

ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Catholic Brothers' Jubilee
New York — (NC) — Brother
Alpheus James, director of the
La Salle Bureau here, recently
observed the golden jubilee of his
reception into the world-wide
teaching order of the Brothers of
the Christian Schools.

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Sodality of Our Lady

Let's Have Probation
By REV. ROY E. MORSEY
Diocesan Director for Sodality

Probation. Sodalites bear so much about probation. Membership in the Sodality of Our Lady almost immediately includes probation. Probation is one of the most important phases of Sodality organizations. Yet it is one of the most neglected. In my studies to various countries I have noted that Sodalites have little or no knowledge of just what is expected of them as Sodalites. The vast majority seem to know little about Sodality. They are so surprised if I hope not disappointed to learn that the Sodality involves something more than a youth club for the perfection of new dance steps and the filling of hungry stomachs.

I think the answer to all this is probation. A period of instruction in what the Sodality is and what it expects of its Sodalists. The Sodality knows just what type of membership it wants. And knowing what it wants, it uses every precaution to see that the proposed members conform to its place in the life of the Church.

The Sodality Rule states that before the final reception there should be a probation period of not less than two months.¹ Some directors prefer the period of probation to be longer. I know a number of Sodalities that makes the whole first year of a Sodalist a time of probation. Since the Sodality is a life-time job for the Sodalist, these directors feel that one full year is none too long a time to try out the Sodality life. The Rule, however, states that there must be a time of probation for the Sodalists and it must not be less than two months.

Rule 16 Reaffirms

Now the period of probation does not involve mere attendance at the monthly Sodality meeting. Such has been the mind of some directors and officers. Again the Rule is definite. During the time of probation the candidate is obliged to fulfill without exception all the duties which the Sodality imposes on its members. Since this rule was inserted at a time when weekly Sodality meetings were the rule we suggest that no less than eight meetings should be held for the candidates during the probation period.

These meetings should be most serious. They should be well planned and include a careful study of the Sodality Rules. The probation period is the time in which the whole pattern of the Sodality can be placed before the new members and they can be given a definite understanding of what the Sodality expects of them. I think that probation is more than a one-sided affair. It is a time when the candidate will prove himself. It is a time when the Sodality will prove itself to the candidate. The candidate must be made to see the Sodality as living, active organization to which it is a privilege to belong. He must be made to feel a just pride in being admitted into the Sodality. He must be made to see the Sodality as an organization de-

Wednesday, Feb. 16 — St. Ignatius, Bishop, Martyr, was converted and baptized by St. Paul in a prison in Rome. He suffered martyrdom by the sword in 148.

Monday, Feb. 17 — St. Florian, Bishop, Martyr, was elected Patriarch of Constantinople in 437. From the first he was destined to conflict and persecution and in 448 was faced with the grave problem of condemning the heresy of the monk Eusebius. In the difficulties which arose St. Florian was abused and carried into banishment.

Tuesday, Feb. 18 — St. Valentine, Bishop, Martyr, was the son of Cleophas and a kinsman of Our Blessed Lord. He was present on the day of Pentecost and after the death of St. James the Less he was chosen to succeed the latter as Bishop of Jerusalem. He was martyred in the year 107 during the reign of Trajan when he was more than 100 years old.

Wednesday, Feb. 19 — Asaf Wednesday, first day of Lent, and feast of St. Barbara. Born, born in the territory of Benevento in Italy, toward the end of the Pontificate of St. Gregory the Great, in the beginning of the seventh century. Taking Holy Orders he was immediately employed by his Bishop in preaching for which he had extraordinary talent.

Thursday, Feb. 20 — St. Severinus, Bishop of Sozopolis and Martyr, resided with great

zeal in the persecution raised by Theodosius, under the protection of the Empress Eudoxia.

Severinus was dragged from the city by soldiers and slain.

Saturday, Feb. 22 — St. Peter's Chair at Antioch. That

St. Peter, before he went to Rome, founded the See of Antioch.

He is attested by many Saints.

St. Leo says we ought to

celebrate the chair of St. Peter with no less joy than the day of his martyrdom; for as in this he was exalted to a

throne of glory in heaven, so

by the former he was installed head of the Church on earth.

Alumnae Divorce Rate Found Low

New Orleans — (NC) —

Figures cited by Dr. James M.

Wood, president of Negley

College for Women, at Columbia, Mo., indicate that the divorce rate of former students to only one out of every 33 marriages, compared to the

national rate among former

college students of one out of ten marriages.

Twenty-seven years ago we

set up a research laboratory

to study problems of the

home." Dr. Wood declared.

"One terrible problem was the

mounting divorce rate.

We wanted to see if we could

make our girls conscious of

factors which cause divorce.

Well, a year or two ago a na-

tional marriage service and ad-

vised us if these studies had re-

vealed a decreased rate."

Dr. Wood related that he

turned to his research experts

for the answer, and the report

was one divorce out of 33

marriages.

Immigrant Problems Studied

Paris — (NC) — A permanent

committee to consider the rela-

tive problems of the workers

from various countries who are

now in France has been set up,

following the last assembly of

the French hierarchy.

NOTES IN CHURCHES

Fr. Shannon Hits Plan to Destroy All Parenthood

The Rev. Michael J. Shannon, pastor of St. Michael's Church, here, is an ardent opponent of the "Planned Parenthood" movement. He has written a pamphlet entitled "The Planned Parenthood Movement," in which he attacks the movement as a threat to the family.

In his article, Father Shannon emphasizes the need for the "natural method" of birth control, and criticizes the "Planned Parenthood" movement as a threat to the family.

This is a statement Father Shannon has written in his article, "The Planned Parenthood Movement," in which he attacks the movement as a threat to the family.

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