

URGENT — 'Clothing for Italy' — NEEDED NOW

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On Guard!

By Rev. Patrick J. Flynn

On Tuesday we joined the Episcopal entourage of the Bishop of Rochester and witnessed the Memorial Day rites at Sampson Naval Training Center on the eastern shore of Seneca Lake.

Few Memorial Day services anywhere could have equaled the impressive and soul-stirring tribute which Catholic sailors of Sampson offered in memory of our nation's heroic dead at the traditional 11 o'clock hour on Tuesday morning. Five fifteen minutes, in the spacious Sampson drill hall, 5,000 Catholic sailors in white dress and Navy officers wearing campaign ribbons, stood at flawless attention while Bishop of Rochester encouraged them with that matchless message of hope which was first uttered by the Soldier of the Cross a few moments before He went to Calvary. "Greater love than this no man hath, that man lay down his life for his friends." These timeless words of Christ form an epitaph worthy of our nation's bravest heroes. As they echoed through the woodlands along Seneca Lake on Tuesday morning, we hoped that the young seaman who listened to Bishop Kearney would remember that these same words were first spoken by One who loved the sea and who sought the world about God from fisherman's ship!

Following the Bishop's address, a traditional salute of honor, three volleys, was fired in memorial tribute to the dead. Finally Lieutenant Commander John K. Wheeler, senior Catholic Chaplain at Sampson and former chaplain of the ill-fated Helena, led the vast semblance in a concluding prayer. "Our Father, who art in heaven... As 5,000 voices joined in a united appeal for the men who will not come back, we asked for once that we could read the minds and hearts of those who had around us in prayer... How many of those young "boot" sinners in front of us were praying for a brother who has already given his life? Across the long avenue stood Lt. Commander Cerini. Was his prayer for his brother, a Jesuit missionary in the Philippines, who may have perished in the "March of Death," or as we hope, may now wait in a Japanese prison camp for the hour when "Sampson Men" will come deliver him? And Chaplain Heaton, first priest of the Diocese of Rochester to win the Purple Heart, must have had realistic memories as he led his men in prayer... Almost a year ago he used in the oily black waters off Iragai Island and watched his own ship sink in flames beneath the sea... Surely Father Wheeler's Memorial Day prayer contained a special plea for his mates who went down with the Helena and who now sleep under the waters of the Pacific...

After the Memorial Services we drove to Sampson's Catholic Chapel, which is named in honor of the late Monsignor Chidwick, famous Catholic Navy chaplain of the historic Battleship Maine. Larger than many parish churches, Chidwick Memorial Chapel was crowded with members of the "Ship's Company" and "boot" trainees for the weekly Mass which was celebrated by Bishop Kearney. As the Bishop, wearing the red vestments of Pentecost, offered his Memorial Day Mass for the nation's dead and especially the men of Sampson, he was followed with prayerful attention, even prayerbook attention, by

(Continued on Page 4)

Rome Awaiting Allies is Assured Vatican Neutrality Will be Kept

U. S. Bishops Tell Pontiff of Hope For Rome's Safety

(This urgent message from the Bishops of the United States on the preservation of Rome from further ravages of war went forward yesterday, May 31, to His Eminence Luigi Cardinal Maglione, Papal Secretary of State).

"In this critical hour when the City of the Popes, with its many ancient and venerable shrines, its precious monuments of culture and its unvalued depositories of art and historic documents, treasures of the whole civilized world, is threatened with destruction or at least irreparable damage, the Bishops of the United States are inspired and consoled by the untiring efforts of Our Holy Father for its protection and preservation.

"We voice their hope that the military and civil leadership of our country in consultation with its allies will discover the way to victory without making Rome a battleground or inflicting further damage on it. Early in the war Athens and Cairo were spared and everywhere these acts of humanity were applauded. Even greater reason urges the sparing of Rome.

Sparing of Rome Asked
"The belligerents should for the sake of humanity make Rome an open city. Failing this for any reason, we confidently look for allied ingenuity in strategy to

prove itself and enrich our victory by saving Rome from destruction or further damage. Earnestly have the Bishops pleaded that our leaders be mindful of the responsibility they bear in history in this critical hour. Besides being our greatest cultural center, Rome is the world religious capital of hundreds of millions of Catholics, who look upon it as their own city.

"The Bishops ask Your Eminence to assure His Holiness that they are one with him in his untiring efforts to assist the innocent victims of war wherever they are and to save his Diocese, the Mother Church of Christendom, from further ravages of war. They are also deeply concerned over the sorry plight of his flock to whom they hope at an early hour to extend the helping hand of charity. For Our Holy Father they and their people are incessantly offering prayers to God and from him they devoutly implore his Apostolic Benediction."



BISHOP KEARNEY

Bishop Leads Memorial Rite At Sampson

SAMPSON NAVAL TRAINING STATION — An impressive Memorial Day rite here on Monday morning 6,000 Catholic Navy officers and men, massed in a huge drill hall, heard His Excellency Bishop Kearney of Rochester pay tribute to American war dead.

Following the rites for the dead, Navy personnel, including members from every branch of the Navy service, crowded Chidwick Memorial Chapel, Catholic house of worship at Sampson, where the Bishop of Rochester offered noonday Mass for the nation's heroic dead and especially the men of Sampson who have died in the present conflict.

At the conclusion of the Mass the Bishop led public prayers for the men of Sampson who have

(Continued on Page 4)

Posters, Guards To Protect All Church Property

By BURKE WALSH

ALLIED ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS, Italy

The Allies, in expectation of their imminent entry into Rome, have already made every effort to insure respect for the neutrality of the Vatican and the integrity of the Holy See. Of this I have been assured by the two men upon whom fall the weighty tasks of administering the affairs of Rome since the Germans have been driven northward — one who will command the Allied troops in the Eternal City, and the other to whom falls the job of civil government for the district of Rome.

Quite naturally, the plans for the Allied administration of Rome have been in the making for some time. They are already as detailed as time and circumstances have permitted. At present they include the following salient points:

No church property of any kind will be requisitioned for any military or civil use. Such properties already have been identified on maps and their character and location will immediately be called to the attention of the Allied personnel through posters and guards.

The Allies propose to preserve historical monuments to the fullest of their ability. Posters will mark certain places and areas, including Vatican property, that Allied personnel must not enter at all. They will also designate places that may be entered only with specific permission.

Recognition of Neutrality
Not only do the Allies plan to recognize the neutrality of Vatican property, extraterritorial and non-extraterritorial, but also the embassies and legations in Rome of countries having diplomatic relations with the Holy See.

Allied authorities are looking forward confidently to the same helpful cooperation in Rome that they have received from the Church authorities in Sicily and Southern Italy. When any city is taken through military operations, it comes under the overall control of the military leader who directed

(Continued on Page 11)

Church Fears Press Plot in South Italy

ALLIED ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS, Italy—Catholic Church authorities here are duly concerned over what seems to be a conspiracy of silence against them on the part of the secular press of Southern Italy.

Silence of Italian Press
Glowing tributes on the part of the American authorities here are in sharp contrast to the attitude which observers here have long noted on the part of the Italian press. These publications, while giving extensive attention to the resistance which Bishops and priests are showing to German oppression in the north, completely ignore the cooperation between the Church and the American authorities in the south and all of the work done by the clergy to help alleviate the hard lot of their people.

As a matter of fact, extremist elements of the press of Southern Italy have indulged in vituperous attacks on some of the highest ecclesiastical authorities, without being called upon to give proof of their assertions.

While civic officials, being Fascists, have fled headlong before the advancing Allies, the Catholic clergy have remained with their people through every adversity and thereby maintained the faith, trust and respect of the general public. Officials of the Allied Military Government are presently struggling

(Continued on Page 4)

Catholic Wins

MILWAUKEE, Miss Mary Bergen Johnston, a senior at Mount Mary College here, has been awarded a scholarship to Broad Leaf School of English at Broad Leaf, Vt., in a national poetry competition. It has been announced here.

Lt. Padula Awarded Medal; Pvt. Stopyra Now Prisoner

Second Lieut. Dominic Padula, son of Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Padula, 93 Seymour Street, has been awarded the Air Medal, the presentation being made by his group commander,

Colonel Hunter Harris, Jr. He is the navigator at the Eighth AAF Flying Fortress at a Bomber Station in England.

The citation reads: "For exceptionally meritorious achievement, while participating in five separate bomber combat missions over enemy occupied Continental Europe. The courage, coolness and skill displayed by Lieut. Padula upon these occasions reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States."

News dispatches tell that Padula is apparently in England after having been interned for some time in Switzerland. His parents have received no word since the cablegram sent on April 20 in which Padula stated he was feeling fine. Lieut. Padula entered the service on January 7, 1942. He is a graduate of Auburn High School in the class of 1940 and he became a navigator on April 12, 1942. He later took advance training in Texas and was home on a furlough last February. He left the States for England on Feb. 9, 1943. **AUBURN** — Mrs. Victoria Stopyra, 58 Perrine Street received

word today that her son, Pvt. Anthony P. Stopyra, previously reported missing in action, is now a prisoner of the German government. The mailing card containing the good news came from Germany and was signed by Stopyra.

In the note he told of having been wounded in Italy prior to his capture, but that he is now all right. This was the second time he was wounded in action. Stopyra entered the service on April 4, 1942 and received his basic training in the U. S. camps in the south. In May 1942 he left for overseas. He received his training at Camp Croft, S. C., Fort Benning, Ga. and Camp Carabelle, Fla. Pvt. Anthony has a brother, Walter J. Stopyra in the U. S. Navy and after receiving his boot training at the Sampson Naval Training Center, was transferred to the Gunners Mate School in Newport, R. I. where he is still stationed.

Letters, signs up now for your week-end parish retreat at the Diocesan Retreat House, Seneca Lake, Geneva.

Entrance Exam On June 10th At St. Andrew's

Examinations will be given at St. Andrew's Seminary, Rochester, on Saturday morning, June 10, at 9 o'clock for all those who wish to enter the Seminary.

All applicants for admission — both grammar school graduates and young men already in high school — must present themselves for these examinations.

High school section of St. Andrew's Seminary will begin classes on Sept. 5.

Young men ready for College Section will begin classes on July 2.

No applicant can be accepted unless he registers on June 10 for the examinations.