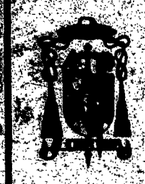
Red Cross Needs Blood Donors

My Dear People:

The Rochester Chapter, American Red Cross, is sorely in need of blood for its Blood Bank.



Knowing from my own expirience the great value and the healthful benefits of blood transfusions, I am personally concerned about the depleted supply in the Blood Bank.

May I suggest as a Lenten sacrifice that as many of you as possible donate blood to this great cause. Not only will such a donation be a real Lenten sacrifice but it will also unite you so intimately with the Sacred Heart of Christ Who shed His Blood for us on the Cross of Calvary.

With gratitude for your generosity and a blessing, I am

Your devoted Shepherd in Christ,

✠ JAMES E. KEARNEY
Bishop of Rochester

Cathedral's New Altar Focus Of Diocese Devotion

Increased devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus will radiate to every parish from the Cathedral's new altar, central altar of the Rochester Diocese.

The massive marble altar with its majestic statue of our Lord will at last provide the "Mother Church" of the Diocese with a splendid and solemn sanctuary for the great liturgical rites which unite the clergy and laity of the Diocese in their common duty, the worship of God.

Each year at the Cathedral altar, priests are ordained to serve in more than 180 parishes of the twelve-county Rochester Diocese. At this altar each Holy Thursday morning, the Bishop solemnly blesses the holy oils used by every diocesan priest for baptism and extreme unction. In this rite too, the chrism for confirmation is also blessed by the Bishop.

Every baby baptized, every sick person anointed, every priest who stands at a parish altar—all trace their spiritual heritage back to the Cathedral altar.

Quite obviously, this altar is the focus of devotion for the entire Diocese.

The Cathedral altar is also in a unique way "the Bishop's altar" where he offers Mass and prays for his flock scattered in crowded cities or rural villages or valley-sheltered farms.

It is in the Cathedral too where the full ritual of the Church, inherited from 20 centuries of devotion, is carried out as the official act of faith and love for God in behalf of all the other parishes.

Every Christian altar has a dignity all its own because across each of the hundred thousand altars of the world each day Christ's faithful ones fulfill His most sacred command to "do this" - - to make the Mass - - in His memory.

Traditionally, Christians have built their altars of the finest marble, the most exquisite wood, the richest gems. The altar is the "table of the Lord," it is the throne of God.

Parishoners of the Cathedral have now erected as their gift to God and to the Diocese an altar of beauty and majesty which signals the opening of a new and richer chapter in the spiritual life of the Rochester Diocese.

Tariff Walls Tumble

Dreams of a decade will come true this month when the premiers of six Marshall Plan countries meet in Rome to create a common trade market for Europe.

Funds from the United States have poured into Europe for twelve years. Paul G. Hoffman, administrator of the Marshall Plan, had the idea that those nations should also aid one another.

The six premiers — from France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg — will sign treaties providing for a gradual reduction of tariffs and easier currency exchanges throughout the six countries. Other nations are expected to join "Euratom" the new name for this European common market.

Pope Pius himself is reported to be intrested in the scheme and has frequently urged the nations to a greater cooperation not only in diplomatic and military pacts but in practical industrial and economic methods as well.

While headlines continue to shriek the threat of war, this news item of greater international solidarity is a welcome relief and can have ultimately more significance than Gaza or Aquaba.

Strange But True - - -

JOSEPH BREIG

Child Experts

Sometimes I wonder whether children nowadays wouldn't be better off if their mothers stopped reading the endless writings of alleged experts in child-rearing.

Breig

It seems to me that the experts more often than not, miss the main point, or do not sufficiently emphasize it.

The main point is that the youngster, in the final analysis, must be the ruler of the realm of himself. Therefore what he needs above all is a firm grasp of the right principles of self-governance, a firm determination to apply them, and opportunities to practice.

What we call character cannot be imposed from outside. The young person must come to realize that he must develop it himself. He must himself become the Congress, the Supreme Court and the White House of the mysterious independent nation of his own soul.

He must be responsible to his own conscience. He must make his own decisions in the light of his own intellect's judgement of right and wrong. He must choose with his own will between good and evil.

THE WHOLE business of rearing children boils down to helping them to bring to prefection their self-determination, in the love and service of God and fellowman.

One way is to say, rather joltingly, that the proper task of parents is to prepare a youngster to part from them and pursue his own destiny.

Another way is to point to the difference between etiquette and courtesy. Etiquette is a mere convention — a varnish. Courtesy is an operation of the soul, as is self-governorship.

CARDINAL MINDSZENTY used a figure of speech when he was permitted, for a minute or two, to speak his own mind after the preposterous communist trial in which he is sentenced to life.

He said his education had pointed his life in a certain direction, as the rails of a railroad determine the destination of the train. The communists were going the other way. The result was collision.

When Cardinal Mindszenty said "education," he did not mean merely schools. Far more importantly, he ment what he had received from his parents, above all from his sainted mother.

We can learn more from observing her than from shelves of child-rearing books.

THE MOTHER to whom God sent the future Cardinal Mindszenty was a woman profoundly good. She knew the purpose of existence, and had set her heart on its attainment.

In pursuit of her ideal, she embraced self-sacrifice, self-discipline, inexhaustible patience, deep faith and trust in God, devotion to duty, prayerfulness, and a right reverence for her son's human dignity.

She had also—she still has—the high serenity which no reverses can disturb. She knew—she knows — how to wait upon the inscrutable will of God. Because her confidence does not falter, she does not falter.

SUCH STABILITY, such unfaltering bravery, is devoutly to be desired in every mother. Cardinal Mindszenty's mother did not swing and shift like a weather-vane.

Almost certaninly she never read a book about child-rearing. If she were to write one, it might consist of one sentence; "Be a reflection of God's goodness to your little ones; let His holiness shine through you upon them."

She was, and is, so deeply rooted in the changeless God that Cardinal Mindszenty needed only her example and wisdom to become the son whose constancy has inspired mankind and brought the godless to confusion.

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MOST REVEREND JAMES EDWARD KEARNEY D.D., President

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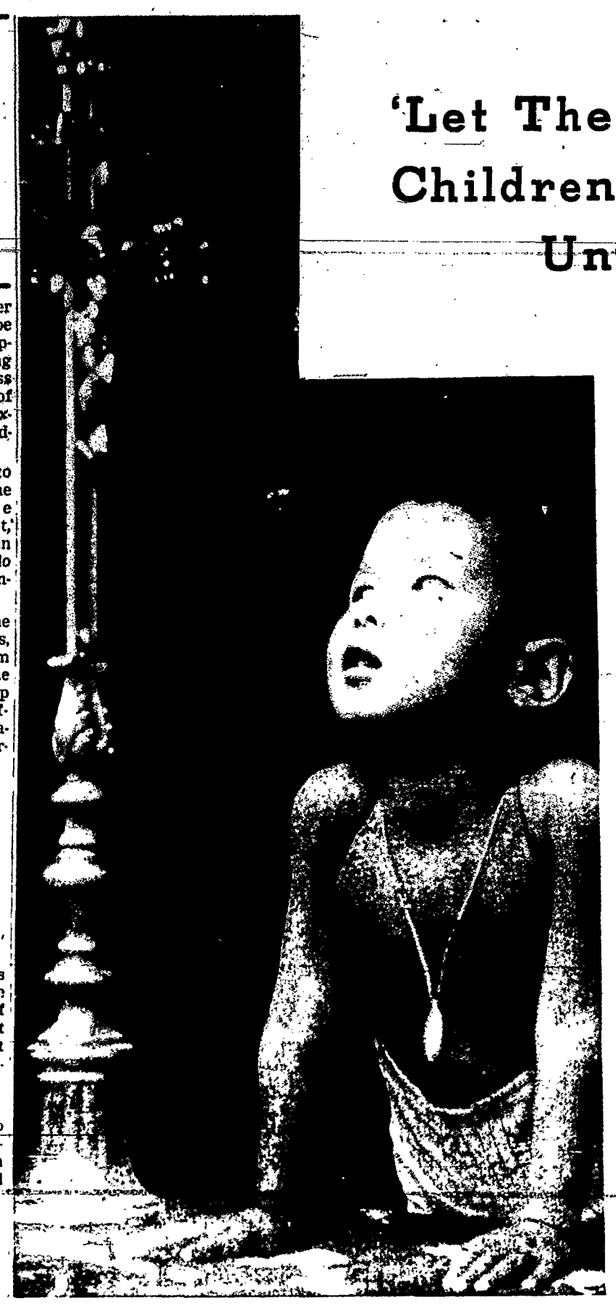
'Let The Little Children Come Unto Me'



A crucifix tells its own graphic, silent story to a child in a mission school half way round the other side of our world. Millions still live and die never knowing Christ has an infinite love for their immortal souls. Catholics during March pray that young men and women will accept the call of God to serve as priests, brothers, nuns to bring Christ's truth to the world.

March, Month Of Prayer For Religious Vocations

Not so long ago, the priests and brothers and nuns you see in religious garb today were warming up for spring baseball or jumping a rope along with their neighborhood pals.

God gave them a vocation — an invitation to bring His truth and grace to souls like your own.

They accepted that call and now all over this wide, wide world, more and more people — like the little fellow in the picture—can know that Jesus lived and died for all of us.

God still needs hundreds and hundreds more who are generous enough to give up whatever they had hoped for in this world and to consecrate their lives to the service of souls.

The month of March is traditionally kept as a month of prayer for vocations.

Catholics whose path is already set in life can offer Lenten prayer and penance that God's grace will be abundant in young hearts to prompt them to accept a religious calling.

Younger Catholics will hear the various aspects of a vocation described in school exhibits and classroom talks.

They will be urged to "listen for the call of God."

This "call" of God may take a youngster to serve in some distant missionary outpost of India or Africa, or perhaps leave the "missionary" here at home to work in a parish of the Rochester Diocese.

PRIESTHOOD can be attained through studies extending four years after college graduation. A priest's duties may be fulfilled in a parish church, or within the carefully scheduled routine of a religious order like the Trappists or Benedictines, or as a rugged Maryknoller carrying Christ into a jungle hut in Borneo.

A NUN'S vocation can vary from the silence of a Carmelite cloister to the squeals of a kindergarten classroom.

BROTHER'S have duties as menial as scrubbing floors, and as technical as teaching engineering to college students.

A thread of an ancient heritage runs through all these lives — the unconquerable drive to plant the truth and grace of God in every human heart.

Missionaries with Columbus built the cross on America's coastline as a symbol that they claimed the new land for Christ. The need for home and foreign missionaries is still as acute as in 1492, in fact as urgent as the day Christ said, "The harvest indeed is abundant, but the laborers are few."

Holy Father's Prayer For Religious Vocations

Vatican City —(NC)— The following prayer, composed by Pope Pius XII, asks for an increase in vocations to the religious life:

OUR LORD JESUS Christ, sublime model of every perfection, Who not only constantly prompts privileged souls to aspire to such a high aim but also stirs them with the powerful force of Your example and the effective impulse of Your grace so that they may follow, You on this sublime road, grant that many may have the knowledge and desire to respond to Your sweet inspirations so that through them they may enjoy Your special care and tender assistance.

Grant that there will be no lack of messengers of Your charity to represent You night and day at the foot of the orphan's crib, at the bedside of those who are suffering and at the side of the aged and ill, who perhaps otherwise would not have anyone on earth to hold out to them a merciful hand.

Grant that in humble schools as well as high seats of learning, a voice echoing Yours will always resound, teaching the way to Heaven and proper duties of every man.

Grant that no land, no matter how unfriendly and remote, shall be deprived of the evangelic calling inviting all peoples to enter Your Kingdom.

May it be that those flames multiply themselves and grow with which the fire must spread throughout the world and in which the unblemished holiness of Your Church shines in all its splendor.

May it be that gardens of chosen souls will flourish in every region, souls who will make recompense for men's faults and implore Your mercy through contemplation and penance.

May it be that through the constant immolation of these hearts, through the snow-white purity of these minds and through the perfection of their virtues, there will always live on earth that perfect example of the sons of God which You came to reveal to us.

Send into the ranks of Your chosen numerous and good vocations, souls who are steadfast in firm determination to render themselves worthy of such singular grace and the holy institution to which they aspire through strict observance of religious duties, through assiduous prayer, constant mortification and perfect bending of their wills to all that which is Your will.

Enlighten, O Lord Jesus, many generous souls with the burning light of the Holy Spirit, Who is Eternal and Substantial Love, and through the intercession of Your most loving Mother, Mary, enkindle and maintain in them the fire of Your charity, to the glory of the Father and the same Holy Spirit Who live and reign with You forever and ever. Amen.

Making Marriage Click

Theatres Seen Threat To Children's Morals

By MSGR. IRVING A. DE BLANC
(Director, Family Life Bureau, N.C.W.C.)

Many good parents are becoming quite alarmed. They innocently send their children to "safe" Class A movies — and "Ah! Alas! Peace for a few hours!" But sometimes what a treacherous "peace" it becomes.

Parents are discovering that even tiny grade-school youngsters are using the movies as a rendezvous for petting, kissing, cheating on God's Commandments.

Monsignor DeBlanc

LITTLE twosomes even at early ages fast become little woosomes and it may not be just cute, innocent fun. Spiritual directors know that these little childish affairs may later cause deep spiritual anguish. It is a curiosity to see how conscientious some are concerning the purity and nutrient content of the food their children eat, yet how adventuresome and reckless they are with the soul diet of these same youngsters.

Playmates two years older than your children are generally the ones who influence them most. Parents learn that they often influence their children best through these playmates. Children naturally tend to be weaned from their parents, to be independent. They crave that type of security. That is good, but parents should control this tendency.

It is vital that parents know and approve the playmates of their children.

Good example is more caught than taught.

A little grade schooler was asked if he knew how to dance. "No," he said audaciously, "but I surely know how to intermission." It is easy to see whom he was imitating!

PLAYMATES also involve the power of human respect. There are few sources more decisive in life. Parents, then, must establish a relationship with their children not of fear and of violence, but of love and of reason. Obedience must be earned, not imposed. This relationship is more important than anything you will ever tell them. What is said is not as important as who says it. That relationship has to be established and re-established at every period of a child's life.

Parents have failed most in establishing that relationship, during the teenage and college perious of their children's life. Rarely do we find parents who can exert true parental influence at this time. Once this relationship is established, then it is easy to convince a youngster of the truth of such principles as "freedom always has limits."

Movies in themselves can be fatally influential but the audience itself is also influential. Sometimes viciously so! The noises, the snickering, the laughter, the moans of the audience exert a tremendous pressure.

Parents must prepare their youngsters with the spirit of missionaries — the idea that they are out to change and not be changed for Christ's sake. One youngster, whose parents had taught him well, used to encourage those around him at a movie or TV to count when long, lustful kisses were presented. "One, two, three, four, five, six," and all laughed. The tention was off, the distraction good, the guffaws a relief.

"Following the crowd" is the great pressure of our times. I remember years ago pleading and pleading in the pulpit for modesty in dress and to very, very little avail. Then Vogue magazine, or some such, appeared: the dresses they suggested were long and, incidentally, modest. Bingo The dresses went down. It was a humbling realization of the power of religion in contrast to the power of human respect.

MY SALUTE to the mother who answered her daughter's protest, "But Mr. and Mrs. Brown let Sue go out on dates even if she is only fourteen!" "But, my darling," the mother responded, "Mr. and Mrs. Brown are not rearing you!"

Maybe soon the old time hat pin will again come into vogue. It will be a young girl's defense, her weapon on movie dates, when the male octopus is on the loose and by her side.

These kissing games at parties that are so cute, so hilarious, so blissful should be so taboo Why should they be so innocent one day and so wrong the next? Why an occasion of fun for one age and overnight an occasion of sin for another? There are reasonable, sacred principles involved. Let's get practical.

The Bell Tower

Tri-Focals

● **A ball player in a batting slump told the manager the trouble was with his eyes. "When I go to bat," he explained, "I see three balls every time the pitcher throws."**

"I have the answer to that," said the manager. "Next time slug the cover off the middle ball."

The player went to the plate and fanned once more. The manager roared, "I thought I told you to hit the middle ball?"

"That's what I did," said the player, "but I hit it with the wrong bat!"

Cat's Meow

● Hetty: "Is my cat smart!"
Betty: "How come?"
Hetty: "She eats cheese and then waits in front of a mousehole with baited breath."

Opportunity

● **No woman really makes a fool out of a man — she merely gives him the opportunity to develop his natural capacities.**

Daily Mass Calendar

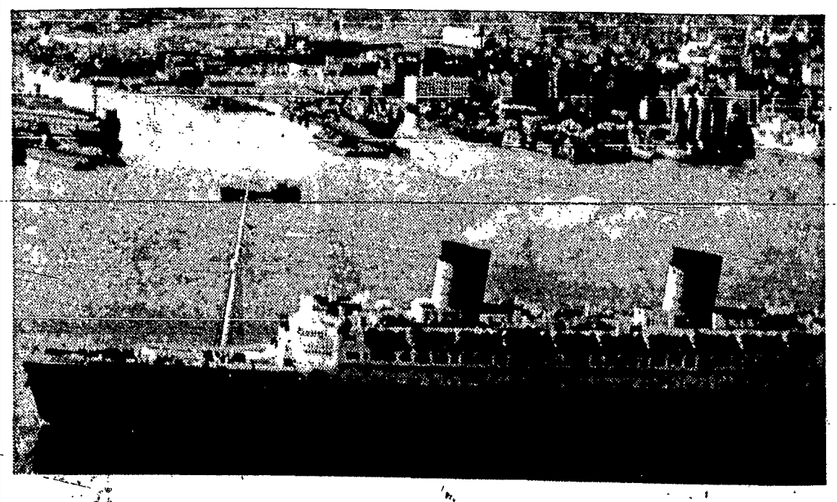
Sunday, March 10 — **First Sunday of Lent** (purple), Creed, Lent Preface.

Monday, March 11 — Mass as in missal, VR.

Tuesday, March 12 — **St. Gregory**, confessor (white), Gloria, 2nd prayer of Lenten Tuesday, 3rd for the Pope, Creed, Lent Preface; or **Lenten Mass** (purple), 2nd prayer* of St. Gregory, 3rd* for the Pope; or votive Mass (white) for **Anniversary** of Pope's coronation, 2nd prayer of Lenten Tuesday, Creed, Lent Preface.

Wednesday, March 13 to Saturday, March 16 — Lenten Masses (purple) as in missal.

VR - Votive or Requiem permitted.
* — omitted at High Mass.



COURIER JOURNAL PILGRIMS will sail out of New York harbor aboard the famous liner the 'Queen Elizabeth' on June 12th, as shown in photo above, to visit seven European countries. The 49 day tour is currently booking reservations for the trip which will be highlighted with an audience with Pope Pius XII. Inquiries may be addressed to Rochester travel agencies or to the Courier Journal, 35 Scio St., Rochester.