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50 BOY SCOUTS AWARDED ALTAR MEDALS IN YEAR

Ad Altare Dei Crosses were conferred this year on 50 Catholic Boy Scouts of the Rochester Diocese by His Excellency, Bishop Kearney, according to the annual report submitted by Rev. Walter A. Fischer, Diocesan chaplain.

More than 1,000 Scouts and many Scout Officials and Scouters attended the Ad Altare Dei ceremony in Sacred Heart Pro-Cathedral.

Registered in the Diocese's 63 scout units at the present time are 1,708 boys, the report reveals. Of this number, 347 are Cubs, 1309 are Boy Scouts and 52 are Senior Scouts.

Directing the activities of the boys are 535 Cubbers, Scouters and Senior Scout Leaders.

There are 3,112 scouts in troops under non-Catholic sponsorship in the diocese, Father Fischer estimates.

Only one Scout unit was dropped during the year as against the 10 new units which were organized in 1946.

There are 19 Catholic men on the Executive Boards of the 6 Local Scout Councils within the Diocese.

Final Rites Held For 2 Corningites

Corning — Mrs. Catherine Cunningham, 74, 273 E. Market St., widow of the late Thomas Cunningham, died Thursday, Sept. 19, in St. Joseph's Hospital from injuries received in a fall at her home three weeks ago. She was born the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Dolan, and about 40 years ago was united in marriage with Mr. Cunningham in St. Mary's Church. She was a member of St. Patrick's Church, the Stella Maris Society and the Ladies' Catholic Benevolent Association.

Survivors include one daughter, Mrs. Clark Diehr of Elmira; one sister, Mrs. Sarah Gilmartin, Corning; three grandchildren.

Funeral services were held from the home Monday at 8:30 a.m. and at 9 o'clock in St. Patrick's Church. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Joseph P. Stirpe, 20, died Thursday, Sept. 19, at Corning Hospital following a short illness. He was born in Corning, was a graduate of St. Mary's Parochial school and attended Corning Free Academy. He was a member of St. Mary's Church and the Holy Name Society.

Survivors include his mother, Mrs. Filomena Gurnsey; two sisters, Marie and Jeanette; three brothers, Dominic, Louis and Francis; grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Spera, all of Corning.

Funeral services were held Monday at 8:30 a. m. from the home and at 9 o'clock in St. Mary's Church. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Stella Maris Unit Hears Ex-Chaplain

Corning — The Rev. Bernard C. Newcomb of Auburn, former assistant pastor at St. Patrick's Church, was the guest speaker at the first of the season's meetings of the Stella Maris Society of that parish. Father Newcomb's talk concerned his experiences as chaplain in the U. S. Army in North Africa, Southwest Asia and Italy.

The second Tuesday of each month was set as the definite date for future meetings of the organization. In the case of the necessity of changing any one of the meetings members will be informed well in advance of the date set.

Members voted to attend October devotions in a group each Tuesday evening during the month of the Holy Rosary.

Announcement was made of the convention of the National Council of Catholic Women, scheduled for November 7 at Rochester. It is expected that Corning delegates will attend and all women of the three local parishes are invited. Full details will be announced later, especially in regard to transportation.

Corning Weddings

Dywan - Ruocco

Corning — The marriage of Miss Lillian B. Dywan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dywan of Massena, and Joseph J. Ruocco, son of Mr. and Mrs. Aniello Ruocco, 305 W. Water St., took place Thursday, Sept. 19, in St. Mary's Church. The Rev. John A. Smith, pastor, performed the ceremony.

Attending the couple were Miss Nell Ruocco and Philip Ruocco, sister and brother of the bridegroom.

The bride, a graduate of Massena High School and the Central City Business Institute in Syracuse, is employed by E. W. Edwards and Sons, Syracuse. Mr. Ruocco, a Corning Free Academy graduate, is a veteran of five years service with the Army, four years of which were spent in the European Theater. He is enrolled as a sophomore at Syracuse University and they will live in that city.

Brown - Moore

Miss Angeline Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Brown, 413 W. Erie Ave., became the bride of Harold Moore, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edmond Moore, 49 Conhocton St., Saturday, Sept. 14, in St. Mary's Church. The Rev. John A. Smith, pastor, performed the ceremony.

Attending the bride as maid of honor was her sister, Miss Irene Brown, and Harry Moore, brother of the bridegroom, was best man. Ushers were Charles Brown, brother of the bride, and Anthony Luffred.

A luncheon was served at the Baron Steuben Hotel following the ceremony. Later the couple left for a motor trip to the Thousand Islands and Canada.

The bride, a graduate of St. Mary's Parochial School and Corning Free Academy, is employed at Corning Glass Works. Mr. Brown, also an Academy graduate, is an employe of the A and P Tea Company.

Mt. Carmel Debt Goes Up in Smoke

Proudly the Rev. Charles J. Azzi, pastor, (center) with his two assistants the Rev. William Lammers (top left) and the Rev. Joseph O. Gorman looks on as trustees, James G. D'Amico (front, left) and Charles J. Dispenza, burn the mortgage marking liquidation of a $41,000 debt.

First School Principal Is Honored; Mortgage Burned, at Mt. Carmel Rites

Mt. Carmel Church, Rochester's largest Italian parish, marked a twin celebration on Sunday when trustees burned the church mortgage and the alumni tendered a surprise testimonial to the Very Reverend Mother Mechtilde, R.S.M., first principal and veteran teacher of the parish school.

When Mother Mechtilde, currently marking her 50th anniversary in religion, entered the school hall Sunday evening to attend a parish entertainment, she was surprised by 600 alumni who presented their former teacher with a purse of $750.

The Rev. Charles J. Azzi, pastor of Mt. Carmel, welcomed the graduates and expressed felicitations to Mother Mechtilde. Also present was the Rt. Rev. Msgr. William M. Hart, vicar general of the diocese and nephew of Mother Mechtilde, who gave an address recalling her career as a teacher. Charles J. Lombardo, alumni president gave the welcome address.

34 Years At Mt. Carmel

Mother Mechtilde has spent thirty-four years of her teaching career at Mt. Carmel School and was principal of the school when it opened in November 1909.

In 1928, she was chosen as Mother Assistant of the Sisters of Mercy, an office which she held for six years. During this period she continued to teach at Mt. Carmel. She was selected Mother Superior of the community in 1934 and during her three year term in that office she lived at the motherhouse. On completion of her term as superior of the community she returned to Mt. Carmel School and resumed teaching.

A native of Corning, she entered the novitiate of the Sisters of Mercy at Batavia, N. Y., on the feast of the Immaculate Conception, 1894. In June of the next year she received the habit and pronounced her final vows as a religious at St. Ann's Convent Chapel in Hornell in the summer of 1897. Before she opened Mt. Carmel School she fulfilled teaching assignments at St. Mary's, Corning; St. Ann's, Hornell; and St. Patrick's, Owego.

Burning of the mortgage ceremony, symbolic of the liquidation of the parish debt, took place Sunday morning following the celebration of Solemn Mass at 11 o'clock.

Trustees Officiate

Charles Dispenza and James D'Amico, trustees, conducted the ceremony assisted by Father Azzi. Celebrant of the Mass was the Rev. Joseph O. Gorman, assisted by the Rev. William Lammers and the Rev. Patrick J. Flynn as deacon and subdeacon respectively.

Sermons at the Mass of thanksgiving were preached in both Italian and English. Father Azzi, who spoke in Italian, congratulated the parishioners and stressed the importance of preserving parish properties, particularly the church itself, in good condition and of making improvements which would enhance the beauty and dignity of God's temple.

The English sermon was delivered by the Rev. Joseph Cirrincione, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church, and the first graduate of Mt. Carmel School to be ordained to the priesthood.

Father Cirrincione first congratulated Mother Mechtilde on her golden anniversary and explained that her long years of service to the children of Mt. Carmel School "made her truly a spiritual mother of all of us."

Tribute To Pastor

"The liquidation of the church debt," he said, "proves that Father Azzi enjoys the loyal support of his people. This achievement," he told the congregation, "must be a source of joy not only to yourselves but also to all those who have contributed in any way to growth of this parish. I am sure that it is a source of joy to Father Foery and Father Brennan." (Father Foery, now Bishop of Syracuse, and Father Brennan are former pastors of Mt. Carmel.)

"Today, however," he continued, "we look to the future. The final chapter of this parish is not yet written." Recalling the familiar exhortation, 'Keep the Faith!' which Bishop Foery often repeated during his pastorate, Father Cirrincione said: "Father Foery was a man who saw the dangers of his times and the importance of keeping the Faith. But today the same dangers are even more threatening and therefore your duty today and for the future is clear. You must not only 'Keep the Faith' but you must also spread the Faith! Like apostles you must spread the Faith in the factories, the offices, and the shops."

The present church edifice was built during Father Foery's pastorate. Burning of the mortgage ceremony Sunday marked the liquidation of a debt of $41,000.

Rexville Couple Mark Anniversary

Rexville — Mr. and Mrs. James Harkenrider, parents of nine children, knelt before the altar at St. Mary's Church last Saturday, Sept. 21, and renewed their marriage vows at a High Mass of thanksgiving celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary. Rev. Bernard R. Cleary sang the Mass.

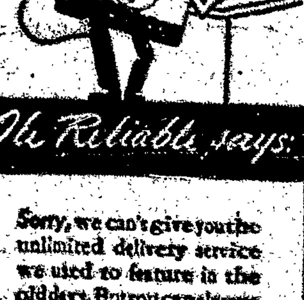
It was 40 years ago almost to the day since the late Rev. J. E. Casey united Rose O'Hargan of Greenwood and James Harkenrider of Rexville in marriage before the same altar, Sept. 19, 1906.

Attendants were Thomas Keegan and Margaret O'Hargan, both of whom are living.

Last Sunday, the couple were honored at a dinner at their home. Among the 40 guests were their nine sons and daughters: Mr. and Mrs. Paul Harkenrider and son; Nell and James Harkenrider; Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Harkenrider; Mrs. Verna Anderson of Jamestown; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Connelly and children of Buffalo; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Harkenrider and children; Mr. and Mrs. Layton Austin; Mr. and Mrs. Arling Rollins and son; and Mrs. Gerald Harkenrider and son of Andover.

At Paper Trade Meeting

Geneva — Mr. and Mrs. Edward P. Sweeney, 202 Washington Street, have been spending the week-end at Whiteface Inn, Lake Placid, while attending the third annual convention of the Empire State Paper Trade Association.



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Maryknoll Nuns Hear Fr. Randall Cite Role in World Peace

Maryknoll—"The mantle of peace is bursting at the seams and even now the seeds of World War III are taking root," the Rev. John S. Randall, Director of the Rochester Diocesan Office of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, told 1,500 Maryknoll sisters and guests at the 39th departure ceremony Sunday at Ossining.

Sister M. Edward Marmion Wilson of Canandaigua was among the 62 Foreign Mission Sisters of St. Dominic, largest group of Maryknoll missioners ever assigned, who received mission crosses at the ceremonies presided over by Bishop Raymond A. Lane, recently elected Superior General of Maryknoll.

Cites Way To Peace

Speaking in the cloistered gardens of the Maryknoll motherhouse, Father Randall declared:

"Never will there be any peace until mankind learns to kneel with these Sisters at the feet of the Master and there learn that real peace and happiness consist not in power, nor influence, nor education, nor wealth, nor prestige, but in love, love of God and love of our neighbor."

Taking issue with those who would "consider the sacrifice of these nuns wasteful," Father Randall reminded his audience: "We have just concluded the most terrifying war in the history of the human race. More than thirteen months have passed since the guns were silenced, but what of the world at this moment? Would any man be so blind to facts as to say that we have peace?"

He called attention to the plight of the European nations which have fallen victims to "the imperialistic efforts of Soviet Russia," recalling that World War II was propagandized as a "Holy War, waged that all men might be free."

Youth Program Hit

"Peace and freedom are empty phrases for those nations hidden by the Iron Curtain of ruthless despotism," he pointed out.

Attacking the projected youth education program for former enemy nations, the priest claimed that educators base the proposed study courses "on a system of education which spawned the absolute state and gave birth and life to Nazism, Fascism and Communism."

"The one fundamental truth that will insure a democratic society—belief in a personal God—is cautiously avoided," he averred.

The speaker urged friends and relatives to unite in prayer with the Maryknoll Sisters "who go forth into a chaotic world, submerged in materialism, drunk with power, rent with suffering, heavy with starving people."

"It will be our prayers," he reminded them, "which will light the dark moments, which comfort their lonely hours, which will be as a star guiding them on to new conquests for Christ."

Those at home will be closer to the departed sisters if they have the same determination to be apostles, he said.

"We must realize," he explained, "that there are lost sheep on Broadway as well as along the Bund in Shanghai."

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