

# The Life of Christ

By BISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN

## Bethlehem Rejects Joseph and Mary; Jesus Born in a Cave

(Last week's installment completes the presentation of evidence which establishes that only Christ, of all the claimants of early and contemporary history, is truly divine and asserts that we have a viable Christ—a Redeemer and Saviour—to fill the desperate needs of our modern civilization.)

### CHAPTER III

**EVEN His Birth** was a forecast of His death, which was the primary purpose of His coming to this earth. Caesar Augustus, the master bookkeeper of the world, sat in his palace by the Tiber. Before him was stretched a map labelled "Orbis Terrarum, Imperium Romanum."

He was about to issue an order for a census of the world, for now all nations were subject to Rome. There was only one capital in the world: Rome; only one official language: Latin; only one ruler: Caesar.

To every outpost, satrap and governor, the order went out that everyone was to be enrolled in his own city. To the fringe of the empire, in a little village of Nazareth, soldiers tacked upon walls the order for every citizen

out of thee will He come forth Who is to be a ruler in Israel. Joseph was full of expectancy as he entered the city of his family and was quite convinced that he would have no difficulty in finding lodgings for Mary, particularly on account of her condition. From house to house Joseph goes only to find each one crowded, seeking in vain for a place where might be born the One to Whom heaven and earth belonged. Could it be that the

there was no room for Him Who came to be the Inn of every homeless heart in the world. When finally, the scrolls of history will have written down the last words in the annals of time, the saddest line of all will be: "There was no room in the Inn."

Out on the hillside, in a stable cave, where shepherds drove their flocks in case of storm, Joseph and Mary came for shelter. There, in a place of peace and tranquillity, in the utter abandonment and cold of a windswept cave; there, under the floor of the world, Mary, as a flesh and blood child, lifts up to the gaze of all, the Host of the world: Behold the Lamb of God Who taketh away the sins of the World! He Who is born without a mother in heaven, is born without a father on earth.

**Mother Resembles Christ**  
Of every other child that has been born into the world, friends might say that it resembles its mother. This was the first instance in time, that any one could say that the Mother resembled the Child. Here is the beautiful paradox of the Child Who made His Mother; therefore, the Mother is only a child. It was the first time in the history of this earth of ours that anyone could ever think of heaven being anywhere else than "way up there," but Mary now looked down to Heaven.

In the filthiest place in the world, a stable, purity was born. He Who was to be devalued by men acting as beasts, was born amongst beasts. He Who called Himself the "Living Bread descended from Heaven" was born in Bethlehem, "the house of bread," and laid in a manger, the place of food. Centuries before, the Jews had worshipped the golden calf and the Greeks, the ass. Men bowed down before them as before God. The ox and ass now make their reparation and retribution by bowing down themselves before their God.

There was no room in the Inn, but there was room in the stable. The Inn is the gathering place of public opinion, the focal point of the world's mood, the rallying place of the world's rallying place of the popular. But the stable is a place of outcasts, the ignored, the forgotten, the almost impossible things. If there were any place in all the earth where the world would have expected the Son of God to be born, it would have been in an Inn. The stable would be the last place in the world we would have looked for Him. Divinity is always where we least expect to find it.

**Salvation in Manger**  
No worldly mind would ever have suspected that He Who could make the sun warm the earth, would one day have need of an

(Continued on Page 5)



There was no room at the Inn for Joseph and Mary.

to register in the town of his family's origin.

**Michael's Prophecy**  
Joseph, the builder, descendant of the great King David, was by that very act obliged to register in the city of David, which is Bethlehem, in accordance with that edict, Mary and Joseph set out from the village of Nazareth for the village of Bethlehem, which lies about five miles on the other side of Jerusalem. Five hundred years before the prophet Michael had prophesied concerning that little village:

"Thou Bethlehem art: the least of the cities of Judah and

## Bishop Casey Offers Mass At Father Lochren Rites

The Rev. Thomas Henry Lochren was called "a good shepherd" to his flock at Interlaken, N. Y., for the late pastor of St. Mary's of the Lake Church, Ontario, N. Y., on Saturday morning (Mar. 13, 1954) in the parish church.

Father Lochren, who had been pastor of the Ontario church since 1925, died on Mar. 10, 1954, at his home in Interlaken, N. Y., following a prolonged illness. He was 79 years old.

Pontifical Mass of Requiem was celebrated by His Excellency, Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence B. Casey for the deceased pastor.

**BISHOP CASEY** was assisted in the Mass by the Rev. George V. Fredmore, deacon; the Rev. Francis J. Hoffman, sub-deacon; the Rt. Rev. Msgr. John M. Duffy, archpriest; the Rev. Edward J. McAniff, master of ceremonies; the Rev. Bernard V. Kuchman, maître; the Rev. James O'Connell, book; the Rev. John E. McCafferty and the Rev. Raymond Wuest, acolytes; the Rev. John T. Walsh, thurifer.

Funeral services were given by the Rev. John B. Crowley, pastor of St. Aloysius Church, Auburn, and a seminary classmate of the deceased.

**FATHER CROWLEY** mentioned that of all the titles attributed to Our Blessed Lord, the one He chose Himself was "The Good Shepherd."

Christ said to His followers: "I am the good shepherd; and I know mine and mine know me, as the Father knoweth me, and I know the Father, and I lay

## Chicago Cathedral Plans To Build 12-Story School

Chicago—(NC)—A 12-story skyscraper will be the main school building of a two million dollar school improvement project of Holy Name Cathedral on the near North Side.

The building, part of the new Holy Name Cathedral Square, will house the co-educational Cathedral high school and grammar school. The Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who will staff the school, will live in the top four floors. The new school will care for 1,000 high school students and 600 primary students, which will triple the present enrollment of the parish schools.

Construction on the new building will begin this year with completion expected in 1956.

## Anglicans Sell Church To Catholics

Huddersfield, Yorkshire, England—(NC)—Bishop John C. Freeman of Leeds has this message here for British non-Catholics: "It is not possible for us to cooperate in the field of theology, but it is possible for us to unite in Christian charity."

The Bishop was in Huddersfield to preach at the first Mass in the new Catholic Church of St. Joseph, formerly St. Michael's Anglican Church. In his sermon, he thanked the local Church of England vicar for readily allowing Catholics in the district to buy the church, which had been put up for sale.

Last week's paid ABC circulation  
**43,749**  
Audit Bureau of Circulations

## Goldwyn Won't List Changes For Code

New York—(NC)—Film Producer Samuel Goldwyn refused to list detailed proposals for "modernizing" the movie code in a letter to publisher Martin Quigley, who had offered him space to do so. The producer said he did not favor making proposals "through the press."

In the letter, published in Mr. Quigley's trade paper, Motion Picture Daily, Mr. Goldwyn said "I must, with all due respect, decline your offer" but suggested a meeting of movie producers who subscribe to the code so that all might discuss code changes.

**MR. QUIGLEY** who co-authored the code had challenged the producer to outline the changes he proposed or to cease criticisms of the code as it now stands.

In his letter Mr. Goldwyn again affirmed support of the code, saying: "I have repeatedly stated that I am in favor of a motion picture code and that I would never make a picture outside the code."

"The only question is whether the code can be improved and what is the best way of determining that," Mr. Goldwyn wrote. "I believe this can best be approached by calm and fair-minded discussion around the table by those who are concerned in the making of pictures instead of by proposals and counter-proposals made through the press."

## Protestant Named German Ambassador To Vatican

Bonn, Germany—(NC)—The West German Republic has named Ambassador to the Holy See three years after the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Vatican and postwar Germany.

Named to the post was Dr. Wolfgang Jenckes, 72-year-old veteran German diplomat, a Protestant and since December 1951 his country's ambassador to Pakistan.

The long delay in naming a German Ambassador to the Vatican is generally ascribed to the variance of opinion in Germany as to whether the envoy should be a Protestant or a Catholic.

Protestant circles held that the envoy should be a Protestant in accordance with German tradition and out of respect for Protestants who form the majority of the West German population. German envoys to the Vatican have always been non-Catholics.

The German Catholic press and Bishops rejected the argument that the envoy must be a non-Catholic. The German Bishops emphasized this point in their joint statement issued after their 1952 annual meeting.

The Holy See named its envoy to Germany shortly after the re-establishment of full diplomatic relations. Archbishop Aloisius J. Muench, Bishop of Fargo, N.D., is the Papal Nuncio to Germany.

# THE CATHOLIC Courier Journal

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE  
ROCHESTER, N. Y., FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 1954

## Kodak Plaque Recalls First St. Patrick's



UNVEILING CEREMONIES held at the corner of Platt St. and Plymouth Ave. North, St. Patrick's Church in the Rochester area and St. Patrick's Cathedral are commemorated for all time on a handsome bronze plaque unveiled by His Excellency Bishop Kearney at the corner of Plymouth Ave. North and Brown St. St. Patrick's Day is noon.

## Old Cathedral Site Marked

The first St. Patrick's Church in the Rochester area, and St. Patrick's Cathedral are commemorated for all time on a handsome bronze plaque unveiled by His Excellency Bishop Kearney at the corner of Plymouth Ave. North and Brown St. St. Patrick's Day is noon.

Unveiling and dedication of the plaque placed high upon the Eastman Kodak Company building followed Solemn Pontifical Mass in St. Patrick's Church, traditional opening of the observance of the patronal feast, headed by Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus in regalia, organizations at the Mass marched to the plaque unveiling site.

**BISHOP KEARNEY** expressed gratitude to the Eastman Kodak Company for giving a spot to mark the cradle of Catholicity in this community. It is fitting, the Bishop said, to mark the beginning of a spiritual and religious work as is done by marking the first school in an educational enterprise and the first shop of an industrial concern.

His Excellency extolled the Kodak firm, nationally known, for its cooperation in all worthwhile community endeavors.

The Order of the Alhambra, sponsor of the plaque, was commended by the Bishop for its role in the commemoration.

Chairman of the Board of Eastman Kodak Company, Thomas J. Harrigan said no appreciation or gratitude need be expressed since the firm took pride in co-operating in erection of the marker, Dr. Albert K. Chapman, Vice Mayor Norman A. Kreickman voiced the city's greetings.

According to other reports Pope Pius' convalescence has progressed to the point that he is now able to walk about his apartment for brief spells and to spend several hours during the day sitting up.

## Courier Circulation Passes 43,000 Mark

Latest results on the current Courier Journal subscription drive, with 138 parishes reporting to date, show a circulation total over 43,000 paid subscriptions, as against last year's 43,000. Returns from the Southern Tier are now complete with over 9,000 subscriptions reported from that area.

The Rev. Albert J. Gelfer, pastor of Holy Ghost Church, Rochester, reports adoption of the full family coverage plan for the first time with 241 subscriptions, or a gain of 126 over last year.

**FULL COVERAGE** is also being taken for the first time by St. Lucy Church, Rochester, where the pastor, the Rev. Benedict Masselli reports 140 subscriptions, a gain of 77.

Rochester parishes who are continuing full family coverage include: the Rev. Daniel B. O'Rourke, Our Mother of Sorrows Parish—115 subscriptions; the Rev. Leo G. Schwab, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish—108 subscriptions; the Rev. Msgr. John A. Conway, V.F. Holy Family Parish, Auburn—120 subscriptions; the Rev. Frank E. Hester, St. John the Evangelist, Spencerport—377 subscriptions; the Rev. George M. Kall, Holy Trinity Parish, Webster—438 subscriptions.

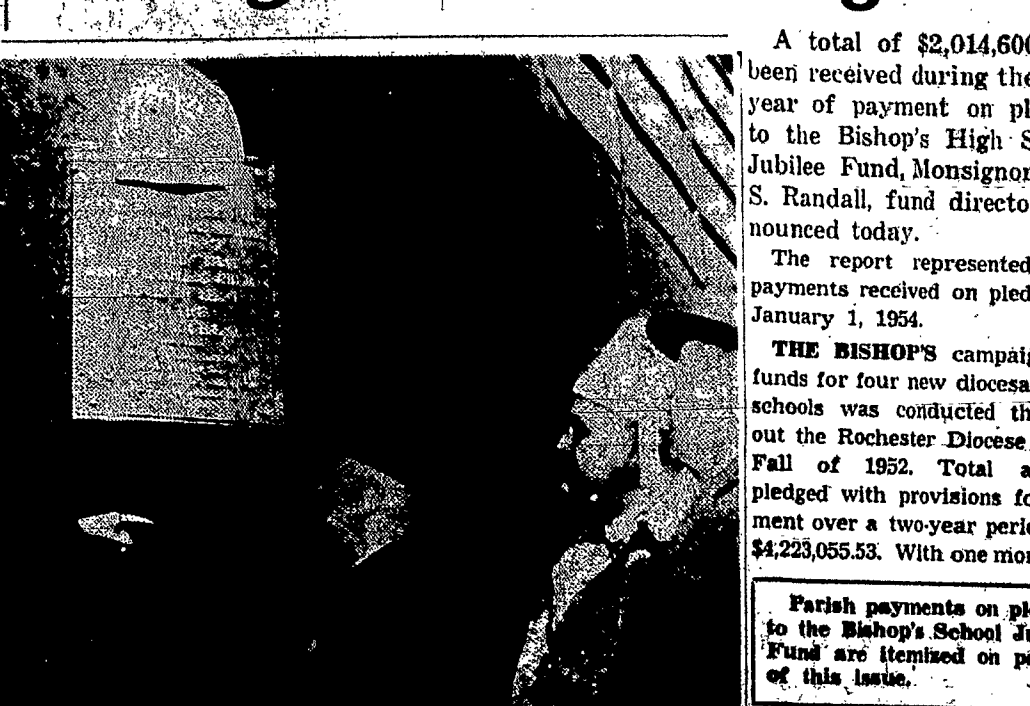
The Rev. Benedict Zimann, St. Mary of the Lake Parish, Watkins Glen—538 subscriptions; the Rev. Jacob R. Rauber, St. Joseph's Parish, Penfield—150 subscriptions; the Rev. John M. Ball, St. Rose Parish, Lima—201 subscriptions; the Rev. William Hayes, St. Anthony Parish, Groton—188 subscriptions.

**THE REV. DOMINIC J. GRASSO**, Assumption Parish, Mt. Morris—186 subscriptions; the Rev. William A. Burns, St. Anthony Parish, Elmira—558 subscriptions; the Rev. Msgr. William J. Egan, V.F. St. Patrick Parish, Elmira—896 subscriptions; the Rev. John A. Guy, St. Michael's Parish, Montezuma and St. John's Mission, Port Byron—82 subscriptions.

An error was made in last week's circulation report in that the Church of the Most Precious Blood, Rochester, who have reported 133 subscriptions, rather than 120 as published.

All subscriptions from last year will expire with the issue of March 26, 1954. Subscriptions received in the current drive will start with the issue of April 2, 1954.

## Bishop's High School Fund 2 Million Paid First Year On High School Pledges



A total of \$2,014,600 has been received during the first year of payment on pledges to the Bishop's High School Jubilee Fund, Monsignor John S. Randall, fund director, announced today.

The report represented total payments received on pledges to January 1, 1954.

**THE BISHOP'S** campaign for funds for four new diocesan high schools was conducted throughout the Rochester Diocese in the Fall of 1952. Total amount pledged with provisions for payment over a two-year period was \$4,223,055.53. With one more year

remaining for payment, a total of \$2,208,455.53 is still due on pledges. Monsignor Randall reported. Approximately half of the total amount pledged during the campaign has been paid during the first year of payment, he said.

The 1952 drive for funds for new high schools marked the 15th anniversary of His Excellency Bishop Kearney as head of the diocese and was a record in scope. Funds were pledged for two new high schools in Rochester, St. Michael's High School for boys and girls in Auburn, a new Notre Dame de Lourdes High School for boys and girls in Elmira, and funds for debt liquidation of the present De Sales High School for boys and girls in Geneva.

Parishes outside the areas of the new high schools made pledges to a Revolving Fund which has been placed at Bishop Kearney's disposal for future diocesan projects.

**ROCHESTER**  
A BREAKDOWN of Monsignor Randall's report reveals that parishes in the Rochester area, including all in Monroe County, pledged a total of \$2,697,174, including \$2,408,850.46 in general campaign pledges and \$288,323.54 in special gift pledges.

As of Jan. 1, 1954, a total of \$1,340,359.43 — \$1,117,751.78 in general pledges and \$222,607.65 in special gifts — has been paid on the Rochester area pledges. Balance still due in the second year of payment is \$1,356,814.57, including \$1,291,058.68 in the general campaign and \$65,755.89 in special gifts.

**AUBURN**  
Funds pledged for the new Auburn high school totaled \$567,215 including \$365,450 in the general campaign and \$201,765 in special gifts. Paid to date, \$269,714, including \$222,607.65 in general campaign pledges and \$47,106.40 in special gifts.

**ELMIRA**  
Elmira's new high school was pledged funds totaling \$510,212.75, including \$301,512.75 in the general campaign and \$208,700 in special gifts. A total of \$235,031.79 has been paid during the first year, \$229,096.79 from the general campaign and \$6,935 from special gifts. The balance due of \$275,180.96 includes \$272,085.96 in general pledges and \$3,095 in special gifts.

**GENEVA**  
Geneva area parishes during the campaign subscribed a fund of \$80,875 for liquidation of indebtedness on De Sales High School. First year payments on pledges totaled \$73,014.13. Balance still to be paid is \$7,860.87.

**REVOLVING FUNDS**  
Campaign pledges in the Revolving Fund from parishes outside the high school areas amounted to \$286,974.78. Payments received to date (Jan. 1, 1954) total \$151,779. Still due is \$135,195.78.

Give her a beautiful necklace carrying set from Thomas' Jewel Shop, 1000 Broadway, New York City.

**Dispensation Today**  
His Excellency Bishop Kearney has granted a dispensation to the Catholics of the Diocese of Rochester from the laws of fasting and abstinence today, Friday, March 19, the Feast of St. Joseph.