COURIER JOURNAL, THURSDAY, JULY 15, 1948

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## **Do Jews Become Catholics?** ROSE MARIE LEVY

In discussions among the less well-informed, it is frequently stated that few if any fews become sincerely interested in Catholicism. It is charged that those who become Catholics do so for ulterior motives.

But the baptismal registers in the churches of all large citles

contain the names of many Jows who have embraced the Catholic Faith. Some are proud and happy to publish to the world the story of the graces God has bestowed inon them.

Others must refrain from givng public testimony, because heir conversion might cause ill feeling among relatives and acquaintances; but there is not the ilightest doubt of their loyal adperence to the Catholic religion.

THE CONVERSION OF Individual Jews has not been restricted to any period of history or any section of the world, Souls in all walks of life, having caught a glimpse of the Divine Majesty of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, have determined to follow Him cost what it may.

We can understand best why Jows come into the Church by luoking at a few who have taken the step.

Rose Goldstein of Newark, N. J., was eight years of age when she was attracted by the gold cross worn by two Cathollo children in her neighborhood, Rose wondered why she could not wear one, not knowing at the time the difference between the Jewish and Cathollo Faiths.

One night, unaware that any one was watching her, she kneit by the side of her bed, made the sign of the cross, and sato some prayers which her Catholic friends had taught her.

Again making the sign of the cross, she jumped into bed. The following day her father told her never to make the sign of the cross again.

Soveral years later some Catholic friends invited Rose to attend the October devotions. Before the month was over Rose stated she wanted to become a Catholic. She took instructions, and was baptized on December 18, 1920.

Five years later she entered the ciolatered Dominicans, and was professed on May 10, 1937. is known as Sister Agnes, 0.P.

Dr. Herbert Schwartz, Profes or of Philosophy at Xavier Colege, Cincinnati, Ohio, was received into the Church on March

BABI ZULL 0, 1937, in Chicago. While attend; tive young Jewish girl. Miriam ing the University of Michigan Fox, who desired to become a medical school he had the habit Catholic. Soon after she began of asking "Why?" One day his professor burst tized on December 14th. Later forth: "There are no why's in she wrote me as follows science, only how's' You should "When the realization came to be studying philosophy, not sci-ence." So Herbert left the Univer me as a child left me with an sity, and came to New York to inner emptiness, I began my secret study of 'What do Christians

taken."

and daughter.

ten Jews in Italy at the time.

While writing book reviews for believe?' After my two years of the New York Sun he lived in groping, the Roman Catholic

The Author

be a writer.

nev Hook.

Rose Marie Levy, author several books, speaks of with authority on Jews who become Catholics. A Jewish convert herself, she has made it her special study to follow the progress of God's Chosen People into God's one true Church. Her interesting article is presented here with permission of the editors of INFOR-MATION, monthly publica-tion of the Paulist Fathers. Greenwich Village, and among

More than thirty thousand Jews the radicals he met there was Sid in Hungary entered the Church from 1919-1938. During an argument with him. By no means have all con-

Hook said, in disgust "You're a verts entered the priesthood or mystic," But Hook's disdain did, religious life. The great majorinot swerve the young Jew from his religious search.

taking instructions, and was bap-

tember. Faith has given me what I had will also enable our many fami been searching for. "My conversion has separated olic schools to obtain doctrinal

but I have faith that in His own cathechetical work of the pas good time. God will help them tors. The paper will serve to to understand the step I've strengthen Catholic life in all of One of the most interesting forts of the priests in having a conversions in recent years is well-informed laity '

'Here I am.'

usually close.

Christ.

that of Dr. Israele Anton Zom, The announcement revealed the chief rabbl of Rome, Italy, that the paper will be printed in who was received into the Church Detroit in cooperation with The in 1945, together with his wife Michigan Catholic, Approximate ly 17,000 families in 29 counties Four thousand Italian Jews of western Michigan will be embraced Catholicism in 1939 served by the new publication 1940, nearly one out of every





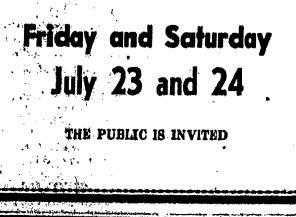


Francis J. Haas of Grand Rapids. has announced plans for the publication of a diocesan weekly newsnaper. The first issue is expected to be printed early in Sep-

In making the announcement Bishop Haas said "The diocesan newspaper will make it possible for our people to obtain complete reports of international, national, and especially diocesan news It lies in rural areas without Cathme from my dear Jewish parents, information to supplement the our parishes by assisting the ef-

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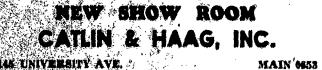




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