

## Magazine Features N. A. American College Article By Fr. McNamara

Corning — The Rev. Robert McNamara, professor of church history at St. Bernard's Seminary in Rochester, and a former contributor to the "North American College," in the current April issue of the magazine.

Father McNamara, son of Mrs. Helen McNamara of 32 E. First St. and the late Dr. T. L. McNamara, once mayor of Corning, wrote his article from material he had been compiling for the past 11 years on the history of the North American College in Rome, which he plans to incorporate in a large book slated for publication in 1955 in tribute to alumni of the school.

Father McNamara was graduated from North American College in 1937 and was ordained in Rome Dec. 8, 1936, by the late Cardinal Francis Marchetti, cardinal-archbishop of Rome.

Father McNamara, who wrote "A Century of Grace: The History of St. Mary's Church of Corning," in 1948, is a graduate of St. Mary's School, Corning, and of Georgetown University, Harvard University, and the North American College in Rome.



REV. ROBERT F. McNAMARA

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**HIS 4-PAGE ARTICLE**, illustrated with 13 photos, describes the North American College, on Rome's Janiculum Hill, as the Roman National Seminary for the United States.

Excerpts from the article are here published with permission of Father McNamara.

On Rome's Janiculum Hill overlooking the Vatican and colonaded St. Peter's Square, stand the new buildings which house the North American College, the Roman national seminary for the United States. The modern, six-story main structure is the home of about 180 young Americans from nearly 35 dioceses who are studying the priesthood.

During the past four centuries the Papes have established in Rome a number of national seminaries in the belief that if some diocesan priests from each country are trained in Rome they will inevitably return home with still stronger faith and deeper devotion to the Vicar of Christ.

To six American bishops who had come to Rome in December 1854, for the definition of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, Pope Pius IX proposed a seminary for Americans. Having won the assent of the U. S. hierarchy, the Pope loaned them a former convent at No. 30, Via dell'Umiltà (Humility Street), where the bishops outlined it, and on December 3, 1858 the North American College was opened with a student body of 12.

Except for the years 1940-45, when World War II forced it to close, the college remained at the same address. But even though at times as many as 83 American dioceses were simultaneously represented in the student body, the old building put up in 1603 could accommodate only 180 men.

Therefore, a new building was begun on the Janiculum. Financed last year at a cost of \$4 million, it has quarters for 300. On October 14, 1953, the day on which the seminary moved in, Pope Pius XII personally opened and blessed the new buildings.

Many of the men whom the bishops sent to the American College are destined for assignment as seminary professors

or diocesan officials. Since it is from these positions that most American bishops are chosen, it is not surprising that 101 of the College alumni have become bishops; six of these have returned to Rome to receive the red hat of a cardinal. Three of our present cardinals—Cardinals Spellman, Mooney, and Stritch—were among the 200 of our archbishops and bishops graduated from the College.

There are many great schools of Christian doctrine in Rome, but Rome herself is the greatest teacher of Christian piety. Here Saint Peter, aided by Saint Paul, established the See of Rome, and by sealing it with his blood he set an example for the hundreds of Roman martyrs and saints of succeeding ages.

Here, Pope Pius XI once told a group of American College men, "the presence, the influence of the Holy Apostles are in the very atmosphere."

Although they fully appreciate Rome's lessons in Christian religion and culture, and although by their status they "belong" to Rome, the North American College men are still unalterably American. They may go through the streets in the round heavy hats and the caucuses of the Italian clergyman, but their red sashes, white collars and blue buttons proclaim their nationality. They have small interest in European politics; great interest in American. Their priestly ideals are American also, and however deeply they appreciate the privilege of studying in Rome for four, or six years, they always look forward to returning to America to begin their priestly work. Yet when they do return, they do so with a heart in Rome, the holy center of Christianity.

## Atonement Friar Addresses Corning DCCW Spring Tea

Corning — "The Lord scorned wealth, fame, honor and power and sought poverty, humility and a hidden life. Through dying in shame, he rose to triumph over materialism and hate. Christ lived in such a way as to deeply impress upon us the reality of the life of the spirit."

These words were spoken Sunday afternoon by the Rev. Terence Cummings, S.A., of St. John's Atonement, Montour Falls, as guest speaker at the annual Spring Tea of Corning Deservy Council of Catholic Women attended by 100 local

men and women. Cummings, speaking on "Christ, the Greatest Paradox in History," pointed out that "everything in the life of our Lord was opposed to all the world holds dear."

"Too," he added, "we can find encouragement in today's apparent desolation by the fact that Christ overcame the world."

Christ Philipp Grannan, popular vocalist, sang, "When Song Is Sweet" by Gertrude Sans Souci and "Spring's Lovable Lady" by W. Keith Elliott. She was accompanied by Mrs. Joseph Clancy.

Father Cummings is considered to be one of the outstanding speakers in Western New York. For six years he directed the Ave Maria hour on radio. At present he is a professor of education at St. John's Atonement.

Mrs. Norman C. Murray, president of the Corning Deservy and Mrs. Glenn Jamison, past president, poured tea.

Mrs. Hubert Triano of Hammondsport and Mrs. Daniel J. Lammason of Corning were co-chairmen. Mrs. Jamison was in charge of refreshments.

The Rev. James Slattery, assistant pastor at St. Mary's Church, is moderator of the Corning Deservy.

Others working on committees were: Mrs. Paul Lovett, Mrs. Stanley Manning, Miss Pauline Reihan and Mrs. Young.

**Domestic Prelate**  
Hartford, Conn. (NC) — Mgr. James P. Timmins, editor of the Catholic Transcript, has been appointed domestic prelate with the title of Right Reverend Monsignor by His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

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## Bishop Alerts Catholics On Traffic Safety Need

Cooperation of Catholic people in the metropolitan area in the coming Campaign of the Rochester Safety Council of the Chamber of Commerce is being urged by His Excellency Bishop Kearney.

In a letter to be read at all Masses Sunday, the Bishop asks "a decent respect for the laws of the community" to "easily reduce" the record of deaths and accidents as a result of speed or reckless driving.

His letter appears in adjoining column.

The Safety Council on Thursday, May 6 will celebrate its 40th anniversary. On this date in 1914, the National Safety Council issued a Class A Charter, which today signifies this Council as being the oldest continuous chartered chapter in operation.

In recognition of "forty years of service to the community in the field of safety and accident prevention," Vice Mayor Norman A. Kreckman has proclaimed the week of May 2-8, 1954 as "Safety Week" in Rochester. On each day throughout the week, special emphasis will be placed on various phases of the accident prevention program, as follows:

Sunday, May 2 — "Save a Life" Day (Safety messages in churches)

Monday, May 3 — Child-Youth Safety Day

Tuesday, May 4 — Home Safety Day

Wednesday, May 5 — Occupational Safety Day

Thursday, May 6 — General Safety Day (Anniversary)

Friday, May 7 — Fire Prevention Day

Saturday, May 8 — Traffic Safety Day

Organizations, business, industry, newspapers, radio and television have been requested to "give a birthday present" to the Council by conducting a program or project directed at some phase of the safety program. All committees of the Safety Council have designed exhibits for display throughout Safety Week in the lobby of the Chamber of Commerce building. Other exhibits will be on display in store windows, bank lobbies, etc.

In addition, the Aetna "Driveways" which has been used in a large number of New York City high schools during the past school year for teaching teenagers the proper method of operating a motor vehicle will be on display. Arrangements are being made to bring the education from an eleven-county area to witness the demonstration. This training device reduces the number of instructors needed and materially assists in the driver training program.

The highlight of the week will be a luncheon meeting at the Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, May 6, at which the Hon. J. Baker Priest, Treasurer of the United States and member of the Board of Directors of the National Safety Council, will speak.

## 2nd Chinese Priest Given Austria Duty

Salzburg (NC) — The second Chinese priest has just assumed his duties as a curate in Salzburg archdiocese, thus continuing a missionary movement in reverse that is probably unique in the history of the Church.

The priest, Father Anton Liu, has been assigned to service in the Tyrolean parish of Westendorf. He fills a post that has long been vacant because of the severe shortage of native priests throughout Austria. The first Chinese priest, Father Paul Kuei Tung, was assigned last year to the parish of Bramberg. What at the time was considered a rather daring experiment has proved so successful that a similar appointment has now been made.

Both priests completed their studies in Rome and cannot return to their Communist-ruled homeland.

## Elmira CDA Court To Name Officers

Nominating committee members for Court St. Rita 137, Catholic Daughters of America, were selected at a recent meeting. They are, Mrs. Floyd Wilcox, chairman, Mrs. T. A. Doran, Mrs. Genevieve Margraff, Mrs. James A. Mallon and Mrs. Ethel Egan.

Mrs. Edward J. Widman, grand regent, will be a delegate to the State Convention in Schenectady starting May 10. Mrs. Frances B. O'Connor is alternate delegate.

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## SPIRITUAL EXERCISES AT THE CINACLE

May schedule of spiritual exercises for women at the Cenacle Convent, 693 East Avenue, Rochester, follows:

**RETIREMENTS**  
APRIL 30 to MAY 2 — Nazareth Academy Alumnae, Rev. Bartholomew O'Malley, C.M.  
MAY 7-8 — St. Raphael's Guild, Rev. Lewis Cox, S.J.  
MAY 14-16 — Watertown Parishes, Rev. Patrick Healy, O.M.I.  
MAY 21-23 — Eucharistic Guild and St. Monica Mother's Guild, Rev. William Scott, S.J.  
MAY 24-25 — Religious of the Cenacle Triduum.

**DAYS OF RECOLLECTION**  
THURSDAY, MAY 6 — St. Joseph's Parish, Livonia and Holy Rosary Parish, Rochester, Rev. Edwin Wedow.  
THURSDAY, MAY 13 — St. Monica's Rosary Society, Rev. William Gaynor.

**GUIDE MEETINGS**  
TUESDAY, MAY 4 — St. Raphael's Guild, 7:15 p.m., Rev. E. Leo McManus.

MONDAY, MAY 10 — Blessed Coudere Guild for young business girls, 7:15 p.m., Rev. Eugene H. McFarland.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12 — St. Regis Guild for high school girls, 3:30 p.m., Rev. Otto Vogt.

MONDAY, MAY 17 — Our Lady of the Cenacle Guild, 7:15 p.m., Very Rev. Mgr. Joseph E. Vogt.

Thursday, May 6 — Holy Hour for Priests' intentions, 8 to 9 p.m., Rev. Edward J. Lintz.

**Coming Knights Plan Minstrels In Glass Center**  
Corning — The charity fund of Corning Council, Knights of Columbus, will benefit from the annual Raycee Minstrels to be held in the Corning Glass Center May 17 to 19, according to an announcement this week by Donald J. Rhinehart.

First rehearsal for the musical was held last Sunday at the KC Home, with other tryouts and rehearsals of prospective performers slated during the next few weeks. Dates will be announced in Corning newspapers soon by Mr. Rhinehart.

The minstrel show, under the direction of Carl Middleton, a professional minstrel director from Danville, will be divided into two parts. The minstrel portion of the performance will be staged first, followed by a talent show, "Talent Teller."

Donald J. Rhinehart, publicity chairman, said that there are many singing and acting parts open in the show and all persons interested in participating in the show may contact the K. of C. Rhinehart said that although the show is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, it is considered a community project and any person desiring to contribute their time and talent are cordially welcome to do so.

Five children have been named for the minstrel performance and include Karl Krist, Mark Crowe, John Gracchi, Paul Edmunt and James Sharkey. Norman Murray will serve as intercomedian, while Mrs. Clarence Marlin will provide music at the piano.

Special acts of the show include Royal Benson, a ventriloquist who appears over television station WECTV, presenting a puppet show; a "Black-up" act by George Spencer and Richard Tuttle; Doris Lynn Clark of Painted Post will tap dance.

A dancing duet will be presented by Patricia and Mary Catherine. Sarah Johnson, an outstanding soloist in the local area, will give several selections.

A dress rehearsal will be held at the Biltmore Veterans Administration Center Sunday, May 16. The group will also present the show at the Elmira Reformatory Saturday, May 15.

## Pope To Attend Vatican Meeting

Vatican City (RNS) — Pope Pius XII plans to attend a meeting of the Sacred Congregation of Rites on May 4 to discuss and vote on the miracles attributed to three beat due to be canonized on June 13, the Vatican Press Office announced.

The three future saints are Dominic Savio (1842-57), a pupil of St. John Bosco; Father Giuseppe Maria Pignatelli, S.J. (1737-1811), Spanish Jesuit who was the principal representative of the Society of Jesus before the restoration of the order by Pope Pius VII in 1814; and Gaspare da Bufalo (1788-1837), the founder of the Society of the Precious Blood.

Three others also to be canonized on June 13 are Pierre Louis Chanel (1803-41), French priest martyred on the island of Futuna in the Tonga Archipelago; Vincenzo Pallotti (1789-1850), founder of the Pallottine Fathers; and Maria Crocifissa di Rosa (1813-55), foundress of the Institute of the Maidens of Charity.

The first canonization of the year will take place on May 29, when Blessed Pius X, the "Pope of Christian Doctrine," will be raised to the altar.

## Clifton Altar Unit Sets 2 Breakfasts

Clifton Springs — Members of the Altar and Rosary Society of St. Ignace, Clifton Springs, will serve the annual breakfast to the First Communion class on June 6.

Twenty-three children will receive First Communion at the 7 o'clock Mass and breakfast will follow in the church hall.

Committee in charge includes: the Mesdames Robert M. Wells, Frank DeMarco, Edwin Morphy and Bernard Weid.

Mrs. Elks Weid, Jr., president, will serve as chairman for the annual Communion breakfast of the society scheduled for Clifton Springs Sanitarium dining room following the 7 o'clock Mass on May 2.

Nominating committee for the election of officers at the May 2 business meeting are Mrs. Frank DeMarco, Mrs. Edwin Morphy and Mrs. Francis Bremer.

Members voted a \$5 contribution to the Cancer Fund Drive and a \$10 award to be given to a senior at Clifton Central School who best exemplifies Christian decorum during the four years of high school.

**Bishop Named**  
New York (NC) — Bishop James H. Griffiths, Chancellor of the Military Ordinariate, has been named on an executive committee to broaden and strengthen the ties between the United Nations and the City of New York.

## SOUTHERN TIER EDITION COURIER-JOURNAL Friday April 30, 1954

## 'Catholicism In Home' Talk Hea By Corning CDA

Corning — "Catholicism in the Home" was the subject of a talk by the Rev. Desales Standish, S.A., of Montour Falls, at speaker at the annual banquet of Court St. Joseph, Catholic Daughters of America, held a week ago in the Baron Steuben Hotel.

Miss Rose DiCaita, grand regent of the court, acting as toastmistress, gave the welcome address; remarks were heard from Mrs. Anna Sheehan of Waverly, district deputy of the court; and the Rev. Albert Herr, assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church and chaplain of the CDA court, offered invocation and benediction.

Entertainment was furnished by Vincent Malandra, from Elmira Free Academy who played several piano selections and also sang vocal selections.

Mrs. Samuel Young was chairman for the banquet and Mrs. Arthur Doran was co-chairman. The grand regent, Miss Josephine Fitzgerald of Hornell attended the banquet. She was accompanied by the vice grand regent, Mrs. Mary Crandall.

## Bake Sale Sunday Listed By Sodalists

The Sodality of Our Lady of St. Mary's parish, Elmira, will sponsor a bake sale to be held in the school between all Masses on Sunday, Joseph Augustine, prefect, has appointed Ann Sponey as chairman, to be assisted by Cornelius Supple, vice prefect, and Dorothy Kohan, treasurer.

Proceeds from the sale will be used to defray the expenses incident to the annual Communion breakfast to be held on Sunday, May 23.

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