

# Spencerport Church Debt Free As Jubilee Is Marked

It was cause for congratulations to pastor and people, "that you have the special privilege, after seventy-five years, of presenting to Him, tonight, this House of God, free from debt and ready for solemn consecration."

This message was delivered by His Excellency, the Most Rev. James E. Kearney, D.D., Bishop of Rochester, following the Solemn Pontifical Benediction on Wednesday evening, Oct. 7, marking in a fitting manner the Diamond Jubilee of St. John the Evangelist Church, Spencerport.

The Bishop was assisted in the Solemn Ceremony by the Rt. Rev. Mgr. William M. Hart, V.C., the Rt. Rev. Mgr. William F. Bergan, Chancellor of the diocese, the Very Rev. Edward M. Lyons, president of St. Andrew's Seminary, the Rev. Lawrence E. Casey, vice chancellor, the Rev. John M. Duffy, superintendent of Catholic Schools, the Rev. George V. Prodnore, the Rev. Michael J. Krieg, the Rev. Dr. William J. Mahoney, C.M., the Rev. Ambrose Kavanagh, the Rev. Emmett Davis, and the Rev. Robert Keleber.

The Rev. Benedict Ehmann directed the choir and the Rev. Emmett Magre, pastor, and his assistant, the Rev. Alfred J. Horr, took part in the services.

**New God's House**  
"I was very much gratified to hear from the lips of your pastor that he has paid the last cent of debt due on this House of God," His Excellency, Bishop Kearney, stated in congratulating the parish on completion of 75 fruitful years of Catholicity. "There is still some parish indebtedness on the convent and school, but this House is now God's, and no human hand can ever claim it again."

The Bishop had likened the three parish jubilees, the Silver, Golden and Diamond to the Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious mysteries. Payment of the church debt in full "in itself, in a very distinct sense of the word, is a Glorious Mystery."

"We cross ourselves now and kiss the cross, and are very privileged and happy to be here when the labors of seventy-five years reach this glorious consummation in the presentation of the church to God."

Clinging the history of a Catholic parish, the Bishop explained the character of the Catholic place of worship. It was not an assembly place of the people nor a theatre in which they could witness the religious rituals and services, nor where the very significant Gospel of Christ would be preached, that was established from the beginning. "It became, first of all, where Emmanuel, God with us—would be housed. It became the House of God, and in that charac-

ter it separated itself from every other type of building."

**Concerns for Kildies**

"I do not suppose that in any of the legislation of the Church through the ages," the Bishop declared, "there can be found as much detail as to what may be done and may not be done, as in the Church's legislation about the Catholic Church, the very intricate detail about its construction, the instruction of how it must be blessed, the specification that it cannot be consecrated until every cent of debt has been removed from it, the care of every article used in it."

"No where in the Church's legislation does she seem so particular as to her specifications of what the House of God should be. It is very easily understood, then, that no matter how poor his parish is, a priest will sacrifice anything to make the church worthwhile."

"I have heard people criticize the little parishes in Canada, where you see rising up the magnificent Catholic Church, all out of proportion with the community wherein it is found. But, if it was just a church where people came to pray and listen to the word of God, it would be just criticism."

**No Measuring Made**

"But your Catholic Church cannot be measured in terms of the community wherein it is found or by the number of communicants."

"The dignity of the building itself focuses throughout all the ages upon the real Presence of Jesus Christ. And what is the story of those churches? It is that the faith of its people and their tender solicitude to see to it that the unfortunate story of Bethlehem and the stable will never be repeated again—no sacrifice, then, is too great for them to make the House of God the outstanding building in their community. This is brought about by their love and devotion to Emmanuel, God with us, on the altar."

"How happy we are, therefore, to realize that all the hours of care and concern that priests and people have put into this building, their hopes, plans, successes, failures, have now reached the happy climax so that this beautiful building now belongs to God."

The ecclesiastical procession was led by Staff Sergeant Victor Nickel bearing the American flag and followed by Holy Name Society men of St. John's parish. Two acolytes, Richard Kinsella and Francis Ryan carried Papal and American flags.

# Day of Recollection Is Conducted For Dominican Tertiaries

About fifty members of the Rochester Chapter of the Third Order of St. Dominic spent a Day of Recollection on Rosary Sunday, Oct. 4, in the chapel of the Columbus Civic Centre, under the leadership of Father Albert Drexelius, O.P. The conferences stressed the necessity and the making real to ourselves of the love of God as the mainspring of our lives. The Christian life, Father Albert insisted, is essentially a life of love—God's love possessing us, and our love responding to God in prayer and in action. Father Albert protested against the complications so many Catholics introduce into their lives, getting themselves tangled up in a variety

of methods and rules. A religious conduct of life is essentially simple, once it comes into line with the basic truth that God is Love, and that true love leads to God.

The Day of Recollection included a Mass at which all present used Leaflet Missals for corporate participation. During the course of the day three members were professed, and one new member was received. The Day closed with Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

The Rochester Chapter of the Third Order of St. Dominic is under the direction of Father Benedict Ehmann, and holds its meetings usually on the third Monday of the month at 8 P. M., in the chapel of St. Andrew's Seminary, Plymouth Ave. N and Brown St. Information may be secured by writing to Father Ehmann at St. Bernard's Seminary, or calling him at Glenwood 3525-J.

# Radio Program Issues New Prayer-Pamphlet

ST. LOUIS The Sacred Heart Radio Program has announced the publication of a new prayer-pamphlet entitled "In This Sign Conquer." The pamphlet contains prayers and short meditations. It is published in a convenient pocket size, and is offered free of charge to any who will send a self-addressed envelope to the Sacred Heart Program in care of Station WEW here.

"The prayers and meditations," it was announced "were selected with the intention of meeting the special needs of the men and women under the trying conditions of today, whether on the battle front, in the danger zones, or in the hospitals."

About all that comes to him who waits is a request to move on.—St.

# Keep Under Control

Gerard DuFleiss  
If you are hurt in an air-raid, Don't be afraid. For the Red Cross will be with you To give you First-Aid.  
Don't lose your wits, Our boys are trying To win the war And "Keep em Flying."  
If we win the war We will have peace And then all fighting Will have to cease.  
The Japs are good fighters But not good enough, So we'll have to show them

# St. John the Evangelist's

## SOBRIETY FORMS COUNCIL

Highlighting the Sobriety year in St. John the Evangelist Parish is the announcement of formation of the Central Council for the year 1942-1943.

Heading the council, under the direction of Rev. John Leary, are the four officers: Prefect, Para-

South, Vice Prefect, John Hannon; Secretary, Thomas Doherty; and Treasurer, Elmer Verberg.

Our Lady's Committee is headed by Frances Hartell, while Catherine Clark will take over the Educational Committee. Under former years, the Apostolic and Social Life Committees are continued and Alcega Marie Hannon is in charge of that group. Chairmanship of the

College Tech Committee has been placed in the capable hands of Frances Hannon and Alcega Marie Hannon. The committee has accepted the appointment of Alcega Marie Hannon as its representative to the Parish Council.

The Central Council will meet in general session at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 22, at 7:30 P. M.

When things fall apart, the whole does not collapse. To the better understanding of

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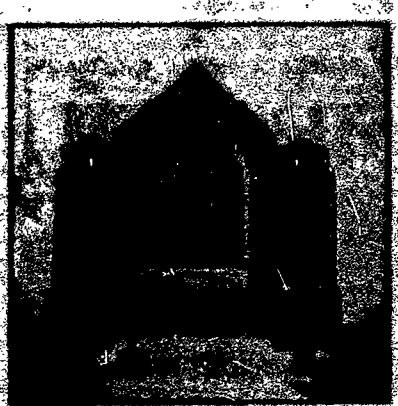
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