

# 3 To Enter Novitiate In Reformatory Inmates Say Radio Rosary

At a ceremony to be held on Saturday, January 5, at 4:15 in the afternoon, three Postulants at Mount Saviour Monastery, Elmira, will become Novices of the Benedictine Community.

## Belgian Monk Giving Retreat At Mt. Saviour

The Benedictine Community at Mount Saviour Monastery, Elmira, started their annual retreat last Monday night, to continue until Sunday, Jan. 6, Feast of the Epiphany.

The Retreat Master is the Rev. Dom Vincent Martin, Monk of the Abbey of St. Andre, Bruges, Belgium.

Father Vincent was educated in Belgium and after his ordination served for 10 years at St. Benedict's Priory in Cheng-Tu, West China.

DURING THE last war Father Vincent directed a medical unit for care of wounded troops in China. He is currently writing a Doctoral Thesis in Sociology at Harvard University.

During the period of the retreat, in addition to their regular daily program, the Monks will participate daily in three extra conferences to be conducted by Father Vincent, daily recreation periods will be eliminated, this time being spent in silence and prayer.

This age old ceremony will be conducted by the Very Rev. Damasus Winzen, Prior.

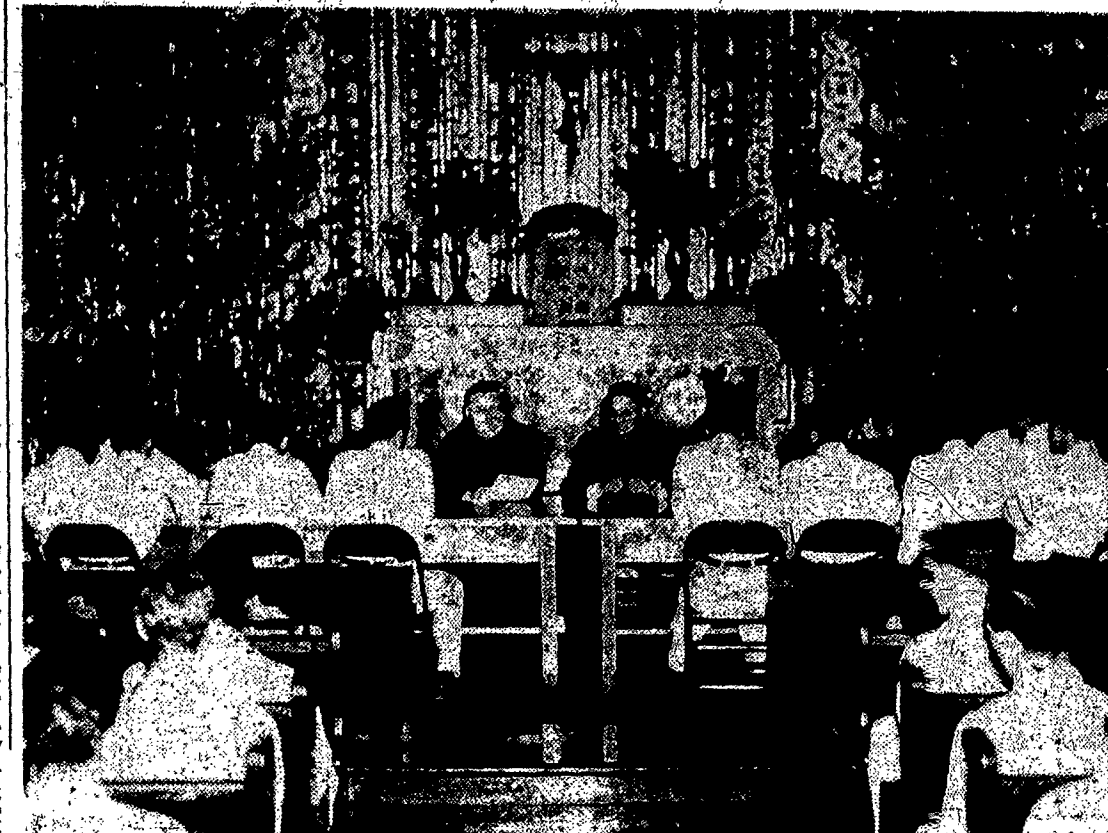
POSTULANTS WILL be shown a copy of the rule of St. Benedict and inquiry will be made as to their willingness to observe these rules. Upon their assent to do so with the help of God, the impressive ritual continues with the "Mandatum," or washing of the feet as was done at the Last Supper.

At the time of St. Benedict, this ritual was observed for the reception of guests to the Community but is now reserved for those entering as members of the Community.

AFTER THE WASHING of the feet of each Postulant by the Superior, the other Monks then kneel in turn before the new Novices and kiss their feet, symbolic of the reverence for Christ Who is received in them and of the fulfillment of His laws of Fraternal Charity and Humility.

The ceremony will conclude with the Investiture of the Postulants in the Novice's Cowl, distinguishing them from Postulants and Professed Monks.

Those to become Novices are: Rev. Joseph Riordan, Lehighton, Pa., Brother Benedict Tighe, Somerville, Mass., and Brother Joseph Brown, Woodmere, Long Island, N. Y.



IN FIRST Rosary broadcast from a penal institution, is the scene above in St. Don Bosco Chapel of Elmira Reformatory. At the microphone table are Monsignor Francis J. Lane, Reformatory Chaplain and Rev. Albert J. Simonetti, program director. Inmates around table recited the first half of the prayers while other inmates. In pews gave the responses. Broadcast on Dec. 29 was in the Family Radio Rosary. For Peace of Rochester Diocese directed by Rev. Joseph A. Cincione.

By Staff Correspondent

For the first time in the history of the nation, a Rosary broadcast from a penal institution was heard from the Chapel of St. Don Bosco at Elmira Reformatory, Saturday night, December 29.

The Rosary program was acclaimed as a great success with many messages of congratulations received from different parts of New York State and Pennsylvania. The Rosary was heard over a major network originating on WELM, Elmira.

It was very impressive to the listeners, to hear and recite the Rosary with the inmates of the Reformatory. Inmate leaders recited the first half of the prayers and the responses were given by

THAT SUCH a program should originate from the Elmira Reformatory was made possible through the cooperation of the Rev. Fr. Francis J. Lane, Reformatory Chaplain, and Col. Leroy Weaver, Superintendent of the Reformatory.

The program was under the direction of the Rev. Albert J. Simonetti, pastor of St. Anthony's Church, Elmira, and Monsignor Lane. Father Simonetti explained the program, said the introductory prayers and meditations.

Monsignor Lane in explaining the activities of the inmates, said:

"That this broadcast should originate in a penal institution may be the cause of surprise to some and a source of bewilderment to others. If so, it may be because they do not understand the real character of the men confined in the institution.

"All between the ages of sixteen and thirty, admit that they made mistakes, yes, but who of us has not? In passing judgment upon others, our Divine Lord has said 'Let him who is without sin cast the first stone.' Would that we all had as sincere repentance for our offenses as these men who are assembled here in the chapel this evening.

"THIS BROADCAST is but a public exhibition of what takes place here in the Reformatory every day in the year. We have nearly four hundred men out of a Catholic population of less than six hundred, who, answering the appeal of Mary, Queen of Fatima, have pledged themselves to say the Rosary each day in Her honor, for the conversion of sinners, the restoration of peace, and the conversion of Russia. Where will you find an equal record among an equal number of men—yes, and this is a penal institution?"

The above shows the love of a priest for his flock, who has devoted almost thirty years of his life in this penal institution, in the service of God.

The Rosary program of the Reformatory had the full approval and support of His Excellency, Bishop Kearney. The Rosary is ordinarily heard each Saturday at 10 o'clock from the Shrine of St. Anthony's Church on WELM.

Total population in Elmira Reformatory is more than 1,300 inmates.

## Elmira Saturday Club Lists Cornell Chaplain

First Saturday Luncheon Club in honor of Our Lady of Fatima will hold the second monthly meeting on Saturday at the Mark Twain Hotel. The Club is sponsored by the Ladies of Charity under the direction of Miss Frances Battersby, president.

The Rev. Donald M. Cleary, Catholic Chaplain at Cornell University will be guest speaker.

FATHER CLEARY as Catholic Chaplain at Cornell directs Newman Club activities and has become nationally known in that field. He served several terms as National Chaplain of the Newman Clubs Federation.

He was ordained in June 1928 and his first appointment was as assistant pastor of Holy Family Church, Auburn. He also served at the same time as Chaplain of Auburn Prison and had a prominent role in quelling the prison riots at that time.

He served with the U. S. Air Corps from January, 1943 to 1946 as Chaplain with the 38th Fighter Group of the Ninth Air Force in England, France and Germany. He is entitled to wear the Bronze Star, two battle stars and three Presidential Citations. Father Cleary was the only chaplain in the Air Corps permitted to wear the pilot's wings. He is qualified to fly any Army aircraft.

AS CHAPLAIN at Cornell, he has a "parish" of well over 1,000 Catholic students and student families. He provides four Sunday Masses in Evans Hall on the campus plus weekday Masses there and in the Newman Oratory.

He has established a Newman Oratory on the edge of the campus complete with offices, living quarters for himself and other priests, offices, social rooms and a beautiful chapel.

Women attending the luncheon must meet the requirements which include attendance a Mass and reception of Holy Communion. Tickets may be obtained from presidents of the various parish women's organizations and

parish women's organizations and



REV. DONALD M. CLEARY

chairman of Ladies of Charities committees. The meetings are open to all Catholic women of the area.

## Archconfraternity Lists Mass Jan. 6

The Archconfraternity of the Holy Family will hold its first meeting of the new year Sunday, Jan. 6, opening with Mass at 7:30 a.m. in St. Joseph's Church.

The Society will receive Communion in a body at the Mass. Breakfast will be served in the school hall, followed by a conference by the Rev. Joseph Winlock, C.S.S.R. Reception of two new members will be held.

Marie Mayer, hostess, will be assisted by Catherine Irwin, Della Kiefer, Teresa Verhoeven, Elizabeth Harty and Ruth Stollen, to 11th inclusive.

PATRIOTISM—Loving one's country in spite of its defects, as distinct from nationalism—distinguishing the existence of those despotic organizations and

## Elmirans Mourn Fire Victims Of McNamara Family, New Year's

The holiday tragedy which took the lives of a mother and three of her four small children, brought widespread sorrow to Elmirans, especially Catholics, on New Year's Day.

The victims were Mrs. John McNamara, 34, formerly Virginia Sheehan, daughter of the late Daniel Sheehan, former Elmira mayor and postmaster and founder of Sheehan's, Inc., Elmira department store, and the children—Patricia, 5; Kathleen, 4; and Kevin, 3.

THE FATHER, John McNamara, who is employed as personnel manager at Sheehan's, rescued 1-year-old Sheila during the blaze that destroyed a century-old farmhouse near Elmira. The mother and other three children were trapped in the fire.

The fire was caused apparently by a faulty fireplace according to Fire Chief Louis J. Mosher. The McNamaras had purchased the home recently and

The husband and father, John Joseph McNamara, 34, escaped through a second story window with the youngest child, 1½-year-old Sheila.

But the blaze mushroomed with such suddenness and intensity that neither Mr. McNamara nor any of several neighbors who tried to help could enter the house.

Mr. McNamara said he was awakened New Year's morning by his wife who cried that she smelled smoke and believed the house was afire.

HE TOOK SHEILA from her crib in the parent's second floor bedroom, opened a bedroom window and wrapping the infant in blankets from her crib, placed her on the roof of a one-story porch adjoining the house to the east.

The baby started to roll off the porch roof, the father said, so he went through the window onto the roof and took her in his arms. Nearby stood a small evergreen tree. Mr. McNamara saw it as a means of quick descent and prepared to jump into the tree while clutching the child to him.

At that instant Charles F. Evans, Town of Elmira supervisor, rushed from his home at 1644 W. Water St. directly across from the McNamara residence, having just spied the flames and telephoned an alarm.

Mr. Evans called to Mr. McNamara to "Wait!" mounted the railing of the east porch, took Sheila from her father and carried her, begrimed but uninjured from the fire to safety.

McNAMARA TRIED to reenter the house through the open bedroom window but was driven back by smoke and flames. He jumped into the tree and climbed to the ground.

The frenzied father—clad only in pajamas—immediately rushed from door to window on the second floor but was repeatedly beaten back by the intense heat.

Mr. Evans' sons, Charles and Richard, ran to a ladder from their home and, with the aid of Walter S. Bazzett, of 101 Evergreen Ave., placed it against a porch at the rear of the house where flames had not yet emerged.

Young Charles Evans climbed the ladder onto the porch. He broke the glass of a second floor window and tried to enter but, as he reported it "a tremendous volume of gas and smoke drove me back."

Walter J. Hamlin of 1644 W. Water St., met with the same lack of success when he kicked in a ground floor window and attempted to crawl through.

New Year's Day's West Elmira fire might have been more tragic had not a baby awakened Mrs. McNamara's mother, William E. Sheehan, of 3834 Caldwell Ave. Mrs. Sheehan and their child spent New Year's Eve with the McNamaras.

Mr. and Mrs. McNamara tried to persuade the Sheehans to spend the night at the W. Water St. house, so as not to disturb the Sheehan baby, who was asleep. Just as Mr. and Mrs. Sheehan were about to accede to the invitation, their infant awoke.

The Sheehans changed their minds and left the McNamaras at about 1:30 New Year's morning. Mr. Sheehan, secretary of the department store, related after the fire.

## Mail Boxes Must Be Accessible Two To Receive Habits Of Monks

Post Office patrons are expected to see that roads are placed in such condition after heavy snows that it will be possible for Rural and City Motorized Route Carriers to travel them, according to Donald A. Dalley, postmaster.

Patrons are advised to take up the matter with the highway officials with a view of having arrangements made, wherever practicable, to keep the roads open for travel.

Unless approaches to the mail boxes are cleared in accordance with postal regulations requiring it, after a snowfall, the delivery by carrier may be withheld temporarily until the approaches have been cleared, the postmaster declared.

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STATEMENT OF CONDITION as of  
DECEMBER 31, 1931

**RESOURCES**

Cash on hand and Due from Banks	\$ 6,715,400.70
U. S. Government Securities	10,778,724.39
State, County and Municipal Securities	4,239,367.78
Other Bonds and Investments	440,205.47
Real Estate Mortgages	2,694,042.61
Loans and Discounts	10,234,275.78
Bank Buildings	528,952.16
Other Resources	102,359.01
Furniture and Fixtures	1.00
	\$35,733,328.90

**LIABILITIES**

Capital Stock	\$ 1,000,000.00
Surplus	3,000,000.00
Undivided Profits	520,833.24
Reserve for Contingencies	150,000.00
	\$ 4,670,833.24
Reserve for Interest, Taxes, etc.	400,710.57
Deposits	30,661,785.09
	\$35,733,328.90

**CHEMUNG CANAL TRUST COMPANY**  
 MAIN OFFICE, WATER and STATE STREETS  
 WESTSIDE BRANCH, 626 WEST CHURCH ST.

## Fire Saddens All of Elmira

(Editorial in Elmira Advertiser, Jan. 2, 1932)

NEW YEAR'S TRAGEDY SADDENS WHOLE CITY

The saddest New Year in a long time dawned on Elmira yesterday to the red glow of a fire that claimed four lives on W. Water St.

New Year's Day became a day of mourning for thousands who drove past the blackened ruins of the McNamara home.

The bumper-to-bumper traffic all day on W. Water St. bespoke the shock of the whole community at the deaths of Virginia Sheehan McNamara and three of her four children.

On hundreds of lips, there were prayers for their repose. And hearts were bowed, in sympathy to the McNamara and Sheehan families in that on such a day of high hopes and resolution such a horrible tragedy could occur.

Here was a young, happy family which had just moved into the home three days before; a talented and devoted couple raising children, working hard, and worshipping God.

The answer all seek is "why, did it have to happen?" The answer is not easily found—at least in this life. Fire Chief Mosher and his men are just as sad as the rest of us about this calamity. The lesson it teaches, apparently, is close inspection of your home heating system, especially if you have a fireplace. Firemen found a large hole in the mortar which probably caused the fire.

## White Sale

features exceptional savings

Fancy Cotton and Linens

1.00

- 50"x50" rayon and cotton Jap damask cloths
  - Printed cotton kitchen towels
  - 15"x33" fine cut work white cotton scarfs
  - 15"x42" fine cut work white cotton scarfs
  - 4-pc. Fine cut work white cotton vanity sets
  - 12"x18" Handmade Cluny ovals
  - 5-pc. hand-embroidered applique cotton bridge sets
  - Embroidered linen guest towels
  - 20"x40" Printed fancy bath towels for children
  - 3-pc. Rêchleu scrus and white chairback sets
  - 15"x32" Hand-embroidered white cotton drawwork scarfs
  - 15"x42" Hand-embroidered white cotton drawwork scarfs
  - 4-pc. Hand-embroidered white cotton drawwork vanity sets
  - 2-pc. set embroidered guest towels
- And Many More too Numerous to Mention

Street Floor