

IMMACULATE, Ithaca

SERVICE HONOR ROLL

By MARY A. YENGO
The Nocturnal Adoration Society will watch before the Blessed Sacrament next Saturday, all night.

The men's discussion group will meet in Parish Hall on Wednesday evening, after the Lenten devotion.

Masses have been changed to 7, 8, 10:15, 11 and 12 o'clock. The children will attend the 9 o'clock Mass instead of the usual one at 8 o'clock, which has been changed to the hour of 12 noon.

Lenten devotions will be held in the Church next Wednesday and Friday evenings. Children are to attend the Stations of the Cross held for them on Friday afternoons at 4 o'clock. Novena devotions in honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal will be held on Sunday evenings instead of Tuesday at 7:30 P. M.

Rev. William Byrne would like to make the following announcement concerning the young men who are serving or who will be called to serve in the armed forces. We, of the Ithaca parish, should cooperate fully and help promote their material and spiritual welfare, by doing the following things:

1. Special prayers will be said after Mass each Sunday.
2. We shall make their welfare the general intention of the Novena exercises that are held each Sunday evening.
3. The High Mass each Sunday will be offered for their safety and spiritual welfare.
4. Hand in the following information concerning any boy of this parish who is now serving or will be called: his name, his former address, his present address, his service division, regiment, camp, etc. Write this information on a card and place it in the basket when you come to Church next Sunday. Then Father Byrne will place in the Church an Honor Roll bearing the names of the service men, as soon as possible.

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Catholic Institutions Benefit in Estate

PHILADELPHIA.—Catholic institutions receive a considerable portion of a \$3,500 estate under the will of Annie M. Foley, of Philadelphia, who died Dec. 24.

She left \$300 each to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, St. Joseph's House for Homeless Industrial Boys, the Central Association of the Miraculous Medal, the Little Sisters of the Poor and St. Joseph's Home for the Blind, Jersey City, N. J. A \$100 bequest goes to the Philadelphia Theological Seminary of St. Charles Borromeo.

K. of C. Have Three War Establishments in Halifax

HALIFAX, N. S. — With the opening of a new Knights of Columbus Hut here, the K. of C. war services committee has two large huts and a hostel in operation in Halifax for the use of all armed forces of Canada, irrespective of race or creed.

Give the Red Cross little or much, it needs "all-out" help.

Prayer to God for Peace on Earth, and to Our Lady, Queen of Angels, for Protection

According to information from a reliable source, the following prayer was disclosed to a devout priest in Rome during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, when it was revealed to him that those who say the prayer with devotion and faith would be spared from the great sufferings that are soon to come into the whole world:

O Jesus! Divine Saviour! be merciful to me and to the whole world. Amen.

Powerful God! Holy God! Immortal God! have compassion upon me and upon the whole world. Amen.

Grace and mercy, my Jesus, during the present danger! Shield me with thy Precious Blood. Amen.

Eternal Father, show us mercy in the name of the Precious Blood of Thy only Son! show us mercy, we implore Thee. Amen.

(This prayer may be said daily after the Elevation in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.)

Bimonthly Statements To Aid Conservation

ST. LOUIS, MO.—To give full cooperation to the Government in its conservation efforts, The Queen's Work here, National Sodality secretariat, which publishes books, pamphlets and various Sodality organs, will send out statements every two months, instead of monthly as in the past. Half the total of statements will go out on alternate months, the announcement explained.

Protectors of The Negroes In Early Louisiana

(By OV Service)

Scholars engaged in the study of Negro slavery quite generally admit that slave conditions were best in colonies governed by Spain, far in those ruled by France, deplorable in English colonies and our own country, and worst under Dutch rule.

None the less, the treatment of slaves in those parts of our country at one time under Spanish and French administration left much to be desired. Missionaries from the two nations, striving to protect the slaves, had to battle constantly with officials and plantation owners, many of them nominally Catholic.

The late Josephite Father John T. Gillard in his valuable work, "Colored Catholics in the United States," recently published, considers this problem extensively, especially in its relation to Louisiana. The Capuchin Fathers, pioneer missionaries in the territory, the author states, struggled "in the face of almost incredible difficulties from colonists many of whom bore the name Catholic but otherwise had few of the marks of Christ in their lives."

Example, Given

By way of illustration he cites the action of Fr. Joaquin de Portillo, a Spanish Capuchin in New Orleans. Appointed assistant vicar general of the diocese and pastor of St. Louis Parish in 1790, "he had frequent clashes with Governor Estevean Miro over the rights of Negro slaves. On one occasion . . . he was notified that a slave girl had been buried in a private garden without the rites of the Church." Fr. Portillo demanded the body be disinterred and buried in consecrated ground, but it was only with reluctance the governor complied. On another occasion the pastor discovered Negroes working on a holiday although the governor could easily have prevented this.

There is no denying the fact, Fr. Gillard affirms, "that the Catholic European civil authorities always sought to spread the Faith and were solicitous about the establishment of the Church in the colonies, including that of Louisiana." But often "their instructions were not carried out as provided in the royal decrees, either because of neglect or indifference on the part of officials or lack of a sufficient number of priests." Another grave difficulty was the type of inhabitants in the colony. The historian Roger Baudier is the authority for the assertion that the colony was an example of "life in the raw," because the respectable colonists were soon joined by "hordes of street scrapings and jail cleanings" from Europe. The excesses common in the early years "quickly grew worse and appalled the missionaries. When the Capuchins arrived (1722) they found scandalous conditions prevailing at New Orleans and at the various posts."

Bitter Complaints
The superior of the Capuchins, Fr. Raphael de Luxembourg, complained bitterly to the authorities against the general disregard for rights, indifference to religion, concubinage with slaves and similar evils. But conditions did not improve much, as three-quarters of a century later, in 1796, the first Bishop of New Orleans, Penalver y Cardenas, also "complained bitterly of the gang of adventurers, without religion and without God, who had come to the colony from the western part of the United States, who made the morals of the inhabitants much worse by coming in contact with them in trading."

Miscegenation was a particularly vexing problem and one that was never really settled. In fact, the whites bought out quadroons and octaroons as concubines. Fr. Raphael in 1724 further deplored the fact that masters of slaves were bent solely on profiting from the work of their slaves and cared nothing for the salvation of their souls. Toward the end of that century Bishop Giffle de Barcelona noted that the Negro slaves, Fr. Gillard writes, "were far from being properly attended in religious matters. Furthermore, there was little care exercised for their moral uplift. Little being done to induce them to marry and live as Christians. Neglect was worse in the rural sections than in the larger centers."

Few Marriages
In proof the author points out that while the old parish records show hundreds of baptisms among the Negroes of all ages relatively few marriages are recorded. Bishop Penalver observed in 1796 that

"marriage among the slaves is almost unknown."

The Louisiana Purchase of 1803, Fr. Gillard declares, marked a transition from the Latin Catholic philosophy of life, which had made some attempt to help the Negro, to the American philosophy of life which, "because it was English, regarded the slave as a chattel inherently inferior to his white master." Thereafter the rights of the Negroes were progressively restricted and the degradation of the slaves was still further intensified. The "Catholic thought pattern which regarded the Negro as a child of God and basically equal with his white master" gave place, the author reports, to "the prevailing American thought pattern of essential inferiority."

These statements, excerpted from the chapter of the book devoted to the question, "Why So Few Colored Catholics?" show how the Negro slave's position went from bad to worse. Conditions actually became so deplorable that in 1815 Bishop Dubourg settled in St. Louis rather than New Orleans, because he regarded the latter city as a "sewer of vice and refuge of all that is worth on earth." Had it not been for the influence exerted by custom and tradition, as inaugurated by the French and Spanish crowns and the missionaries, the plight of the Negroes in Louisiana would most probably have been beyond description.

Dedicate Clinic As Memorial To Catholic

PORTSMOUTH, Va. — (NC) — Erected in memory of the late Frank Nott, Richmond Catholic layman, a new \$9,000 tuberculosis clinic was dedicated here at ceremonies attended by Catholics, Protestants and Jews.

Named the Frank Nott Memorial Tuberculosis Clinic, the new building and health center is the gift of Mrs. Frank Nott, mother of the Rev. F. Harold Nott, former assistant pastor of St. Paul's Catholic Church here, now making advanced studies at the Catholic University of America.

Members of the Nott family, Father Nott, Mayor John P. Leigh, of Portsmouth, and other municipal officials were among those who attended and participated in the ceremonies. Councilman Leslie T. Fox said the Council has appropriated \$2,500 for the current year to aid in defraying the operating costs of the clinic. The dedicatory address was made by the Rev. T. A. Russell, Pastor of South Street Baptist Church.

Speaking also at the ceremonies, Norman R. Hamilton, publisher of the Portsmouth Star, extolled Father Nott for his personal contributions to the community and its people, citing his efforts for the creation of the clinic as the outstanding individual accomplishment for Portsmouth in 1941.

Perpetual Communion For Peace Suggested

ST. LOUIS.—In the Work Chart for March, Sodality of the United States and Canada are asked to inaugurate perpetual Communion and recitation of the Little Office for peace. The Chart, prepared at The Queen's Work, national Sodality secretariat, suggests the general Mass intention be for fathers, since St. Joseph's feast day is March 19.

A retreat is recommended for Vocation Week, March 18 to 20, and Sodality are requested to give special attention to observance of the Feast of the Annunciation, March 25.

Rio Policemen Close Meeting With 'Credo'

RIO DE JANEIRO.—Closing the meeting of the Policemen's Guild at which Archbishop Freitas was elected President of the Board of Directors, all members recited the Credo.

The Guild Union Catholicos dos Guardas Civis, was founded in 1940 by its present Spiritual Director, the Rev. Mario Silva, and has enjoyed the warm approval of His Eminence Sebastiao Cardinal Lacerda de Oliveira, Archbishop of Rio.

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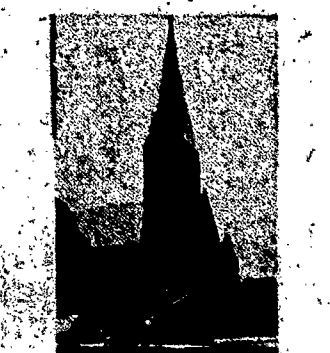
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Rev. Robert Kren

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