

SODALTALK

On Monday, Apr. 26, at the monthly Union meeting, Evelyn Costello announced the winner of the composition contest on Our Lady in Social Life. The following was written by Norma Carey of Blessed Sacrament Sodality and merited first prize:

ANTI-SOCIAL

Every day from pulpits, from stages, in confessionals, and in every-day discussions, you hear, "Be Mary-like."

But what does this entail? First, you say, Obedience, giving yourself completely to God. Modern society respects...

Naturally it means all these things. But after all, they only go to make a real woman. But then you might add, "It sounds anti-social." Believe me, it isn't.

Mary went with her Son to Cana to attend the wedding of one of their friends. Friends and neighbors from the surrounding countryside mingled there, partaking of the wedding feast. Disregarding the fact that women often cry at these weddings as joyous occasions, and it's common for the friends of the bride and groom to enjoy themselves.

But even before her Son's Birth, Mary left Joseph and travelled to the home of her cousin Elizabeth. Elizabeth welcomed her and 'twas there we got the wonderful Magnificat. Mary was not the only traveller on the roads at that time. Robbers and thieves were all around her, but Mary courageous, by traversed the miles to her cousin's home, even while bearing her Child, to announce her good news to her cousin.

When Jesus was led through the streets of Rome to His inglorious

death, Mary followed Him, even to the foot of the Cross and stood there despite the curious glances of the spectators. And after His death, she stayed with the Apostles to that tiny upper chamber to await the coming of the Holy Ghost.

Anti-social? Well, I'm asking you. Answer it yourself. According to the times that Mary lived in, women had little place in social life. Had she lived now, she would have gone places and done things that we do. But not of respect for her Son, she couldn't very well be conspicuous in her social life. But even with the voices of the "moderns" in my ear, I can still harken to Christ's words on the Cross, "Behold Thy Mother. Mother, Behold Thy Son."

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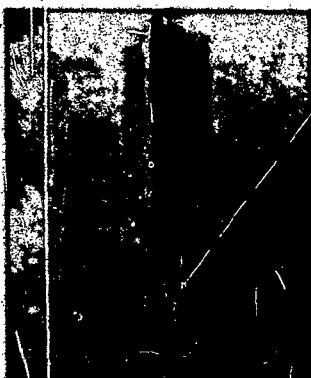
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New Monsignor Served In Army, Navy, Marines



Mons. George A. Murdock

WEST POINT, N. Y.—(UPI)—The Rev. George A. Murdock, rector of Most Holy Trinity Chapel of the U. S. Military Academy, here, who has been elevated to the rank of Papal Chamberlain with the title of Very Reverend Monsignor, has served as a chaplain in the Navy and Marine Corps, as well as for the cadets and Army Personnel here.

(The West Point pastor, on the invitation of His Excellency, Bishop Kearney, preached the sermon at a Pontifical Mass in Sacred Heart Cathedral, Rochester, on July 4, 1941.)

Monsignor Murdock was ordained on June 2, 1917, and after a brief period of parish work, was assigned to Highland Falls, N. Y., with duty at the Military Academy during World War I. In 1921 he was commissioned a chaplain in the Navy and served at the Great Lakes Training Station and aboard the U. S. S. McVilleville and the U. S. S. Arcostook. While stationed with the Naval Air Squadrons at North Island, Calif., he went through training and qualified as a pilot in 1923.

With the Marine Corps, he served at the Quantico, Va., base and in 1927 in Nicaragua during the revolution there. He was aboard the U. S. S. Lexington, now sunk, when the ship made its maiden cruise to Honolulu in 1928. He resigned from the Navy in 1929 and served at All Saints' Church, New York City, from 1930 to 1932, when he was appointed rector of the chapel here.

Among the priests also named Papal Chamberlains with the title Very Reverend Monsignor who are known in the Rochester diocese are the Rev. John J. McCarthy, Executive Secretary of the Legion of Decency, and the Rev. Joan J. Sealy, Diocesan Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.