

Catholic Courier

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With the Approval 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.

"TO THEE, OH BLESSED JOSEPH . . ."

With these words, in obedience to the direction of His Excellency, Bishop Kearney, Catholics of the diocese, priests, religious and laity gathered in their respective churches and chapels on Wednesday evening of this week, to invoke the aid of Saint Joseph, Patron of the universal Church. Thus began a solemn Triduum of prayer to be concluded with the Mass of St. Joseph on Sunday, April 26.

To whom among the saints could we go with greater confidence, in this time of crisis for our nation, than to St. Joseph? When the sons of Jacob came from Israel in time of famine, to seek aid in Egypt, they were directed: "Go to Joseph." Joseph in Egypt was thus a type of the foster father and Protector of the Holy Family. St. Joseph in his office as Guardian of the Divine Child, lived through a series of crises. Under divine guidance he protected God's Son from the murderous designs of king Herod. He was a tower of strength during the exile in Egypt; he was instrumental in bringing about the safe return of the Child and His Mother to Nazareth where, during the years of the Hidden Life he was truly the Guardian of the Holy Family.

As members of the Church militant, God's family on earth, we have need today, more than ever before, of the intercession and protection of this great saint. Saint Teresa of Avila tells us that she never invoked the aid of St. Joseph but that her prayer was answered. Today the Church in our own country and throughout the world is facing another crisis. Not only is the Church and her membership facing a crisis but Christian civilization itself hangs in the balance. Will humanity survive this crisis and continue to live, according to the dignity of free men, under a rule of law and order, or is brute force to arrogate to itself the functions of government and reduce the masses of mankind to a condition of slavery? We, the American people have been wantonly attacked by an unjust aggressor and we are fighting to protect our lives, our homes and those traditions of liberty—of speech, of religion and of the press which have made this America we all love, in very truth, the Land of the Free. St. Joseph, as the divinely constituted Head of the Holy Family, stands out, in this time of crisis, as a beacon of true liberty and right order. Destroy the family and you destroy the basis of our society and much that is sacred and prized in our national life. From many families in America soldiers, sailors and marines have already given up their lives in this battle for the survival of liberty; they have given, "The Last Full Measure of Devotion." And to continue in the words of the immortal Lincoln: "It is for Us the Living, to be here Dedicated to the Great Task Remaining before us." Will this nation under God, have a new birth of freedom? It will if we as a people remain under God, or, if it be the case, return to Him, and place our trust in Him, in the tradition of the great leaders raised up by Almighty God in every period of crisis in our nation's history.

In the early days of the civil war it was thought by some of the most astute political observers that no matter which side won the war, the union would be destroyed. We have seen how Lincoln, as did Washington in an earlier day, triumphed over all obstacles and the union was preserved.

We go then to Joseph that this great saint may obtain for us such a knowledge, love, and observance of God's Law as will insure for our beloved country the preservation of the Christian way of life and our cherished liberties, so that "Freedom Banished from the Earth" may find a last refuge in the hearts of all true Americans.

THE TRIDUUM INTENTION

"Victory and the establishment of peace in the world," is the intention suggested by Bishop Kearney for the Triduum in Honor of St. Joseph. Our prayers on behalf of our beloved country should speed Divine Intervention.

Where the enemies of God and the enemies of man strive mightily for power over the world, those who are the friends of God and the friends of man must strive with equal might that the cause of iniquity and injustice may not prevail.

America is now on an all-out effort to raise production of war material to a 100% level. Our assembly lines in industry have set aside the autos and refrigerators and radios to make room for the tanks and the airplanes and the guns and torpedoes for our armed forces. Man power has gone into our army and navy and air force; man power has been put, to the test in our industries. Equipment for the fray, mechanized items to match those the enemy has been preparing for six years or more, tanks and airplanes and guns, are now on the way. Everyone is working at top speed that there may be no more complaint of "too little, too late!" Americans are gladly giving in taxes to their government part of the money needed for this all-out effort; they are buying War Stamps and War Bonds to provide the rest. All for victory over evil, for the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the world.

To this the Catholic must add his daily prayers of petition to Almighty God for His blessing on our arms, for His protection of our country, for the success of the cause that His cause. How eminently proper that The Feast of the Patronage of St. Joseph, to be observed Sunday in all our churches, should be marked by the culmination of a great Triduum of Devotion to St. Joseph in which our hearts and souls go up to Him; that he, as Patron of the Universal Church will in a special manner be a Patron to our beloved country and its people, to its President and his assistants, to our

(Continued on Page 19)

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Little-Known Facts for Catholics

By M J MURRAY Copyright, 1942, H. C. W. G. Hope Service

Lecterns
in the form of an **EAGLE** now invariably associated with **PROTESTANT CHURCHES** was once common in **CATHOLIC CHURCHES**.

Youngest Pope
SINCE MEDIEVAL TIMES
CLEMENT XI
(1700-1721) - AGED 51 -
ONLY BECAME A PRIEST
5 MONTHS BEFORE

MONOPHYSITE HERETICS MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS WITH ONE FINGER ONLY TO EMPHASIZE THEIR BELIEF THAT CHRIST HAD ONLY ONE NATURE ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS IN THE LOCALITY OFFSET THIS BY USING TWO!

Along The Way

Just About Gum

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

From the vantage point of a speaker's platform, I have the unusual opportunity of watching an audience at a time when they are relaxed and, because they have no idea anyone is watching them, off guard. And though I am by no means above the occasional chewing of gum myself I like to pick out the gum chewers in the audience. It's a study in abstraction and human reactions.

There is the young man who listens with head lifted, and his jaws working in uninterrupted rhythm. There is the quite charming young lady whose brightly camouflaged mouth constantly changes its shape as she chews without opening her lips but with the most amazing distortion of them. There is the chewer who is a sort of gauge of your interest for the audience. He chews regularly, but when you make a point, his champing grows less and less, the beat taking a slower pulse until, as you make your point, he is almost motionless. Then when you make your point and his interest lapses, he resumes a heightened speed to make up for lost time. And finally there is the girl with the large hat, who has never learned that the muscles of her jaw are connected with those of her scalp. As she chews, her hat moves up and down, either with little jerky movements, or with a slow and dignified rhythm, as if she were nodding approval.

Years ago, one of the big gum manufacturers set aside thousands of dollars for any scheme which would make gum-chewing fashionable. The money is still unclaimed. We chew, fashionable or not. But sometime for your own amusement, watch yourself in a mirror as you do.

The Background Faces

Next time you go to a banquet or hear a speech during the course of which people sit on the platform back of the speaker, or see a motion picture news reel of some important individual delivering a powerful oration, abstract from the speaker for a bit, and take a look instead at the people back of him. Look at the other guests at the speakers' table. Or the other important people on the platform. Maybe, perhaps, possibly the orator is wowing the audience in front of him; judged by their faces the people back of him are bored with an inch of their lives.

They are utterly relaxed. They are intently scrutinizing the audience. If there is a laugh, they come in like a sort of obedient echo, laughing not at what he says but in response to the laughter from the hearers. They are care-

fully studying their programs. They are half-dozing.

It takes a mighty magnetic speaker to distract the "audience from the coma into which the speech has dropped the people nearest to him at the table or platform.

May I, as one who has to talk often and long, plead for a Society to Keep Speakers' Table Guests Awake During Speeches?

Advertising De Luxe?

May I nominate for the Silhest Ad of the Year that of the society lady with the bottle of Coca Cola in her hand?

The photograph was clearly taken by a society photographer. The lady dressed herself in her best frock for the occasion. The right social atmosphere was established. And then the advertising company stuck a bottle of Coca Cola in her hand.

Nobody thought of providing the good lady with a glass. If she is going to drink at all, which clearly she hasn't thus far for the bottle is full, she is going to have to lift it to her lips and drink a la beachera. Evidently just as the camera was about to click, she realized that possibility, for her expression is one of acute uneasiness.

I vastly admire the skill of American advertisers. But they

Diocesan Recordings

Seeking an item or two of interest to the laity for this department, this week the article "Blurt It Out To Our Lord" by the Rev. Francis P. LeBuffe, S.J., popped up in front of us. This is a time when guarding the speech has become a patriotic duty. The admonitions given in the "Queen's Work" article by Father LeBuffe, well known in this diocese, are worthy of acceptance by all.

The article tells the story of an irate young seminarian who had a grievance, he thought, against the Rector but stopped first to tell it to the Spiritual Director. The latter insisted on a visit first to the chapel which reluctantly the young seminarian made but never did go angrily to the rector.

"We all get pretty hot" at times," the article continues, "and are quite ready to visit our anger on the guilty one or to scold one in authority, in order to have the guilty one corrected. With all the fierce clearness of a disturbed mind we are sure we are right and equally sure that we have the correct way to right the wrong."

Editor CATHOLIC COURIER

I want to express my appreciation for your splendid editorial "Come to the Jews" which appeared in your recent issue. It is very heartening to know the sentiments of our non-Jewish friends and which assures us that what happens in other countries due to Nazi propaganda will not happen here.

RICHARD M. STEIN

QUERIES and REPLIES

What Are The Spiritual Works of Mercy?

The Spiritual Works of Mercy are enumerated as follows:

1. To admonish the sinner.
2. To instruct the ignorant.
3. To counsel the doubtful.
4. To comfort the sorrowing.
5. To bear wrong patiently.
6. To forgive injuries.
7. To pray for the living and the dead.

The Spiritual Works of Mercy were recommended over and over again by our Lord and the Apostles.

Space permits but two quotations. "He who causeth a sinner to be converted from the error of his way, shall save his soul from death, and shall cover a multitude of sins" (James 5: 20). "And be ye kind one to another merciful forgiving one another, even as God hath forgiven you in Christ" (Eph. 4: 32 comp. Luke 10, 26; Rom. 12, 17; Gal. 6: 1; Thesa. 5: 14, 1 Tim. 2: 1).

What is Meant By the Chrism in Confirmation?

The Chrism which the Bishop uses in Confirmation is composed of olive oil and balsam. Olive oil possesses healing and strengthening properties and was used by the athletes of old to increase their power and endurance for the contests of the arena. Balsam is a preservative, it also possesses a pleasant perfume. The mystic significance of these ingredients corresponds to their physical properties. —(From the pen of Father Richard Felix, O.S.B., Defenders of the Faith, Conception, Missouri.)

have their off minutes. And that unfortunate lady holding her untouched bottle in her hand, no glass in sight, nothing but Emily Post between her and the necessity of tilting her head and pouring the drink down her throat, strikes me as a good instance of the Bell Wether Ad gone wrong.

Innocent Suspects

This war is doing a lot of things to a lot of people take kids for instance (I don't mean boys I mean kids the kind that have a wonderful time digging caves in a hillside.)

As my train slowed down coming into Cleveland, I witnessed a dramatic little scene on the right of way. Two beautifully hollowed-out caves decorated the sides of the steep embankment through which our train cut. Two police officers were holding little boys, not more than ten or eleven.

In normal times they would just have been kids digging a cave. But these days . . . even a kid can't build a cave without somebody wondering what he plans to blow up.

"It may be that we are really correct but the mood that is then on us hardly provides the proper setting for our solution. That is what the holy old Spiritual Father saw, and wise with the wisdom of years, he gave his insistent bit of advice.

"Something goes wrong at home, and it is so easy to blurt out nasty remarks which hurt. How much better it will be to hold our tongue until we have first blurted it out to God. The very telling it to Him, will make us see how silly it would be to hurt a loved one by its retelling."

Despite the number of young men being called into the armed forces, attendance at Catholic lay organization meetings is holding up, new members are joining, former members are reviving interest. The sign is a good one because the Church needs strong and active lay groups, with men informed of what is their duty in defending the Church and the principles she upholds in a true democratic nation.