

Eulogy For Father Cristantielli

(The following is the text of the sermon delivered by the Rev. Albert L. Simonetti, pastor of the Annunciation Church, at the funeral Mass of the Rev. Francis Cristantielli in St. Lucy's Church, Rochester, Thursday, January 5, 1936.)

"He that believeth in Me although he be dead, shall live. And anyone that liveth and believeth in Me shall not die forever." (St. John 11:25-26)

These consoling words of Our Divine Lord, my dear friends, were read this morning in the Mass that was just offered by Bishop Casey for the repose of the soul of Father Cristantielli.

These are consoling words for each one of us, for they are words of hope; words of divine promise for the life hereafter.

It has always been the teaching of the Church that true life really begins at death. From the moment of conception, each person is destined by God for eternity—for eternal life. At the moment of conception, God breathes into the new being the "breath of life"—an immortal, never-dying soul. And that soul will one day return to God, its Maker.

Thus, death is not something to be feared. Although at times it may be difficult for us to fully realize it, death actually is a blessing, for then we really begin to live. Death means being born into eternal life. That is why the Church celebrates the feasts of her saints, not on the day they were born into this world, but on the day of their death, the day they were born into eternal life.

ON MANY OCCASIONS during his 19 years as a Priest of God, Father Cristantielli preached this consoling doctrine to the people under his spiritual care. Directly and in-

directly he prepared them for this rebirth.

Directly, by administering the Sacraments, Time and time again, called to the home, to the hospital, or perhaps to the scene of some fatal accident, he brought to the dying those tremendously powerful spiritual aids—the Holy Sacraments—left us by Our Divine Lord: the Sacrament of Penance whereby the sinner's guilt might be made "whiter than snow"; the Sacrament of Holy Communion, whereby the dying person might be intimately united to the Body and Blood of Christ Himself; the Sacrament of Extreme Unction, announcing the person and offering prayers that health and strength might be given to the soul and even to the body if God so willed.

And after the administration of these Sacraments, Father Cristantielli, like every Priest, would give the Apostolic Blessing, asking Our Divine Lord "Who gave to Peter the power of binding and loosing," to receive the person's confession and restore to his soul "the robe of purity he received at Baptism" and giving to that person a Plenary Indulgence, the remission of all his sins "in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

INDIRECTLY, he prepared his people for eternity by his instructions and his preaching. To the young and old he gave the divine doctrines and the moral laws that each might be successful in this life. Successful for what? For power, position, prestige? From the divine point of view these are not the true measure of success. The true measure of success in this life is the knowledge, the love and the service for God that one might one day attain to everlasting happiness. For "he that believeth in Me, although he be dead, shall live. And anyone that liveth and believeth in Me shall not die forever."

Twenty years ago this coming April, Father Cristantielli knelt before the Cardinal Vicar of Rome in the Basilica of St. John Lateran, I remember well this occasion for I was privileged to be ordained that same day. On that memorable day, he received the power to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the living and the dead; the power to administer the Sacraments; the authority to preach and teach in the Name of Christ.

THROUGH THESE years he carried out that sacred apostolate with zeal, with devotion, and above all with kindness and charity. Father Cristantielli will long be remembered as a Priest; he will never be forgotten for his kindness and his charity. He always had a good word for everyone. His humility and charity gave him that effusion of happiness and joyfulness that spread like mirror waves to all with whom he

came in contact. This happy disposition was with him throughout the months of his confinement and suffering.

He accepted his cross as a blessing. In fact, he told me not so long ago: "God has greatly blessed me. He has kept me from a sudden and unprovided death. Now I am ready to make an accounting of my stewardship." As he had spent his Priesthood preparing his people for rebirth into eternity, so he was blessed in being given time to prepare himself for his rebirth.

To his family, to his Parishioners and friends, our deepest sympathy. His Bishops, his fellow Priests, and especially his Classmates have remembered him in their prayers and Masses these many months. Now we ask each of you to join with them in beseeching the good God to give him eternal rest.

Father Cristantielli has left the womb of this life and has been born into eternity. Today is his real birthday, for "he that believeth in Me, although he be dead, shall live. And anyone that liveth and believeth in Me shall not die forever."

Matthew Named Bookkeeper Patron

Valken City — (RNS) — Pope Pius named the Apostle Matthew as the patron saint of bookkeepers.

Matthew, whose feastday is celebrated by the Catholic Church on Sept. 21, was a tax collector called Levi before his conversion to Christianity.

The Apostle wrote the first Gospel in Aramaic, the language of Christ and of his fellow converts in Palestine. According to tradition, he preached in Persia, Syria and Ethiopia.

The saint also is the patron of bankers.

Statesmen Honor Apostle To India

(Correspondent, N.C.W.A. News Service) By E. J. ANTONY

New Delhi, India — Top Indian statesmen headed by President Rajendra Prasad spoke at a meeting honoring India's first Apostle, St. Thomas.

The meeting was convened by Christian leaders here in celebration of the 1936th anniversary of the arrival of the Apostle in this country.

The meeting was addressed, besides Dr. Prasad, by members of Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's cabinet, including Home Minister Govind Ballabh Pant, the exponent of India's new policy towards foreign Christian missionaries.

DR. PRASAD spoke to the gathering, which included Archbishop Joseph Fernandez of Delhi-Simla and Christian members of the diplomatic corps, about the coming of St. Thomas to India.

Dr. Prasad stated that he was "proud" of the fact that St. Thomas, one of the 12 Apostles, came to India before many countries of Europe were converted to Christianity. That proved that Christianity was one of the earliest faiths practiced in India, he said.

Dr. Prasad's statement came against a background of what has been described as a "policy of persecution" adopted by some Hindu organizations in this country towards Christians and Christian missionaries.

The president's words underlined the fact that the Indian government disapproved of these demonstrations which it has condemned as the misguided acts of some religious bigots.

According to tradition, St. Thomas arrived in South India in 52 A.D., landing in the old port of Cranganur in the Archdiocese of Verapoly.

A few miles from Cranganur is a pontifical shrine constructed

recently in memory of the Apostle.

The 19th centenary of the Apostle's arrival was celebrated three years ago in Ernakulam. The saint is said to have been slain by Hindus in 83 A.D. while preaching the gospel in Mylapore near Madras.

Cardinal Mourns Protestant Cleric

London — (NC) — His Embrace Cardinal Griffin, Archbishop of Westminster, paid a tribute to Archbishop Cyril Garbett of York, second ranking member of the Church of England hierarchy, who died December 31. He was 89 years old.

"Dr. Garbett was a man of sincere conviction who labored throughout his life for social justice and international peace based on Christian principles," Cardinal Griffin said. "His dedicated service to his flock and to the nation will prove an example and inspiration to those many persons who today mourn his loss."

Rectory Workers Make Retreat

St. Joseph, Minn. — (NC) — Forty-four housekeepers for priests at rectories in the St. Paul archdiocese and the St. Cloud diocese made a retreat at the College of St. Benedict here. The retreat was conducted by Father Bertin Roll, O.F.M. Cap. of Pittsburg.

The retreat was sponsored by the Family Life Bureau of the St. Cloud diocese. Bishop Peter W. Bartholome of St. Louis addressed the housekeepers on the final day.

Church-State Study Launched At Villanova

Villanova, Pa. — (NC) — An Institute to study the legal aspects of church-state relationships "in an atmosphere of objectivity" has been established at Villanova University here.

Harold Gill Reuschlein, dean of the university's law school, announced that the institute will serve "as a center to which information and opinion may be brought and weighed by persons who—regardless of religious affiliation—sincerely desire to hear other men's ideas" on the problems arising from the relationships of the two.

THE INSTITUTE of Church and State will be located in the law-building being built on the campus of the university conducted by the Augustinian Fathers.

Dean Reuschlein emphasized that the new institute "is in no sense devoted to propaganda and will not lend itself as a pressure group to any persons or causes." It will also be independent of the instructional program of the school of law, he added.

Specific issues to be studied include the legal limitations on church administration and discipline, church control over property, taxation of church property, the role of religion in education and custody cases, State regulation of religious education, and charitable and legal requests. Thomas J. O'Toole, assistant dean of the Villanova Law School, will serve as director of the institute.

ARCHDIOCESE of Minneapolis, Minn. — (NC) — More than 2,000 Catholic high school students from this city and its suburbs attended the annual All-City Students' Mass and Communion Breakfast in the Basilica of St. Mary here.

Atheist Loses Court Suit Against Federal Chaplains

Washington — (NC) — A suit brought by a 73-year-old man, who calls himself an atheist, to remove chaplains from the Federal payroll has been thrown out of court here.

U.S. District Judge Edward A. Tamm ruled here that Frank W. Hughes of Minneapolis "does not have status to

maintain the action." He said that Mr. Hughes' complaint failed "to set forth a cause of action," and granted a Government motion to dismiss the suit.

COURIER-JOURNAL Friday, January 8, 1936

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SUNDAY
January 8th
is the
**FEAST OF THE
HOLY FAMILY**



DAD... After Mass treat Mom and the Family to a fine breakfast at the **BURGUNDY CAFE**. You'll find our food "tops" and our prices "right!"

CLUB BREAKFASTS
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NEW PRESS MONTH KIT HAS ALL THE ANSWERS!

Q. How can our parish group help win more readers for the Catholic press?

A. One good way is to sponsor a sales rack in your church. The new Press Month kit tells how to operate a rack successfully. If your church needs a new rack, the kit also has a blueprint of an easy-to-build wooden one.

Q. What can we do about our youth?

A. Interest them in your diocesan newspaper, especially the sports and other features written for them. Get acquainted with the magazines published for our youth. All of them are described in the kit. Make their reading a project of your group.

Q. Is there anything in the kit for schools?

A. Yes. There are "topics" and "facts" folders which can be used in preparing papers and discussion programs. The kit's new one-act play can be put on for parent meetings. And there's a large poster which will dress up any program or bulletin board.

Q. Do you have any other suggestions?

A. Perhaps your diocesan paper is holding its subscription campaign. Get behind it. A good way is to hold a Catholic Press Exhibit. Include magazines, too. Complete instructions on holding an exhibit are given in the kit.

Q. How can we get this kit?

A. Easy. Just send your order with \$1.00 to the Catholic Press Association, 150 East 39th Street, New York 16, N. Y. But do it now... today. Press Month (February) is just around the corner.

"Hallmark of the Catholic Home... The Catholic Press"

Statement of Condition

AS OF THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS DECEMBER 30, 1935


RESOURCES	
Cash	\$ 82,675,233.01
U. S. Government Bonds	95,697,021.78
Other Stocks and Bonds	14,533,367.76
Loans	92,092,955.35
Mortgages	46,942,553.93
Real Estate and Banking Houses	4,888,888.81
Accrued Interest Receivable	929,410.82
Other Assets	255,394.43
	\$338,014,845.89

LIABILITIES	
Deposits	\$311,977,931.43
Reserve for Interest and General Expense	742,469.82
Reserve for Federal Income and Other Taxes	1,179,079.02
Reserve for Unearned Discount	1,855,365.62
Dividends Declared and Payable February 1st	360,000.00
Capital Funds	21,900,000.00
Common Stock	\$ 8,000,000.00
Surplus	11,000,000.00
Undivided Profits	2,900,000.00
	\$21,900,000.00
	\$338,014,845.89

TRUST DEPARTMENT

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