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Bishop's Blessing Given Elmira Babies

By Mary E. FitzGerald

The sun broke through the clouds to smile upon more than one thousand parents and children, who were on their way to St. Patrick's Church last Sunday afternoon, Elmira's Second Annual Babies Day was agreeably enthusiastically greeted by hundreds of grateful parents, whose privilege it was to bring their children to the Shepherd of this Diocese for his blessing.

Although the ceremony was scheduled for four o'clock, the first babies were brought an hour before that time and were given places in the front pews. From the moment when His Excellency, the Most Reverend James E. Kearney took his place in the sanctuary promptly at half past three, two unbroken lines of mothers, fathers and children moved up the center aisle to the sanctuary and left the church through the side door.

New Babies, 1946 editions, squirming toddlers and lively three or four year olds were held lovingly in the arms or firmly by the hands of mothers and fathers. Strange to say, most of these young citizens were quiet but here and there a piercing wail was echoed by some "little one" seeking special attention.

The infants seemed to recognize a friend in their Bishop, with the exception of a few shy ones, who became a little frightened as they neared the altar railing. After the second incident of fear, Bishop Kearney smilingly removed his mitre, thinking that the unusual appearance of such a head covering might be responsible for the sudden burst of tears.

Like the apostles of old, the members of the Committee of Our Lady of Good Counsel tried several times to hurry the next family group to their places at the Bishop's feet. But His Excellency showed no evidence of haste. At the end of two hours, he gave just as much time to the last of his guests, as he had to the first one who knelt before him at half past three.

Bishop Kearney asked the name and age of each child, packed into blankets at the small babies and shook hands with each child and parent. His individual blessing was bestowed upon each member of the family groups, as the parents knelt and the tiny children stood before him.

So friendly was their Shepherd in Christ, that a tiny hand often reached for the Bishop's face, clutched at his fingers or played with his stole. Not once did he hurry on to the next ones, nor did his kindly interest vary. There was a special work of sympathy, too, for a young mother, whose baby never saw its father, lost in the armed forces, and for the aunt of a motherless babe.

Yes, Babies Day in Elmira was as unusual — as beautiful a ceremony as we expected. It was the occasion when Bishop Kearney brought a year to a close—a year of a successful Catholic Apostolate, sponsored by the Committee of Our Lady of Good Counsel of the Ladies of Charity.

Mrs. Cowan Heads Geneva CDA Court

Geneva — Mrs. Arthur J. Cowan was elected Grand Regent of Court Geneva, Catholic Daughters of America, at the annual election of officers held at the Woman's Building, Wednesday evening.

Other officers elected were: Vice grand regent, Mrs. Thomas Rogers; prophetess, Mrs. Stephen Myers; lecturer, Mrs. Edward Riley; financial secretary, Miss Catherine Murphy; treasurer, Miss Agnes Millett; historian, Mrs. Mary Souders; monitor, Mrs. Anton Bauer; sentinel, Mrs. Oliver Lathrop; organist, Mrs. Mary Enright; trustees, Mrs. Mae McCafferty, Mrs. Raymond Smith and Miss Eva Corcoran.

Protestants Help Rebuild Church

Trenton, Fla. — (NNS) — Local Protestants here have banded together to form a committee to aid in raising funds for the reconstruction of the Immaculate Conception Catholic church which was recently destroyed by fire.

Aquinas Mission Bouts Friday

A large crowd is expected at the "Aquinas Sports Night" featuring the championship Mission Bouts to be held Friday night, May 10, at the Edgerton Park Sports Arena.

Sixteen contestants for championships in the Aquinas Institute Mission Boxing Tournament, will fight it out, the first bout being scheduled for 8 p. m. Two exhibitions will also be included on the program.

Proceeds of the Sports night will go into the treasuries of the Aquinas Mission Crusade and the school Stadium Fund.

Bouts are scheduled between the following: Dave Swift and Leo Ricci, 175-pounds; Brud Slattery and Dick Burke, 160-pounds; Jim Ryan and Dan Flannigan, 147-pounds; Freddie Butts and Hugh O'Neill, 140-pounds; Bud Quinn and Bob Englert, 135-pounds; Andy Filous and Jud Hanna, 130-pounds; Joe Graham and Larry Allen, 118-pounds; Tom Swayko and Sally O'Rourke, 112-pounds.

Scholarships In Music Won

Elizabeth Evelyn Prokop, Bethlehem, Pa., and Mary Joan Tillman, Washington, D. C., both sopranos, are senior winners of the 1946-47 McCurdy Company scholarships at the Eastman School of Music.

They were announced at the McCurdy Little Symphony program conducted by Charles Stverson, over Station WHAM Tuesday.

As part of the program, final in the series, Miss Tillman sang "The Laughing Song" from the Johann Strauss opera, "The Bat."

Commenting on the place of music in the world, Gilbert J. C. McCurdy said: "On this anniversary eve of the United Nations victory in Europe, it seems fitting that we recall the four freedoms for which the greatest war in history was fought.

"A fifth freedom which might be considered a composite and an outgrowth of them all, is the freedom of expression — political, spiritual and artistic. It is this fifth freedom which finds its special precinct in music for throughout the ages the finest ideals and brightest hopes of mankind have found a voice through the musical medium."

Dr. Howard Hanson, Eastman School director, announced the scholarship winners, decided after a series of auditions, and told his appreciation for Mr. McCurdy's interest in education, expressed through the scholarships.

Watkins Glen Girls Make Geneva Retreat

Watkins Glen — Twenty-two young women of St. Mary's of the Lake Parish, spent a day of recollection at Our Lady of the Lake Retreat House at Geneva, Sunday, May 5.

The young women received Holy Communion at the 8 a. m. Mass celebrated by the Rev. Edmund J. Bowen, C.S.S.R. At intervals throughout the day, conferences were given in the Chapel by the Very Rev. Augustine J. Aylward, C.S.S.R. and the Rev. Thomas J. Sanderson, C.S.S.R., Consultor.

The Retreat closed with the recitation of the Rosary and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

This was the first retreat made by the young ladies of the parish and all are looking forward to another day of recollection.

Archbishop Gets Pallium

Santa Fe, N. M. — (NC) — In colorful ceremonies at historic St. Francis Cathedral here, Archbishop Edwin V. Byrne of Santa Fe received the Sacred Pallium from the hands of Archbishop Urban J. Vehr of Denver. Six Prelates from New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma and Colorado were present, as well as U. S. Senator Dennis Chavez and Governor John J. Dempsey of New Mexico, and Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Hurley, former Ambassador to China.

Feature High School Talent In Veterans Benefit Show

Jimmy Devine and his all star variety show will present "The Hit Parade of 1946" featuring the Stars of Tomorrow, a specially selected group of youthful performers from the high schools of Rochester, on Sunday evening, May 19, at 8:30 p. m. for the benefit of the Veterans Hospital Entertainment Fund.

An outstanding talented entertainer has been selected from each high school in Rochester, through the cooperation of the respective principals and these Stars of Tomorrow will appear on the program:

Betty Marsocci, "aristocrat of comedy," Madison High; Gene Miller, piano virtuoso, West High; Shirley Burke, hits of magic, John Marshall High; Naomi Schaff, harpist, Monroe High; Unice Burritt, acrobatic dancer, Charlotte High; Donald Morgan and Jean Williams, piano duo, Jefferson High; Jerry Dennis, popular young tenor, William Clark, accordionist, both from Aquinas.

Joe Nolan's orchestra will appear in the show and will play for dancing from 10 p. m. until midnight. Nolan is being featured in an indefinite voluntary tour of veteran hospitals in the Western New York area by Jimmy Devine, the singing master of ceremonies. A silver loving cup will be presented to Nolan's band during the show because of his outstanding efforts in behalf of entertaining the service men.

Through cooperation of the Rev. George S. Woost and the Immaculate Conception Youth Club a benefit performance is given once a year at the Immaculate auditorium and the proceeds are donated to carry on this work.

Jimmy Devine, a veteran and Legionnaire, is well known locally for his humanitarian efforts. Recently elected to the post of Special Services Officer of the John A. Sweetland Post 1000, he also holds the office of historian of the Liederkranz Choral Society and is a member of several other Rochester groups.

Parochial School Softball League

Eastern Division

FRIDAY, MAY 10

St. F. Xavier	vs.	Mt. Carmel	School No. 27 Field
St. Stanislaus	vs.	Perpetual Hlp.	Carter Street Field
St. Ambrose	vs.	St. Andrews	School No. 11 Field
St. Michaels	vs.	Mt. Carmel	U. of R. No. 5 Field
Corpus Christi	vs.	Blsd. Sacmt.	Cobbs Hill No. 2 Field

TUESDAY, MAY 14

St. F. Xavier	vs.	St. Michael's	School No. 27 Field
St. Stanislaus	vs.	St. Ambrose	School No. 11 Field
Mt. Carmel	vs.	Corpus Christi	U. of R. No. 5 Field
Perpetual Help	vs.	Blsd Sacmt.	Cobb's Hill No. 2 Field
St. Andrews	vs.	St. John Evg.	St. John's Field

Western Division

FRIDAY, MAY 10

Holy Cross	vs.	St. Anthony	Edgerton Park No. 2 Field
St. Joph. Villa	vs.	St. Mgt. Mry's	Charlotte High School Field
Holy Rosary	vs.	Holy Apostles	R.P.D. Lexington Ave. Field
Sacred Heart	vs.	St. Lucy	D.P.L.—Ridge Rd. W. Field
St. Monica	vs.	St. Augustine	Gardner Avenue

TUESDAY, MAY 14

Holy Cross	vs.	Sacred Heart	Charlotte High School Field
St. Joseph's Villa	vs.	Holy Rosary	R. P. D. Lexington Ave.
St. Anthony's	vs.	St. Monica's	Genesee Valley Pk. No. 4 Field
St. Mgt. Mry.	vs.	St. Augustine	Gardner Avenue
St. Lucy's	vs.	Holy Apostles	Edgerton Pk. No. 2 Field

ALL GAMES START AT 4 P.M.

Home Runs Feature Second Day Play in School Loop

With the nervousness of opening day over, teams in the Parochial School Softball League sponsored by Rochester Council, Knights of Columbus settled down to closer competition on Tuesday.

St. Ambrose team in the Eastern division and St. Monica's in the Western are leading with two wins apiece. St. Ambrose is tied with Perpetual Help and St. Andrew's in the Eastern division.

Results of games played Friday May 3 are:

Eastern Division

St. Francis Xavier, 23, St. Stanislaus, 8; St. Ambrose, 14, Mt. Carmel 13; Perpetual Help, 32, St. Michael's, 3; Corpus Christi, 12, St. John's Evangelist, 6; St. Andrews, 12, Blessed Sacrament, 9;

Western Division

St. Monica 15, St. Lucy 1; St. Augustine 7, Holy Apostles 6; St. Margaret Mary 43, Sacred Heart 3; Holy Rosary vs. St. Anthony, postponed; Holy Cross vs. St. Joseph Villa, postponed; exhibition, Holy Rosary 17, Holy Trinity (Webster) 13.

TUESDAY MAY 7

Eastern Division

St. Ambrose 13, St. Francis Xavier 5; St. Andrews 16, St. Michael's 9; St. Johns Evg. 13, Blessed Sacrament 6; Perpetual Help 7, Corpus Christi 5; St. Stanislaus 14, Mt. Carmel 11.

Western Division

St. Monica 12, St. Marg. Mary 10; Holy Rosary 7, Holy Cross 6; St. Lucy 12, St. Augustine 11; Holy Apostles 6, Sacred Heart 3; St. Anthony vs. St. Joseph Villa postponed.

One Home Run by John Palacek of St. Stanislaus with two on accounted for three runs. Leta of St. Andrews and DiAngelo of St. Michael's also hit home runs.

436 Veterans Study At Catholic U.

Washington — (NC) — There are 436 returned veterans among the 2,509 students presently enrolled at the Catholic University of America here, a registrar report reveals. The largest proportion of veterans is shown in the School of Engineering and Architecture, where 184 out of 305 students were in the armed forces. There are 117 veterans among 333 students in the School of Arts and Sciences, and 43 veterans among the 443 registered in the School of Nursing Education.

Missionary Nun's Reception Listed

Miss Eleanor Yockel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Yockel, 244 Versailles Rd., will spend a few days in Rochester with family and friends following completion of a year's postulancy at Holy Ghost Convent, Techny, Ill.

Miss Yockel, who will begin her novitiate at Holy Ghost Convent July 3, is preparing for a foreign mission career with the Sisters, Servants of the Holy Ghost. She is a graduate of St. Margaret's School and Nazareth Academy, Rochester.

The young missionary will receive her friends and relatives Sunday afternoon, May 12 from 2 to 6 o'clock.

France Houses Largest Seminary for Germans

Paris — (CIP) — The extent to which the French Government has responded to the suggestions of the French Hierarchy and the Apostolic Nuncio in Paris regarding the creation of special study facilities for the seminarians among the German prisoners-of-war becomes evident from the fact that the "Seminary Camp" of Chartres, France, has at present an enrollment of 330 German seminarians, 9 priests, and 37 scholastics and lay brothers of different Orders and Congregations. It is undoubtedly the largest German seminary now existing anywhere in the world.

British Honor 780 Irishmen in War

London — (NC) — At least 780 decorations, including eight Victoria Crosses — highest military award for bravery in the British Empire — and one George Cross — highest civil award for bravery — were awarded during the past war to persons born in Eire, it was announced in the British House of Commons.

Parish Cast Slates Comedy

"Come to Dinner," a delightful three act comedy by Kurtz Gordon, will be presented by the Dramatic Club of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

The play is scheduled for Sunday and Monday evenings, May 12 and 13, at 8:15 in the parish hall, Joseph near Norton. There will be a matinee performance on Sunday afternoon at 2:15 P. M. General admission is fifty cents, including tax.

The cast, under the direction of Joseph E. Durbin follows: Mrs. Tillie Gardner, Ruth Hess, Marie Lingl, Helen Murphy, Jeanette Rehberg, Lucille Senger, Bernice Trunk, Harold Hetzler, Raymond Kesselring, Robert Klinke and Ralph Scheuch.

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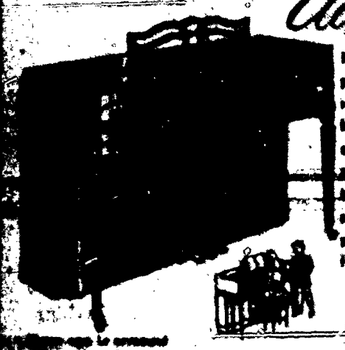
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