

THE CATHOLIC WORLD, LED BY HOLY FATHER, OFFERS A 'TE DEUM' FOR VICTORY



His Holiness Pope Pius XII

Holy Father Led Catholics To Aid of War-Torn World

Washington — (NC) — When the history of World War II is finally written, it will record the achievements of the Catholic Church throughout the world in wartime under the guidance of His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

Before the outbreak of the war in 1939, His Holiness, speaking in a stern but suppliant voice, warned of the impending conflict, and when troops began

to march in 1939, just before the declaration of war, the Pontiff delivered his never-to-be-forgotten admonition that "nothing is lost with peace; all may be lost with war."

During this period members of the Hierarchy in Germany were denouncing oppressive measures against the Church and calling on Catholics to remain staunch in the Faith. Nor, when war came, did they cease in their condemnation of many of the excesses and evil measures put into effect by the Nazi party.

The Hierarchy in the occupied countries of France, Belgium, Holland and Poland, refusing to accept German domination, fearlessly denounced cruelties and indignities heaped upon their people.

Through the war years His Holiness, sorrowing by the sufferings of his people, prayed and labored unceasingly for an early and enduring peace, a peace "built upon the foundation of charity and justice." His pleas were broadcast to the world and lauded in the press throughout the Allied nations.

Through the Vatican's Office of Information on War Prisoners, established by the Holy Father, war prisoners were enabled to communicate with their families and immediate relief was given to victims of the war in all countries without regard to race, belief or color.

Wine, Host Flour Arrive
Manila — (NC) — The Catholic Welfare Organization of the Philippines has received a timely gift of 500 cases of Mass wine and 175 sacks of flour for hosts, sent by the Bishops War Emergency and Relief Committee.



In the Nation's Capital, the Apostolic Delegate, Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, enters St. Patrick's Church where he offered Solemn Benediction in a special V-E Day thanksgiving service. The semination choir of Holy Cross College, D. C., intoned the "Te Deum" at the services which were attended by many service folk. Similar services were held in other Catholic churches throughout the nation.

Arlington Memorial Mass Set for May 27

Washington — (NC) — The seventh Annual Solemn Memorial Military Field Mass for the War Dead will be offered on May 27, the Sunday before Memorial Day, in the amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery here.

The Most Rev. Michael J. Ready, Bishop of Columbus, will preside and deliver the sermon. Celebrant of the Mass will be the Rev. Dr. James A. Magner, of the Catholic University of America.

Victory Recalls Prayers To Our Lady for Peace

The way in Europe is quiet. Hostilities ceased officially on May 8, the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, victorious leader of the first battle against Satan and the forces of evil.

Even more significant is the fact that this step towards restoration of peace came in May, the month of Mary, and raises hope in the hearts of the faithful that real peace might be achieved by October, the month of Michael.

This association of thought regarding the end of the war and intercession of the Blessed Virgin is heightened by President Truman's selection of May as a day of national thanksgiving for victory in Europe and commemoration of the war dead. It was also Mother's Day and always a day of special prayer for Catholics.

And May 14 has further significance for Catholics because

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'DAY OF PRAYER' MARKED IN DIOCESE

Mother's Day and a National Day of Thanksgiving for victory in Europe were observed jointly on last Sunday by Catholics of the diocese who marked the day with special devotion and prayers.

Following the custom of recent years numerous Catholics attended Mass and received Holy Communion in family groups.

In their sermons at the Sunday Masses parish priests extolled the virtues of Christian motherhood and expressed gratitude to God for the final cessation of conflict in Europe.

In a special observance of the National Day of Thanksgiving and at the request of His Excellency Bishop Kearney public exposition of the Blessed Sacrament was held throughout the day in all churches of the diocese.

The afternoon and evening hours of Sunday saw a steady pilgrimage of the faithful visiting the churches to offer prayers of gratitude.

Special services concluding the National Day of Thanksgiving and conducted in all diocesan churches were marked by large attendances, it was reported.



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