

U. S. Catholics Near 32 Million Mark

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1,500 Students To Appear In Schools' Musical Festival At Eastman Theatre

Fifteen hundred students will join forces for the sixth annual Rochester Catholic Schools Music Festival scheduled at the Eastman Theatre next Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, May 18 and 19, at 8:15 p.m.

The Festival, arranged to demonstrate the musical training of the pupils of Diocesan schools, is sponsored by His Excellency Bishop Kearney and is under the direction of the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Charles J. Mahoney, superintendent of the Catholic schools.

MUSIC EDUCATION from the college level to kindergarten will be represented in the two-night program.

The Aquinas Institute Band, under the direction of Raymond



VESTED BOYS' CHOIR will be a feature of the Sixth Annual Rochester Catholic Schools Music Festival set for Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, May 18 and 19, in the Eastman Theatre. Choir will take part in a special Marian Year sequence presented by pupils of Rochester Catholic grammar schools. Shown above (from left) John Nelson, St. Evangelista St. Paul Mass, 150 Earl St.; Francis Gendreau, 334 Genesee St. and (in rear) Geoffrey Meyer, St. Edmund Ave.

PROGRAM Details of Schools' Musical Program on Page 8.

J. Hasenauer, M. Mus., will play various selections and the interlude music on both evenings.

Tuesday night's program will include selections by the Inter-Parochial School Orchestra under the direction of Wilfred R. Duquette, B.M.; the St. Agnes High School Glee Club, conducted by J. Theodore Hollenbach, B.S. Music; the Aquinas Institute Glee Club, directed by Mr. Hasenauer; and the Mary's Hospital School of Nursing Glee Club, under the direction of Miss Suzanne Wigg.

A special Marian Year presentation by elementary school pupils will be given in the form of a special drama honoring the Blessed Virgin under the title: "Patroness of the United States, Mother of Americans All, Protectress of the Armed Forces, and Queen of Heaven—Mother of the Church."

Each title will be further interpreted by a singing chorus, tone dance, a military drill by the Nazareth Hall cadets and a vested boys' choir.

ON WEDNESDAY evening's program, the elementary school presentations will be repeated, whereas the colleges and high schools are appearing alternate nights.

The Nazareth Academy "Fontaine Band" will open the program under the direction of Kenneth B. Walde, B.S. Music. Selections will be heard by the Academy of the Sacred Heart Choir, conducted by Kathleen Zimmer, M. Mus.; and Our Lady of Mercy High School Glee Club, under the direction of Shirley Tetlaff Beck, M. Mus.

Members of the St. John Fish-

Pilgrims Crowd Rome For Pius X Rites

Rome — (RNS) — Pilgrims from all over the world are converging on Rome for the canonization of Blessed Pius X, which will take place outside St. Peter's Basilica on May 29.

So great is the number expected that accommodations here already are at a premium. Many of the pilgrims are planning to sleep in the buses and automobiles carrying them across Europe for the ceremonies.

FEW PILGRIMS are expected from the new saint's home province of Veneto, Italy, because his body is scheduled to be venerated at the main centers in the province — Venice, Treviso, Mantua, and his birthplace of Riese — for some weeks after the May 29 ceremonies in St. Peter's Basilica.

Blessed Pius, known as the "Pope of Christian Doctrine," is the first Pontiff to be canonized since Pope Pius V in 1672.

Vatican City — (NC) — The body of Blessed Pope Pius X will be carried in solemn procession from St. Peter's Basilica to the Basilica of St. Mary Major on the afternoon of May 30. It was announced here as plans progressed rapidly for the great ceremonies of canonization on May 29.

USED TO transport the remains of the humbly-born Pontiff who will soon be listed among the canonized saints of the Church will be an elegant old Berlin carriage drawn by six white horses.

First used in Berlin in the 17th century, this type of four-wheeled carriage generally accommodated two passengers, but had a few adaptations to a driver's seat in front.

The Vatican announcement said that only men will be in the procession of marchers preceding and following the carriage.

The customary solemn triumph in honor of a newly canonized saint will be held at St. Mary Major's and the body is expected to remain there for about a week.

Church Gains 1,223,409 In 1953, Directory Reports

New York — (NC) — The Catholic Church in the United States has grown to 31,648,424 members, an increase of 1,223,409 in the past year. These figures, which include the totals for Hawaii and Alaska, were revealed in the Official Catholic Directory for 1954, just issued by the publishing firm of P. J. Kennedy & Sons.

The new total represents a ten-year gain of 8,228,723 over the 23,419,701 Catholics reported in 1944—1,097,771 of them con-

verts to the Church.

THE NEW directory shows new highs in the number of priests and of parishes. At the same time, it indicates a record increase of some 180,000 full-time students in Catholic schools and a 14 per cent gain in the number of lay teachers in those schools.

Six archdioceses have Catholic populations exceeding one million: Chicago, with 1,815,976; Boston, 1,426,319; New York, 1,361,170; Philadelphia, 1,250,469; Newark, 1,123,607 and Detroit, 1,075,000. Brooklyn, with 1,443,848, continues as the largest diocese, while Pittsburgh, 720,168, is second.

The 1954 directory lists 199 members of the Hierarchy—the greatest in the history of the American Church. Its figures are for January 1, 1954, however, and the number of Cardinals, Archbishops and Bishops is now 202.

An increase of 229 in the number of the clergy, bringing the total of ordained priests to 45,451, the largest ever recorded; there are now 23,611 diocesan or secular clergy and 16,840 religious community priests. Four members of the Hierarchy and 679 priests are listed in the necrology.

Professed Religious other than priests include 8,691 Brothers and 154,055 Sisters. The full-time teaching staffs of all educational institutions under Catholic auspices have increased by 4,911 or 4.16 per cent, to a record total of 123,035—comprising 7,986 nuns, 3,843 Brothers, 83 school Sisters, 85,391 nuns and 21,239 lay teachers. Thus there are 2,612 more lay teachers and 2,259 more Religious teaching in Catholic schools than a year ago.

AS A RESULT of the more exact definitions in the compilation of statistics, it was possible for the Directory to report 15,164 parishes with resident pastors (a year's increase of 132) and 750 parishes without resident clergy—a record total of 15,914 Catholic parishes in the U. S., Alaska and Hawaii. Also listed are 7,543 chapels, 4,547 missions and 1,304 missions-in-progress.

The 12,105 separate educational institutions include five diocesan and 11 religious seminaries and 10 colleges established during 1953. From seminaries and universities down to the kindergarten level, there is an aggregate of 5,960,569 American youth under Catholic instruction, an increase of eight and one half per cent.

The 76 diocesan seminaries report enrollments of 15,048 seminarians, while the 379 novitiate and scholasticates of the religious Orders and congregations have 18,400 students for the priesthood, for a record total of 33,448.

The decreasing trend in Catholic college and university enrollments for three successive years has been reversed, with an increase of 11,990 college students during 1953. Current enrollments now total 210,920, or 116 per cent more Catholic college students than ten years ago.

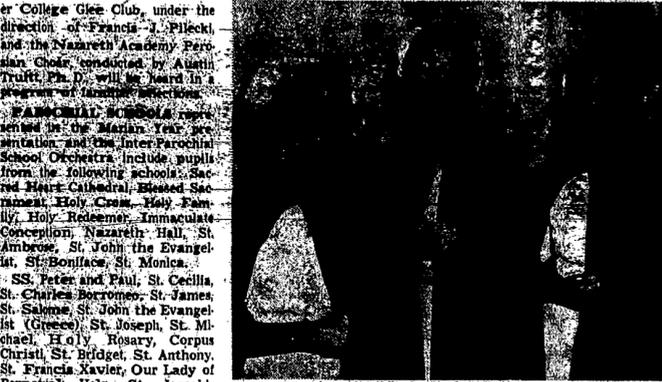
The number of full-time pupils in Catholic elementary and high schools reflect a record of 1,049,460 during the past year. The 1,596 parish and diocesan high schools report 375,000 pupils, an increase of 13,247 above 1953; the 830 private high schools, with 227,906, are up 11,892.

Pupils in 8,493 parish elementary schools now number 2,992,318, or 154,247 more (the previous year's increase was 145,365) while students in the 541 private elementary schools are up by 674, to 315,543. The number of children in the 177 protective institutions shows an increase of 5,320 to a present total of 20,418.

The further progress of religious instruction to children under released-time programs, in religious vacation schools and other classes, is evident in the 1954 reports of 1,946,143 public school children attending 35,729 special religious classes or schools, which represent a year's increase of 268,645 pupils (or 16 per cent) and 3,618 classes (or 11.3 per cent) respectively.

For the eighth year in succession, the number of converts entering the Church exceeds 700,000. During 1953 adult baptisms numbered 110,000. This figure brings the total conversions during the past decade to 1,907,771.

The number of infant baptisms, 1,094,872 shows an increase of 17,688 for the year 1953. Marriages recorded decreased slightly to 203,197 during the same period. 238,300 Catholics died in the U. S.



STUDENT NURSES of St. Mary's Hospital School of Nursing rehearse a program of familiar selections for their Glee Club presentation in the Rochester Catholic Schools Music Festival. Students shown above are: (from left) Nancy Dalton, Mexico, N. Y.; Catherine Gleason, Phelps, N. Y.; and Elizabeth Doyle, 215 Melrose St., Rochester.

THE LIFE OF CHRIST

By BISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN

Christ Went to the Cross in Obedience to His Father

[We all heed Christ—in a world which tries to interpret man in terms of sex, in a world of certain men who believe with Lenin that one must resort to chicanery and duplicity in order to conquer the world; in a world that believes personality should be manipulated, our whole life geared to flattering and influencing people for the sake of utility and popularity. The Jesus of the Beatitudes is that they are not ideals. They are hard facts and realities, inseparable from the Cross. Man needs the love of God in his heart. To strive not to be like other men, but to be perfect as God is perfect—that is the only new thing in the world today. Bishop Sheen, but so few are the people willing to try it.]

CHAPTER XIX

OVER THIRTY TIMES DURING His Life, Jesus Christ spoke of a must about His sufferings and death. Those who quarrel and bicker about who put Him to death are very much off-center. Our Lord was under no other compulsion; He was not a victim of circumstances beyond His control; He was not a devotee of the world's highest values, like a soldier dying on a battlefield; He was not a martyr for a great cause; not a moral teacher Whom the mediocre slew because could not stand the moral lashings of His purity; He went to death not because of the plotting of evil men, nor because He was a victim of circumstances quite beyond His control, nor because of the power of the Roman Empire. True indeed, the stage was set by evil men, but Our Lord always presents Himself as One Who took charge of the plot. He

Telephone Girls Save Pennies For Missions

Philadelphia — (NC) — A penny saved makes a nice tidy sum for the missions—especially if you have an organization of penny-savers like the Telephone Girls of Philadelphia.

At the "hello" girls' sixth annual Communion breakfast in the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel here, Anne M. Marron, their president, presented a check for \$4,000 to Philadelphia's Archbishop John F. O'Hara, C.S.C. It represented 400,000 pennies saved during the last year by the phone operators.

The sum was turned over to the Archbishop to be used in foreign mission work of the American Hierarchy.

Prior to the breakfast, some 1,700 members of the organization assisted at Mass and received Holy Communion in the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul. The Mass was offered by Father Frederic P. Gehring, O.M.I., spiritual director of the operators' organization.

Under the patronage of Our Lady of the Bell, the Telephone Girls of Philadelphia and vicinity was founded about seven years ago under the direction of Father Gehring, who is now director of Missions of the Vincentian Fathers, with headquarters at China House at the Vincentian headquarters here.

Give her a beautiful necklace and earring set from Thomas Wilson S. Thomas, Jewelers, 318 Main St. East, Philadelphia, 391-447.

House Unit Urges God's Name In Allegiance Pledge

Washington, D. C. — (RNS) — A House judiciary subcommittee voted unanimously to recommend that the words "under God" be added to the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Congressional sponsors of the proposal testified before the subcommittee that it has strong backing from leaders of all faiths.

THE FEVEEMBER subcommittee headed by Rep. Edgar A. Snodgrass (R., Ill.) favored passage of House Joint Resolution 243, sponsored by Rep. Louis C. Rabaut (D., Mich.). Mr. Rabaut's resolution was the first of 11 to be introduced in Congress amending the pledge to add recognition of the deity.

If Congress approves the change, the pledge will read:

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Rep. Rabaut said he had introduced his resolution at this time because democratic government whose institutions presuppose a Supreme Being... is under attack by a system whose philosophy is exactly opposite.

"Our political institutions," he added, "reflect our conviction of the worthwhileness of the individual human being. This conviction is in turn based on our belief that the human person is created in the image and likeness of God and has been endowed by God with certain inalienable rights. Truly, therefore, this nation is founded 'under God'..." and one from the Detroit Council of Churches.

REP. OAKMAN, who was accompanied by the Rev. Edgar Hoeberle, a Lutheran pastor of Plymouth, Mich., said that the resolution had drawn support from members of all faiths. He submitted to the subcommittee a letter from Edward Cardinal Mooney, Archbishop of Detroit.

Congressman O'Hara said that of nearly 500 letters received by him on the subject of this recognition of the deity, not a single one had been unfavorable. Several other sponsors said their mail had also been heavy and unanimously in favor of the proposal.



REV. DR. EGAN
Baccalaureate



DR. O'NEILL
Commencement

Commencement Week

Fr. Egan, Dr. O'Neill Nazareth College Speakers

Dr. James M. O'Neill, author of "Catholicism and American Freedom," will deliver the Nazareth College Commencement address Wednesday afternoon, June 2, Sister Rose Angela, dean, announced today. His topic will be "The Catholic Position in Current American Controversies."

His Excellency Bishop Kearney will preside at the 27th annual commencement exercises when 59 young women are scheduled to receive degrees. Weather permitting, the ceremonies will be held outdoors on the East Ave. campus.

Commencement Week activities will open with celebration of the Baccalaureate Mass by Bishop Kearney of Sunday, May 30 at 11 a.m. in the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse Chapel.

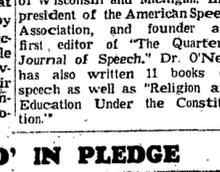
The Rev. Joseph M. Egan, S.T.D., professor of dogmatic theology at St. Bernard's Seminary, will preach the sermon at the Baccalaureate Mass.

Father Egan was ordained in 1942, studied at the North American College in Rome, and received his doctorate in Sacred Theology from St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein, Ill. His topic will be Loyalty to the Church.

Dr. O'Neill is expected to deal with the problems of Censorship and Freedom, Separation of Church and State, and the Place of Religious Education in America. His "Catholicism and American Freedom," a reply to the alleged anti-Catholic charges of Paul Blanshard, was rated by the New York Times one of the outstanding books of 1952.

Former chairman of the departments of speech of Brooklyn College and the Universities of Wisconsin and Michigan, first president of the American Speech Association, and founder and first editor of "The Quarterly Journal of Speech," Dr. O'Neill has also written 11 books on speech as well as "Religion and Education Under the Constitution."

WANT 'GOD' IN PLEDGE



Washington, D. C. — These two Congressmen, Rep. Louis C. Rabaut (D., Mich.) (left) and Rep. Peter W. Rodino Jr. (D., N.J.), have played important roles in advancing the proposal to add the words "under God" to the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Seminary Lists Entrance Exams

Entrance examination for students wishing to enter St. Andrew's Seminary next Fall will be held at the seminary, 11100 Eastlake Road, Rochester, on Saturday, June 12, at 10 a.m.

These examinations are not repeated, and for this reason it is important that all candidates, including beginners and transfers in high school or junior college, report on June 12 at the seminary, according to the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Maynard A. Connell, rector.

Each candidate should consult his pastor and come prepared to present a written recommendation from his pastor, Monsignor Connell advised.

Application forms will be sent upon request or they may be filed on the day of the examination.

Monsignor Connell requests that pastors of the Diocese announce to their people on the two Sundays preceding June 12 the information concerning the entrance examination to the seminary.

Send flowers for a true expression of sympathy. Flowers often express your thoughts and are more simply and more beautifully than words. Call Blanchard Florist at Baker 984 or visit their store at 55 Lake Avenue where you'll find a fine selection to choose from.