

Catholic Courier

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With the Approbation of the
MOST REVEREND JAMES EDWARD KEARNEY, D.D.
Bishop of Rochester

The CATHOLIC COURIER has my most enthusiastic approval. A diocesan newspaper has become an essential part of the program of Catholic action in every diocese. The CATHOLIC COURIER should be found in every Catholic home in this diocese. I find it hard to understand how any Catholic can be so indifferent as to what is transpiring in his church throughout the world as to rely upon unreliable sources of information or even to seek an information whatever. Let us have a brief slogan "The CATHOLIC COURIER in every Catholic home!"

JAMES E. KEARNEY, Bishop of Rochester.

ANOTHER LENT IS HERE

There is no standing still in the Church of God. Life goes on from day to day as an active entity. There is work to be done by the Church every day; there is work to be done by the individual soul. Time is precious; time is limited. It must be used to serious purpose.

Lent is before us. Forty days of penitential practice is proposed to us by the Church. The proposal is not merely one of suggestion, of recommendation; it is one of precept. And the precept is of Divine Law in its essence: "unless ye do penance, you shall all likewise perish."

The form of Church Law. Lent formerly was of longer duration. We have the historical remains of these longer Lents in the Sundays from Septuagesima on. Now it goes from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday. It prepares our souls for the mysteries of Holy Week and Easter Sunday. The laws of fasting and abstinence have been tempered in themselves and in their application to individuals. The obligation of penance can not be tempered or abolished. It is essential to our progress in the spiritual life; it is essential to our preparation for heaven.

Lent of 1942 should find all of us in a more serious mood. Away with the trivialities of other years! Away with the indulgence in worldly moods and pagan practices! On with the determination to do penance because the Kingdom of God is at hand!

Private penance in strict fulfillment of our duties of fasting and abstinence according to our state; public penance in the regular attendance at daily Mass, at the Lenten Devotions of preaching and the Stations, in the practice of frequent Communion. Early confession during the Holy Season and the great fast from sin and all that would offend God.

For many there should be also a deeper study of the Faith through membership in Discussion Groups in the several parishes. To know God's word better through better knowledge of the Bible, is made easy through the study of the Bible offered in these groups. It will mean a little sacrifice of ease to join a Discussion Group, it will mean penance; it will mean also that reward that God gives to those who seek Him out: "Taste and see that the Lord is sweet!"

Begin Lent with the determination to find in it all the spiritual help the Church would give you in your efforts to sanctify and save your soul.

NATIONAL BROTHERHOOD WEEK

President Roosevelt has issued a proclamation recommending National Brotherhood Week and its purposes to all citizens of the United States. This "Week" takes in all the days between Lincoln's Birthday and Washington's Birthday. It is dedicated to the spirit of Brotherhood that should animate all who live under a government consecrated to the principle that all men are born free and equal. From its inception, the government of the United States has looked upon man as one endowed by God with certain rights that are his to have and to hold, inalienable rights. Life, freedom, and the pursuit of happiness, are his by God's gift no man, no government has any right to bridge these rights or abolish them.

To be an American, then, is to recognize and respect these rights in ourselves and in those about us. Because our rights and the rights of other men come from God, our Father, we must consider other men as our brethren. The spirit of Brotherhood is an essential part of our profession as citizens of our beloved country.

Americans can not be anti-anything. They can not single out the people of any race or nationality for persecution, for exploitation, for denial of fundamental liberties or essential rights. They must give to every man what is his right, and respect the freedom and the property of their neighbor. This is not only true Americanism; it is religion. It is Catholicity. It is the fulfillment of the second Great Commandment, the Commandment of the love of our neighbor. No subtlety can justify, no prejudice can make right, the vicious determination of certain groups and individuals to vilify and persecute and humiliate certain racial or religious or national groups because of their race or religion or nationality. Un-Christian and Un-American are all such practices.

Brotherhood Week should make us mindful of all that we treasure as Americans. The common possession of all that a free government can guarantee to its citizens should be a lasting and sure foundation for brotherly sentiments toward all those with whom we are associated as fellow-Americans.

MORE DEFENSE STAMPS!

Your country needs your patriotic support in its efforts to defend your liberties from threatened desecration. As you rely on the United States to preserve these liberties for you and for your children, be sure to do all you can in the purchase of Defense Stamps and Defense Bonds. Every stamp, every bond, is another increase in the fighting power of our army and navy and air corps. Buy now, and buy often!

MORE CRUSADERS, MORE CRUSADING!

Yes, the Crusade is over! The Crusaders in grammar school and high school have been heavy at it, ringing the door-bell, consulting professors, pleading the cause of "A Courier in Every Home." The report they have made will put the Courier's subscription list at a

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QUERIES and REPLIES

The World Is in A Mess. How Can We Mend It?

The world today is indeed in a mess. It is hungry, thirsty, naked and homesick. It sits, like the Prodigal, beside the pig's trough, and knows that it is not happy. Unlike the Prodigal, it has been away from home so long that it has almost forgotten the beauty of the Father's house and the place where His glory dwelleth. Unlike the Prodigal, it has wandered so far away that it imagines it can never find its way back. Unlike the Prodigal, it seems to be unwilling to make the effort necessary to secure forgiveness and peace and plenty once more.

"A certain man had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father: Father, give me the portion of substance that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his substance. And not many days after, the young son, gathering all together, went abroad into a far country; and there wasted his substance, living riotously. And after he had spent all, there came a mighty famine in that country; and he began to be in want.

"And he went and cleaved to one of the citizens of that country. And he sent him into his farm to feed swine. And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks the swine did eat, and no man gave unto him. And returning to himself, he said: How many hired servants in my father's house abound with bread, and I here perish with hunger? I will arise, and go to my father, and say to him: Father, I have sinned against Heaven and before thee: I am not worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.

"And rising up he came to his father. And when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and was moved with compassion, and running to him fell upon his neck, and kissed him. And the son said to him: Father, I have sinned against Heaven, and before thee, I am not worthy to be called thy son. And the father said to his servants: Bring forth quickly the first robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it, and let us eat and make merry: Because this my son was dead, and is come to life again" (Luke 15, 11)-(From the pen of Father Richard Felix, O.S.B., Defenders of the Faith, Conception, Missouri.)

Diocesan Recordings

Stimulation it is, to be the father of a Boy Scout, to kneel behind him and the other young Scouts in church and to feel that these men of the future are building for that future in the only way guaranteeing security of soul.

If only the pamphlet to be used by the Religious Discussion Clubs throughout the diocese in Lent, is read, the reader will have a better understanding of the Holy Bible. To bring that understanding to friends and neighbors the "Discussion Club" shows the way.

Reports of attacks on blasphemy, profanity and indecent language on two fronts came to this desk this week.

At the army post aptly named for success in battle, Fort MacArthur, the Catholic Chaplain, Lieut. John Michael Clare has installed a "cussador." Into this device soldiers are invited to drop their coins whenever they violate the Second Commandment. Funds received are used to furnish flowers for the post chapel's altar and to finance bankrupt soldiers with petty funds.

In the mail came a stirring account of the 40-year campaign against Profanity carried on by Arthur S. Colborne, founder of the Anti-Profanity League. Back in 1901, under the gloomy "Bridge of Sighs" in New York, the campaign was begun when a young man profanely assailed "law and order." Into his hand was placed by Mr. Colborne a card reading "Please Do Not Swear Nor Use Obscene or Profane Language." Setbacks and difficulties did not deter Mr. Colborne as he carried on his campaign. Today, in his early 70s, Mr. Colborne carries on. He insists Profanity must be checked. All

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Little-Known Facts for Catholics

By M. J. MURRAY

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MERCATOR'S PROJECTION.

Mercator (1512-1594).
A Catholic, invented the Projection which made possible sea-charts for compass sailing on courses drawn as straight lines.

KEEPER OF THE KING'S CONSCIENCE
Distinguished appointment of the Lord High Chancellor of England.
Dignity from CATHOLIC TIMES WHEN CHANCELLOR WAS A CLERIC.
CATHOLICS ARE BARRED FROM THE POST.

THE ARCADE IN THE TEMPLE AREA, JERUSALEM, IS KNOWN TO HOBBLENS AS "THE SCALES" BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE THE SCALES OF JUSTICE WILL BE SUSPENDED THERE ON JUDGEMENT DAY!

de VARGAS,
SPANISH PAINTER (1502-1668)
never commenced a religious picture without first receiving HOLY COMMUNION!

Along The Way

Notes In The News

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

A Jap in London asked to be released because he can tell the sex of unhatched chickens. That's certainly carrying Japanese espionage to a fine art. . . The White House is substituting salads in place of desserts at social dinners. A real example to the nation's waist line. . . Sinclair Lewis now thinks that dictatorship "Can't Happen Here." Let's hope not; but with the propagandists now puffing up the virtues of Russia, I'm not so sure. . . Let's remember that Russia made a treaty that made possible the whole war; that it fought Hitler not for any love of any of us but to save its own skin and the pieces of the men in power, that it has renounced none of its basic principles, that when Japan attacked us, it was glad of pretexts not to be in alliance, and that the Russian bear has not lost his odor even though he may be doing a good job fighting the enemy who happens, by sheer accident to be his as well as ours. . .

We notice a picture of a swing band leader playing in a cage to monkeys. Is there a song called "At Home At Last"? And is it a proof of animal superiority that the monks look bored to death? . . . Von Papen is returning to Berlin from Turkey; now if he'd only continue his double crossing in the home country. . . Headline: More Funds Requested for Drive Against Rats—what nationality? Oh, sorry, real rats this time. . . Full page of comics, or rather the laughless adventures of the super-heroes. Wonder if they'll last when what they do seems so tame compared to what the real fighters of the world are doing every day. . . Still, it's fine that we Americans, with papers full of war news, still run a page of comics and two full pages of sports. . .

A Judge advocated spankings for bad boys. Many a wise old head will nod approvingly for that. . . A big university promises to finish its students with their bachelor degrees in two years. Fine; but can it be that students will go to college to study and not for the social contacts? . . . Chicago kills 45 people with automobiles in the first three weeks of 1942. Comparatively speaking, a bomber might look like a messenger of mercy. . . Criminals do return to the scene of their crime; a robber came back a second time to a shop and stole another three dollars. He left a note saying, "I was back again." . . The country can find tugged

Holy Name men must boldly speak up and let their voices be heard in every sphere. Glee society and Broadway producers have no special right to profane God's Holy Name. His address is Anti-Profanity League, A. S. Colborne, Pres., 185 East 76th St., New York, N. Y. Write for his literature.

down in the news a bit of sunshine: More pigs were farrowed than ever in history, and they have more corn to eat. . . Oscar Levant tells a reporter that he doesn't dislike anybody. Well, that tone of his makes a lot of people dislike him. . . A motion picture starlet helps win the war by painting a "V" on her brow. Didn't look too unlike those surprised, plucked eyebrows we've all been looking at. . . Now let's turn back to the war.

Retort Discouraging

The little, golden-haired high school freshman paused at the downtown light waiting for a chance to cross the street. Up beside her strolled a sleek, middle-aged man-about-town who eyed the charming youngster appreciatively, and then in a very soft and inviting voice: "Hello, baby. How about a movie?"

The youngster, who happened to be from a Catholic academy looked up calmly at the stranger. Then she said in a surprised and loud voice: "Why, hello, Grandpa. How's your rheumatism today?"

And when the light changed she swept, triumphantly on her way leaving the exampled ancient trying to crawl up again on the curb.

Gold For Poverty

I said Mass in the poor little chapel, and got an unusual experience with the liturgy. Anyone who knows anything about the Mass knows that gold vestments may be substituted for red, white, or green. Because gold is so rich and beautiful it may take the place of any of the inferior colors.

But it never had occurred to me that gold might be the indication of poverty and thrift. The first morning I said the Mass of a martyr in the plain little gold vestment. The second morning I said the Mass of the Sacred Heart in the same famed gold. The third morning, a Sunday, there were no green vestments but the gold chasuble waiting for me.

Then I realized that the poor little chapel could afford only this one set of vestments—plus, of course, a set of black. It wasn't a rich gold, it was a poor gold. And I wondered if the learned cardinals who in the long ago allowed gold to substitute for the lesser shades had ever dreamed that in some cases gold might be a concession to the poor.

Clips

A new macilage is made of corn, tapioca and potatoes. Soon the busy executive will be able to take his lunch at his desk by simply licking the flap of his envelope. —Charles "Peet."