of Peace, Who brought good will to mankind, today sees the world inflamed with war and the rumors of war. He observes that at least twenty millions of people in China, were either killed in battle or their lives snuffed out by disease, famine or flood. He is grieved at the sight of little Finland, oppressed by the ruthless hand of mighty Russia. He sorrows at the sight of European nations rising in revolt.

The only consolation He finds, looking out into the world today, is the work which our Catholic missionaries are performing. He sees priests and sisters grouped about the hospital beds of missionary dispensaries. He enters into the orphanages to find over a hundred thousand deserted children sheltered in loving care by hands of kindness. He visits one hundred and twenty Leper Colonies to find the most unfortunate of the world's unfortunates defended by Catholic charity. He notes that at least two million are being educated in the Catholic schools of mission lands. This, I say, is the one consolation that the Prince of Peace, the Saviour, the Redeemer of Mankind, discovers as He looks back into the world today. But that this work might succeed, that our priests and sisters might have the means of continuing the fine job which has been begun, they need you, and they suggest to you that in a spirit of suffering you should imitate the Man God of Good Friday, hurting yourselves to some extent, that the missionaries of God's Church might have just a little brightness and joy and consolation. Your sacrifice of Good Friday will be your happiness and your joy and your triumph of Easter Sunday.

We pause to extend to each and every member of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith our heartfelt gratitude for the assistance which you have given this great work, and we beg of you that you continue to foster the mission interest of the Church.

Cameroons Under British Mandate

His Excellency, Most Reverend Peter Rogan, is at present visiting the United States. Bishop Rogan in a recent interview described his mission work in Cameroons, situated on the West Central African Coast.

Cameroons cover an area of about 130,000 square miles and is under both British and French mandate. From 1916 until 1923 British Cameroons was without resident, permanent priests. Then the Colonial office in London petitioned Rome to send British Missionaries to British Cameroons. The new mission was entrusted to "St. Joseph's Foreign Missionary Society" of Mill Hill, London. Monsignor Campling of Uganda, left England in February, 1923, with three young priests. They found a Christian population of about 4,000. These were mostly labourers and employees on the large rubber, cocoa, and palm-oil plantations.

The physical feature of the British Cameroons is a terrible handicap. The country is mostly mountainous with volcanoes, hills, and dense bush. There are only a few hundred miles of roads and in the rainy season the roads are useless.

Thank God the work has gone on steadily from year to year. Priests and sisters are encouraged in their efforts by constant and abundant help from America. In 15 years, 1925 to 1940, the number of Priests has risen from 8 to 60; and nuns from 3 to 12; and there are big flourishing schools throughout the mission. The Christian population has increased to more than 40,000, and the annual average of Catechumens under instruction for Baptism is 6,000. Several of the Sisters have been trained in all branches of nursing. The success of their hospitals has done [illegible] as the actual ordinary Mission work of Priests and Catechists. The Mission is still too young, only fifteen years old to have its own Seminary, but they have sent four or five very promising boys to the Seminary in Nigeria. Education is in such demand by the natives that Priests with University degrees in Science and other subjects are in charge of more advanced schools.

DID YOU KNOW THAT

The first Catholic newspaper was established in the United States in 1822 by Bishop England of Charleston, South Carolina?

One hundred years ago "the entire state of Tennessee containing an area of 40,000 square miles had been without a resident priest for perhaps ten or more years." Bishop Richard Miles of Nashville writing to the Central Committee of The Society for the Propagation of the Faith in Paris in 1840, says "I found at my arrival the ruin of a small brick church in Nashville, which besides being in a deplorable state of decay, is in a remote and elevated part of the city and in bad weather scarcely accessible." The Association for the Propagation of the Faith, which has already rendered so many important services to religion in poor foreign missions, will be the hope of my diocese and the salvation of my people.

CORRESPONDENCE

To our desk this week has come a most interesting yet pathetic letter from the Rev. Joseph A. Sweeney M.M., who is in charge of the Gate of Heaven Leper Asylum at Kongmoon in South China.

"Thanks most heartily for your letter and check of January 10. As you know the prayers and masses of the asylum will continue to express our gratitude.

"Your help is especially appreciated during this time of stress with the threat of famine very serious in our region as it is in many other places. All the pigs and most of the cattle have been killed. The Jap blockade along the coast has long cut off the fish supply. The next harvest is five months away and already there is a great shortage of rice at prices which many cannot pay. I have been negotiating for some weeks for the transport of a large stock of rice to the asylum and have just succeeded in making some arrangements. We have only enough for three weeks left but we are not much worried, because no matter how high the price we can pay it, thanks to you and other friends across the ocean.

"Our part of the country has suffered little in comparison with many other places. It is now estimated that twenty million have died in this war, most of them by famine and man made floods. The dikes which used to keep the great rivers in control cannot soon be repaired after their destruction by the armies. So millions more will probably die this year due to famine in the flooded areas. We are fortunate to be far removed from such places.

"The leper hospital which occupies the greater part of our church, continues to serve outsiders who flock to us with their ills every day, and when they are visiting we never lose an opportunity to interest them in our religion. At Christmas a good number of those so attracted to the Church were baptized. We hope to expand this mission work until we have Catholic communities in villages all around the district. The Chinese are very well disposed at present because they feel that the missioners have done well by them during these trying times. Of course without backing like yours we could not have given anything like the same help."

ST. CHARLES BORROMEO PARISH

64 MAIDEN LANE

REV. ROBERT A. KELEHER
Pastor
REV. EARL M. TOBIN
Assistant

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Wichita's Bishop

The Most Rev. Christian H. Winkelman is shown following installation ceremonies in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Wichita, fourth Ordinary of the Diocese. (N.C.W.C.)

Your Catholic University

Since the human race was born men have faared forth over land and sea to discover and explore unknown portions of the earth. An explorer too, venturing where none has before penetrated, is the physicist in the realm of science. He however deals often with the intangible, the invisible.

For example man naturally automatically breathes air. He knows that air, which he cannot see, surrounds him. But why does the air keep him alive? He may not know the facts which physics had to uncover before that question had its answer.

The life-giving element in the air is manufactured for him by the green plants of the earth. Sunlight is the power which enables the plants to take in the carbon dioxide which human and animal lungs throw off as they breathe and transform it into a new inexhaustible supply of the oxygen upon which all human and animal life in the world depends. In studies of this character the Physics Department of the Catholic University of America at Washington is working closely with Dr. Franck of the University of Chicago.

Though up to this time the Catholic University physicists have preferred to confine their researches and studies to the purely scientific field, they now find that some of their studies may have practical application in industry and in other directions.

At present the department is completing the set-up of its electro-static generator, the complicated electrical device which is popularly known as the atom smasher. No scientist wants to smash an atom merely for the sake of smashing the atom, though much has been made of this process in public print.

The process of disintegrating the atom provides the scientist with important new information. What he primarily wants to know is the energy relations which are involved in changing the structure of atoms by exploding them. In this process radio activity is discovered in hitherto unknown sources and these discoveries also assist in tracing radio activity through the chemical processes in the human body.

For this reason scientific circles believe, though scrupulously and earnestly emphasizing that they have no proof as yet to confirm their belief that the knowledge gained from this field of work may at some future time be helpfully applied in the treatment of ailments. Even now the process of smashing the atom is being applied in the treatment of human ailments. Even now the process of smashing the atom is being applied elsewhere to the proposition of discovering what the tuberculosis bacillus does during the first fourteen days after its entrance into the human body. Up to now, science has only known that it disappears for this period of time and it is said that knowledge of this fourteen-day period might possibly lead to some way of preventing the entrance of the bacillus.

The electro static generator at the Catholic University has been provided by the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism of the Carnegie Institute, also in Washington. It will not be completely ready for operation for the better part of another year, though its 750,000 volts have been used in tests a number of times. The spark which this generator throws is about three feet long.

The University Department of Physics is at present chiefly engaged in three different fields of scientific research and experiment. One of these is electric oscillations, particularly with relation to sound, another is spectroscopy and the third is theoretical physics.

Spectroscopy is the name given to the analysis of light, and exerts a far-reaching influence in industrial application. Spectrographic pictures determine the presence of certain elements in a number of substances. This is but one aspect of the usefulness of light analysis. It also helps in recognizing the inner structure of molecules. Colorless benzene is known to be the base of producing many things, while black coal tar has opened the way to the production of numberless products which were unknown prior to the discovery of the ways to utilize the tar.

One of the works in which the Department of Physics and the Chemistry Department of the University are collaborating is a study of the oil-cracking processes now in use with the goal of further refinement of existing processes or departures from them which might be more efficient in extracting all possible useful products from petroleum.

St. John The Evangelist Parish (Greece)

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Sacred Heart Parish

ROY E. MASSECAR RITES

Funeral services for Roy E. Massecar of 3245 Lake Avenue father of T. Gordon Massecar staff photographer of the CATHOLIC COURIER, were held Tuesday morning at the home and at Sacred Heart Pro-Cathedral.

Mr. Massecar died March 16.

Mass of Requiem was celebrated by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. George V. Burns, pastor of the Pro-Cathedral.

Bearers were Donald Morrissey, Harold Wright, Kenyon Raby, Tracy Beahon, James Kelly and Frederick Lerch.

Besides his son Mr. Massecar is survived by his wife, Mrs. Ann A. Spengler Massecar, one daughter Mrs. William Long, one sister Mrs. Roy Chambers of Waterford, Canada, and three brothers, Frank Massecar of Waterford, Canada, Enoch Massecar of Shortsville and Edwin Massecar of England.

Interment was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery where Monsignor Burns officiated.

Holy Family Parish

Services For Mrs. Mensing

Funeral services for Mrs. Anna Mensing of 204 Orange St. were held March 13.

The Rev. Cyprian Mensing O.F.M., president of Sienna College, Albany was celebrant of the Mass, assisted by the Rev. Joseph H. Gefell, D.D., M.R., pastor of Holy Family Church and the Rev. David Baier O.F.M., as subdeacon.

Present in the sanctuary were the Very Rev. Thomas Plassmann, O.F.M., president of St. Bonaventure College, Rev. Celsus Wheeler, O.F.M., Superior, Rev. Hubert Vecchierello, O.F.M., Dean of the Science Department, Rev. Irenaeus Herscher, O.F.M., Librarian, Rev. Theophane Leary, O.F.M., Rev. Jordan Brown, O.F.M., Rev. William Clancy, O.F.M., Rev. Giles LaBelle, O.F.M., Rev. Benjamin Kuhn, O.F.M.

Rev. Maurice Fitzgerald, O.F.M., Rev. Richard Harold, O.F.M., Rev. J. Emil Gefell, Rev. George Weinmann, Rev. Roy B. Morphy, Rev. Raymond Wahl, Rev. Raymond Wuest and the Rev. James Hilden of Albany.

Final blessing at the grave was given by the Rev. Cyprian Mensing assisted by Rev. Joseph H. Gefell.

The Rev. Roy Morphy celebrated the Solemn Requiem Mass for Fred B. Tyler Sr. at St. Marys Church last Saturday. Father Morphy is a nephew of the deceased.

Assisting at the Mass were the Rev. George Kettel as deacon and the Rev. John Brell as sub-deacon.

Final blessing at the grave was given by Father Morphy.

Italy Eucharist Congress Approved

ROME.—His Eminence Luigi Cardinal Maglione, Papal Secretary of State, has informed the Cardinal Archbishop of Naples of the Holy Father's approval of plans for the Thirteenth Italian Eucharistic Congress to be held at Pompeii in 1951.

SS. Peter and Paul's Parish

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Assistants

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