



A Neighborly Wish Beginning With Charity No Other Name

By MONSIGNOR HART

For A Happy New Year

The Courier-Journal imitates the fashion of the Season in wishing all its readers a Happy New Year. We who realize the obligation of loving our neighbor know that this is merely a fulfillment of the Second Commandment. We must respect the rights of our neighbor, must always wish him well and must pray for him. What a change there would be in this world of ours were every man to fulfill the Second Commandment in a proper way. Injustice would fade out, uncharity would disappear and all wars, both cold and hot, would become a matter of history.

We hope that all the readers of the Courier join with us in a prayerful and sincere New Year's Greeting at the beginning of 1954, and if every one of us, individually, strives to help make this New Year happy for all, it will surely have a full measure of God's blessing for all of His children here on earth. For your spiritual and physical welfare we extend to you our best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

We Resolve

Our successive New Years will have added value for every sincere resolution with which we greet them. Were we satisfied to rest on our laurels, to make no special resolutions concerning the New Year as we greet it, we would go through life with no improvement to speak of, with no advance in virtue, with no increase in merit.

Christ gives us each New Year and it is through the proper use of the New Year that we come closer to God and increase our merit in His sight. Our individual effort should not be merely toward an improvement in our behaviour, but also a definite aim to correct our predominant faults and to make all the activities of our life more Christian and therefore more meritorious.

So now for the definite resolutions that will improve our lives: To be more Christian; to be more filled with the love of God and more eager to demonstrate our love of our neighbor. These are the general resolutions. Then, we must add to them the specific resolves that will correct what is wrong in our lives and increase the merit of our love for all mankind. Remember, to make our resolutions specific and therefore effective, we must include the particular persons for whom we haven't the proper love. Grudges should never be permanent and the jaundiced eye gazing upon our neighbor calls for immediate action on our part to correct it.

Begin anew then on our attachment to the virtue of Charity. Remember Charity is a virtue, a Divine virtue, by which we love God for all things for His own sake and our neighbor as ourselves for the love of God. If we begin with this and strive to develop it through the New Year we will be fulfilling the great Commandment of the Love of God and the second great Commandment of the Love of our neighbor. No resolution can mean much unless it is founded on this. No resolution can be without merit if it begins with the love of God and the love of our neighbor, and adds the practice of the other virtues to our fulfillment of this two-fold law.

Feast Of The Holy Name Of Jesus

The first Sunday of January is the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus. It is a wonderful thing to begin the New Year by a Feast dedicated to the honor of the Name of Jesus. The Feast is not for a Sunday, so that every Catholic should have the opportunity of hearing Mass and attending the other devotions appointed for this great day.

There is no other name under Heaven whereby we must be saved. It is a name that has come, not from the Church, but from any great leader or human minister of the Church. It is a name that came from Heaven. It was called by the Angels before Jesus was conceived in the womb.

"He shall be called Jesus because He shall save His people from their sins." The Archangel Gabriel brought the message from on high that the new-born Saviour was to be called by the name Jesus. So Christmas has come to us with the birth of Jesus, and now we have the first Sunday of the New Year dedicated to the honor and glory of that name. Every man that comes to salvation shall come through the power of the Holy Name of Jesus and every man that seeks to sanctify his soul will be expected to dedicate all his service to God under the invocation of this Holy Name. Give your devotion to the Divine Saviour under the inspiration of this great Feast which we observe on the first Sunday of the year 1954.

Sunday Sermon

By Monsignor Hart

GIVEN BY THE ANGEL. It was one of God's chief servants in Heaven that came to announce to Mary that she was to be the Mother of God. He was to be the Saviour of all mankind and the name imposed upon Him by the Angel was the name that had for its meaning "Saviour." This name was given to Him at the time of the Annunciation, and He was first called by it eight days after His birth at the time of the Circumcision.

It was connected with Him even before His birth and it has an intimate connection with the celebration of the Christmas eve of Feast. It has been used from the day of the Circumcision right down to this day and will continue to be used until the consummation of the world. Every man that loves the Saviour makes frequent use of the name of Jesus. Every man that looks to Him for salvation frequently calls upon this Holy Name. The Church has attached indulgences to all who make use in a reverent way of the name "Jesus." It is connected with all the activities in the life of our Lord. We speak of the birth of Jesus, of the Circumcision of Jesus, we speak of His infancy, of His private life, and of His public life. We speak of His preaching for the conversion of all who came to hear Him. There are many words in the

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JOSEPH BREIG

Gotta Get Th' Facts

"Mind if I ask a question?" inquired the Private Eye, approaching a couple alighting from a taxi at a night club entrance. The man hesitated, glancing at the young woman on his arm. "Well," he said, "we're in a bit of a hurry."

"NO GAG," said the Private Eye. "No radio. No microphone. Everything on the level. Just tryin' to get th' facts, that's all. I got a job to do. Appreciate it if you'll help me. Gotta turn in a report. Like I said before, what's New Year's Eve?"

"WELL," SAID THE man, "all right. New Year's Eve is the beginning of another year. The Eye made another note. That's what people are celebrating."

"SURE," SAID THE Eye. "Gotta get the facts. Don't have the facts until I find the motive. Why do people celebrate the beginning of another year?—It's only another year, isn't it? Like another month—another week—another day. People planning to do something special with this year?"

"Just a custom," said the Eye. He jotted it down, and stood aside. "Thanks."

"You're welcome," replied the man. "Happy New Year." He escorted the young woman into the night club.

THE PRIVATE EYE scratched his cold nose thoughtfully. "Happy New Year," he repeated to himself. "Now why did he say that? Gotta get the facts." The Eye went along the street and came to a lighted church. He went in. A few people were scattered here and there, praying. The Eye sat down beside a man, and whispered, "What's up? What're you celebrating? How about giving me the facts?"

Songs Out Of Nazareth

By SISTER MARGARET TERESA

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

He is born that out of many hearts thoughts may arise. How still it is in the cave! and how eloquent that bending, lower named Mary, that pillar of trust Joseph, those beasts with lifted heads!

The Word became flesh. And you Martha, diligent Martha, With soul on fire must seek Him everywhere— See Him in every bleeding eye, Trace Him in every wretched face, Hear Him in every helpless cry, And finding Him, this Wounded-in-Humanity, His bleeding wounds lay bare, And weeping bind them up afresh.

In the beginning was the Word... And you Mary, all silent Mary, Open wide your heart and take the Awful Wonder in, Let all the sorrow of eternity, The darkening sin of fallen man, Past, present, and to be

Let Martha hasten on; your own pure soul within Stir the eternal uncreated Word!

Here, my Sweetness, is your Mary Warm, and loving Yes. Sleep, my Dear, the stars are faded, And the straw is damp with dew. There—His head is low And His little thumb He's sucking; It must have made Him warm, I guess, His novice-mother's tocking.

Here, my Sweetness, is your Mary Warm, and loving Yes. Sleep, my Dear, the stars are faded, And the straw is damp with dew. There—His head is low And His little thumb He's sucking; It must have made Him warm, I guess, His novice-mother's tocking.

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You Can Win Converts

A Skilled Fisherman

By

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

"Clem, will you give me a hand in putting a reconditioned motor in my car?"

"Sure, Bill, replied Clem, 'that's a bit too much of a job for one man to attempt alone.'"

This was the conversation that took place between William J. Wallner and Clem Trader at the Wallner home in Marshfield, Wisconsin.

The two worked together at the Roddis Plywood Corporation.

When the motor job was finished, Bill invited Clem to stay for dinner. In virtually every room of the Wallner home hangs a holy picture. Clem, who was a member of no church, looked at all the pictures with deep interest.

Later on they went to take a last look at the motor.

"Bill," said Clem, "when I walk into your home and see all those religious pictures, I find myself beginning to think of God, religion and the saints. It sort of makes me wonder if I'm not missing something."

"I think you are," replied Bill. "Man is more than an animal that lives for a few years and then perishes utterly. Man has a spiritual nature, a soul, which is made in the image of God. That soul will live even after the body goes back to the dust of the earth. You believe that, don't you?"

"Yes," replied Clem, "but what is one to do about it?"

"Religion," explained Bill, "shows us how we are to keep our spiritual nature alive and how we can grow in holiness, become more Christlike, in short, how we can gain eternal life with God in Heaven."

"IT STANDS to reason if we take care of our bodies we should also take care of our souls. This means that we should turn to God in prayer, give Him our worship, our love and our faithful service. This life is but a testing ground on which we prove our worth by keeping the Commandments and by loving and serving God and our fellow man."

"I guess you've got something there," said Clem. "I'll think it over."

"What happened then?" I asked.

"Well," replied Mr. Wallner, "I know how easy it is for people to forget about things of this nature and to keep putting off any serious study of the subject. So I made it a point to remind Clem about it from time to time at the factory."

"Then I had a spell of sickness and the Traders drove me to the hospital in another city. They came with my wife to see me every week. I had plenty of time to pray and I prayed plenty not only for my own recovery but also that God would give the Trader family the grace of faith."

"WHEN THEY would call, I always managed to tell them of the comfort and help I got from my prayers and from Holy Communion. Then a curious thing happened. The words struck home with Mrs. Trader particularly and she began asking questions and doing some reading. She showed more interest than Clem."

"Imagine my surprise when I got home and Mrs. Trader called to say they were all ready to take instructions. I brought them to Father Alfred Hammersbach at St. Joseph's Church at Stratford. On June 7, 1953, he received Mr. and Mrs. Clem Trader and their six children into the Church. My wife and I were sponsors and when we knelt at their side at the Communion rail we felt our happiness was scarcely less than theirs. It was the happiest day in our lives."

"That," I remarked, "was a clean sweep. You won the entire family for Christ and thus made religion serve not as a sword that divides but as a bond that binds the members still more closely together. You brought God into that family and He will dwell among them and shower His blessings upon them."

"YOUR STORY shows how holy pictures in a home can be made to serve as an entering wedge of interest. But that must be followed up with explanations, prayers and finally contact with a priest. Because you did all these you caught an unusually large and precious draught of souls for Christ. Like a skilled fisherman, Mr. Wallner, you had many hooks on your line and you knew how to use them all."

Bishop Kearney's Appointments

JANUARY

- 1 Friday—Bishop's Residence—New Year's Day Reception for the Clergy—8 to 9 p.m.
- 3 Sunday—St. Joseph's, Solemn Pontifical Mass for the Rochester Holy Name Societies—11:30 a.m.
- Bishop's Residence, Reception for the People—3 to 6 p.m.
- 10 Sunday—Church of St. Jean Baptiste, New York City—Centenary Sermon—4:00 p.m.
- 21 Thursday—St. Agnes High School, Feast Day Mass—9:00 a.m.
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Bishop Casey's Appointments

JANUARY

- 5 Tuesday—Chamber of Commerce—Invocation, Annual Dinner—8:30 p.m.
- 7 Thursday—Nazareth Hall—Parent-Teachers' Association—8:00 p.m.
- 12 Tuesday—Chamber of Commerce—Presiding, Thomas More Lecture—8:15 p.m.
- 23 Saturday—St. Vincent's, Corning—Address, Opening Building Campaign Dinner—8:30 p.m.

CHURCH MUSIC

8: New Church Musicians

By REV. BENEDICT EHMANN

(This series of articles commemorates the golden jubilee of the "Motu Proprio" letter on Church music issued by blessed Pope Pius X on Nov. 22, 1883. Author of these articles is the Rev. Benedict Ehmman, nationally known authority on Church Music and pastor of St. Mary of the Lake Church, Watkins Glen, N. Y.)

Some new church musicians have lately appeared on the contemporary scene who are very worth watching for their creative work. They are blazing new trails for church music. Oddly enough, most of them are Dutch, and are true witnesses of the rebirth of Catholic life going on in Holland.

This is a relatively new quarter for the winds of church music to be blowing, and it promises a fascinating development. It is a quarter where the wind is blowing, and it promises a fascinating development. It is a quarter where the wind is blowing, and it promises a fascinating development.

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