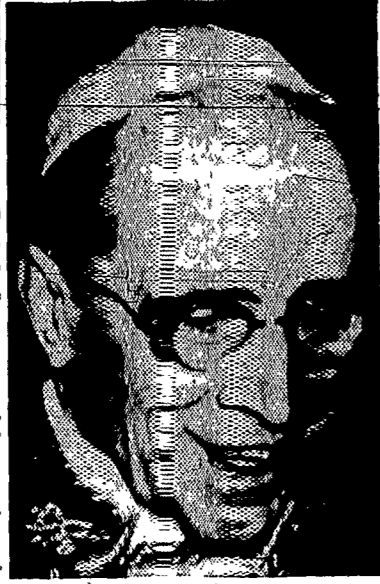


"Daily Communion Available To The People"

Following is the text of Bishop James K. Kearney's talk to men of the Nocturnal Adoration Society at their annual breakfast Sunday, March 11 at Rochester's Bausch and Lomb cafeteria.

Let me first of all express to all of you my most sincere thanks for all your prayers during the long siege of illness I had in the hospital. It was a source of great encouragement to me to realize that Sunday after Sunday and night after night over the air and at the various religious gatherings that prayers were ascending day after day that I might return eventually to my work.



POPE PIUS XII
Daily Communion Now Available For All

I was conscious especially of the fact that in the silence of the night men like yourselves were adding to your prayers as often as you assembled for nocturnal adoration a prayer that God might spare me to return to my work. So that as I begin now to pick up the threads of my tapestry of activity here in Rochester my first thought is always a sincere word of thanks to those who prayed so hard and won for me a return to my work. I don't suppose that anyone ever had such a tremendous volume of prayers.

I am very happy to be with you because as men devoted in a special way to the Real Presence of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament these are very significant days.

AS I READ the Gospel this morning, the Gospel of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes, one of the great miracles of Our Divine Lord, the thought came to me of how important that miracle was because it was setting the stage for one of the most important talks that Our Divine Lord gave upon earth.

And that was His discourse on the Blessed Sacrament.

He was preparing the minds of His listeners. They saw how, because He was Almighty God and controlled the laws of Nature, He could multiply a few loaves and fishes so as to feed thousands and still have something left over at the end.

But it wasn't done simply as a miracle. It wasn't done simply to establish His Divine power. He had in mind something else was going to set the stage for a great sermon.

On the following day He delivered that famous sermon beginning "I am the Bread of Life" and in that sermon He preached the first definite theological instruction on the nature of the Holy Eucharist.

ST. JOHN preserved it. It is very vital in St. John's Gospel because St. John seems to have been particularly sensitive to these sermons that had to do with the divinity of Christ and with the future of Christ's church.

We know for example that the opening of St. John's Gospel has been preserved in the Church as the classic statement of the Divinity of Christ and the classic outline of the whole plan of the Redemption.

That Gospel that we now read at the Close of the Mass, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God... And the Word was made Flesh and dwelt among us." There was the whole story of Redemption.

IN THE SIXTH chapter of his Gospel St. John gives us this magnificent sermon of Our Divine Lord and in this sermon, there is a particular point that our Divine Lord mentions and which may explain the concern of our present Holy Father. He says, "I am the Bread of Life, and I will give life to whomever I will."

the Magna Carta of Eucharistic devotion insisted on the simplicity of the truth: "My Body is food indeed, and My Blood is indeed drink." In other words, there we have it and for the spiritual nourishment of our souls.

The reception of Holy Communion at any time is the bringing into our hearts and souls the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.

And I say we are fortunate to be living in these days because there is no question of the fact that already the world is reaping the spiritual benefits of this attitude of mind of the present Pope.

AS A RESULT, for example, of our evening Masses, and the new legislation about fasting, the number of Communion in this diocese has grown geometrically. It has advanced almost beyond imagination, because what has happened is exactly what Pope Pius XII said.

The Pope said "I am not changing these things simply in order to modify the church legislation. I'm doing this in order that the precious Body and Blood of Jesus Christ may be available to the people. That is why Christ put Himself upon the altar. That's why He said, 'Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavily burdened.'"

Thank God the picture is the same all over the world. We are reaping the benefits of the generosity of this Pope and of his very liberal and very intelligent interpretation of the great sermon of Jesus Christ as told to us in St. John's gospel.

AND SO I say you who have made this devotion to the Blessed Sacrament one of the great events in your life, one of the controlling events in your life, must be very happy in the realization that we have in the present Holy Father a Pope who has been sensitive to the part that Our Lord can play in the lives of men, women and children and who has opened to mankind, as they were never opened before, the treasures of the tabernacle.

Knowing that Christ is anxious to come out into the hearts of men the Pope has endeavored to eliminate every obstacle that has stood between the worshiper and the tabernacle.

Today as we listen to the story of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes we recall how St. Thomas Aquinas in his famous hymn on the Blessed Sacrament has the very same thought. St. Thomas says that "a thousand may receive it, or one may receive it, but no matter how many receive it or if an individual receives the Blessed Sacrament is always there and is never consumed."

In other words, the supply of the precious Body and Blood of Christ will always be infinite in the world.

I return to you to congratulate you upon the tremendous volume of prayer that goes up in your hours of adoration for the welfare of the Church, for the salvation of souls, for the sanctifying of your own families, and especially recently your prayers for me. I am very happy to be with you once again and to pray God's choicest blessings upon your work.

The prayers which you offer in the silence of the night before the Blessed Sacrament, may seem insignificant things in your lives but they are great prayers of atonement. They bring the blessing of God upon yourself, upon your family, upon your parish, and upon this diocese, and, thank God, on the whole community. God bless you.



Italian Orphans Come To U.S.

New York — (NC) — Under protection of Old Glory, Italian orphans arrive en route to Foster Homes in America. They were accompanied by Miss Marie Feltner, a member of the International de Caritas Catholica from Brussels, Belgium. The children, from orphanages in southern Italy, came to America under sponsorship of the Catholic Committee for Refugees of the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

French Architects Design 'Weeping Madonna' Shrine

Syracuse, Sicily — (NC) — Two French architects have been awarded a \$12,800 first prize in an international competition for a design for a proposed shrine in honor of the "Weeping Madonna" of Syracuse.

A JURY, presided over by Archbishop Ettore Baranzini of Syracuse, chose the winner from among 22 projects submitted by European and American architects.

The winning design, by Michel Andraud, and Pierre Parat, calls for a curial structure about 400 feet high and capable of holding 20,000 faithful. It will be the largest edifice built in Italy in this century so far.

The "Weeping Madonna" of Syracuse first attracted attention about four years ago, when a young Sicilian laborer and his wife noticed tears flowing down the face of their terra cotta plaque of the Blessed Mother.

IN 1853, after a thorough examination, the Sicilian hierarchy formally recognized the "Weeping Madonna" as a miraculous phenomenon. They declared that they had "unanimously concluded that the reality of the weeping cannot be held in doubt."

Because of the great crowds which came to venerate the plaque, a large edifice is needed.

BOOK SHELF For Younger Readers

St. Margaret Teresa, Nazareth College
PIILGRIMAGE TO THE SHROUD, by RAF Captain Cheshire. McGraw-Hill '56. 74 pp. \$2.50.
SONG OF THE DOVE, Catherine Labouré and the Miraculous Medal, by Mary Fidelity Todd. Kenedy '57. 137 pp. \$2.95.
THE MAN WHO WAS CHOSEN: Story of Pius XII, by Elsie Lavelle. Wittlesey House '56. 157 pp. \$2.75.
SUN SLOWER, SUN FASTER, by Meriol Trevor. Sheed '57. 200 pp. \$3.25.

A richer Lent, a deeper Faith awaits any youngster who reads or has read to him one of those fine stories, true stories in the right sense of the word.

Here are the facts of the journey for Jose, an English ten year-old with a great love of Our Lord, to see and be blessed by the Holy Shroud, which kings and cardinals must live and die without seeing.

How she commandeers bomber-plot Cheshire to take her, endures the hardships of travel in her crippled condition, wins royal and hierarchical permissions, and keeps faith with the crucified Christ, will not easily be forgotten.

Jose grows up in Christ in one long moment. She will be a great advocate of the sick when she reaches heaven.

BRAVERY OF a different kind marks the life of Zoe Labouré both in her childhood on the farm and in her later life as Sister Catherine of the white-winged Sisters of Charity so familiar to us in our hospitals.

It was to Sister Catherine that Our Lady came with her magnificent gift of the Miraculous Medal. Sister Catherine is unique among women as the saint who didn't tell! Imagine keeping a whole community guessing for fifty years!

No adult life of Pius XII has surpassed this MAN WHO WAS CHOSEN in the perspective it offers on Eugenio Pacelli's school days, his life in Germany and his visit to the United States; he is revealed as a born prince of the Church.

ELSIE LAVELLE, religious writer for the New York Times, has long been a friend of the Pope and has often prepared his Christmas messages for the press. She writes from a special vantage-point, and she writes to acquaint all American children, not Catholic alone, with the nobility and heroism of the Pope.

Her accounts of the American reporters' delight in him and the German people's love of him are especially good.

Smut Charges Filed Against Publishers

Concord, N. H. — (NC) — A New York publisher and two of his assistants on a magazine which was removed from New Hampshire newsstands some time ago because of an alleged obscene drawing, have been arraigned in Federal Court here and released on \$1,000 bail each. No date was set for their trial.

General Gruenther's Mother Buried, Cardinal At Rites

Omaha, Neb. — (NC) — Solemn Requiem Mass for Mrs. Christian M. Gruenther, 85, mother of Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther, president of the American Red Cross, was offered in St. Cecilia's Cathedral here.

His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, and Archbishop Gerald T. Bergan of Omaha who were in the sanctuary, heard Msgr. E. G. Graham, her pastor, relate:

"MRS. MAMIE Gruenther has attended Mass and received Holy Communion daily before this very altar for over 35 years."

Her husband, who died in 1923, was publisher and editor of the Platte Center (Neb.) Signal. In 1919, he was named secretary of the Federal Farm Loan Bank and the family moved from Platte Center to Omaha. Soon afterwards, he was named director of the Metropolitan Utilities District.

Besides General Gruenther, who formerly was supreme commander of NATO and a brilliant World War II tactician, Mrs. Gruenther is survived by four other children.

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