

St. Catherine's Church, Mendon To Mark 50 Years

By DAVID MALONEY

Parishioners of St. Catherine's Church in Mendon will bow in grateful reverence during the 9:30 a.m. Jubilee Mass, in the presence of His Excellency Bishop Kearney, on Sunday, May 25, when they observe the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of their parish.

The Mass will be celebrated by the Rev. Joseph L. Hogan of St. Bernard's Seminary and assistant to the Rev. Howard W. Geck, pastor.

Bishop Kearney will preach the sermon.

A committee, headed by Mrs. Earl J. Broomfield of Mendon, are completing arrangements for a jubilee dinner to follow the Mass, held in the Mendon Grange Hall. It is expected that more than 200 past and present parishioners will take part in the day-long celebration.

IT WAS ON May 11, 1900, that Father Donnelly of Victor came to Mendon to discuss the possibility of celebrating a Mass in Mendon Village regularly in Finucane's Hall. The following Sunday the first Mass was said there with about 24 families attending.

That same year the late Mrs. Anna Furlong, a devotee Catholic in Mendon, called on Bishop McQuaid to ask permission to erect a church in Mendon. With that permission granted, a fund-raising campaign was started among Catholics and non-Catholics which showed a total of \$2,920.75 donated to start construction.

INTERESTING NOTATIONS found in local weekly newspapers followed the progress of St. Catherine's Church which are of interest today.

From the Victor Herald—"The 'bee' which the Catholic Society held quite recently was the means of raising funds to complete the excavation for the foundation of the building. Work on the cellar wall is rapidly being pushed forward."

From that same publication, August 9, 1901—"The mason work on the Catholic Church is completed, with the exception of the painting. It will soon be decided what carpenter will raise the frame."

In January, 1902—"The first service was observed at the Catholic Church on Sunday morning, although the edifice is by no means completed in the interior or exterior. Because of the contractor's inability to procure the particular lumber at the specified time, it has been impossible to finish the work."

On May 23, 1904, we find—"The Catholic Church of Mendon is now completed and will be dedicated on Sunday, May 25th."



REV. HOWARD W. GECK

Elaborate preparations are being made for the ceremonies at which Bishop McQuaid of the Diocese of Rochester will officiate, assisted by Rev. Father Geck of Rochester, Father Neville of East Bloomfield, Father Cluney of Honeyoye Falls, Dr. Hanns of St. Bernard's Seminary, and the pastor, Father John J. Donnelly.

PRIESTS OF the Diocese who have served as pastors of St. Catherine's during its half-century are: Rev. John J. Donnelly of Victor; Rev. Louis W. Edelmann of Pittsford; Rev. Cornelius Silke of Henrietta; Rev. Victor J. Hurley of Henrietta, and Rev. William J. Killackey of Honeyoye Falls.

Listed among assistant pastors are the following: Rev. Ambrose Kavanagh, Rev. John Reddington, Rev. Howard W. Geck, Rev. Joseph Haffey, Rev. Thomas Redington, Rev. Walter Fisher, Rev. Paul Gibson, and Rev. Joseph L. Hogan.

St. Catherine's has grown through the years, and its parishioners are today most active under the pastorate of Rev. Howard W. Geck, also pastor of St. Paul of the Cross, Honeyoye Falls, and his assistant, Rev. Joseph L. Hogan.

University of Detroit, Detroit, Mich. (NC)—His Eminence Edward Cardinal Mooney will dedicate the University of Detroit's new \$2,500,000 Memorial Building here May 25. The completed phase of a 20-million-dollar expansion program.

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Parish Inquiry Class Closes With 12 Converts

Twelve converts were baptized on Saturday evening, May 17 as a conclusion to the Inquiry Class held in Holy Rosary Church. These classes ran from Feb. 18 through May 15, each Monday and Thursday evening. Fifty-six persons registered for this course.

As it was not a class particularly for converts 34 Catholics attended who wanted to brush up on their Faith. Six who were not Catholics but who did not feel ready to come into the Church are continuing their instructions privately.

DURING THE COURSE OF instructions (ours of the Church were made to acquaint the people with the Church and its furnishings. Colored slides of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass were shown also.

For these classes the Paulist Publication, Catholicism for Inquirers along with the book "Father Smith Instructs Jackson" were used. The Paulist plan for instruction to converts was followed. The Inquiry Class was pronounced a huge success by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Charles F. Shay, pastor of Holy Rosary Church, who has directed that another such class be held in the Fall of this year in Holy Rosary School.

THE BAPTISMS on Saturday evening were performed simultaneously by the Reverend Fathers Paul G. Wohlrab, James Marvin and Elmer McDonald. Rev. Dennis Hickey directed the ceremonies from the pulpit and gave a commentary on the ceremonies and prayers of the administration of the Sacrament.

On Sunday, the converts received Holy Communion at the 8:00 a. m. Mass. This was followed by a Communion breakfast in the hall for all members of the class, their husbands, wives and children. This breakfast was sponsored by the Holy Name Society and prepared and served by members of Our Lady's Guild.

Outdoor Rite Set At St. Boniface

A Prayer Service on the grounds in front of St. Boniface Church, Gregory St. will be sponsored by the Rosary Altar Society on Sunday, May 25 at 7:30 p.m.

A special May devotion will be held at the outdoor shrine followed by Benediction in the Church.

First communicants and all school children will take part in the processions. All parishioners are asked to attend with their families.

Purpose of the ceremony according to society officers is "to give to our Heavenly Mother-seeking her intercession for peace and unity in these troubled times."

College Honors Milwaukee (NC)—Honorary degrees will be awarded to Kurt von Schussnigg and Whittaker Chamber at the Mount Mary College commencement exercises here June 3.

Seminary Exam Slated June 14

The entrance examination for admission to St. Andrew's Seminary will be held on Saturday, June 14, at 10 a.m. at St. Andrew's Seminary, 1150 Buffalo Road. All applicants for admission to the Seminary in September must take this examination.

Knights Dress Parade, Review Listed Sunday

Annual inspection, Review and Dress Parade of the Rochester Regiment, Knights of St. John and Ladies Auxiliary will be held at Edgerton Park Paddock on Sunday afternoon, May 25.

Colonel Joseph F. Wendelgass has issued General Orders No. 1 directing the Knights and Ladies to report at 2:00 p. m. in full dress uniform.

LENE WILL be formed in battalions at 2:15 p. m. after which the Regiment will be formed in the Paddock. A Regimental Sword March will follow and then the Regiment will go on Dress Parade and Pass in Review. While a number of Companies and Auxiliaries will present exhibition drills, the others will be inspected by Inspector George M. Kasman and Assistant Inspector Frank B. Dill.

The mustering officer will be A.D.C. Charles J. Keller. After the exhibition drills the Regiment will return to the Paddock for the retirement of the colors.

AN INVITATION has been extended to Mayor Samuel B. Dicker and the complete City Council. Reviewing officers will be John G. Sittner, Commandant of the Northeast District, also New York Grand Commandery President of the Knights of St. John, and Brig. Gen. Earl Boyle of Syracuse, Past President of New York Grand Commandery.

An invitation is extended to the public.

To Register At Nazareth

Registration for all new students will take place at Nazareth Academy, 101 E. Lake Ave., on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, May 30, 31, and June 1, from 9 a. m. to 9 p. m. Parents or guardians are asked to accompany the registrants.

School Of Holy Childhood Dedication By Bishop Kearney Slated on Saturday

His Excellency Bishop Kearney will dedicate the School of the Holy Childhood and convent, 215 Andrews St., Rochester, Saturday, May 24. The buildings have been reclaimed for use after standing empty since 1947.

The refurbishing represents innumerable donations of merchandise and money from Rochesterians and many hours of volunteer labor by individuals and organizations.

Sister St. Mark, S.S.J., principal of the school for boys and girls of special abilities, and the Rev. Dr. Charles J. Mahoney, superintendent of the Diocesan Schools, said that the gratitude and praise they feel toward those who have made the improvements possible could never be adequately expressed.

THE DEDICATION ceremony is scheduled for 4 p.m. Saturday, and will be followed by an address by His Excellency Bishop Kearney in the auditorium. Hundreds of guest benefactors are expected.

According to reports the list of material and time donated to the improvement of the buildings is far too long for publication. Among the many appliances made available to the school are an automobile, public address system, piano, refrigerator, and cafeteria furnishings and utensils.

THOUSANDS OF dollars have been donated to the project and benefactors include Catholic and non-Catholic alike.

The buildings vacated five years ago because the number of pupils was too small to make continued activity practical, was occupied by the Sisters of St. Joseph in September 1950. The run-down condition of the structures made complete renovation a necessity. New plumbing, steam fitting and adjustment of AC current to DC was accomplished.

SISTER ST. MARK was particularly eloquent in her praise of the unions and central trades. "They gave not only time but interest," she said, "and gave it with a smile."

The chapel which will be completed in the near future has pews and stained glass windows that were also donations.

Following the Bishop's address, tea will be served and an open house will be conducted until 7 p.m.

ALL THE improvements have not been on the interior of the structures. Through the efforts of volunteer groups the land surrounding the school and convent has been shrubbed and landscaped.

Evergreens and rose bushes have been planted around the shrine dedicated to "Mother of Christ, Queen of All Mothers" the east.

Any benefactors who are unable to attend the ceremonies Saturday have been extended an invitation to visit the school at their convenience.

Rochester Firemen Recite Rosary



John A. Blatter, Charles Zimber and Roy Patrick J. Grice, chaplain. The group will have the Corporate Communion and Breakfast Sunday at St. Joseph's Church and at Hotel Monaco. (Courier Staff Photo)

Firemen's Holy Name Group Lists Fr. Erb At Breakfast

Members of Rochester Fire Bureau Holy Name Society will receive Holy Communion in a body at the 7:30 a.m. Mass to be celebrated by His Excellency Bishop Kearney in St. Joseph's Church, Franklin St., on Sunday, May 25.

The uniformed firemen will meet at 7 a.m. in front of Fire Headquarters, North Street and University Ave. to march in a body to the church.

IN THE MASS, the Bishop will be assisted by the Rev. Patrick J. Grice, assistant pastor of St. Monica's Church who is chaplain of the Firemen's Holy Name Society.

The men after the Mass will march to Hotel Seneca where at a breakfast, the principal speaker will be the Rev. Charles G. Erb, S.V.D., a native of Rochester and recently returned from Accra, Gold Coast, West Africa where he was coordinator of Catholic Action.

Postmaster will be Postmaster Donald A. Duffey.

Guests will include Mayor Samuel B. Dicker, City Manager Louis B. Cartwright, Commissioner of Public Safety Kenneth C. Townsend, Deputy Commissioner of Public Safety Victor C. Raycroft, Alexander M. Beebe, president of Rochester Gas and Electric Corp., Carl Hallauer,

Registration Set At Mercy

Registration days for Our Lady of Mercy High School have been set for Saturday, May 31, and Sunday, June 1 from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m. at the school on Blossom Road.

All new students seeking to enroll in classes at Our Lady of Mercy High School should report at the school on one of the above days. Each registrant must be accompanied by at least one parent.



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