

100 Lourdes Pilgrims Offer Prayers for Peace

(NC) — Prayers for peace were offered by 100 Lourdes pilgrims at the annual Lourdes pilgrimage in the city of Lourdes, France, today. The pilgrims, who were accompanied by their families, arrived in Lourdes yesterday and will remain in the city until the 15th of this month. The pilgrims, who are from all over the world, are here to participate in the annual Lourdes pilgrimage, which is one of the most important religious events in France. The pilgrims will be participating in various religious activities, including Mass, processions, and pilgrimages to the Lourdes shrine. The Lourdes shrine is a famous site of pilgrimage, and it is believed that the Virgin Mary appeared to a young girl, Bernadette Soubirous, in 1858. The Lourdes pilgrimage is a time of prayer and reflection, and it is a chance for pilgrims to seek the intercession of the Virgin Mary for their families and for the world.

Bishop Active Among Laity Of the Diocese

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Central New York Chapter meeting in April he called upon the members to be "Apostles of the campus." STATE AND national leaders of the Catholic Daughters of America came to Rochester in November, 1946, for the first state conference of that group at Hotel Rochester. The Bishop at a luncheon expressed appreciation of the group's outstanding contribution being made by the Catholic Daughters of America "to this thing we call Catholic Action."

Shortly after his installation in the diocese the Bishop granted an official mandate for Catholic Action to the Rochester branches, Catholic Central Verein of America and the National Catholic Women's Union.

In October, 1946, the Ladies' Catholic Benevolent Association marked its golden jubilee in the diocese. The Bishop pontificated. He told the members it was logical to thank God for the opportunities of the past 50 years because "the philosophy of the Catholic Benevolent Association is the Christian philosophy, the love of God and the love of our neighbor."

One of the particular organizations brought into existence in the past decade in the diocese is St. Mary's Guild composed of mothers of pupils and seminarians for whom the Bishop celebrates Mass on the first Friday.

THE FIRST FRIDAY Luncheon Club, sponsored by Rochester Council, Knights of Columbus, about to enter its sixth year, was fostered by Bishop Kearney, who directed that the address each month by a member of the clergy be on the Saint of the Month. All Catholics are eligible providing they receive Holy Communion on the first Friday.

Taking the place of his predecessor as spiritual moderator of the Catholic Women's Club, the Bishop has taken part in many of their functions, particularly the annual dinner at which he is the principal speaker. He has encouraged them in membership efforts and the diversified program carried on.

Work at the House of Hospitality carried on by the Catholic Workers on South Ave., Rochester, was blessed and the chapel dedicated by the Bishop when the house was opened.

Exemplification of the Fourth Degree, Knights of Columbus, has found the Bishop, whenever possible, taking part in the ritual work. The Fourth Degree in appreciation sponsored contributions to the diocesan retreat house at Geneva in the way of heating equipment and pews.

Other groups such as St. Elizabeth's Guild, K. of C. Auxiliary, and other charity workers have had the Bishop's assistance in their work and in signing up new members.

The list is too long to go into detail but there is no strata of Catholic lay activity that has not found the Bishop lending a hand.

One of his future projects is a lay women's retreat house to be staffed by religious of Our Lady of Consolation. Catholic women groups will cooperate in making it as successful as the men's retreat house in Geneva.

Clipping the preventive effects Scouting has on juvenile delinquency, the Bishop this year launched a program in the diocese with a committee of 40 laymen named by him to carry on the work.

The Sodality Movement has had the Bishop's full support. At the rally in May, which brought young Sodality members from all sections of the diocese, the Bishop urged them to take up the program outlined by Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima. This devotion he has repeatedly impressed upon the laity at organization gatherings.

Card. Stritch Asks Cleanup by Women

Chicago (NC) — Scoring well in the race for the American way of life, His Eminence, Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, called upon 1,000 women from every unit of the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women to "do a little cleanup" and dispel "a lot of poisonous gases which are disfiguring lives, ruining lives, and bringing in the whole social fabric into danger."

Cardinal Stritch, who has been working with the women of the diocese for many years, said that the women have brought misery to mankind. Out of that misery which exists in the world today.

REMEMBERING OUR DEAD



Each September since 1900 Bishop Kearney has officiated at the Blessing of the Graves in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Pictured with him is St. Rev. Magr. John F. Goggia, P.A., rector of St. Bernard's Seminary (left), and the St. Rev. Magr. Edward M. Lyons, rector of St. Andrew's.

Catholics As Good Citizens As Any Others, Writer Says

New York — (NC) — Writing in The New Leader, social democratic organ of which he is an associate editor, William Henry Chamberlain answers a correspondent who wrote in questioning the democracy of the Catholic Church and equating "the loyalty of Catholics to the Vatican with the loyalty of Communists to Moscow."

The suggestion of such an analogy would seem sacrilegious to Catholics. Mr. Chamberlain writes, but to him it appears "merely silly, because of the obvious complete difference between Moscow and the Vatican as centers of power."

Mr. Chamberlain explains that while Moscow is the capital of a "huge, expanding, aggressive, highly militarized world empire," the Vatican has no such attributes; that in both world wars Catholics fought on both sides, and that although the Vatican enunciated foundation principles of peace, no attempt was made to "induce Catholics to act contrary to their national loyalties."

He points out that "the Catholic Church is probably the most 'proletarian' of our larger religious organizations," that its membership includes a high proportion of groups whom "social workers sometimes refer to as underprivileged," that "there is a heavy Catholic participation in the trade-union movement," that pronouncements of the National Catholic Welfare Conference have been "generally favorable to labor," and that a majority of Catholic prelates in this country came from working-class families.

"In view of these facts, and many more of the same character which could be cited," Mr. Chamberlain continues, "it would be ridiculous to represent the Catholic Church in this country as a bastion of wealth and privilege."

Prelate Asks Active Lay Apostolate

San Antonio, Tex. (NC) — The only hope for returning the present chaotic world to Christ rests not in training more priests and religious but in developing an active lay apostolate, Archbishop Edwin M. Byrne of Santa Fe declared at a solemn Pontifical Mass at the first American regional congress of the Confederation of Christian Doctrine held here.

Even a hundred times more priests and a thousand times more religious could not restore our modern society to Christ, the Archbishop asserted. "We who are priests and religious must admit that we alone cannot solve the problems facing Christianity today. But we must also know that we can form the leaders who will be able to solve the problems, please God, at some later day."

Bishop Kearney Began Family Communion

When thousands of families approach the altar rail on the Feast of the Holy Family, it is understood that the entire family must go together to the same Mass, approach the altar rail as a family group and then assemble together at home for a Family Communion Breakfast.

Begin with an appeal from the Bishop, the custom has not only been perpetuated but has inspired others in other parts of the country to honor the Holy Family in a like manner.

In a letter to the faithful in January, 1940 Bishop Kearney called attention to the fine Catholic tradition of organized groups having Communion breakfasts. "Why then," the Bishop asked, "can we not have a Family Communion and Breakfast on the Feast of the Holy Family?"

Feast of the Holy Family in the fealty of families in every parish of this diocese? Let it be understood that the entire family must go together to the same Mass, approach the altar rail as a family group and then assemble together at home for a Family Communion Breakfast.

"IN ORDER that Mother may not be concerned that she stay home to prepare breakfast, the family might take Mother out to breakfast that morning. She deserves it. At any rate, let us make the feast of the Holy Family a real family devotion by joining in this diocesan act of devotion to the Holy Family and the Family Communion and Breakfast."

The response was indicative of the devotion of the families in the diocese. Bishop Kearney's annual appeal is heard each year as the Feast of the Holy Family nears. The practice of Family Communion and Breakfast has now become traditional in the Rochester diocese.

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The entire diocese was edified by the sight of families of all sizes receiving Holy Communion at early Masses. The spiritual blessings, of course, cannot be recorded but the consolations especially during the war years when some members of the families were in danger, were evident.

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Bishop of Rochester

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