

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

CENTURY OF SERVICE

Great interest is always manifested in the carrying of Christ's Gospel to the far-flung quarters of the globe and rightly so. But it must not be overlooked that the missionary spirit of the Church has been as greatly exemplified here in our midst. The 100 year record of St. Patrick's Church, Owego on the southern end of this diocese is a case in point.

Commemoration of the Centenary of St. Patrick's Church, Owego will bring out the determined efforts of pastors and people through the century to preserve the Faith of Jesus Christ and to extend it in a country community to the greatest possible human extent.

The story of early Bishops carrying on their work beset with greater transportation problems than a rubber shortage presents, the story of cooperation by the faithful to make the practice of their Holy Religion possible is contained in the parish record appearing in this week's CATHOLIC COURIER.

All the diocese will be interested in this story of Catholicity's development down through the years. Early pastors are recalled, present pastors of other churches who served at St. Patrick's and had an important part in its development such as Monsignor Burns, Father Moriarty, and Father Smith are cited for their work.

To the present pastor, Father Michael L. Hynes and his assistant, Father Alexander Stec as well as to all the parishioners, the young, and those who have been faithful to their parish through the years, the CATHOLIC COURIER extends heartiest congratulations. Prayers are asked that this parish continue to serve and keep alive the glorious record of 100 years of Catholicity.

SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

Unless there are men soundly trained to fulfill their vocations the Church's capacity to carry on the "Freedom of Worship" for which the United Nations now fight will be so curtailed that the ultimate victory at arms will not be the full victory of principles at stake.

Never in the history of the United States have men been so carefully and completely trained to defend the nation. This is greatly consoling to the folks at home. It builds confidence in the successful achievement of the military goal.

In the war of the spirit there must be equally as well trained men. The guidance in religion which has been so well recognized by our military leaders calls for the type of men who can console and administer spiritually to men in mechanized warfare.

For this specialized training the Diocese of Rochester is especially privileged in the existence of St. Bernard's major theological seminary and of St. Andrew's Preparatory Seminary. What these two institutions have done in developing religious leaders for the times we are experiencing, needs no elaboration.

In the brochure issued by the Office of War Information of the United States Government titled "The United Nations Fight For the Four Freedoms," in the chapter on "Freedom of Religion" it states: "That part of man which is called the spirit and which belongs only to himself and to his God, is of the very first concern in designing a free world."

Development of that spirit can only be attained by qualified and consecrated leaders. The financial support of institutions to achieve that aim is obvious. They must continue in their course.

TEACHERS MEET

Two meetings of His Excellency, Bishop Kearney, one with priests of the diocese, and another with priest-teachers and lay teachers are taking place this week. The object is education, Christian education for both gatherings.

Teaching of the young has been a great and widely-renowned tradition in the Diocese of Rochester. The first great Bishop McQuaid was a champion of the Catholic Schools. He was a powerful figure in laying the ground work which brings Bishop and priests and teachers together this week to carry on and to extend in the light of current happenings the educational system in the diocese.

One of these meetings held on Wednesday was the Priests' Catechetical Institute. The Church's concern is for the child in the Catholic School and every child should be there that can. Circumstances necessitate Catholic children attending public institutions in elementary and secondary grades. The Church is deeply concerned for them and it is to bring Christ's message and the inspiring of faith to these children that the Institute was held. Zealous priests interchange ideas on how this teaching can be most effective.

The other session is the annual assembling of the educators of children in our extensive Catholic School system. Here are gathered the self-sacrificing men and women who never relax when it comes to seeing to it that their charges get the best not only in religious education but in secular education.

Why these zealous teachers come together to sit as it were in the class room themselves can be summed up in a statement appearing in our "Five and Ten eYars Ago" department, this week.

Ten years ago, Bishop O'Hern was in Elmira to dedicate the larger Elmira Catholic High School. His Excellency, the Third Bishop of Rochester, a revered memory on that occasion said:

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Along The Way

Making An Impression

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

If people sometimes knew what other people were thinking . . . at the very time they were sure they were making a vast and delightful impression . . .

Fortunately for their self-esteem they don't.

For instance:

On my homeward-bound trolley the other evening, two quiet, well-mannered girls in their late teens occupied the seat across the aisle and slightly ahead of me. Into the car strode—and strode is the word—two anemic looking, advanced adolescent drugstore cowpunchers . . . all dressed in their most carefully unmatched suits, one smoking a cigarette the smoke from which must have found scant space in his fat chest, the other sucking a very, very briar pipe.

They spotted the girls and sat down behind them . . . and then proceeded to make an impression. They talked loudly. They cracked feeble jokes. They furtively pulled the car's bell rope. They made comments as women passed down the aisle. The girls "paid them no mind," but that had no effect upon the vanity of the young things, convinced that they were wowing the car.

I left the car, confident that the girls had every intention of frost-biting them if they went farther. But I wanted, oh, so badly, to lean over and say to the girls:

"Don't worry about these boys. They are far, far too young for you. They think it is cute to pull car bells. They have confused humor with loudness, a thing common enough in juveniles. But then, humor doesn't develop until maturity, you see, so they can't be expected to reach humor for a time. They aren't smoking; they are showing off tobacco. Don't waste your attention on juvenility. It's so so clumsy and puppylike." And all the time, the two lads thought they were creating the impression of great sophistication and savoir faire.

The Thoughtful Touch

The powder room, writes my correspondent, was full of ladies from the fashionable dine-and-dance spot. Most of them had dresses that clearly cost one hundred dollars and up; and they wore gardenias. All except the young married woman there to celebrate her second wedding anniversary with a happy and contented husband. Her dress must have cost about twenty-five dollars and she wore a gardenia.

But, says my correspondent, when the women one by one left the powder room, the women in the one hundred dollar dresses left nothing for the little colored maid

who waited on them; and the woman in the twenty-five dollar gown tipped her with a quarter. You write your own moral.

What, No Camels?

The very little boy approached the conservative grocer from whom at times I buy my sandwich meat. "A package of Camels," he ordered in a very grown-up way. "No, indeed," said my grocer friend. "Not for you. You're much too young." "Oh," said the youngster in a suddenly very childish voice "they're not for me. They're for my mother." "That's even worse!" cried the grocer indignantly, and I saw him vigorously shushing his young customer out of his shop.

Something Remembered

His name was Kane; his mother's name was Gleason. You'd think he was a Catholic, wouldn't you? He turns out to be a minister. Recently the newspapers carried an item about his enlisting in the Navy. He wanted to fight. Somewhere along the line, those Kanes and Gleasons must have lost their precious Irish faith. But evidently they didn't lose their Irish fighting spirit.

Identification

Interesting the way the war has affected our language. A stranger spoke respectfully to a nun on a train recently. He wanted to know about a sister he remembered from his youth. The nun tried to be helpful and asked a few questions. The man looked more and more puzzled. "Gee sister I don't remember much except that her name was Sister Agnes. I don't know what squad she belongs to."

Feast Days

Sunday, Sept. 20.—ST. EUSTACHIUS AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS.

Monday, Sept. 21.—ST. MATTHEW, APOSTLE.

Tuesday, Sept. 22.—ST. THOMAS VILLA, B.F.

Wednesday, Sept. 23.—ST. LINDA.

Thursday, Sept. 24.—THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY OF MERCY.

Friday, Sept. 25.—ST. FERMIN.

Saturday, Sept. 26.—ST. ISAAC JOQUES.

The Holy Mass—the arsenal of Grace.

QUERIES and REPLIES

Why Are So Many Educated And Intelligent Men Opposed To Your Church If It Is Everything That You Say It Is?

God alone can probe the depths of the human heart. God alone can know all the motives that impel men to action. For this reason no one but God could give a complete answer to your question.

A partial answer however may be readily found. Most of our educated men are educated only along certain lines. For all their scientific reputation and apparent ability to talk learnedly on many subjects, they have never permitted themselves to study thoroughly a single book on the claims of the Catholic Church.

Before any examination whatsoever, they have decided once and for all that Religion is a racket and that the Catholic Church especially is a monstrous superstition. Because of this attitude of mind they have never considered the claims of Religion or of the Catholic Church even in a cursory way. They may be well educated in other matters, but in this matter they are as children.

David Hume, for instance, one of the most renowned philosophers of the eighteenth century, a man who ridiculed Religion and cast scorn on the Catholic Church at every possible opportunity, admitted at the end of his life that he had never even read the New Testament.

Even when men have studied the claims of the Catholic Church, even when they understand those claims fully and admit their unanswerable logic, there are two obstacles that often prevent acceptance of those claims. One is pride and pride is especially strong in men who want the world to consider them liberal-minded in matters of belief. The other is sin—unwillingness to give up the easy going morality or lack of morality that irreligion sanctions and supports. More than one such person would have to say something like this if he were absolutely honest with himself: "I admit that the Catholic Church is the true Church, but if I accepted it I would have to have a family instead of practicing birth control."

It is consoling however to know that the number of intelligent and educated people who do recognize and accept the claims of the Catholic Church is growing rapidly every day. England, for example, has averaged over ten thousand conversions every year these many years. Many of them prominent men and women, hundreds of them ministers of different Protestant denominations. In this country the same wonderful work goes on apace. (From the pen of Father Richard Felix, O.S.B., Defender of the Faith, Conception, Missouri).

Diocesan Recordings

The American Red Cross is making it convenient for members of organizations to donate their blood to the plasma banks. Laxity in signing up for such blood donation may mean the life of a gallant boy on the battle line.

By the way—Buy War Bonds.

Geared to take on wartime duties with the same efficiency that has characterized the organization in the past, the Catholic Women's Club of Rochester can well be considered by prospective members. The unified effort of Catholic womanhood is an apparent need now. Joining the Catholic Women's Club adds to the numerical strength but joining and engaging in the many activities strengthens the organization and brings in return benefits and advantages to all Catholic women in the community. This is true of Catholic women's groups wherever organized.

By the way—Buy War Bonds.

Rochester Knights of Columbus-sponsored Catholic Speakers' Bureau while affected by the war's call on some of its members, has sufficient left to answer the needs of groups needing informed speakers on Catholic topics. Write to Dr. James N. Eastham, chairman, 50 Chestnut St., Rochester, N. Y.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Little-Known Facts for Catholics

By M. J. MURRAY

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MODERN CHURCH OF ST. LAURENT, GRENoble-FRANCE
was originally an ancient church completely covered by landslides.

DWARF SAINT
SAINT NICOT (9th CENTURY) was so small he required an iron stool to reach the altar.

NE OT
The lock of the Church door was specially lowered for him!

How is a SAINT CANON!
LIVED IN WALLEY IN THE SIXTH CENTURY.

WAR HAS LITERALLY DRIVEN THE CHURCH BACK TO THE CATACOMBS ON MALTA, where many churches destroyed, altars are now set up in the shelters.

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