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THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

Prayer, Penance Role For Lent

My Dear People:
On Wednesday of next week, the Holy Season of Lent will open with the significant sacramental of the Blessed Ashes. This ceremony aims to point out the salutary value for our souls of prayer and penance which are of the essence of the Holy Season.

The willingness of the Church in recent times to relax to some extent her traditional demands of fasting is a concession intended for those whose condition in life makes the traditional rigors impractical or difficult. The proper approach to the Lenten spirit is a generous and conscientious desire to make Lent a time of self-denial, of penance and of special prayers and devotions.

I would place daily Mass and Holy Communion in the first place among these devotions. The Lenten Devotions in the parish and the meditations on the Way of the Cross keep us in the spirit of Lent. This year is especially dedicated to the Immaculate Mother of God, and visits to Her shrines and attendance at devotions in Her honor will help sanctify the Holy Season.

Wherever it can be arranged, the pastors are authorized to have an evening Mass on the Wednesdays of Lent as part of the Lenten Devotions. Thus, instead of the traditional practice of closing Lenten Devotions with Benediction, we shall avail ourselves of the privilege granted by His Holiness, Pope Pius XII, and offer instead the Holy Sacrifice of Mass. This will enable many to attend Mass who might otherwise find it difficult.

Your Lenten Season in Our Lady's year can bring you untold blessings if you will approach it with sincerity of spirit and a desire to do penitential works. The need for penance was insisted upon by Our Lady at Fatima. Her message is for all of us.

May God bless you during this Holy Season.
Your devoted Shepherd in Christ,
James E. Kearney
Bishop of Rochester

P.S. This letter is to be read at all Masses on Quinquagesima Sunday, February 28. The annual collection for the Negro and Indian Missions will be taken up at all the Masses on the first Sunday of Lent, March 7.

*N.B. The Mass must be of the liturgy of the day and the regular Lenten sermon must be preached at it. (Requiem Masses are not permitted for this service.) This permission is granted to parish churches only.

Regulations On Fast And Abstinence

To foster the spirit of penance and of reparation for sin, to encourage self-denial and mortification, and to guide her children in the footsteps of Our Divine Savior, Holy Mother Church imposes by law the observance of fast and abstinence.

In accordance with the provisions of Canon Law, as modified through the use of special faculties granted by the Holy See, we herewith publish the following regulations:

ON ABSTINENCE

Everyone over 7 years of age is bound to observe the law of abstinence.

Complete abstinence is to be observed on Fridays, Ash Wednesday, the Vigils of the Assumption and Christmas, and on Holy Saturday morning. On days of complete abstinence meat and soup or gravy made from meat may not be used at all.

Partial abstinence is to be observed on Ember Wednesdays and Saturdays and on the Vigils of Pentecost and All Saints. On days of partial abstinence meat and soup or gravy made from meat may be taken only once a day at the principal meal.

ON FAST

Everyone over 21 and under 59 years of age is also bound to observe the law of fast.

The days of fast are the weekdays of Lent, Ember Days, the Vigils of Pentecost, the Assumption, All Saints and Christmas.

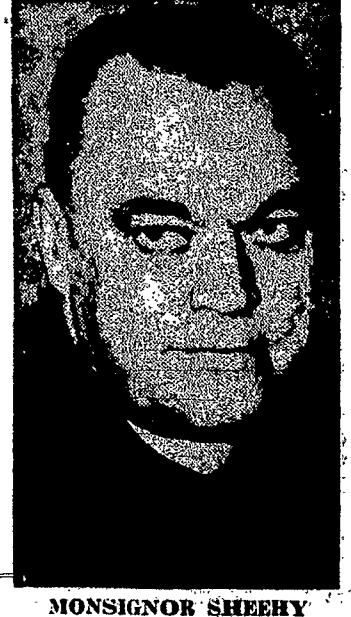
On days of fast only one full meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal.

Meat may be taken at the principal meal on a day of fast except on Fridays, Ash Wednesday and the Vigils of the Assumption and Christmas.

Eating between meals is not permitted; but liquids, including milk and fruit juices, are allowed.

When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. In doubt concerning fast or abstinence, a parish priest or confessor should be consulted.

We earnestly exhort the faithful during the periods of fast and abstinence to attend daily Mass; to receive Holy Communion often; to take part more frequently in exercises of piety; to give generously to works of religion and charity; to perform acts of kindness toward the sick, the aged and the poor; to practice voluntary self-denial especially regarding alcoholic drink and worldly amusements; and to pray more fervently, particularly for the intentions of the Holy Father.



MONSIGNOR SHEEHY

Navy Names Msgr. Sheehy Rear Admiral

Washington — (NC) — Msgr. Maurice S. Sheehy, head of the department of religious education at the Catholic University of America, has been selected for promotion to the rank of Rear Admiral, the Navy Department announced.

The promotion marks the first time in Navy history that a Catholic chaplain has been chosen by a selection board from flag rank while on inactive duty on the Navy's reserve list. Two other Catholic chaplains were named Rear Admirals: Father Robert J. White and the late John J. Brady, received the honor at the time of their retirement from the service.

Monsignor Sheehy, who served five years in the Naval Chaplains Corps during World War II with the rank of Captain, received one citation, six battle stars, and a bronze star for service in the Pacific.

During the past two summers, he was on active duty in the Mediterranean.

N. Y. Legislature

Bills Aim To Block Evil Books, Films

Albany, N. Y. — (RNS) — Comic books, pocket-size books, movies and similar media that can be used to exploit crime, sex and immorality are

Eight bills aimed at strengthening the hand of officials in dealing with "immoral" movies and in blocking outlets for "indecent" literature have been launched in the state legislature with strong backing.

THE BULK of them represent a year's work on the part of the Joint Legislative Committee on Comic Books headed by Assemblyman James A. Fitzpatrick, Plattsburgh Republican.

One of the bills is aimed at barring in sales compelling storekeepers to take sexy magazines they don't want in order to get others they do want.

A second would outlaw pocket-size books that display on their covers "sex and lust in a manner which tends to excite lustful and lecherous desires or to lead to the commission of immoral or depraved acts."

A third would raise the minimum fine for purveying obscene literature or articles from \$50 to \$150 and a fourth would step up the whole scale of penalties for selling such materials to minors by making

Fighting Lions Chore For Pastor

Longwood, Belgian Congo (NC) — Father Emile Kavimwa, pastor of the Lusaka parish, has killed 16 lions since he was named to the post in 1950—but not as a sport. Protecting his parishioners and their plantations against wild animals is considered part of the pastor's social program.

Born of a pagan family at Lusaka, near Kinshasa, in 1906, Father Kavimwa was ordained in 1924.

Construction Starts July 1st

Auburn Parishes Pledge \$300,000 Extra Funds To Start Mt. Carmel High

Auburn — An agreement by Auburn's six parishes to assume a total indebtedness of \$300,000 additional funds towards the cost of the new Mt. Carmel High School has cleared the way for an early start here on the school's construction, his Excellency Bishop Kearney announced this week.

In a letter read on last Sunday in all Auburn churches, the Bishop explained that according to reliable estimates it will cost over a million dollars to construct the proposed school.

Plans for the new central high school to provide for Catholic boys and girls of Auburn were included in the Bishop's Jubilee campaign conducted throughout the Diocese of Rochester in 1952 for funds to build four diocesan high schools, one here, one in Elmira and two in Rochester.

In the fund drive Auburn Catholics pledged a total of \$367,415 towards the cost of the new Mt. St. Mary's Parish—\$65,000; St. Alphonsus Parish—\$65,000; St. Hyacinth's Parish—\$40,000; St. Francis of Assisi Parish—\$40,000, and St. Aloysius Parish—\$25,000.

THE PLANS for the parishes to provide the additional funds was proposed and adopted at a recent meeting of Auburn pastors and approved by Bishop Kearney.

Setting July 1 for the start of construction, the Bishop stressed the importance of keeping payments on pledges up-to-date. "If there is any reasonable indication that the pledges to the campaign will be kept up-to-date in payments, we shall be in a position by July 1 to let the contracts," he said.

He appealed that pledge payments be brought up-to-date.

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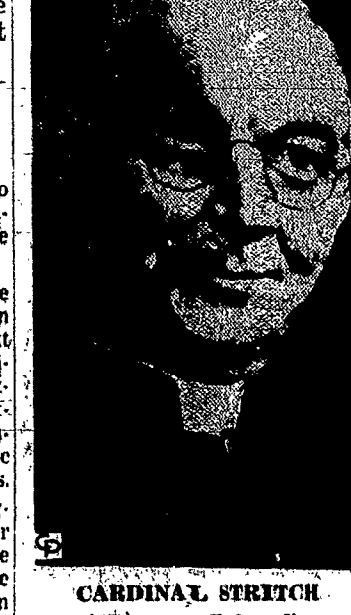


AUBURN'S MT. CARMEL — This artist sketch shows modern design of new Catholic central high school which will be built for boys and girls in Auburn. Starting date for construction will be next July 1. The school will be in charge of the Carmelite Fathers.

Bishops Score Hughes Film, Urge Boxoffice Boycott, United Front For Decency

(N.C.W.C. News Service)

Citizens of all faiths in Los Angeles have been asked by His Eminence James Francis Cardinal McIntyre, Archbishop of Los Angeles, to repudiate the film, "French Line," which offends "the traditional standards of any American community."



CARDINAL MCINTYRE
'Request Refused'

Chicago Theater Refuses Cardinal's Request On Film

Chicago — (NC) — Protestants, Jews and Catholics and "all decent Chicagoans" were urged to stay away from a local theater which has scheduled the film "French Line." We ask our readers to enlist the aid of every decent citizen in our community to refrain from seeing this picture," the New World, Chicago archdiocesan newspaper, said.

The New World reported that the local theater manager has refused to cancel plans for showing the picture as requested by a representative of His Eminence Cardinal McIntyre, Archbishop of Chicago. The representative had viewed the film with Cardinal McIntyre's permission and judged it to be "salacious."

Priests, Nuns Die In Slave Labor Camps

Vienna — (NC) — Thirty-nine Catholic priests and nuns died of exposure in slave labor camps in Slovakia during a severe frost last month, according to reports reaching here.

It was stated that more than 150 ill-fed and ill-clothed inmates of these concentration camps perished. Fourteen of the victims were priests, 25 were nuns.

THE FULL details of this tragedy have not yet been learned. The camps in which Communist-imprisoned people died are reported to be in the vicinity of Kosice, Nitra, and Banska Bystrica.

Stories of frozen corpses of priests and nuns are reported to have fanned indignation against Red terror in strongly Catholic Slovakia.

One report says that seven priests, now used for Red slave labor, were sent from their camp to cut wood in the Tatras mountains and never returned. They were reportedly swept to death by an avalanche.

In a letter to all U. S. Bishops, Cardinal McIntyre, Archbishop of Los Angeles, chairman of the Episcopal Committee on Motion Pictures, has urged that the aid of Catholics, Protestants and Jews be enlisted "in a united front against the production and exhibition of the picture, and particularly the film, 'French Line,' the film which is being produced by a major motion picture studio and is being distributed by the Motion Picture Production Code Seal of Approval."

Asking support for the Legion of Decency by leaders of all faiths, Bishop Scully said the recent Supreme Court decisions on the films "La Ronde" and "M" will be "an incentive to irresponsible people in the motion picture industry to open the doors to the exhibition of many objectionable entertainment motion pictures."

Bishop Scully said frankly that "the effectiveness of the Legion's condemnation will be estimated in large measure by the box-office receipts."

Cardinal McIntyre, calling upon all residents of his archdiocese to support the film code, said that exhibition of "French Line" is a "smear upon the reputation of our beloved city of Los Angeles."

Buffalo Bishop Orders Boycott

Buffalo, N. Y. — (NC) — Ways of combating the showing of immoral movies—and, in particular, "French Line"—were listed in a letter by Bishop Joseph A. Burke of Buffalo.

"First, if the film is advertised for any theater in the diocese, protest at once, preferably by phone, but at least by letter."

"Secondly, if any theater actually shows the picture, write the manager a letter and tell him that you, or your organization, will not attend his theater, or any affiliated theater, for a period of six months."

Line is a "smear upon the reputation of our beloved city of Los Angeles."

"Our sense of common decency and civic pride are offended deeply by the persistence of those responsible for this picture," the Cardinal-Archbishop said in a letter read at all Masses to the 800,000 Catholics of the archdiocese.

C-J Circulation Returns Ahead Of Last Year

Twenty-two parishes, which have reported in the COURIER-JOURNAL'S current circulation drive, show an overall gain of 3,216 subscriptions, this represents a 22 per cent gain in circulation over the subscription figures reported by the same parishes last year, according to Elmer G. Grappenstein, circulation manager.

With reports from most of the diocese's 130 parishes still to come, and with one more week of the subscription drive remaining, there is good indication that the COURIER-JOURNAL'S new circulation total will exceed last year's record figure of 43,000, he predicted.

Highest subscription figure received this week came from Auburn's St. Alphonsus Parish where the Rev. Frederick C. Straub renewed full coverage of his families with 1,196 subscriptions, a gain of 26 over last year.



CARDINAL MCINTYRE
'Decency Offended'



BISHOP SCULLY
'Box Office Receipts'

CARDINAL MCINTYRE warned that "French Line" is highly immoral and "can readily constitute an occasion of serious sin to the observer."

Bishop Scully noted in his letter that the producers of "French Line" had not only flaunted Hollywood's Production Code, but had continued to exhibit the film after being told "promised" the Legion of Decency (L) in writing that the picture would be withdrawn.

Bishop Scully urged all U. S. prelates "to exert your influence to the fullest in the public press, in the pulpit, and through your lay organizations."

"We also sincerely feel that the time is essential to enlist actively the aid of our Protestant and Jewish organizations in a united front against the production and exhibition of immoral films."

For the first time Holy Family Parish in Rochester adopted full family coverage. The Rev. George J. Schmitt, pastor, reported 645 subscriptions, a gain of 147 over last year.

Full family coverage was also renewed by St. James Parish, Rochester, where the Rev. Francis M. Feeney reported 735 subscriptions for a gain of 70.

An increase of 54 subscriptions was marked in St. Stephen's Parish in Geneva, where the Rev. Raymond P. Nolan renewed full family coverage with a new total of 917 subscriptions.

A gain of 46 subscriptions was also reported from St. Paul's Parish in Mt. Pleasant, where the Rev. Robert H. Keane renewed full coverage with a new figure of 172 subscriptions.

Other pastors who this week renewed full subscription coverage of their parishes are:

The Rev. G. Stuart Hogan, St. James Parish, Waverly — 414 subscriptions; the Rev. Leo Jones, St. Joseph Parish, Woodport — 155 subscriptions; the Rev. Thomas Stanford, Holy Cross Parish, Ovid, and Sacred Heart, Romulus — 151 subscriptions; the Rev. Herbert L. Starnes, St. Elin Parish, Cobleskill — 98 subscriptions; the Rev. J. Norman Margaret, Holy Angels Parish, Nunda, and Holy Name, Groveland — 89 subscriptions.

Deadline for receiving parish reports of subscriptions at the COURIER-JOURNAL office is March 1.

In the solemn hour, God's Gift of Flowers, "The Sacred Way," say "With Sympathy" in a word with flowers. Through the season, men have learned to be generous, way of expressing their tenderest thoughts to friends and dear ones. Call Blanchard Florists, 55 Lake Ave., MAJOR 1434, after 5:00 p.m.

Diamonds of Quality at Low Prices. Budget Payments. W. J. Dunn, S. Thorne, Jewelers, 101 Main St. East, MAJOR 1434.