

Start Of New Church Year Assures New Hope For Grace, World Peace

A new church year begins this Sunday. In a world in flames, chains, and pain, some may question whether that fact rates even a nod of attention.

It will probably be "a year like all years" only maybe a bit worse, they say.

Those who believe that ultimately the world's problems will be solved only through the grace of God view the start of a new church year as a sign that life may still be worth living.

Church feast days like Christmas, Holy Week, and Easter, are not mere memorial days of ancient events.

Each feast offers graces needed now for the salvation of souls.

Our faith also teaches us that the more grace there is in souls, the closer men are to God—and that carries with it the assurance of peace even in this world. So the church year does have "practical" significance.

Catholic theologians explain that Christ while on earth won the graces we need to get to heaven. These graces He attained throughout the various events of His life—beginning with His incarnation, birth and infancy and climaxing in His sufferings, death, and final victory. The Church feasts which mark these events channel to us the graces won on those occasions.

We then receive these needed graces in proportion as we are prepared to accept them.

An example might clarify this subject. Christ's life could be compared to a powerful electric dynamo. Current generated at the dynamo is made available to hundreds of homes in its area. One home may utilize its electric supply to light and heat the house, operate TV and deepfreeze units, and keep electric appliances like toaster, razor, and washer all going at once. Another home may choose just to turn on one feeble light bulb. The choice is left to the home owner.

So also the dynamo of Christ's life make His graces available through the observance of the Church's feast days. Catholics who take part in them intelligently and devoutly will receive the full share of grace offered them. Indifferent and uninterested Catholics will drift along in the dim light of a mediocre spiritual life. The choice is left to the individual, but obviously the consequences will last forever.

Devout Catholics are sometimes discouraged by the seeming confusion of apparently unconnected feast days.

Actually the church year is a basically simple structure giving us an annual review of the life of our Savior—along with the presentation of the graces He acquired for us during His life.

The Church has divided the ritual year into two "seasons"—the somewhat brief Christmas season, and then the much longer Easter season.

Each season has its purple vested Sundays of preparation, a few weeks of celebration, and finally a series of green



BETHLEHEM SHRINE marks the traditional spot where Christ our Saviour was born. A Franciscan priest makes his Advent meditation at the sacred place. Observance of feast days of church year provides clergy and laity with graces Christ won for us during His life on earth.

clad "sinking-in" Sundays for God's grace and truth to take root in our souls.

Thus the Christmas season begins with the four weeks of Advent—the period for two weeks from Christmas to Epiphany, and followed up in 1957 by five Sundays after Epiphany.

Heart and center of each season or feast is the sacrifice of the Mass.

Catholics who desire their full measure of grace will find their Mass the best tool to prepare mind and heart for the observance of the church year.

Souls that are nourished by these official prayers and rites of the church will also find their private devotions develop a richer and more varied content.

Then even if the world may dread to dream of what the dawning year may bring, even if it turns out to be just another "year like all years," at least for the individuals who open their hearts to the grace of God this new year will be one of grace and truth, a trust laid up for them in the treasury of heaven.

Syria-Iraq, Next Red Cauldron?

Martyred Hungary just won't die. The blood drenched nation — its patriots deported, its survivors starving

— still claims the attention of the world. Newsmen thought the Hungary story would be buried in back pages two weeks ago but the incredible Soviet brutality continues to hold its page one spot. Competing now for prominence is another critical area.

The Syria-Iraq tension is rapidly approaching a breaking point. Soviet supplies are reported pouring into Syria. The Syrians have wrecked Iraq's pipelines crossing Syria to the Mediterranean thereby crippling Iraq's chief source of income.

Radio broadcasts from Damascus (Syria's capital) have inflamed the masses throughout the whole Middle East, along with Cairo (Egypt) radio, against English and French "colonialism." The Syria-Egypt broadcasts advocate closer ties with the Soviet Union.

As history unfolds in the headlines of our daily papers, it is sometimes helpful to step back into ancient history as an aid to understand current events.

Syria seems to be the fulcrum where the fortunes of the east and the west are held in balance.

Hilaire Bellou, England's famous Catholic historian and scholar, stated this strangely prophetic theme over twenty years ago: "According to whether Syria be with the west or the east, according to that fluctuate the fortunes of our blood."

He developed his idea in several books he authored, particularly "The Crusades" and "The Background, Syria and Palestine."

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To our advantage, America can tell the Syrians, "Look at Hungary!"

We can point to the fact that we insisted on British-French withdrawal from Egypt, Syria's Arab ally.

We can make certain that the devout Syrian Moslems understand the communists' contempt for all religion.

Failure to hold Syria in the western sphere of influence can mean danger to our entire way of life. What we do now may settle the fate of the world for generations.

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Catholic University Appeal - Dec. 2

My Dear People: On next Sunday, the first Sunday of Advent, we have the annual appeal for the support of the Catholic University of Washington. The University has the unique position of being a Papal University, that is, directly under the care of His Holiness, Pope Pius XII.

There is no diocese in the United States which is indebted to this national center of education. Bishops, priests, religious, and lay people all over the country have studied in the halls of the University and the contribution that this school has made to Catholic culture is far beyond the highest hopes of its founders.

Through the generous support of the Catholics of America the Catholic University has been able to maintain a national rating of the highest class among the universities in the country.

As a member of the board of trustees of this university, I am personally interested in the welfare of this school. May I, therefore, ask your generous contribution to make the Catholic University Collection worthy of the generous heart of the Diocese of Rochester.

With a grateful blessing, I am Your devoted Shepherd in Christ, James E. Kearney Bishop of Rochester

P. S: The collection is to be taken up at all the Masses on Sunday, December 2.

Bishop Kearney's Appointments

- DECEMBER 2 Sunday - St. Andrew's Church - Confirmation - 4:00 p.m. 2 Tuesday - St. John Fisher College - Low Mass - 9:00 a.m. 6 Thursday - St. Joseph's Villa - Anniversary Mass for Most Rev. Thomas F. Hickey, D.D. - 9:00 a.m. Confirmation - 10:15 a.m. 7 Friday - St. Joseph's Church - St. Monica Sodality Mass 9:00 a.m. Sheraton Hotel - 1st Friday Club Speaker - 12:15 p.m. 8 Saturday - St. Bernard's Seminary - Solemn Pontifical Mass - 9:30 a.m. 17 Monday - Nazareth College - 4:15 p.m. 21 Friday - St. Mary Hospital - Capping of Nurses - 4:00 p.m. 22 Saturday - St. Monica's Church - Anniversary Mass for St. Rev. Mgr. William F. Bergan - 9:00 a.m. 23 Sunday - St. Ann's Home for the Aged - Low Mass - 9:00 a.m. 24 Monday - St. Mary's Hospital - Low Mass and Visitation of the Sick - 8:00 a.m.

Bishop Casey's Appointments

- DECEMBER 2 Sunday - Sacred Heart Hall - Girl Scout Court of Awards - 7:00 p.m. 8 Saturday - St. Alphonsus Hall, Auburn - Address, Opening New Sacred Heart Parish Building Fund Campaign - 6:30 p.m. 10 Monday - Rosary Guild Christmas Party - Sacred Heart Hall - 8:00 p.m. 11 Tuesday - Sacred Heart Hall - Kindergarten Christmas Play - 8:00 p.m. 15 Saturday - St. Basil's Seminary, Stamford, Conn. - Installation of Most Rev. Ambrose Semanyha as Apostolic Exarch of Stamford - 10:00 a.m. 20 Tuesday - Sacred Heart Cathedral - Solemn Pontifical Mass - 12 Midnight. 31 Monday - Sacred Heart Cathedral - Pontifical Low Mass of Thanksgiving, Sermon - 7:45 p.m.

Daily Mass Calendar

Sunday, December 2 - First Sunday of Advent (purple), No Gloria, Creed, Trinity Preface. Monday, December 3 - St. Francis Xavier, patron of missions (white), Gloria, 2nd prayer of Advent. Tuesday, December 4 - St. Peter Chrysologus, confessor, doctor (white), Gloria, 2nd prayer of Advent, 3rd of St. Barbara. Wednesday, December 5 - Mass as Sunday, except 2nd prayer of St. Sabbas. Thursday, December 6 - St. Nicholas, confessor (white), Gloria, 2nd prayer of Advent. Friday, December 7 - St. Ambrose, confessor, doctor (white), Gloria, 2nd prayer of Advent, Creed, Mass in honor of the Sacred Heart permitted. Saturday, December 8 - Advent prayer in the Collect, secret, and postcommunion of Sunday. Permitted at High Mass.

Brooklyn Prelate Mourned

Catholics of Brooklyn mourned this week the death of their 71-year-old Archbishop Thomas E. Molloy.

As head of this country's second largest see, the Brooklyn prelate was specially noted for the vast development of Catholic schools during his 25 years as bishop.

Under his supervision, over 100 new elementary and high schools were erected in the Brooklyn diocese.

The venerable clergyman, New Hampshire-born, was trained for the priesthood in Rome, and served his first Brooklyn post as assistant pastor under a priest who later became Archbishop of Chicago — Cardinal Mundelein.

Despite the duties imposed on him in administering a diocese of a million five hundred thousand souls, Archbishop Molloy was able to remain a scholar and a noted orator.

He was also keenly conscious of the need of bringing Catholic truth to Non-Catholics. He established over 50 instructional centers which have brought thousands of converts to the Church. During all the years of this fruitful work, he continued the custom of personally confirming adult converts received into the Church through these centers.

The Brooklyn tradition of staunch loyal Catholicism is striking proof of the late prelate's power to mold his people in a firm and devout faith.

The Rochester Diocese — along with Catholics throughout the nation — pays tribute to his memory and asks God to grant an eternal reward to this faithful shepherd of souls.

Funeral services for the late Archbishop Molloy will be held in the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, 100 N. State St., Rochester, N. Y., on Monday, December 4, 1956, at 10:00 a.m. Burial will be in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Rochester, N. Y.

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FATHER SHEERIN World's First Peace Army

Soldiers wearing blue helmets and blue-and-white arm bands landed a few weeks ago in the Suez Canal Zone. This army was unique. It was the first international peace army in the history of the world.

The Danes and Norwegians who composed this army represented the conscience of the world. Catholic critics of the U.N. will be less vocal if a peace army now on the U. S. is their annual statement, have expressed their opinion that the U.N. offers the only present promise we have for sustained peace in our time. I don't mean that this is an irrevocable teaching no Catholic can deny without committing grave sin.

Yet it seems to me that any Catholic would be a bit presumptuous to pit his private opinion of the U.N. against the opinion of the assembled Bishops of the world.

THE BISHOPS, however, made no clear reference to the U.N. army. There was a sentence in the Bishops' statement that might be construed to apply to the blue-helmeted force. They said that the Pope's recent impassioned messages on world conditions clearly revealed that "the nations must employ their unity with such revised strength and purpose as to banish the spectre of war." However, this was not a specific reference to the U.N. army.

It seems to me that a strong U.N. army is the best foundation for a permanent peace under present conditions. The U.N. will never get very far if it does nothing but debate and deliberate and try to get warring nations to compromise. It must pack a wallop if it expects to get a hearing from warring nations.

I don't predict that the U.N. police force in Egypt will succeed. It is up against terrific obstacles. But surely it is worth a try.

What are the obstacles? First, the Russians. They will do everything in their power to kill the very idea of an international police force to maintain the peace. Bandits don't like cops. The Russians have openly defied the U.N. 18 times already and now you can be sure, they are ready to defy the U.N.

Other obstacles to the success of the U.N. army can be found in the nations that make up this army. Many of these nations strongly disapproved of the Anglo-French invasion of Egypt. If they and France make another

ST. NICHOLAS, the Real Santa Claus



Legend describes his great generosity — which make him the appropriate saint for Christmas time. In many countries, as in Holland in photo above, St. Nicholas distributes gifts for children on his feast, December 6.

Making Marriage Click Women Are So Personal!

By MRS. IRVING A. DEBIANO People often live together for years and never meet each other. They fail to communicate as persons. Men are generally so impersonal; women, thank God, are so personal. Men have a tendency to see people in general; women see people individually. Men see people as an organization; women see people as this mother, this father, this child.

I am thinking of a friend of mine who was in a large city hospital and what her members most was the attitude his nurse had toward all the patients. She noted all the little human wishes. No one had to ask for little comforts. They were being treated as persons, not just another bed, another

object, a tool. They were not being just used to get a salary. THIS NURSE was happy patient. She tried to understand, her tone of voice was warm, she never contradicted her patients. Everyone felt they were personally important to her. "Father," this particular patient said, "I met Christianity for the first time and it was the first time I knew what religion meant." (Incidentally, he became a Catholic.)

Personalization is the great gift and task of a lady. At a recent luncheon at the Royal Palace, the Queen of Holland invited only six of us. There were 350 delegates at this Congress from throughout the whole world, but the Queen was the landmark, the person

whom we needed so badly.

BOOK SHELF

THE CATHOLIC IDEAL by O'Neill Foreword pp. \$3.50. Available from the Catholic Book Concern, Inc., 1115 Avenue of the Americas, New York 10010.

A little book of devotions who must get into the United States number who must do to the foreseeable future the equally steady/ex Catholic facilities on high school, and colleges.

A book to provide evidence, assistant, and active leader of the real truth about institutions, state and universities, and their Catholic action in behalf students can be better.

A book of definite and authenticated opinions—written straight the record.

JAMES O'NEILL, Editor, New York; attention daigua Academy, Harvard Law School, cargo Law School; everything from cour school to seminars in graduate schools, has forty-six years.

He is the author of and American Freedom and Education Constitution; he had work to the same group holders in American Catholics because their stockholders in public.

"The American Public Education System" wholly responsible for public education system, and what does public education mean.

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