

1941

Catholic Courier

APRIL 2, 1941 NUMBER 14
Published by the Catholic Community Service, Inc.
Editor: JAMES EDWARD KEARNEY, D. D.

for a theory more than true science can give it in the way of support, will make it easier for the popular scientist to avoid the embarrassment of admitting what once was for scientists a demonstrated fact is no longer taken seriously by them.

Palm Sunday

The joy of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem is shared by every Catholic who follows the liturgy for Palm Sunday. The blessed palm held by those who take part in the procession through the aisles of the church, held also by the people, the singing of the solemn chants leading up to the "Blessed is He Who cometh in the name of the Lord-Hokanna in the highest!" all all us with the happy spirit of the day.

The altar is decorated with fancy pieces of palm prepared by the Sisters. Every home will treasure throughout the year the palm branches blessed on this day. Behind a picture or on the crucifix, it will greet our sight for many a day. Crosses of palm will appear on the coats of worshippers. The sound of the voices of children singing the first welcome to Jesus at the gates of the Holy City will be brought back to us as the present-day followers of Christ again take part in the beautiful ceremonies commemorating the event.

"Hosanna to the Son of David." That was the song that greeted Jesus on Palm Sunday. "Away with Him! give us Barabbas," was the shout of the crowd on Good Friday. "Crucify Him, Crucify Him!" Within one week, within one city, what a change! What a contrast!

The Liturgy of Palm Sunday is a powerful sermon to all members of the Church, a sermon preached more in act than in word, a sermon graphically presenting to us Our Saviour, come to save us from our sins. The joys of Jesus for men, the burning zeal for their souls' salvation, the readiness to offer Himself fully for their spiritual good, are emphasized in the story of today's spectacle. Palm Sunday should renew within us a pledge of loyalty to Jesus Christ, a pledge that shall not give way to any act of treason through submission to temptation, through commission of wilful sin.

After Two Days The Son of Man Will Be Delivered Up

Palm Sunday brings us the reading of the Passion according to St. Matthew. This history of Our Lord's sufferings and death begins with the words of Christ to His disciples: "Ye know that after two days will be the Passover, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified." His hour was now come. His will to die for man was now ready for fulfillment, the hatred of wicked men was now to be permitted to serve God's purpose in accomplishment of the Redemption through the crucifixion of Christ.

The History of the Passion according to St. Matthew presents the anointing of Christ's head by Mary Magdalene, which He describes as for His burial. Then comes the betrayal of Judas, who bargains with the chief priests to deliver Jesus up to them for thirty pieces of silver. Then the Last Supper, the institution of the Holy Eucharist, the ordination of the Apostles, the singing of a hymn, and the going forth to Mt. Olivet. Then the agony in the garden, the bloody sweat, the prayer of Christ, the neglect of the three Apostles to watch one hour with Jesus, and the coming of Judas with the great crowd with swords and clubs to apprehend Him.

The disciples fled at the apprehension of Christ. Led before Caiaphas, the High Priest, Jesus is before the victim of false witnesses, is finally asked by the High Priest to tell whether He is the Christ, the Son of God, to which He answers clearly, "Thou hast said it." All present in the court of the High Priest declared He was worthy of death because He had blasphemed in making Himself the Son of God. Peter denies Him thrice. In the morning Jesus is brought before the Roman Governor of Judea, Pontius Pilate, is accused by the Council of the High Priests, and the multitude who call for His crucifixion and the release of the murderer Barabbas. Pilate washes his hands stating he is innocent of the blood of this just man. Christ is scourged, mocked, spit upon, crowned with thorns, then made to carry His cross.

On the place of the skull, Golgotha, just outside the walls of Jerusalem He is crucified. His enemies mock Him even in His sufferings, challenge Him to come down from the cross if He be the Son of God and they will believe in Him. The darkness over all the earth for three hours, the seven last words, then with a loud cry the giving up of the ghost; Christ dies! The burial of Christ with Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, noting the place. Finally the setting of a guard by the Jews that the body of Christ might not be stolen away by His disciples.

The other three historic records of the Passion are assigned to the Masses of Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday of Holy Week.

The Catholic Interracial Program has a twofold aim: (1) the combating of race prejudice; (2) the attainment of social justice for the whole social group regardless of race.

Five Years Ago--
From April 2, 1936, Edition
Delegates representing Catholic colleges received slight support from other institutions when they voted against a proposal to legalize the dissemination of birth control information to married couples at the Ohio Students Conference on Public Affairs at Columbus, Ohio. The measure was adopted by a vote of 104 to 98.

Winners of the Diocese of Rochester in the Third National Essay Contest under the auspices of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference announced by the Rev. John M. Ball of Lima, diocesan director, are: Rosemary Henderson, St. Rose's High, Lima; Rosemary L. Miller, St. Joseph's, Waynesburg; and Mary Ann Ryan, St. Rose's High, Lima. Other winners were: Vincent Ryan, St. Rose's High, Lima; Blanche Scherby, Phelps Classical School, Phelps, N. Y.; and Elizabeth C. O'Connell, Holy Ghost School, Colchester.

UNITED FOR DEFENSE



The National Catholic Community Service, organized to care for the religious and recreational welfare of Catholics in military and naval stations and in the defense industry areas, forms the theme of the May cover design of "Catholicism," national Catholic monthly published by the Knights of Columbus, of New York, is the artist. (N.C.W.C.)

PAGE MY PASTOR

Right Rev. Hugh Peter M.H. Wynnhoven, Editor-in-Chief, Catholic Action of the South

Keep Them Posted

"Fran, you can raise a flag. I'm paying you back the dollar I borrowed yesterday." "Darling, there's no rush. If you're still hard up..." "Still! I'm always hard up. I just have no sales resistance. I guess, I wish I could budget the way you do. My father holds you up as a shining example." "He wouldn't, if he could see what that new evening dress did to my budgeting!" "While we're on the subject of budgets--Dad held forth for an hour last night on your pastor's financial profligacy." "How did he hear about that?" "Someone's been explaining your pastor's plan for running the parish. I missed the first part of Dad's eulogy. What is your pastor's plan, Fran?" "A very simple one, Cddie; that's the beauty of it. You know when he came to our parish, things were at a pretty low ebb financially. We had a staggering debt, and the pastor before him was so obsessed with the humiliation of his inability to make the payments, that he talked about money every Sunday. It worried the poor man so much that it actually killed him." "What a job for a new pastor to walk into, Fran? What did he do?" "He got together a committee of the businessmen of the parish, and they studied the financial situation. They figured out what by which everything could be taken care of."

Diocesan Recordings

A Champion Of Catholic Action
The death of Joseph M. Schifferl on March 27 in Buffalo ended the career of a Catholic layman whose influence was felt not only in his home diocese but throughout the United States. Particularly is his loss mourned by those of us who knew him in the Rochester diocese.

He was the founder of The Echo published at the German Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum, 361 Dodge Street, Buffalo, and was managing director of that newspaper, known throughout the country for its championing of social justice based on the Papal Encyclicals, until it was merged with the Catholic Union and Times in Buffalo.

About seventeen years ago Mr. Schifferl was approached by priests of this diocese to bring a Rochester edition of The Echo here and for nearly nine years his guidance, experience and zeal for the Catholic press had its effect in laying the groundwork for wide acceptance of the Catholic newspaper in this diocese.

What Did You Expect?

By REV. JAMES M. GILLIS, C.S.P., Editor, The Catholic World

For three decades in varying degrees and manners, the intellectuals of the western world have been turning their backs upon Reason, exploring the Unconscious with Freud and with Joyce worshipping dark primitive gods with D. H. Lawrence, eating lives Eastward and in reaction clinging to medieval disciplines. Today we see the gradual culmination of all these movements in the Nazi revolution of nihilism.

Christian Life

By REV. BENEDICT EHMANN

The last chapter of the discussion club pamphlet on the Redemption is being studied this week. It shows that God expects in practical living from His Christians.

Political Gangs

By REV. DANIEL A. LORD, S.J.

All of a sudden, I have begun to distrust all this talk about political gangs. I happen to live in St. Louis. As a St. Louisian I've heard of the terrible gang that sits in the city hall and waits for the day to open that it is to be the city of the future. Then all of a sudden, I began to hear of the terrible "Dickman Gang." This was linked by the newspapers, the political reformers, and the slightly left of center Republican reviews in a common fellowship of corruption and crime.