

Bishop Kearney Asks Wider Observance of 'Biblical Sunday'

Commenting on the observance of Biblical Sunday, which will be celebrated February 21, His Excellency, the Most Rev. James E. Kearney, Bishop of Rochester, declares "nothing could be more in harmony with the mind of the Church than an increase in the interest in Biblical Sunday on the part of priest and people."

BN Prohibiting Mailing Of Unsolicited Material Exempts Religious Matter

WASHINGTON — Unwanted merchandise sent through the mails for the purpose of making a sale, or to induce the addressee to make a gift or donation, would be declared non-mailable under a measure introduced in Congress by Senator Carl Hayden of Arizona.

It is provided in the bill that "this Act shall not apply to any merchandise deposited in the mails by any religious, charitable or benevolent society or institution whose application for the privilege of sending unsolicited merchandise through the mails has been approved by the Postmaster General if such society or institution is the sole beneficiary of the proceeds of the sale of such merchandise or of the gift or donation induced thereby."

Except where the Postmaster General shall approve the application for the privilege made by one of the above indicated agencies, unsolicited merchandise shall not be deposited in the mails, the measure says. Where it is mailed, it may be returned to the sender and the due postage collected at double the regular rate.

BOARD TO EXCUSE CATHOLIC CHILDREN FOR RETREATS

LOS ANGELES — The Board of Education of the Los Angeles School District has made arrangements through which Catholic children attending elementary, junior and senior high schools may be excused two days each semester for the purpose of attending religious exercises.

This applies to the retreats in preparation for First Holy Communion and Confirmation for elementary grade children, and to parish retreats for pupils attending junior and senior high schools.

Named In Estate

Milwaukee — Catholic organizations, institutions and priests were named the principal beneficiaries in the will of Richard D. Knox, 28, dealer in real estate delinquent tax certificates. The will disposed of an estate valued at approximately \$200,000, and contained a provision that all inheritance taxes on bequests be paid by the estate.

1889 FOUNDED EVERY WEEK FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS 1943

Catholic Courier
Official Newspaper of the Archdiocese of New York
With the Approbation of the MOST REV. JAMES E. KEARNEY, B. D., Bishop of Rochester

VOL. XV, FEBRUARY 18, 1943—NO. 7

Member Catholic Press Association of the United States
Subscriber to N. C. W. C. News Service (Washington, D. C.)

BY REV. MCGE W. M. HART, V. C., Editor
REV. JOHN S. RANALL, Managing Editor
EDWARD S. ALPERT—Manager
THOMAS H. GEORNON—News Editor

Entered as second-class matter in the Postoffice at Rochester, N. Y., as required under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Subscription rates: \$2.00 per year in advance, \$3.00 per year (6 months \$1.25). Single Copies 5 CENTS (except where noted). Foreign \$3.00 per year. OFFICE: Subscribers served by mail who may wish to examine the CATHOLIC COURIER, may apply for a copy by mail to the office. Subscribers outside the U. S. may be served by mail, and the subscription will be held responsible for all orders sent to them after the expiration date of their subscription. This is in accord with Postal Law as interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

Published by CATHOLIC COURIER and JOURNAL, Inc., 250 Broadway, New York, N. Y.
Sole Business Office: 250 Broadway, New York, N. Y.
Other Offices: 100 Broadway, New York, N. Y.
ELIZABETH R. Y., Editor
250 Broadway, New York, N. Y.
ALICE M. H. Y., Manager
250 Broadway, New York, N. Y.
3rd Floor, New York, N. Y.

COURIER: Single 5c, 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 35c, 40c, 45c, 50c, 55c, 60c, 65c, 70c, 75c, 80c, 85c, 90c, 95c, 1.00
JOURNAL: Single 5c, 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 35c, 40c, 45c, 50c, 55c, 60c, 65c, 70c, 75c, 80c, 85c, 90c, 95c, 1.00

The comments of Bishop Kearney, who is a member of the Episcopal Commission of the Congregation of Christian Doctrine, were published in "Our Parish Controversy," the organ of the National Controversy. They are as follows:

BIBLICAL SUNDAY February Twenty-First

"Encouraging the reading of the Word of God and meditation on the great truths of religion as they unfold within the pages of Holy Writ."

The observance of the feast of the saints in the Church calendar has been one of the most effective elements in keeping alive devotion to these servants of God. No, too, the institution of Biblical Sunday has served each year to renew interest and activity in the works of the Holy Spirit for the propagation of the Faith, just as the selection of a definite Sunday to review the popular pledge of the Legion of Decency each year, has retained popular concern for decency in pictures.

It stands to reason then that our efforts to revive in our congregation an active interest in the reading of the Scriptures, can certainly receive great stimulation if we set aside Biblical Sunday as a day upon which the place of the Scriptures in our lives can be brought before our people. While it is true that every Sunday is Biblical Sunday for the Catholic who uses the Missal properly, and thereby comes to a realization of the important place occupied by both Testaments in the sacred liturgy, there still remains a great deal to be gained by setting aside one Sunday for the specific purpose of encouraging the reading of the Word of God and meditation on the great truths of religion as they unfold within the pages of Holy Writ.

The Catholic Biblical Association of America which has committed itself to the apostleship of "popularization of Scriptural knowledge," points out the appropriateness of Septuagesima Sunday for the August Biblical Sunday. "The selection was prompted chiefly by a practice which reaches back to the early days of the Church. For, as the Roman Breviary reveals, on Septuagesima Sunday, the first station of the gradually crystallizing ecclesiastical year, the Holy Bible was opened on the first page, and thereafter the reading of the entire book was continued throughout the year, even as it is today. The New Testament was appropriately inserted at Easter-tide. Hence, we are harking back to an ancient tradition when we concede to Septuagesima Sunday the distinction of being designated as Biblical Sunday."

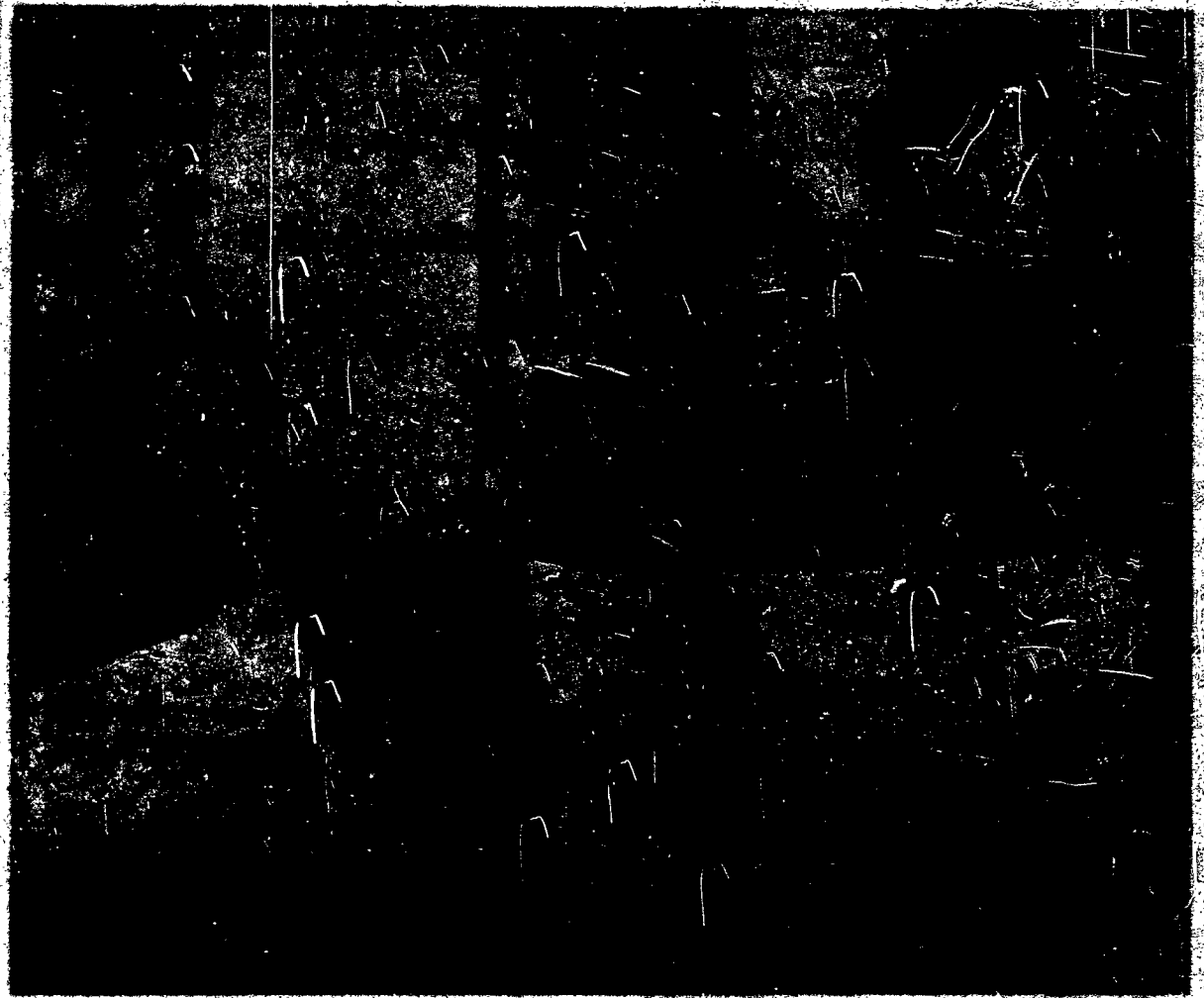
Nothing could be more in harmony with the mind of the Church than an increase in the interest in Biblical Sunday on the part of priest and people. As Pope Benedict said in his classic encyclical: "None can fail to see what profit and sweet tranquility must result in well-disposed souls from such devout reading of the Bible. Whoever enters to it in piety, faith and humility, and with a determination to make progress in it, will surely find therein and with it the 'bread that comes down from heaven.'"

We have reason to look forward with great hope and confidence to definite results in the individual soul and in the Church at large from an increased observance of Biblical Sunday with all its implications.

—JAMES E. KEARNEY, D. D.,
Bishop of Rochester,
Member of the Episcopal Commission of the CCD

Prayer A Safeguard

Pray often that you may be safeguarded against a sudden and unprovided death; and above all, that you may be fortified by the Holy Virtues against the dangers of your last hour.



ON THE FIGHTING FRONT—The Catholic paper is conducive to maintaining morale among our fighting men. Here are three of them at the USO building, Franklin Square, Rochester, intent on reading the Catholic Courier. They are: (from left) Dramatist's Mate First Class Victor H. Sagnall; Pvt. William C. Gilder and Pvt. George Hellinghead stationed in England.

Catholic Press Must Safeguard Ideals For Peace With Justice

(Continued from Page 1)

competition with any similar secular news gathering agency. "It has a mission of its own." It is a "Church news service dealing exclusively with the events of the Apostolic Catholic Church, religion and the conflicts of the human race with the moral law."

The N.C.W.C. News Service is to be found in every country of any importance. These responsible correspondents are constantly on the scene to report on current events and how they may influence Catholic life. Very often, as the Bishop points out, they have access to the facts, when secular correspondents cannot get to the true sources. Through the medium of the News Service the words of the Supreme Pontiff are quickly carried into every country of the world. When Bishops of a foreign land issue pastoral letters, representatives of this service are there to bring their messages to every news editor's desk.

The News Service has been a great factor in keeping American Catholics advised of the developments in other countries.

The pastoral of German Bishops have been faithfully reported, thereby informing us authentically of the will of Nations and the efforts to spread not only Catholicity but even the idea of a New-world Being.

It has enabled us to keep in step with the progress of Nazi rule in occupied countries. It has been a potent factor in arousing the patriotism of American Catholics for we have learned the fate that might be ours should the Axis overrun this country. . . . a fate not dissimilar from that of Poland.

The CATHOLIC COURIER has been a consistent subscriber to these news releases in order that it might bring this information into every Catholic home in the diocese. This fact alone would seem sufficient reason to heed the invitation of His Excellency, Bishop Kearney and subscribe to the COURIER during Free Month.

Seils on the Same

Everything around changes but the ship of Christ Our Lord sails on the same, the same in harvest as when Our Lord's doctrine first constructed her. She was built by Him, the Carpenter's Son; by Him to the end of time and in essential form and character she remains the same, though moved sometimes by swelling sails, sometimes by laboring oars.

Chaplain Heindl's Work In Pacific Acclaimed By Brooklyn Soldier

Priestly zeal of Chaplain Eimer W. Heindl, Rochester diocese priest, and his concern for his soldiers' physical welfare on the fighting front "somewhere in the Pacific" are glowingly described in a letter one of the boys has written to his pastor in Brooklyn.

Excerpts from the letter, which appeared in a Brooklyn church Parish Bulletin and received here this week, tell graphically of Father Heindl's Daily Mass when possible, for his troops and of his all-out efforts in helping to keep soldiers at all events physically fit. Father Heindl, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Heindl, 175 Melville St., has been in the Army Chaplain service since March, 1942.

Chaplain's Work

Here is what the letter states in part:

"Dear Father: "Knowing of your deep interest in the spiritual affairs and attitude of the men in the service, I am most happy to report that I have noticed a definite upward in the number of men attending Catholic services. This was first evidenced on the 10th day in which we landed when men who had completely drifted away from the Church and had not received the Blessed Sacrament in more than 10 years, resumed attendance at Mass, Daily and Sunday and went to Confession. This never happened after landing and as far as I can see has suffered no diminution as yet."

"The small amount of credit to our Catholic Chaplain, Father Heindl of Rochester, N. Y., who by his unflinching attitude toward physical and spiritual care over the attitude of our men, both spiritual and temporal, gained the respect, admiration of every man, Catholic, Protestant, Jew and non-believer alike."

"On this island, which is practically devoid of recreational facilities, he labored strenuously giving fully of his free time and efforts to procure sports equipment, record players, phonograph records and even a radio. When we landed here and were without pay for over two months, he loaned out his money to the men until he was completely broke himself."

"Daily Mass was said, when possible, at 4:30 in the afternoon, this being the most convenient time because of the hours for duty and work and to receive Holy Communion at that Mass, we were required to fast from solids for four hours and from fluids for one hour."



Chaplain E. W. Heindl
Photo by Halpern

Notes which I understand is a special permission granted only to American men in service. "Unfortunately for us, Father Heindl was assigned to another battery of our Battalion on the other side of the island about one month ago, so we must now be content with Sunday Mass which is celebrated in the field."

"One of the most impressive things I will remember is that of seeing a large group of soldiers of Mass in the field. . . . I will miss going to Confession in the field, before Mass, especially the absence of those surroundings and neighbors, the great sun of a July setting as the ambulation for the priest."

Navy Chaplain Serves 26 Years

MAN DEBGO, Cal.—One of the oldest Catholic chaplains in the Navy is about to retire. Capt. Charles J. DeBgo, who is chaplain for the Naval Hospital here, Father DeBgo was sworn into service 26 years ago, on the day that the United States entered World War I. He is a graduate of Marquette University.