

### From Cathedral To Bark Chapel

## Life Of First Local Missioner Recounted

Occurrences of the birthday of the Rev. James Fremin, S.J., first resident teacher of Christ the King in the present area of Monroe County, is noted by Alexander M. Stewart, local historian and recorder of early missionaries in this area.

The birthday will be on March 12. Father Fremin was born in Rheims, France on March 12, 1628. He was resident pastor of the Seneca Indians in the great village of Totokaton from November, 1668 to about November 1669 at Rochester Junction, town of Mendon.

**THE MISSION UNIT** at Nazareth College is named for the distinguished missionary and his name is inscribed on the monument at Dann's Corners, junction

of Rush, Honeoye Falls and Lima roads erected by Missa Caravan, Order of the Alambuco.

Space does not permit a detailed account of Father Fremin's life but the following facts are furnished by Mr. Stewart who has made an exhaustive study of the missionary's activities.

The Fremin family was the noblest and most influential family of the ancient city of Rheims. Antoine Fremin, one of Father Fremin's uncles, was treasurer to Marie de Medici, queen regent of France and he was also mayor of the city of Rheims.

"It is possible the Father Fremin's baptism took place in Rheims Cathedral. If we picture that day in Rheims long ago when James Fremin was baptized we picture a procession of the noble people of Rheims going up to the Cathedral and taking their places near the baptismal font.

"Servants and common people follow the nobles and whisper together while James Fremin is baptized. They say that priest is born lucky. He may become a lawyer like his uncle or if he becomes a priest, he might easily become bishop with the great cathedral as his own church.

"BUT HE DID NOT choose the easy course to eminence which his influential family might have made for him. He heard the call of the cross and of sacrifices and the appeal of the wonder and mystery of the unexplored world beyond the western sea.

"He became a member of the Society of Jesus in Paris. Through this Society many of the noble and brilliant young men of his time received training and devoted their lives to teaching in colleges at home or to evangelization in foreign lands.

"When the maple trees were turning red with September frosts around the pioneer forest city of Quebec in 1654, Father Fremin stepped off the quaint old sailing ship which brought him from France to Canada.

"Within less than two years after his arrival in Quebec a great adventure was before him. Urgent invitations to send missionaries to teach the new religion and to found a colony at Onondaga in the central council houses of the Iroquois were brought to Quebec by delegations of Iroquois from Onondaga.

"Fifty Frenchmen responded to the invitation. The way to Onondaga was up the St. Lawrence River. Imagine Father Fremin and the Frenchmen and Indians, wading water deep and pushing their canoes up the middle of the river and then the long voyage past the eastern shores of Lake Ontario.

"At last the colony arrived at Onondaga Lake where today may be seen the French Fort on the Onondaga Parkway near Syracuse. Here Father Fremin assisted older priests and perfected his use of the Iroquois language. The colony was given up in 1658. Ten years later it was Father Fremin's privilege to restore Christian missions in all the Iroquois cantons.

"We turn now to a scene which is familiar to many residents of Monroe County. It is the overpass over the Lehigh Valley Railroad which we reach when we drive up Clover Rd. from Rochester past Mendon Ponds Park. We stop on the overpass and looking to the right we see a low wooded hill inside the great bend in Honeoye Creek. At the edge of this low hill was located the great village of '100' large bark cabins called Totokaton.

"On November 1, 1658, Father Fremin crossed the site of the road which leads to the village site. Crowds of Seneca Indians guided him up the trail into the village. The Indians are very anxious to show him a cabin they have reserved especially for him. It is a long ridge pole house built of poles and covered with large sheets of elm bark tied on with strips of basswood bark.

"Father Fremin set up his altar in this building. Possibly a wooden cross was attached to the peak of the roof. This was the first chapel in Monroe County. Father Fremin lived at this Indian village for a year. He was the first recorded white resident."

### SCHOOL PLANS OUTLINED



**THE PLANS** for a new school in Most Precious Blood Parish, Rochester are being shown to His Excellency Bishop Kearney (left) by the Rev. Sebastian Contegiacomo, C.P.P.S., pastor after a Mass of Thanksgiving, Sunday marking the parish's 25th Anniversary. Funds to start the school are being sought in a current drive. (Thomas Casey Photo).

## 'New School Important Factor' Bishop Asserts

In commending the Parish of Most Precious Blood upon 25 fruitful years, His Excellency Bishop Kearney on Sunday at the Church, Stenson St. near Lexington Ave. encouraged the parishioners to make their school fund campaign a success.

The new school which is being planned is an important factor in the community, the Bishop said and is a potent force in assuring juvenile behavior.

Bishop Kearney presided and preached at the Silver Jubilee Mass of Thanksgiving.

A CAMPAIGN for \$25,000 is underway in the parish to augment a previous sum of some \$70,000 which to build the proposed school. Directing the drive is the Rev. Sebastian Contegiacomo, C.P.P.S., pastor.

Workers in the drive were spurred at the opening dinner in Lorenzo's by His Excellency, Auxiliary Bishop Casey. At the first report meeting it was reported that about two-thirds of the goal had been reached.

Headed by Edward Siebert, campaign chairman and division leaders, James Huether and Joseph Zannie, the workers will intensify their efforts over the weekend to make the closing report on March 15 a victorious one. Father Sebastian said.

Architect for the school to face on Stenson St. is M. J. DeAngelis.

## Leslie Frost To Deliver Lecture At Nazareth

Leslie Frost, daughter of the celebrated American poet Robert Frost and in her own right a gifted author, editor and lecturer, will speak on "Modern Poets" in the Nazareth College auditorium, Monday, March 14 at 8 p.m. as part of the current lecture series.

Miss Frost was educated by her father at home and abroad until she was 18. They were living in England when "A Boy's Will" and "North of Boston" which established Mr. Frost as a leading American poet, were published; it was at this time that Leslie Frost began to meet such famous figures of the literary world as John Massfield, Walter de la Mare and William Butler Yeats.

AFTER A YEAR at Wellesley, she took up war work during the first World War. She labored for \$15 a week as a carpenter at the Curtis Airplane Factory in Marblehead, Mass. During World War II, she spent more than a year as an electrical mechanic at the National Airport in Washington at a nearby plant at Hyattsville, Md.

Between the wars, she spent five years running bookshops, including one that toured Europe; went on a world tour on the S.S. Franconia; wrote a delightful book for children; and was one of a crew of eight who took a yacht from Gloucester, Mass., through the Baltic and back under sail only.

Miss Frost spent two years as assistant professor of English at Rockford College in Rockford, Ill., where she was active in Maddox House, the college's Cultural center. After working for three years as co-director of the King-Smith School in Washington, she founded a school of adult education which trained college graduate girls in their chosen careers. She herself spent two years in Madrid as director of the OWI's library and Cultural Office.

Recently, she returned from a six-month trip to South America, made at the invitation of the U.S. State Department's Latin American Cultural Relations Division, who asked her to teach English and lecture on American literature in Caracas, Santiago de Chile, Bogota and Mexico City. She was the first woman to be sent as a visiting lecturer by the U.S. on a program initiated in 1947 with a group of men which included composer Aaron Copland. The public is invited.

## Silver Tea Slated By Canandaigua CDA

Canandaigua — A Silver Tea will be conducted by Court Canandaigua, Catholic Daughters of America on Sunday, March 13 from 3 to 5:30 p.m. at the Nurses Home, North Main St.

All Catholic women are invited. Miss Ruth Contoy, chairman of the Silver Tea, is being assisted by Misses Carmella Violante, Gloria Ambrosi, Mrs. Sybil Kimble, Mrs. Mildred Murphy and Mrs. Richard Anderson.

### Mission Society Sets Baked Food Sale

A baked food sale sponsored by the Mission Society of St. Salome Parish will be held March 17 at 10:30 a.m. Mrs. E. Ernst is chairman. A card party luncheon will be held at 12:30 p.m.

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## HUNGER AND REFUGEE CHILDREN

**CHILDREN DO GET HUNGRY!** We are hoping our kind benefactors will help us make Easter a bit brighter for our homeless refugee children in the Holy Land. Father Kearney is with these children in their refugee camps and we are praying that you might be able to give ten dollars for a food package for these children. We shall send you a rosary made from olive wood from the Holy Land as a token of our gratitude. \$10 for a FOOD PACKAGE will feed a child for an entire month.

**A PIX FOR POPE ST. PIUS X CHAPEL?**

We are nearing the sum we need for our POPE ST. PIUS TENTH CHAPEL IN THE HOLY LAND. There must also be a PIX, costing \$25. The PIX is the small golden case in which Our Eucharistic Lord is carried to the sick. Perhaps you could donate this sacred article in memory of a loved one. \$10 will buy a brick to help finish the church. We shall send you a lovely picture of the Saint suitable for framing. We need your help.

**KEEP GOD IN YOUR WILL. REMEMBER HIS MISSIONS.**

**SISTER STELLA BEGS!**

Stella is a novice with the Clarist Sisters in Trichur, South India. Wealthy in her love for God, she is extremely poor in the wealth of this world. She needs \$150 for each of her two years at a novice before she begins her work for souls. Could she not be your adopted daughter? Many will be her grateful prayers for you.

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**MATTHIAS AND SIMON—FUTURE APOSTLES**

Matthias and Simon are beginning their studies for the priesthood at the Cistercian seminary in Frosinone, Italy. They need \$100 for each of their six years' training before they become another priest of the Lord. Can you adopt one of these lads, giving the money in any installment? They will be your own eternal adopted sons!

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**OUR HOLY LAND FILM** is excellent for Lent—for Societies and Study Clubs. It runs 14 minutes. Rental \$4—sale price \$45. The money will be used for our refugees in the Holy Land.

**ATTENTION—STUDY GROUPS AND DISCUSSION CLUBS!** We have many worth while pamphlets that might interest you. Simply write—state the number you wish—and we shall gladly mail them to you. They will tell you much of the Church in the Oriental World.

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480 Lexington Ave. at 46th St. New York 17, N. Y.

**Capuchin To Speak On Vocations**

Fr. Peter Claver Eijch, O.F.M. Cap., director of vocations, Province of St. Mary, Capuchin Order will speak in 13 diocesan schools including the Aquinas Institute during the Vocation Month Program in the Diocese of Rochester.

A member of the Capuchin Fathers which has a foundation, St. Fidelis Priory at Interlaken on Cayuga Lake, in this diocese. Father Eijch comes from Sacred Heart Monastery, 110 Shonnard Place, Yonkers.

Father Eijch comes well-equipped according to the diocesan school office. He taught since his graduation four years ago at Mary Immaculate Preparatory Seminary, opposite West Point on the Hudson River at Garrison, N. Y.

The Rev. Seraphim Winterroth, O.F.M. Cap., a brother of the Rev. Theodore Winterroth, pastor of St. John the Baptist Church, Elmira, and a native of Rochester is Assistant Provincial of the Capuchin Fathers.

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**New Mexico Senate OK's Parochial School Bus Bill**

Santa Fe, N.M. — (RNS) — A bill that would require county school systems to furnish bus transportation to parochial school children was approved by the Senate here, 20 to 11, and sent to the House.

Opposition came from Senators who urged "separation of Church and State." Sponsors of the bill said children should not be forced to face poor weather and undergo other hardships just because they attend private schools.

"At present, counties can furnish transportation to parochial students if they wish, but it is not mandatory. The new bill would make it mandatory."

**Missouri Bars Parochial Bus Aid**

Jefferson City, Mo. — (RNS) — The Missouri House passed and sent to the Senate a bill revising state aid payments for school bus transportation but containing an amendment which specifies the aid is to go for public school only.

The measure was approved, 87 to 16, despite a last-minute appeal by Missouri's three Catholic Bishops that bus transportation be provided to parochial school pupils.

On the eve of the vote, each member of the House and Senate received telegrams from Archbishop Joseph E. Butler of St. Louis, Archbishop Edwin V. O'Hara of Kansas City and Bishop Charles H. LeBlond of St. Joseph.

The prelates urged the passage of another pending bill to provide bus transportation for pupils of private and parochial schools. They said that "protecting children on the highways in no wise violates the principle of separation of Church and State to which we fully subscribe."

The latter bill was approved five years.

**Protestant Council Opposes Bus Bill**

Kansas City, Mo. — (RNS) — The Greater Kansas City Council of Churches sent a letter to each member of the Missouri House of Representatives opposing a pending bill that would give free bus transportation for pupils of parochial schools.

"We are gravely concerned about the breach this bill proposes in the traditional separation of church and state, which has been such an important part of our American life," the letter stated.

"We are aware of the fact that the Roman Catholic leaders are very much interested in the passage of this bill in light of their expensive system of parochial schools. We do not desire to introduce any controversy with our fellow citizens of the Roman faith, but we do resent recent charges of intimidation against the opponents of this bill."

The Protestant group asked legislators to vote against the bill and added, "We shall be watching the voting record and the developments with regard to it."

**Internuncio To Egypt**

Cairo — (RNS) — Archbishop George de Jonghe d'Ardoye has been named Internuncio to Egypt by Pope Pius XII. Archbishop de Jonghe d'Ardoye has been Internuncio to Indonesia for the past five years.