

Catholic Courier

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With the Approbation of the

MOST REVEREND JAMES EDWARD KEARNEY, D.D.
Bishop of Rochester

The CATHOLIC COURIER has my most enthusiastic approval. A diocesan newspaper has become an essential part of the program of Catholic action in every diocese. The CATHOLIC COURIER should be found in every Catholic home in this diocese. I find it hard to understand how any Catholic can be so indifferent as to what is transpiring in his church throughout the world as to fail to obtain a copy of this journal. Let us back a copy of the CATHOLIC COURIER in every Catholic home.

JAMES E. KEARNEY, Bishop of Rochester

AT-TEN-TION!

And 30,000,000 boys and girls in the country stood alert ready to step into action. Young hearts pulsating with American patriotism pumped the deep red blood of courageous loyalty through vigorous bodies and a challenge was accepted. "Freedom is priceless" came the message from Henry Morgenthau, Jr., Secretary of the Treasury. "So it is," came the answer from 30,000,000 throats. "We'll show that a shackled future will not be our lot." Thus the Schools-at-War program got under way in the country.

AT-TEN-TION!

And 25,000 boys and girls in the Rochester diocese clicked heels. The bugle note was sounded; the command was given. Uncle Sam needed them—young America—to help speed up victory. Their youthful energy was solicited to carry on home front campaigns. Tin cans must be collected; bottle tops were needed; vitrola records were helpful; iron, paper, rubber—all could be used somewhere to help their fighting buddies "over there."

AT-TEN-TION!

No military battalion ever went forth with more youthful enthusiasm than did the Rochester diocese contingent of 25,000 Catholic boys and girls. Typical of American youth they entered the battle against waste with the buoyancy known only by a young nation. They were out to win and if knitting squares, canvassing for blood donors, making pudding boxes sounded the note of victory 25,000 were there to do their part. Work was given to the schools; a vigorous program was laid down with no over time remuneration, only the satisfying thought of a work well done. As results piled up, the oldsters shook sage heads remarking "the youngsters have done it again!"

AT-TEN-TION—PARENTS!

When facts cry out of work well done do not turn a deaf ear for in that call is the voice of your child. During the Schools-at-War Program he has been cooperating with the Government in an effort to help hold the freedom which you as a child enjoyed. It's his heritage; he refused to withdraw his hold on it. The result of his work for that aim has been recorded. Scrapbooks exhibited at Columbus Civic Centre tell the story—it's a physical, material, and spiritual picture of 25,000 Catholic boys and girls. The Rochester diocese is proud of them. You should be proud, too; for the story shows the spirit that predominates every fighting unit where American boys bear arms.

AT-TEN-TION!

Parents of the 25,000 boys and girls in the Rochester diocese you have a rendezvous to make before March 2 at the Columbus Civic Centre.

COURIER SUNDAY

February 28 is COURIER SUNDAY throughout the diocese, by designation of Bishop Kearney. The Bishop's letter was read last Sunday, envelopes were distributed, subscriptions were solicited at the \$2.00 yearly rate, all subscriptions to be made by returning the envelope on February 28 to the parish church. This holds for new subscribers, and also for renewals. If you have been a mail subscriber, use the envelope to subscribe now; if you have been a carrier-subscriber paying 5c per week, use the envelope to subscribe as a mail-subscriber at \$2.00 per year.

ALL subscriptions will now be mail-subscriptions at \$2.00 per year. All subscriptions will now be handled by the Pastor for his parish, who will sponsor the total number of subscriptions from his parish, will receive from subscribers the \$2.00 rate, will pay the Courier directly for ALL subscriptions.

Bishop Kearney wants every Catholic home to subscribe for and read the COURIER. It is the Catholic Press for us, giving all the beginning of a Catholic reading program, which may then develop through use of other Catholic publications. Catholic reading in any home will begin with the reading of the Courier.

The Courier is for YOU! for YOUR CHILDREN! for YOUR HOME! Bishop Kearney maintains the Courier as a necessary instrument for Catholic teaching, Catholic instruction, Catholic news, in our homes. Two hours of chosen items of Catholic interest each week are furnished in the current issue of the Courier, for every member of the household.

Former subscribers, renew now—by using the envelope the coming Sunday; new subscribers, have your envelope ready to drop in the box on Sunday; all Catholics, make your own all that the Courier can give you by subscribing now, and by reading your Courier every week!

RED CROSS SUNDAY

National observance of the coming Sunday as RED CROSS SUNDAY is asked of all Americans by the American Red Cross. The national office and the state and local offices of this great humanitarian organization are sponsoring a campaign for funds to carry on its merciful ministrations in all parts of the world.

We ask our readers on this Sunday to consider the work of the Red Cross, to visualize the suffering and want that would remain uncared for but for its activities, to think of our soldiers and all that the Red

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WINGS FOR VICTORY



U. S. Treasury Dept. Los Angeles Examiner.

Fallen Star Reflection

By REV. DANIEL A. LORD, S.J.

The other evening, briefly across the screen flashed a familiar face. I had some difficulty placing it, and then recalled it as one of the bright and shining stars of the silent days. He was doing a bit part, and a very small bit at that.

The flash of his face, which was not permitted much flash, hurried way back in the shadows of a fairly crowded scene, recalled the time I travelled on the same train back from California with that star. He was at his zenith and when he got on quietly in Los Angeles, he had hidden himself away in a stateroom. But the word got through the train that he was aboard, and at every stop between Los Angeles and Chicago all the women got off and walked up and down the station hoping he'd leave his stateroom and grant them a smile and an autograph. He never did.

I suppose in those days he felt with an insincerity he did not recognize, very scornful of publicity and the admiring throng. He probably often said to his friends, "If they'd only let me alone. If I could get somewhere where I'd not be bothered by them."

So on that trip he took over his meals in his stateroom and hid away from the adulation of the throng.

Well, he's found a place now where no one bothers him. No one now demands his autograph or begs that he tussle a smile their way. Just another swiftly falling star. And what he wouldn't give for the publicity and the jamming about him of other and happier days.

I can't resist saying, that's fame.

Cause For Rejoicing

When a colored porter of one of the big St. Louis hotels was married recently, this joyous invitation was sent to his friends. Incidentally the manager of the hotel gave the bride away.

"King Anthony and Marian Ward are so happy about getting married that we want you to come and be happy with us at our wedding. Please let us know if you are coming so we can be prepared."

Don't you feel all in the spirit of the occasion just reading the invitation?

How Can It Be Explained?

People, in the words of the ancient scribe, are certainly queerer than anybody. For example, the conductors came through the train collecting tickets. They came to the locked door of the bedroom, and rang the buzzer politely. There was no response. They knocked gently. No response. They went into a huddle and consulted their charts. The passenger had, according to the chart, not surrendered his ticket, and they, as mere employees of a road, had to pick up all tickets. They buzzed again, and called, announcing who they were and what they wanted. Still no answer. More pounding, more buzzing, more calls, no response.

They left and about half an hour later, I heard them once more trying to get in. No slightest sign of life. My immediate thought was: "Either the man is dead drunk, or the heaviest of heavy sleepers" (though how he could sleep through that noise, I didn't know) or dead! (and against that eventually I said a brief prayer).

The next morning the Pullman conductor stopped and asked me for my name and if I had heard the difficulty of the night before. Then he went on.

"We were frankly scared," he said. "Sometimes people do die on trains, or get a stroke, or get into some sort of faint or panic, and so after we had struggled to get some sign of life, we realized there was nothing for it but to take off the lock. That is quite a job, requiring special instruments made for the purpose, and a lot of time and energy. But we managed it, and opened the door, expecting to find the passenger lying on his berth or possibly the floor dead or collapsed."

"He lay calmly in bed smoking a cigar."

"I just wondered," he said calmly, "what you'd have to do if I didn't answer." And then he told me in unmistakable terms what he thought of me for daring to bother him. And he is reporting me for 'discourtesy to passengers.' So I thought if I had your name and your willingness to testify . . .

So all that time this passenger had laid in his berth, perfectly willing to have the car thrown into a minor panic, put the train crew to worry and physical labor . . .

QUERIES and REPLIES

Why May the Father in a Word Marriage Not Mean the Catholic Ceremony First and Then Have the Marriage Ceremony Reported by a Minister to Place in Possession of the Non-Catholic Party?

The Catholic party to any such marriage is bound by the laws of the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church claims complete control over Christian marriage because it is a Sacrament and all the Sacraments have been committed to the care of the Church by Christ Himself.

The canon law of the Catholic Church stipulates that for the valid marriage of any of her members the presence of an authorized priest and two witnesses is absolutely required. A Catholic, therefore, who attempts marriage before a judge or a non-Catholic minister is really not married at all.

The law of the Church likewise expressly forbids a Catholic to be party to a second marriage ceremony before a non-Catholic minister (Canon 1043). Catholics who disobey the law of the Church in this matter incur excommunication for such action is an open profession of heresy or schism. Principle cannot be sacrificed merely to satisfy or please the non-Catholic relatives in a mixed marriage. If the first marriage is binding unto death, as the Church teaches, the second ceremony would be wholly without meaning.

It is true that some countries insist upon all citizens going through the formality of a civil ceremony. In such countries Catholics must and do conform to the law to insure their civil privileges but the civil marriage is then regarded merely as a legal formality not unlike "getting a license" in this country. It has no religious significance whatsoever. From the pen of Father Richard Felix, O.S.B., Defenders of the Faith, Conception, Missouri.

Feast Days

- Sunday, Feb. 28—SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY.
- Monday, Mar. 1—ST. ALBERT'S.
- Tuesday, Mar. 2—ST. SIMPLICIUS.
- Wednesday, Mar. 3—ST. CUNEGUNDE.
- Thursday, Mar. 4—ST. CASIMIR.
- Friday, Mar. 5—ST. FREDERICK.
- Saturday, Mar. 6—ST. COLBERT.

I give it up. People sure is funnier than anybody. And I don't mean funny—laugh—laugh.

Foyelle Vocation

The young Catholic girl met the Georgian as he was finishing his course in the officers' training camp. He fell much in love with the girl, only to find that he was heading off for war and a future that had no certainty of a swift return.

When he was leaving, he looked at the girl regretfully and then in a melancholy drawl, he said: "Us Georgia boys are lovab's not fightab's."

'Quiz' Corner

What does it mean when God is spoken of as being simple?

The simplicity of God means the absence of composition in God, that He has no parts, physical or metaphysical. A composite thing is one that is made up of several parts. Physical parts are those which can really be found in the thing, e. g., the limbs of a man, hands, feet, etc. Metaphysical parts are those which do not exist in real distinction, but for whose distinction in the mind there is a foundation in fact. Now in God there is no composition. He is just infinite perfection. The fundamental reason of this is that His Being and all that it means is wholly from Himself. All the different attributes and perfections that are His are identical with His Being.

Are there any Saints outside the Catholic Church? I have heard it claimed that there are Protestant Saints.

A Saint is not merely a good Christian, but a Christian who has practiced virtue to a heroic degree. There are good Protestants,

good Baptists, good Quakers, etc., but there is no one outside the Catholic Church to whose heroic virtue God has testified by working miracles through their intercession.

In the 400 years of its existence, the Protestant Church has failed to produce even one Saint in any of its numerous branches, and the same will be said after another 400 years if the Protestant Church still exists, because the Catholic Church has a monopoly of Saints.

Only the true Church of God can produce saints, i. e., men and women of heroic virtue.

At what time of the Mass is one late?

The obligation to hear Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation means that you should be present when the priest begins the prayers at the foot of the altar. To miss any portion of the service is a sin though it would not be a grievous sin were you present before the Offertory.