

Ailing Pontiff Closes Marian Year

LAST WEEK'S
PAID CIRCULATION
48,727

THE CATHOLIC *Courier Journal* OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

40 Million
Rosaries
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66th Year ROCHESTER, N. Y., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1954 2 Sections 18 Pages

Cardinal Plans Christmas On Korean Front

New York — (NC) — His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, plans to spend his fourth Christmas in a row with American troops in Korea.

According to the Chancery Office, the Military Vicar of the U. S. Armed Forces will spend four weeks visiting service men and women in Alaska, Japan, Alaska, Korea, Okinawa, Formosa, Hong Kong, Manila and Honolulu.

The Cardinal himself announced that he would be on hand for his annual Christmas party for the children of the New York Foundling Hospital, to be held at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel on December 10.

"I shall then leave to share the holy season of Christmas with America's soldiers now serving in the frozen war-torn lands of the Pacific, as I have done for the three years past," Cardinal Spellman said. "I am going to Korea hoping to celebrate Mass in three different sectors of the front on Christmas Day, as well as in other places where men and women of America's Armed Forces are stationed during the 25 days I expect to be away from New York."

U. S. Urged To Break Soviet Ties

Washington, D.C. — (RNS) — The United States should not engage in further diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, Mr. Maurice S. Sheehy, chairman of the Department of Religion at Catholic University of America, declared here.

Mr. Sheehy, who is a rear admiral in the navy's Chaplaincy Reserve, urged that there be "no compromise with the Soviet gangsters." He told members of the Notre Dame University Club of Washington that "peaceful co-existence is a blind alley leading us into greater danger."

The private proposed that the United States not only gradually withdraw its diplomatic relations with the Kremlin but persuade its allies to do likewise.

"Cut your talking," he said, "every time we have a conference with the Soviet we lose something."

He said that the Russian and satellite embassies in Washington are not maintained for diplomatic reasons but to serve as centers for espionage.

Jesuit Weekly Asks Prayers For 'Atheist'

New York — (NC) — The Jesuit weekly, *America*, described the late Andrei Vishinsky as an "atheist champion of murderous tyranny" and said "we can only ask God's mercy on this anti-God and anti-human brother."

It was *America* that first made note of the fact when the Soviet purge prosecutor publicly avowed before the United Nations in 1947 that he was an atheist.

In an article on his death, the magazine declared: "It was October 24, 1947, arguing before the General Assembly Political Committee in favor of muzzling free expression; that the then-Vice Foreign

Rome Faithful Pray For Holy Father's Health



Vatican City — Kneeling near a fountain in St. Peter's Square here, children pray for the recovery of Pope Pius XII who was severely stricken again with the gastric disturbance which attacked him earlier this year. From his bed, the Pontiff imparted his Apostolic Blessing which was heard through loudspeakers by thousands of persons in the square and in St. Peter's Basilica. His broadcast closed in a prayer for the beatification of venerable Don Placido Riccardi, Italian Benedictine monk who died in 1915. (RNS Photo)



Vatican City — Some 40,000 persons in St. Peter's Basilica here prayed for the recovery of Pope Pius XII toward the end of a ceremony of veneration for the recently beatified Don Placido Riccardi, a Benedictine monk who died in 1915. The Pontiff is suffering from a recurrence of the gastric disturbance which afflicted him earlier this year and is confined to bed. Among those gathered in the Basilica were members of the Pontiff's family. Shows in rear row, left to right: Prince Giulio Piccoli, a nephew; his wife; a woman identified only as Mrs. Mariani; Prince Carlo Eusebi, another nephew; his wife; and Elizabeth, the Pope's sister. Following the prayer, Pope Pius imparted his Apostolic blessing from a microphone placed in his bedroom. (RNS Photo)

Advisors Called Redside Visits Forecast Pope To Name Cardinals

Vatican City — (NC) — Despite his grave condition, Pope Pius XII has received bedside visits from some of his closest advisors in conducting the affairs of the Church. Among them were His Eminences Eugene Cardinal Tisserant, dean of the Sacred College, and Nicola Cardinal Canali, Grand Penitentiary and president of the Pontifical Commission for the government of Vatican City.

Others admitted to the Pope's sick room in the top floor of the Vatican palace included Archbishop-elect Giovanni E. Montini, former Secretary of State whose consecration as Archbishop of Milan is scheduled for December 12; and Msgr. Angelo dell'Acqua, Substitute Secretary of State for Ordinary Affairs. (Msgr. Domenico Tardini, Vatican Pro-Secretary of State for Extraordinary Affairs, is also reported to have called on the Pontiff.)

The visit of the two Cardinals and of Archbishop-elect Montini gave immediate rise to much speculation about the Holy Father planning to name a number of new Cardinals, including Archbishop Montini. There are six vacancies in the Sacred College.

There is also some discussion of the possibility of the Pope naming a Camerlengo (Chamberlain) of the Holy Roman Church. The holder of this office, which has never been filled by the Pontiff, takes over the direction of the affairs of the Church during the first days after the death of a Pope. He assembles the Cardinals, Conclave and is in charge of it until a Pope is elected.

Others admitted to the Pope's sick room, besides the doctors and nurses, were members of the Pope's personal family, including his sister and nephews.

THE FIRST indication that not all was well insofar as the Pope's health was concerned came on Saturday (Nov. 27) when he returned from his summer residence at Castelgandolfo. However, there was no great alarm since, on the following Sunday (Nov. 28) the Pontiff felt well enough to appear at the window of his study overlooking St. Peter's Square and bless the crowd gathered below.

Then it became known that, at the insistence of his personal physician, Dr. Riccardo Galeazzi, the Pontiff would not take part in the traditional retreat by prelates of the papal household during the first week of Advent.

The first really alarming news came on the afternoon of Thursday, December 2, when it was officially announced that the 71-year-old Holy Father had suffered a sharp attack which, at first, was described as a "cardiac collapse." This statement was, however, later

College To Name Auditorium For Bishop's Mother

The newly-completed auditorium of St. John Fisher College will be blessed and dedicated in memory of Rosina O'Doherty Kearney by His Excellency Bishop Kearney, here on Monday, Dec. 13.

The Bishop will celebrate the Annual Christmas Mass for the staff and student body of the college in the auditorium at 9 a.m. The Bishop will also conduct closing of the Marian Year ceremonies at the college.

IN ANNOUNCING the dedication of the newly-completed auditorium, the Very Rev. John P. Murphy, C.S.B., president, said: "We at St. John Fisher College are happy to dedicate this new auditorium to the memory of Rosina O'Doherty Kearney, the mother of our beloved Bishop. Every corner of this diocese has known and been blessed by his vital interest in Christian education."

"Our very existence as a college has resulted from that interest. In paying tribute to the mother of our Founder, we wish to express our gratitude towards him. Further, in honoring her we symbolize the devotion and inspiration of all our mothers who have made us what we are."

"This dedication is fitting we feel because of Bishop Kearney's abiding interest in the whole range of the cultural and artistic activities of his schools. Aptly then, our auditorium which we will call the Rosina Kearney Auditorium will perpetuate the name and the memory of a gentle woman, the mother of an apostolic son.

"We are especially happy that this new addition to our buildings was erected in Mary's special year. We have commemorated this Marian Year with an exquisite statue of Mary, the Seat of Wisdom placed on the front exterior of the auditorium wing.

"Fashioned from lasting stone, this statue of Our Lady sums up all we stand for at St. John Fisher College. May she bless each student each day as they enter our portals and give them the conviction that before going anywhere they must first go Godward."

A bronze plaque at the entrance of the auditorium carries these words:

Saint John Fisher College
Dedicates This Hall
To the Memory of
Rosina
O'Doherty Kearney
Mother of
Bishop Kearney
The Founder of the College
ANNOUNCING

U. S. Catholics, Protestants Pray For Pope's Recovery

The illness of His Holiness Pope Pius XII created a wave of sympathy and concern throughout the United States among not only Catholics as well as Protestants.

Instantaneous was the reaction to the request for special prayers for the Holy Father, submitted to the Bishops of the country by His Excellency Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate for the United States. The request was received from Msgr. Angelo Dell'Acqua, Vatican Substitute Secretary of State for Ordinary Affairs.

IN THE EAST, West, North and South the health of His Holiness became the intention of Holy Hour prayers at Mass, novenas, liturgies and other special devotions. In many areas the faithful continued and intensified the prayers they have been saying for the Holy Father since his earlier illness of last winter.

President Eisenhower began a White House prayer conference by expressing regret at the news of the Pontiff's illness.

"Just a few minutes ago," the President told the large gathering of newspaper correspondents, "I was informed that the Pope is seriously ill."

THE MESSAGE also voiced sympathy with Roman Catholic friends in their anxiety over the illness of their spiritual leader.

In addition to their special prayers for the Holy Father in churches and shrines across the country, Catholics remembered the Supreme Pontiff as they prayed in schools and at home, in groups and family devotions and alone.

Legion Of Decency Pledge This Sunday

THE Pledge of the National Legion of Decency will be renewed in all Catholic churches of the United States at Mass on Sunday, Dec. 12. Catholics will pledge themselves to oppose "the production of indecent and immoral films" and will promise "to stay away from places of amusement which show them as a matter of policy."

IN A RECENT statement, Bishop William A. Scully, chairman of the Bishops' Committee on Motion Pictures, pointed out that less than half of the American films made last year were classified by the Legion as morally fit for general patronage.

(See editorial "Keep The Pledge" on page 4.)

Sermons in parish churches this Sunday will be devoted to the serious harm being done to the moral life of the nation by immoral pictures, plays and publications.

Bishop James E. Kearney stated this week: "All the efforts of twenty years to keep the films up to some standard of decency can be made futile if our people become indifferent to the cause."

Catholics should realize also that theaters that make it a policy to ignore the dictates of decency must forfeit our patronage," the Bishop added.

Pope Pius Offers 'Suffering In Body, Sacrifice In Heart'

Vatican City, Dec. 8 — (NC) — The voice of Pope Pius XII, still sick but past an earlier crisis, sounded in solemn blessing over the hushed throng gathered here Wednesday in and around the Basilica of St. Mary Major, in a final act closing the Marian Year.

The Pope's message was recorded at his bedside and broadcast over the Vatican Radio to the Basilica. The Pope delivered his brief message in Italian. In Latin he then recited the "Hail Mary" and gave his blessing.

The Holy Father offered his own sufferings as a seal on the Year's "multitude of prayers and good works." His voice, thin but not wasted, pulled at the hearts of all listeners as at the end of the "Hail Mary" he spoke the words, "now and at the hour of our death." He then gave his solemn "Urbi et Orbi" Blessing ("To the City and the World").

The dean of the College of Cardinals, His Eminence Eugene Cardinal Tisserant, officiated in the Pope's place in the late afternoon ceremonies in St. Mary Major Basilica. Prayer for the ailing Pontiff was followed by a solemn "Te Deum" with the entire international congregation singing.

The climax of the rites came after the Pontifical Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at the Papal altar when the voice of Pius XII broke the dramatic hush following the recitation of the "Divine Praises."

The ailing Pontiff hailed the "entire Catholic world kneeling today like one family at the feet of the Immaculate Virgin," and said that he was glad to close the Marian Year "with suffering in our members and sacrifice in our hearts."

As the throng left the Basilica after the Pope's "Hail Mary" and Blessing, darkness was falling and stars and shooting stars lightening throughout the Eternal City to mark the close of the century day of the definition of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin. Pope Pius IX proclaimed the definition on Dec. 8, 1854.

The century day began in Rome with Bishop Martin O'Connor ordaining 23 priests from various U. S. dioceses in the morning. Pontifical Mass was celebrated in St. Mary Major by His Eminence Cardinal Montini, vicar general of the Diocese of Rome.

THE POPE was well enough on Sunday to broadcast a message blessing from his sickbed to the faithful gathered in St. Peter's Basilica for the Marian Year's final benediction.

At the conclusion of the benediction's recitation, Mass was sung on Sunday, at which the Holy Father would ordinarily have been present; his voice was carried to the Basilica by loudspeakers. The voice was considerably weaker than usual, but it no means entirely spent as he extended his blessing. He said:

"To our very devoted children of beloved Rome, whom We are close to the Divine Masses in Our suffering and in Our attainment of His ever good and sign will. We impart with Our heart turned to the Lord and the Immaculate Virgin, Our paternal Apostolic Blessing."

AFTER THIS brief message, which was also carried by radio networks of many Western European countries, the crowd in St. Peter's cheered. (The Pope's voice was heard later throughout the United States over the radio network, which broadcast the recording of his message followed by an English translation.)

The ceremony at which Italian Benedictine, Placido Riccardi, was beatified was a simple, but certainly less than usual in the absence of the Father and the traditional procession which carries the body of silver trumpets.

Chancellor Thanks U. S. Catholics

Washington, D.C. — (RNS) — Chancellor Julius Raab of Austria expressed his thanks here for the aid which American Catholics sent to that country after World War II.

1,500,000 March In Marian Procession

Manila — (RNS) — Estimated 1,500,000 Catholics participated in a huge procession here that climaxed a national Marian Congress believed to be the largest assembly of its kind in the Philippines.

The procession left the plaza outside the National Cathedral where Cardinal Quiroga, Philippine bishop of Santiago, presided, Spain and Portugal, the Congress of the Solemn Pontifical Mass, which lasted over a three-hour period, was held in the Manila Bay to the park where an altar erected especially for the occasion.

Marching in the procession were President Ramon Magsaysay and several members of his cabinet. Earlier, the President stood under the altar of the cathedral square with Quiroga, following the definition of the Mass, the knowledge the absence of the faithful.

Crowded Churches Mark Conclusion Of Marian Year

Churches throughout the Rochester Diocese were filled to capacity for rites marking the Marian Year to a close. The final service was held in St. Mary's, and many parishes across the diocese.

Final ceremonies of the Marian Year were held in the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit on Wednesday, Dec. 8. The Pontiff's final blessing was recited at the conclusion of the Marian Year, inaugurated a year ago by His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

Despite the heavy snow which blanketed the Rochester and Auburn areas, many reported exceptionally good attendance at all services.

His Excellency, Bishop James E. Kearney presided at Pontifical Mass, celebrated by Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence E. Casey at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart on Wednesday evening. Over 1,000 attended the Mass.

The centennial celebration set by the Sisters of St. Joseph for Dec. 8 at Canastota had to be postponed because of the hazardous driving conditions.

PLEDGE OF THE
LEGION OF DECENCY
In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, Amen.

I condemn indecent and immoral motion pictures and those which glorify crime or criminals.

I promise to do all that I can to strengthen public opinion against the production of indecent and immoral films, and to unite with all those who protest against them.

I acknowledge my obligation to form a right conscience about pictures that are dangerous to my moral life. As a member of the Legion of Decency, I pledge myself to remain away from them. I promise, further, to stay away altogether from places of amusement which show them as a matter of policy.

This pledge will be renewed in the churches of the Diocese of Rochester on Sunday, December 12.