

# 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 no information whatever. Let us have a brief slogan: "The CATHOLIC COURIER in every Catholic home!"

\* JAMES E. KEARNEY, Bishop of Rochester.

## EASTER

For two thousand years the happy Feast of the Resurrection has been a source of joy, of hope to man. Back over all those years it points today to the greatest fact of all history, points to it with absolute confidence, with historic certainty, points to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. The passing of time does not lessen the certainty of a fact so thoroughly evidenced in the beginning, does not lessen the importance of the Resurrection of the world at large. As long as man shall live on this earth, the memory of the Resurrection of the Redeemer shall be treasured in all hearts that know Christ shall be available as the only hope of salvation to those who have not as yet received Him.

History is made up of the exploits of living men, of men who once walked this earth and are now no more, of some few who still abide here. It is the written record of things that have happened. Wickedness of lowest depths and righteousness of highest heights have left their mark on the pages of history; men of peace and men of war have left their names for future generations to shudder over or to rejoice in.

Outstanding among all facts recorded in history is the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Life is a common-place to man; death is all about him. Life has gone down into death as an everyday occurrence. Life has returned from death just once. No ordinary man has returned to life from death through his own power; death has meant the falling into nothingness of all power one has had in life. So certain were the enemies of Christ of this unfailling condition, that they looked to His death as the end of all His power, His influence. "He hath saved others, Himself He cannot save."

Life has returned from death just once! Jesus Christ, the Son of Man, the Son of God, went down to death even as other men did. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Son of Man, arose from the dead as no other man has ever done. His human soul left His human body when He died; His divinity never for an instant left either His soul or His body. His divine nature remained united to His dead body as it lay in the tomb; His divine nature was united constantly to His soul as He preached to the souls in Limbo.

On the third day He rose again! His divinity with all its fulness of divine power, reunited His soul and body; brought them back into that living union that should know no further separation, should never more be subject to death. The Risen Christ is in the world today as the undying symbol of the triumph of life over death, of good over evil, of grace over sin. His Resurrection is a type of the resurrection that every man shall know on the last day, when every soul shall be reunited to its body to possess for ever the reward or punishment merited in life.

The Resurrection of Christ is the great fact of history, it is the arresting fact of the world today. Believer and unbeliever alike give testimony to it. Every man must recognize the place it holds in man's striving for salvation. Christus vincit, Christus regnat, Christus imperat! Christ conquers, Christ reigns, Christ rules!

## FOR ALL NATIONS

The Church of God is Catholic or universal. For all ages, for all nations, for teaching all truth, Christ has founded her. In peace and in war, in times of stress and in times of tranquillity, She must carry on her mission. Her position on moral questions can never be neutral; she can never side with injustice or wrong. In war between nations, She takes no sides; but labors always to bring about a just peace.

There are Catholics in every one of the nations now at war. In the Axis countries and in the Allied countries there are children of the Church, there are parishes and dioceses, schools and churches, which form an integral part of the Church and can not be shut off by war. The Church must continue to teach, to sanctify, to govern. Her members throughout the world. Her work is made more easy when diplomatic relations are maintained between the Vatican and the various nations.

Recent reports indicate that Japan has sent a Minister to the Vatican, and that the Vatican has appointed Archbishop Morella to the office of Ambassador to Japan. Archbishop Spellman has given the world the proper understanding of such action: it is an ordinary following out of the work of the Church in dealing with Her subjects in the spiritual order to have diplomatic relations with those who are their temporal rulers. The inception of diplomatic relations involves no indication of taking sides in the way of approving Japan's course; any more than the Vatican's continued diplomatic relations with nations on the Allied side would be an approval of their war aims and methods. On all this the Church must remain neutral, speaking out only when attacks on religion and morality call for the exercise of the spiritual authority with which Christ has endowed Her.

## BUY DEFENSE BONDS

Our country's cause is our cause! Her needs are our needs. For us and our children America is today fighting the battle for liberty on many fronts. For an America is spending billions of dollars that we may not fall into the slavery of a conquered people.

American boys and girls! Buy bonds to support our country's cause. Buy bonds to support our country's cause. Buy bonds to support our country's cause.

## TO MARY AT EASTER

By Sister Maryanna, O.P.

(Written for N.C.W.C. Easter Supplement)

Do you remember, Mother Mary,  
Over the cycle of centuries,  
All the fear-shadowed days you suffered?  
Have you forgotten these?  
Do you remember the day He left you  
To preach to His people of truth and right?  
You stood in the doorway and watched Him, watched Him—  
Have you forgotten that lonely night?

Have you forgotten, Mother Mary,  
The hours you spent beneath the Cross?  
Do you remember the swords that pierced you,  
Opening your heart to a sense of loss?  
But there was Easter, happy Mother,  
Bringing your Son back to your arms—  
Easter and peace forever sealing  
A mother's heart from wild alarms.

Ah, you are watching, Mother Mary,  
A million mothers whose silent pleas  
Break their hearts as a million sons go  
Perhaps to Calvary—over seas.  
Help them to wait and pray as you did,  
Mother of Mercy, Queen of Peace,  
Grant them the joy you knew one Easter;  
Your Son returned and the world at peace.

### Along The Way

## Prayer Backing the Talk

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

Father Francis Deglman dropped into my room at Creighton University. I was giving the retreat for his college men and we talked of them, he with that interest and devotion which he always feels toward the young men under his spiritual direction. He referred briefly and in his usual pleasant and kindly fashion to my retreat. And then:

"I've been so busy with arrangements and seeing boys," he added, "that I've had time to drop in only for one of your talks. And you'll have to forgive me, but I slept."

"My stars!" I cried; "I hope you didn't let the boys see how impressed you were with my talk."

"Oh, no," he replied. "I was way back in a dark corner of the church. Anyhow, who ever knows what effect sermons or talks have, or what makes them effective?"

I agreed to that most heartily, and he went on.

"Some years ago, I was riding the train toward a retreat I was to give, when of a sudden a minister came and sat beside me. 'I want to talk to you,' he said with slight aggressiveness; but I pointed to the office I was saying, 'I'd like to finish my prayers,' I said, 'and when I'm done, I'll call you and then you can come back.'"

"So he sat in the seat ahead, while I finished my breviary. Then I tapped his shoulder and he swung back into the seat beside me. This time he was really aggressive."

"Why," he demanded, "do you Catholics do the inconceivable thing of adoring the Blessed Virgin?"

"Can you read Latin?" I asked.

"Rather," he replied. "I'm an Oxford graduate."

"I handed him my breviary. It happened to be a feast of Our Lady, and the Third Nocturn of the breviary was written by St. Augustine, for whom many Protestants profess a wide admiration. 'Read that,' I said. And he read the praises that St. Augustine heaped upon Our Lady, and the saintly doctor's explanation of the Catholic attitude toward God's Mother."

"He handed me back the breviary without a word, and then, as if changing the subject, I pointed

to the spring field we were passing.

"Nice field of wheat," said I, indicating the tender shoots.

"I'm sorry," he retorted, "but that is young corn."

"Whereupon we argued at considerable length. Then I turned to an unmistakably country-bred man across the aisle, 'Which is that,' I demanded, 'wheat or corn?'"

"The farmer laughed. 'Sorry, you're both wrong. It's oats.'"

"I turned to the minister. 'You see,' I said, 'it is wise sometimes to ask an expert and not dabble along as a mistaken amateur. Some amateur told you we Catholics adore the Blessed Virgin as really we adore only God. Instead of shaking that false charge under my nose, why didn't you ask me if Catholics adore the Blessed Virgin? I happen to be a priest, an expert, and I could have saved you a lot of unnecessary worry about Catholics.'"

"Then we launched into a long discussion—pulling the Pope out of the Protestant slough of misunderstanding, talking about confession, even defending myself for saying my prayers in public. In the end we were good friends, and I walked to the car door with him."

"As I returned, a youngster of about twelve across the aisle suddenly knelt on the seat. 'Hurrah for the Catholic priest!' he shouted."

"Well, you can imagine I was feeling a bit puffed up over it all. So I sank down in the seat beside the boy who had led the cheering."

"Nice work, father," he said. "But sometimes that minister had me scared. I was afraid you'd not give the right answers. So I pulled out my rosary, and prayed that you'd really prove our side—yours and mine." And he flashed his rosary under my nose.

"So there it was. I'd taken a lot of credit to myself. And maybe it was all due to the little boy with his rosary in his hand that I said the things that seemed to impress the minister. Now when I talk, I always hope that someone is praying. It's not my talk nor yours nor anyone else's that matters. The big question is: Who's doing the praying?"

## Quiz Corner

How old is a girl when she knows her true vocation?—E. S.

Knowledge of one's vocation does not depend upon age except in so far as the person concerned must have the use of reason. While there have been those who were enlightened at a very early age, usually a girl will be well up in her teens before she can decide definitely. Prayer, advice of parents, pastor or confessor are the ordinary means God has given us in order to arrive at a wise decision concerning the course of our life.

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contribute to the support of the pastor (and this of course means the Church, school, etc.) could become a mortal sin. The fifth commandment of the Church requires that the faithful contribute to the support of their pastors according to their means. This law of the Church is based on the Commandment of God Who bade the Children of Israel to contribute to the support of Priests and Levites of the Old Law. St. Paul says: "Knew you not that they, who work in the holy place, eat the things that are of the holy place, and they that serve the altar partake with the altar? He also the Lord ordained that they who preach the Gospel should live by the Gospel." (I Cor. IX, 14.)

## Diocesan Recordings

IN HOPE will be found the joy of Easter, this year. Protracted suffering for the world after Good Friday, this year, is the outlook. The triumph of the Resurrection will come to men of good will, however. In the hope that is furnished by Christ's triumph over death will be found the joy of a Blessed Easter. For the boys in the armed forces, and those at home praying for them, hope and confidence in the Resurrected Christ provide the uplifting theme for a Blessed and Holy Feast.

DEFENSE WORKERS are the ones for whom the late Sunday Mass was started. Others who take advantage of that Mass solely because they would like to sleep longer are hardly entering into the spirit of personal self-sacrifice called for in this time of war. Slow-pokes who get to the Monday Mass on Sunday, late, may find they are missing Mass.

A PERSONAL LOSS. In the death of Prof. Leo A. Muckle, of Ithaca, the Recorder feels a personal loss. In the old Cathedral High School, Leo Muckle was a leader and an inspiration to his fellow students. He was the first editor-in-chief of the school paper, "The Student" and under his guidance was begun this writer's interest and work in the Catholic press. He was exemplary in those days. He was highly respected at Notre Dame University for his scholastic standing and personal behaviour. He was a Catholic layman during his entire career who furnished the kind of example to his fellow-laymen which could be conscientiously followed. He was one of an outstanding Catholic family with four of his brothers, priests of God, and a sister in religion. Leading the exemplary life that he did, Leo was well prepared. His mode of life was edifying and is inspirational to me of the laity to emulate.

## QUERIES and REPLIES

Why do you insist that one must believe all the doctrines of your Church? Could not one be saved who accepts most of them but finds himself unable to agree to some of them?

It is possible for one to be saved who accepts only some of the doctrines while rejecting others but such a one will be saved not by reason of his agreement or non-agreement with some of the doctrines of the Church but because of his earnest desire to please God and his freedom at the moment of death from mortal sin.

His good faith and sincerity will save him in spite of his adherence to most but not all of the teachings of the Church.

Merely to hold a particular doctrine of the Church to be true as a matter of opinion is of no particular religious value. The truths of Faith form a chain; destroying one link destroys the chain. Further, the truths of faith are not accepted on the basis of opinion or human evidence but solely on the testimony and authority of God. To reject any one article of faith is to reject the authority of God just as much as to reject the doctrines of faith.

Those who reject any of the articles of faith have no faith. What they believe, they believe on mere human authority. That they agree with the Church in some particulars only goes to show that they consider the Church to be merely a human institution which sometimes happens to be right. (From the pen of Father Richard Felix, O.S.B., Defenders of the Faith, Conception, Missouri.)

## Feast Days

- Sunday, Apr. 5—EASTER SUNDAY.
- Monday, Apr. 6—ST. CELESTINE.
- Tuesday, Apr. 7—ST. SATURNIN.
- Wednesday, Apr. 8—ST. PEFUR.
- Thursday, Apr. 9—ST. MARY OF EGYPT.
- Friday, Apr. 10—ST. MACARIUS.
- Saturday, Apr. 11—ST. LEO THE GREAT.