

Radio Rosary 1st Anniversary Lists Bishop Kearney

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Bishop Kearney will speak from little St. Francis of Assisi Church, at Whitney and Orange streets in Rochester, tonight, in connection with the first anniversary of the Rosary program. He will have led the Rosary prayers during the last year. Acting as escort to the bishop will be uniformed members of the Knights of St. John.

The Rev. Joseph A. Cirincione, auxiliary known as "Father Joe," pastor of St. Francis Church and founder of the half-hour broadcast, will give his usual introductions to and meditations on the mysteries of the Rosary.

THE STORY of the Family Rosary for Peace program is a fascinating one, involving many factors. Primarily it is example of today's increasing heed to the plea of the Blessed Mother in her 1917 apparitions at Fatima in Portugal: "Continue to pray the Rosary every day . . . If my requests are heard, Russia will be converted and there will be peace."

It was this urgent request of Our Lady which motivated "Father Joe" to launch the nightly Rosary broadcast one year ago. His determination to spread the devotion had been spurred

by his pilgrimage to Our Lady's Shrine at Fatima in 1948.

A brief history of the program reveals that, started as an "experiment" during Lent of 1949, it has spread from one to five radio stations and has become a nightly habit in thousands of homes.

It is the only Rosary diocesan network program in the nation, and is one of the very few to include not only the Rosary prayers but also a brief sermon.

PROOF of its effectiveness are the hundreds of letters received by Father Cirincione and the radio stations. Other evidences are its singularly high "Hooper" rating, which shows that it outdraws many other competing programs, and the enthusiastic testimony of Gordon P. Brown, president of Station WBAV:

"The response to the program has amazed me, because of the fact that religious broadcasts generally speaking are not high Hooper-getters. This program is one of the highest that has ever come to my attention—and the audience is growing."

Surveys disclose that the Family Rosary program on WBAV rates a greater listening audience on the average each night than two other of Rochester's five stations, and that on two nights of the week, Wednesday and Friday, it rates second-highest of the five stations.

DURING its first two weeks the broadcast originated in the WBAV studio. Then it was transferred to St. Francis Church and subsequently, from June through September, to the outdoor Shrine of Our Lady in the rose garden adjoining the church.

Last July 2 the stations in the diocesan cities joined WBAV, through some 300 miles of telephone wire connection paid for by an Elmira benefactor, in broadcasting the program on Sunday nights. On Jan. 7 of this year—the Feast of the Holy Family—Station WMBO in Auburn joined WBAV in carrying it every night of the week.

Broadcast in the public service for four months by WBAV, the program became a paid feature July 2. It is carried by the other stations as a public feature on Sunday nights. Its each-night broadcast over Station WMBO, however, is paid.

CURRENT EXPENSES total approximately \$2,600 monthly. Continued donations of listeners keep the program going. No solicitation ever is made over the air, but answers to mail requests for assistance have supplemented contributions from \$1 to \$500 made by interested persons. Some dozen women alternate to

provide clerical and other assistance each night of the week.

Active since the beginning on the Guild of the Family Rosary executive committee have been Frank E. Wolfe, Indianapolis, in charge of finance; Joseph W. Brown, funeral director, who programs the lay leaders of the Rosary prayers; and Frank H. Davis, City Commissioner of Buildings, who arranges organization participation.

More than 4,000 individuals, parishes and organizations have made donations. On the guest register in Studio M (Studio Mary, the little room in St. Francis Parish Center where the program ordinarily originates) are more than 11,000 names. Crowds of 400 and 500 have taken part in the broadcasts at the rose-garden on major feasts.

Six priests have assisted Father Cirincione in conducting the program during his absences. They are the Reverend Fathers Richard T. Tormey, Leo C. Mooney, John T. Callahan, William P. White, E. Leo McMannus and John P. Norris.

FROM EVERY walk of life have come lay leaders of the Rosary—professional men, judges, civic officials, policemen, firemen—even, in one case, children. From as many varied sources, too, including non-Catholics, have been the letters of commendation and of request for further information about the Church. Some typical statements follow:

"Please accept this small donation. I never really understood the Mass until you began describing it with the Rosary."

"I like that the Rosary for Peace hour is both simple and great as are most worthwhile things."

"Enclosed please find a small donation for Masses for the Poor Souls, that if it be God's Will I may regain my health."

"I am the bearer of greetings to you from a Baptist friend of mine who tunes in faithfully at 10:20 each night."

"Out of the series of noisy and often senseless radio programs of the middle evening, it is so refreshing to hear a voice that seems really spiritual, bring thoughts that are quieting and working of meditation."

"It has brought much happiness and a family closeness in our home."

"Please send me the booklet which explains the Rosary and its mysteries. I will be joining the Catholic faith soon and I'm sure it will be a wonderful and useful booklet to have."

As these and thousands of other persons tune in on this outstanding program each night, they hear the broadcast's familiar slogan: "World peace needs the prayers of every family as much as every family needs peace."

Murray Bill Offers Aid To Parish School Pupils

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tion between States permitting nonpublic school children to ride on public school buses and those States forbidden by law from doing so."

States using their own money to furnish busses for nonpublic school pupils would be authorized to use Federal funds for the same purpose," he explained.

"IN THE CASE of States prohibited by law from disbursing Federal funds for any kind of aid to nonpublic school pupils the Federal Government would be authorized to withhold from the allotment of the funds which would then be distributed on a reimbursement basis, to agencies which, according to regular State standards, provide essential transportation for nonpublic school pupils.

"The essential of this provision is to guarantee that public and nonpublic school pupils will share alike in perfect equity in the use of Federal funds for transportation service."

"This provision does not require any State to use its own funds for the transportation of nonpublic school pupils. Moreover, it stipulates that in no case will a nonpublic school child receive transportation benefits superior to those provided, in a given area, for public school children."

"The legislative precedent for this arrangement is the National School Lunch Law which effectively provides for the participation of both public and nonpublic school pupils in this very worthy program."

"THE BUS RIDE provision should be a satisfactory adjustment of conflicting opinions on aid to nonpublic school pupils," he continued.

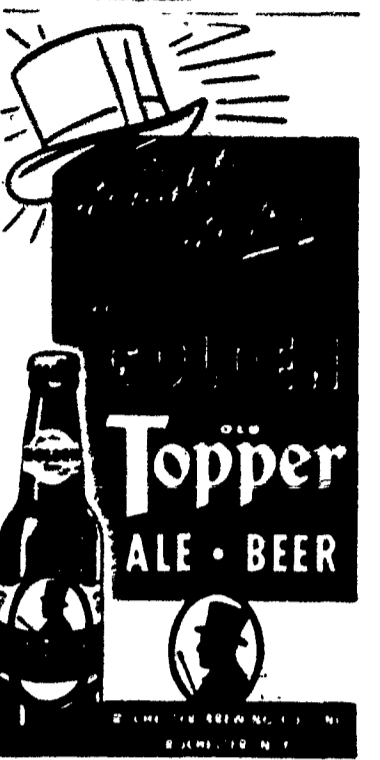
"In determining the type of benefit to be given to nonpublic school children, full reliance was placed upon the Everson decision of the United States Supreme Court. This decision distinguished between direct aid to any sectarian school, which is forbidden, and aid for auxiliary school services, which is allowable under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

"The court said that it was not the purpose of the First Amendment to deprive children of school services indisputably marked off from the religious function of denominational non-public schools."

Korea Army Gets Chaplaincy Corps

Pusan, Korea — (RNS) — Plans for setting up a chaplaincy to Christian soldiers in the South Korean army have been announced here. The corps will be the first of its kind in the history of the Korean army.

Authorities disclosed that some sixty Korean clergymen will be selected shortly as first members of the new chaplaincy corps. They will include ten Methodists, twenty Presbyterians, and thirty Roman Catholics.



Catholics Send Relief To India

New York — (NC) — Shipments of 1,000,000 pounds of wheat and 150,000 pounds of powdered milk and dried eggs are being sent to the famine-stricken areas of India by War Relief Services—National Catholic Welfare Conference, Magr. Edward E. Swannstrom, executive director, has announced.

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