

Fr. Bennett Notes Golden Sacerdotal Jubilee In Chicago

CHICAGO.—Rev. John T. Bennett of Chicago celebrated the 45th anniversary of his ordination by the Priesthood on Sunday. He offered a solemn Mass of Thanksgiving at noon on May 15 at the Church of St. Basil, Garfield Boulevard and Monroe Street, this city. His Excellency, the Most Rev. Samuel Alphonse Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, presided. On Tuesday evening a testimonial banquet in honor of Father Bennett was held in the Grand Ball room of the Palmer House, Chicago.

Father Bennett attended St. Mary's School and Manhattan College and St. Mary's Seminary at Baltimore. He was ordained to the priesthood in Chicago and celebrated his first solemn high Mass in St. Mary's Church, Auburn, on Sunday, July 25, 1898. He was then appointed an assistant at St. Justus's Church, Chicago, and later became pastor of St. Patrick's Church, Kankakee, Illinois. He was appointed pastor of St. Basil's Church in 1914.

Attending the Mass and Banquet in Chicago were the following Auburnians: Miss Margaret Bennett and Mrs. William H. Meagher, sisters of Father Bennett; the Misses Lillian and Loreta Donahue, Mrs. May Rose Donnelly, all of Auburn; and Mrs. John Severin of Ithaca, niece of Father Bennett.

ARMY AT CHURCH

Washington.—During the month of November, according to statistics compiled by the War Department, church attendance in the Army totaled 5,040,163. The department stated this does not include 123 outlying garrisons, reports from which had not been received.

ST. HYACINTH'S, Auburn

REQUIEM MASS FOR SOLDIER KILLED IN ACTION IN AFRICA

AUBURN.—St. Hyacinth's church was well filled on Wednesday morning for the memorial High Mass of requiem for Pfc. Stanley H. Opalka of 25 Ferrine Street, who was killed in action in North Africa. Rev. Jerome Holubowicz, O.M.E., was celebrant of the requiem high Mass. The children's choir sang the responses to the Mass and Prof. Frank Cicala

was at the organ. The school children attended in a body and there was a large delegation from Auburn Next, Polish Falcons of America, of which Pfc. Stanley H. Opalka, was a member.

Pfc. Opalka is the third son-in-law of St. Hyacinth's, which has over 300 in the service, to give his life for his country. The young soldier is survived by his parents and two younger sisters, Irene and Arlene.

Mrs. Opalka received a letter on March 25 from her son. On Mother's Day she received a gift from her son. Arrangements for the gift having been made by the soldier with Vincent Maloney in a letter written on March 23, asking Mr. Maloney to see that his mother received the gift on Mother's Day. Word of the soldier's death in battle was received on Monday from the War Dept. at Washington.

TUNISIAN CAMPAIGN HERO CATHOLIC SCHOOL GRADUATE

DUBUQUE.—Private Vernon E. Eagle, Tunisian campaign hero who received a five-minute ovation at the closing banquet of the 37th annual convention of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association in New York, received his education in Catholic schools of Iowa.

Private Eagle, who took part in Commando raids at Dieppe and Bizerte and later lost a leg while on patrol duties in Tunisia, lived for ten years in St. Mary's Orphan's Home, here, made his secondary studies at Holy Rosary High School, LaMotte, Ia., and studied for two years at St. Paul's Preparatory Seminary of the Divine Word Fathers at Epworth, Iowa.

Six Sons Serve

CHICAGO.—Six of the seven boys in the Grubb family are in the service. They are sons of Mr. and Mrs. August Grubb of St. Constance's parish. Left at home are Matthew, 31, a defense worker; Bernice, 21, and Laverne, 18, also a defense worker.

Eugene Donovan Heads Board Of Education

AUBURN.—Eugene C. Donovan, Auburn banker, has been elected President of the Board of Education. Mr. Donovan has been in the Auburn Public School System as a commissioner of education for the past thirteen years. He has been a member of the Finance Committee of the Board of Education. He succeeds Dr. Raymond F. Johnson, who retired this year after 13 years of service.

President Donovan is a past president of the New York State Banking Association, chairman of the Finger Lakes Park Commission, President of the Auburn Trust Company, and is active in several other organizations. Edward J. Boyle, former assistant state's attorney general, is the new member of the Board of Education, having been elected on May 4.

HOLY FAMILY HIGH-LIGHTS

BY MARY ELLEN FITZGERALD SENIOR PLAY 'ALMOST EIGHTEEN' AND MILITARY PAGEANT SCORE HIGHLY

AUBURN.—The Senior Play "Almost Eighteen" a comedy-drama in three acts and the military drill staged in the school auditorium on Monday evening, May 18 before an audience of over eight hundred, were favorably commented upon by members of the clergy, faculty members, parents and friends, verifying the fact that the play and pageant scored above expectations.

This was the second appearance on the stage for many of the seniors in the cast; many having had important roles in "Jane Eyre" which was presented in January. Indeed, they seemed much at home on the stage this time and performed, not as amateurs but as seasoned actors. Not a cue was missed, and so well did some of them perform in the first act that they needed only to again appear to cause an uproar from the audience. Robert Doyle, Joseph O'Donnell, Esther Warner, Marilyn Barry, and Theresa Kelley kept things going at a rollicking pace with the audience on the edge of their chairs.

Following an established custom, the seniors were guests of Principal William E. Davis at dinner at the conclusion of the performance.

The audience relaxed for a few minutes while the stage was cleared for the military pageant presented by Glee Club members. The patriotic songs, snappy uniforms and complicated steps thrilled the audience and served as a fitting closing for an enjoyable evening. The play and pageant were directed by the Sisters of Mercy.

PARENT-TEACHERS MEET

At a Parent-Teacher meeting held in the school auditorium on Wednesday evening, May 12, Principal the Rev. William E. Davis spoke quite seriously to the parents regarding the necessity for a very close check-up as to the places visited and the company kept by their children; also the need for closer application to studies if they were to complete a successful year.

After the address by the Principal, the parents visited different faculty members in their respective classrooms.

THE SENIOR ANNUAL

The "Achilles" — Holy Family High's Year Book has gone to press with the expectation of an earlier delivery than usual.

In spite of the high cost of covers, paper and engraving, this year's book promises to exceed that of all previous editions. The book is called "The Victory Issue" and is dedicated to the boys and girls who formerly attended Holy Family High and who are now in the service.

A "School At War Effort" is the general theme. The book is not for show but pictures actual life at Holy Family stressing particularly the part played in the Defense Program; Pre-Induction Courses, Victory Corps—physical education, First-Aid Class, Home Nursing, Nutrition, Pre-Flight radio and Refresher Math.

The book has received high honors in previous years from the Catholic Press Association and Columbia Press, the only two contests in which it is entered.

The blessing of God maketh haste to reward the just, and in a swift hour his blessing beareth fruit.—Ecclesiasticus 11, 24.

ST. MARY'S, Auburn

HONOR BASKETBALL CHAMPS

AUBURN.—St. Mary's Basketball team won the double championship of the Catholic League Series for the year 1942-1943. The team members enjoyed a turkey dinner at the Osborne Hotel on Thursday evening, May 13, and thirteen members of the team enjoyed the social. Guests at dinner were Rev. Dr. W. E. Cowen, pastor of St. Mary's, and Rev. Joseph M. McNamara, assistant. Coach Al Crowley gave the trophy, a silver loving cup on which is mounted two basketball figures, to Rev. Richard T. Torney, moderator of the club. Father Torney will hold the trophy for St. Mary's team for one year. Father Torney presented green jackets to the players.

RELIGION CLASS

The High School Students will have their last instruction on Wednesday, May 26. The term examination will be held at that time. The parents are asked to sign and return the registration cards for Time Out for Religious Instruction for 1943-1944 which were distributed this week.

The Public School Children will have their instruction on Friday afternoon at 3:45 in the school.

VOCATION WEEK

May 19-21 is Vocation Week. The members of the parish are asked to pray that God may bless us with more vocations to the religious life. Rev. W. Hafner, S.V.D. is to speak to the children in St. Mary's School on this subject on Friday morning.

LECTURE TICKETS

Tickets for Mgr. Sheen Lecture may be obtained from the members of the committee, at the rectory, at Dowd-Leo, Bennett-Tracy stores, Genesee Barber Shop or Murray's Restaurant. Get your ticket early.

FIRST COMMUNION

The children of the First Communion Class will receive their First Holy Communion on Sunday, May 23rd, at the 8:30 o'clock Mass. The little ones will have a retreat in preparation on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of this week. They will come to school at the usual time, but instead of classes will have a retreat.

MAY DEVOTIONS

May Devotions are held in St. Mary's every evening during the month of May at 7:30. The services consist of special prayers in honor of Our Lady, a short sermon and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

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HOLY FAMILY, Auburn

CARD PARTY SUCCESS

AUBURN.—The Rosary Society of Holy Family held a successful card party at the North St. Auditorium on Thursday evening.

Mrs. Elsie Cunningham was general chairman and she was assisted by the following committee: Mrs. J. Brady, Mrs. E. Brennan, Mrs. A. Cornell, Mrs. J. Coughlin, Mrs. G. Cuddy, Miss K. Cummings, Mrs. F. Casper, Mrs. M. Freeman, Mrs. H. Dillon, Mrs. W. Donahue, Mrs. S. Doyle, Mrs. J. Flynn, Miss M. Goeman, Mrs. J. Graney, Miss A. Hayes, Mrs. E. Hennessey, Mrs. A. North, Mrs. J. Keegan, Mrs. H. Kimball, Mrs. J. McGrath, Mrs. H. McDonnell, Miss R. Murray, Mrs. E. Parker, Mrs. G. Payne, Mrs. D. Reardon, Mrs. A. Stevens.

Mrs. A. Thoms, Mrs. T. Tehan, Mrs. S. Taber, Mrs. S. Treat, Mrs. E. Vail, Mrs. J. Wallace and Mrs. F. Woods.

Catholic General Given High Command

OTTAWA.—Brigadier E. J. Renaud, latterly Deputy Quartermaster General at Canadian Army headquarters here, has been promoted to the rank of Major General and named Officer Commanding Military District No. 4 (Montreal).