

Religion 'Essential' McNutt Reminded As Listing Is Delayed

In latest parlance it is "two strikes and you are out." If that advice is to be followed by the War Relocation Commission religion in the United States is in a precarious position.

To the Rt. Rev. Michael J. Ready, general secretary of the N.W.C., has directed the Commission's attention to the omission of the listing of religious activities as essential. Three letters directed to Chairman Paul V. McNutt were dated Nov. 20 and Dec. 20. It was two months later, Jan. 20, before Mr. McNutt favored Monsignor Ready with a reply.

Fails to Concede

In his reply, Mr. McNutt, on behalf of the commission, offers clarification of the status of religious in health and welfare activities for the guidance of local boards in questions of occupational deferments but fails to concede an "essential" status to the bulk of religious, charitable and educational institutions.

Monsignor Ready pointed out in his recent letter that "there is no intention on the part of the Church to demand an unreasonable position for Religion and its activities." On the other hand, he continued, local Selective Service boards "should not be stopped in granting a just recognition of the services these religious institutions give in our American communities."

Chairman McNutt in his long overdue reply stated that the "List of Essential Activities" only provides "a list of manufacturing and non-manufacturing activities." For this reason "the churches are included in the 'Index to the List of

Essential Activities" as a means of identifying a type of institution which carries on an important aspect of religious activity. Religion can find little consolation in this grouping of activities for, as the Commission stated, "administrative buildings, universities, convents and similar institutions carrying on the directive and functional operation of the whole field of religious activities are not regarded as 'essential'."

No Investigation

The one consolation which can be drawn from this latest ruling of the War Relocation Commission is that cited by Monsignor Ready, "there is still no recognition of fundamental and essential religious activities."

The use of these lists "only as a guide to local draft boards to assist them with their determinations regarding occupational deferment" will not bring "even the small measure of relief the bishops petitioned on November 23rd." In the opinion of Monsignor Ready, the future of these religious, charitable and educational institutions is fraught with grave danger. Various governmental bureaus, as well as the Selective Service and the United States Employment Service "will be guided by the Commission's list in deciding whether religious institutional requirements are essential to our Nation's Cause." This is apt to drain these institutions of sufficient manpower to operate efficiently.

'Parish' Set As Discussion Club Topic

"Our Parish—Home of God and Gate of Heaven" will furnish the topic for the diocesan-wide Discussion Clubs opening their season on Sunday, March 7 and continuing to Palm Sunday.

Impetus is given to the Discussion Clubs program in a letter from His Excellency, Bishop Kearney, directed to all the pastors in the diocese. The parish discussion club work in the diocese is sponsored by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine of which the Rev. George C. Vogt is director.

In conjunction with this year's Lenten program, the Rev. Benedict Klamann of St. Mary's Rectory will inaugurate the program with a series of articles over the Rochester Catholic News, Station WHEM (12th St.) on Sunday, March 7 at 12:30 p. m.

Bishop Kearney is commending the work of the Discussion Clubs in this diocese states:

"Religion is being attacked in many countries of the world by unscrupulous and subtle agencies. The confusion of Protestantism through the brain of the leaders of religion upon the shoulders of the ordinary Catholics.

"Millions of dollars are spent yearly in propaganda by the same hostile to the welfare of our country and our church.

"Bishop Walsh of Charleston, S. C., tells us of the great number of soldiers and sailors returning to religious practices in the southern camps and in nearly every case, giving as a reason for their conversion a lack of understanding of their religion.

"Therefore, all Catholics are to try every means of instruction to give our people a thorough grasp of the principles of their Faith. This religious instruction the Discussion Clubs are admirably fitted to give. Once properly organized, they are a permanent source of good in the people of the parish and to the Church at large."

Pamphlets to aid in the program entitled "Our Parish—Home of God and Gate of Heaven," were written by the Rev. H. A. Rothhold of the Seattle, Washington diocese, especially for the Discussion Clubs here. They were published by the Paulist Press. These pamphlets may be obtained from the pastor or at the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine office, 24 Chestnut St., Rochester, N. Y.

Designed to give the people of the Parish a deeper appreciation of their parish, the pamphlets are attractively arranged. On the frontispiece is a special picture of the new altar in St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York, obtained through the courtesy of the rector and "Liturgical Arts." The word cuts were sent by Mary Katherine Flanagan of Rochester.

Divided into seven chapters, the pamphlets cover "the Parish" and its Church; the altar; Our Parish Shepherd; Our Parish Flock, Families; the Gate of Heaven and Our Parish in Action.

All former leaders are urged to conduct their clubs this year and to volunteer their services to their pastors.

The confraternity director urges the leaders and especially parish chairmen to mail in the names of the club members to gain the indulgences granted by the Holy Father for all participating in the Discussion Club Movement.

Japs Bar Red Cross Aid To Jesuits In Islands

In response to an inquiry of the Jesuit Philippine Bureau of New York City for information regarding the possibility of contacting the Jesuit Fathers in the Philippines, Norman H. Davis, Chairman of the American Red Cross stated:

"No problem causes me quite so much concern as that of getting Red Cross help to American prisoners in the Philippines. We have made most earnest efforts through the International Red Cross and in close collaboration with the Department of State. Although our requests have been continued and emphatic, the Japanese Government has thus far failed to provide any agreement whereby continuing relief supplies could be sent these prisoners. We shall not cease in our efforts and are determined to exhaust all possible means until we succeed."

Mr. Davis further stated that the International Red Cross Com-

mitter was advised that 800 tons of relief supplies had been shipped from Hong Kong and Yokohama to the Philippines.

"Of these 800 measured tons were from supplies sent by the American Red Cross on the diplomatic exchange SS. Gripsholm. Greater quantities have been provided by us for the next sailing of the SS. Gripsholm on its exchange mission. Unfortunately, however, all these supplies will not go far enough in meeting needs. Not until the Japanese agree to the appointment of an International Red Cross Delegate to the Philippines, and to the granting of safe conduct for Red Cross relief ships sailing regularly, could we give adequate assistance."

Mr. Davis concluded: "It is pleasing, though not surprising, to know that the Alamos and students of the Alamos, merited the commendations of General MacArthur. It is my warmest hope that as further information comes from the Philippines, it will be found that the Jesuit Fathers there are safe and carrying on in the tradition of the Society of Jesus."

The Alamos is a large Catholic school in Manila under the direction of the Jesuit Fathers, including the High School and College courses.

The Alamos is known as the West Point of the East because of the military school attached to the University. Many of its graduates distinguished themselves with General MacArthur in the defense of the Philippines.

Students Kneel Every Hour To Pray For Men in Armed Service

NEW ORLEANS. — When the bell in the clocktower of the church strikes the hour every child in the Rectory school kneels to pray for some man in the armed forces of the United States.

Boys of the fifth and sixth grades have organized two unions, one is "The Army That Kneels and Prays That the Army Might Stand" and the other is "An Army on Its Knees To Keep an Army on Its Feet."

'Sampson News' Lists Masses

"Sampson News"—a brief, little four-page paper, daily illustrated, is published for, by, and in the interest of Sampson Navy Men at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Sampson, N. Y.

Action photos taken at the station and accounts of entertainment sponsored both there and in Rochester are included.

Under an illustration of the Chaplain's flag appears the time of religious services, Catholic, Protestant and Jewish. Using Navy time, Masses are listed as follows: 6:15—Mass in C, F and G with bells and Holy Service. 6:35—Mass in C, F and G with bells and Holy Service. 8:00—Mass in C, F and G with Holy Service. Q. AREA. Masses at 6:00 and 8:00.



ST. JOSEPH

Bishop Urges Prayer To St. Joseph In March

Faithful of the Rochester Diocese are directed by His Excellency, Bishop Kearney to recite a particular prayer to St. Joseph during the month of March in the following letter sent to the pastors:

Dear Father: In these trying days, let us recall to our minds the great love and devotion of Saint Joseph, Father of the Universal Church. The traditional prayer "To Thee, O Blessed Joseph" is most fitting in the present situation of world affairs. I wish, therefore, that every Low Mass during the month of March, following the custom of the prayer after Mass, be

recited "To Thee, O Blessed Joseph" by all. The prayer should be recited by the priest and the people. May I suggest that the text of the prayer be printed in simple English in the book. Your devoted shepherd, Bishop of Rochester.

The Bishop's Appointments

- MARCH
- 4 Thursday—Kegonsa Hotel—St. Elizabeth Guild Luncheon—A. M.
 - St. Francis Xavier—Novena Service—7:45 P. M.
 - 5 Friday—St. Patrick—Low Mass, St. Monica's Society—6:00 P. M.
 - St. Bernard's Seminary—Confession—4:30 P. M.
 - St. Francis Xavier—Novena Service—7:45 P. M.
 - 6 Saturday—Kegonsa Theatre—School Victory Rally—4:00 P. M.
 - 7 Sunday—St. Francis Xavier—Novena Service—7:45 P. M.
 - 8 Monday—St. Francis Xavier—Novena Service—7:45 P. M.
 - 9 Tuesday—Columbus Civic Center—Friend's Rally News—6:00 P. M.
 - St. Francis Xavier—Novena Service—7:45 P. M.
 - 10 Wednesday—Blonard Restaurant—Low Mass—8:00 A. M.
 - The Most Rev. Bishop will offer Holy Mass of Blessed Sacrament Church each Wednesday morning during Lent unless otherwise noted.
 - St. Francis Xavier—Novena Service—7:45 P. M.
 - 11 Thursday—St. Francis Xavier—Novena Service—7:45 P. M.
 - 12 Friday—St. Francis Xavier—Low Mass, Closing of Novena—8:00 A. M.
 - St. Andrew—Lenten Sermon—7:45 P. M.
 - 14 Sunday—St. James, Transfiguration—Confession—8:00 P. M.
 - Mark Twain Hotel, Dinner—E. of C. St. Patrick's Dinner—8:30 P. M.
 - 1 Wednesday—St. Patrick—Pastoral Mass—10:00 A. M.
 - Powers Hotel—Dinner, Knights of Equity—6:30 P. M.
 - 16 Thursday—Columbus Civic Center—E. of C. Dinner—8:00 P. M.
 - 19 Friday—Nazareth Convent, Pinedale—Pastoral Mass—11:00 A. M.
 - St. Andrew—Lenten Sermon—7:45 P. M.
 - 21 Sunday—St. Mary's Church—Low Mass, Catholic Masses—8:00 A. M.
 - St. Patrick, St. Monica—Confession—4:30 P. M.
 - 22 Thursday—Carmelite Monastery—Low Mass, Reception of Mass—8:00 A. M.
 - 26 Friday—St. Andrew—Lenten Sermon—7:45 P. M.

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