

# They Made It A "Mary" Christmas

By MARY E. FITZGERALD  
Executive Director Catholic Family Service

Yes, the Ladies of Charity, true to the solemn promises that they made on the day of the Affiliation, made it a "Mary" Christmas, not only for themselves but for hundreds of men, women and children. With projects, both spiritual and temporal, making up the twelve month program of the organization, the Elmira branch of this active volunteer group, appropriately ushered in the Marian Year.

What to choose as highlights, poses a serious problem—because each Committee gave generously in the true charity of a real Christmas, not less because of their many other commitments. At the County Farm, in Breesport, the members of the Mother Seton group were not strangers to that family of older boys and girls.

ONCE EACH month, the Mother Setons have visited their friends in that home, calling individually on their eager hosts and hostesses bringing magazines, small gifts and treats. So at the Christmas party the Ladies were part of the family, which perhaps accounts for the reason that it was such a gay party. Then, too, the carefully chosen presents, the gay entertainment, and the thoughtfully prepared goodies brought bright smiles and responsive appetites in their wake.

Going from age to youth, we found the Committee of the Infant of Prague giving their annual party for the patients on the Children's floor at St. Joseph's Hospital. Here, too, there was entertainment, and gifts and refreshments, but that wasn't all.

To the gay jingling of bells, and the merry laugh, which is so characteristic of them, who should appear, but St. Nicholas himself. It was, indeed, a happy Christmas party, one of those, where the tree shone and glittered—but always as a background for the central theme, a replica of the Crib at Nazareth on the first Christmas.

Many of the Committees bought toys or made contributions for that purpose. As a result, the Catholic Family Service was able to stretch their meagre budget and carry out more of their plans for Christmas, than they had expected.

The participants in this "Mary" project included the Guardian Angels, Our Lady of Good Counsel, St. Elizabeth of Hungary and Honorary Committee, Rosary Hill as the Dominican Monastery in Elmira is called—is one of our major and permanent general projects, with one committee taking the responsibility for supplying food for the sisters each week.

Beautiful layettes from Our Lady of Nazareth and St. Anne de Beauraup Committees, donations of money or food toward extra-for-Christmas for several families or the Dominicans, and warm clothing for elderly people made up a part of Mary's special Christmas garland.

All this—and we have not even mentioned the many glorious personal charities of the individual members known only to Mary, her Divine Son and His own who were chosen for these special self-sanctifying acts recommended by our own Bishop.

PAUSING LONG enough to add their bit, each Lady of Charity had a share in the Spiritual Bouquets for His Excellency Bishop Kearney and our officers. How pleased the Infant Jesus must be to find one organization in which gifts to others or

## Legion Cites Msgr. Krieg For Communism Warning

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Krieg, pastor of Church of the Nativity B.V.M. in Brockport is in possession of an American Legion citation for "meritorious service rendered to the nation by using his pulpit courageously to issue a stern warning of the danger inherent in an anti-God, anti-American, Communist-dominated union."

Monsignor Krieg was presented the citation by William Murray of Kendall, Americanism chairman for the Orleans County Legion and a past district chairman, Eighth District of the American Legion.

Presentation was made in recognition of the service rendered by the Brockport pastor in alerting the American Legion to the danger of the establishment of an alleged "Communist dominated" labor union at the General Electric plant in Brockport more than a month ago.

IN MAKING the presentation Murray said that "Up until four days before the election for the establishment of a union at that plant, the press, law enforcement agencies, civic, fraternal and patriotic groups had not exposed the union's alleged anti-American record. Monsignor Krieg recognized his duty as a citizen and minister and warned his congregation from his pulpit, of the impending danger and his action led to the forming of a committee of Legionnaires to cite the record of that labor union and warn employees of Brockport General Electric plant against accepting that union as their bargaining agency."

Employees of the Brockport plant rejected the union under discussion, while Murray said that the press, law enforcement agencies, civic, fraternal and patriotic groups had not exposed the union's alleged anti-American activities.

Promotion of the Trenton diocese priest was announced by Bishop Edwin V. O'Hara of Kansas City, Mo., chairman of the Episcopal CDD committee. Father Kelly has been serving at the center in the capital for five years as an assistant in the center's publications office.

In a new regional set-up for the National Contraternity of the Christian Doctrine, Bishop Matthew P. Brady of Manchester, N. H. and a St. Bernard's Seminary alumnus was announced in charge of the Eastern region including New York State.

The Rev. John E. Kelly, a native of Rochester, who spoke at the Regional Congress of the Contraternity of Christian Doctrine in Rochester last October has been promoted to assistant director of the CDD National Center in Washington.

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to us as to how we should spend a "Mary" Advent—"work."

AND HER OTHER hints were days of prayer and hours of kindness—making up a glorious trio for an Advent, in fitting preparation for the Birthday of her Divine Son. It was around this trio that the Ladies of Charity built their "Mary" Advent and Christmas. Surely, when the Infant Jesus was born again in each Lady of Charity in the Sacrament of His love as she knelt at the altar railing on Christmas morning, He must have given a present in return.

Some of their work and kindnesses may have gone unnoticed—by others, but not by Him. His present, we are certain, was a treasure house of graces and peace—because of the kindness, which was like unto Mary's on that first Christmas Eve. Yes, where there is kindness, there is always peace—and love and warmth—just as there was in that Cave in Bethlehem because Mary was "Kind."

Gifts were distributed from beneath a gaily decorated Christmas tree and refreshments were served. John Woloch was general chairman of the committee in charge of the arrangements assisted by Walter O'Connell, James Cavatolo, Frank McGovern and Robert Hager.

Choir — A group from the Girls' Choir of St. Patrick's Parochial toured the village, Wednesday evening, singing Christmas carols. They visited the Riverview Nursing Home, the Owego Home for Aged Women and a number of private homes.

The choir, which had been trained by Sister Mary Finn Bar, was composed of Judy Kinne, Patricia Newcomb, Jane Kippball, Dorothy Perot, Mary Nancy Raitt, Katherine Quinn, Catherine Sloat, Mary Sloat, Helen Fidurski, Rose Fidurski, Sharon Hall.

Epiphany Dinner Set At Hospice

Annual dinner celebrating the feast of the Epiphany will be held at St. Joseph's House of Hospitality on Wednesday, Jan. 6 at 6:30 p.m. All members and friends are invited.

Reservations should be placed with Mrs. Lorna Lancer by calling CHARLOTTE 1098-M between Sunday afternoon, Jan. 3 and Monday afternoon, Jan. 4.

Washington Paper

Washington, D.C. (RNS)—In an effort to support the campaign to "Put Christ Into Christmas" the Washington Post has dispensed with the usual Christmas decorations in front of its building and is showing instead colored art slides of religious pictures on a large screen.

THE CONSECRATION of the Mass brought a touch which surely must have pleased the Christ Child Himself that night. As the celebrant bent over the host to pronounce the words which would bring Christ again to a Sacramental Bethlehem, a true living shepherd who had come down from the hills of Abruzzo welcomed His Saviour with a Christmas song played on his bagpipe, homemade of stems.

Fifteen travellers received the Holy Eucharist with Him. With the closing Christmas hymn at the Mass' end, all quietly but happily scurried back to duty posts and trains. Don Giovanni remained at his chapel for another Mass at 2 a.m. for more of the same kind of folk who could not have been there at midnight.

Two other chapters of Don Giovanni, offered Midnight Mass

for their workmen in other unusual circumstances. One said Mass in midst of a great public market for laborers and freight handlers. The other said Mass for men working in a large city gas works.

ONARMO, which means National Organization for Religious and Moral Assistance to Workmen. The organization was founded in 1921 by Msgr. Ferdinand Baldelli, now president of the Pontifical Assistance Organization. Six hundred trained social workers working under chaplains' directions help the workmen in material as well as spiritual ways.

Named with President Volpe are: Frank Palumbos, first vice president; George Perrotta, second vice president; Don Santoli, financial secretary and Frank DiBenedetto, treasurer. Victor Palumbos is recording secretary.

Members of the Board of Trustees are: Angelo Castronova, August Viciarete, George Gerstner, Joseph Perrotta and Joseph Cooper.

In the military rank, Joseph Cimino was again named captain with Joseph Perrotta, first lieutenant and Robert Gross, second lieutenant.

Franklin Circuit Judge W. B. POAU demand that he file suit Artery overruled dismissal motion against the county school board, tions by the six school boards holding that he saw no evidence which had contended that any act that the hiring of nuns violates tion taken against them should any law.

THE CURRENT suit asked the rather than in Franklin Court. court to declare the practice illegal.

THE SUIT was initiated by the and to prevent the state u-Kentucky Free Public School perintendent of public instruction Committee, an affiliate of Prot-from sending State school funds estans and Other American Uni-to school districts employing ted for Separation of Church and nuns or using tax money to State, and was filed on behalf of transport children to parochial that committee's president, the schools.

Rev. J. C. Rawlings, a retired nun have taught in Ken-Methodist minister. It seeks to tucky public schools, since the Torbid nuns from teaching indifficult growing years of the Kentucky public schools, claiming State school system when their that this is a violation of theteaching services were needed in principle of separation of churchpublic schools. In some cases and state. they teach in school buildings

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1954

## Auburn Priest Ordained In Rome



COINCIDENCE in this photograph of 30 young American candidates for the priesthood being ordained at the North American College in Rome is that during "imposition of hands," Monsignor Joseph J. Sullivan, NGWC News Service Correspondent in Rome is shown placing his hands (left, first row) on the Rev. David M. Murphy of Auburn. Both are priests of the Diocese of Rochester. The group ordained is the first raised to the priesthood since dedication of the new college building by Pope Pius XII in October. (Religious News Service photo).

## Msgr. Sullivan Reports On Celebrating Midnight Mass In Rome's R. R. Station

(His impressions of celebrating Christmas Midnight Mass in the central railroad station of Rome are told in the following dispatch filed by the Monsignor Joseph J. Sullivan, NGWC News Service Correspondent on Dec. 28. Monsignor Sullivan is a priest of the Diocese of Rochester whose mother resides at 79 Kron St., Rochester, N. Y.)

Rome—(NC) Dec. 28 — The Eternal City welcomed Christmas with midnight Mass in its great Christmas church, the Basilica of St. Mary Major, and in parish churches and in tiny chapels in the outskirts. But perhaps none was closer to the Bethlehem night in spirit than that offered in the central railroad station.

For an hour before midnight, the great terminal's loudspeaker system interspersed announcements on arriving and departing trains with a reminder that railroadmen, station employees, policemen on duty, and soldiers, sailors and passengers who had to wait for connections could, nevertheless, assist at midnight Mass right there as they waited.

They were directed to the second-class waiting room where there had been set up an improvised altar with candles, evergreens and flowers. There was even a tiny field organ.

DON GIOVANNI Brazzani, chaplain to railroadmen, had arranged everything and with indefatigable energy had personally told his men and had posted signs as well as seeing to the announcements for passengers about the Mass. He had also invited this correspondent to celebrate Mass.

Promptly at midnight, this varied group of wayfarers—in the sense at least that not one of them would have been there but at home had he been able to arrange it—gathered about the altar. Their baggage was checked and they had momentarily disposed of other cares as the celebrant, surely a wayfarer too, in a far off land, began to commemorate Bethlehem.

So thorough were the arrangements that a Christ Child in a tiny crib above the altar was unveiled at the Gloria in Excelsis Deo. And when Don Giovanni, playing and singing too in a fine baritone voice, began the popular Christmas hymn "Tu Scendisti dalle Stelle" (You Descended from the Stars), fully 200 voices shed their loneliness and were at home for the moment.

Don Giovanni's "Silent Night" was so moving that no one joined in to spoil it.

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## Holy Hours, Receptions To Greet The New Year

The year 1954, "the Marian Year" will be welcomed in at services in Sacred Heart Cathedral and St. Francis of Assisi Church. Both services will begin at 11:15 p.m. on Thursday and continue until 12:15 a.m. Friday.

The Holy Hour at the Cathedral on Flower City Park will be conducted by His Excellency, Auxiliary Bishop Casey. This service has attracted a large number of persons each year.

At St. Francis of Assisi Church, Whitney and Orange Streets, the Daily Family Rosary for Peace Center, the services will be broadcast on WSAY according to the Rev. Joseph A. Cirincione, pastor. The broadcast of the daily recitation of the Rosary comes from this church at 7 p.m.

Other churches in the diocese are holding services to mark the coming of a New Year at other times announced to the parishioners.

New Year's Day is a Holy Day of obligation—Catholics are obliged to hear Mass on Friday, Jan. 1. It is also the First Friday. The First Friday Luncheon Club will not meet until February.

ON NEW YEAR'S Day His Excellency Bishop Kearney will greet the clergy from 3 to 6 p.m. at the episcopal residence, 947 East Avenue.

The traditional Open House of Rochester Council Knights of Columbus will be held in the clubrooms, Columbus Civic Center with Grand Knight George F. Vick, Jr., heading the reception line. The program will begin at 3 p.m.

Lady of Rochester and surrounding areas will go to Bishop Kearney's residence, 947 East Ave., on Sunday, Jan. 3, to exchange greetings with the Ordinary of the diocese between 3 and 6 p.m. Various organizations will attend in a body.

MEMBERS OF Monroe County Chapter, Catholic War Veterans and Auxiliaries are asked to meet on the corner of East Ave. and Barrington St. at 2:30 p.m. They will go to the Bishop's residence at 2:45 p.m. according to Ralph Elser, chairman of the CVV Bishop's Reception.

Knights of St. John of Rochester Regiment and Ladies Auxiliary members will meet at 4 p.m. in front of the Bishop's residence. It was announced by Col. Emil G. Eckert.

Knights of Columbus will assist the Bishop at the reception with William T. Nolan in charge.

Pray The Rosary

Fund For Hopeless Karachi, Pakistan (NC) Catholic schools have contributed about \$1,300 (4,200 rupees) to Prime Minister Mohammed Ali's fund for refugee housing.

Mothers Entertained At St. Alphonsus

Auburn—The Mothers Club of St. Alphonsus Club concluded its December business meeting with a Christmas party at which entertainment was enjoyed and gifts exchanged. Mrs. Alfred G. Gehner, president, conducted the business meeting.

Present at the meeting was the pastor, the Rev. Frederick G. Straub, who spoke briefly. Mrs. Cecil Arthur was accompanist for the group singing of carols. Mothers of fifth grade children were in charge of the refreshments with Mrs. Eugene L. Fasse as chairman. Members of the committee were: Mrs. Stanley R. Pelc, Mrs. Francis J. Ryan, Mrs. Joseph A. Casper, Mrs. John E. Martinez, Mrs. John J. Hyland, Mrs. Linus E. Hausfeld, Mrs. Francis J. Burns, Mrs. Andrew Guter, Mrs. Robert B. Schneider, Mrs. Charles Peacock, Mrs. Howard J. Wylie, Mrs. Joseph P. Ryan, Mrs. James J. Hickoy, Mrs. Earl G. Skilleit, and Mrs. Francis J. Collins.

LECTURER

SPEAKER in the Thomas More Lecture Forum on Tuesday, Jan. 12 at 8:15 p.m. in Rochester Chamber of Commerce will be the Rt. Rev. Marg. Thomas J. McMahon, above. His topic will be "Whence and Whether Palestine." Presiding will be His Excellency, Auxiliary Bishop Casey.

VFW To Take Cheer To Batavia Patients

Monroe County Council, Veterans of Foreign Wars will entertain 300 patients at Batavia Veterans Hospital on Sunday, Jan. 3.

RTC busses, Red Cross station wagons and private cars, leaving City Hall Annex at 2:30 p.m. will take the VFW members and entertainers to Batavia. The veterans will distribute fruit, candy, cigarettes and wearing apparel to the ambulatory and bed-ridden patients.

A 21-act vaudeville show will be presented by members of the Rochester Professional Entertainers Club.

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WEEK END SPECIALS

HOMARD BRAND FRANKS CLUB OR SKINLESS	LI.	39¢
SWIFT'S BROOKFIELD PORK SAUSAGES	LI.	49¢
HAPPYVALE SWEET PICKLES	QUART JAR	49¢
DIAMOND BRAND CALIF. WALNUTS	1/2 LG. SIZE	49¢
FORMAN'S PICCALILLI	LI. JAR	25¢
NEW INSTANT ACTION BABO	3 CANS	35¢
CASHMERE ROUQUET TOILET SOAP	BATH SIZE	3 34¢
BOGUEL-FLOREAL DESIGN GLASS PEANUT BUTTER	11 OZ.	33¢

161 N. Main St. Elmira  
Opposite Mark Twain