Diocesan Sodality Union Marks Twenty-Five Years

Thirty thousand sodalists in twenty-five years is the impressive record to be marked, at sil ver jubilee rites of the Roches ter Diocese Sodality Union this Sunday, Oct. 14.

Bishop Kearney will celebrate the Sodality Anniversary Mass, at 4 p.m. at St Boniface Church and attend the jubilee banquet immediately following

Currently, 4,000 are enrolled in active sodality groups in over 99 schools and parishes throughout the twelve county Rochester Diocese.

Bulk of the present member ship comprises young Catholics of high school and college age, although some few adult groups continue an active sodality pro-

The Sodality is a centuriesold church organization with a two-fold purpose - personal holiness of its members and apostolie action

Pope Pius XII recently described it as the "outstanding form of Catholic Action

FIRST ORGANIZED in the Rochester Diocese at Our Lady of Victory Church, Pleasant St., Rochester, in 1870, the sodality program was also adopted in other parishes of the Diocese.

Oldest of the sodality groups still in operation are the St. Boniface parish sodalities whose charters date back to 1875 (for young wormen and 1877 (for

BISHOP JOHN F.O'Hern, thirdhishop of Rochester, in 1931 appointed Rev. Robert J. Fox, now pastor of St. Peter and Paul's Church, Rochester, to coordinate sodality activities on a diocesan

Miss Helen Guntert was electganized "Sodality Union."

Attending the first sodality union meeting on Nov. 11, 1931 the Bishop at the offertory time at the Columbus Civic Center of the Mass and later used to aid ity union. were 500 delegates from 43 par needy families of the Diocese. ishes. Rev. Daniel Lord, S.J., famed organizer of the sodality movement in the United States was guest apeaker.

Father Lord returned to Rochester in 1934 to launch a sodality sponsored drive against indecent and erime-therrise motion pictures.

He continued to visit Rochester sodality meetings and aided in extending the sodulity program throughout the Diocese.

DEANERY UNIONS Were orranked in 1935 in Geneva, Auburn, Elmlira, and Corning to promote modality activities in these areas.

Also in 1935, the diocesan sodality union arranged a week in Catholic Action, Over 500 attended theme classes at the Colong series of evening classes from the Monroe County Home Jumbus Civic Center, Rochester, brated there every Sunday. This

op Duane Frant of Salt Lake City continued until 1952. James E. Kearney brought Bish-



TWENTY-FIVE years of coordinated sodality activity will be marked at anniversary observance Sunday, First Rochester diocesan sodality union president Helen R. Guntert, seated, goes over final plans with Mrs. Joseph (Margaret LarkTit) McMahon, left, toasimistress of banquet, and present head Grace Corcoran.

Father J. Joseph O'Connell was

LARGEST raity of sodalists in

their 25 years of coordinated ac-

tivity in the Diocese was held in

1948. The three-day Congress

of Mary attracted over 3,000

sodnlists who head noted youth

leaders -- the Jesuit Fathers J.

Roger Lyons, Richard Rooney.

and Francis LeBuffe, as also

Miss Dorothy Willmann who had

been a frequent visitor to local sodality meetings and is sched-

uled to be the guest speaker at

the anniversary banquet follow-

ing this Sunday's (Oct. 14) Mass.

started in 1951 to deepen the

to the religious life. Holy llours

were conducted in Holy Redeem-

er, Sacred Heart, Holy Rosary,

and St. Monica churches, St. Jo-

seph's in downtown Rochester

AIMING TO aid Catholic teen-

spiritual life of Catholic young people and to pray for vocations

A monthly Holy Hour was

first director of the school sodal-

san wide sodality rally held Oct. tronal Catholic Community Ser-9, 1938. Father Lord also attend vice (NCCS) and U.S.O.

patronal feast day, De. e. feast nate sodalities organized in dent. of the Immaculate Conception, parishes, and the school sodality was marked in 1938 with Mass union to aid sodalities established ed president of this newly or celebrated by Bishop Kearney, in the high schools and colleges Offerings contributed by each of the Diocese. sodality group were presented to

Sodality Union Past Presidents Helen Guntert 1931 - 1933

Mary Leary 1933 - 1935 Helon Guntert 1935 - 1937 Margaret Larkin McMahon 1937 - 1939 Rita Doolin Esse ... 1939 - 1941

Florence Dietrich Wmest ,2..... 1941 - 1943 Form Smith Bryam 1943 - 1945 Barbara Davis . . . 1945 - 1947 Bermico Terharr

Walter Beeman . . . 1949 - 1951 Robert Hanss 1951 - 1952 James Free 1852 - 1853 Katherine Moynilman 1953 - 1955 Grace Corcoran . . . 1955 -

was finally decided as most con-Members of various sodality venient and the devotion congroups responded to an invitation, tinues to be held there on the second Sunday of each month. HIS EXCELLENCY. Bishop practice, inaugurated in 1939, was Sociality Union sponsored four

simultaneous week long mis-DURING THE war years, sions held in 1953 in Holy Re-

Sacrament, and St. Monica churches - all four of which are located near public high schools with high enrollments.

Bishop Kearney presided at a Marian Year Mass in honor of Our Lady on the feast of the Purification (Feb. 2) and presented a representative from each sodality with a blessed candle later used at their sodality meetings as a symbol of the union of all sodalists.

Over 1,000 sodalists attended "A Day with Mary" at Nazareth possible so long as the U.S.S.R. Academy, and on March 25, feast of the Annunciation, participated in an evening Mass at Holy Rosary Church, Rochester,

Auburn, Geneva, and Elmira deaneries scheduled similar Mar-

unions continue to aid local sodality groups in organizational plans and programs of activity, individual dioceses and commu-Area and diocesan-wide events nist authorities need not be ruled union leaders. Present goal of Gundlach added, if they concern vision of training courses to dethe two union groups is superhowever, would not mean a weakvelop better sodality leaders.

PRIESTS who have served as ening of the Church's stand directors or assistants of either against communism as such, he the parish or school sodality unions, besides Father Fox and Father O'Connell, include Rev Although the Holy Father re-Roy B. Morphy, Rev. E. Charles cently mentioned the possibility Bauer, Rev. C. Richard Nangle, of the Church's adjusting herself

ity activities are Rev Richard Father Gundlach said, this does Tormey, diocesan director of not justify the conclusion that school sodalities. Rev. Edward the Church could co-exist with E. Steinkirchner, diocesan direc. communism, for "communism is tor of parish sodalities, and Rev not a civilization. James J. Marvin. assistant direc FATHER GUNDLACH explain-

Faculty Residence

a faculty residence for LeMoyne the welfare of souls. She will, College here; the fourth unit of therefore, always seek a "modus" a projected 13-building campus, vivendin with hostile govern-In 1946, the sodality union was divided into two sections -- the have been announced by Father ments in order to care for those Observance of the sodality's parish sodality union to coordi- Robert F. Grewen, SJ, presi- in need of her teachings and

Vatican Pact

Frankfurt, Germany - (NC)-A concordat between the Holy See and the Soviet Union is imgime. Father Gustav Gundlach. S.I. said at a congress of East European experts and expellees. Father Gundlach is on the

faculty of the Papal Gregorian terialism. University at Rome. He is advisor to Pope Pus XII. in the field of economics and social relations. LOCAL arrangements between are arranged by the sodality out on general terms, Father truths,

and Rev. Patrick Grace. to any kind of civilization, not Currently in charge of sodal only the civilization of the West,

ed that the Church must under all circumstances seek ways and Syracuse - (NC) - Plans for the necessary requirements for

'Can't Ban Christianity' Bishop Tells German Reds

ned," Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Freusberg of Fulda stated in a sermon at Weimar, East Germany.

The prelate, who maintains his preaching at a Mass in near-by'is at stake," the prelate said. "A Weimar preceding the opening of way out acceptable to Christians the convention of the Christian must be found if coexistence in remains under a communist re- Democratic Union of the Soviet the sense of real tolerance is to

protested against the infiltration

been completed and are now; "Such a clash is unbearable feady for distribution.

residence at Erfurt in commun. and the situation must be corist-controlled East Germany, was rected, for a fundamental issue

be achieved.

of the schools with atheistic ma- Films On Holy Orders

A clash between school and MatrimonyCompleted home will result if this practice continues, the Bishop said, since Brooklyn - (NC) - Two new in the later case Christian fam film strip units, on Holy Orders illes are bound in conscience to and Matrimony, in the St. John's teach their children Christian University Catechism series have

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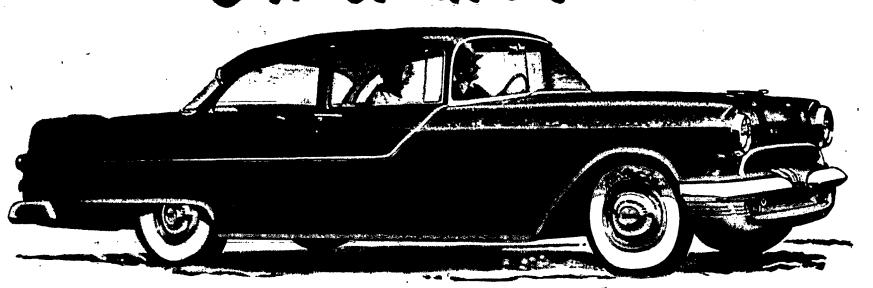
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