

Over Half Million Attend St. Peter Square Rites

(Continued from Page 1)
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After the proclamation, he delivered a sermon in Italian which was carried to all corners of the crowd through loudspeakers. He spoke most touchingly of his own devotion from his earliest years to the Blessed Virgin.

Throughout the whole ceremony the Pope's voice was particularly impressive in its vigor. Once during the sermon when he mentioned the name "Maria" and raised his hand and eyes to heaven, I had the feeling that he himself was about to go up to heaven at that moment.

After his sermon in St. Peter's Square, Pope Pius, accompanied by his entourage of Cardinals and Bishops, entered St. Peter's where he celebrated Pontifical Mass in honor of the Blessed Virgin's Assumption.

Loudspeakers carried an account of the Pope's Mass to the crowds standing in St. Peter's Square where three outdoor Masses were also being offered at the same time.

THE HOLY FATHER did not reappear in the square after his Mass, but returned to his apartment in the Vatican Palace. He appeared at the window of his Vatican study where he waved to the crowds in the square below and gave them his Apostolic Blessing.

It was two o'clock in the afternoon here before the events of this great day were ended. But time was of little consequence here on this unforgettable day. Those of us privileged to be in Rome today will always thrill at its memory of the inspired figure of the venerable Pontiff proclaiming Catholic truth to the whole world and of the thunderous voice of the crowd crying, "Long live the Pope!" "Long Live the Assumption!"

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Bishop Kearney's Solemn Mass Honors Dogma Of Assumption

Participation of the Rochester Diocese in world-wide rejoicing for the proclamation of the dogma of the Assumption centered in Old St. Mary's Church Wednesday morning where His Excellency Bishop Kearney celebrated a Solemn Pontifical Mass in honor of the Blessed Mother and a capacity congregation heard the Rev. Joseph M. Egan, S.T.D. of St. Bernard's Seminary preach on the motives for universal acceptance of the dogma.

Reviewing the historical, theological and scriptural testimony which has upheld Our Lady's Assumption into Heaven for nearly 20 centuries, Father Egan emphasized that the infallible teaching authority of the Church is the final and sure confirmation of the doctrine as divinely revealed.

"I believe in the Assumption because it has been revealed by God," the seminary professor of theology declared. "And that I know because it is so taught infallibly by the Vicar of Christ and all the Bishops.

"Protected by the promise of Christ that He will never abandon His Church, we need never fear that these divinely appointed shepherds will lead us astray."

PARISH CHURCHES throughout the Diocese prepared for Wednesday's Vatican City proclamation by triduum of prayer on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday evenings.

By the Bishop's order one High Mass in honor of the Assumption was celebrated in every parish church on Nov. 1 in addition to the holiday Masses for the Feast of All Saints.

The Very Rev. Magr. James C. McAniff, pastor of Old St. Mary's was assistant priest to Bishop Kearney at the Pontifical Mass.

Rev. Magr. Benedict Maselli, pastor of St. Lucy's Church and Very Rev. Magr. Gerald C. Lambert, pastor of St. Monica's Church were Deacons of Honor. Students from St. Bernard's Seminary were the Deacon and Subdeacon of the Mass and filled minor offices. The Rev. John E. Maney was master of ceremonies.

The music of the Mass was sung by the St. Bernard's Seminary Choir directed by the Rev. Charles J. McCarthy of the Seminary faculty.

The entire service was broadcast by WRNY with the Rt. Rev. Magr. Wilfred T. Craugh and Rev. Richard Torney assisting.

ADMITTING THAT the Assumption is not demonstrable by any historic documents earlier than the sixth century, Father Egan stated, "The silence of those five centuries is embarrassing to us.

"But there is another twenty centuries of silence which is

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Cardinals Voice Assent To Proclamation At Consistory

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 THE POPE'S discourse contained a five-point prayer for the Blessed Virgin's intercession. He prayed to Mary to grant greater Christian perfection to the "innumerable multitudes" who had made the Holy Year pilgrimage, and to those who "linguish in spiritual apathy, or slothfully daily in the snares of vice"; light to the entire human race which in the darkness of error; a peace based on right and justice, and defense for the Catholic Church, "which in not a few parts of the world is either little known or is charged with false accusations and calumnies, or oppressed by unjust persecutions."

More than 150 United States sailors, soldiers and civilians were privileged to watch the long procession of Cardinals and Bishops into the Hall of Benediction. All knelt in unison as the Pontiff was borne past vested in a red cape and gold mitre. The soldiers and civilians were from the U. S. occupation force in Germany.

The Cardinals present were: His Eminence Eugene Cardinal Tisserant, Secretary of the Sacred Congregation for the Oriental Church; Clemente Cardinal Micara, Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of Rites; Giuseppe Cardinal Pizzardo, Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of Seminaries and Universities; Benedetto Cardinal Aloisi Masella, Pro-Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of Sacraments; Adeodato Cardinal Piazza, Secretary of the Sacred Consistorial Congregation, and Alessio Cardinal Ascalesi, Archbishop of Naples.

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Archbishop Confirms Japanese Lepers

Yokohama (AP) — Forty-nine lepers were confirmed here by Archbishop Maximilian de Furstenberg, Apostolic Delegate to Japan at the national leper asylum. Three of the lepers received the Sacrament in bed, but the ceremony for the others was held in the main hall of the asylum.

Dr. Yoshinobu Hayashi, director of the asylum, and a non-Catholic, and many other non-Catholic residents attended the service.

THE PAPA procession which incorporated the Assumption rites took over an hour to reach the Papal Throne. It emerged from the Bernini Colonnade and moved out into the square and past the famous obelisk in the center of the square before reaching the front steps of St. Peter's.

Magister Richard N. Burns, rector of the North American College here and priest of the Rochester Diocese, presided in procession with a group of monks who carried the Pope's throne and mitre. The throne was a simple, sturdy, round, red, chair of light wood with a canopy of red cloth. The throne was carried by four monks in white robes.

The Cardinals, however, as well as the bishops, were seated in white mitres and Mass vestments. Several hundred bishops preceded the Holy Father in the procession while several hundred more followed the Pontiff.

When the Holy Father finally reached the throne before St. Peter's, Cardinal Tisserant, acting dean of the Sacred College, requested the Pope to proclaim the dogma of the Assumption.

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Mary's Assumption Divinely Revealed, Declares Pontiff

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 of the square through loudspeakers. At the end of his Italian discourse, he again led all in recitation of his own Assumption prayer. According to staff members of the American Catholic Club on the Via Conciliazione, the crowds began assembling at 2 A.M. and by five o'clock a steady stream was moving up to St. Peter's. Every nook and cranny of Vatican City was packed with cars, more numerous than ever before. Cars and buses from many countries of Europe lined approaches to Vatican City for miles.

As the outdoor ceremony ended tens of thousands of people streamed to churches nearby to hear Mass at the same time the Pontiff was celebrating Solemn Pontifical Mass in St. Peter's.

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Bp. Hunt Begins 24th Radio Year

Half Lake City — (NC) — Bishop Dime G. Hunt of Half Lake began his 24th year of address on radio Station WBL, here, as he opened a new period under the general title, "The Catholic Point of View." Bishop Hunt was a pioneer in the use of radio as a means for spreading the Faith.

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