

Bishop Kearney Acclaims Pontiff's World Role

U. S. Hierarchy's War Relief Drive Seeks 5 Million

His Excellency Bishop Kearney has called upon the faithful of the Diocese of Rochester for generous support of the American Bishops' Fund for Victims of War which will make its appeal this coming Sunday (Laetare Sunday) to over 19,000 Catholic churches throughout the nation.

The nationwide campaign for \$5,000,000 to aid surviving and homeless war victims, and thousands of displaced persons is spearheaded by special diocesan appeals in the 120 archdioceses and dioceses of the United States.

TWO RELIEF agencies, the Bishop's Emergency Relief Committee and War Relief Services, National Catholic Welfare Conference, are dependent upon the annual appeal to continue their vast program of relief and rehabilitation throughout the world.

Since 1943 the two organizations have sent abroad more than 310,000,000 pounds of relief materials, valued at more than \$130,000,000. Working through a network of indigenous charitable agencies in 63 different countries, the agencies distributed food, clothing and medical supplies wherever they were most needed, without discrimination, and won praise from international religious, civic and political leaders for the speed and efficiency of their program.

AT THE PRESENT time one of the major undertakings of War Relief Services, N.C.W.C. is an extensive program of rehabilitation and resettlement for displaced persons. Under its auspices many families have already been brought to the United States and set up in suitable jobs and homes.

The 1950 Holy Year appeal is the fourth made in behalf of the Bishops' relief agencies by the Catholic Hierarchy of the United States. During the war years the record of work and accomplishment of these agencies was outstanding. Goals in kind campaigns conducted in Catholic parishes resulted in thousands of tons of canned goods, food used and new clothing and medical supplies which were shipped off in special freight cars across the country processed with assembly line precision in huge New York and San Francisco warehouses and speedily shipped abroad.

LONG ESTABLISHED in every country with a personnel number here more than 22,000 still are distributing the supplies, thus keeping administrative costs very low and guaranteeing that the aid goes directly to the war victims most in need.

As much as 80 per cent of all relief funds are spent in behalf of children, the sick and aged in many of the areas in which War Relief Services operates.

'City of Kings' Actor Coming



ELWOOD SMITH As Blessed Martin

Leading actors for the play, "City of Kings" will travel 3,600 miles for roles in the 12 performances opening Saturday, March 25 at Mercy Auditorium, Blossom Road, Rochester.

Elwood Smith comes from New Orleans for the role of Martin de Porres. Miss Jacqueline Levy of New York will play Martin's mother.

They created the lines in the 90 performances of "City of Kings" last Spring on Broadway. Supporting them is a cast of 20 local actors directed by Willford H. Scott.

More than 10,000 persons are expected at the Holy Name sponsored play. Eight evening shows are scheduled March 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31 April 1, 2 with four matinees for school children on Saturdays and Sundays March 25, 26 April 1, 2.

"City of Kings" portraying the life of Martin, Negro Dominican Brother, was written by the Rev. Urban Nagle, O.P., who authored "Lady of Fatima" presented here last year to nearly 10,000 persons.

Pope Pius Summons Catholics To Public 'Prayer Crusade'

Rome—(RNS)—With the Holy Year approaching the end of its first quarter, Pope Pius XII called upon Roman Catholic bishops everywhere to "start a veritable crusade of prayers" on Passion Sunday, March 26, for a new order in the world based on "truth, justice and charity."

The Pope's exhortation was embodied in an encyclical entitled "Anni Sacri" (Holy Year) in which he also urged Catholic priests and laity to join in combatting anti-religious forces which are "working very hard to destroy the very basis of the Catholic religion, and the Christian worship."

ANNOUNCING THAT he himself would lead the prayer crusade in St. Peter's Basilica on Passion Sunday, Pope Pius clearly denounced the "policy and tactics of Communist forces, especially in countries where the rights of God, the Church, and even of human nature are offended and downtrodden."

Obviously referring to the Iron Curtain countries, he spoke of "sacred ministers, even though bearing high rank," who are "either removed from their seats, exiled and jailed, or so hindered that they cannot exercise their sacred ministry in elementary and university teaching as well as in publications."

"The Church," he said, "is either prevented from explaining or defending her doctrines, or is so impeded and controlled by official censorship that it would seem to be established as an arbitrary principle that truth, liberty and justice must serve submissively only civil authorities."

All these "innumerable evils," the Pope asserted, derive from only one source, "the repudiation of God and contempt for His law."

"Hence," he told the bishops, "the urgency to spur the priests under your guidance, and especially during the Holy Year, so that they will spare no effort that the souls entrusted to them, having abandoned false prejudice and erroneous convictions with hate spirit and discord pacified, will nourish themselves with the doctrine of the Gospel and thus participate in Christian life so that the desired renovation of customs be hastened."

IN THESE EFFORTS, Pope Pius urged, laymen also must share, because "the priest cannot reach everybody and everything."

Those who serve in the ranks of "Catholic Action," he said, "must help with their experience and their activity. No one is permitted to be idle and lazy while so many evils and dangers impend."

In the opening part of his encyclical, Pope Pius spoke of "the anxiety and anguish that sadden our paternal soul" because of the discord and unrest which still continue on all sides.

HE COMPLAINED especially that "many nations are hindering each other and, as confidence decreases, there is a race for armaments which leaves the souls of all fearful and uncertain."

Not only the greatest evil, but the root of all evil, the Pope stated, is that "often truth is replaced by lies, which are used as instruments of dispute." He said that many disregard religion as a thing of no importance, and elsewhere religion is forbidden in family and social circles "as a residue of ancient superstitions."

"Private and public atheism," he declared, "is practiced, so that, once God and His law are abolished, there is no basis for morality."

Governor Approves Holy Year Leaves

Olympia, Wash.—(NC)—Washington State employees who wish to make a Holy Year pilgrimage to Rome during 1950 have been assured that their plans meet with the approval of Gov. Arthur B. Langlie. In a bulletin sent to all State department heads, the Governor recommended the granting of leave to all employees who desire to make such a pilgrimage.

Cardinal Greeted In Rome



POPE PIUS XII embraces FRANCIS CARDINAL SPELLMAN, Archbishop of New York, after Mass celebrated by Pontiff in Vatican Palace for 400 Holy Year pilgrims from the U. S. The Pope, with Cardinal Spellman at his side, shook hands with each of the pilgrims—an unusual event. (RNS)

Prelate Asks Increase In Negro Converts

Washington, D. C. (RNS)—Roman Catholics were urged here by Archbishop Patrick A. O'Boyle of Washington to make a strenuous drive for more Negro members in the Church.

The archbishop, who spoke at a religious vocation rally in St. Matthew's Cathedral, said only 330,000 of the nation's 13,000,000 Negroes were Catholics. That means that out of every 100 Negroes, there are about three Catholics, he said. "It is a disturbing and saddening figure."

He said Pope Pius XII had not summoned missionaries of other nations to travel to the U. S. to win Negro converts. "This is our own job," he declared.

"Our Catholic doctrine of the Fatherhood of God," the archbishop declared, "finds its inalienable complement in the brotherhood of man. That word 'brotherhood' is not an abstraction which anyone may twist to suit his wishes. It is a hard and indelible fact that God has made mankind one by nature, that He has ordained every man to the same destiny through the mission of One Lord and Mediator Jesus Christ."

St. Andrew's Lay Fraternity Plan Seminary Memorial

As an evidence of gratitude for what St. Andrew's Seminary has done for its lay alumni, a campaign is being launched this week to erect a Memorial to the laymen who are former students of the seminary in the new building on Buffalo Road.

THE CAMPAIGN which will extend until May 22 is in charge of Raymond Gugel, 575 Seneca Parkway, Rochester, as chairman.

A carved wood statue of St. Joseph, Patron of the Lay Fraternity with a pedestal and carved wood back piece will constitute the memorial. The statue will be paid for by members of the fraternity donating in the campaign. Any amount remaining after the statue is paid for will be used to equip the new gymnasium in the new building.

Color Marks Papal Jubilee Celebration

Vatican City—(NC)—Sixteen Cardinals, several thousand foreign and countless thousands of Italian pilgrims joined His Holiness Pope Pius XII Monday morning in St. Peter's Basilica in celebrating the eleventh anniversary of his coronation as Pope.

The actual anniversary date was March 12. But because that day fell on the third Sunday in Lent, when purple vestments, the symbol of penitence, are required by the liturgy, the ceremony was postponed until Monday to permit the wearing of white vestments, the symbol of joy.

RELIGIOUS HOUSES and institutions throughout Rome flew the papal flag and together with all the Vatican offices enjoyed a holiday as they joined thousands of visitors from many lands in observing the anniversary of the day in 1939 when the Pontiff ascended the Chair of Peter.

Several groups of Italian farmers and workmen from many parts of Italy were distinguishable in the Basilica as were fellow Catholics from France, Germany, and the United States. American pilgrims at the ceremony came from Nuerberg and Heidelberg, Germany, and direct from the United States.

ONLY THEIR Eminences Domenico Cardinal Jorio, Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of the Sacraments, and Francesco Cardinal Marchetti-Selvaggiani, Secretary of the Sacred Congregation of the Holy Office, were absent of the 15 Cardinals residing in Rome. Both are ill. However, three non-Roman Cardinals were present: Their Eminences Norman Cardinal Gilroy, Archbishop of Sydney; Alessio Cardinal Ascalesi, Archbishop of Palermo; and Ernesto Cardinal Ruffini, Archbishop of Palermo.

His Eminence Benedetto Cardinal Aloisi Masella, pro-Prefect of the Congregation of the Sacraments, celebrated the Mass. Their Eminences Nicola Cardinal Canali, President of the Pontifical Commission for Vatican City, and Giuseppe Cardinal Bruni, Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of the Council, officiated as Cardinal Deacons to the Pontiff who presided at the throne. As at all papal functions the Sistine Choir provided the music.

WATCH STOPPED—Brought to rest for expert repairs. Watch removed from the wrist of Mrs. Street East. (A.S.)

Capital Dignitaries Urged To Support Holy Father's Aims

(N.C.W.C. NEWS SERVICE)
(Text of Bishop Kearney's Sermon on Page 11)

Washington, March 12— "Thanks be to God for a great Pontiff"—this was the theme of the sermon preached by Bishop James E. Kearney of Rochester, at a Solemn Mass in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on the campus of the Catholic University of America, here, commemorating the 11th anniversary of the coronation of His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

"One of the traditional titles of the Holy Father," Bishop Kearney said, "is Pontifex Maximus. The builder of bridges. And while the title has been given to many popes, it seems to fit the present Holy Father in a very special manner. Reconstruction has been his special responsibility, and with untiring zeal he has consecrated every moment and applied every talent to the rebuilding of the bridges that man in his blind folly has destroyed."

His Excellency Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, presided at the Mass. Other prelates present included Archbishop Patrick A. O'Boyle of Washington, chancellor of the university; Bishop Lawrence J. Shehan, Auxiliary of Baltimore; Bishop John A. McNamara, Auxiliary of Washington, and Bishop-delegate John J. Russell of Charlotte. The Mass was offered by the Very Rev. John P. McCormick, R.S., rector of the University.

THE CONGREGATION included a host of high government officials and nationally prominent persons, members of the diplomatic corps and members of the faculty and the student body of the university.

"We have all witnessed," Bishop Kearney said, "the amazing destruction wrought on a civilized civilization by man's own actions. But the wisdom of the world's magnificent bridges which he scattered on every terrace of the continent are nothing compared to the ruins of human hearts and human souls and human relationships. These shattered bridges challenged the mind and heart of the great Pontiff and with unending zeal and devotion, he has consecrated his brief mandate to the reconstruction of civilization."

"The broken bridges between God and man, the broken bridges between the primitive and the advanced, the broken bridges between the best of God and the worst of man, society, for all of these the Pontifex Maximus with the inspiration of the great architect, the Holy Spirit of God, prepares his plan and construction."

From the Holy Year, Bishop Kearney said, the return of international society to the plan mapped out by God is expected. He added: "According to this plan all peoples in peace and not in wars—in collaboration and not in isolation, in justice and not in national selfishness, must make up a great human family bent on the advancement of common interests, through mutual aid and a fair distribution of this world's goods which are a treasure entrusted to man by God."

(Continued on Page 8)

War Victim Plea

Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas 1950

My Dear People: On Laetare Sunday, March 19, the faithful in the United States will be called upon, once again, to give as generously as possible to the American Bishops' Fund for the Victims of War. This fund is still a vital necessity in Europe and in the Far East. May I quote directly from the recent letter of His Holiness, Pope Pius XII:

"The annual recurrence of the appeal of the hierarchy of the United States to the devoted faithful of their flocks, to assist us in our world-wide efforts to bring relief to the needy, once more offers to us, the welcome opportunity of expressing to you our heartfelt gratitude for the valued contribution to our charities that has been realized through this appeal in the past."

"We are, indeed, constantly confronted in our labors as the common father of the universal flock of Christ, with pressing and tragic problems involving even organized attempts to tear away Catholic people from their greatest possession, the heritage of the Christian Faith. In the midst of these cares for the welfare of our children throughout the world, the ministry of the poor and afflicted, still so numerous, must not be neglected. Those who are practically helpless themselves have been the object of our particular solicitude, and it has been the source of untold consolation to our paternal heart to have been able, through the generosity of American Catholics, to lighten this burden of the suffering members of the Church."

"We are confident that we shall have the comfort of being enabled to continue this work of mercy. And upon you, venerable brethren, in your zealous efforts to provide us with means of bringing alleviation and assistance to our poor children, and to your devoted clergy and people in their cooperation with this Christ-like endeavor, we invoke with affectionate regard the abundance of divine graces, and cordially impart to all our special Apostolic Benediction."

"From the Vatican, February 12, 1950."

Because the words of the Vicar of Christ speak, at once, so eloquently and with such deep appeal, I hesitate to add anything. I do beg your generous support of this relief collection which you have supported with such admirable generosity in the past.

May God bless you for it.
Your Devoted Shepherd in Christ,
+ James E. Kearney
Bishop of Rochester

ON GUARD!

Crough Patrick World's End God Lent Argument

By REV. PATRICK J. ELLIEN

Few stories we might tell about St. Patrick's life today are as dramatic as the ancient account of his Lenten vigil of fasting and prayer on Crough Patrick, in the Wick county, as it is called, the mountainous solitude on the watershore of Ireland in the bleak Connacht country.

JUST BEFORE Lent, in 447, St. Patrick ascended the mountainous Crough Patrick to

When the great Bishop came to Crough Patrick, he was in the prime of his physical powers. From the moment of the vigil west coast of Ireland he had set up churches and missions. Already he had converted hundreds of kings and began devotion to the Eternal Faith. He persuaded girls and royal maidens to dedicate themselves as chaste virgins in the service of the Virgin Mother of God.

Here on the mountainous heights of Crough Patrick, the Apostle could look down on the Wick county, little Ireland, his adopted home, in a far corner of the western end. He could look out over the many islands and the sea, and not only the sea, but the world, as he believed, the world of Christ in his name.

As he believed, the world of Christ in his name, he could look down on the Wick county, little Ireland, his adopted home, in a far corner of the western end. He could look out over the many islands and the sea, and not only the sea, but the world, as he believed, the world of Christ in his name.

