

Reds Arrest Polish Archbishop, Priests

Monsignor Lambert Resigns As Diocesan Charities Head; Fr. Ratigan Named Successor

Monsignor Gerald C. Lambert has resigned two diocesan posts which he has held for the past fifteen years: director of the Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rochester and director-treasurer of the Columbus Civic Center.

Bishop James E. Kearney, who made the announcement this week, also has named the Rev. Arthur E. Ratigan, presently director of the Rochester Catholic Family Center, to succeed Monsignor Lambert as director of the Diocesan Charities and Civic Center.

Monsignor Lambert, who is pastor of St. Monica's Church in Rochester, requested to be relieved of his diocesan posts in order that he may devote his full attention to the needs of his parish, Bishop Kearney explained.

Agreeing reluctantly to Monsignor Lambert's request, Bishop Kearney commended his many years of diocesan work of charity and social welfare. "We want Monsignor Lambert to remain, however, as a member of the board of directors of the Charities in order that we may have the benefit of his experience and counsel," the Bishop said.

FATHER RATIGAN, the new Charities and Civic Center director, has served as director of the Family and Child Welfare Division since 1939. Through his efforts the name of the social welfare division was changed to the Rochester Catholic Family Center. Besides directing a large staff of social workers he has expanded the services provided by the Catholic Family Center, particularly in the field of marriage counseling and child study.

He is an alumnus of Aquinas Institute, St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's Seminaries. He was ordained in Rochester in 1936, and served as assistant pastor at St. Francis Xavier and Corpus Christi parishes in Rochester before being assigned to the Charities office. He also served as chaplain to the former St. Mary's Boys Home and the St. Patrick's Girls Home.

Following two years of post-graduate study he was awarded the degree of Master of the Science of Social Work from the Catholic University of America in 1942.

Monsignor Lambert's association with the Charities covers a span of 21 years. He was appointed assistant director in September 1931 and became director in 1937 when the director at the time, the Rev. Walter A. Feery, was named Bishop of Syracuse.

Important development and expansion of diocesan institutions and social welfare projects has marked Monsignor Lambert's years of leadership. Most notable of these were the consolidation of three Rochester orphan asylums and the erection of the modern St. Joseph's Villa, and the establishment and development of the beautiful, Camp Stella Maris for youngsters on Congaree Lake.



FATHER RATIGAN



MONSIGNOR LAMBERT

Daughter's Death Leads To Korean General's Conversion

Washington, D. C. — (NC) — A tragedy that took the life of his three-year-old daughter led to the Korean Marine Corps top commander becoming a Catholic.

This was revealed by Major General Joachim Shin himself in an interview here with N.C.W.C. News Service. The 38-year-old commander was in Washington prior to returning to Korea after a round-the-country tour of U.S. Marine Corps installations.

TOGETHER WITH his wife and three surviving children, General Shin was baptized recently by Father Augustine You in the chapel of the Maryknoll Sisters' hospital in Busan, with Dr. John Chang, former Korean Prime Minister, acting as sponsor for the family.

Two of the Shin's three youngsters are boys — Ong Mok, 11, and Ong Inn, 4. The third is their two-year-old daughter, Soon Ok. The fourth child was three-year-old Marie, who was fatally injured in November, 1950, when Ong Mok accidentally discharged a rifle in the Shin home. At that time General Shin was with his troops in North Korea.

Marie was enrolled in a Catholic kindergarten when the accident happened. Before she died, she was baptized by a priest, and her remains were interred in the Catholic cemetery at Seoul, where the Shins then lived.

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Bishop Kearney Listed On CBS 'Church Of Air'

His Excellency, Bishop James E. Kearney, will be the principal speaker on the Columbia Broadcasting System's "Church of the Air" program on Sunday, Dec. 28, 10:30 to 11 a.m. (WHEC in Rochester). Subject of the Bishop's talk will be "The Message of the Angels."

Choral music for the nationally heard program will be furnished by the St. Bernard's Seminary Choir of Rochester, under the direction of Rev. Charles J. McCarthy.

Stromberg, Wegman Give To Schools

Additional contributions from Rochester business firms to the Bishop's Jubilee High School Fund are announced by the special committee as follows: \$5,000 — Stromberg-Carlson Co. \$500 — Wegman's Dairy.

Diocese To Pray Sunday For Victims of Persecution

His Excellency Bishop Kearney has called upon the faithful of the Diocese of Rochester to join with the nation's 30 million Catholics in a special "Day of Prayer" on next Sunday (Dec. 28) for the persecuted peoples of the world.

This is in accordance with a decision arrived at by the Bishops of the United States at their recent annual meeting in Washington. In towns and cities throughout free America, Catholics will stage a "peace barrage" of sacrifice, prayer and acts of mortification for those facing martyrdom in the Orient and behind the Iron Curtain. Churches will hold special services in the coast-to-coast observance.

THE TENS OF thousands of priests and religious and millions of Catholics who have suffered under the greatest religious persecution in history will be remembered on the Feast of the Holy Innocents and the day preceding the Feast of St. Thomas a Becket, who for centuries has stood the symbol of the persecuted Church.

In a statement urging Catholics of the free world "to unite in offering mortification for those who are giving their lives in defense of basic human rights," the Bishops of America called for "intercession and prayer that God... may shorten these days of trial and restore peace and tranquility to the Church and to the world."

This will be the second annual observance of reparation day on the last Sunday of the year. Last year, on December 30, churches throughout the Nation were filled for special services and day-long exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. In some rural areas Catholics came "through snow drifts and bitter cold to join the country's prayers for persecuted people in other lands."

HOLY HOURS were directed in city churches and Bishops urged Catholics of their dioceses to receive Holy Communion. Americans lined the Communion rails in remembrance of members of the "Church of Silence" to whom the Sacraments are no longer available.

Calling for a "concrete demonstration of solidarity with those who suffer for the sake of their faith," last year's announcement of the day of reparation pointed up the opportunity for

Five Polish Bishops Now In 'Custody'

London — (RNS) — Archbishop Eugene Biazak of Lwow, temporary administrator of the Archdiocese of Cracow, Poland, has been arrested on charges of "anti-State activities, Polish Catholic sources reported here.

They said the charges were connected with the receipt series of arrests in the Cracow hierarchy.

Reds Discourage 'Merry Christmas'

London — (RNS) — A number of priests in Poland have been arrested recently for refusing to cooperate in an official drive to discourage the celebration of Christmas. It was reported here.

The government's campaign seeks to substitute for Christmas a special observance of the "New Year Holidays." School teachers are said to be lecturing on the "important" New Year observance.

Children's parties are being organized, it is said, on a large scale to celebrate the New Year. Parents are being urged to organize "cultural parties" for our children in the New Year Holidays.

The Polish Communist regime has accused church staff members of leading an espionage ring working for a foreign country.

In Rome, Vatican circles said they had received a report that Archbishop Biazak had been arrested a week ago.

'Defend God's Holy Church'

My Dear People: This Sunday, the Feast of the Holy Innocents, has been set aside by the American Hierarchy as a day to honor the martyrs to tyranny of the present year and to pray to God on their behalf.

The modern Herods, fortified by all the implements of modern religious persecution, reenact day by day the slaughter of the innocents, making the efforts of Herod and even of Hitler seem amateurish.

Europe which was once a great symphony of Christmas carols, in this year of Our Lord, silent as the tomb in many places, and the only chant is the dirge of lamentation for the glories of the past.

As we kneel before the Crub of Bethlehem, let us beg of St. Joseph who saved the infant Jesus from the wrath of Herod, that he "now defend God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity."

After all the Masses, then, on Sunday, December 28, we shall recite publicly the prayer to St. Joseph on behalf of these martyrs of our own day.

Praying God's choicest blessings upon you and yours during the New Year, I remain Your devoted Shepherd in Christ, + James E. Kearney BISHOP OF ROCHESTER

Church Seeks No Tax Aid, Says Archbishop Alter

Cincinnati — (NC) — Archbishop Karl J. Alter of Cincinnati has flatly denied that the Church wants financial aid from the Government. "The Church neither wants nor would accept tax support here in the United States," he told the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus at a dinner given by them in his honor.

REPLYING TO "falsely alleged claims" that the Church seeks Government subsidies, Archbishop Alter declared: "It should be clearly understood that the Church as such makes no claim to any tax support for her specific activities, religious, educational, or charitable."

The newly-elected chairman of the N.C.W.C. Administration Board added: "Parents, however, do have rights as citizens, and one of these rights is that of equitable treatment by the State in the common distribution of educational benefits provided by public taxes."

He called the State "manifestly unjust" when it "sets up a single and exclusive system of public schools which stifles the desires of one group of citizens but which because of its limited curriculum fails utterly to satisfy the legitimate desires of another group. Surely this is discrimination."

The Church-related schools, he pointed out, "meet all the requirements of the compulsory education laws."

Cardinal Offers Christmas Masses On Battle-Scarred Korean Front

Seoul, Korea — (NC) — Once more on Christmas Day, Cardinal Spellman, Military Vicar of the U. S. Armed Forces, made the cold valleys of war-scarred Korea his cathedral.

The Cardinal offered Christmas Masses at three points across the rugged Korean front. The great majority of his congregations here have come to Korea since last Christmas, the occasion of an earlier visit by His Eminence, Most of the thousands of Army, Marine, Navy and Air Force men he greeted last year have gone back wounded. Taps have sounded over the graves of others.

WAR WELCOMES and freezing weather greeted the Cardinal on his arrival in Korea. The welcomes were by American and United Nations soldiers all down the line from four-star General James A. Van Fleet, to privates.

Cardinal Laden With Cigarettes For Korea GI's

New York — (NC) — His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman took along 50,000 religious cards and 100,000 cigarettes for the forces in Korea when he left here for his ten-day Christmas visit to the fighting front. The prelate termed the gifts "symbols of the unity of the folks back home."

In addition to his visits with the fighting men, His Eminence plans to call on the Maryknoll Sisters in Fusan. He told reporters he expects to leave Korea on New Year's Eve for Taipei, Formosa. From there he will go to Rome by way of Lebanon, arriving in the Eternal City in time for the consistory on January 12.

Independence Moves Up Sailing Date

Huntington, Ind. — (NC) — The U.S.S. Independence will leave Newport York one day ahead of schedule to call at American pilgrims may attend a special Mass in Fatima, Portugal.

Cardinal-Elect Of Venice Near Death

Vatican City — (NC) — His Holiness Pope Pius XII has received a message from one of the 24 Cardinals-designate, who is near death.

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