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PARISH NEWS

Holy Redeemer, St. John Evangelist, St. Joseph O. L. P. H., St. Monica's, Blessed Sacrament

Eulogy On Fr. Gaffney

(Continued from Page 3)

and settled character of complete manhood. The patience and the mercy of God during this devious time are strange and beyond the fathoming of man. To Him alone belong the honor and glory for those silent contritions and anxious pangs of soul by which His young student is deepened and made fit to bear the priestly burden of the world's sin and suffering. The seminary cannot be anything other than a Gethsemane before the Calvary of the Holy Mass.

Called 'Father' Fr. Gaffney is to God for the fulfillment of His counsel, when His servant stood, with averbrimning heart, before the Bishop, and received the office of priesthood by the laying on of hands. At that moment, he was given the power of a "dispenser of the mysteries of God." He became a sharer of that great Priesthood by which Christ, in His own Person, has mediated between God and man, gives Himself as a sacrifice to His Father and as a food to His brothers. From that moment he came to be called "Father" for he was the bearer of God's love and power to those who were called to be the sons of God.

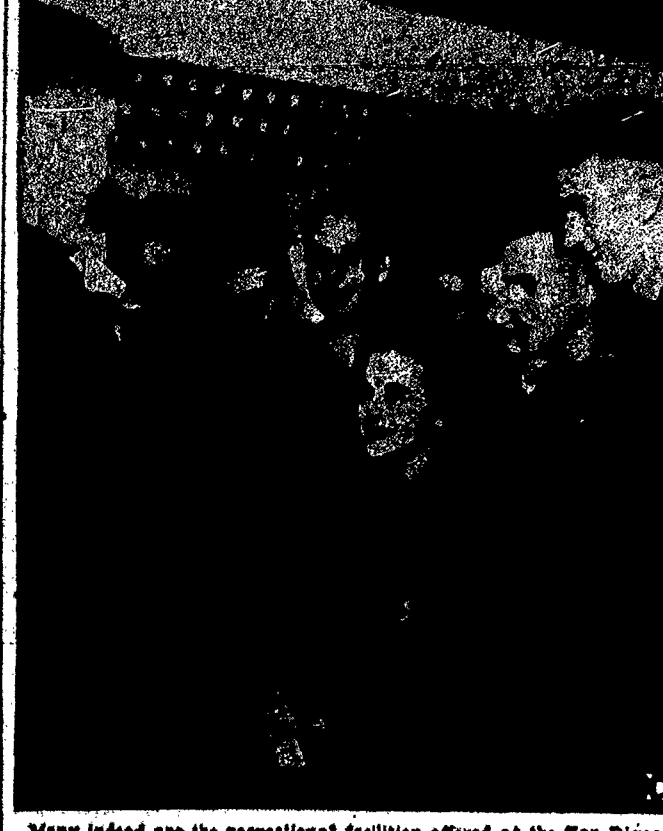
We praise and bless God for the manifold times — over eight thousand — that His priestly servant ascended the Altar of Sacrifice, and offered the Victim Body and Blood of God's only-begotten Son, and imparted the Bread of Heaven to the children of Mother Church. We bless God also for the tens of thousands who received from his lips the words of God's pardon and consolation for this good priest was a faithful servant of the confessional, patient and persevering, in season and out, in the most burdensome of the priest's duties. He persevered also like a good steward of the Holy Word, in the duty of instruction, preaching to the grown-ups and catechizing the little ones, as one on fire to bring them the good things of God and to lead them into the light and beauty of the Word made flesh.

Prates to God, too, for the great heart of this good priest, which drew man with the cords of Adam's to the feet of God. His winning personality was an instrument of grace to insinuate the Gospel into the hearts of the wayward. He was a notable servant of the sick, and his unique fidelity to them will long be a legend to those priests who knew him. But most noteworthy of all was his service in the State Industrial School at Industry. Here surely is his securing title to reward. Never forgetting the image of God in the souls of the wayward boys who were assigned there, Father Gaffney did not spare himself in the vast task of wiping the mud and spittle of life from their souls, and bringing the image of Christ to shine forth once more. None of us can know how tedious that task was: to work in alien surroundings among people who, if not unfriendly to him, were ignorant of the Church's high ideal which he served; to spend himself on the most ungrateful returns must, even at best, have been discouragingly small: to see his work, perhaps more often than not, collapse like a sand-house, and then to start again, because this time, with God's help, might be the one that tells. It is a work from which most priests would recoil, but Father Gaffney was God's optimistic, his soul tempered by His Providence for just this special kind of apostolate.

It might have looked like a reward for such yeoman service to have been appointed at long last to this gracious portion of the Lord at Spencerport — a place where he might have reaped on his laurels and followed an easy course in the last quarter of his life. But Father Gaffney did not take it as such. Although he was here only five months to the day when he died, his pastorate is filled with works, generously carrying out and even amplifying the zealous program of his predecessor. Watching him work, hearing him speak, one knew that to him there was no such thing as an easy parish; he came as did his Divine Master to minister, not to be ministered unto; and by every street and lane, there are souls to be saved, to be protected from the great enemies, to be fed with the holy Truth, to be shown the glory of God besides those hundreds of others, his parishioners too, who are not Catholics, whom he loved and was on the way to win into the sweet yoke of Christ.

Such was Father Gaffney, and may God be praised for such a loyal servant! Full Meaning Known And now shall we praise God for this early death, and for the anguish of the weeks that brought it on? Here we enter a mystery, where we see only as in a glass, dimly. If the Cross casts a shadow, it also casts a light, for in Him who crucified that He might rise from the dead as the Victor over death, we shall rise again into eternal life. In the great with God, Father Gaffney now knows the full meaning of his sickness and early death. He sees it as fulfilling his own redemption, paying the debt of sin in union with His Saviour's Passion and Death. He sees it how as the necessary condition for making fruitful his life's work unless the grain of wheat fall into the ground, and be left, remains alone, but if it die, it brings forth much fruit. (John 12: 24) Father Gaffney would have us all say: "Praise God for my death." "I have died for my neighbor and the rest of my sickness and by

"Music Hath Charms . . ."



Many indeed are the recreational facilities offered at the San Diego Cathedral Club for Service Men, but these boys seem to find happiness around the piano. A coffee shop and writing room are also popular spots. The newly opened U. S. O. club is a National Catholic Community Service project.

C. Y. A. Closes For A Week

The Columbus Youth Association will be conducting any classes during the first week in September while the building is undergoing repairs. The Fall Schedule will begin on Monday, September 2, and this program will include activities for boys and girls as well as women and men of all ages during the fall and winter months.

The Fall and Winter Schedule for boys, girls, men and women will be published in next week's Catholic Courier. If you wish any further information you can call Stone 1492 or if you desire to visit the Columbus Youth Association we will be glad to meet you and show you around the building.

C. Y. A. Day Camp Ends Season

The Columbus Youth Association's Day Camp Program will close this Saturday. This is a special summer program for the children during their summer vacation. Many young boys and girls of Rochester have enjoyed and have benefited greatly from this summer's Day Camp Program.

St. Bona Men's Retreat Set

Second annual retreat for men will be conducted Friday, Sept. 5 to Sept. 7, at St. Bonaventure College. An invitation is extended to all laymen in Rochester and vicinity to make this spiritual exercise.

As in the past a large number of the alumni will participate. Arrangements are well underway and alumni are urged to get in touch with either John McMillan at Glen, 441-M or Tom Riley at Main 822.

Rev. Matthew Miller, O.F.M., an outstanding missionary in the East, in Mexico and Europe, has been assigned to conduct the retreat.

When fever made her delirious, her mouth still continued to express the abundance of her heart; she kept repeating her Fiat Marya. And when the crisis was over, she realized prayers most beautifully adapted to her actual condition, for in spite of the progressive ravages of her painful disease, Sister Jeanne Lucie had kept intact her beautiful memory and intelligence.

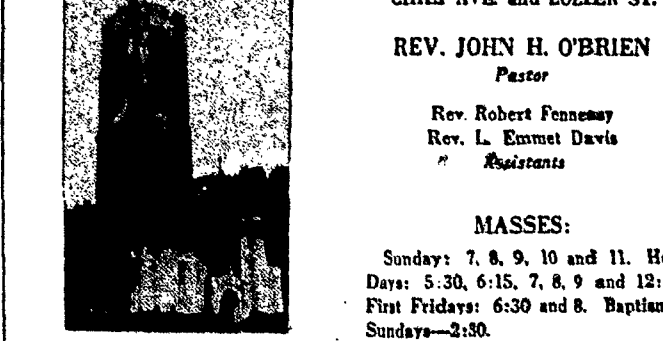
Postulant Received On Deathbed

(Continued from Page 2)

So she prayed: "May the Almighty and Merciful God grant us pardon, remission and remission of all our sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen."

It was the fifteenth of May. About three o'clock in the afternoon, I visited a sick person in Highland Hospital. From there I was going to the convent of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Arc. Suddenly I changed my decision and went with full speed to St. Mary's Hospital to see first Sister Jeanne Lucie. It was the first time that I visited the sick sister at that hour in the afternoon; generally, my visits were in the forenoon and the evening as on the preceding days, slowly, slowly, quietly, checking her cross, quietly, and her rosary in the other. Sister Superior and Sister Joachim, cousin of the little sister, were in the room.

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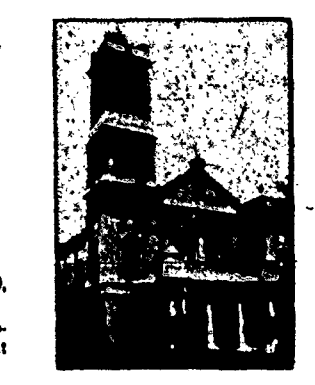
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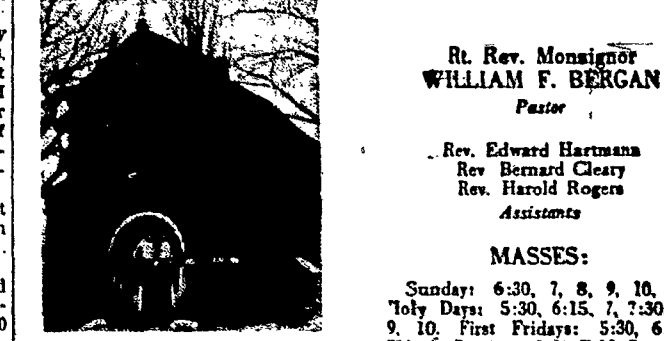
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