

Service Scroll Honoring 1200 'Old Boys' Dedicated At Aquinas Institute

"March On Aquinas" took on deeper significance when sung by the Aquinas Institute students last Friday morning, Feb. 19, when a striking service honor roll was dedicated to the 1200 "old boys" of Aquinas now in the armed forces. The blessing was performed by the Rev. J. H. O'Loughlin, C.S.B., principal.

From the Vicariate - Bishop Keane's - the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph E. Tracy, vicar general of St. Russell's Seminary and former principal of the school, brought the following message:

"Tell those young men that if they're Aquinas boys, anything to them they should do my suggestion and could give a Rosary daily while the boys are away."

Interest upon the student audience was the fact that their religion and spirituality will be their mainstay in the armed services. This was stressed by Monsignor Tracy, by Captain Darcy W. Belger, of Camp Shafter, Miss., who spoke for the older graduates, and by Sergeant "Jack" Mardon, of the United States Marine Corps, a graduate and former three leader at Aquinas and just back from Guadalcanal and Solomons service.

Prayer Leader Film

The doughty little Marine Sergeant brought advice based on his experience in the battle line and asserted that the saying "there are no atheists in fox holes" is true. Under fire, he said, a man can become really scared and starts to pray saying his Rosary on his fingers.

"It's like to see all of you keep your religion in mind," he advised the boys who will be called to the colors soon. He admonished the students to "keep your feet on the ground" to finish out their courses at Aquinas and to fit themselves physically for what lies ahead.

Physical fitness is essential, he said, but it is "strictly the fellow with brains who gets along."

Captain Belger, who holds the rank of First Lieutenant, deserved Christmas "Midnight Mass" at his camp and told of the reactions among the boys as 900 went to the Communion Rail. "Spiritual

Mysteries of Cross

The reason for sacrifice and suffering and the explanation for death can be found in the Twelve Stations of the Cross, Monsignor Tracy said. This is instilled into the Catholic boy at his parents' knee and is developed through his years in grammar school and at Aquinas. The Catholic boy, the Monsignor declared, bears the Supreme Voice saying take up your cross. "He didn't think Himself."

Dedication of the memorial scroll which is surmounted by the "Divine Protector" painting in colors was a part of the annual "Bill of Rights Assembly" at the school. It was arranged by the Rev. William J. Dugan, C.S.B., head of the school's Social Studies Department.

The ceremony was stirringly opened with a variety of well-known service songs sung by the Aquinas Glee Club under the direction of Raymond J. Haeseler, one of the Aquinas faculty. Accompanied by the Aquinas Band, the singers greeted Sergeant Raymond with the lively strains of the "Majestic Hymn."

Members of the faculty and the student body joined in singing the "Amen Prayer" and the "Star Spangled Banner."

Ex-Coach Jim Crowley Of Fordham, Goes To Solomons

NEW YORK—James Crowley, former Fordham football coach, now a Lieutenant Commander in the United States Naval Reserve, has left this country for active duty in the Solomon Islands.



CATHOLIC COURIER Staff Photo
1200 AQUINAS MEN now in the armed forces of the country will be honored on Service Scroll dedicated on Feb. 19. The striking scroll was blessed by the Rev. J. H. O'Loughlin, C.S.B., principal of Aquinas Institute (right). Taking part in dedication (from right to left) were Monsignor Joseph E. Tracy, former principal; Captain W. Darcy Belger, U. S. Army and Sergeant Jack Mardon, U.S.M.C., both graduates.

K. of C. Honor War Dead At Mass On Feb. 27

Give Patriotic Play At Nazareth Hall

Members of Rochester Council Knights of Columbus assembled at Holy Mass on Washington's Birthday, Monday morning, in Columbus Civic Center Chapel to pray for the honored dead of the present war and for the welfare and safety of the men in the armed forces.

The Mass, celebrated by the Rev. Gerald C. Lambert, director, Rochester Catholic Charities, was one of the many offered on that day throughout the state as a project of the State Council's War Activities Committee.

Present for the service were Cyril J. Kelly, diocesan chairman of K. of C. War Activities Record; Joseph P. Flynn, diocesan chairman, State War Activities Committee; District Deputy, Dr. Walter F. O'Neill, Grand Knight Thomas H. O'Conor of Rochester Council 144, Faithful Navigator Joseph A. Murphy of the Rochester Fourth Degree Assembly.

The Church, the whole Church, was built upon Peter, As St. Ambrose says, "Show me Peter, and I will show you the Church."

This week was marked by two events at Nazareth Hall: the drive for collecting reading material for the armed forces and celebration of Washington's Birthday.

The Seventh Grade boys enacted an appropriate play entitled "Washington's Dreams." The following boys had speaking parts: Robert Dailey, Frank Carr, Lawrence Cleary, Donald Newell, David Shulters, Thomas McManus, James Ryan, Gerard Guerino, Daniel Burke, Joseph Incavo, Edward Flynn.

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