

Glen Sodalists Recite Rosary Before Meetings

By ROSEMARY MARCELLINO

Watkins Glen — Our Lady's Sodality of St. Mary's of the Lake parish, has inaugurated the practice of recitation of the Rosary before starting their business meetings.

At the last meeting held by this group, the movie, "You Can Change the World," was shown. Members expressed appreciation for having seen the picture, thus enabling them to learn more of the aims of the Christians.

A retreat is being planned by the Sodality to be held Sunday, March 30, under the direction of the Rev. Hugh A. Brady, Moderator.

The Rev. Vincent P. Collins, assistant pastor of St. Patrick's Church, Elmira, will give the retreat talks and instructions.

The retreat will be held at Padua High School commencing at 2 o'clock and is being arranged for all boys and girls of high school ages.

FATHER BRADY has also arranged to hold a Corporate Communion one Sunday during the month for all students of the parish. The first one was held earlier in the month and was attended by more than 50 students. Many more are expected to be present on the next occasion.

A MOVIE on "The Life of St. Benedict" will be shown this Sunday at 2 p.m. in the Municipal Auditorium. A second showing will be held at 4 p.m. This new picture depicting the life of the great Saint was obtained through the efforts of Father Ehmann, pastor.

THE SACRAMENT of Confirmation will be conferred on a class of children by Bishop Kearney on Sunday, May 11, at 2 p.m.

IFCA Convention Set In New York City

Area members of the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae are looking forward to the 19th Convention of the Federation at Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York from Aug. 19 to 22 according to Mrs. Walter J. Whalen of Milton, Mass., president.

The convention will be held under the patronage of His Eminence, Cardinal Francis Spellman who will preside at Solemn Pontifical Mass.

With "IFCA—The Apostolate of Catholic Alumnae" as its slogan, the convention will feature work shops in which past activities and achievements will be evaluated in the terms of present day conditions and programs for the future discussed and formulated. Outstanding leaders in the various fields will speak.

Local members of the Federation, the presidents announcement said, include Miss Regina Kennedy, Mrs. Lewis J. Boyce, Mrs. Frank A. Easton, Miss Rita Trost and Mrs. James A. Rains.

Bishop in Africa — The Most Rev. Alfred Lancelotti, of the White Fathers of Africa, was consecrated Vicar Apostolic of Bukoba, Africa, at the Cathedral, his native parish, here.

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Gala St. Patrick's Show Hailed By Owegans



MORE THAN 500 persons enjoyed the presentation of a St. Patrick's Day program at the Elks' Auditorium on Sunday, March 16, in Owego. School children of St. Patrick's School, Owego, and members of the Catholic Daughters of America, the Sodality of Our Lady and the Holy Name Society, all participated. Above scene is the closing of the children's musical. (H. T. Tubbs Photo.)

Lourdes HN Men Urged To Support Bishop In Current Attacks on Religious Freedom

What Catholic laymen can do about losing "our First Freedom" because a well organized and extremely vocal minority is invoking that very Freedom to take our Freedom away from us," was outlined by David Vincent Sheehan in addressing Our Lady of Lourdes Holy Name Society, Sunday morning at Mark Twain Hotel, Elmira.

Sheehan, a former Elmiraan and now of Marcellus spoke at the annual Communion Breakfast following 9 a.m. Mass in Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

He explained the Great Contradiction of American History now going on as "the limitation and eventual abolishment of religious freedom by a distorted application of the very Article in the Bill of Rights that guarantees it."

The speaker called upon his hearers as Catholic laymen to do two things.

IN BOTH instances it means aligning ourselves publicly and formally with what FOAU calls a traitorous and lying body of men—the Roman Catholic Bishops of the United States.

"First," he said, "we can raise our voices in behalf of the historic public school system of these United States, a school system that was founded on a firmly held and widely taught belief in God."

"Secondly," we can turn to our own parochial school system with a new awareness of its worth and necessity.

The threat to the First Freedom he said all began with a figure of speech, Thomas Jefferson's metaphor of a "wall" that should exist between church and state. "The figure of speech," he explained, "has materialized, not only into a wall, but a wall that grows higher, and more formidable."

Sheehan cited the builders of this wall as "a small group of freedom loving 100 percent pure Americans who bludgeoned their way at the thought that the name of Christ might be desecrated by being uttered in a tax supported public school."

"They welcome others to their ranks, and it matters little if these are Communist, pagans, free thinkers or atheists so long as they help to keep religion on one side of the wall and the state and secularism on the other."

"WE HAVE been told who are those who would breach this wall. The conspiracy apparently is in the case of a pack of unscrupulous traitors who publicly proclaim to be good Americans, but who in reality are as nasty and conniving a bunch as it is possible to assemble."

"In short," he said, "the Roman Catholic bishops of the United States — they, we are solemnly assured, are the radicals who are as great a threat to America as the Communist Politburo."

"The fanatics of the wall," Sheehan declared, "hastily add that we of the Catholic faith are in the clear. We are good Americans. It is only your Bishops and our priests who are at fault."

"When the Catholic Church in America is accused of being a militant and determined opponent of all the liberties that Jeffersonian democracy stands for, the makers of the charge smile and assure us of the faith that they

aren't talking about us, they're talking about the Hierarchy and Bishops who have us under their ecclesiastical thumbs."

CALLING ON HIS hearers to do something about it, Sheehan said that "when we have shown by our actions that it is we who have the true concern of the public school, at heart and by our support demonstrate our belief

in the value and necessity of the traditional and historic American parochial system."

"Then and only then, can we proudly take our stand along with the Hierarchy, the Roman Catholic Bishops of the United States. We can say to the charges of 'traitor' that the FOAU hunts at them."

"When you indict the Catholic Hierarchy of this country—count us in with them brother—because we're behind them 100 percent—nearly 30 million of us—and that includes the parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes in Elmira."

William J. Schiefel, president, welcomed the 125 present and thanked John E. Molnerney, chairman; Loren Ryder was toastmaster.

The Rev. Leo G. Schwab, pastor, congratulated the men on the turnout and led in recitation of the Holy Name pledge.

Chapel Collapse — Newport, N. H. — (NC) — An accumulation of snow on the roof during a storm caused a cave-in of Sacred Heart Chapel, landmark at suburban George Mills and widely known to summer-time vacationists.

IN LITTLE LESS than a year, the Mt. Saviour community, which started with a nucleus of four monks, has received 12 candidates, four of whom are now novices, the remainder being postulants who will enter the novitiate in a few months. Other applicants are waiting to enter.

At present there are no accommodations for them. The community had a plentiful supply of volunteer workers last summer and expects more to come this year.

Applicants, volunteer workers, retreatants and visitors have come from all over the country, California, Minnesota, Virginia and Massachusetts as well as New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey are represented.

The community has a guest-house where men may go for retreats or simply to spend some time in sharing the life of the monastery. The monks are developing the farm and plan to become self-supporting.

IN ORDER to increase the size of the community and provide room for the growing number of visitors and retreatants, building is urgently needed. Groups of friends are forming to help a building program and to contribute to subsistence until the community is able in a large measure to support itself.

The monks of Mount Saviour have an added reason to rejoice on this first feast of St. Benedict in the new monastery; they have recently received from Rome a relic of St. Benedict.

This relic will in future be accessible for veneration by visitors to the monastery-chapel. Vespers on March 30 and 31 will, as on all great feasts, be at four o'clock. The High Mass will be as usual at 6 a.m.

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