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Women's Civilization Role Told CDA By Fr. McDonnell

Hornell — "Never forget that the level of civilization depends on the women," the Rev. Joseph McDonnell said in the principal address at the 38th Annual Banquet of Court St. Ann 124, Catholic Daughters of America held Sunday evening in the Moose Club.

Father McDonnell, pastor of St. Gabriel's Church, Hammondport, reviewed the contribution made to our civilization by the Catholic Church.

"In spite of the fact that the ancients, Phoenicians, Theodosians, Babylonians, Greeks, and Romans to mention a few, greatly enriched our civilization by their contributions to many phases of science and education, civilization was degraded under their pagan way of life," Father McDonnell pointed out.

"It was into this kind of a world that Our Lord was born," Father McDonnell said. "Our Lord had to recreate civilization. He did it not by preaching, but by content with giving us Himself as a guide to our moral life. He gave us Mary, His Mother as our Mother. In Mary, womanhood is exalted."

"The Catholic Church or Christianity, for they were synonymous for 1000 years, went out and preached Christ and Christ crucified and preached woman exalted and woman sanctified."

"The Church preached to the pagans to behold woman as woman was meant to be, chaste, holy, inviolate and she isolated that they fashion their lives after Mary. Through the world entered a new phase of civilization, one where woman was given a place superior even to man. Had this change not taken place, the history of western civilization might have been far different," Father McDonnell said.

"At the present time, the Church is faced with the problem of recreating civilization in Nazi Germany and Communist Russia. There, she must preach and teach the value of human life and the equality of man."

"The change from slavery to freedom is gradual," Father McDonnell stressed, "and whenever men forget there is a God and that every man is created to His image and likeness we have a slave state as in Germany and Russia now. It can happen here," he pointed out.

"Keep to your Meas, never lose the conviction that you are God's creature made to His image and likeness and never forget that the level of civilization depends on the women," were Father McDonnell's concluding remarks to the Catholic Daughters.

"Before the dinner, the members and guests sang the Hymn to St. Anne, following which Rev. Lawrence Gannon, Chaplain of the Court gave the invocation. During the dinner, Father Gannon led the assembly in group singing. Mrs. Annie S. Brown was accompanist.

"After the dinner, Miss Rachael Callahan, grand regent welcomed the guests and members and introduced the new members and those in attendance from Court St. Joseph in Corning were: Mrs. Griffin, trustee, Mrs. Louis Hart, Mrs. William Knapp, Mrs. Helen Dally, Mrs. William Henry, Mrs. Frank Schroeder, Mrs. William Voet, Miss Pauline Renhan, Miss Margaret Hanrahan, and Mrs. Eva Murphy.

Mrs. Irene Griffin and Mrs. Janice Hawcutt were in charge of the ticket committee and were assisted by Mrs. Irene Koch, Mrs. Mary Stitt, Mrs. Mary Smith, Mrs. Geraldine Dunton, Mrs. Julia Bellano, Mrs. Agnes McIntosh, Mrs. Mary Tracy, Miss Beatrice Mahoney, Mrs. Edwina Randazzo, Miss Helen Glenn, Mrs. Eleanor Murphy, Mrs. Mary Kinney, Mrs. Angeline Devlin, Miss Louise Janello, Mrs. Clara Hinz, Mrs. Clara Deegan, Mrs. Helen Swartz, Mrs. Amelia Thompson, Mrs. Mary Girard, Mrs. Anleta O'Connon, Miss Helen Snyder, Mrs. Louise Hogan, Mrs. Mary Agnes Lee, Mrs. Catherine Conz, Mrs. Estelle Kase, Miss Rachael Callahan, Miss Virginia Hussony was chairman of decorations assisted by Mrs. Mary Jones, Miss Margaret Haggerty and Miss Alberta Krott. The program was in charge of Mrs. Cleora Carroll and Mrs. Mary Smith.

During the banquet a collection, amounting to \$50, was taken for operation Mclobber. "Four days later the children gathered at the Cove and the Blessed Mother then appeared to them. She repeated the same message but told them that the miracle which was to accompany her final apparition would be less wonderful because of the strong anti-religious feeling. "The practical lesson illustrated by the fourth apparition is the power of devotion to the Blessed Mother," Father Gibbons said. "Three humble peasant children were so impressed with the spirit of Faith that they were willing to undergo martyrdom rather than reveal what she had asked them to keep secret."

Miss Josephine Fitzgerald, president of the Hornell District, presided at the luncheon. She introduced the Rev. John Coonan, moderator of the district who led the members present in an Act of Consecration to the Blessed Virgin.

Father Coonan, in his brief talk, remarked that a Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima has reached Russia. "This is indicative of the growing power of Our Lady," he added. "Eventually the entire world may realize that the only way to peace is through the Immaculate Heart of Mary." Grace was offered by the Rev. John D. Malley. Mrs. Edwin J. Boyle was chairman.

Immaculate Conception MASSES - Sunday: 7, 9, 11, 12:30 213 NORTH GENEVA ST. - ELMA, N. Y.

Articles Given Sisters On Display



Furnishings and other items provided by the 38th annual banquet sponsored by the Ladies of the Holy Name of Mary Society of St. Ann's Church are on display at the exhibit held Sunday. Looking over the gifts are (from left) Mrs. John Podasko, chairman; Rev. Chester M. Klock, moderator and Mrs. John Flannick, president. (Courier Staff photo.)

Fourth Apparition Topic Of First Saturday Talk

Hornell — The Rev. Paul J. Gibbons of St. Andrew's Seminary faculty discussed the fourth apparition of Our Lady of Fatima at a "First Saturday" luncheon April 7 in the Knights of Columbus Club-rooms.

More than 75 women from St. Ann's and St. Ignatius Loyola parishes attended the luncheon fifth to be held in honor of Our Lady of Fatima. The "First Saturday" series of luncheons is sponsored by Hornell District, National Council of Catholic Women.

FATHER GIBBONS, who is a member of St. Andrew's Seminary faculty and a former assistant pastor of St. Ann's Church, described in detail the fourth apparition of the Blessed Virgin in August 1917 at Fatima, Portugal.

"This apparition of Our Blessed Lady brought to the front the first time the opposition which had been building up to the three peasant children favored by the miraculous appearances," Father Gibbons explained. "In that region of Portugal an anti-religious movement was prevalent at the time," the priest continued.

"The mayor, who consistently had attempted to prove the visions of the children a hoax, decided to put a stop to this nonsense."

"On August 11, 1917, two days before the Blessed Virgin had promised to appear again to the three little children, the mayor had the children brought to him to prevent their being at the Cove de Fatima, the site of former apparitions."

"After intensive questioning and threats to their lives the mayor ceased trying to force the children to reveal what the Blessed Virgin had told them in secret. He did, however, confine them to jail in a common cell with hardened criminals," Father Gibbons explained.

"THE ACTIONS of the mayor had the opposite effect from what he had planned," the priest went on. "Although the children were not present at the Cove de Fatima, 18,000 persons assembled at the site on August 13. The same phenomena which had occurred in the three former visitations, the crash of thunder, bolt of lightning and a misty cloud were visible to the group.

"Four days later the children gathered at the Cove and the Blessed Mother then appeared to them. She repeated the same message but told them that the miracle which was to accompany her final apparition would be less wonderful because of the strong anti-religious feeling. "The practical lesson illustrated by the fourth apparition is the power of devotion to the Blessed Mother," Father Gibbons said. "Three humble peasant children were so impressed with the spirit of Faith that they were willing to undergo martyrdom rather than reveal what she had asked them to keep secret."

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Seminary Fund Totals \$17,500

Approximately \$17,500 will be distributed to Bishops in the seven New York State dioceses as a result of the 1951 Seminary fund drive of the State Court, Catholic Daughters of America scheduled for completion April 15.

This report was being brought back to local CDA units following a meeting in Albany of officers, district deputies and chairmen of the state court, called by Miss Marie C. Curry of Bellerose, L. I. state regent.

Among state chairmen reporting was Miss Elizabeth Halloran of Elmira, heading the Share-the-Faith program. She reported progress on the "block rosary" program in Elmira.

UNDER THE PLAN, she said, residents of a block gather at the home of a neighbor for recitation of the rosary together each week. Twenty-seven blocks have already been organized in one Elmira parish, she said.

Miss Curry reported on her trip to Rome during the Holy Year and said in a private audience with the Holy Father she had presented a check from New York State Court for \$1,000. She received the Pope's blessing for herself, her loved ones at home, members of the state court, and their families and friends.

Action taken by the CDA on measures before the state legislature were reported by Miss Alice Connor of Albany, legislative chairman.

A bill requiring that a course in American history in the public schools shall include principles of government proclaimed by the Declaration of Independence and established by the U. S. has been signed by the Governor, she reported.

Monsignor Dillon Arrives In Hong Kong

Hong Kong — (NC) — Msgr. Jules Dillon, O.F.M., who was sentenced to be expelled from China by the "people's court" on January 23, arrived here. He had been imprisoned at Shaai until March 25.

Monsignor Dillon, a native of Bristol, Conn., had been Prefect Apostolic of Shaai in the Hupeh Province since 1938. There are seven American Franciscan priests and eight native priests at the mission there. One American and three Chinese priests are still imprisoned.

Monsignor Dillon was given a "public trial" after he had been accused of "subversive activities" against the communist regime.

Book of Kells Washington, D. C. — (RNS) — A copy of the Book of Kells, famous sacred Catholic work of early Ireland, was presented to the Library of Congress here by Sean MacBride, Minister of External Affairs in Eire.

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Elmira Catholic Highlights

Catholic High has caught candy counter in the Colonial spring fever; a baseball team has been organized; Games are slated with Horseheads, Padua, St. John's Attonment, and the Academy. Jack Crowley has been selected as coach.

The girls of the Senior and Freshmen class have organized soft ball team. The competition will be between the classes. Jackie Dowling, our baseball enthusiast, was elected Captain from the Seniors.

Three girls from Catholic High have been elected officers in the Barot Retreat League for this year. Dottie Woods, Sophomore, is president; Rose Marie A'Bruzzo, Senior, vice-president; and Pat Boylston, also a Senior, secretary-treasurer.

Our school will play host to Auburn and Geneva for the semi-finals of the Bishop's Oratoricals on April 16. Two winners, a boy and a girl, will be chosen to go to Rochester. We're keeping our fingers crossed that Catholic High wins at least one when we all convene at Dunn Memorial.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT (Eleanor Margaret Hourigan) Eleanor, or "Sis," as she dislikes being called, is one of the best-natured girls in the Senior class. Winning smile and happy personality make for a popular combination; we're quite fond of off Eleanor. She is tall with brown hair and blue eyes, which makes her very striking looking.

She was make-up artist for the Senior play, and, if I do say so myself, she did a very good job making us all look fifty or thereabouts. Eleanor is a member of the Echonath Literary Staff and the Publicity Committee of the Sodality.

In the likes and dislikes department, there is a long list. Her favorite food is ice cream, which she can eat by the pint. Despite this, she is still very thin, but her pet peeve is being called skinny. Her favorite song is "Mocking Bird Hill." One of her chief interests is dancing, and of course, she's an ardent movie fan, for she works on the

Alhambra Ladies Set Election Of State The Alhambra Ladies will meet Tuesday April 17, at 8 p.m. in the Sheraton Hotel. Mrs. Nelson Owen will preside and hear the report of the nominating committee composed of Mrs. Emmet O'Neil, chairman, and the Madamames Philip Hafner, John Moore, and Frank Redman. Election of officers will follow. The summer schedule will be planned.

After the meeting there will be cards and refreshments.

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