

ST. GERARD

THE PATRON OF MOTHERS
By Rev. Thomas H. Rechin, C.S.S.R.

The life of the average man usually runs along in the groove which circumstances of birth, education, ambition or necessity have carved out for him. Both in the material as well as in the supernatural conduct of life the ordinary Providence of God suffices to carry man along successfully.

The daily supply of divine grace bestowed by the hand of a kindly Providence is sufficient for man's average needs.

But there are times when a greater, more abundant and more powerful supply of God's help is required. Instances arise in our lives when a stronger hand is needed to lift us over the difficulty that threatens and endangers our security. These are times of critical emergency that demand extraordinary attention and assistance.

TURN TO 'SPECIALISTS'

In the physical world man seeks to cope with unusual, extraordinary conditions by the development of "specialists." In every field of human endeavor, man confines their studies and experiments to one special phase of their chosen vocation, oftentimes neglecting a more wide-spread knowledge of the general subject. Consequently their knowledge, their experiences are more far-reaching in that one particular matter than that of their colleagues in the same profession.

When unexpected or difficult situations present themselves to confuse and hamper the man of average information and experience, he avails himself of the greater capabilities of the specialist. Who has not heard of the heart specialist? of the brain specialist? of various legal specialists? Every industry has specially trained men who are superior in their own department. It is an age of specialists and to them is due in great measure much of the improvement and progress in human activity.

God likewise has His specialists. There are saints who have given evidence of superior interest and their influence with God in particular situations. St. Joseph and St. Barbara have shown great power with God for the grace of a happy death. The whole world venerates St. Anthony as the retriever of lost articles. St. Anthony is indeed a specialist in finding things that are lost. We have St. Thomas Aquinas as the patron saint of a chaste life; St. Roch for restoration to health and numerous other saints to whom God has apparently delegated extraordinary powers for the benefit of mankind.

PATRON OF MOTHERS

Countless facts and indisputable evidence point to St. Gerard as God's specialist in the matter of motherhood. St. Gerard has proved himself the outstanding patron saint of women in their sacred role of mothers. Since we do not share the secrets of God we can assign no special reason for his unusual gift to St. Gerard, unless it be a reward for his patience under a vile and vicious calumny.

Though God has not chosen to reveal reasons for this favor to the holy brother, it is sufficient for our confidence that in all parts of the world He has given abundant proof of St. Gerard's power in the difficulties of childbirth. Conclusive proof can be produced of his efficacy in this grave crisis that befalls womankind the world over. By his marvellous assistance at a time that is extremely precarious to both mother and child, St. Gerard has well earned the delightful and loveable title of "The Mother's Saint."

A booklet of novena prayers and special devotions will gladly be given the friends and clients of St. Gerard by his Redemptorist Confessors upon request in person or in writing to The Redemptorist Fathers, 148 Franklin St., Rochester 4, N. Y.

DIOCESAN STUDENTS BUY \$569,975 IN WAR BONDS

WASHINGTON — The Treasury Department received word today from the Very Rev. Msgr. Carl J. Ryan, Diocesan Superintendent of Schools, that students with 75 schools of the Archdiocese mean, \$569,975 in Bonds and

FIRST CHAPLAIN SERVICE AWARD



In each of the Army's nine service commands throughout the country, ceremonies were held officially recognizing the contribution of Churches and religious institutions in relinquishing their clergymen for military chaplain service. In the first of these ceremonies, a Certificate of Award is presented by Lieut. Gen. Broken Somerset (left), commanding general of the Army Service Forces, to Rev. F. A. Welch, pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Church, Fort Lee, whose name Monsignor William R. Arnold (center), Brigadier General and Chief of Army Chaplains, Earl Newshole, (R.C.W.C.),

Dr. Cronin Stresses Virtues Needed By World Today

NEW YORK (NC) — Focusing attention on five virtues which are needed by the world today, the Rev. John F. Cronin, SS., Director of the Institute of Catholic Social Studies at the Catholic University of America, Sunday evening opened a series of five discourses on the "Catholic Hour" radio program, which is produced by the National Council of Catholic Men and is carried on the country-wide network of the National Broadcasting Company.

There are two virtues which should be the pillars of society, justice and charity," Father Cronin declared. "With these as our support, a noble structure can be built. Without them, we build upon shifting sands."

Weaving his opening address about the strength in justice, Father Cronin explained that in subsequent discourses he would deal with "the forgotten virtue of humility"; then with "charity, or love of neighbor, and then with that higher charity which men call patriotism," and finally with the highest degree of justice and charity—worship, man's duty to his Maker.

Sense of Duty First

Justice, he said is the rendering to every man of that which is due him, the granting of rights and the acknowledgement of duty. He described it as "that even-handed equity which sets man apart from the animal, who knows only the law of force and violence." Father Cronin declared:

"The first quality of justice needed today is a sense of duty. In our nation many of us are more sensitive about our rights than about our duties. We are more conscious of the attractions of pleasure than of the stern insistence of obligation. Even in a time of great national crisis we find it necessary to offer inducements and sugar-coating for sacrifices which should be taken as a matter of course. In the midst of a war for the survival of civilization, an appeal to self-interest should be unthinkable."

With so much of the nation's manpower and machinery drafted for war, Father Cronin said, there is bound to be shortages, causing a reduction in the standard of living, the ordinary ease and luxury of national life. Yet, Father Cronin said, appeals had to be made, inducements offered to some Americans to make these sacrifices, while with others black-markets flourished, pleasure driving bans were ignored and pressure groups were formed to demand our rights to recreation as usual."

CALL TO INTEGRITY

Father Cronin said the second demand of justice is the call to integrity, honor and truthfulness in our dealings with others. Declaring there is danger in time of war of relaxing this standard, Father Cronin said that fortunately in the present conflict there is less tendency to distort the truth in the interest of propaganda than occurred in the days of World War

I. He declared that this standard has been disregarded in detailing some isolated difficulty on the home front and not picturing the efficiency of that front as a whole. Father Cronin said this was "like portraying our glorious victory in Sicily by telling only of a dozen or so stories of individual incompetence and cowardice which I feel sure are bound to occur in such a huge undertaking."

Rules on Flags In Church

WASHINGTON — Regulations concerning the display of the American flag and the Christian flag in churches and parish halls and at military funerals are contained in a circular letter sent to all chaplains by Brig. Gen. William R. Arnold, Chief of Chaplains of the United States Army. His office, Monsignor Arnold said, has received many requests for information on this subject. He cited the following law enacted by Congress:

"In the Church: If the flags are displayed in the chancel, the flag of the United States is placed at the left side as seen by the congregation, and all other flags, including the Christian flag, at the right, as seen by the congregation. If the flags are placed outside of the chancel, then the flag of the United States shall be placed at the right as seen by the congregation and all other flags, including the Christian flag, at the left, as seen by the congregation."

"In the Parish Hall: When the flags are displayed on a platform, and from a staff, the flag of the United States should be placed to the speaker's right. Any other flag, so placed, should be placed to the speaker's left. When the flag of the United States is displayed flat on the speaker's platform it should be placed above and behind the speaker. When the United States flag is displayed with another flag against the wall, staffs crossed, the flag of the United States should be on the left as seen by the audience, with its staff in front of the other flag."

"Bunting: Bunting is used for decorative purposes. It should be arranged in such a manner that the blue is above and the red below, since the blue field of the flag is the point of honor."

"Military Funerals: When the flag is used to cover the casket of a departed comrade, the blue field is placed at the head and over the left shoulder of the deceased. The flag should never

be lowered into the grave. It should be folded by the members of the guard under the direction of a non-commissioned officer. It should be folded into a triangle so that the final fold will show three stars. The flag is usually given to the nearest relative.



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Reservations are still being taken for girls at Camp Stella Maris from August 22-August 28. Call Stone 1492 or write c/o Secretary, 50 Chestnut Street.

There will be a chartered bus for the campers on Sunday at 7 P. M., at the Blue Bus Terminal, 83 South Avenue. Make arrangements directly at bus terminal.

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