

Vatican Paper Defends 'Fatima Photos'

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Our Priests Serve Nation



MAJOR GENERAL OLIVER SMITH of the United States Marine Corps awards the Military Merit Medal and the Combat V insignia to Lt. Chaplain Bernard Hickey of the Diocese of Rochester for his "excellent service" in the

Korea campaign. The recipient earlier of the Bronze Star, Chaplain Hickey, now stationed at Camp Pendleton, California, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Hickey of Elmira. (Official U. S. Marine Photo.)

General Awards Chaplain Hickey Merit Medal

Two military decorations were conferred on Chaplain Bernard Hickey, Lt. (jg), priest of Rochester diocese and son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Hickey, 91 Lincoln Street, Waverly, at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Chaplain Hickey received the military merit medal and the authorization to wear the combat V insignia from Major General Oliver Smith of the U. S. Marine Corps to which the chaplain is attached.

THE HIGH honor was given Father Hickey for his "excellent service in his profession" as a Catholic priest serving in Korea.

THE CITATION for the two decorations read:

"For excellent service in the line of his profession while serving with a Marine Infantry Battalion in Korea from 15 to 27 September 1950. Lt. (jg) Hickey serving as the Catholic Chaplain, displayed great skill, courage and confidence in the performance of his duties. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, he constantly exposed himself to accurate and intensive enemy fire to administer rites to the wounded and deceased.

"CARRYING out his duties regardless of danger or personal fatigue, he went among the men during the most adverse conditions of combat reassuring them with words of encouragement and religious convictions. His devotion to duty set an example for all who observed him and contributed materially to the high state of morale enjoyed by the battalion. Lt. Hickey's conduct throughout was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

Father Hickey entered the Chaplains Corps of the Navy in 1949, and was transferred to Korea with the first Marines at the beginning of fighting in that country. He returned to the United States last May and was the recipient of the Bronze Star.

Bishop Grants Dispensation On St. Patrick's Day
His Excellency Bishop Kearney has granted a dispensation to the Catholics of the Diocese of Rochester from the laws of fasting and abstinence on Monday, March 17, the Feast of St. Patrick.

Woodstone or Aqua Marine is the March 17th's. See them at Sporn's, William S. Thorne, Jeweler, 515 Main St. East, H.A. 5631.—Adv.

Rev. Jos. O'Connell Named Pastor Of Holy Cross Parish

Appointment of the Rev. J. Joseph O'Connell, chaplain of Nazareth Academy for the past 13 years, to the pastorate of Holy Cross Church, Rochester, was announced this week by His Excellency Bishop Kearney. He will assume his new post Sunday, March 23.

At Holy Cross Father O'Connell will succeed the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Lawrence B. Casey, recently named pastor of the Sacred Heart Pro-Cathedral.

THE NEW HOLY Cross pastor is widely known in the city and diocese through his long association with the Nazareth Academy student and alumni bodies as well as participants in diocesan social activities and Cane Conferences.

As Academy chaplain he directed religious instruction classes and provided spiritual counsel and religious guidance for the student body which has a current enrollment of 1,175. He also served as spiritual director of the Nazareth Academy Alumnae Association.

FOR THE PAST five years he has been diocesan director of the Student Sociality Union, which includes all high school, college and training school socialities in the diocese. Last year he was also appointed diocesan director of the Parish Sociality Union. Father O'Connell will continue as diocesan director of these two sociality organizations.

Born in Lima Dec. 29, 1907, Father O'Connell attended St. Rose Parochial School and Lima High School in his native town. He prepared for the priesthood at the diocesan seminaries of St. Andrew and St. Bernard and was ordained in June 1934. Following his ordination he was appointed assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church, Auburn, where he served until his assignment to the Academy in June 1939.



REV. JOSEPH O'CONNELL

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Atheist Demands Time On Radio

Washington, D. C. — (EWS) — A demand that the Federal Communications Commission make explicit the right of atheists to time on the air to answer attacks against them has been made here by Robert H. Scott, San Francisco, Cal., a veteran atheist leader.

Mr. Scott has filed a formal complaint to the commission against the American Broadcasting Company for refusing time for a reply to a network broadcast of November 12, 1951, of a radio play, "Blasphemy" which, he charged, heaped ridicule and contempt upon atheists.

At the same time Mr. Scott condemned what he called "a veritable orgy of prayer and piety" which for several years has been increasing on the radio without any opportunity being afforded atheists for a reply.

Osservatore Holds Its Fatima Sun Photos 'Authentic'

Vatican City — (NC) — A member of Osservatore Romano's editorial office stated that the paper's reporter had been careful concerning the authenticity of the Fatima pictures printed by it and had used extreme caution in obtaining them.

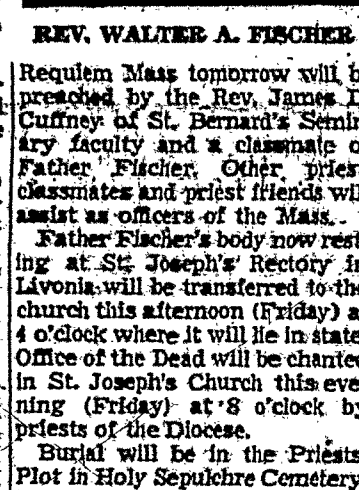
This statement by a staff member of the Vatican City daily followed publication at Leiria, Portugal, of a "correction" in The Voice of Fatima, official organ of the sanctuary. The "correction" stated certain photographs reproduced in "newspapers abroad" and alleging to depict the "solar prodigy of 1917" were actually taken at a later date.

The Osservatore spokesman said that a very high person of diplomatic character and level in Portugal had vouchsafed in a signed statement for the authenticity of the photographs as alleged. The spokesman added that a controversy seems to be still active in some Portuguese circles concerning these photographs, some holding that they are authentic and other denying this.

In printing the photographs last November, Osservatore told about the solar phenomenon on October 13, 1917, which it said began at about 12:20 in the afternoon. The paper then added:

"The two photographs which we report—whose origin is rigorously authentic—indicate the black spot in the sun which was produced by the very rapid rotation, as well as the position of the sun itself almost at the edge of the horizon. This position would have been completely impossible at the hour in which the photographs were taken, that is at 12:20 precisely."

Osservatore stated that this "exceptional spectacle" was photographed by some spectators "who had brought along cameras to photograph the three little children."



REV. WALTER A. FISCHER

Requiem Mass tomorrow will be presided by the Rev. James D. Cunniff of St. Bernard's Seminary faculty and a classmate of Father Fischer. Other priest-confessors and priest friends will assist as officiers of the Mass.

Father Fischer's body now resting at St. Joseph's Rectory in Livonia, will be transferred to the church this afternoon (Friday) at 4 o'clock where it will lie in state. Office of the Dead will be chanted in St. Joseph's Church this evening (Friday) at 8 o'clock by priests of the Diocese.

Burial will be in the Priests' Plot in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Rochester, on Saturday following the Funeral Mass.

N. Y. Parish Buys Loew's Movie House

New York — (NO) — St. Sebastian's Parish has bought Loew's Woodside Theatre, which it will convert into what is expected to be the first air-conditioned Catholic Church in Queens.

A parish fund drive to raise \$350,000 has been started to meet the \$250,000 purchase price and the cost of immediate alterations.

Loew's Inc. reportedly sold the theater to comply with a recent consent decree, under which it is to divest itself of at least 24 movie houses, theaters of them in New York. This action was to end a Federal anti-trust action.

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Pictures Taken Later, Says Shrine Paper

Leiria, Portugal — (NC) — A recent newspaper photograph claiming to depict the "miracle of the sun" at Fatima in 1917 were actually taken several years later, according to The Voice of Fatima, official organ of the Sanctuary and the "Cruciver," published here.

On November 13 last year Osservatore Romano, Vatican City daily, printed two photographs which it said showed the "very swift rotation" of the sun on October 13, 1917. The paper described the photographs as "rigorously authentic."

THE STATEMENT in The Voice of Fatima here does not mention Osservatore Romano. It refers merely to "newspapers abroad." The statement was carried under a caption called "A Correction." It follows in full: "By the interest of accuracy we would like to state that certain photographs recently reproduced in newspapers abroad alleged to be authentic pictures of the solar prodigy of 1917 were not in fact taken on that date but several years later (May 13, 1921, near Torres Novas) during an atmospheric effect at sunset."

THEY WERE thought to resemble the October prodigy and were published in Portugal at the time but later withdrawn in order to avoid confusion. There

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Priest Offers Mother's Requiem In Red Prison

Hong Kong — (NC) — A Jesuit missionary undergoing a 100-day ordeal in a Chinese communist prison offered secretly a Requiem Mass for the repose of his mother's soul, using for an altar one of the small blocks of wood given prisoners for pillows. A tiny tunic was the chalice.

Title was disclosed here by the Rev. Albert Martinez, S.J., a native of Colombia, after his expulsion from China. For 100 consecutive days he and 23 other prisoners of the Chinese were required "to sit and reflect" under their imprisonment in Anhui Province. In daytime hours they were forbidden to stand, lie down, or even to lean against the wall for support.

No talking was permitted, and the priest was even forbidden to pray out loud. His palms were beaten with a bamboo stick when he admitted he prayed silently and he refused to promise not to pray in the future.

Nevertheless, when a small piece of bread was smuggled into Father Martinez's cell, with a note hidden inside it telling him of his mother's death, he resolved to utter Mass for her soul. He managed to do so that very night, using the bread and some wine which was sent in to him.

Father Martinez arrived at the Hong Kong harbor last night and under guard after a five-day bus and train trip from Lianjiang prison. With him he carried the things which served as a chalice.

The Jesuit, who is from Bogota, the capital of Colombia, is a veteran of 14 years of imprisonment during the Chinese success of Anhwei. Since the announcement of his capture he has undergone a public trial and has been in prison since.

100 Catholic Projects Get NPA Approval

Washington — (NC) — Nearly 100 Catholic Church construction projects, with a total cost of about \$23 million, are included among 646 projects of various types which have received the "go-ahead signal" from the National Production Authority.

THIS WAS disclosed through N.C.W.C. News Service analysis of a listing by NPA of all projects authorized to begin immediate construction. Allotment of critical defense materials such as steel will be made in late 1952 and the first three months of 1953.

Four undertakings due to cost more than a million dollars and eight more costing over a half million are on the list of 58 Catholic projects, which are estimated to cost \$27,824,022 in all.

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U.S.S. LEYTE CREW MEMBERS receive final instructions preparatory to being baptized in the Catholic Faith by Lt. Chaplain Leo D.

Ward of Rochester and chaplain aboard the Leyte. The Baptism ceremony took place in the Cathedral of St. Mary The Crowned in Gibraltar. (Official U. S. Navy Photo.)

First For Mass Goes

18-Children Family Breakfasts In Shifts

Joliet, Ill. — (NC) — The first shift at the breakfast table of the Bakers' dozen-and-a-half family here, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond C. Baker and their 18 children, is to take care of the Mass-goers.

Slender, 40-year-old Mrs. Baker rises with her husband and their 18-year-old son William, at 6:30. She prepares breakfast and lunch boxes for them while they are attending Mass. By 7:30 they're on their way to work.

THE SECOND shift is for the "high school crowd" Janet and Donna, 17, Althea, 15, and David, 14. The three girls attend St. Francis Academy and David is a freshman at Joliet Catholic High School. They check out for school at 7:30.

Meanwhile the third breakfast table shift — the six grammar school youngsters — are dressing under the supervision of Mary, 13. They leave in a group at 8:30.

Fourth shift is for the babies, and by then Mrs. Baker needs a second breakfast herself. At 9:15 she has finished the dishes. Next she straightens up the house and by the time that's finished she has to start lunch for the returning grammar school students. And then...

WELL, ANYHOW, that's how the day gets underway with the Bakers, where the task of rearing a large family is made easier by love, cooperation, and sound commonsense. And smiling Mrs. Baker, who recently gave birth to her 18th child, says:

"We're just as happy over this

new baby as we were over the first."

BRINGING UP this large brood on a machinist's pay of about \$5,000 a year takes considerable planning, of course, and one way it's done is through buying food by the bushel, crate, or gallon. The Bakers use two gal-

lons of milk a day plus four large cans of condensed milk. Every two weeks they buy 100 pounds of white potatoes, a bushel of sweet potatoes, and two bushels of apples.

"I bake pies — usually cherry or peach — at least once a week. It takes five- at a time.

"AS FOR COOKIES, 400 is the usual batch for us."

The family has meat three times a week. Six pounds of ham, five pounds of beef or three chickens make a meal.

"We spend \$10 to \$12 a day for food but my husband says he'd rather pay grocery bills than doctor bills," Mrs. Baker noted. "And the children do keep well. The last seven have never even had a cold."

AS IN ANY family the children sometimes get into mischief around the house. Three-year-old John, called "the pumper ball" because he's so plump and rosy, recently experimented with hammer and nails, and replastering was necessary.

At any rate, if the children get their clothes dusty roughhousing, Mrs. Baker can console herself that it's all done but in the wash. "It's washdays full,

that is.

Baby Photo Booklet Spurs Church's \$200,000 Drive

Roxbury, Mass. — (NC) — The bare announcement that a \$200,000 campaign by the Mission Church, conducted by the Redemptorist Fathers here, was a success doesn't tell the whole story — not by 24 pages worth.

The Very Rev. John Hoesy, C.S.S.R., rector, announced that the campaign goal was over-subscribed, assuring that the "labeled beauty" of the Church and Shrine now can be restored.

The Rev. Joseph Scannell, C.S.S.R., chairman of the drive,

contains that the aforementioned 24 pages had much to do with its success. It was a 24-page booklet of baby photographs, widely circulated in connection with the drive.

The facial expressions and positions of the pictured babies fitted perfectly with such captions as: "A contribution? But Father, I haven't even gone to work yet!" "I like stickers the way I like castor oil!" "200,000?" "You mean dollars?" "What? Thirty bucks a minimum for working persons?" "Well, Father, I don't want to be difficult about this, but..."