

WIDESPREAD DIOCESAN BUILDING PROGRAM DIRECTED BY BISHOP

New Hospital, College Already Are Completed

By MARY CAREY

Construction of the new St. Mary's Hospital and Nazareth College in Rochester highlight the intensive building and expansion program carried on in the diocese during Bishop Kearney's episcopate.

Aided and encouraged by the Bishop, the diocese can also look forward to important future construction projects by means of which are the College of St. John Fisher for men, and the new St. Andrew's Seminary.

Plans for the new seminary office are going ahead rapidly. In the fund campaign of February, 1946, the \$300,000 goal was oversubscribed by close to \$360,000. A year earlier a drive for an Aquinas Memorial Stadium was oversubscribed.

THE BASHILIAN FATHERS of Aquinas Institute are planning to start construction of St. John Fisher College in 1949 with the proceeds of the drive which begins next Feb. 12.

Two new parishes will be created in Rochester in the near future. Preliminary plans, already approved by Bishop Kearney, call for erection of one of the parishes at "Cove" and Bowers roads and another at Brookes and Brett Roads.

A same advancement was made recently with the purchase and reconstruction of the structure on Seto Street which now houses the offices and composing rooms of the Courier Journal and Christopher Press.

PROJECTED ADDITIONS to parish plants in Rochester area include the new \$100,000 St. Anne's School, Our Lady of Lourdes \$125,000 school, convent and school for Holy Rosary convents for St. Andrew's and Holy Apostles schools for Our Mother of Sorrows and St. John's in Greece, St. Margaret Mary, St. Helens and St. Monica's and a new church for St. Charles Borromeo.

Plans have also been announced for a large, completely equipped recreation hall and a new rectory to be built in the near future on the Blessed Sacrament plant.

A new million-dollar building for St. James Mercy Hospital, Horwell, looks in future considerations.

One of the biggest and most vital building projects in recent years, St. Mary's modern, spacious hospital, was dedicated by Bishop Kearney in January, 1947. A year earlier, the new Nazareth College with dormitory, auditorium and gym had been opened on East Avenue near Pittsford, replacing the inadequate Augustine Street quarters.

FIRST MAJOR PROGRAM launched in Rochester under Bishop Kearney was St. Joseph's Villa for the dependent children of St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's homes. The Bishop had been in Rochester less than a month when purchase of the 80-acre site on Derby Avenue was completed on Dec. 1, 1937.

The new Bishop was soon engaged in a busy whirl of dedication ceremonies throughout the diocese. On June 28, 1938, he dedicated the chapel of St. John Bosco in Elmira Reformatory, the first in any penal institution in the state. Three months later on Sept. 11, 1938, it was the newly reconstructed St. Charles Borromeo School, Rochester and in the same month a new wing was dedicated for Sacred Heart Academy.

The year 1940 was a milestone in the expanding process of the Diocese of Rochester under its fifth Bishop. On Feb. 11 of that year, Bishop Kearney blessed and

Scenes in Three Major Building Campaigns



Trio of Cardinals Led Many Notables To Rochester During Reign of Bishop

If Bishop Kearney kept a guest book it would reveal an impressive roster of well known leaders of clergy and laity who have visited the Diocese of Rochester in the ten years of his busy episcopate.

Each visitor has brought to the diocese the message of the Church's universality and has found in return the charm and gracious cordiality which typifies every public appearance of the Bishop.

Outstanding in the memory of the diocese were the three Cardinals who have visited Rochester: Thomas Cardinal Tien of China, Konrad Cardinal von Preysing of Berlin and Edward Cardinal Mooney of Detroit.

His Eminence Cardinal Tien, the first Chinese churchman ever to be elevated to the College of Cardinals, came to Rochester April 8, 1946, and spent a crowded day visiting diocesan institutions. After a liturgical reception and solemn benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Joseph's Church,

Confirmation Total Nearing 100,000

Number of Catholics confirmed at the hands of Bishop Kearney during his ten years as Rochester Ordinary, is rapidly approaching the 100,000 mark.

During this decade also, he has conferred Holy Orders on some 2,500 men at St. Bernard's Seminary. Most of these ordinands were serving in the Rochester Diocese.

In his capacity as minister of the Sacrament of Confirmation, the Bishop is often on a very tight schedule to meet the demands of his 125 parishes.

UNDER THE DIRECTION of covering the 1,000 square miles of the diocese, he frequently confirms classes in as many as four different churches in a single day. No mission parish is so small as to remote that the Bishop cannot arrange to be on hand when a confirmation class is ready to receive the sacrament.

Daily throughout the year, he travels from the episcopal residence in Rochester to Elmira, Auburn, or Corning, Hornell, Geneva or Ithaca, to bring the gifts of the Holy Ghost to children and adults.

Confirmation takes him into every part of every county of Central New York, including Monroe, Livingston, Wayne, Ontario, Seneca, Cayuga, Yates, Rensselaer, Chenango, Tioga, Schuyler and Tompkins counties.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES during the tenure of Bishop Kearney have ranged from small groups of three to four to as high as 20. During the latter part of World War II, when military courses were accelerated, he advised two groups of young priests each year.

Projects initiated by the fifth Bishop of Rochester served with distinction as chaplains on every battlefield of World War II. Many more are serving in other dioceses throughout the country.



Top photo shows Bishop Kearney turning the first spade of earth for the erection of Nazareth College which was opened early in 1942. At the Bishop's left is the Rt. Rev. Magr. William F. Bergan, P.A., Diocesan Chancellor, and at the right is the St. Rev. Magr. Charles F. Shay, pastor of Holy Rosary. Photo at the left shows Bishop Kearney laying the cornerstone for the new St. Mary's Hospital in January, 1942. Above is a scene from the opening dinner of the \$300,000 drive for a new St. Andrew's Seminary in February, 1946. Pictured with Bishop Kearney is His Excellency Bishop Walter A. Foery of Syracuse, keynote speaker, and the Rev. John A. Smith, pastor of St. Mary's Church, Corning.

St. Francis Xavier Novena Service Fostered by Bishop

Devotion to St. Francis Xavier, patron of the missions, has been especially fostered in the Diocese of Rochester by the consistent effort of Bishop Kearney.

Shortly after his taking over the reign of Rochester diocese the "Novena of Grace" was inaugurated in Sacred Heart Pro-Cathedral and St. Patrick's Church, Rochester. Noted Jesuit Fathers came to conduct the services.

The "Novena of Grace" a nine-day prayer in honor of the great patron of the Church, St. Francis Xavier in Rochester. At the same time he celebrated Holy Mass at Sacred Heart Pro-Cathedral where the Novena was being conducted.

Bishop Celebrated High School Masses

To invoke the aid of the Holy Spirit on our Catholic high schools, Bishop Kearney on coming to take charge of the Rochester Diocese instituted the practice each year of celebrating Mass in honor of the Holy Ghost at each of the Catholic high schools.

When graduation time rolls around the Bishop, in spite of a busy schedule, presides at commencement exercises and presents diplomas and awards.

The Bishop's coming to the school is always hailed by the students. They enjoy his counsel and kindness.

Bishop Meets A Classmate

Celebrations brought a semi-annual statement of Bishop Kearney's to visit him on the eve of his 70th Anniversary. The Rt. Rev. Magr. Edward J. Flanagan who had attended St. Joseph's Seminary, Dunwoody with the present Bishop of Rochester was in town over the week end to speak at the Rochester City Club and to see his boys' town which followed soon after.

One of his own boys who had been in the Bishop's class at the first St. John's Seminary in 1907, was at his side when he spoke at the Rochester City Club on the eve of his 70th Anniversary.

Monseigneur Flanagan of the Montreal Archdiocese of the Holy Spirit, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, who is now Bishop of the same diocese, was also present.

The famed boy leader will be found among all people of varying beliefs in Rochester. Bishop Kearney is the most popular citizen of Rochester.

Princes of the Church From Four Nations and Three Continents Greeted His Excellency, The Bishop



WITH THOMAS CARDINAL TIEN OF CHINA



WITH BERNARD CARDINAL GRIFFIN OF ENGLAND



WITH FRANCIS CARDINAL SPELLMAN OF N. Y.



WITH KONRAD CARDINAL VON PREYSING