

Famed Painting Of Our Lady On View At Benedictine Monastery, Elmira

A copy of the famed picture of Our Lady "Salus Populi Romani" to be crowned by Pope Pius XII on Nov. 1, Feast of All Saints, in Rome, can be found in the Diocese of Rochester.

The copy hangs in the chapel of Our Lady Queen of Peace at the Benedictine monastery of Mount Saviour, Madigan Road off Henry Hollow Road, outside Elmira.

HIS EXCELLENCY Bishop Kearney formally hung the picture in the first chapel when he blessed the monastery and the new chapel on the Feast of the Transfiguration, Aug. 6, 1951. Since the completion of the new chapel the picture was transferred there and now hangs behind the altar.

The Benedictine monks have great devotion to "Our Lady of Rome" and attribute many graces and favors to her intercession. They pointed out, this week, that the icon of Our Lady "Salus Populi Romani" is a favorite representation of Our Lady for the people of Rome.

The picture is so ancient that its painting has been traditionally attributed to St. Luke. It had enjoyed great popularity in the Sixth Century.

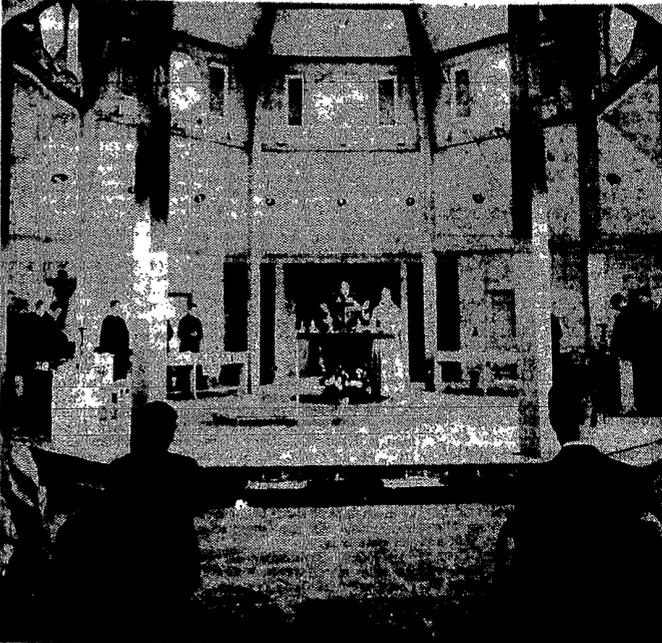
Pope Gregory the Great carried it in procession through the streets of Rome imploring the intercession of the Blessed Virgin against the pestilence. The present Pontiff, Pope Pius XII especially devoted to Our Lady "Salus Populi Romani" and her icon, celebrated his first Mass before it.

In his Encyclical announcing the Marian Year "Fulgens Corona," the Pope made special reference to this representation of the Blessed Virgin and designated it the official Marian Year picture when he visited it at the beginning of this year in her honor in the Basilica of St. Mary Major where it hangs.

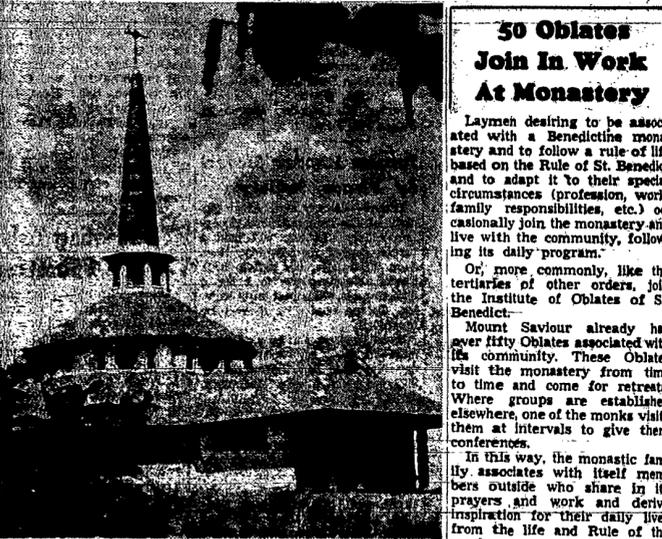
Another Marian shrine, that of Our Lady Queen of Peace, is in the crypt of the Mount Saviour chapel. There in the center of the octagonal chapel is the beautiful statue of the Blessed Virgin which was donated to the monastery. It dates from the end of the 13th or, at the latest, the beginning of the 14th Century.

The statue which is of stone, about 3 1/2 feet high, was carved by an unknown sculptor in Paris or somewhere in the area surrounding that city. It is considered one of the finest examples in this country.

TO THIS SHRINE many come on pilgrimage, both individually and in groups. On Sunday, September 12th, there came a pil-



WITHIN THE CHAPEL of the Benedictine monks at Mount Saviour Monastery, near Elmira, is shown one of the community celebrating Mass at the table altar in the center of the octagonal chapel edifice. The famed facsimile of the icon of Our Lady "Salus Populi Romani" hangs on the wall to the right. (Charles L. Hickey, Elmira, Photo.)



EXTERIOR VIEW of the Benedictine Monastery chapel high on a prominence commanding a striking view of the country near Elmira, on Madigan Road. Designed by Joseph Sanford Shanty of New York, the chapel is imposing and a place to see when in Elmira neighborhood.

grimage of 150 people from the parish of Our Lady of the Lake in Watkins Glen, led by their pastor, Father Benedict Ehmann.

In the near future, the Catholic Women's Club of Bath will make a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady Queen of Peace.

Surrounding the shrine are six altars all dedicated to Our Lady under the titles: Queen of Angels, Queen of Patriarchs and Prophets, Queen of Apostles, Queen of Martyrs, Queen of Confessors and Queen of Virgins.

EVERY NIGHT following Compline, the night prayer of the Church, the monks, retreatants and visitors go from the upper church in procession to the shrine where they sing the "Salve Regina" and say the Angelus while the bell in the steeple is rung.

With these devotions to Our Blessed Lady they conclude their day. The day also begins with a salutation to Our Lady Queen of

Peace as each monk passes her shrine on his way to Vigils at four o'clock in the morning.

THE UNUSUAL and beautiful octagonal chapel contains several other works of art which have been donated to the monastery. In the Blessed Sacrament Chapel there is a painting of the Crucifixion and Saints of the Avignon School in France, dating from the 14th Century, and a Coptic Panel on the front of the altar from Egypt, probably 1000 years old.

Behind the altar hangs a large crucifix of Spanish Colonial design, dating from the 17th Century. In the crypt at the altar of Our Lady Queen of Virgins is an antique Spanish crucifix of great beauty.

The altar in the chapel is in the center with the monks having their places on one side and the congregation on the other, so that all surround it for the celebration of Holy Mass.

New Lay Catechist Class Added By Mission Helpers To 10 Underway In Ithaca

Ithaca—A new lay catechist class has begun an extensive training course in Ithaca under the supervision of the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart. Since the Sacred Heart Mission Center opened in Ithaca in August, 1950, at the invitation of the Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Byrne, V.F., the work of the Mission Helpers has grown to such an extent that the lay catechist training program has become a vital necessity in helping to carry on the work to which the Sisters have dedicated their lives—mainly the religious instruction of Catholic children in the public grade and high schools in the city and rural areas.

The Sisters also conduct convent and inquiry classes and take the parish census.

FOUR SISTERS presently comprise the staff of the Mission Helpers in Ithaca—Sister Tarcisus, Superior and Sisters Maureen, Albert and Francine. More than 700 children of grade one through eight are enrolled in the 65 weekly classes in religious education; in addition, the Sisters conduct 4 classes for Catholic high school girls, using for this particular course a Mission Helper publication, entitled "Advanced Course for Catholic Living."

The Mission Helpers are assisted by 10 graduates of the first Lay Catechist class in Ithaca, who in May, 1953 received their certificates as Teachers of Christian Doctrine from His Excellency Bishop Kearney.

Assisting the Mission Helpers are:

Mrs. Elizabeth Zellar who has been aiding the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart for more than four years, as a lay catechist at several rural catechetical centers. She conducts a Monday morning class on the fundamental truths of our holy religion to the 13 children of the kindergarten and first grade from Danby's two rural schools Mr. and Mrs. John Troyan open their home to this class.

On Tuesday afternoons, Mrs. Zellar transports two Mission Helpers to the Masonic Temple in Newfield where the Catholic religion classes are in session for 1 hour. At this center she teaches 7 children in the second grade.

Mrs. Nell Bedell teaches thirty-three children from the fourth, fifth and sixth grades from the Henry St. John School on Monday mornings. Religion is taught in separate classes according to the grade in school. At 9:00 a.m., the fourth grade children learn about the Commandments of God and the Precepts

of the Church according to the "Adaptive Way Method" which is outlined for the teacher in the Confraternity School Year Religion Course. This manual was written by Sister M. Rosalia of the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart.

At 10 a.m., the fifth grade religion class is in session, learning the seven sacraments and about the Church and the Theological virtues. At 11 a.m., grade six children receive instructions on the Mass. They use "My Sunday Missal" and the Baltimore Catechism No. 2 as the student texts. These classes are all held at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Corwin. On Wednesday afternoons, Mrs. Bedell goes to the home of Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Pesoli and teaches these doctrines to the 31 children in the fourth and fifth grades at the Fall Creek School.

Mrs. Margaret Bennett teaches religion each Friday afternoon at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Leo Speng to the fourteen first grade children attending the Cayuga Heights School.

Mrs. Allice Benzocler teaches about the Commandments on Friday afternoon at the home of Mr. & Mrs. James O'Connor to the 11 children in the fourth grade class from Cayuga Heights School.

Mrs. Clara Smith also teaches at Mr. O'Connor's home on Friday afternoon to a third grade class of 13 children on the necessary fundamental doctrines. Each Wednesday afternoon, Mrs. Smith in her own home specializes in teaching the Sacraments to the 9 Catholic children attending the fifth grade in Belle Sherman School.

Mrs. Caroline de Yona conducts classes for 9 children of the 1st grade and 15 children of the second grade of the Henry St. John School at her own home, which has been graciously offered as class room space every year since release time classes were organized.

Mrs. Anna Mahood travels to Newfield on Tuesday afternoons to impart Christian Doctrine to the 12 children in the 3rd grade. On Monday mornings she also teaches 12 children of the Henry St. John School 3rd grade.

Mrs. Elizabeth Harlock on Tuesday afternoon transports children from the Newfield School to the Masonic Temple and teaches 9 first grade children. On Thursday mornings, she again instructs 11 first grade children from Central public school at the Sacred Heart Mission Center.

Mrs. Elizabeth Ervay and Mrs. (Continued on Page 2-A)

Ethics Of Healing Told Elmira Catholic Nurses

About 55 graduate nurses of St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing heard Dr. William H. Burke discuss the moral and spiritual aspects of healing at a Communion Breakfast of Elmira Council of Catholic Nurses, Sunday, Oct. 24 at Mark Twain Hotel.

Doctor Burke told the nurses: "As science progresses, it comes ever closer to Church laws." He cited examples of pre-natal problems where the Church has always had a definite answer often criticized by some doctors. As science has perfected its techniques, the wisdom of the Church has become obvious.

THE CHURCH can never change or amend basic laws, the Doctor said. "The Church never made them. They are the laws of God, manifested by Jesus Christ, and living in accordance thereto can present problems almost insurmountable."

"It requires courage, but more, it requires faith of the highest order, faith in God's justice. For us there can be no alternative, and if we lack the forbearance to assume the responsibility of the Catholic adult in the family life in complete accord with the Divine Law, then we have no right to count ourselves as Catholics."

DOCTOR BURKE reminded the nurses that "your word carries a lot of weight, maybe more than you consider it might."

The speaker said he was not asking the nurses to be public relations counsels for doctors. "I'm asking you," he said, "to use this vast ear the public has offered you in a pertinent and vital manner in regard to the Church's views on the ethics of healing. It is here that you, as Catholic nurses, can perform a real service to yourselves and to your church."

Miss Jean Milliken, Elmira council president, encouraged all nurses to be most active in the organization, especially for their own spiritual welfare.

Mrs. Mary Liquori, treasurer, reported on the council's financial status and Miss Angelina DeLauria, secretary, reported on the last meeting. Miss DeLauria reminded the nurses that an evening retreat would be conducted, Monday, Nov. 29.

The Rev. Phillip E. McHugh, chaplain of St. Joseph's Hospital, was toastmaster at the breakfast.

Sister St. Mark To Address Meeting

The ladies of St. Monica's Rosary Society will meet on Friday, Nov. 5 at 8:15 in the school meeting room.

Sister St. Mark, principal and founder of the School of the Holy Childhood will be guest speaker.

Evening Masses Slated Sunday

Special evening Masses will be said at St. Patrick's Church at 5:30 p.m. and at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Elmira at 8 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 24, Feast of Christ the King. These Masses are in addition to the regular schedule of Masses said every Sunday.

New Officers Installed By Directors Board

Board of directors of St. Christopher Library installed the following officers at a recent meeting: Mrs. Katherine C. Lynch, president; Mrs. Charles D. O'Hara, secretary; Mrs. Florence Toole, treasurer; Miss Mary Conley and Miss Grace E. Miller, continue as vice presidents.

Mrs. Lynch named the following as chairman to assist during the year: Miss Kathryn L. Jenkins, staff; Miss Katherine O'Connor, book selection; Mrs. James Mallon, membership; Mrs. Francis O'Connor and Mrs. Daniel F. Kennedy, program; Mrs. Alfred Moore, deansery representative; Miss Grace E. Miller, publicity. Assisting with publicity are Miss Ellen McTernan, Miss Dorothy Woods, Miss Teresa Cameron.

The library will be open Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and 7 to 8 p.m.; Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 3 to 5 p.m. Regular librarians are:

Miss Mary Conley, Mrs. Owen Hofbauer, Miss Mary Jarowski, Mrs. Lynch, Mrs. Edward Mackey, Miss Grace E. Miller, Miss Helen O'Hara, Mrs. William Roberts, Mrs. Charles Toole, Miss Mae Woodruff. Substitutes on call are: Miss Frances Butterworth, Miss Catherine Connelly, Mrs. Thomas Flynn, Mrs. Thomas Galvin, Miss Helen Harlock, Miss Jenkins, Mrs. James Mallon, Mrs. Justin McCarthy, Miss Marian McInerney, Miss Mary McNamee, Miss Ellen McTernan, Mrs. Alfred Moore, Mrs. Charles O'Hara, Miss Phyllis Puskas, Mrs. Robert Ryan.

Mrs. Edmund Maloney, retiring president, was commended by the board for her untiring efforts toward the success of the library.

50 Oblates Join In Work At Monastery

Laymen desiring to be associated with a Benedictine monastery and to follow a rule of life based on the Rule of St. Benedict and to adapt it to their special circumstances (profession, work, family responsibilities, etc.) occasionally join the monastery and live with the community, following its daily program.

Or, more commonly, like the tentatives of other orders, join the Institute of Oblates of St. Benedict.

Mount Saviour already has over fifty Oblates associated with its community. These Oblates visit the monastery from time to time and come for retreats. Where groups are established elsewhere, one of the monks visits them at intervals to give them conferences.

In this way, the monastic family associates with itself members outside who share in its prayers and work and derive inspiration for their daily lives from the life and Rule of the monks.

"A HEALTHY BODY IS THE GUEST CHAMBER OF THE SOUL. A SICK BODY IS A PRISON"

(Author's name hidden)

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