



Bishop Kearney's Appointments

- DECEMBER**
- 1-3 Wednesday, Friday—Our Lady of Mercy Motherhouse, Chapel, R.F.C.A. Marian Year Triad, Mass and Services—7:30 P.M.
 - 3 Friday—McQuinn Junior High School, Patronal Feast Day Mass—9:30 A.M.
 - 3 First Friday Club Luncheon, Sheraton Hotel—11:15 P.M.
 - 4 Saturday—Our Lady of Lourdes, Elmira—School Campaign Fund Opening Dinner—8:30 P.M.
 - 5 Sunday—Our Lady of Lourdes, Elmira, Mass.—10:30 A.M.
 - 6 St. Andrew's Church—Contribution—10:30 P.M.
 - 7 Monday—Sacred Heart Cathedral—Festive at Marian Year Triad—7:45 P.M.
 - 7 Tuesday—Nassau College—Closing of Marian Year—11:15 P.M.
 - 8 Wednesday—St. Bernard's Seminary—Solemn Pontifical Mass for Patronal Feast Day—9:30 A.M.
 - 8 Sacred Heart Academy—Closing of Marian Year—9:30 P.M.
 - 8 Sacred Heart Cathedral—Solemn Pontifical coronation Episcopate—Solemn Opening of Marian Year—9:30 P.M.
 - 11 Saturday—St. Joseph's Villa—Archbishop's Blessing Anniversary Mass—9:30 A.M.
 - 11 St. John's, Geneva—School Fund Campaign Closing Dinner—8:30 P.M.
 - 11 Sunday—Convict of the Conscience—Closing of Marian Year—11:15 P.M.
 - 11 Immaculate Conception Church—Services for Parish Observance of Immaculate Conception—7:45 P.M.
 - 11 Monday—St. John's Fisher College—Closing of Marian Year and Blessing of New Admissions—10:30 A.M.
 - 11 Tuesday—St. Andrew's Seminary—Christmas Mass—7:30 A.M.
 - 11 Wednesday—Nassau College—Christmas Mass—9:30 A.M.
 - 11 Friday—Sacred Heart Academy—Christmas Program—11:15 P.M.
 - 11 Saturday—St. Bernard's Seminary—Ordinations—9:30 A.M.
 - 11 St. Joseph's Church—Young People's Holy Hour, Prayers and Prayers—10:30 P.M.
 - 11 Monday—St. Agnes High School—Christmas Eve—8:15 P.M.
 - 11 Tuesday—Our Lady of Mercy High School—Christmas Eve—8:15 P.M.
 - 11 Wednesday—Nassau College—Christmas Program—11:15 P.M.
 - 11 Thursday—St. Joseph's Church—Monsignor Morgan Altar Service—9:30 A.M.
 - 11 Friday—St. Mary's Hospital—Christmas Mass and Vigil—10:30 P.M.
 - 11 Sacred Heart Cathedral—Solemn Pontifical Midnight Mass.

Recognize Red China! No!

It is getting stronger that we might as well face facts and recognize Red China as the actual de facto government of China. Why waste time, supplies, and money on Peking's request of a questionable government anyway?

We say that it is not actually recognizing the Communist Party, but rather, it is actually recognizing the Communist Party's right to rule, and we are falling for it.

First of all, the Communist Party is the same old, same old, Communist Party. It has been around since 1919, and it has been around since 1919. It has been around since 1919, and it has been around since 1919.

A second technique of the Communist Party is to do to the Jews what they did to the Christians. We are told that this is a big world, big enough for Jews and Gentiles, Catholics and Protestants, Mohammedans and Christians. If all these groups can disagree about things they say are quite important, but don't go to war about their disagreements, then why can't we get along with Russia and her Iron Curtain partners?

The Jews don't hold Gentiles by thousands in prisons; the Protestants haven't exiled Catholics to ice-crusted islands; the Mohammedans aren't brainwashing and torturing Christians. But the Soviets and her satellites ARE doing all this to half the world's population — our fellow men, our fellow Christians.

If we surrender to "peaceful coexistence," we betray the thousands who have no consolation except their hope that the free world will some day triumph. If we admit even one more aggressor as an equal, then their last shred of hope must perish. And as their hope dies, so does our honor too!

Priest Shortage In Mexico

There are over 20 million Catholics in every part of the archdiocese of Mexico City, and the ratio is even worse in other sections of the country. Our own diocese which feels the pinch of priest shortage has a ratio of one priest for every six hundred Catholics. Experience locally proves how difficult it is for a priest to know all his people in Mexico. It is obviously beyond human possibility for the priest to contact the bulk that need his care.

This critical shortage in Mexico has had the tragic effects of widespread ignorance of religion, falling off in church attendance, lack of vocations, demoralization in the faith.

What has happened in Mexico could also happen here in the years to come. Already, our parochial school classrooms are overcrowded because there are not nuns enough to staff the schools; many parishes could use the help of another Assistant Priest; more priests are needed for special assignments and particularly to care for the Puerto Ricans immigrating to our area.

While we pray for more religious vocations in far-away Mexico, we want to encourage and foster them here as well.

New Cars—New Wage Rates

Most of the auto manufacturers have presented us with their all-new 1955 models and await the reaction of the public. If the new cars sell well, Detroit and other manufacturing cities will count their expensive re-tooling and investments as worth the risk they made. If the public is content (or resigned) to keeping the "old" car for another year or so, it might spell disaster for the smaller companies, and will drastically affect the union contracts that need to be rewritten in the spring.

Famous General Motors five-year escalator contract expires in May and Ford and Chrysler are scheduled to write new bargains too. If new car sales are low, the companies will not be able to guarantee higher wages next year of reduced income, and the smaller companies may even have to fold or merge with competitors.

The unions will undoubtedly press for their point of a guaranteed annual wage, regardless of the fluctuations of public reaction. This will entail considerable long-term planning and probably government subsidy to get started. It starts in one industry, the others will demand it too.

It seems as if a whole lot of America's future riches in the cars with the new look.

JOSEPH BREIG Like A Dutch Uncle

My topic today is reading. And if you don't mind, I'm going to talk to you like a Dutch Uncle.



Now it's so, we pointing in that set of classics which you bought and put on a shelf, merely to fill it. You know perfectly well those books are hardly ever opened.

You ought to be rearing your youngsters to be book-lovers. Not book-worms, mind; book-lovers. Lovers of good reading, to be exact.

But your children won't grow up loving good reading if they don't find it lying about the house. After all, they can't love what they never see.

So I glance around your home, and I go into a slow burn. Really I do. You're neglecting your children. Oh, you're very careful about their bodies—their food and clothing and all that.

But what about their minds? They're not basic of the field, you know. They've got intellect and imagination. They can't thrive on nothing but full stomachs. They need truth and beauty, too.

So I LET'S GET down to cases. How many good books do you buy in a year's time? How many for yourself, and how many for your young members of the family?

What does your book budget amount to? To what good periodicals do you subscribe? Do you belong to a Catholic book club? Do you have a perfectly blunt, unflinching faith since you last spent a couple of dollars for something worth reading?

Why, your house is filled with good furniture, and knick-knacks, and gadgets, and radio and TV sets, and whatnot. But there's not a good book or magazine anywhere in sight.

LET ME TELL you some facts. There are millions of boys in America—but a magazine like Catholic Boy, published at the University of Notre Dame, has to fight like fury for circulation.

Reviews like "America," "Commonweal," "The Maria," "Catholic World," and the like, survive only because of the sacrificial devotion of editors and contributors. Only the other day, I learned that the Brothers who go around trying to get people to subscribe to Catholic magazines get along on about \$100 a month for all expenses. They're happy as larks when somebody not only buys a subscription, but invites them in for a meal.

YET THERE ARE dozens of worthwhile Catholic periodicals, and the shelves of book stores are groaning under the weight of excellent books — the fruit of the great Catholic literary revival. Nevertheless, it's unusual for a book to sell 10,000 copies.

Now this sort of situation isn't healthy. It isn't intelligent. What do you think you and your children are—vegetables? Do you care whether minds are developed? Are you interested only in bone and muscle?

You spend money for automobiles, cosmetics, vacations, entertainment, and whatnot. But I'll hazard a guess that you'd be ashamed to admit how little you spend for good reading.

DON'T YOU REALIZE that good reading is not a luxury, but a necessity? Your children's minds should live in the noble climate of great thoughts and great lives. They'll find that in good reading. They'll find mighty little of it on TV or in the movies.

Without good reading, your children are neglected children. If you starved their bodies as you starve their minds, you'd be in prison. But we haven't got around to jailing people for neglecting or starving souls.

Fight bad reading by all means. Do your part to stop the flood of filth on the newsstands. But I'd feel a lot more optimistic about the future of the world if you also did something to promote good reading.

Immaculate Conception Christians Always Honor Mary As Sinless Mother Of The Savior

By REV. HENRY ATWELL

The fact of Mary's Immaculate Conception marks her as unique among all the people ever born on earth. That she was a Virgin and bore the Son of God, all will admit, but there have been countless others who have freely chosen to do the same. She was a mother, too, and that again is a wonderful vocation Mary shares with countless women throughout the centuries and the world. But Mary was sinless, and in that she was utterly different from each one of us.

GOD COULD have been born of a mother stained with sin. He had no choice. He could have arranged as He did, that His mother be both virgin and mother, but permitted that she be a frail sinner like the rest of us.

This, however, God arranged otherwise. From the very first moment of her existence, Mary was free from all stain of sin. She was created as she is, and God has done for us after our birth, cleansing us in Baptism and filling us with grace, that He did for Mary before her birth, making her soul radiant with sanctifying grace from the moment it began to exist.

Since this is a mystery which reaches into the deep seat of Mary and concerns the work of God in the invisible realm of reality, it is not a fact, some simple fact, "Here and now we know things like this."

In the ancient days, when the world had just begun, in the garden of Eden, the first woman listened to the serpent's urging to eat the forbidden fruit. When God imposed the inevitable punishment for sin, God said to Satan:

"I will put enmity between you and the woman, between your seed and her seed; He shall crush your head, and you shall be in wait for His heel."

HEED AT the dawn of creation, at the first shadow of sin, God introduced the woman, the one who is destined to be the companion of the greater Adam, the very Mother of the Savior who shall crush the serpent's power. And God foretold that the woman shall have no part with Satan, no sin, even as Eve herself at first was sinless too.

In the many centuries which intervened between that promise and the time it was finally kept, the whole human race, under the penalty of original sin, in the fifth century before Christ was born, however, there occurred a story which throws more light on the woman whose "seed" would stamp out Satan's sin.

THE PERSIANS had invaded Israel, taken captive the whole nation. Some years after that, a Persian king named Astyages determined to give the Jewish exiles equal rank with his own Persian subjects. He married the Jewish Esther, making her Queen, and appointing Jews to high government posts. Jealous Aman, a Persian courtier, who resented the rise of



Mary, the Immaculate Mother of the Savior.

the Jews to power, schemed a plot to exterminate them. He tricked the King into issuing a decree that all in Persia must worship according to the Persian religion. The Jews, of course, would not violate the Commandments, and the penalty was death by execution.

Esther went to her husband, King Xerxes, and pleaded for her people. Xerxes was moved for her people. Aman was executed. This law

was not meant for thee. And when he learned that the whole affair had been part of Aman's treachery, it was Aman who died while the Jews were spared.

In some similar way, the law of original sin, binding on all the descendants of rebellious Adam, when God looked at the soul of His Mother-to-be, He could repeat, "This law is not meant for thee."

Gabriel, the great Archangel, could then salute the Virgin of Nazareth as: "Full of grace." Mary indeed was "blessed among women" and she could prophesy in her "Magnificat" that "all generations shall call me blessed."

EIGHTEEN centuries of Christians in every language have loved to call her the "Blessed Virgin," thereby fulfilling her prophecy.

At last on Dec. 8, 1851, Pope Pius IX defined as a dogma of the true faith what devout Christians had always believed. "The Blessed Virgin Mary in the first instant of her conception, by a singular privilege and grace granted by God in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, was preserved exempt from all stain of original sin."

The Pope had spoken, there would now be no longer any question or doubt, but in any way, the woman must have the final word. On March 25, 1854, the feast of the Annunciation, which recalls the Angel's words "full of grace," at the cave of Massabielle, near the village of Lourdes, in a country girl named Bernadette Soubirous, Mary appeared and said: "I am the Immaculate Conception."

This is Mary's unique prerogative. In this, we cannot imitate her. But like Esther, she can pray for us that God will spare the sinful people. On the feast of our honor, Mary, we can thank God who has given us a Queen who is also our most tender Holy Mother.

Grotto at Lourdes where Mary appeared in 1854 and where pilgrims pray in thousands.

More Blessed Than Kings

By Sister Margaret Teresa Nazareth College

MORE BLESSED THAN KINGS: Essays on Certain Minor Characters in the First Gospel. By Vincent McCorty, S.J. Newness Press, 1954.

In these essays—and they are that almost vanished, freely discursive, intimate form of art—Father McCorty delights first by surprise, then by truth, finally by the charm of finished expression.

The surprise is perhaps keenest in the completeness of these characters evoked from a single line or two of the Gospel. Here are Zachary, Elizabeth, the shepherds, the Holy Family, the innkeeper, the Samaritan, the other, more blessed than kings because they stood for a moment in the light of the Light of the World—and here they are alive, re-created in their reasoned fullness and unexpected dearness.

The shepherds are used to it, you might say, having been featured in Christmas entertainments from the beginning. But they are here the prime occasion of a second surprise: this is a book about lesser persons, quite specially written for the lesser folk of the world, like "Goodbye," or like Mrs. Zerkow's (the reader settles for a cross. Which is why the book exists, no doubt).

The style is Father McCorty's speaking style—sudden wit, tender humor, modern phrasing with a touch of archaic dignity, humility are discussed in an occasional way that the reader not only says "Goodbye," but "Goodbye" to the "lesser" (the reader settles for a cross. Which is why the book exists, no doubt).

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Bishop Casey's Appointments

DECEMBER

- 1 Wednesday—St. John's, Spencerport—Address, Opening of New School Campaign—8:30 P.M.
- 4 Saturday—St. John's, Greece—Address, Opening of New School Campaign—8:30 P.M.
- 5 Sunday—Church of the Assumption, Fairport—Solemn Dedication of New Altar—10:30 P.M.
- 8 Wednesday—Sacred Heart Cathedral—Celebration, Solemn Pontifical Mass, Closing of the Marian Year—6:30 P.M.
- 9 Thursday—Sacred Heart Hall—Cathedral Men's Club—6:30 P.M.
- 11 Monday—Sacred Heart Hall—Society of the Holy Name—8:30 P.M.
- 13 Saturday—St. Bernard's Seminary—Ordinations—6:30 A.M.
- 19 Sunday—Sacred Heart Cathedral—Christmas Pageant—7:45 P.M.
- 21 Tuesday—St. Ann's Home—Pontifical Low Mass—8 A.M.
- 21 Friday—Sacred Heart Cathedral—Pontifical Low Mass—7:45 P.M.

BOOK SHELF

By Sister Margaret Teresa Nazareth College

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TEEN TOPICS

Alexander Maksymowicz Padua High School

American teenagers would find life in Poland a little difficult on weekend "date nights" if one opinion of Alexander Maksymowicz is a criterion.

When asked what he felt was an appropriate time for Catholic High Schoolers to arrive home on a date, Alexander, a 17-year-old student at Padua High, said he would like to see his date arrive home at 10:30 p.m. or earlier, according to the teen-age department.

As a teen-ager and honor-roll student at the Watkins Glen school, Alexander hopes to be a physicist some day and really get down to work on research in his favorite subject—physics and mathematics.

A daily commentator, he thinks that a good Catholic High Schooler should receive Holy Communion once a week and often if possible.

Before coming to this country, Alexander lived for five years in England. We think he gives a wonderful comment to his associates at Padua and to Americans in general when he says:

"I have been very much surprised by the lack of discrimination between native born Americans and the 'new' immigrants, especially the absence of the term 'foreigner' which is so common in England and Germany."

Alexander was likewise impressed by the friendly relationship between teacher and student, the warm and almost informal atmosphere which prevails in American classrooms.

A member of the Young Men's Club, Alexander's favorite recreation is the tennis and his best loved hymn, the "Te Deum Laudamus" by E. Schickel, an

SUNDAY SERMON

Church Is "Jerusalem"

Second Sunday of Advent

Frequently, the Church speaks to us about "Jerusalem," calling it the "Holy City," or refers to its pinnacle named "Mount Zion." At the end of a Eucharistic Mass, the Church has

lame walk-lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear,—to indicate that He wanted even more to cure their sick souls.

Christ comes as teacher—the poor have the Gospel preached to them? So many these days are spiritually poor, starved on half truths, misled by the leaders of the world. The Church gives us Christ's truth as it is contained in the Scriptures, as the Epistle mentions, and all the other truths entrusted to the Church's Deposit of Faith.

FINALLY, Christ comes as a priest—as the Gradual describes "the holy sacrifice." He offered on Calvary and renews at every Mass—to be the price and victim of our sins.

When it was time for Christ the first time, He appointed a special herald, John the Baptist, to prepare the people for His coming. Now Christ continues that triple office in His Church and He has chosen as you and me, to be the ones who prepare our families, our associates, and companions, to receive Him in His constant coming to this world through the Church.

Someone has said, "If it weren't for Catholics, everybody would be a Catholic!" So often we who have the faith give bad example, fail to appreciate our treasure, neglect the opportunities to share it. In consequence, souls are lost forever.

As citizens of the new "Jerusalem," we must take our stand high atop "Mount Zion"—we must be loyal, faithful, practicing Catholics, to prepare our world for the coming of its Savior.

Daily Mass Calendar

Sunday, Dec. 5—Second Sunday of Advent (violet), no Gloria, 2nd Prayer of St. Sabas, 3rd of B.V.M., Creed, Evl. of Trinity.

Monday, Dec. 6—St. Nicholas, Confessor, Bishop (white), Gloria, 2nd Prayer of Sunday's Mass, 3rd of V.M., Creed, Common Prayers.

Tuesday, Dec. 7—St. Ambrose, Bishop, Confessor, Doctor (white), Gloria, 2nd Prayer of Sunday's Mass, 3rd of V.M., Creed, Common Prayers, Vigil, Gospel of Vigil: OR Vigil of the Immaculate Conception (violet), no Gloria, 2nd Prayer of St. Ambrose, 3rd of Sunday's Mass, Common Prayers.

Wednesday, Dec. 8—Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary—HOLIDAY (white), Gloria, 2nd Prayer of Sunday's Mass, Creed, Prayers of B.V.M.

Thursday, Dec. 9—Same as Wednesday except add 3rd Prayer of Holy Spirit.

Friday, Dec. 10—Same as Wednesday except add 3rd Prayer of St. Melchisedek.

Saturday, Dec. 11—St. Damasus, Pope, Confessor (white), Gloria, 2nd Prayer of Immaculate Conception, 3rd of Sunday's Mass, Creed, Prayers of Apostles.

Indicates Votive of Requiem also permitted.

Once-A-Year

"God forbid that we should adopt the pagan attitude that a contribution once a year to charity 'appeal' fulfills our obligation; our brothers and sisters, our organized charity can only be the sinner for all the needs of the poor."—Archbishop Patrick A. O'Boyle of Washington.

Courier Journal

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