

K. C. Auxiliary Meet Has Christmas Theme

AUBURN—Christmas was the theme of the December Meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus which was held on Wednesday evening in the home of Mrs. George B. Johnson, president, presided at the meeting, and Mrs. Joseph O'Donnell, newly appointed chairman of the Activities Committee, announced that plans were being formulated for a dinner which would be held in January in honor of the retiring officers of the Auxiliary.

There was a yule tree with many gifts and these will be sent to children who otherwise would receive nothing for Christmas. A lunch was served under the direction of Mrs. Charles R. Hawelka. "Entertaining Santa Claus" was the title of the play which was presented by the members of the Auxiliary and directed by Mrs. John P. Foster. Those taking part in the play were Mrs. Joseph O'Donnell who took the part of Santa Claus and Mrs. William T. Flynn who was "grandma." The children were Mrs. Edward Williams, Mrs. Avery Neagle, Mrs. William Conroy, Mrs. Rose Farrell, Mrs. Florence Cullen, Mrs. Peter Conroy, Mrs. John Keefe, Mrs. Barbara Wright, Mrs. William Ferree and Mrs. Gilbert Lovell. Mrs. Maddalena Crebini was the pianist.

Citation Of First Catholic Chaplain Killed in War Lauds Devotion To His Fellow Men

DURHAM, N. C.—The distinguished and sublime devotion to his fellow men displayed by Father Aloysius H. Schmitt, first Catholic chaplain killed in the war, is mentioned in the citation accompanying the Navy and Marine Corps Medal awarded to the Pearl Harbor hero by Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox.

The text of the citation follows: "For distinguished and sublime devotion to his fellow men aboard the U. S. S. Oklahoma during the attack on the United States Pacific Fleet in Pearl Harbor by enemy airplanes on Dec. 7, 1941.

"When the vessel captured and he became entrapped, along with other members of the crew, in a compartment where only a small hole provided outlet for escape, Lieut. Aloysius H. Schmitt risked his own life to assist his shipmates through the aperture.

"When they in turn, were in process of escaping him, and his body became wedged in the narrow opening, he, realizing that other men had come into the compartment looking for a way out, insisted that he be pushed back into the ship so that they might leave.

"Calmly urging them on with a pronouncement of his blessing he remained behind while they crawled out to safety.

"For his magnanimous courage and his sacrifice all in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service he gladly gave up his life for his country.

Corregidor Builder Attended Notre Dame

WASHINGTON—A biography of Brig. Gen. J. A. O'Connor, now commanding the Northwest Service Command in Alaska and a former student at Notre Dame University, inserted in the Congressional Record by Representative Roy G. Woodruff, of Michigan, makes known that Gen. O'Connor supervised the drilling of the tunnels at the historic fortress of Corregidor.

The General, who is a native of Bay City, Mich., is at White Horse, Yukon Territory, in charge of building the Alcan highway from the United States.

A First Aider in Each Home

CITED FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE



Monsignor William R. Arnold, Brigadier General, Chief of Chaplains, United States Army, receives "A Citation for Distinguished Service," from the National Conference of Christians and Jews, at a Round Table luncheon in Washington, December 15. Left to right: Daniel C. Roper, former Secretary of Commerce, who presided at the presentation ceremonies, Major General James A. Ulio, Adjutant General of the Army; General Arnold. Rent News photo. (N.C.W.C.)

Music At Christmas

The brevity of St. Luke is the model and despair of anyone who essays to retell the Christmas story. "You shall find the infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger."

"O Beauty ever ancient, ever new" St. Augustine cried, and more than a thousand years after St. Augustine, the Divine Infant and His story are yet new every year, new born and newly dear. Let us kneel, like the shepherds of old, before the Christ Child and share the joy that radiates from the manger, with a lively faith and confirming charity. Let us kneel before the Child of Bethlehem, before whom the Wise Men knelt and adored the Child Jesus and offered Him gold, incense and myrrh which symbolized the dedication to Him of their faith, love and labors, returning then to their country happy and filled with peace.

This Child, King of Kings, Lord of Lords, prince of peace in swathing bands, is greater than Solomon in all his kingly glory, who said, "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity," for death with its mighty broom sweeps crowns, scepters and royal escutcheons into dust. This royal Child in the crib is the Lord of Life, who bestows the crown of eternal life and justice.

Nad is it not that men will deprive men of the Great morning when hearts should be subdued by mercy and lifted by the brotherhood of Good Will into a world grown bitter by spiritual defeat comes again this happy birthday of Christ. How intimate the details are! The starry hillside, awesome shepherds a stable and the warm sweet breath of animals, Mary and Joseph, The God Babe lies silent save for His little gasping cry, but His Holy Angels those lords of space intone the God-sent tidings: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace but peace with a qualification peace to men of Good Will.

Give, O child of the crib, peace to our hearts to our homes, to all the loves we assemble within the word Country. Teach us to cherish the security we possess, so that we may reach unto others how good and how sweet is life where brothers dwell together as one.

With fullest realization of the Gradual of the Third Mass, let us sing: Sing ye to the Lord: for He has done wonderful things. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of God, therefore, "Sing joyfully to the Lord, all the earth."

Mission Aide

LONDON.—Father Arthur Hughes, White Father who has been appointed acting Apostolic Delegate in Egypt, has been succeeded by a Mill Hill Father, the Rev. Vincent Billington, in his post as educational secretary for all the Catholic missions in Uganda.

ST. MARY'S (AUBURN)

The program for midnight mass at St. Mary's Church, which will be broadcast over station WMBO is as follows:

Organ Prelude, Christmas Pastorale, Each
"He Shall Feed His Flock" Handel
Christmas Carols Philip Kreckle

O Sing a Joyous Carol Praetorius
Stars of Glory Ravello
Jesu Bambino Pietro Yon

Mixed Choir
"Silent Night" Gruber
Procession "Sleep Holy Babe" Traditional

Sanctuary Choir
Introit "Dominus Dixit Ad Me" Gregorian

Male Choir
Kyrie St. Ignatius of Loyola
Richard K. Biggs
Gloria St. Ignatius of Loyola
Richard K. Biggs

Mixed Choir
Graduale and Alleluia II Psalm
Tone Rev. C. Rossini
Male Choir

Sermon
Credo Missa in hon. SS. Cordes
Jesu Turton
Offertory Latentier Coeli Carturan

Mixed Choir
Supplementary Offertory Adeste Fideles Traditional

Sanctus
Benedictus St. Ignatius of Loyola
Agnus Dei Mixed Choir
Communion In Splendoribus Gregorian

Male Choir
Deo Gratias
Solemn
Mixed Choir

Recessional
Angels We Have Heard on High
Sanctuary Choir
"A Carol of Good Tidings" Cyr DeBran

Mixed Choir
Postlude Handel
Members of St. Mary's Choir
Soprano Margaret Gaynor
Kathleen Hegron, Nora Conroy
Simmons, Mrs. Edward Fitzgerald
Mrs. Joseph Milhasen, Margaret Conroy, Anne Simmons.

Altos Teresa Sullivan, Helen Wallace, Mrs. Frederick Murray
Patricia Englert, Mrs. Edward Fennessy.

Tenors Anthony Conroy, Joseph Dolan.
Bass: Henry Pfeiffer, John Orr, John Cunningham, Charles Turton.
Organist and Choir Director, Gerald Conroy.

Fr. Bischof Enlists

WILKES-BARRE, Pa.—The Rev. Gerald J. Bischof, assistant at St. Boniface's Church and a nitee of Williamapart, N. Y., has received word of his appointment as a chaplain in the Army.

Early Christians Cited As Model By Priest In Talk To Catholic Action League

AUBURN—The Catholic Action League of St. Athanasius Parish held their December Meeting on Tuesday evening at the Parish House in Genesee Street. Preceding the meeting, services were held in the church which consisted of appropriate prayers, a sermon by Father Merklinger and the beginning of a Novena entitled, "Come Lord Jesus." This Novena is a Christmas Novena and will be in progress for nine consecutive days. The prayers of the Novena are such as to inspire in one's heart a longing for the coming of the Christ Child at Christmas Time. Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament brought the church service to a close.

Miss Athalene Reid, president, conducted the business meeting which was held at the Parish House. Miss Marjorie Lewis and Helen McDonald were co-chairmen of the December Meeting and they were assisted by Olive Garbinsky, Marie DeLorenzo, Marie Toohey, Margaret Hawelka, Ruth Muldoon, Mary Pfeiffer, Alice Shaw and Mildred Young. Miss Reid appointed Miss Carolyn Casper, chairman for the January Meeting.

Following the meeting Santa Claus presented gifts to the members of Catholic Action League and their friends. A one-act comedy playlet was cleverly presented by a group from Holy Family High School Senior Class Donald and Barber Jean Lawler entertained with song, dance and accordion numbers. Lunch was served following the entertainment.

Among the guests at the Christmas Party was Rev. Raymond Wahl of Holy Family Church, Rochester formerly of St. Athanasius Church and a former moderator of the Catholic Action League, Rev. Gerard Amann and Rev. Gerard Gieffell, both of St. Athanasius.

Recalls Early Christians
Father Merklinger spoke as follows: "In such an atmosphere of error and danger pleads our Holy Father 'what remains in our times' but the imperative need to refashion ourselves on the model of the early Christians, their burning faith, their dauntless spirit, their assurance of victory. Whence did the courageous faith of the early Christians derive its life and enthusiasm? The Pope makes haste to reply: From the Eucharistic union with Christ, Who is the inspiration of all moral conduct. At the table of the bread of the strong, they felt enkindled in their hearts a zeal which gave them an increased energy.

"During this Holy Hour of Prayer I would beg you to hark unto these words of the Holy Father. Indeed there is much error and danger in our world, even in the tiny little world of each one of us. Let us become infected with the germs of some modern thought, we must spend much time in prayer before our Eucharistic King. With head in hands let us dwell upon these two teachings of our Holy Church:

"I am called to a life of identification with Jesus Christ. God is present within my soul not only as a Divine Guest Who comes to receive my homage. He is within me more especially to help me die unto myself, my personal whims of pride, selfishness, uncharitableness, to transform me and make me Godlike, taking on the habits of Christ Himself. My Catholic religion is then not only Truth to be believed, but also the life of Christ to be lived. Day by day in the Eucharistic Sacrifice and Eucharistic Banquet my heart must breathe forth the same sentiments and break forth in the same acts as the Heart of Jesus.

"Christ Lives In Us"
"To quote Pope Urban IV of the thirteenth century, 'This bread is eaten, but not changed; it is in nowise changed into the consumer, but if it be worthily received, the recipient becomes like to it. As a result, Christ lives in us, our thoughts, our senses and impulses, our will and activity assume a resemblance to the hidden life of Our Eucharistic Savior, and become Divine.' So Christ-like was Saint Paul that he could say in all truth, 'I live, now not I; but Christ liveth in me.'"
"It is this transformation into Christ, or union with Christ, that

College Students Visit Blood Bank On December 7

NEW YORK—One hundred and seventy students of Manhattan College visited the American Red Cross blood bank center here on the anniversary of Pearl Harbor and donated blood to the organization.

The action was taken following a rally on the campus at which the students were addressed by Martin J. Conboy, prominent Catholic attorney and Brother A. Victor, F.S.C., President of the College.

So intimately is Mary connected with Jesus that no one has ever assailed the former without invading the latter. Cardinal Gibbons

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