

THE CATHOLIC Courier Journal

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE BISHOPRIC OF ROCHESTER
Vol. 17 - No. 21 THURSDAY, MAY 10, 1945

MOST REVEREND JAMES EDWARD KEARNEY, D.D., President

This newspaper is a member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations and the Catholic Press Association. It subscribes to the full reports of International News Service, National Catholic Welfare Conference News Service, Religious News Service, Catholic Information Press.

Published every Thursday by the CATHOLIC COURIER AND JOURNAL, INC.
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CLASSIFIED OFFICE: 323 Realty Bldg., Phone 2-5622 or 16787

Printed in second class matter in the Postoffice at Rochester, N. Y. As required under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

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VICTORY IN EUROPE

When victory was announced in Europe this week, the Vatican Radio opened all its broadcasts with the "Te Deum," the stirring fourth century Christian hymn of victory and thanksgiving. We can think of no finer expression of gratitude to Almighty God in this historic hour than to print the English translation of the "Te Deum" which can be found in almost any Catholic prayerbook.

Te Deum Laudamus

We praise Thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.

All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.

To thee all Angels; to thee the Heavens and all Powers therein;

To thee the Cherubim and Seraphim, cry with unceasing voice:

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts.

The heavens and the earth are full of the majesty of thy glory.

Thee the glorious choir of the Apostles,

Thee the admirable company of the Prophets,

Thee the white-robed army of Martyrs: praise,

Thee the Holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge:

The Father of infinite Majesty,

Thine adorable, true and only Son,

Also the Holy Ghost, the Paraclete,

Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ.

Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.

Thou having taken upon thee to deliver man, didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.

Thou having overcome the sting of death, didst open to believers the kingdom of heaven.

Thou sittest at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father.

We believe that thou shalt come to be our Judge.

We beseech thee, therefore, help thy servants whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious Blood.

Make them to be numbered with thy Saints in glory everlasting.

O Lord, save thy people and bless thine inheritance.

Govern them and lift them up forever.

Day by day we bless thee.

And we praise thy name for ever and world without end.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, this day; to keep us without sin.

Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us.

Let thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have hoped in thee.

O Lord, in thee have I hoped; let me never be confounded.

A Day of Prayer

To follow the invitation of President Truman to make this Sunday a Day of Prayer to Almighty God, for the blessings of victory our word of thanksgiving: for the future victory that shall destroy the powers of evil in the East.

At your visits to the church later in the day, in your own homes, let your prayers go up to God with President Truman and with your fellow citizens in a grand barrage of prayer that will indicate to the world the greatest blessings God has ever bestowed upon His people.

Believe In Spirits?

By REV. RICHARD GINDEL

Do you believe in angels, and devils and souls? One shrinks and almost hesitates to answer. It all sounds so "unscientific," so very old-fashioned — along with heaven and hell, and miracles of all sorts . . .

Yet a Christian has no choice as a Jew, for that matter, because both the Old and the New Testament are full of references to just such realities. With the Bible, it's a case of all or none; take it or leave it, but don't start picking and choosing, for if one verse is false, then there is no reason why every other word should not be false. And anyway, if we take angels, devils, souls, heaven, and hell out of the Bible, there's nothing left but a fabric shot full of holes, like a moth-eaten vest.

But, still, those ideas are out of tune with the "climate" of our time. We have become so convinced of the idea that "progress" comes automatically with the passage of time that we tend to look down our noses at past generations and think them backward, simply because they knew nothing, for instance, of inter-spring mattresses, or bacteriology, or fluid drive.

We tend to forget that there can be no progress in things of truth, beauty, and goodness. The children of today are sweet and lovable — but no more so than the children of a thousand years ago. The twentieth century couldn't possibly improve on the beauty of the Parthenon, or on the poetry of Homer and Vergil. One can't discover an answer to the question of life's purpose by peering into a microscope, nor can one solve the problems of the human heart in a test tube.

There was a time when it was easy to accept belief in a supernatural universe. The temptation then was to go off in the opposite direction and believe in sprites, goblins, and elves of every sort.

In our day, the pull is all toward a complete rejection of the spirit world. It is hard to believe in anything which can't be broken down and analyzed in the laboratory. The tendency nowadays is toward scepticism. But remember — scepticism and superstition are first cousins; one is no better, no worse, than the other. There is a visible world and an invisible world, both created and maintained by an Almighty God. And that's the truth!

A Tribute to My Mother

By Irene M. Reed

On Mother's Day I cannot buy you flowers,
To express my love for you,
Or send a card to let you know
How much I think of you.
But time does not dim my memories,
I still can see your sweet
smile,
The fond look in your eyes—
your kind hands—
I still can feel the touch
of those hands that did so much
for me.

I would not call you back —
For my own selfish gain,
Or disturb the heavenly rest
Which you so nobly earned —
I can but bow my head
And humbly pray —
That when we meet on that far
distant shore,
Your arms will be the first to
greet me,
Your dear familiar voice the first
I'll hear —
"Dear Daughter — Welcome
Home."

St. Hugh
Bishop of Grenoble, from the cradle appeared to be a child of benediction. He resigned his Bishopric and entered an austere Abbey, but was never able to obtain permission from the Holy See that he might die in solitude. He died on April 1, 1131.

Victory is Ours

"Those who take the sword, shall perish by the sword." How truly this truth is realized today, when defeat and destruction and death have brought to an end the careers of all the Dictators. Defeat in unconditional surrender of the greatest army the powers of evil have ever brought together. Destruction in the piles of rubble that once were proud public buildings and factories of great cities. Death in the millions murdered to make a Nazi holiday, and in the millions of German youth destroyed to further the insane dreams of Germany's greatest enemy, Hitler. Now with Mussolini and Hitler gone, with Hirohito on the way out, we may say again: "Those who take the sword shall perish by the sword."

Joy rests on the Allied nations today. Victory has been no accident; it has been won from a gigantic army that only three years ago seemed to have victory in its grasp. Things looked bad. All of Europe was in Hitler's hand. Slave labor was being used to further war production. Plans for a slavery of all nations for one thousand years were definitely complete.

God would not permit His world to see desolation. He sent His blessings on our arms. In the darkest hour He sent a ray of His own divine light to encourage the forces of right. He raised up gifted leaders in Britain and the United States, helped our war-workers produce so vast an amount of material that we could arm our men and have tanks and munitions and planes for all our Allies. Franklin Delano Roosevelt shall stand always as the Saviour of Liberty. His foresight, his planning, his candid presentation of our case to the people of the United States. God has blessed the forces of right. His blessing has come through our leaders and the wonderful brave cohorts of Americans on land and on sea and in the air. His blessing has come through officers such as the world has never seen before to train and guide and lead our men to victory. Africa and Sicily and Normandy were impregnable, till the Allies appeared. Italy fell, Germany fell, the conquered countries were once more brought from under Axis power.

God has blessed us in war. May He now bless us in peace! As liberty and justice have been our goals in all our fighting, so may they be now in all our planning! God's world given back into the keeping of man! God's gifts once more made available for men! God's enemies conquered, laid low! God's friends victorious by His might. "God of the far-flung battle line—be with us yet, be with us yet!"

Bishop O'Hara Installed

On Tuesday of this week the eighth Bishop of Buffalo was installed in his see, Most Rev. John F. O'Hara, C.S.C. Bishop O'Hara comes fresh from his years of service as Ordinary of the Catholic Chaplains of our armed forces. He comes as a soldier, a scholar, an administrator of proved ability. His years as a teacher and as President of Notre Dame University enabled him to influence the lives of thousands of young Americans. His army service enabled him to reach directly the hundreds of our priests who have volunteered for Chaplain service, and indirectly to influence the millions of laymen who have gone into military life.

Bishop O'Hara should bring many blessings to the Diocese of Buffalo. His life as a member of the Congregation of the Holy Cross was the life of a true religious, a life of prayer and meditation and labor. His call to the military life meant some change from his program as a religious, and now a more permanent change comes upon it as he undertakes the burdens of a Bishop Ordinary.

The Courier-Journal joins the ranks of the many who salute the Diocese of Buffalo and its new Bishop on this happy occasion. May his years be many, filled with God's blessings, fruitful in result!

Rochester's Community Chest

The Community and War Chest of the City of Rochester began its 1945 Campaign last Monday night. Over four thousand workers joined up with the officers and directors to carry the appeal into homes and shops and stores. That appeal is made in the names of thousands who need the charitable help to overcome their handicaps.

Bishop Kearney is a member of the Board of Directors of the Community and War Chest. He is an official of many of our Catholic agencies. He is interested in the welfare of all our citizens. Therefore, from a threefold motive, he has asked his people to rally to the call of the Chest, to give generously in the charity of Christ to the current appeal.

Other cities in the diocese have their Community Chests, and in their own times appeal to their citizens. All over America we have this significant expression of the desire of our citizens at large to recognize and answer the appeal that must be made on behalf of the aged, the orphan, the sick, the young, the unfortunate.

May all of us have a part in our individual communities in answering this call of charity, this call of duty. May we be not merely bearers of the word, but doers also. May the charity of Christ dwelling in our hearts find new expression in our response to the need of our brethren!

Education commences at the mother's knee and every word spoken with in the hearsay of little children tends towards the formation of character.—HOSEA BALLOU.

Since Mary is the channel through which a multitude of Graces flow to the souls of men, we must pray to her constantly.

Good temper, like a sunny day, sheds brightness over everything; it is the sweetener of toil and the soother of disquietude.—WASHINGTON IRVING.

If I looked into a mirror and did not see my face, I should have the sort of feeling which actually comes upon me when I look into this living busy world and see no reflection of its Creator.—CARDINAL NEWMAN.