

# PONTIFF SENDS 'MISSION SUNDAY' BLESSING

## Work Of Missions Must Go Ahead Despite War, Archbishop Declares

NEW YORK (NC)—His Holiness Pope Pius XII has sent, through His Excellency the Most Rev. Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, to the Most Rev. Francis J. Spellman, Chairman of the Episcopal Committee for the Propagation of the Faith, the following radiogram concerning the observance of "Mission Sunday" on October 18.

"With greatest esteem and a special love both for Our dear missionaries, who, in spite of the present upheaval, endeavor to spread the Kingdom of Christ, and for the Faithful who, with most praiseworthy generosity and unflagging zeal, help the missions. We beg God to bless them and their labors and to fill them with peace and joy. With all Our heart We bless them."

NEW YORK (NC)—Despite all obstacles, the work of the missions must go forward, the Most Rev. Francis J. Spellman, Archbishop of New York and Chairman of the Episcopal

Committee of the Society of the Propagation of the Faith, declared in a "Mission Sunday" message issued here today. "Mission Sunday" will be observed throughout the world on October 18.

Declaring that both in numbers and in means the workers in the mission field are unable to cope with the devastation and the problems that follow in the wake of war Archbishop Spellman said: "But the very desire, the determination of the missionaries to remain with their people in these tragic times is in itself a powerful means to grace, bringing souls closer to God."

Citing the stories of heroic labors on the part of missionaries that have been brought back by American nurses, soldiers and chaplains who have been in the war zones, His Excellency said: "Sufferings and sacrifices have always been the dominating note of apostolic work and they seem to be the only coin with which we are

able to buy back from Satan the Kingdom of God."

as *Pat. 9448 at Post*  
The Archbishop then reminded that despite present chaotic conditions in the Mission lands due to war "there is the consoling thought that 80 per cent of the missionaries are still at their posts of duty."

Archbishop Spellman will give a radio address over the Red Network of the National Broadcasting Company on Saturday evening, October 17, the eve of Mission Sunday, from 10:30 to 11 p. m. Eastern War Time. He will be presented by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Thomas J. McDonnell, National Director of the Society of the Propagation of the Faith.

"On Mission Sunday, the whole Catholic world gives a sympathetic thought to the heralds of the Gospel working among peoples and in countries still enshrouded in spiritual darkness," the Archbishop's message states. "The global war

## Mission Radio Programs Listed

Radio Programs of the missions listed in the coming days are as follows:

Oct. 11  
Rochester WHEC, 8:25 a. m. Radio Drama, "The Mission of the Apostles."  
Rochester WHEC, 12:15 p. m. Rochester Catholic Hour, the Rev. Charles O'Connor, C.M., Columbus Church of the A. B. C. the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Thomas J. McDonnell.

Oct. 12  
Sinton WENY, 1:30 p. m. Radio Drama, "The Mission of the Apostles."

Oct. 13  
Rochester WHEC, 4:30 p. m. Radio Drama, "The Ambassadors of Christ."

Sinton WENY, 4:30 p. m. Radio Drama, "The Ambassadors of Christ."

that everywhere has left destruction in its wake has not interrupted the sublime work of these modern Apostles. Some of them have been interned. Some of them have taken their places with the soldiers of the land of their adoption, and all of them are feeling the absence of help that formerly came from their own prosperous countries. All of them feel the need of our assistance. Many of these intrepid missionaries, I am happy to state, are also acting as Auxiliary Chaplains to the soldiers and sailors of our armed forces, assisting in the most exacting and tremendously important work of our Military Chaplains. Lives of Heroic Sacrifice

"Mission Sunday makes us think not only of the priests and Religious at work in foreign lands but also of missionaries in the sparsely settled regions of our own beloved country. But whether amidst the missionary regions of America or the heat and cold of lands beyond our own horizons, our missionaries are leading lives of heroic sacrifice. Only a strong personal love of God and an all-consuming zeal for souls can be

## Repatriated Priest To Speak Over Radio

On Oct. 11 the Rochester Catholic Hour will have as guest speaker the Reverend Charles O'Connor, a member of the Vincentian Mission Band, and one of the repatriated missionaries who returned as the Grapes of Wrath exchange prisoner.

Father O'Connor was graduated from Niagara University, Niagara Falls in 1929 and was ordained a member of the Congregation of the Mission in May 1934. Since the Fall of 1931 he has been acting Mission Procurator at Kiangwei, China.

Caught while in Hongkong in medical care, Father O'Connor was interned in the middle of January along with other Americans and 21 other American missionaries.

Father O'Connor will speak over the facilities of Station WHEC from 12:15 to 12:30 P. M.

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Thomas McDonnell, National Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith will be heard over the Co-

the inspiration of such devoted Christ-like service. Their courage and their willingness to leave those who are near and dear to them have made them active participants in God's plan to sanctify the souls of men.

"Despite all obstacles, the work of the missions must go forward. There are corporal works of mercy to perform besides the spiritual works: the service to the sick, the poor and the homeless refugees, and all these are wrought in the name of our Divine Lord.

"Both in numbers and in means are they pitifully unable to cope with the devastation and the problems which follow in the wake of the awful juggernaut of war. But the very desire, the determination of the missionaries to remain with their people in these tragic times, is in itself a powerful means to grace, bringing souls closer to God. "Many of our nurses, soldiers and chaplains who have answered

the call of country have given testimony to the devotion and the efficacy of the labors of the missionaries throughout the Far East and the South Pacific. Some of them have written of their vision in their journals and in little peace chapters. They have learned of the joys and the sorrows that attend the struggles of the missionaries in bringing the Good News and love of God to men, and men in the knowledge and love of God stories of experiences in the lonely Northland, in the deep South and in the Southwestern part of our own country, have been written down by chaplains and soldiers describing the labors of the missionaries and their zeal in spreading the Gospel of Christ. As a result, many more of the faithful have now a better and more personal knowledge of the fruits of missionary labors and a correspondingly greater interest in helping them."

The third and fourth in a series of radio dramas featuring highlights in the history of the 50 years of service in the American zones by Catholic missionaries will be broadcast over Station WHEC on Sunday, October 11 at 4:30 A. M. and Thursday, October 13 at 4:30 P. M.

All these broadcasts are under the auspices of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith of which the Reverend John S. Randall is Diocesan Director and are being inaugurated in observance of the annual world-wide Mission Sunday on October 18.



*"ISN'T HE HEAVY?"*  
*"NO, HE'S MY BROTHER!"*

Love makes a burden lighter.

American Catholics are today the only hope of the missions. On us and our support rests the future of the Church in mission lands.

Isn't this a heavy responsibility? No, because in giving to the priests and people of the missions, we are giving to our brothers in Christ. Christ-like love makes the burden lighter.

**DO YOUR PART**  
**ENROLL AS A MEMBER OF**  
**THE SOCIETY FOR**  
**THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH**

**MISSION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18**

REV. JOHN S. RANDALL, Diocesan Director

50 Chestnut Street, Rochester