

Catholic Courier

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With the Approbation of His

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 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.

HOLY MOTHER CHURCH ASKS

No man takes the dignity of Priesthood to himself. The vocation comes from Almighty God, the preparation comes from the seminary, the ordination takes place by request of Holy Mother the Church.

On Saturday morning of the present week, the request of the Church will be spoken to Bishop Kearney by the Archdeacon at the ceremony of ordination at the Pro-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart. "Most Reverend Father, our Holy Mother the Catholic Church asks that you ordain the Deacons here present to the office of Priesthood."

The work of the Church must go on: there are souls to be instructed in God's law, to be sanctified through God's grace, to be led along the path to Heaven by the light of the Sacraments. "Go and make disciples of all nations." New generations of men arise: new generations of priests must be raised up to minister to them. All the Church prays that God will come up worthy priests for this ministry: that the saving power of Christ in His Church may bless new souls through the winding of Other Christs for their salvation. The Ember Days four times a year are set aside for special prayers for the clergy. In the Mass and in the solemn Litanies on these days the official prayer of the Church is directed to this intention, that young men may answer the call of vocation, may be led to leave home and kindred, to follow in the footsteps of the Master.

Now the prayer has been answered, now the call of vocation has had its full response, now are the Levites ready for ordination to the Priesthood. Holy Mother, the Catholic Church, now asks the Bishop to ordain them. Again the wonder of the Last Supper is about to be wrought, again men are to be clothed with the power and grace of Christ's Priesthood, again the sign of priestly orders is to be impressed indelibly on consecrated hearts. A rebirth of the zeal of Christ, a new impression of the power of Christ, a new equipment of the love of Christ, is now made present in each new priest as he knows the sacerdotal dignity is now his through the imposition of hands.

May all our young priests know that the Church has prayed for them in Herself and in Her members: that the Church will continue to pray for them! Christ's work must go on! The newly ordained are the guarantee that that work shall go on! New vistas of hope for the world, of pardon for sinful man, of the sublimation of the natural man into the supernatural, greet our eyes as we behold the new company of priests ready as servants of the Church to go forth to minister unto their brethren. Their hands anointed for the handling of our Lord's Body in the Mass, their souls filled with the Holy Ghost, their heads still conscious of the laying on of hands of the Priesthood, their hearts burning with joy at the new increment of grace, their bodies clothed in sacerdotal raiment, our young priests are eager as a giant to run their course: to bring to a waiting world the benefits and the blessings of the Priesthood of Jesus Christ!

Holy Mother the Catholic Church has prayed for it! Holy Mother the Catholic Church has asked for it! Holy Mother the Catholic Church rejoices today in the answer to Her prayer, in the response to Her request, the ordination of this class of new priests for Her service.

GRADUATIONS ARE ON

Man does not acquire learning all at once, but comes to it gradually and laboriously. Learning is part of life, shares the conditions of life. Man's physical growth and development is gradual, covering many years; man's mental growth is gradual, and should cover all his years. The very word "school" speaks of the slow pace of learning. Graduation tells of the grades or steps up which the pupil has been climbing over the years, and of his stepping off from the highest step.

Achievement of a sacred purpose is the joy of graduation. Education started off with a laborious learning of letters and numbers and words. It took on added interest when reading became possible, when arithmetic brought us into the mysteries of short division and long division, when the world and its wonders unfolded themselves to inquiring minds in geography and history classes, when passing years introduced subjects still higher and more complicated for developing intellects. Step by step, at a petty pace, the mind climbed upward: religious elements mingled freely in studies as they are mingled naturally in all life: mind and heart traveled together, because both were blessed with a balanced view of life and its interests.

And now comes the long awaited day of Graduation! The student has reached the goal! He is stepping out of school life now, out of grammar school life into high school life, out of high school life into collegiate life: out of collegiate life into professional life. He looks back on his scholastic days with satisfaction that he has qualified himself for life by his long years of study. He knows his mental and moral development have not been completed. He knows they are to continue to advance, but no longer under the tutelage of teachers and professors. He is now on his own!

Graduations are on! In every hamlet and city and metropolis, classes of boys and girls, of young men and women, are patiently and properly listening to the wisdom of their elders at commencement exercises. May their years of training stand them in good stead in meeting the problems the present war-like age will present. May they find in their religious training the surest support for those ideals of thinking and living that will bless their lives on earth and prepare them for their eternal life in Heaven!

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QUERIES and REPLIES

What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is one of the seven Sacraments of the Church. It is usually enumerated right after Baptism and in the early days of the Church was administered immediately after Baptism.

By Baptism we receive the Grace to know God, to love Him, and to serve Him. But we should know Him intimately, love Him intensely, and serve Him most diligently. We should, as the Catechism tells us, be strong and perfect Christians and soldiers of Jesus Christ. A medieval writer sets forth the purpose of Confirmation in these beautiful words: "In Baptism man is enlisted into the service; in Confirmation he is equipped for battle; in Baptism we are fortified for the combat; in Confirmation we are cleansed, after Baptism we are strengthened; regeneration of itself saves those who receive Baptism in time of peace. Confirmation arms and makes ready for conflicts."

The Sacrament of Confirmation was instituted by our Lord but the exact time and occasion of its institution is a matter of conjecture. It was administered by the Apostles as a Sacrament distinct from Baptism when they confirmed the Samaritans who had been baptized by Philip (cf. Acts 8, 14). Saint Paul and Saint John make frequent reference to Confirmation (cf. 2 Cor. 1, 21; Eph. 1, 13; Titus 3, 5; 1 John 26, 27). From the pen of Father Richard Felix, O.S.B., Defenders of the Faith, Conception, Missouri.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Little-Known Facts for Catholics

By M. J. MURRAY

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SO DISCREET DID ANGELO BECOME DURING THE 70 YEARS OF THE ANGELO FAMILY THAT SCARCELY 500 CITIZENS REMEMBERED HIS NAME. HIS WIFE WAS CALLED CATIE COATED IN ST. PETER'S AND THE LATHAM.

Until late last century, the only form of dress worn by the clergy in this manner.

WREATHS OF FLOWERS were commonly worn by priests during Festival processions in Medieval Europe.

Along The Way

Foes and Allies

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

Forgive me if this turns out to be serious. But it results from a letter I got from a good non-Catholic friend this morning. She says she finds her friends regard "The Catholic attitude toward the war" as violently anti-English and as "soakingly" pro-Nazi.

I thought long about that letter. After all, an Englishman in "Life" some six weeks ago, announced that he found most Americans anti-English. I doubt we are slightly pro-Nazi. Catholics know too much about Hitler's persecution of religion, the Catholic Poles, the priests in the concentration camps, the throwing of nuns out of their convents.

But as one in whose blood runs equal parts of Irish and English, I tried to understand the problem. It's psychological, no doubt, of that Catholics love America and are devoted to the American Way of Life. They are deeply grateful for all that America has done for them.

They are not too sure, however, that the American Way of Life is deep in the heart of all our leaders. They are not sure that our publicists of this war have made clear what we are fighting for. The Atlantic Charter was not a statement of the American Way of Life. Indeed it was far less inspiring than Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points. Many of us find it hard to grow ecstatic about the leadership of Hopkins, Ickes and Archibald MacLeish. There seems to be much too much written and spoken about our Allies, and much too little and too uninspiringly about America and Americans.

As I see it, our leaders will be extremely wise to remember that we have a complex psychological situation in America. All of us certainly detest all that the Nazis stand for. We regard Japan as a pagan country with the barest surface veneer of our culture. Mussolini never succeeded in his purpose of turning the song-loving, homeloving peaceful Italians into a blood-lusting race, we object to him because he tried.

So we dislike our foes intensely. But we are, Catholics and non-Catholics alike, inclined to be skeptical when whitewash is thrown by the bucketful over our allies. For years I have seen no difference between the Nazis and the Communists. The Nazis fought religion with subtlety, the Communists under Stalin took it by the neck and throttled it. The Nazis set up their secret police on the pattern of the Russian, their concentration camps on what they learned from the Soviet. They have equal contempt for the individual, equal devotion to the all-powerful state. And if the Nazis murdered their tens of

thousand political enemies, the Communists ran the score into millions - starved, liquidated, purged. They both spawn from the materialistic philosophy of Marx, they are both socialistic.

When Cripps, leftist of leftists, tells us how noble are their hearts, and when that pinko MacLeish, praises them, we are cold. We don't want a postwar world dominated by the Reds any more than we want it dominated by the Nazis. We want to worship God and we think class hatred is just as vicious as blood hatred.

Since the war England has suffered terribly. For that we feel sincere regret. But it is hard to ask Irish, Indians, Malaysians and Burmese long exploited by the English, to see England as the White Knight Without Reproach. Let's remember that the Filipinos fought like heroes for us, their brothers. The Irish and the Indians declined to fight for the England that had ruled them, and the Burmese and Malaysians turned to the unknown invader from the masters they had known.

So I should put it this way. We Catholics, and I think all thinking men, believe in the American Way of Life, and are willing to die for it. But, though we are glad to have the regimented might of Russia fighting Hitler, and the English Navy between us and the foe, we don't regard ourselves as fighting their battles - any more than they think they are fighting ours. So let's redefine the American Way of Life, and let's be sure we are living it and loving it ourselves. I know some of our leading publicists who before Pearl Harbor were pretty cold to the American Way of Life and were hellbent on changing it root and branch. They talked of the Four Freedoms, but they did not talk of those basic American principles on which the Four Freedoms are established.

Reverence for God.
Respect for all individuals.
A sense of justice under law.
A universal love of fellow men.
The spirit of work and self-reliance.

Respect for women.
Love of the home.
Let's hope our allies win. But their way of life is not ours. And we are fighting for our way, not theirs. We'll die for the American Way of Life. We cannot be enthusiastic about the Reds who murdered their way to power in Russia and hoped by civil war to establish their way of life across the world. We are not fighting for the English empire which collapsed - not by assault but by inner betrayal in the very places where it had longest existed and was supposed to be strongest.

Diocesan Recordings

The Home Front: Feverishly engaged in civilian protection and war work so necessary now, it is well that the activities for the boys in the services not be overlooked. That letter that was going to be written should be sent off today. The prayers, of course, for those boys are not being overlooked. Lay organizations can join in the movements to be of assistance to those out on the firing lines. The State Knights of Columbus have again contributed \$3,000 for the work of the Catholic Chaplains serving with the armed forces. This is in addition to the \$5,000 given last year. Rochester Council, Knights of Columbus through the cooperation of those attending their Monday night parties, has supplied baseball equipment for the Military Police at Cobb's Hill, Rochester. This department would like to hear from other lay groups and of their work for the soldiers, sailors and marines.

At the Front: There is one thing that is being brought home to the young men thousands of miles from home who are of the Catholic Faith. That is, that the church is One. Wherever duty takes them, to Australia or other points, they find the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the same, the Sacraments the same. Writing to his sister, Miss Virginia Montone in Rochester, Private First Class Samuel Montone now in Australia has this to say: "No doubt about it. Every word or action of the Mass is the same wherever you may go. That proves that the Catholic Church is the one and only true church." That isn't all that proves the church's Oneness but it furnishes deep consolation to those at home to know their boys can practice their faith the world over.

Feast Days

- Sunday, June 7. — ST. ROBERT OF NEWMINSTER.
- Monday, June 8. — ST. MEDARD.
- Tuesday, June 9. — SS. PRINUS AND FELICIANUS.
- Wednesday, June 10. — ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND.
- Thursday, June 11. — ST. BARNABAS, APOSTLE.
- Friday, June 12. — SACRED HEART OF JESUS.
- Saturday, June 13. — ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA.

We show our class by the way we react to slander of a good citizen. Only those who envy him delight to see him smeared. — New Britain "Herald."