

INDIA - 1955 - At a rally in Bombay, India, 200,000 rallied to hear Irish-born Father Peyton, shown here with Cardinal Gracias, preach the Family Rosary Crusade.



ROCHESTER - 1948 - Bishop Kearney welcomed Father Peyton to the city when the famed "Family Rosary" priest addressed a Columbus Civic Center Rally.

Father William J. Ayers

Following is the text of the sermon given by Rt. Rev. Msgr. Maynard A. Connell at the Funeral Mass of Rev. William J. Ayers, Jan. 26, 1957, at St. Vincent de Paul Church, Churchville. Father Ayers died Jan. 23, 1957:

Through the gracious ministry of His Son, Almighty God taught us to regard Him as a loving Master. Therefore we are not surprised to find Him employing many instruments to order our wayward hearts, and of these none is so effective as the sight of death.

Death sobers us. For many it begets only fear and horror, it is the extinction of the cheery flame of life, the end of everything. But our thoughts are governed by our Faith. Since that hour in which the Son of God stood beside His own grave, all vagueness and uncertainty of the future vanished in the light that streamed from the open tomb.

Unless we are foolish, thoughtless men, we imagine ourselves to be the lifeless form on which we gaze, and we ponder the meeting that has occurred between his soul and God. Nor are we ever more sober than when we gaze, as we do today, on the still form of a priest.

Nearly twenty-nine years ago, a young man prostrated himself before the altar of God to give the choicest gift within his power to give. With a young, generous heart, he turned from the legitimate pleasures of the world to fashion his life after the pattern given us on the Mount.

All that was his in the power of body, which men prize so dearly, he gave back to God and sealed the gift with the vow of chastity. All that he might ever be in the exercise of talents of mind and free will, he gave to God and sealed the gift with a promise of obedience.

Henceforth he would belong not to himself but to God. In that hour through the office of the ordaining Bishop, Christ made him one of His chosen ones, vesting in him the awful power of the priesthood.

Thereafter, he was to utter words which God would obey. His anointed hands would hold the Body of his Maker as truly as did the Virgin Mother's. His lips would be purpled with the Precious Blood which filled the cup at the Last Supper and streamed from the Cross a few hours later. Before his arms raised in adoration, the shackles of sin would fall away.

In fine, he was made another Christ and commissioned to go forth and have a part in renewing the face of the earth by grace, fashioning unto God a people acceptable, pursuing good works.

Father Peyton Launches 'Marian Theater' On Radio

'Family Rosary Crusade' 15 Years Old

Albany, N. Y. — (CNC) — With quiet simplicity here in its birthplace, the 15th anniversary of some of the phenomenal organizations in the modern history of the Church has been celebrated — the founding of the Family Rosary Crusade.

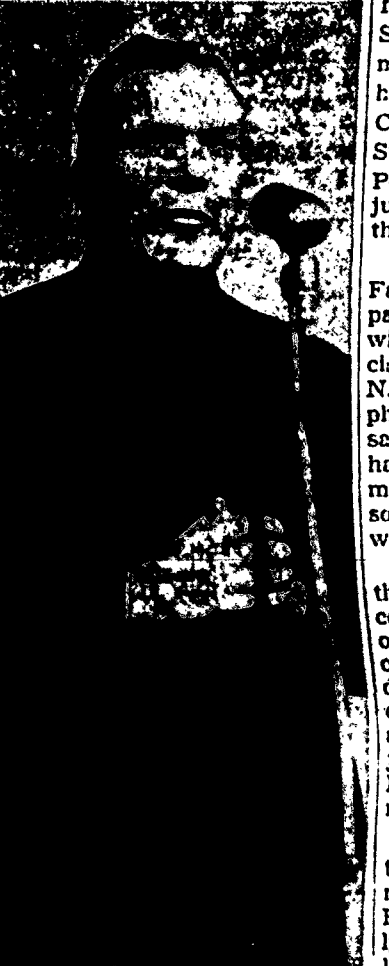
Irish-born Father Patrick Peyton, C.S.C., recalled that he hit upon the idea of the Rosary crusade movement as a way of paying a debt to the Blessed Mother.

THE NOW-GRAZING Holy Cross Father insists it was through the intercession of Mary that he was cured of tuberculosis which afflicted him while he was finishing his studies as a seminarian — and it was through her help that he attained the goal of his boyhood, the priesthood.

Father Peyton said that he had approached his superiors with the idea of working to revive the custom of the Family Rosary, which at the time appeared to be dying out in this country and elsewhere. He said it "was on retreat Sunday, the last Sunday in January, 1942, that the thought of repaying my debt to Our Lady by restoring the Family Rosary came to my mind."

"I APPROACHED my superior again," Father Peyton related. "This time the answer was neither 'yes' or 'no.' A test was suggested — a letter. This letter was written to an outstanding member of the American hierarchy. His most favorable and encouraging answer to my letter brought forth the Family Rosary Crusade."

Organization work of the crusade began in the fall of 1942 when Father Peyton was assigned as chaplain of the Holy Cross Brothers at Vincentian Institute here. Since then the work of the



1954 - Father Peyton has carried his Rosary Crusade to far-off New Zealand where he addressed 11 public gatherings.

crusade has been astounding — the Rosary of our Lady, through the efforts of Father Peyton, literally had girdled the globe.

Back in 1942, Father Peyton set his goal. He was determined that he would enroll 10 million

families in the Rosary Crusade. BUT THE anniversary present which pleased him the most is a new weekly half-hour radio show which will be carried over the Mutual Broadcasting System. It is called the Marian Theater and is dedicated to the Blessed Mother.

"After so many years," the tireless crusader said, "I have finally been able to have a dream come true. In seeing a regular weekly radio program devoted to our Blessed Lady, God and Our Lady have been very good to us these past 15 years. To them and to the thousands upon thousands of people throughout the world who have helped us, we owe all the credit for any success we have had."

Father Peyton recalled that the first rally of the crusade was conducted before a small group of College girls here. He also recalled that the same simple and direct appeal for renewal of the devotion was made three years ago before 200,000 persons who jammed the Botanical Gardens in Melbourne, Australia — the largest rally in the movement's history.

TO FURTHER the crusade, the tireless Holy Cross priest has made use of radio and television. He founded and directs the Family Theater, a favorite with radio listeners, which made famous the slogan: "The family that prays together, stays together."

He also staged special radio programs in which he had some of the brightest stars of Hollywood and Broadway reciting the Rosary. When the new medium of television opened, he also made use of it in telling the story of the Rosary and of his crusade.

NOW FATHER Peyton has a series of 15 color films on the 15 Mysteries of the Rosary, which will be made available in all languages. The production cost of the films produced in Spain was more than \$500,000 and more than half of this amount was contributed to his cause by cardinals, archbishops, bishops, priests and religious communities. Father Peyton said.



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Bishop Casey Offers Requiem For Fr. Ayers

(Continued from page 1)
Michael J. Kregel, John M. Duffy, George Predmore, Wilfred Craugh, Charles Shay, John Randall and Gerald Lambert. Also the Very Reverend Monsignors Patrick J. Flynn, Donald Cleary and John McCafferty.

Bearers were the Reverend Fathers Donald Murphy, Robert McNamara, Robert Kelleher, Leonard Kelly, Joseph Gaynor and Austin Hannan.

Priests' Choir, under the direction of the Rev. Charles J. McCarthy, included the Reverend Fathers Emmett Halloran, Norbert Nolan, John J. Hempel, Thomas Cleary, Frederick Bush and John Steger.

Also the Reverend Fathers Robert M. Egan, James J. Lane, Michael J. Tydings, Albert J. Geiger, Charles A. Bennett, Gerald J. Whelan, C.S.S.R., Edward J. McAniff, John M. Merklinger, John Murphy, Jacob Reuber, Walter Carron, Dominick Hochstein, Eugene Ranko, Leo V. Smith, Robert A. Meza, Vincent P. Collins, Raymond M. Wuest, Leo J. Matuzewski.

Also the Reverend Fathers Joseph McCarthy, Frank Valukerichas, Genaro J. Ventura, James E. Barrett, S.J., William J. Schifferl, Joseph F. Hails, S.J., Charles S. Connell, Joseph W. Dillie, Charles L. McCarthy, David M. Murphy, Francis E. Hiler, Paul Murphy, Daniel Wheeland, Elmer W. Heibel, Bernard V. Kuehman, John A. Redington, Robert C. MacNamara.

Also the Reverend Fathers Louis J. Hohman, William J. Devereaux, Joseph Bestini, Richard E. Murphy, Gerald T. Connor, Joseph L. Kothmanic.

BURIAL WAS in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery where Bishop Casey gave the final blessing assisted by Monsignors Predmore and Richard K. Burns, and Fathers Murphy, Kelleher, Gaynor, McNamara, Kelly, Hanna and St. George.

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E. Outside measurement (or rod length)
F. Top of casing or rod to floor

Deadline For Alien Registration Near

Washington — (CNC) — All aliens (non-citizens) living in the United States with few exceptions are warned by the Immigration Department, National Catholic Welfare Conference, of the strict requirement that they must register under the Federal Alien Address Report Program before the end of January.

There are an estimated 2,750,000 aliens in the country who are subject to the registration at the risk of being fined or imprisoned before deportation for failure to comply.

The N.C.W.C. Immigration Office stated: "The procedure is to obtain from the nearest Post Office or headquarters of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, the simple address report Form I-53 and promptly note thereon the requested information, and then return it personally (not to be mailed) to the clerk on duty.

kind, gentle, zealous priest — a devoted son — a loving guardian of a little family left alone by the untimely death of an only brother. But I feel he would not want that story told. Therefore let me rather summarize it by recalling words I spoke twenty-nine years ago, come next June.

On the occasion of his First Solenn, Mass, I turned to say: "Father, someday they will replace the white and gold vestments with sombre purple and lay you away to await the summons to that last great Mass which will never end. Permit me then to utter the words which fill your heart today and hang trembling on your lips — to ask your assembled friends to follow you into each day of your priesthood with their prayers. That when the last hour has come you may have built the only monument worthy of a priest — love and affection in the hearts of those whom you will have served. That unto that hour the proudest boast of your life may be the words you will whisper daily over a tiny crust of bread and a golden cup. That in that hour men and women with full hearts will murmur your blessed epitaph: 'Men walk more safely and live more holily because this priest lived.' No, not he, but in the words of the Apostle, Christ lived in him."

YOU WHO KNEW him well will agree, I think, that the prayer was fulfilled and such were the ideals of the priestly life just ended.

As I spoke for him at the beginning, I find myself speaking for him at the end. The lips are sealed now, but could they speak, they would reflect the stern message of Holy Mother Church in these Solenn Services. She has no thought of eulogy as she robes her ministers in solemn black and bids us ponder the Dies Irae. Again and again she places on the lips of the sacrificing Prelate an earnest plea that God forget His Justice and remember only His Mercy.

So we would have me beg your prayers, perhaps in some such words as fell once from the lips of another noble priest.

"O good and gracious friends who have come here to honor me today, if you have known one who walked among you, helping you to search your hearts and think on a life better than the one you now live, remember that one now when I might relate much of this quiet, unassuming priest's life — from the day we both became altar boys in St. Mary's Church, Canandaigua, to these latter years when he bore the adversity of ill-health so bravely and so cheerfully.

It would be the story of a