

Library Signpost

When Shall We Begin?

By Rev. Benedict Eusebia

December is painfully busy for most people. We should all of us heed our Master's words to Martha...

Good cover-all books for this purpose would be: the Missal (of course), preferably the St. Andrew Missal with its extensive notes and commentary...

As to the Saints of December, there are not many who have books written about them in English.

Dec. 1: ST. FRANCIS XAVIER... There is a good biography of him by Margaret Yee, and one by Theodore Maynard...

Dec. 4: ST. BARBARA... Not a biography, but a grand poem by Chesterton, The Ballad of St. Barbara...

Dec. 6: ST. NICHOLAS... I feel there must be much on this attractive saint who so dominated the imagination of the Middle Ages...

Dec. 7: ST. AMBROSE... Some day not far away someone is going to make good the regrettable gap in English biographies of this magnificent Bishop of the fourth century...

Dec. 8: FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY... You might read Mary of Jerusalem, by Jean Ravennes, or Father Lynch's A Woman Wrapped in Silence.

Sorsum Corda

The Just Waging Of War

By Rev. James M. Gillis, C.S.P.

That phrase is the heading of a chapter in Gerald Vann's Morality and War. More than once in this column and a dozen times elsewhere I have expressed the opinion...

In the chapter referred to Father Vann makes the point that even after a war has been entered into justly it may be waged unjustly.

At that point Father Vann contributes the comment there is no limit to what men will do, but there is very definitely a limit to what men may do...

As a matter of fact Father Vann quotes half a dozen other authorities military or political, who justify direct purposeful attack upon the civilian population of the enemy...

Dec. 12: ST. LUCY... This Virgin-Martyr impressed the early Christians that her name ought to be inscribed in what were known as the "Mystic" that were read at Mass...

Dec. 25: CHRISTMAS, THE BIRTHDAY OF OUR LORD... There are some Christmas collections in the Catholic Evidence Library...

Dec. 27: ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST... There is a fine historical study, simple and dramatic, by Abbe Constant Fournier on St. John and the Close of the Apostolic Age.

Dec. 29: ST. THOMAS A BECKET... T. B. EDWARDS' unusual play Murder in the Cathedral centers on the struggle of this four-square Archbishop of Canterbury with the English King...

That's a big reading program, even for several Decembers, but it ought at least to show how rich are the possibilities for instruction and inspiration...

The following books have recently been placed in the Catholic Evidence Library, Columbus Civic Centre, Rochester:

RIG FOR CHURCH... Capt. Wm. A. Maguire (USCG), USN

THE MARS OF BROTHER MICHAEL... A novel by Michael Kent

SEVENTEENTH SUMMER... A novel by Maurine Daly

SAINTS AT PRAYER... Raymond E. F. Larsson

THE ROAD TO VICTORY... Archbishop Francis J. Spellman

ELL FARES THE LAND... Carey McWilliams

THE ARMIES MARCH... John Cudahy

THY PEOPLE, MY PEOPLE... A novel by E. J. Edwards, R.V.D.

THE SAINTS OF IRELAND... Hugh de Wicars

PHILOSOPHY FOR THE MILLIONS... J. A. McWilliams

WINDSWEEP... A novel by Mary Ellen Chase

"I, TOO HAVE LIVED IN ARCADIA"... Reminiscences by Elizabeth Bellco-Lawrence

THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY GHOST... Bernard Kelly, C.S. Sp.

FLIGHT TO ARRAS... Antoine de Saint-Exupery

PADDY THE COPE... Autobiography by Patrick Gallagher

NEW HOPE... A novel by Ruth Suckow

YOUNG JOHN TAKES OVER... A novel by Elizabeth Jordan

DARK SYMPHONY... Autobiography by Elizabeth Laura Adams

CATHERINE OF ARLAGON... Garrett Mattingly

Note: Next week the column will be devoted to singling out of the current lists of books some good "boys" for Christmas gifts.

or more first hand authorities referred to by Father Vann in his "Morality and War" I remember also an article on "Reprisals" in the London "Cherry Review" for December, 1940...

And what shall the Allied Nations do in that event? Ask the man in the street, ask the man in the armed services, ask the strategist...

It sounds like common sense. But the problem arises from the fact that no Catholic moralist will admit that one man may commit a sin because another does...

The theological principle puts us at a disadvantage? Of course. But we have to hold to fundamental ethical principle even if we perish.

FIVE and TEN Years Ago

From Dec. 2, 1932, Edition Called Deutscher Marien-Ritter-Orden (German Order of the Knights of Mary) existence of a Catholic laymen's organization paralleling the Knights of Columbus in America was revealed...

From Dec. 2, 1937, Edition "There will be an essential opposition to birth control as long as there is a single Catholic Christian." This vigorous challenge was hurled by the Rev. Ignatius J. Cox, S.J., at a crowded mass meeting...

Purchase of the 50-acre George H. Clark Farm in Dewey Avenue by the Diocese of Rochester was...

STRANGE BUT TRUE Little-Known Facts for Catholics

Illustrated text block with various small images and text snippets, including 'THE QUEEN'S REPRESENTATION OF THE FLOOD IN PART OF AN EARLY MEDIEVAL ILLUMINATION FROM THE BIBLE' and 'DOMINE QUAERIS'.

Feast Days

- Sunday, Dec. 6 - ST. NICHOLAS OF BARI
Monday, Dec. 7 - ST. AMBROSE, BISHOP
Tuesday, Dec. 8 - THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
Wednesday, Dec. 9 - ST. LEUCADIA
Thursday, Dec. 10 - ST. MELCHIADES
Friday, Dec. 11 - ST. DAMASCUS, PAPA
Saturday, Dec. 12 - OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

EDITORIALS

(Continued from Page 22)

Advent has its penitential program, but it is a program founded on joy in the coming of the Christ, his four weeks offer us a seasonal opportunity which we should not let slip.

HOLOCAUST

Horror fills the mind at the contemplation of the great loss of life in the Boston fire. Death through burning, through suffocation, through panic, came suddenly and without warning to over seven hundred people!

Our prayers and sympathy to the bereaved. Our hope that authorities everywhere will look carefully to proper protection of people in public places. It comes easy to us to take everything for granted...

MY MESSENGER

Great was the dignity of John the Baptist! From the lips of the God-Man, Jesus Christ, came words of praise of John such as were never before spoken nor since of any other.

"My Messenger!" God the Father had given him his mission: Into the soul of John went the divine command. Years of penance and prayer and meditation on God's truths; years of dwelling in the desert, away from the haunts of men, away from creature comforts...

"My Messenger." God sends John to us during this Holy Season of Advent to bring us His message of assured salvation through faith in Christ. John's message to us is to prepare in our hearts the way of the Lord. John would send us to Christ, to find pardon for sin in sacramental confession, to find new grace in devout reception of Holy Communion, to find peace with God in sincere repentance of life.