

Diocese K. C. To Honor 4th Degree Leader

Cyril J. Stait who retired as Master of the Fifth New York District, Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, last year will be honored by the district knights at a testimonial dinner in Columbus Civic Center Saturday evening, Jan. 4.

The dinner at which His Excellency Bishop Kearney will be guest of honor along with Master Basil J. Vallancourt of Elmira and Grand Knight John J. Kinney of Rochester, Council will be held at the knights' clubrooms at 6:30 p. m.

Toastmaster will be Norman A. O'Brien, past faithful navigator, and a member of Stait's ritual team.

Arrangements for the dinner are in charge of Faithful Navigator Dr. Frank J. Mastello with Faithful Captain Frank E. Greas as general chairman.

AN ACTIVE Knight of Columbus for over 30 years, particularly in the Fourth Degree which promotes the patriotic activity of the Knights of Columbus, Stait was appointed Master of the district comprising the Diocese of Rochester in September, 1940, by Supreme Master James F. Redden of Denver.

During his six years in office outstanding degrees were held in Rochester, Elmira, Corning and Geneva and the membership rolls were increased. Fourth Degree support of the Diocesan Retreat House at Geneva during his regime included donation of pews and heating equipment.

As a Knight of Columbus secretary during World War I, Stait had charge of the K. of C. war work throughout New York State outside of New York City.

Other Knights of Columbus activities included serving several terms as trustee of Rochester Council. He is a past grand scribe of Musa Caravan, Order of the Alhambra.

Commended



CYRIL J. STAIT

Holiday Party Slated for LCBA

A Christmas Party will be combined with the meeting of Rochester Advisory Senate, Ladies' Catholic Benevolent Association at Blessed Sacrament Hall, Monday, Dec. 20, according to Mrs. Anna I. Ryan, president.

Gifts will be exchanged and refreshments served following the business session beginning at 8 p. m.

Officers and members of Branch 474 of Blessed Sacrament Church headed by Mrs. Rosemary O'Brien will be in charge.

All LCBA members are invited. Mrs. Ryan announces.

Bishop to Give Red Mass Sermon

His Excellency Bishop James E. Kearney of Rochester, will deliver the sermon at the annual Red Mass in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on the campus of the Catholic University of America, in Washington on January 23.

The service is held each year under the auspices of the university, a law school to signalize the opening of Congress and the court year.

HolyNameMen Turnout Urged At Feast Mass

Pastors are asked to send Holy Name Society delegations to the Solemn Pontifical Mass opening the 1946 Holy Name activities in the diocese at St. Monica's Church, Sunday, Jan. 4.

In a letter sent out by His Excellency Bishop Kearney he invites the society of each parish in Rochester Diocese to send representatives to the Mass which will be in honor of the Holy Name of Jesus.

"THE HOLY NAME Society is a great source of spiritual power in each parish," the Bishop's letter states. "The combined representation from your parish societies should bring a special blessing on the work of the organization in the diocese."

"I am sure that the realization that this Mass is to honor the Holy Name of Jesus will be a sufficient motive to arouse the enthusiasm of your members."

Supervising plans are the Rev. Patrick J. Flynn and the Rev. Arthur F. Florack, diocesan spiritual directors.

Diocesan President Lewis A. Schur and members of the executive committee of Rochester Deanery, Holy Name Union are working to have more than 2,000 men at the feast day observance.

Assisting are Vice President Edward M. Lorschneider, Secretary Frank Davis, Treasurer Joseph Weidman and Marshal James Osterman.

K. C. to Take Cheer To Veterans at Bath

A delegation of 50 members of Rochester Council, Knights of Columbus will go to U. S. Facility at Bath, Saturday, Dec. 27 to bring holiday cheer and creature comforts to the veterans.

The knights will load a bus with neckties, magazines, cigarettes and other articles and leave at 1 p. m. from the Columbus Civic Center. District Deputy Francis T. Toomey will head the delegation.

On arrival at Bath the knights will be met by the Rev. Arthur A. LeMay chaplain and assistant chaplain, the Rev. Ralph Neagle. Entertainment will be provided in the home and in the hospital with Rocco P. Natale as master of ceremonies.

Catholic Action Medal Winner Feted in Chicago

St. Bonaventure, N. Y., Father Giles Anthony Webster, O.F.M., representing St. Bonaventure College attended a reception in the Hotel Blackstone, Chicago, at which Clement Lane 1945 winner of the Catholic Action Medal awarded annually by St. Bonaventure College to an outstanding layman, was guest of honor.

Several hundred Chicago leaders in church, state, press and business were in attendance including His Eminence Samuel Cardinal Stritch, who was principal speaker. Chicago's Mayor M. H. Kennedy and Superior Circuit Court Judge Hon. John Toomey, Edward Leahy, Chicago News Washington correspondent and noted columnist on political and labor affairs, was toastmaster.

Pontifical Mass Attendance Urged



Officers of Rochester Diocesan Holy Name Union work out plans for representation of all diocesan Holy Name units at St. Monica's Church, Sunday, Jan. 4, when Pontifical Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Kearney at 11 p. m. Seated: Louis Schur, diocesan president confers with Al Miller, president of St. Monica's Holy Name Society. Standing are: Frank Davis, Union secretary (left) and Edward Lorschneider, vice president.

Open House Set By K. C. Jan. 1

Open House in the Knights of Columbus clubrooms, Columbus Civic Center on Thursday, Jan. 1 will bring together members, their families and friends from 3 p. m. until 9 p. m.

Grand Knight John J. Kinney and his officers with District Deputy Francis T. Toomey will greet the visitors.

A buffet luncheon will be served under the direction of Chairman of the House Committee Rocco P. Natale with Assistant Chairman Clifford A. McMahon in charge. Charles McMahon will be Chief.

Entertainment will be in charge of Lecturer Michael J. Schopp.

Christian Brother Dies, Former Teacher Here

Brother Abhin O'Mahoney, a member of the teaching congregation of the Brothers of the Christian Schools and reported to have been a teacher in schools in this city at one time, died Dec. 21, 1945, in Chicago of injuries suffered in a fall on Dec. 10.

He had been a member of the faculty of St. Mel High School in Chicago since 1912, according to the Associated Press.

Dinner at St. Thomas Bill Donadoni and his "Corybuckers" will furnish the music for a square dance Monday evening, Dec. 20 in St. Thomas hall. Dancing will be from 9 to 12 with sixty cents admission.

Children's Book on Santa Penned by Miss Thompson

History of the legend of Santa Claus is traced in a new children's book, "Jolly Old St. Nicholas," written by Miss Blanche Jennings Thompson, well-known Rochester author.

To combat the modern secularization of the Feast of the Nativity, Miss Thompson, an English teacher at Benjamin Franklin High School, Rochester, has published this volume revealing the true origin of Santa Claus.

"She restores him to his original Christian purity," the publishers, the Ave Maria Press of Notre Dame, Indiana state. For her purposes, Rochester teacher delves into the wealth of stories, legend and otherwise, the concerning the good saint who lived during the third century.

IN HER INTRODUCTION, Miss Thompson explains, "There is probably no other saint as popular as Saint Nicholas, about whom so little is known." The place of his birth and his burial is known, she says, and that "he was Bishop of Myra in Asia Minor, and a few other facts."

"The rest is legend, but few are on the schedule plus real legends have been so persistent. In the course of the years Saint Nicholas has changed from a dignified bishop, kind and good to the poor whose defeat day is December 6 to a plump and jolly character called Santa Claus who 7141-R.

Midnight Masses Slated Over 5 Radio Stations

Four Rochester radio stations will carry the broadcast of Midnight Masses on Christmas Eve from the Sacred Heart Pro-Cathedral, St. Basil's Church, St. Mary's Church, and St. Mary's Hospital.

Devoted as the last service of the traditional Midnight Masses have ever had in Rochester radio stations, the broadcast will bring the church and community and thousands of homes in the whole diocese for those who cannot attend Midnight Mass.

STATION WHAM will broadcast the Solemn Pontifical Mass of St. Basil's Church, St. Mary's Hospital, from Sacred Heart Pro-Cathedral at midnight, Wednesday. The Sacred Heart Mass and Holy Choir directed by Raymond J. Monahan will sing the Mass and also a program of sacred music.

A descriptive commentary on the ceremony will be given by the radio audience by the Rev. Edward T. Toomey, spiritual director of the Center Church, Bishop Kearney will preach and offer the Christmas greetings in the diocese at the conclusion of the Mass.

OLD ST. MARY'S CHURCH, Rochester, will broadcast its own High Midnight Mass over Station WHAM. A special Christmas Choir, directed by Gerald F. St. Mary's Hospital, will sing the Mass. The Rev. Dr. George F. McNeil will preside.

Stations WYNY will carry the service at midnight from St. Basil's Church. The Rev. Father J. McNeil, pastor of St. Basil's will be the celebrant of the Midnight Mass and will preach the Christmas sermon. The Rev. Dr. Charles Donahue will give the commentary in this Mass broadcast and the St. Basil's Choir directed by Father McNeil will sing. A Christmas procession to the City before Mass will feature a program of sacred music.

Another Station Midnight Mass will be broadcast from the Chapel of St. Mary's Hospital through the station of Station WHAM. The Rev. Charles F. Cahill, chaplain of the hospital, will be the celebrant and preacher. The Sacred Heart Choir will sing the Mass accompanied by Robert Meyer at the organ.

By the Anthony area, Station WHAM will carry the service at midnight from St. Basil's Church. The Rev. Father J. McNeil, pastor of St. Basil's will be the celebrant of the Midnight Mass and will preach the Christmas sermon. The Rev. Dr. Charles Donahue will give the commentary in this Mass broadcast and the St. Basil's Choir directed by Father McNeil will sing. A Christmas procession to the City before Mass will feature a program of sacred music.

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Thos. Acas Wins Legion Contest

Thomas V. Acas, a Junior at Western Catholic High School, won second prize in the annual Legion contest. The contest was held last week and resulted in the Legion in their first year.

Writing in the name of St. John, the Legion of St. John, Acas, and a member of St. Basil's parish.

Miss Blanche Jennings Thompson, author of "Jolly Old St. Nicholas," will be the guest of honor at the Legion in their first year.

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Date Book Of Catholic Groups

(Deadline for all Date Book items is Tuesday of each week at 1 p. m.)

Friday, Dec. 24 — Semi-formal dance, Aquinas Alumnae, Doud Post, Buffalo Rd., 9 to 1.

Friday, Dec. 25 — Yule dance, immaculate auditorium, Joe Nolan orchestra, 9-12.

Saturday, Dec. 27 — Christmas formal, Notre Dame Club of Rochester, Skyrail Hotel, Sheraton, 9 to 1.

Sunday, Dec. 28 — Meeting, Third Order of St. Francis, St. Patrick's Church, Plymouth Avenue, North.

Monday, Dec. 29 — Christmas party, Rochester Advisory Senate, L.C.E.A., Blessed Sacrament Hall, 8 p. m.

Monday, Dec. 29 — Christmas formal, Nazareth College Alumnae Assn., Sheraton Hotel, 9:30 to 1:30.

Monday, Dec. 30 — Square Dance, St. Thomas hall, Bill Donadoni Cornbushers, 9:12.

Monday, Dec. 30 — Christmas Dance, Nazareth Academy Alumnae, 9:1.

Thursday, Dec. 1 — New Year's Party, St. Boniface, Bill O'Brien orchestra.

Thursday, Dec. 1 — Open House, Rochester Council Knights of Columbus, K. of C. clubrooms, 3 p. m.

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