

Bishop Casey Pledges 'Loyalty, Cooperation'

The following statement was issued by Monsignor Casey following the announcement that Pope Pius XII had appointed him Auxiliary Bishop of Rochester:

"This appointment leaves me with mixed feelings. While I deeply appreciate the signal mark of confidence shown me by Our Holy Father, Pope Pius XII, and by His Excellency, Bishop Kearney, there is on my part the real feeling of unworthiness which comes to one called to be a Bishop. And there is a sense of dependence on the continued prayers of one's friends and associates. I ask them to pray that I may always do the Lord's work the way He wants it done, for the glory of God and the spiritual benefit of the community in which I live.

"The Papal appointment signifies that I shall become Auxiliary Bishop of Rochester, which means in effect that I be ready to assist Bishop Kearney in any way that he may see fit. This I am prepared to do.

"As I prepare for the Consecration ceremony, I pledge anew my loyalty and full cooperation to Bishop Kearney as head of the Diocese, and to the priests and people of the Diocese of Rochester my best efforts in serving their spiritual interests."



LAWRENCE J. CASEY
... as student at St. Bernard's.

Auxiliary of Rochester

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a special attachment for his work with the pupils and sisters of Our Lady of Mercy High School and Convent. He often has remarked, "It was a real pleasure to work with such wholesome people."

Father Casey instituted the pupils' field day at Mercy High. One day each Fall, the girls go down the dugway hill to Ellison Park. There are baseball games between home rooms and between classes. The girls compete in racing and jumping contests. There is a picnic lunch.

The field day has helped increase Mercy's tremendous school spirit. Today the occasion still marks one of the chief highlights on the school calendar.

Father Casey came to know many of the pupils very well. Besides chaplain, counsellor, and teacher, the future Bishop also was their chauffeur, handyman, referee, and umpire.

Many of his pupils later joined the community of the Mercy Sisters and studied and worked in the novitiate. Once a year while pastor of Holy Cross Church, Monsignor Casey held a picnic for the novices. Each year the looked-for event was held on Columbus Day.

His contact with the pupils has given him a wide acquaintanceship with many of the young Catholic mothers in the diocese and particularly in the city. Not a few of to-

day's children at the school are daughters of his former pupils and many of the younger nuns found some portion of their holy calling in Father Casey's conferences.

S IS for Scholarly. In 1936 the late Rev. John B. Delaney, C.S.C., former dean of men at Portland University, was retreat master for priests of the Rochester Diocese. This scholarly man made a deep impression on Father Casey and prompted the priest to one of his cherished projects. He calls it the "Casey File."

He was deeply moved by the death of Father Delaney which occurred just a few days before Monsignor Casey's appointment to the Episcopacy was announced.

The "Casey File" contains more than 10,000 items catalogued according to subject. There are quotations from hundreds of sources, stories and anecdotes to illustrate certain articles of faith and urge the faithful to greater devotion, and references to both doctrinal and devotional books. It is an active and growing file today.

"The Casey File" is the prime source of information for his sermons and for the quotations found in the Cathedral's weekly bulletins. Recently Monsignor Casey took from his file the words of Brother Azarias on bad literature and in the Sunday bulletin wrote:

"The tragedy (of bad literature) lies in this, that you cannot detect its subtle influence until it has left the iron in your soul and the sweet prayers of your childhood have grown insipid and the ritual and ceremonial of the church have lost their attractiveness and you no longer think of God and of your future life with the same concern."

"The Casey File" contains a plethora of material for sermons and conferences. Monsignor Casey uses it to the hilt. This makes his writings easier to do but it does not lessen the energy of writing. Each sermon, each parish bulletin, each conference is the result of hard labor.

Monsignor Casey writes out in

long hand his every effort. And no first run is ever satisfactory. ... follows meticulous rewriting and editing before the finished product gets his approval.

During his work at Mercy High School, Father Casey delivered two series of conferences, one on the Commandments and the other on the Sacraments, in addition to their primary aim of instructing the pupils, they were tryouts to see if their makeup and language could command the attention of teenagers on a religious subject for a full 35 minutes.

As he delivered these conferences, Father Casey was alert to the girls'

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During World War II Bishop Casey sent out a special bulletin to diocesan chaplains. Here he is shown with a group of chaplains.