

Catholic Courier

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With the Approval 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 it would as to rely upon unreliable sources of information or even to seek an information elsewhere. Let us have a brief slogan "The CATHOLIC COURIER is every Catholic home."

— JAMES E. KEARNEY Bishop of Rochester.

TEN NEW PRIESTS

"Behold, I am with you all days, even to the consummation of the world." The great High Priest, Jesus Christ, spoke these words to His Apostles, and through them to the Church. His priestly power, His power to make men holy, to take away sin, to confer sanctifying and actual grace, to offer sacrifice, was not to pass away from men. It was to be preserved for men even to the end of time. In every generation other Christs were to arise, called even as the twelve Apostles were called, to be priests forever according to the order of Melchisedech.

The age-old wonder will be witnessed again on Saturday, when the Diocese of Rochester will welcome to its staff ten newly ordained priests. The same power that Christ used at the Last Supper, of changing bread and wine into His Body and Blood; the same power used by Christ at the Last Supper of making perpetual that changing of bread and wine into His Body and Blood, by making His Apostles priests, will be manifest before the altar of the Pro-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart. Ten young deacons will become priests through the imposition of the hands of the priesthood; the Holy Ghost will enter into their souls to mark them as priests of God; the Bishop will confer on them the Sacrament of Holy Orders; imposing hands; presenting the instruments of sacrifice, the paten with the host, the chalice with the wine, for their hands to touch; hands that he has already anointed and consecrated for service at the altar; investing them with the priestly stole and the priestly Mass vestment, the chasuble. "Receive power to offer Mass for the living and the dead." "Receive the Holy Ghost, whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven them; whose sins you shall retain, they are retained."

"In this memory of Me," Christ's mandate, Christ's grant of power, was given in these words at the Last Supper. Holy Orders bestows priestly power, imposes priestly obligations. Ten young priests will on Saturday depart from the altar of their ordination equipped and ready to do the work of Christ, to be other Christs. May God bless them in the priestly joy that is theirs forever, bless them in their work for souls, bless them for the years of service to men that lie ahead of them!

BLOOD DONORS NEEDED

One of the fine patriotic acts of the present war is the giving of blood to save the lives of our servicemen. Time was when a wound on the field of battle meant death. Problem after problem has been solved to save more and more of our wounded men. The modern use of blood for transfusions has solved some of the most difficult problems facing doctor and nurse as they strive to save young lives on the field and in the hospital.

All the seeming difficulty connected with the giving of blood fades away when we see that blood bringing back to life one already at death's portal. Your response today to your local Red Cross Blood Donor Unit may mean the saving of a life within a few days. Your help is needed, your cooperation is requested. Inquire today of your local Unit how and when you can help.

SILVER JUBILEE OBSERVANCES

When twenty-five years of service in the priesthood have been completed, it is proper that the Priest Jubilarian and his parishioners and friends and fellow priests should mark the occasion in prayer and praise and thanks to Almighty God. Prayer for the future years that they may be as fruitful as those that have gone. Praise to God for all the graces ministered by the Jubilarian to the souls entrusted to him; praise to the Jubilarian in proper measure for the zeal and strength of soul he has manifested in his ministry. Thanks to Almighty God for the vocation of the Jubilarian, for the supporting graces that have enabled him to preach the word, to administer the sacraments, to offer Holy Mass.

All the diocese unites in congratulating the Jubilarians of today, in felicitating them on their twenty-five years of joyful service to the Lord and the Lord's people. They have been an influence for good over a quarter of a century in the hearts of countless thousands of parishioners. Their good works count up to a magnificent total. Father George Weimann in Rochester; Father Leo Schwab in Elmira; Father Edward M. Sebied in Dansville; Father Michael L. Hynes in Oswego; all four have the prayers and testimonials of grateful friends, their Bishop, their fellow-priests, their parishioners. May their years be many, their blessings increased, their power for good preserved unto us for many a year to come. God give them all the joy that should be theirs on this their Silver Jubilee of Priesthood!

SCHOOL REGISTRATION NOW ON

This week and next week offer two days each for registration with the principal of the parish school of all new pupils. New pupils are usually those who for the first time enter school as pupils of the first grade or of the kindergarten; but they also include any pupil for any grade who now enters a particular school for the first time.

Catholic Schools are for Catholic boys and girls. Parents and priests and Bishop have labored and sacrificed to build and equip them; Sisters have given their lives to God in the religious life, to teach in them. The one question parents have asked and answered when they sent their child to the parish school has been: "Is he a Catholic?" Then he belongs in a Catholic school. That is the question and answer they should consider when it is time to register the pupil for his school work: "Is he a Catholic?" Then he belongs in a Catholic High School.

To Bear Witness Of Christ

Only those who know Christ can bear witness of Him. Those that know Him not are not ready to bear witness of Him, to accept Him as the Saviour Whom God has sent into the world. They have not known the Father nor Him; therefore they reject Christ and His followers. Therefore, they put Christ to death, and prepare to eject His followers from the synagogues and kill them.

But Christ and His work are not to die for lack of competent witnesses. Heaven and earth are to give lasting testimony of Him and of His work. The Advocate is to be sent by Him from heaven, to give constant witness to His divine and human nature, His saving grace, His salutary teachings, His power to teach, govern, sanctify, and save all men. He is the Spirit of Truth Who proceeds from the Father and the Son; he is shortly after the Ascension to come into the world, to abide in the Church of Christ forever. The Apostles are also to give witness to the works and miracles and teachings of Christ, because they are competent to give testimony of Him having been with Him from the beginning, speaking to their converts what their own eyes have seen, their own ears have heard, their own souls have experienced.

May the joy of the coming Pentecost be with us as we realize all that the Holy Spirit will mean for the Church; adding His unfailing Divine witnessing to the human witnessing of Christ on the part of the Apostles! The Holy Ghost in the Church places Christ as the eternal Saviour before all men, witnesses to His authority, His infallibility, His indefectibility. The Apostles and their successors, the Bishops of the Church, witness to Christ, to His teaching in the deposit of faith, to His sacraments made for man's salvation, to His desire that all men shall be saved and brought to the knowledge of His truth. In the light of this twofold testimony the friends of Christ have been prepared for the persecutions He foretold, have not been scandalized in them. The Master has passed through suffering and death to a glorious resurrection and ascension; His divine power and undying love will bring His followers likewise through all their persecutions and suffering to eternal happiness with the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

— What's Right With The World —

Getting Wise to the Devil

REV. JAMES M. GILLIS, C.S.P.

At the suggestion of a discriminating friend I have just read "The Screwtape Letters" by C. S. Lewis of Magdalen College, Oxford. "Screwtape" is the word. Not Screwball, for Screwtape is a devil and the devil is no Screwball. The devil is a shrewd as well as shrewd as the devil. It takes a keen mind to get on to his curves. C. S. Lewis has that sort of mind, and into the bargain he has what used to be called in the palmy days of English literature, a "pretty wit."

It may seem unusual that a mere mortal should match wits with the devil. But in ancient and medieval times they did it. The Saints were not afraid of the devil. St. Antony of the Desert fought him face to face. The Cure d'Ars mocked him, laughed at him, snapped his fingers in the devil's face. St. Thomas More said "The devil, the proud spirit cannot endure to be mocked." Mr. Lewis goes at his job accordingly. In consequence his brilliant little book has been hailed enthusiastically by the Spectator and numerous other highly reputed secular papers that would ordinarily ignore a book of letters purporting to be written by a head devil to an apprentice devil — for believe it or not that's what the book is.

There is wit and wisdom on every page of it, but I think readers of this column would enjoy especially a couple of points illustrated upon by the senior devil Screwtape in his instructions to his junior, Wormwood. Don't argue with the man you are tempting, he says, and above all don't try to prove to him that such and such a doctrine is "true" or "false." If you hope to persuade a modern man, use such words as "outworn" or "contemporary" or "conventional" or "ruthless" or "academic." "Jargon, not argument," says Screwtape, "is your best ally in keeping your victim from the church."

That devil's advice went my memory hurrying back to an experience I had in addressing a university audience in a Symposium. Instructions were sent the speakers to avoid use of words "good" or "bad" or "right" or "wrong" or "true" or "false," but to speak of things and deeds as "social" or "anti-social." Informed the chairman that I couldn't adapt myself to the modernistic lingo. It seemed to me that to dodge a plain word and use a tricky one is dishonest. So they permitted me to use my own vocabulary. I spoke not only of "good" but of "God."

Here in America we could supply Mr. Lewis with a few more words that the devil uses to confound the minds of men. For example "sophisticated" of a play

that is indecent; "realistic" of a piece of fiction that should be called obscene; "liberal" in place of anti-Christian; "puritanical" (Mr. Lewis has this one) when one really means "conscientious"; "victorian" as a synonym for hypocritical when the humorist doesn't dare condemn impudently or uncharitably by name.

The list is endless. There is for example "stark" and "strong" as adjectives of approval for materialism. And "ruthless" for writing that is beyond all the restraints of decency.

On another page this wise and witty author, C. S. Lewis, strips the deceit from the phrase "the historical Jesus," by which of course is meant a Jesus that never was, a Jesus that men invent to fool themselves after they have dropped the real Jesus.

In these Screwtape letters you will also find some shrewd observations on the way the devil uses the word "Love" when he means something very different.

It may be a mistake to pick a few samples here and there out of a book that should be read for its wit and humor and wisdom, and beneath all these things for its truth. Mr. Lewis has some splendid pages by the way on the tricky custom of recommending Christianity not for itself, not because it is true, but because it serves some political or sociological or military purpose. He makes the point that religion is insulted when it is used as a means to some end and not as an end in itself.

But look it up yourself. (Copyright, 1942, N.C.W.C.)

Feast Days

- Sunday, June 6.—SUNDAY IN OCTAVE OF ASCENSION.
- Monday, June 7.—ST. ROBERT OF NEWMINSTER.
- Tuesday, June 8.—ST. MEDARD.
- Wednesday, June 9.—SS. PRIMUS AND FELICIANUS.
- Thursday, June 10.—ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND.
- Friday, June 11.—ST. BARNABAS.
- Saturday, June 12.—ST. JOHN OF FAGONDEZ.

May I die to the world for love of Thy love, who didst die on the Cross for love of my love. St. Francis of Assisi.

My son, reject not the correction of the Lord; and do not faint when thou art chastised by Him. Proverbs 3, 11.

A Plea For Liberal Arts

A plea for the Liberal arts, submerged in the war effort, was made by the Very Rev. Zachary J. Maher, S.J., of St. Andrews-on-the-Hudson, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., American Assistant to the General of the Jesuit Order, who delivered the principal address at the 123rd annual commencement of St. Louis University, Wednesday evening, May 13.

He pronounced an "most destructive" any suggestion that liberal arts colleges would be "useless in the America of tomorrow."

Father Maher spoke at the exercises in the gymnasium, where more than 300 degrees were conferred, and which followed baccalaureate services in St. Francis Xavier (College) Church, at which the Rev. George E. Mahoney, S.J., former head of the Department of Philosophy and Regent of the Graduate School, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wis., delivered the sermon.

"The pendulum of educational opinion has been oscillating violently ever since the shock of Pearl Harbor," Father Maher pointed out. "The impact of war, the immediate and urgent need of men and women technically trained has lengthened the swing of the pendulum to an unusual degree. The danger is that judgments may be thrown off their supports."

REMEMBER FAULTS

"A momentary need has already been declared by some to be a permanent future requirement. Because cultural courses are suspended as of today, if by no means follows that they should be abolished as of tomorrow. Abject apologies have been made for the liberal arts colleges as if they had failed the country, almost as if they had been guilty of treason, or of sabotage, because, forsooth, the product of the liberal arts college was not immediately prepared to operate a drill press or forge a casting or manipulate a machine. It was not intended that he should have been so prepared. Yet you know and I know that it has not taken the graduate of the liberal arts college long to give a good account of himself on the industrial, or on the fighting, or on any front; and this precisely because of his previous training. If there have been faults in the conduct of the colleges, and there have, then remedy these faults, but do not ruin the college. Menest unus, tollatur abusus."

VITALITY NECESSARY

"Surely it is not necessary for me, in the presence of this distinguished audience, to establish how vital, how essential, sound, liberal education is, not merely for the well-being, but for the very existence of our nation.

"There is need of technical training and there is need of liberal training. The human organism would not be an organism, nor could it function, if the body were all hands and no head. Reverently we may adapt to our present thought the words of St. Paul: 'If the whole body were the eye, where would be the hearing; if the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? And the eye cannot see by the hand; I need not thy help; nor again, the hand to the feet; I have no need of you.' (2 Cor. 12)

"America, please God, will not continue to be a country at war any longer than is required to establish the peace. We are in this war not to get, but to give. We but struggle to make the giving possible. Hence, while we are greatly concerned about the war, we are still more concerned about the peace. The most destructive thing that could be advocated, as a future educational policy, would be the abolition of the liberal arts colleges as useless in the America of tomorrow."

Future of the Missions

"The future seems dark to human eyes, but the Missions are God's work, and we are but instruments in that work which we must view through His eyes. Away, then, with defeatism! Let us arouse ourselves with new hopes, a new zeal, a new enterprise for the sake of Christ. We are today, His chosen cooperators in the plan of Redemption. We must all be missionaries, helping with our prayers, our aims and our personal service in the fulfillment of the divine mandate which He gave to His Church: 'Go, teach all nations.' — From a radio address delivered by the Most Rev. Francis J. Spellman, Archbishop of New York.