Around A Rosary Altar
Presence of Angels
Dream of George Clark
Spotlights On Aquinas

By MONSIGNOR HART

Rosary Month

October of 1953 will witness as usual a renewed army of Catholic men and women dedicated to the devotion of the Rosary. Throughout the world Catholics will be guided by the law of the Church in the daily practice of reciting the Rosary in common. Every Catholic will be prompted to have a personal and private devotion to the Queen of the Most Holy Rosary. In the home the Catholic family will gather around a Rosary Altar.

The first thing to do with the beginning of October is to check on our devotional equipment. If our Rosary has been lost or has suffered serious damage we should at once find a new one, fit in every way for the hallowed use to which it is to be dedicated. Besides the privilege of living close to Mary, thinking her thoughts, and repeating the words that were first said to her, we have the opportunity of gaining rich indulgences, and besides the partial indulgences we have opportunity to gain many a plenary indulgence during the month of October. Begin with the first day of the month and continue right through to the end with your brethren throughout the world in reciting the Rosary.

Angel Guardians

God has made man a little less than the Angels and to protect man in his dignity, to keep him devoted to his Creator, God has given to each man an Angel to be his special guardian, to watch over him and keep him in the way of rectitude. We too often forget the important part that Angels have in our lives. We know that the Lord from the beginning has placed Angels in charge of the great countries of the world. No man can state with accuracy the full part that Angels play as messengers of God in helping to carry out His divine Will. But we know that Angels are God's messengers; that they are pure in spirits, not limited by the conditions that go with material beings. They were created to be near God, to enjoy His presence in Heaven. Their power to know the perfections of God and to adore Him in all these perfections equips them for the eternal happiness that can come only to those who are with God in Haeven.

We should strive to be conscious of the presence of Angels in our country, in our city, in our home and in the privacy of our own lives. But in order to profit most by the presence of the Angels we should make a conscious effort to keep them in our thoughts. We celebrate with due ceremony the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, of St. Raphael, who is the Medicine of God and St. Gabriel, the Power of God. We have Churches dedicated to God's Angels and his Archangels. We surround ourselves in prayer with the presence of these great princes of God's Kingdom. Let us make October the occasion for learning more about the Angels and showing them daily devotion through the knowledge of their power and dignity that comes to us through meditation.

A Friend To Man

"That you have love, one for another — by this shall men know that you are my Disciples". Rochester has just lost the love and devotion and the practical generosity of one who was indeed a friend to man. Through his generosity provision has been made for a home for boys and girls that stands out among the institutions of our Country. There are few places in the country that can point to a complete and fully equipped institution such as St. Joseph's Villa on Dewey Avenue. In it was fulfilled a dream of George Clark to erect a permanent home for boys and girls who are deprived of a home cared for by their own parents. He has done many generous things for his native city, has endowed education and charitable institutions, and surely has reason to look to God for the special reward that God reserves for those that love Him and love their brethren. In the years ahead many a prayer of gratitude will be said by those who have profited by the spirit of love that has been a large part of the life of this great benefactor.

Our community profited by the personal benefactions of George Clark and stands to receive even greater blessings through the example of Christian charity he has given to the present generation and also of generations to come. God will surely bless him for his work.

Football To The Front

We are now well into the annual football season. Every college and every high school worthy of the name has its gridiron warriors well set to gather the glory in the fields through conquering all its rivals or through giving them a decisive battle even when victory cannot be won. The pride of many thousands in and about Rochester rests each year on the Aquinas Football team and in number the Aquinas followers went to the Stadium on last Sunday eager to win its first victory. From far away Erie came a worthy opponent. Our one consolation in the tie score was that two splendid teams gave to the fans an outstanding example of the kind of a team that ability, sportsmanship and consumate skill and training can produce.

Thousands will be looking forward avidly to the remaining games. There is a thrill that fills the heart of every spectator as he witnesses the prowess of our boys and enters so fully into the spirit of football rivalry. Aquinas will have to strive mightily to put itself to the front in the games that are to come.

Sunday Sermon

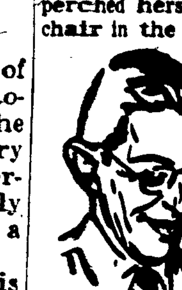
By Msgr. Hart

THE INVITATION REJECTED [illegible] Marriage Feast was filled with guests.

[illegible]

JOSEPH BREIG

Alice And The Sales Tax



Breig

Alice smiled prettily as she perched herself in a big leather chair in the office of one of the most important men in Washington. Her green suit contrasted fetchingly with red leather, and for that matter she was not hard to look at herself. She never is.

"Good morning," Alice chirped. "You're looking grand." She sighed. "So masterful. So executive. So commanding. So statesman - like. So——."

"And so confounded busy that I can't spare much time even for you, Alice," said the Important Man. "You're wonderful, and I like talking with you, but——."

"TO THE POINT, EH?" inquired Alice, tilting her head like a robin listening for a worm. "Oh, very well, then. Although I do think you big men work entirely too hard. If I were your wife or your doctor——."

"Alice," interrupted the Important Man, "please. To the point."

Alice's laughter was a silver trill. "Oh, dear," she said. "I'd forgotten already. Well, then—to the point." She leaned forward earnestly in the big chair. "What's all this silly talk I hear about a federal sales tax?"

"It isn't silly," said the Important Man.

"OF COURSE IT'S SILLY," replied Alice firmly. "It's silly even for a trial balloon, which is what I suppose it is, but whatever it is, it's certainly silly. That's what you call it when you're trying to feel the public pulse, isn't it —a trial balloon?"

"Your metaphors are a bit mixed," said the Important Man, "but I think I follow you. Yes, that's what you call it. But mind you, I'm not admitting that this is a trial balloon. And it's not silly, I tell you."

"You can tell me," Alice returned cheerfully, "until you're blue in the face, but it's silly all the same. Every sales tax is silly, except on silly luxuries. But that isn't the worst of it. I suppose being silly can be excused. But sales taxes are down right wicked, and you know it."

"I don't know anything of the kind," replied the Important Man.

"NONSENSE," said Alice. "You men! Of course sales taxes are wicked, and of course you know they're wicked. You know why they're wicked, too."

"Why-" inquired the I. M.

"Must I really tell you?" asked Alice. "They're wicked because they're a method of taking the taxes from the people best able to pay, and putting them on the people least able to pay." Alice's face stopped being cheerful. "A federal sales tax," she said, "would be just downright rotten. Every general sales tax is rotten."

"Why do you feel so strongly about this matter?" asked the I. M.

ALICE STRUCK THE ARM of the big leather chair with a tiny fist. "Because I don't believe in discriminating against fathers and mothers who are trying to bring up good American children to be the good American citizens! That's why."

The I. M. grinned suddenly. "Alice," he said, "you should take to the political platform. You're a rousing speaker when you're aroused."

Alice tossed her head. "It won't be necessary for me, or anybody else, to take to the political platform," she declared. "You pass a sales tax, and your party will find itself looking for new quarters quickly enough?"

"So?" inquired the Important Man.

"YES" said Alice emphatically. I'm sure the people won't stand for you penalizing a mother every time she goes to a store to buy shoes for her children to go to school in, or a new shirt for her husband so he can look presentable at work, and all that. A sales tax would be a rotten trick to play on parents who already are [illegible] almost sick with high prices; and I don't think the voters will stand for it."

"Well," said the I. M. "you're entitled to your opinion."

"Yes," said Alice, "and I'm [illegible]

Bishop Kearney's Appointments

OCTOBER

1 Thursday—St. Francis Assisi—Family Rosary for Peace—7:00 p.m.
Nazareth College—Mass of the Holy Ghost—9:00 a.m.

2 Friday — St. Joseph — Low Mass, St. Monica Sodality — 9:00 a.m.
St. John Fisher College—Mass of the Holy Ghost—9:00 a.m.
St. Bernard's Seminary — Conference—4:30 p.m.

3 Saturday — Carmelite Monastery—Low Mass—9:00 a.m.
St. Jerome, East Rochester—Opening Dinner, New School Campaign—6:00 p.m.

5 Monday—St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York City—Consecration of Bishops-elect Dargin and Kellenberg—10:00 a.m.

7 Wednesday—St. Rose, Lima—Confirmation—7:45 p.m.

8 Thursday—St. Mary—Low Mass, Opening D.C.C.W. Convention—9:30 a.m.
Chamber of Commerce—D.C.C.W. Luncheon—12:30 p.m.
Holy Trinity, Webster—Confirmation—7:45 p.m.

10 Saturday—New Rochelle College—Pontifical Mass, Golden Jubilee of College—11:00 a.m.

11 Sunday—Holy Rosary—Pontifical Mass—10:45 a.m.
St. Augustine—Confirmation—2:00 p.m.
Mother of Sorrows, Greece—Blessing of New School — 4:00 p.m.

12 Monday—St. Joseph—Low Mass, Rochester Council, K of C. — 9:00 a.m.
St. Charles—Confirmation—5:15 p.m.
Columbus Civic Centre—Address, K. of C. Dinner — 7:00 p.m.

13 Tuesday — St. Bernard's Seminary — Pontifical Mass of Requiem, S. B. S. Alumni Association—10:00 a.m.
Columbus Civic Centre—Closing Dinner, C.Y.A Membership Campaign—6:30 p.m.

14 Wednesday—Hotel Seneca — St. Bernard's Alumni Association Banquet—1:00 p.m.
St. Monica—Confirmation—7:45 p.m.

15 Thursday—St. Agnes, Avon—Confirmation—7:30 p.m.

16 Friday—St. Boniface—Confirmation—7:45 p.m.

18 Sunday—St. Mary's Hospital — Low Mass, Seton Circle Communion Breakfast—9:00 a.m.
Our Lady of Mercy High School — I.F.C.A College Fair —3:00 p.m.
Mount Carmel—Confirmation—7:45 p.m.

20 Tuesday—St. Margaret Mary—Confirmation—7:45 p.m.

21 Wednesday — Columbus Civic Centre — Deanery Clergy Conference—4:00 p.m.
Immaculate Conception—Confirmation—7:45 p.m.

23 Friday—Hotel Sheraton — Address, Clergy Luncheon, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine Convention—1:00 p.m.
Columbus Civic Centre—Presiding, Laymen's Mass Meeting, Confraternity Convention—8:15 p.m.

25 Sunday—Sacred Heart Cathedral—Preaching, Confraternity Pontifical Mass—10:00 a.m.
St. Joachim, Canisteo—Confirmation—2:45 p.m.
St. Ignatius, Hornell—Confirmation—4:00 p.m.
St. Ann, Hornell—Confirmation—5:15 p.m.

26 Monday—Holy Rosary—Confirmation—7:45 p.m.

Over Million Converts Yearly Seen Possible If Laity Pitches In

Austin, Minn. — (NC) — More than a million converts a year will be won when the laity roll up their sleeves and really pitch into the work of recruiting churchless friends and neighbors for the inquiry classes now being conducted in virtually every parish, the Rev. John A. O'Brien declared here at the annual convention of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women.

THE NOTED author, convert-maker and Notre Dame professor emphasized that there are two chief means by which the churchless people of America can be won to Catholicism: enlistment of thirty millions of the laity in convert work and the inquiry classes where 30 can be instructed as effectively as one.

"Within the past few decades," Father O'Brien said, "Catholic men and women have begun to realize that Christ's command to 'teach all nations' applies to them as well as to priests. The doubling of the annual total of converts in that period is due largely to their zeal in recruiting prospects for instruction."

"WE HAVE, however, only scratched the surface," Father O'Brien declared. "The 10 per cent who have made an effort to win converts have demonstrated that they can double and triple the fruitfulness of any inquiry class by bringing churchless friends to it," he said. He told how zealous soldiers and sailors have actually instructed their comrades in the Catholic religion and presented them to their chaplains ready for Baptism.

"What they have done, every Catholic man and woman can do if they will but try," Father O'Brien stressed. Recalling the Holy Father's plea for the laity to share in the apostolate, he asserted that "the time has come when every Catholic family must invite unaffiliated neighbors into their home and in a friendly way explain to them the saving truths of Christ."

Little Change Noted

After a long vacation trip most folks notice very little change—it has disappeared along with the folding money.

An Early Starter

The main reason why you can't take your money with you is that it goes before you do.

Racism Called 'Denial Of God'

Paris — (NC) — A leading French theologian has declared that racial discrimination is not only un-Christian, but is actually implies a denial of the existence of God.

In an article in the current issue of UNESCO Courier, Father Yves Congar, O.P., declared that while the Church regards the variety of races as something willed by God, and therefore as something providential, it knows mankind to be a single family.

Thus race discrimination, he said, "strikes at the very heart of Christianity, for it destroys that respect and consideration for 'others' without which charity—the core of Christianity—cannot exist."

Father Congar, a member of the Paris Province of Dominicans and a veteran professor of Fundamental Theology, condemned racialism further by saying: "Moreover, it denies that God is the Father of all men, since it refuses to recognize certain of His children as brothers. In effect, it proscribes the saying of 'Our Father,' the Lord's own prayer.

"It really implies a denial of God, for there can be no God if He is not the Father of all. Racialism implies atheism, and its various more or less pantheistic statements about 'destiny' or even 'providence' are powerless to conceal that fact."

In Troubled Waters

The Communistic system of industrial slavery makes folks wonder if the ship of state is a serf boat.

When Pointless

It's bad manners to lose your temper at a social gathering—even though it is all you've got to lose.

Working Minority

Most men will tell you they're worth more than they're getting—the remaining few set about proving it.

You Can Win Converts

The Hardest Step

By Rev. John A. O'Brien, Ph.D

Father O'Brien

"A few days ago," said Jerry Trefzgar of Cincinnati, "I stepped into a neighborhood store to pick up a gallon of rug cleaning fluid. All the clerks were busy with customers. So I went into the back room, from which came the sound of a typewriter. There, I figured, George must be.

"Sure enough, there was George pounding away at the typewriter. But instead of the office I expected to find, there was one little bench with a stool and a wall full of pigeonholes all full of pamphlets. It was then that George explained to me how he is helping to spread information about the Church to people all over this city and over the eastern United States."

"If you want to get the story of a real convert," concluded Jerry, "see George Hoffman. He goes about it in dead earnest and on a large scale."

"Thanks, Jerry," I said, "I'll do that."

Modest and self-effacing, George Hoffman along with eight others founded Apostles of the Holy Spirit, commonly called AHS, to spread Catholic truth and thus win converts. That was in November 1948. Since then they have accomplished much.

"THE WORK OF the AHS," said George, "boils down to three main objectives: to get into contact with people who have any kind of interest in the Church; to maintain their interest by giving them the information they are looking for; and to guide them further into the Church itself."

"How do you go about it?" I inquired.

"We rely chiefly on newspaper ads. They offer absolute privacy, crate no embarrassment and can be examined at leisure. We seek to arouse interest by offering to send pamphlets on topics outsiders are usually curious about. We invite all who want to know the truth about the Catholic Church to write to AHS, Information Department, Box 92, Cincinnati 8, Ohio.

"We began by running ads in the Cincinnati Inquirer three times a week for thirteen weeks. They brought us 182 inquiries. We soon discovered, strangely enough, that small ads — five times smaller than the original large ones—brought better results. Stranger still, much of the mail comes from readers outside Cincinnati. Apparently these people feel that no one will ring their doorbell and try to pressure them into joining. Of course, we don't do that even with inquirers who reside in the city."

"WHAT DO YOU send the inquirer?" I asked.

"The pamphlet of his choice. Then we send him a pamphlet each month for the next four months. Then we inquire if the person wishes a complete course of instruction by mail or with a priest. If he is willing to consult a priest, we make arrangements to bring him to the nearest priest for instruction."

"That's the ideal, isn't it, George?"

"Yes, once that contact is made our worries are over. Most of them need someone to go with them the first few times as they are generally pretty shy about climbing 'the rectory stairs."

"The step" I smiled in agreement, "that leads from the side walk to the first step on the rectory stairs is about the hardest step a convert has to take. Once that hurdle is cleared the rest is clear sailing. George, how much do your ads cost?"

"EACH SERIES costs about a thousand dollars. This includes the cost of the pamphlets, their mailing and correspondence. It means money and work but we've already brought in thirty-two converts and reclaimed two fallen-aways. There are forty-three now under instruction and the misconceptions and prejudices of thousands have been removed. Some of these latter, with God's grace, will ultimately get the courage to take that difficult first step up to the rectory that will end at the baptismal font and the Communion rail."

"That's an inspiring apostolate, George," I said, " and it shows what zealous men and women can do when they pool their energy and resources to win souls for Christ. I note that, like Alfred Johnson of New York, you too have the active assistance of your wife. That's ideal. May God bless the Apostles of the Holy Spirit and enable you to bring Christ and His truths to many more groping souls!"

Readers who know of any lay person who has helped win two or more converts are kindly requested to send the name and address of such a person to Father John A. O'Brien, Notre Dame, Indiana.

Bishop Casey's Appointments

OCTOBER

5 Monday—St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York City — Consecration of Bishops-elect Dargin and Kellenberg—10:00 a.m.

6 Tuesday—St. Leo's, Hilton—Confirmation—7:45 p.m.

7 Wednesday—Nazareth College—Low Mass—9:00 a.m.

8 Thursday—St. Bridget's, East Bloomfield—Confirmation — 7:45 p.m.

10 Saturday—St. Jerome's, East Rochester—Address, Campaign Workers Dinner—6:00 p.m.

11 Sunday—St. Patrick's, Owego—Confirmation—10:45 a.m.
St. James', Trumansburg—Confirmation—2:00 p.m.
Immaculate Conception, Ithaca—Confirmation—4:00 p.m.
St. Patrick's, Moravia—Confirmation—7:30 p.m.

13 Tuesday—St. Bernard's Seminary—Address, Alumni Association—1:00 p.m.

14 Wednesday—Hotel Seneca—St. Bernard's Alumni Association Banquet—1:00 p.m.

15 Thursday—St. Gabriel's, Hammondsport—Confirmation — 7:45 p.m.

18 Sunday—St. Casimir, Elmira—Confirmation—2:00 p.m.
Our Lady of Lourdes, Elmira—Confirmation—3:30 p.m.
St. Patrick's, Elmira—Adult Confirmation—5:00 p.m.
St. Anthony's, Elmira—Confirmation—7:30 p.m.

19 Monday—St. Mary's, Geneseo—Confirmation—7:45 p.m.

21 Wednesday—St. Joseph's Cathedral, Hartford, Conn. — Installation of Abp. O'Brien—10:00 a.m.

22 Thursday — Good Shepherd, Henrietta — Confirmation — 7:45 p.m.

24 Saturday—Columbus Civic Centre — Address, Regional Convention, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine—10:00 a.m.

25 Sunday—Sacred Heart Cathedral — Pontifical Mass, Confraternity Convention — 10:00 a.m.
St. Joseph's, Wayland — Confirmation — 7:30 p.m.

26 Monday — St. Gregory, Marion — Confirmation—7:45 p.m.

27 Tuesday—St. Francis, Phelps—Confirmation—7:45 p.m.

29 Thursday—Assumption, Fairport—Confirmation—7:45 p.m.

BOOK REVIEWS

The Flower Of May

By SISTER MARGARET TERESA

(Professor of Literature, Nazareth College, Rochester, N. Y.)

THE FLOWER OF MAY, by Kate O'Brien. Harper and Brothers, 1953. (available at Trant's Inc., 96 Clinton Ave. N., Rochester) SPRINGS OF SILENCE, by Madeline de Frees. Prentice-Hall, 1953.

Eight novels, five plays, even a biography of Teresa of Avila—could I still hold out against her, this distinguished novelist, writer of best sellers, finished and subtle analyst of Catholic life? Perhaps it was unfair to hold that twist in Land of Spices against her for so long, that shock at a father's perversion presented as background for a religious vocation.

One can't decree that a novelist shall keep to the typical; if she can bring evil or abnormality under the mastery of word-craft and leave it unlovely, who is to say into what story she may not drag it? (And since her story had full life and verity before that incident and beyond and above it, "drag" is the word.)

THE BIOGRAPHY of Teresa was a powerful lure. Twice I went deliberately to draw it out, and could not, in the event. Yet no doubt she had now reached the point of deserving to write such a book. Perhaps she had outgrown the squint in her judgment.

So I would read The Flower of May, and be unjust no longer. After that, the biography.

Well — a cynic stalked the wedding-party of Chapter I, his tongue dripping innuendo, and sometimes coming flat out with viper or toad as did the horrible elder princess's in the fairy-tale. But there was Newman's excuse for Shakespeare in like case: immodesty, vulgarity, is not the same as immorality.

And the cynic was drawn to the life, one felt — he might well exist in any social group, and he served as a rather effective ironic chorus, and so on.

We cleared that hurdle, and the story sprang on excitedly. Dublin, and Florence, and a dreamy old family home on the coast, promising lair of undercurrents and overtones of character — good places for a story.

I SOON LOVED the heroine—so young, so obedient, so sensitively kind, so loyal and modest under the cross inflicted by loving parents; dowered with roman beauty, intelligence, judgment, courage. Nor were these gifts merely named. I saw them in action. And then I was told that she, the heart of the story and of the family, Catholic born, baptized and bred, educated in the right sort of Continental convent school, was inwardly no Catholic.

She liked to thank God for sudden benefits, she liked to praise Him; had the only doctrines proposed for her belief been concerned with the Holy Ghost, she would have had no difficulty. As the Reverend Mother wrote, "You, my dearest child, have chosen to travel outside such reflections (as the Reverend Mother's thoughts on death and heaven), and prefer to think for yourself, as you believe, and waive the whole Catholic idea of God. . ."

Supernatural faith, hope and charity were her baptismal endowment, she had been docile always, good always, frank about her unbelief at the time of Confirmation (receiving it because the Reverend Mother and her confessor advised it).

She is presented as wholly, charmingly normal, the very best sort. God's grace just failed to work in her. As one of my colleagues puts it, the story adds 3 and 2 on every page and keeps getting 4.

IT IS A thoroughly interesting story, the heroine is vitiated at the core, and the Harper's book-jacket in selecting what will most attract readers notes her discovery that "Catholicism was not the same thing to all people." It should read not "discovery" but "demonstration."

Anyway, I'm reading Marcelle Auclair's biography of St. Teresa.

The Springs of Silence describes seventeen years of convent life in an active order, honestly and understandingly, even to the not-unheard-of wavering in a vocation and righting the ship again with a bit of difficulty.

The title may suggest Trappists, but it refers to what Trappists and these nuns of the Holy Names seek in common, the muting of the world's appeals and the habit of continual converse with God.

This is a book of direct explanations about vows, promises, duties, daily life, for those who wonder what it is really like. It is a book that rightly and reasonably assesses the religious life, for parents who plan to deprive their children of this relationship to God. And it is a book-ful of fun and reminiscences for nuns themselves and for parents who are glad they were generous.

Let It Get You Down

Blinded by tears shed over lost opportunities many people fail to see new opportunities coming their way.

Courier Journal

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

Friday, October 2, 1953
Vol. 65 - No. 1

MOST REV. JAMES E. KEARNEY, D.D., President.

Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations and the Catholic Press Association. Subscriber to National Catholic Welfare Conference News Service, Religious News Service.

Published every Friday by the Rochester Catholic Press Association.

MAIN OFFICE 75 Sole — BAker 6110 Rochester 4, N. Y.

AUBURN OFFICE — 42 Grant Ave. Auburn 1-3516

ELMIRA OFFICE — 312 Realty Bldg. Ph. 2-5688 or 2-3423

Entered as second class matter in the Post Office at Rochester, N. Y., as required under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Single copy 10c; 1 year subscription in U. S. $4.00; Canada $4.50; Foreign Countries, $5.00