

Auxiliary Bishop of Rochester

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reactions. Later he would revise the lessons in the light of what he observed while delivering them.

With the encouragement of Father Delaney, these conferences were published in two books. They are "Practical Talks on the Sacraments" and "Practical Talks on the Commandments." These books are designed principally for priests who work with teenagers. More than 11,000 copies have been sold to religious all over the country.

When talking to high schoolers, Monsignor Casey points out, you have to speak their language. He used Mercy High School as a laboratory for the conferences in the two books. Whether preaching to young or old the cardinal rule for any sermon is to make the subject matter graphic and interesting, says Bishop Casey.

HIS for Holy.

On his trip to Rome with Cardinal Mooney in 1946, Father Casey suffered one disappointment. He was unable to celebrate Mass in the church of his patron, St. Lawrence. The basilica was the one church in Rome destroyed by American bombs in World War II.

Hardly the frame of the church remained standing. Its roof was gone and the crumbling sides yawned to the skies. The tomb of the third century martyr was still intact and there Father Casey knelt and prayed to his patron.

St. Lawrence, whose feast is celebrated on Aug. 10, was a deacon of the church who was martyred in the persecution of Valerian. He was among the last of the Church leaders to be dragged from the catacombs and be put to death.

Tradition holds that his Roman persecutors asked St. Lawrence to hand over the riches of the church. He brought forth the poor of Rome as his answer. Among the poor he had distributed the Church's goods as alms. He was martyred in 258.

The people of Rome always have had a special devotion to St. Lawrence. Constantine the Great was the first to erect an oratory over his burial place. This was enlarged and beautified by Pope Pelagius II and Pope Sixtus. In the 13th century, Honorius III completed the basilica.



Bishop Lawrence B. Casey tells his mother, Mrs. Joseph L. Casey, that the Holy Father has appointed him Titular Bishop of Coa and Auxiliary to Bishop James E. Kearney.

It is the words of St. Lawrence that will appear on Bishop Casey's coat of arms. "Illi Soli Servio." (Him alone do I serve.)

Just before his martyrdom, St. Lawrence, as we read in the Roman Breviary, told his persecutors: "Deum meum colo, illi soli servio, et ideo non timeo tormenta tua. Mea nox obscurum non habet, sed omnia in luce clarescunt."

"I worship my God, Him alone do

I serve. Therefore, I do not fear your tortures. My night is not dark, all things begin to shine in the light."

The new Bishop in his sermons and instructions repeatedly urges special devotion to a person's patron. Daily he prays to St. Lawrence for the help he needs to carry out his duties.

While in Rome, Father Casey was profoundly impressed by the Holy Father. In describing his meeting with the Pontiff Pius XII, he said:

"All of us were so taken by the power of the Holy Father that we could not but fasten our eyes on him. He is personally dynamic and the realization of what he is and represents drew us to him."

OIS for Orderly.

Being secretary and almost constant companion to an active and energetic man as Bishop Kearney required someone who could order his time almost to the second. The race with time required the most orderly planning.

Picking one particular Sunday schedule, although not really typical, illustrates the need for sharp budgeting of time.

Bishop Kearney and Father Casey attended a Communion Breakfast and at noontime were in Geneva for graduation exercises at St. Francis de Sales High School. From there the two journeyed to Elmira for commencement rites in the afternoon of Elmira Catholic High School. They later attended a reception in Corning for the late Msgr. John Griffin, who headed the Corning Deanery of the Diocese. Then followed a trip, needless to say a quick one, back to Rochester for graduation rites at Aquinas Institute. But the day was not finished. Still left was a stop at the Columbus Civic Center for the opening of a Knights of St. John convention.

Before the arrival of the Basilian Fathers, who operate Aquinas Institute and St. John Fisher College, Father Casey was charged with scheduling priests for fill-in duties in the parishes in the Diocese. From among the chancery office priests and the faculties of Aquinas and the seminaries, he filled parish posts vacated by sickness and vacations. There also was the task of providing extra priests for Saturday and Sunday in the larger parishes and in the summertime finding men for the chapels and camps at the resort points.

Father Casey also assigned himself to these extra duties. It was this work that took him to East Bay

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Bishop Lawrence B. Casey served as deacon of the Mass celebrated by Bishop James E. Kearney, marking Bishop Kearney's 35th anniversary in the Priesthood. From left are the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph C. McArdle, Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Hart, Bishop Casey, the late Rt. Rev. Msgr. William P. Borpan, the late Rt. Rev. Edward M. Lyons, and Bishop Kearney. The picture was taken outside Sacred Heart Cathedral in September, 1941.