

'Schools Need God,' Bishop Tells Kiwanis

Blessed
Easter
Greetings

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Secularists Seek School Monopoly, Says Bp. Kearney

Public education in America must return to the recognition of God and the need of religious training in order to check the advance of moral decay now gripping the nation, His Excellency Bishop Kearney told the Rochester Kiwanis Club this week.

The Bishop addressed the weekly Kiwanis luncheon Wednesday noon in the Seneca Hotel Ballroom on the subject of "Religion and Education."

He deplored the fact that "Many of our countrymen do not see that the moral and spiritual values which have made America great, find their origin, their strength and their ultimate value in God and God alone."

"The profound dignity of the human personality is only intelligible in the light of the dignity of the soul created by God," he said.

"Personal responsibility" is a meaningless phrase unless there be a God to Whom man is responsible and Who rewards and punishes. "Devotion to truth" is a delusion unless there be a Truth which all men can know and love.

"Moral equality" is absurd unless there be a Being before Whom we are morally equal. "Brotherhood" is impossible unless there be a Fatherhood in God," he explained.

The Bishop struck out at "the way of life we call secularism" and called it an even greater danger than "the constant temptation for this country to turn away from God and to become immersed in material pursuits."

FOLLOWERS OF secularism, the Bishop said, "seek to remove all influence of religion from public life and education. Their main efforts are centered on the divorce of religion from education. Their strategy seems to be: first to secularize completely the public school and then to claim for it a total monopoly of education."

"Teaching moral and spiritual values divorced from religion and based only on social convention is not enough," said Bishop Kearney. "There can be no firm and lasting morality unless man's conscience is enlightened by the knowledge of principles that express God's fixed law."

He warned that "without religion morality becomes simply a matter of individual taste, of public opinion or majority vote. Without religious education, moral education is impossible."

The Bishop emphatically decried that opposition to the secularist trend in education gives reason for saying that "we are the enemies of the public schools."

"WE RECOGNIZE that the State has a legitimate and even necessary concern with education," he admitted, "but if religion is important to good citizenship, then the State must give recognition to its importance in public education."

"The State, therefore, has the duty to help parents fulfill their task of religious instruction and training. When the State fails in this help, when it

Bishop Plans Evening Mass On May Day

His Excellency Bishop Kearney will offer an evening Mass and preach at 8:30 p. m. on May Day (May 1) at the Campus of St. John Fisher College.

This will mark the first use in the Diocese of Rochester of the evening Mass privilege recently granted by Pope Pius XII.

IN HIS Apostolic Constitution, "Christus Dominus," issued on January 6th of this year, the Holy Father gave bishops the faculty of permitting evening Masses in their dioceses on special days (holy days and First Fridays), on solemn occasions when large crowds of the faithful gather, and for the benefit of special classes of persons such as workers.

May Day this year will fall on the First Friday of the month.

COLLEGE OFFICIALS also explained that choice of May Day for the first evening Mass under the new Papal privilege was in keeping with a growing movement among American Catholics to reclaim May Day (Mary's Day) from the Communists who hold worldwide demonstrations on that day.

The evening Mass will be said out of doors on the terrace in front of the Administration Building of the College. An altar surmounted with a statue of Our Lady will be erected in the center of the loggia.

Students of St. John Fisher College and Nazareth College will attend and join in hymns to Our Lady and in the recitation of the Rosary.

makes the task more difficult and even penalizes parents who try to fulfill this duty according to conscience, by depriving their children of their right under our Federal Constitution to auxiliary services, this can only be regarded as an utterly unfair and shortsighted policy."

Bishop Kearney expressed alarm over current charges denouncing all non-public schools as "divisive."

"The differences which are harmful to our country," he explained, "are those which divide our people in their duty of loyalty, patriotism, and good citizenship. Education of children in schools under religious auspices has no such effect," he said.

"ON THE contrary," he added, "the religious instruction children receive in religious schools inculcates the duties of loyalty, patriotism and civic service based on love of God, of neighbor and country. Education that is truly religious is a unifying rather than a dividing force."

Recalling that President Eisenhower, before making his inaugural address, offered a prayer to God as the first official act of his administration, Bishop Kearney commented:

"We should certainly encourage religion in the education of our future Americans, so that when another president may do the same in the next generation, his behavior will have been the result of a long and noble tradition."

The Bishop also reminded his audience of the motto—"In God We Trust"—which is engraved on the nation's coinage.

"The God's name on the money is there to be a constant reminder to the citizen that the nation's strength and stability are based on God's strength. That is why the name of God is on the money."

The Bishop also reminded his audience of the motto—"In God We Trust"—which is engraved on the nation's coinage.

Whom Dost Thou Seek?
Asks Christ

BY REV. PATRICK J. FLYNN

TWICE the world found Christ in a garden. Once in the Garden of Gethsemani on the night of His betrayal and once in the Garden of the Tomb on the morning of His resurrection from the dead.

THE OPENING SCENE in the drama of Our Lord's Passion finds Him standing in the shadows of Gethsemani and facing an armed band of men who have come to seize him. These men are his enemies.

Christ halts their advance with this simple question: "Whom do you seek?"

"Jesus of Nazareth," Christ's enemies are emphatic and ready with their answer. And so is Christ. "I am He," he tells the men who will lead Him to death on Calvary's cross.

NOW TURN TO ANOTHER scene which spelled triumph over the dark hours of Gethsemani and Calvary. It is a few days later in the early dawn of Easter morning, the third day after Christ's death on the cross.

The light of the breaking dawn reveals a weeping woman, Mary Magdalen, standing before an open tomb in a garden near Calvary. This is the tomb where Christ's friends had buried Him hurriedly on Good Friday afternoon.

But the tomb is empty! And Mary Magdalen concludes that Christ's enemies have stolen His body.

As she wept, she stooped down and looked into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and one at the feet, where the body of Jesus had been laid.

They said to her: "Woman, why art thou weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him."

When she had said this she turned around and beheld Jesus standing there, and she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why art thou weeping? Whom dost thou seek?" She thinking that He was the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if thou hast removed him tell me where their head-bands are and I will take them away."

Jesus said to her, "Mary!" Turning, she said to Him, "Rabboni!"

"WHOM DOST THOU SEEK?" This question opens and illumines the story of Christ's Passion. This same sharp question is Christ's challenge to his enemies in Gethsemani and to his friends at the Sepulchre.

The suffering Christ of Gethsemani and the Risen Christ of Easter probes men's hearts with the same all important query—"Whom dost thou seek?"

Today, on this Easter day of 1953, Christ's challenge echoes forth again from the pages of the gospel as eloquently as it did from the darkness of Gethsemani or the dawn of the Resurrection Morning.

As the presence of the Risen Christ once again walks in the garden of the world at this new Easter Season, men and women halt in their mad rush to hear God challenge their hearts, even as He once challenged Magdalen's. "Whom dost thou seek?"

What answer does our world give today to Christ's question? Let modern foes of Christ answer His question themselves and in their own way. What answer shall we give, we who call ourselves Christ's friends?

"WHOM DOST THOU SEEK?" Many must answer this question with embarrassed silence. Many will stammer in confusion, mindful of the fact that their day-to-day lives belie any serious search for Christ's divine love.

Many must confess that they seek a false Christ of their own making. They seek an easy Christ, who makes no laws, commands no allegiance, saves no souls. They seek a Christ who never asks disturbing questions.

But this is not the Christ of Gethsemani or Calvary. This is not the Christ who broke out of the tomb on Easter morning with a triumphant challenge to the whole world on his lips—a challenge which really said, "NOW will you have ME?"

THE CHRIST WHO MET MARY Magdalen in the garden on Easter morning wore the wounds of the cross, the scars of nails in His hands and feet. He had bought life for all men at the cost of His own. He had a right to expect that all of us would come running to see Him with the Magdalen-like accents of devotion and love—"Master!"

Sooner or later all of us must answer the challenge of the Risen Christ. He has a right to an answer from all of us. Each of us must make our own answer for ourselves.

"Whom dost thou seek?"

Easter Programs List TV Mass, Seminary Choir

Solemn High Mass will be televised from Mercy Motherhouse Chapel on Easter Sunday morning from 9:45 to 11 a. m. over WHEC-TV.

The Very Rev. John F. Murphy, C.S.B., president of St. John Fisher College, will be celebrant. Other officiants will be St. Bernard's and St. Andrew's seminarians.

An explanatory commentary on the ceremonies will be given

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by the Rev. John F. O'Meara, C.S.B., dean of St. John Fisher College, and the Rev. Richard Torrey of Our Lady of Mercy High School will preach the sermon.

The Sisters' Choir of the Motherhouse will sing the Mass under the direction of Sister Mary Edwina, R.S.M.

The St. Bernard's Seminary Choir will be heard on Easter Sunday from 10:00 to 11 a. m. over WHEC in Rochester on the Columbia Broadcasting System's "Church of the Air," a national network feature.

The choir is under the direction of the Rev. Charles J. McCarthy.

Speakers on the program will be the Rev. Gordon Albion of Sutton Park Parish, Guilford, England. Father Albion is noted as Britain's outstanding radio preacher.

'He Has Risen!
He Is Not Here!'



The Angel spoke and said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you seek Jesus, Who was crucified. He is not here, for He has risen even as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord was laid . . ."

HOPELESS LOVE AFFAIRS

'Reckless Courting' Scored As Dangerous

Lafayette, Ind. — (NC) — Reckless courting and marriage outside the Church are dealt with by Bishop John G. Bennett of Lafayette in a strongly worded pastoral letter.

Bishop Bennett called attention to "the reckless habit of company keeping with those who have never married," and stated that "such association leads to serious danger."

"IN MOST CASES the Catholic party saves his or her conscience by assuming a knowledge of theology and decides that the married person can be declared

quity of the pastor at the early stage long before affection has developed."

Speaking of the marriage of a Catholic outside the Church, Bishop Bennett said:

"A Catholic who does such a traitorous thing in the presence of a non-Catholic minister incurs the censure of excommunication. All those who because of family ties or friendship, participate in any way in any marriage of a Catholic outside the Church commit grievous sin."

Island's Chieftain To Become Priest

Sydney, Australia — (RNS) —

A young hereditary chieftain of the Solomon Islands, whose ancestors were notorious head-hunters, will shortly be ordained to the Catholic priesthood. He is Aloysius Tamuka, who began his priestly studies under the late Father James Hennessy of Boston, a missionary in the Solomons who lost his life during the Japanese occupation.

Big Family All Dressed Up For Easter Sunday



Chicago—Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Brennan and their 11 children are shown outside Our Lady of Sorrows church here all decked out in identical Easter suits tailored by Mr. Brennan, an oil dealer. He spent 100 hours and used 25 yards of white material making the double-breasted suits and clove-green peckerchiefs and bow ties. Left to right are Mrs. Brennan, Mrs. Brennan, 8 months, in her arms; Albert, 11; Cecile, 11; Roseleen, 11; Edith, 10; Margaret, 9; Thomas, 7; Paul, 6; Michael, 4; Bryan, 3; Susan, 1; and Mr. Brennan. (Chicago News Service Photo.)