

'Secularists Attack Christian Family Life'

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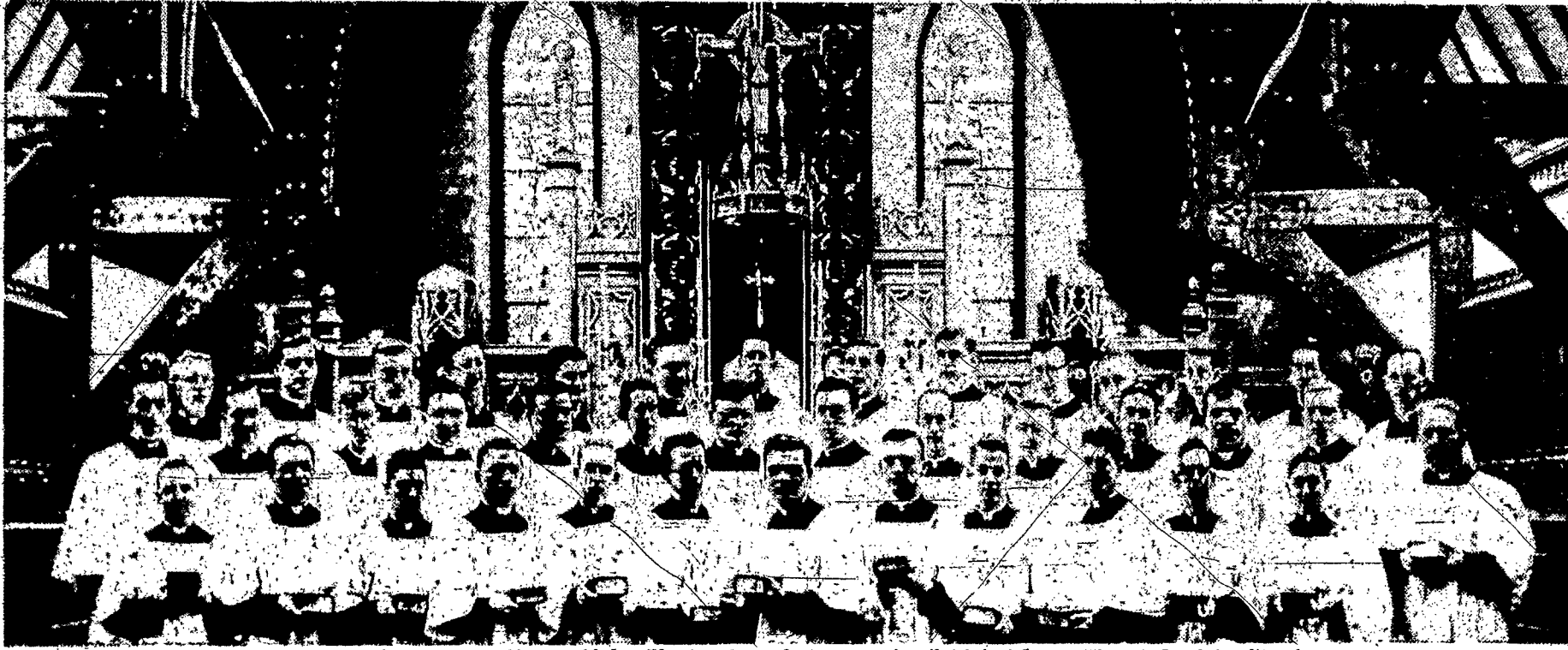
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St. Bernard's Seminary Choir To Give Public Concert



St. Bernard's Seminary Choir which will give Sacred Concert April 22 in Mercy High School Auditorium.

Monastery Rites Held For Fr. Simon, Negro Trappist

Another small, white cross was erected atop a little knoll in Piffard yesterday to mark the second death in six months of a Trappist monk of the newly-established Monastery of Our Lady of the Genesee.

Funeral services for the Rev. Vincent A. Smith, O. C. S. O., 53, a Negro priest whose name in the Trappists was Father Simon, were held at 10 a.m. Thursday, Mar. 27, 1952, in the little temporary chapel of the less than a year-old Cistercian foundation near Genesee — newly-Trappist monastery in New York State.

Father Simon was stricken with a heart attack on Thursday, Mar. 20, and was given Extreme Unction on Saturday before being removed to St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, where he died Tuesday morning, Mar. 25 — the Feast of the Annunciation.

HIS DEATH occurred just six months to the day from that of the first monk to die in the Piffard community — Frater M. Dennis Mayer, 27, before whose little cross his fellow monks have stopped daily to pray.

FATHER SIMON was master of brother novices at the monastery, and had gone daily from the little farmhouse in which the nearly 30 monks are crowded to assist them in the current construction of permanent buildings on the 1400-acre property along the Genesee River.

Pontifical Requiem Mass was celebrated in the chapel by the Rt. Rev. M. James Fox, Abbot of Our Lady of Gethsemani Abbey in Kentucky, assisted by the Rev. Gerard McGinley, superior of the Piffard foundation. Brother monks bore the rough, wooden casket to the new building site nearly a quarter-mile distant, next to which the temporary cemetery has been established.

CONTRARY TO Trappist custom, the body was "casketed," as was that of Frater Dennis. Their remains will be exhumed when the permanent monastery cemetery is established, and will be reburied in Trappist tradition without casket.

Born in Lebanon, Ky., in 1894, Father Simon studied at St. Augustine's Mission House, of the Society of the Divine Word Congregation, in Bay St. Louis, Miss. He was ordained an SVD priest in 1924, and some years later became pastor of a parish in Trenton, N. J., where he had the unusual experience of being a Negro pastor with white priests as assistants.

FATHER SIMON entered the Order of Cistercians of the Strict Observance at Gethsemani in the Fall of 1948, and came to Piffard with the small band of Trappists nearly one year ago to establish the new foundation there. His sole survivor is a brother George, of Chicago.

Father Simon was attended during his illness in St. Mary's Hospital by the Rev. John V. Loughlin, hospital chaplain, and the Rev. Joseph Cirincione, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Church. Funeral arrangements were handled by Joseph W. Benn of Miller-Benn Inc., 782 West Main St.

Watch & Jewelry Repairing, Fine Workmanship, Low Prices, William S. Thorne, Jeweler, 318 Main St. East, RA. 5931—Adv.

Cardinal Named Papal Legate To Barcelona



CARDINAL TEDESCHINI

Vatican City — (NC) — His Eminence Federico Cardinal Tedeschini, Archbishop of St. Peter's Basilica, has been named by His Holiness Pope Pius XII as Papal Legate to the International Eucharistic Congress which will take place at Barcelona, Spain, from May 27 to June 1.

It was recalled that Cardinal Tedeschini was also named by Pope Pius to serve as his Legate at ceremonies in Fatima, Portugal, last October marking the close of the extended Holy Year of 1951.

An estimated 500,000 persons are expected to attend the Barcelona Congress, the general theme of which is "Peace." The Congress will close with a Solemn Pontifical Mass in Plaza Pio XII, named in honor of the reigning Pontiff, at which a sermon will be preached by Cardinal Tedeschini.

Convert, Weary Of Tea Parties, Launches Practical Charity Role

San Francisco — (NC) — A convert who has turned purely social groups and concentrated on opportunities to do something "real" drives the 18 miles from her home into San Francisco regularly to chauffeur catechists to their classes, and helps of the Holy Souls to the homes of the sick and needy.

She is Mrs. Frederic Brunet of San Mateo; a housewife and mother who says she can always make room for practical charity.

Every Thursday afternoon she drives into San Francisco, picks up girls from Catholic high schools and takes them to

Bishop To Sponsor Seminary Singers

Making one of their rare public appearances, members of the famed St. Bernard's Seminary Choir will be heard in a Concert of Sacred Music under the sponsorship of His Excellency Bishop Kearney on Tuesday, April 22.

The concert, presenting the 40 voice vested choir, will be held in Our Lady of Mercy High School Auditorium in Rochester.

DIRECTED BY the Rev. Charles J. McCarthy, director of music at St. Bernard's Seminary, the trained singers will be heard in a program of Gregorian and Polyphonic selections.

Proceeds will be used to establish a fund for a new organ in St. Bernard's Seminary Chapel, it was announced at the Seminary.

Tickets for the April 22 concert are available to the public at Trant's and Tucker's religious stores.

St. Bernard's Seminary Choir first won attention in musical and church circles under the direction of the late Rev. John M. Petter, nationally known in the liturgical music field.

Under the direction of the Rev. Benedict Ezzmann, the choir gave its first public concert at Kilbuck Hall in the Eastman Theater.

THE STUDENTS have sung three times on the Church of the Air National Broadcast of the Columbia Broadcasting System. From the Seminary chapel on last Christmas Eve, the choir sang over WHAM in a program of Christmas liturgical music. It is planned to have the choir sing this year on Good Friday over WHAM.

THE VOICES of St. Bernard's choir were recorded on wax by the Kendeil Recording Company last year when the program sung at the School Music Festival was made into a 12-inch record. The recording was hailed by music critics as excellent singing by the students at the Seminary.

churches where they help nuns conduct catechetical classes for public school children. On other days, she takes the Helpers of the Holy Souls on their home visitor rounds. With her help, they can make 23 house calls a day. Without car transportation the Helpers can barely make five.

Mrs. Brunet says she has had enough of being the nodding observer at tea, fashion shows, luncheons and chatter sessions. She decided she would rather be in the driver's seat — which is literally where her volunteer efforts have put her.

Against those who affirm that public life should be freed from the moral law, the Pope declared: "Our predecessors and we ourselves did not cease to insist on the principle that the order wished by God embraces life in its entirety, not excluding public life in restriction of true liberty nor any interference in the competence of the state, but rather an assurance against errors and abuses against which Christian morality, if rightly applied, offers protection."

Church Moral Law Guide, Not Individuals, Says Pope

Vatican City — (NC) — Christ left his moral laws with His Church and not to "the intelligence and interpretation of individual consciences," Pope Pius XII stated in a radio broadcast here. The Pope spoke in connection with Family Day promoted by Italian Catholic Action and observed in all Italian parishes.

"WE SHALL SPEAK of conscience as the object of education," the Pontiff stated. "We are induced to do this because some currents of modern thought begin to alter the concept of conscience and to attack its value. Conscience is a sanctuary on whose threshold all must stop."

"Only the priest may enter there as the guardian of souls and the minister of the Sacrament of Penance. To form the conscience of a child or a youth consists above all in enlightening their minds about Christ's will. His law and His will, also in acting on their inner self in as far as possible from the outside in order to lead them to a free and constant fulfillment of the Divine Will. This is the most exalted duty of education."

THE POPE ADDED that the Christian moral law is found "in the law engraved in the heart of everyone and in Revelation, that is, in the whole of the truths and precepts taught by the Divine Master."

The Pontiff spoke of the errors in the formation and education of a Christian conscience and of the pretense of revising the moral laws. The proponents of these errors today pretend that the moral law be brought back to its original form and left simply to the intelligence and conscience, he stated. This would lead to an upsetting of the foundations of education, he added.

THE DIVINE Redeemer has entrusted His Revelation, which moral obligations are an essential part, not to individual men but to His Church to which He gave the mission to bring men to accept faithfully this sacred deposit," the Pontiff declared. It is not possible to condescend the Saviour's disposition by which the Church has the duty of protecting Christian morals, with the individualist autonomy of conscience, he said.

The Holy Father listed the moral precepts of the Church for the education of conscience in personal and public life, pointing out that the Divine commandment for purity of soul and body is valid without any diminution also for today's youth.

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Teenagers Request Stores to Provide 'Modest' Gowns

A teenage request for modest feminine fashions got prompt results in Rochester this week as a public petition served on ten leading stores by Catholic high school girls won whole-hearted promise that merchants would stock and feature modest fashions for the Spring proms.

McCurdy's, Sibley's, Forman's and Edwards' led the list of Rochester firms answering a student-composed letter which claimed to speak for the 2,185 Catholic girls of Our Lady of Mercy High School, Nazareth Academy and St. Agnes High School.

ROCHESTER FASHION merchants, admitting their showrooms currently emphasize strapless, backless gowns and formal with extreme necklines, agreed to scour the New York market to find models that would meet Catholic standards of modesty.

One store executive said: "We are not in business to corrupt the purity of young women or their escorts. But we do feature the styles which sell and which are easy to procure. If we can be convinced — and this letter is a start — that there is a big market for modest gowns, and if we can find them in New York, we will get them for sale here. But right now the trade doesn't make many that could be called modest."

Mr. Edward Forman of B. Forman Company made the quickest response to the students' letter, deploring the "almost total prevalence of topless, backless, strapless and low-neckline evening gown styles" in the Rochester stores. He asked the Catholic schools' modesty council to choose two representatives to

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Laetare Medalist



Notre Dame, Ind. — (NC) — Thomas E. Murray, a member of the United States Atomic Energy Commission, has been selected for the 1952 Laetare Medal, awarded annually since 1933 by the University of Notre Dame to the person adjudged as the outstanding American Catholic layman.

The announcement was made by the Rev. John J. Cavanaugh, C.S.C., university president.

Abp. Alter Says Man's Laws Oust God's Laws

Columbus, O. — (NC) — The Christian tradition of marriage and family is now under heavy attack, Archbishop Karl J. Alter of Cincinnati, warned at the Pontifical Mass which opened the 20th annual convention of the National Catholic Conference on Family Life here.

This attack, the Archbishop said, has its source in the progressive deterioration of adherence to religious truth and practice, and manifests itself in a growing secular attitude toward marriage and the Christian code of domestic ethics. "Purely human laws are being substituted for divine law," he added.

"The unity and inseparability of marriage," Archbishop Alter warned in his sermon, "are looked upon as a matter of personal convenience. There is a considerable body of public opinion which wishes to emancipate marriage from the protective legislation which has safeguarded it in the past."

THE ARCHBISHOP declared that jurists and social scientists recognize clearly the evils of divorce and understand that "broken homes and multiple parents are the fertile source of juvenile delinquency." But "instead of attributing the evils to a departure from Christian tradition respecting the structure and the function of the family, they now talk of a new social approach to divorce."

He added: "The new approach is to make obsolete the present legal protections. These innovations constitute a challenge which must be met by a reaffirmation of divine truth."

Archbishop Alter said the Catholic problem is not merely negative, but must be explored to supply constructive remedies. He said the secular attitude toward life endangers the entire relationship between the family and the state.

"THE RIGHTS and duties of parents, the reciprocal duties of children toward father and mother, woman's function in the home and the father's authority in the family circle — these and many more questions are now occupying the attention of a growing portion of public opinion," he said.

The Cincinnati prelate said there are three distinct societies established by God to perfect the individual. He emphasized that the home is not merely the place of birth and indispensable source of human existence, but the "best possible environment in which the child can mature and develop."

He also stressed that the state must not assume responsibility which can be exercised by the family, although it must safeguard the health and strength of its citizens and protect the integrity of the human person.

Archbishop Alter described the Church as the third society to which all persons should belong, because it provides for the spiritual necessities and the eternal destiny of the individual.



Studying dress fashions are these members of the Catholic High School Girls' Committee which has petitioned Rochester dress shops to provide teenage party frocks in keeping with Catholic standards of modesty. Shown in picture (left to right) are: Marie Ebert (Nazareth Academy); Mary Frances Connors (Nazareth Academy); Ellen Wilson (Our Lady of Mercy High School); Margie Fletcher (Our Lady of Mercy); and Anne Fay (St. Agnes High School).

Non-Catholics Sign For Family Rosary

New Orleans — (NC) — A recent Family Rosary Crusade throughout Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Arkansas has resulted in 1,600 non-Catholics joining 3,000 Catholics in St. Raphael's three-year-old parish here in pledging daily recitation of the Family Rosary, it was disclosed.

The disclosure was made by the Rev. Vernon P. Aleman, pastor of St. Raphael's. Asked whether the non-Catholics pledged just family prayer or the Family Rosary, Father Aleman said "they pledged the Family Rosary and in writing."

50 Missioners Ousted In 10 Days

Hong Kong — (NC) — Almost 50 Catholic missionaries ousted from Red China have arrived here within a ten-day period.

Express your sympathy with Flowers, Call RA. 9494. Blanchard Florist of 58 Lake Avenue, where you really get best value, daily deliveries to all sections, including hospitals.—Adv.

Irish Bishop Finds Cousin Here Through News Story

Geneva — When he arrived in New York recently, Bishop James Moynagh of Calabar, Nigeria, West Africa, an Irish missionary bishop, remembered his cousin Molly lived in the states. It was his first visit to this country and all he knew was that she lived somewhere in upstate New York. He was hoping he would meet her during his brief visit.

In the meantime, Mrs. John Lawlor, 13 High St., here, the former Molly Moynagh, happened to pick up her diocesan newspaper, The Catholic Courier-Journal, and there she saw a picture of the bishop. He arrived in Rochester last week on a visit and delivered the paucity on St. Patrick's Church, Rochester. She hadn't seen him in 27 years and could hardly believe her eyes.

Telephoning a Geneva friend whose brother is a priest in Rochester, she asked if she could find out whether or not the visiting bishop was her cousin. It didn't take long, because Bishop Moynagh was already on the look-out for her. When he was told of Mrs. Lawlor's inquiry from Geneva, his first words were: "I wonder if her first name is Molly?" He was overjoyed to find it was.

BISHOP MOYNAGH immediately made plans for a quick trip to Geneva to visit his cousin and her family. He came to Geneva Wednesday, stayed overnight in St. Stephen's rectory, celebrated Mass in St. Stephen's Church Thursday morning. Mr. and Mrs. Lawlor and their son, Kevin, were there. Another son, John, was unable to be present. Kevin served the bishop as altar boy. Then the Lawlors received Holy Communion from the bishop.

Thursday night, the family accompanied the bishop to the railroad station where he took a train for New York.

MRS. LAWLOR says when she left County Cavin, Ireland, for the United States about twenty-seven years ago, her cousin was then a student in the seminary.

Circulation Totals To Be Listed In Next Week's Issue

Eight additional parishes reported the complete coverage plan in returns this week in the Courier-Journal circulation drive.

Four of these parishes adopted the plan for the first time. They are: St. Agnes, Auburn; Rev. John E. Crowley's Assumption, Mt. Morris; Rev. Dominic J. Grassi, St. Vincent, Corning; Rev. Joseph E. Guilford, Our Lady of Lourdes, Elmira; Rev. Leo G. Schwab.

The four other parishes continuing the plan are St. Patrick, Cato and St. Thomas, Red Creek; Rev. Francis Harding, St. Mary, Scottsville; Rev. Edward M. Hartmann; Holy Family, Auburn; Rev. Messrs. John A. Conway; St. Patrick, Elmira; Rt. Rev. Messrs. William J. Brien.

Elmer Grapenetter, circulation manager, announces that all the parishes now have reported, with an all-time circulation record assured. Complete statistics on all parish returns will be reported in an early issue.

All subscriptions turned in to the office up to and including Monday, Mar. 31, will receive the Apr. 4 issue.