

Priest-Pilot Set For Pacific Work

Geneva, Ill. — (NC) — The Rev. Charles Patrick, member of the Society of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart and an accomplished pilot, is finishing test flights in a Cessna 140 which he will take soon to his mission station on Manus Island, in the vicariate apostolic of Rabaul.

Father Patrick, who will cover New Britain, New Ireland, New Hanover and the Admiralty Islands in his plane, studied aviation for two years at the Lewis College of Science and Technology, Lockport, Ill. He earned these licenses and ratings: private and commercial pilot; flight instructor; pilot, multi-engine; helicopter pilot with instructor's rights; instrument and blind flying.

His plane was donated by the missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Bernharts, Pa., and was named "Our Lady of the Sacred Heart."

Tokyo Literary Guild Convenes

Tokyo — (NC) — The two-year-old Catholic Literary Guild, which seeks to Christianize the ideas of children and young women through the printed word, has just held its first convention and retreat at the convent of the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart, in Yokosuka.

Founded by Miss Mary Inouka, daughter of Ken Inouka, a founder of the Japan Democratic Party, the guild now has 75, including several writers. A book of Christmas stories published last year was so successful its proceeds financed the convention and retreat, and a new book is projected for this Christmas. Writer members also publish Catholic articles in various magazines and newspapers.

Irish Brothers
Saratoga Springs, Cal. — (NC) — Five Brothers have arrived here from Ireland to take charge of St. Monica's High School for boys. It is the first establishment of the Irish teaching community in the United States.

Booklet Views 100-Year Ithaca Parish

By MARY M. CAREY

Events in the history of one-hundred-year-old Immaculate Conception Parish, mother-church of Ithaca, are reviewed in a booklet published in connection with the triple celebration scheduled next week in the parish.

Recording milestones in the history of Catholicism in Ithaca, the booklet is intended as a souvenir of the observance of the three outstanding events in the history of Immaculate Conception parish — the centenary of the parish, the golden jubilee of the church and the laying of the cornerstone of the new school.

THE BOOKLET, written by William J. Waters of Ithaca, is illustrated with pictures of the parish buildings at various stages in their history, and reproductions of photographs of the Pope, Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, the apostolic delegate, Bishop Kearney, the Rev. Dr. William E. Byrne, pastor, and his assistants, the Rev. John S. Maloney, the Rev. John T. Walsh and the Rev. James F. Baker.

Immaculate Conception parish had its humble beginning back in 1833. In that year, 44 years after the founding of the settlement, three Catholics named Thomas Casey, Michael Mooney and Mrs. Maloney brought the Faith to Ithaca.

Visiting priests of the Diocese of New York ministered to the spiritual needs of Ithaca's Catholics in the early days when the diocese covered all of New York State and half of New Jersey, an area with a Catholic population of 150,000, 18 priests and 12 churches.

After the Diocese of Buffalo was set up, Ithaca Catholics became subjects of the Most Reverend John Timon, who made his first visit to the community in 1848. The condition of Catholicism in that day is revealed in a letter to the Bishop telling how he celebrated Mass and heard confessions in the Ithaca city hall, distributed Holy Communion to seventy, and confirmed twenty-four persons. Within a year, he established a parish in Ithaca appointing the Rev. M. Jubile as the first resident pastor.

DURING THE two years of Father Gullibrice's pastorate, the initial step in erection of an Ithaca parish was taken when the decision to build a church was made. The church was completed while the Rev. Michael Creeden, his successor, was pastor.

Under a third pastor, Father Mallon, the structure which occupied the site of the present rectory was formally dedicated in 1851 under the patronage of St. Luke.

To the prosperously growing parish then came the Rev. James T. McManus, and the Rev. Bernard McCool, builder of the second church. This church, erected on the site of the present edifice, was dedicated by Bishop Timon under the title of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, on Dec. 12, 1860.

Six years later, Immaculate Conception Church was incorporated with the Rev. James Tuohy as pastor and Cornelius Leary and Lawrence Herson as lay trustees.

WHEN THE Diocese of Rochester was created in 1868, the Ithaca parish passed into the administrative hands of its first Rochester Bishop, the Most Rev. Bernard McQuaid, "the venerable and beloved apostle of Catholicism in Northwestern New York."

Bishop McQuaid appointed the Rev. Gilbert Quano, who was succeeded in two years by the Rev. P. F. Lynch. Purchase of the house and lot on West Buffalo Street now occupied by the Immaculate Conception Convent and Parochial School was accomplished under Father Lynch.

With the appointment of the Rev. Alfred J. Evans in 1879, the biggest building period in Immaculate Conception parish history was launched. It was Father Evans who enlarged the second church, built the parochial school, acquired the original land for Calvary Cemetery and in 1895 proposed the construction of the third church.

SEVEN MONTHS after his ap-



Immaculate Conception Church, Ithaca

Catholics in the Ithaca area are preparing to observe a triple celebration next week — the 100th year of the existence of the parish, the golden jubilee of the present church building, and the 50th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of the parish school.

Facilities of the new school will include ten new classrooms, added to a new kindergarten and two classrooms in the undamaged wing of the building on West Buffalo Street. It will face North Plain Street.

Turning the first spadeful of earth for the new building, Father Byrne sounded the keynote of the present centennial celebration. He said:

"We are beginning this year a new century in the history of the Catholic Church in Ithaca. We can think of no better way of celebrating 100 years of Catholic life, and beginning a new era, than by the erection of a school for the education of our children.

"With God's blessing and the generous support of all our people, we shall go forward with renewed zeal and energy to the work at hand — a new school to mark the second century of our labor for God and country in Ithaca."

Early in Father Byrne's pastorate, a program of spiritual guidance for Catholic students at Cornell University was established. In 1929 Bishop O'Hern named the Rev. James T. Cronin as chaplain to the students, and the following year saw regular religious services being started at Barnes Hall.

MANY OTHER active lay organizations are credited with a big role in the development of Immaculate Conception parish. Lay activity originated with the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick which organized in 1861.

It was given an early vigor by such groups as the Father Mathew Total Abstinence Society, a Rosary Society, the Sodality of the children of Mary, and the Sodality of St. Aloysius for boys and Holy Angels for girls.

Sodalities of the Infant Jesus and of St. Agnes were formed in 1861 for the pre-First Communion group.

BEFORE THE turn of the century the Ladies Aid Society, the Temperance Society and the Holy Name Society had established themselves in parish life.

Ithaca Council 277, Knights of Columbus, was founded in 1897, and a companion order, Court Santa Maria 240, Catholic Daughters of America, came into being in 1914.

The National Council of Catholic Women organized its Ithaca District in 1931. The five years saw the birth of a Nocturnal Adoration Society, Young Ladies Sodality, the Parent-Teacher Association of the Immaculate Conception School and the Aquinas Guild. Three of the adult organizations have been active in the establishment of boy and girl Scout troops. Immaculate Conception parishioners also have an active, though unorganized, retreat movement.

THE YOUNGEST parish group is the Catholic Youth Organization which the Rev. John Hedges inaugurated at the direction of Doctor Byrne. Last year, the CYO acquired eight acres of land near the Newman Municipal Golf Course for development as an athletic field, with eventual facilities for outdoor parish activities.

Since March, 1948 a membership corporation, the Ithaca Catholic Activities, Inc., has been in charge of this CYO property. Doctor Byrne and Father Maloney, assistant pastor, are current members of the board of directors.

Jesuit's 17th Century Picture Found in Vienna

Vienna — A masterpiece painted by a Jesuit of the 17th century and lost for more than 100 years has been discovered, concealed by another painting, in the church of the Jesuit Society in the center of this capital.

Ecclesiastical and art authorities long have known that the Rev. Andrea Pozzo, a Jesuit and ranking artist of 300 years ago, had painted a huge altar piece for the church, at that time attached to the University of Vienna.

But sometime in the last cen-

tury the last mention of the work was made in official records, and since then the painting's fate has been a mystery.

Between the time Father Pozzo painted the altar piece and the disappearance of the painting, Kupelwieser portrayed the Assumption. Kupelwieser's painting hung at the altar. The Kupelwieser altar piece will be placed in another Vienna church.

ITHACA OPENS JUBILEE RITES

(Continued from page 1) will take place in the evening at Eagle's Home, Ithaca.

On Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock, a Solemn High Mass for the intention of the children of the parish will be sung.

FOUNDED IN 1848, Immaculate Conception parish has outgrown two church buildings and a school in its hundred-year existence. The first church was dedicated in 1851 and replaced in 1860 by a second building. Erection of the present church was completed in 1898.

The Immaculate Conception School, which was completed in its first form in 1884, was enlarged in 1915. In April, 1948, after a destructive fire which destroyed seven classrooms completely and caused damage to four others, the parish held a

campaign and raised over \$170,000 for a new school. Ground was broken last July and the Ithaca parish is preparing to lay the cornerstone.

Helping Father Byrne celebrate the spiritual and pastoral needs of the parish are Father Maloney, the Rev. James T. Cronin, and the Rev. John T. Walsh.

Slovak Priest Honor
Bratislava — (NC) — The Rev. Jakub Sedlak of Bratislava, who is known throughout Slovakia for his welfare and charity activities, has been named a Papal Chamberlain with the title of Monsignor. Monsignor Sedlak has recently cooperated with the Prague Office of War Relief Services—National Catholic Welfare Conference.

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pointment Father Evans began the alteration of the second church which included extending the structure 15 feet, rearranging the galleries and entries and installing three new altars. Construction of Immaculate Conception School was underway by 1883 and the building was dedicated the following year. It was opened with 326 pupils under the tutelage of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

A lasting distinction was bestowed on the Ithaca parish when in 1895 Bishop McQuaid formally recognized its importance by awarding the title of irremovable rectory to Father Evans, to be shared by all succeeding pastors.

The new church was dedicated Sept. 11, 1898, with the first three members of the parish who entered the priesthood acting as assistants to Bishop McQuaid. They were the Reverend Fathers J. W. E. Kelly, James J. Gibbons and Michael J. Nolan.

THE DEATH of Father Evans in 1907, after 28 years of untiring devotion to duty, was sincerely and universally mourned throughout the city of Ithaca.

The Rev. William Harrington became the next pastor, and the present pastor, Doctor Byrne, came to Immaculate Conception for the first time in 1909 as assistant to Father Harrington. During Father Harrington's pastorate, the school was enlarged with an addition providing for four more classrooms.

After the death in 1921 of Father Harrington, the Rev. Francis Walker administered the parish until the return of Doctor Byrne to Ithaca on Jan. 7, 1928.

BORN IN Victor, Doctor Byrne attended St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's Seminaries and was ordained June 8, 1907. After a year at the major seminary, he served successively as assistant pastor at St. Felix, Clifton Springs; Ithaca, and Corpus

Christi, Rochester. He was assigned pastor of St. Mary's of the Lake Church, Ontario, in 1917 and in 1921 became president of Aquinas Institute, Rochester.

In 1932 at the anniversary Mass marking Father Byrne's silver jubilee as a priest, the Rev. Thomas J. O'Hern of Buffalo, a seminary classmate of Father Byrne and brother of the late Bishop John Francis O'Hern of Rochester, preached the sermon. Said Father O'Hern:

"For 25 years Father Byrne has been a devoted servant of his Lord and Master. He has never faltered in his service to God. He has been a true pastor of souls. He has been a good shepherd." His parishioners gave the Ithaca pastor

a golden chalice.

Purchasing land shortly after taking over the parish, Father Byrne effected an addition to the rectory consisting of an office suite on the first floor and rooms for the assistants. He also acquired the Haley and Mobbs properties immediately north of Calvary Cemetery on Floral Avenue, and developed the new section.

He directed the installation of new marble altars and the remodeling of the sanctuary, and finished the redecoration of the church with the erection of new Stations of the Cross in 1944.

LAST JULY, two years after fire gutted the original Immaculate Conception School, ground was broken for a modern fireproof structure to replace its charred and razed predecessor.

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Graduated from Nazareth Academy in June, 1947. Entered Rochester Business Institute in September, 1947 and enrolled in our secretarial course. Graduated from R. B. I. on August 13, 1948. Social Activities: Miss Hart was president of the Newman Club, a member of the Dramatics Club, the Rockettes and Alpha Iota Sorority.

Present Occupation: Accepted a secretarial position with the Armstrong Cork Company, Rochester, N. Y.

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