

**Spiritual Head of Diocese Greeted in Elmira**



A MEMORABLE VISIT was paid by His Excellency, Bishop Kearney to Elmira Sunday, May 13. One of his most active activities was to impart his blessing to parents and babies at a ceremony in St. Peter and Paul's Church (left photo). The day began with celebration of Holy Mass and

an address to the Holy Name Societies of two churches. In photo at right, the Bishop, (third from left) is shown with (from left) Rev. Mulcahy, President, St. Patrick's; Rev. John Affleck, O.P. and Fred

**700 Men Turn Out at Holy Name Masses**

With more than 700 men approaching the Communion rail in two of Elmira's churches, last Sunday, a moving spectacle was presented to make Mother's day of 1945 memorable to all who witnessed it.

The men, members of the Holy Name Society at a Communion Breakfast later in the Mark Twain heard His Excellency, Bishop Kearney appeal for devotion to "our country, Holy Mother the Church and our mothers."

The joint Communion Breakfast at St. Patrick's and St. Mary's Church Holy Name Societies followed Masses in the respective churches.

Bishop Kearney celebrated the 7:30 a. m. Mass at St. Patrick's and the Rev. John Affleck, O.P., assistant national director of the Holy Name Society, celebrated the Mass at St. Mary's Church.

Noting that President Truman had designated Sunday as a day of prayer, the Bishop urged prayers for "our mother country" and "her continued success in the war and in all things which make her the mother we love."

"We have been willing to make tremendous sacrifices to help win the present conflict," the Bishop said, "and we are willing to sacrifice even more to maintain the traditions which have made her great."

**Bishop Officiates at Blessing of 1,200 Babies**

Individual blessings were imparted to over 800 Catholic parents and 1200 babies by His Excellency, Bishop Kearney in an hour-long ceremony held in Elmira's St. Peter and Paul's Church on Mother's Day.

From shortly after 3 p. m. until about 4:10, a steady procession of parents carrying the children filed to the altar, before an audience of more than 300, where Bishop Kearney performed the ceremony, first in the history of the Rochester Diocese.

Cards bearing a picture of Our Lady of Good Counsel and a poem addressed to "His Little Friend" and signed by the Bishop were issued to each family. A guard of honor was formed

in the church by eight members of the Knights of the Columbus Fourth Degree Assembly. The church choir, accompanied by organist Mrs. Clarence Kennedy furnished music.

Babies baptized since Apr. 1, 1942, were eligible for the blessing which was arranged by the Ladies of Charity Bishop's Committee of Our Lady of Good Counsel.

**\$100 Per Horse**

With his horse Paul Revere wouldn't have accomplished much. Without his horse, the Maryknoll missionary in Central America is badly handicapped. More horses are needed, to help missionaries get to their people. One horse costs \$100.

**46 Nurses Get Diplomas**

Vital importance of religion in the practice of nursing was emphasized by His Excellency, Bishop Kearney, addressing the graduating class of St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing and an audience of more than 400 at the commencement exercises held Sunday evening in the Little Flower Chapel.

Forty-six students of the combined February and September classes received diplomas from Bishop Kearney at the thirty-fourth annual graduation ceremonies during which His Excellency praised their service to humanity.

It was fitting that the students should be awarded diplomas in the chapel where they have so often offered prayers, the Bishop declared.

Award of the Rev. Francis J. Walker Memorial prize for highest scholarship rating was made to Miss Mary Schwenkler of Elmira, who entered in September and to Miss Mary Ann Bartolisky of Johnson City, member of the February class.

Solemn Benediction was celebrated by Bishop Kearney, assisted by the Rev. Theodore J.

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