Veteran Midway Navy Chaplain Cites Red Cross Work

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CATHOLIC COURIER Staff Photo

HOME FROM MIDWAY, Chaplain John F. Woloch, Lieutenant, Senior Grade in the U. S. Navy, celebrated Solemn High Mass, Sunday in St. Hyacinth's Church, Auburn, for Marines and other servicemen who saw action in Guadalcanal. He is shown here with his mother, Mrs. Rose Woloch of 48 Pulaski St., Auburn, where he is spending his furlough.

Chaplain Woloch, Midway Veteran, Hails Red Cross

A veteran of the Battle of Midway, Chaplain John F. Woloch, Lieut. Senior Grade of the U. S. Navy, returned to the Diocese of Rochester, this week, on furlough with a service record covering activity at Pearl Harbor, on Palmyra, Johnston Island and Midway Island.

First priest of the Rochester Diocese to enter the U. S. Navy as Chaplain, Father Woloch's service began at San Diego on Nov. 5, '41.

Visits With Bishop

The veteran Navy Chaplain visited with His Excellency, Bishop Kearney in Rochester last week before going to Auburn for his well-earned furlough.

Under enemy fire at Midway, Chaplain Woloch heroically administered to the Catholic boys in the Navy and Marine Corps, it was reported at the time. Back home, he recalls that before the battle, the Catholic boys, especially the flyers, all went to Confession and Holy Communion. The majority of the force at Midway was comprised of Catholic boys.

During Chaplain Woloch's six months on Midway, he was the only chaplain on the Island. Each Sunday he conducted three general services and celebrated three Masses.

The Marine flyers did a "swell job" during the Midway engagement, Father Woloch recalled, but none of them returned. As the battle raged, he was obliged to give general absolution because so many tried to go to Confession. All of the boys he saw left word to be sent to their mothers—he was asked to inform the mothers that the boys had been prepared for whatever might happen by receiving the Sacraments.

Lauds Red Cross

Where he served, Chaplain Woloch said that the Red Cross had done a remarkable job. Midway is an import base where supplies are shipped out and the boys stationed there relied upon the Red Cross for reading material. It was not

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Comdr. Shea Awarded Navy Heroism Cross

WASHINGTON — (NC) — The Navy Cross for heroism has been awarded to Lieut. Comdr. John J. Shea, of Arlington, Mass., who has been reported missing in action and whose letter to his 5-year-old son from the South Pacific war zone has come to be regarded as something of a classic in outlining the ideals, both Catholic and patriotic, for which he was fighting.

The Navy Department announced the award for Comdr. Shea's heroism in directing the fighting of fires aboard the Aircraft Carrier Wasp after she had been crippled by a Japanese bombing attack. The hero was last seen just before a terrific explosion aboard the carrier. Mrs. Elizabeth M. Shea, the hero's wife, and their son reside in Cambridge, Mass.

France To Rise Again Says Cardinal Gerlier

VATICAN CITY — "God humiliates France in these critical hours of its history only to raise her afterwards more robust and more beautiful than ever."

Thus spoke his Eminence Pierre Cardinal Gerlier, Archbishop of Lyons, in an address at ceremonies held at the University of Lyon to mark the Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas. His Eminence stressed the duties today of the intellectual elite, especially the Catholic students of France.

Pulpit Exchange Brings Sampson Navy Chaplain To Cathedral on Sunday

Bishop Will Preside At Military Mass; Fr. Bruton At Sampson

Chaplain Eugene B. LeGault, S.J., Senior Catholic Chaplain at Sampson Naval Training Station, will be in Rochester Sunday at Sacred Heart Cathedral in the first wartime exchange of pulpits set for that day between Sampson Chaplains and civilian clergy of this area.

His Excellency, the Most Rev. James E. Kearney, Bishop of Rochester, will preside at the throne at Solemn High Mass in the Cathedral at 11 A. M. Chaplain LeGault will preach the sermon.

The Sampson Navy Chaplain will be escorted into the Cathedral by a color guard of twelve sailors in uniform from the Naval Training Station.

Going to Sampson on Saturday to hear confessions and to celebrate Masses on Sunday, carrying out the program of the Navy Chaplains, is the Rev. Charles J. Bruton, pastor of St. Margaret Mary's Church, a veteran Army Chaplain of the last World War and Regimental chaplain of the New York State Guard.

Father Bruton will preach to the Navy men and on his return will give his impressions of Catholic life in the Navy to the press.

The exchange of pulpits is the feature of the first "Sampson Navy Church Weekend," March 20 and 21, announced last week in the proclamation of Capt. Harry A. Badt, USN, Commandant. Arrangements are in charge of Commander William W. Edel (ChC) USN, senior chaplain at Sampson.

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Radio Interview

In connection with "Sampson Navy Church Weekend"—an interview between His Excellency, Bishop Kearney and Chaplain Eugene B. LeGault of Sampson will be heard from 12:15 to 12:30 P. M. over Station WHAM on the Rochester Catholic Hour, on Sunday, March 21.

FIRST FLYING NURSES UNIT, LED BY CATHOLIC, NOW ON DUTY IN AFRICA WAR ZONE

COLUMBUS—(NC)— Commanded by Lieut. Catherine R. Grogan, a Catholic nurse of this city, a group of 25 nurses, known as the "Flying Angels of Mercy," has arrived in North Africa, according to advices received here, for duty on flying hospital planes. It is the first such unit to be organized by the Army.

The flying hospital planes have a capacity of 20 and 22 patients. The planes are enroute ambulances from forward airports to hospital bases and will be near enough to the scene of action to warrant fighter plane escorts. The planes are fully equipped with medical supplies, and blood transfusions can be given in emergencies.

Auxiliary Bishop

Vatican City—Monsignor Francesco Espino Porras of Chihuahua, Mexico, has been named Titular Bishop of Furbato and Auxiliary Bishop of Chihuahua, it is announced in Osservatore Romano.

C. D. A. Will Sponsor Showing Of 'Story Of Vatican' Film

AUBURN—The March meeting of the Catholic Daughters of America for the Auburn Chapter was held Monday evening at the Court Home, 44 South Street. Preceding the business meeting, Mrs. Kathleen Balmer and her committee served supper. The social meeting for the month of March will be held on Mar. 22 and will be in keeping with the Lenten season. The money project climax occurs that night and all returns are to be made by Mar. 17.

Plans were made for the showing of a full length feature, "The Story of the Vatican," the first motion picture ever made inside the Vatican City, taking four months to complete. It is an educational picture showing the works of art and wonders of the Basilica of St. Peter's, Rome. The narrator is the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen of the Catholic University of America, famous author and lecturer, who is well known to Auburnians. The Court announced that the film will be shown at the Capitol Theater on Apr. 8, 9 and 10. The entire proceeds are to be given to the Catholic Daughters of America.

A series of talks explaining the teachings and doctrine of the Catholic Church will be given by Rev. Joseph M. Mahoney, chaplain of the Auburn Court, beginning at 8 o'clock on Friday evening in the Catholic Daughters Home, 44 South St. Non-Catholic friends and all interested are being invited to attend these meetings. The object of the talks is to bring about a better understanding of the Catholic Church and its doctrines and policies.

Church and Charter Aims In Accord Says Archbishop Spellman

ALGIERS—Objectives outlined in the Atlantic Charter are the "natural rights of man," agree with "the traditional teaching of the Church and are in accord with the Christian ... and the Christmas allocutions of His Holiness Pope Pius XII," the Most Rev. Francis J. Spellman, Archbishop of New York and Military Vicar of the United States Armed Forces, declared here on Mar. 13.

The Archbishop's address was directed to the American soldiers and sailors in North Africa. He asserted that the war aims and the peace aims of the United States are strictly "defensive against ... totalitarian world ..." and in a broader sense represent the peace aims of "all freedom-loving people."

"You are the sacred instruments of the triumph of our cause," Archbishop Spellman told the soldiers and sailors. "You are the example to Americans in the homefront, not alone in the firm belief in the justice of our struggle because we were treacherously plotted against and attacked by a combination of aggressor nations, but you are also an example to your fellow Americans in your supreme faith in victory."

Hope Illusion

The soldiers and sailors were told their fellow Americans may have some illusion regarding the cost of victory, and the Archbishop continued:

"But it is not illusion to you. You know full well and full sadly the cost. For part of the price of this precious victory already has been paid. It is true that all Americans both individually and collectively must bear the cost. But yours is the greater and heavier portion, though those you love and those who love you bear with you something of the pain, the honor and the glory."

Victory must come before the fruits of victory, Archbishop Spellman declared, and an attempt to "force the ripening of the fruits or to snatch them prematurely may imperil or retard victory itself."

Americans, he reminded, are divided in many ways and divided in many matters, and added: "... I believe that never before in our history have we Americans been more fervently united not only in

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Bishop Grants Pupils Holiday For War Work

[illegible] His Excellency, Bishop Kearney, has declared Monday, March [illegible] a holiday in all elementary and secondary schools of the Diocese.

English People Give $20,000 To China Aid

LONDON—Collections in Catholic Churches in [illegible] of the [illegible] dioceses in England and Wales produced [illegible] for the United Aid to China Fund.

A check for this sum has been sent to the Fund by Monsignor George Telford, National Director of the Pontifical Mission Aid Societies.

The United Aid to China Fund now totals [illegible].