

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 1957

**CPA President**

**Monsignor Randall  
Cites Growth Of  
Catholic Press**

New York — (NC) — As a new high of 23,368,348 in circulation for the Catholic press in the U. S. was announced, the head of the Catholic Press Association cited the need for increased lay and religious leadership to expand the influence of the Catholic press.

Msgr. John S. Randall, CPA president and managing editor of

the Courier Journal, Rochester diocesan newspaper, stressed the point in connection with publication of the 1957 Catholic Press Directory, which gives full statistics on Catholic newspapers and magazines in the United States.

The announcement reported by the directory is a gain of 689,954 over the previous year and a 29 per cent increase over the 16.5 million reported five years ago.

Citing a recent appeal of Pope Plus XII to Catholic colleges and universities in the United States, Msgr. Randall noted that the need for expanding Catholic press influence through increased readership should be accepted as a personal challenge by religious and lay leaders on the parish level, especially those functioning as heads of organizations.

THE CPA president said the "continuous growth of our press shows that Catholics, by and large, do read their own press, for information, instruction and entertainment."

But he noted that the Catholic press is still not reaching a "relatively small but hard core" of potential readers in every parish across the country, who for various reasons do not avail themselves of the "good influence of Catholic reading."

Some ways of meeting this problem, he said, are discussion programs on the purposes of the Catholic press, organization of local Catholic press exhibits, and programs encouraging the giving of gift subscriptions to magazines.

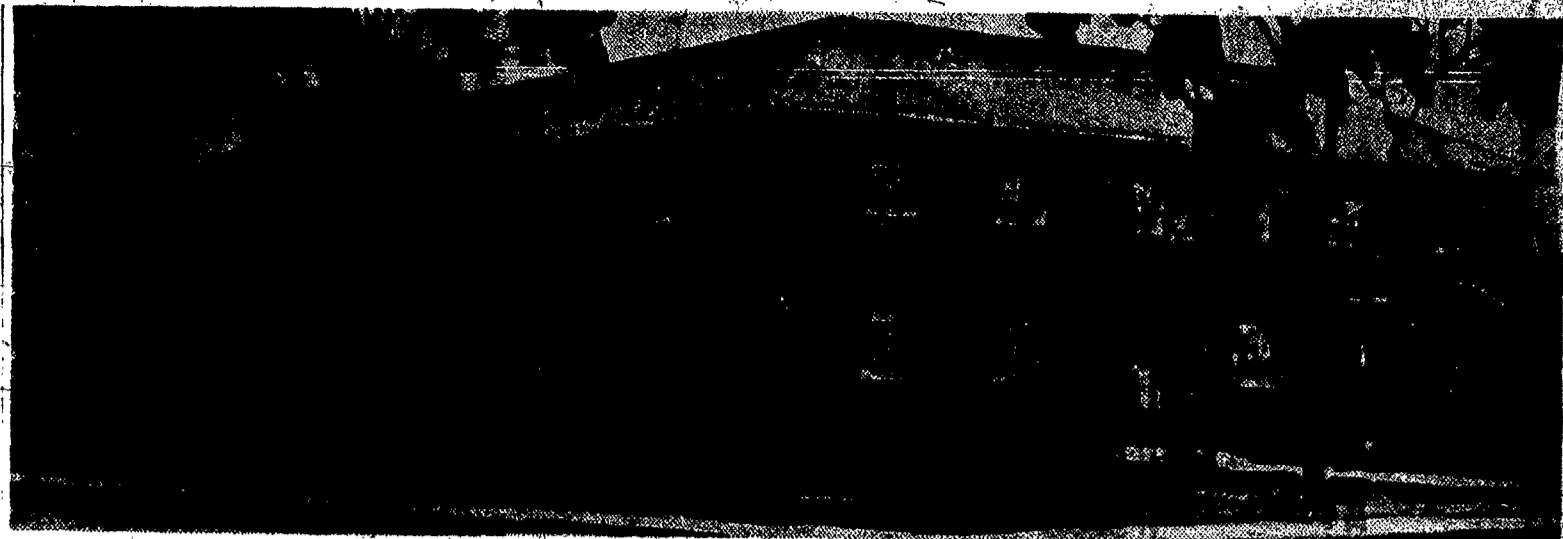
"A possibility frequently overlooked is the parish sales rack," he said. "The church vestibule is in a practical sense a custom-made 'newsstand' for us. We can conceive of no point of distribution better fitted to our publications than these racks."

But he emphasized that leadership and efficient organization are needed to make this means of distribution effective.

IN A LETTER sent to all U. S. bishops, along with a copy of the directory, Msgr. Randall stated that a full-time sales force is necessary "if Catholic publishers are to break down the resistance of organizations which shy away from advertising in religious publications."

He said Catholic buyers must demonstrate by their purchasing habits that they prefer to buy products they see advertised in the Catholic press.

A TOTAL OF 599 U. S. Catholic publications — 130 newspapers and 429 magazines — are listed in the 1957 directory. Also listed are 32 Canadian publications, with a combined circulation of 990,027, bringing the total circulation of 591 Catholic newspapers and magazines in North America to 24,358,375.



ARTIST SKETCH of newly constructed St. James Parish Convent, 123 Whittington Road. Sisters of Mercy who staff the St. James School will hold public inspection of their new home Sunday afternoon.

**Public To View New St. James Convent**

Sisters of Mercy who staff St. James Parochial School will hold public inspection of their new parish convent, 123 Whittington Road Sunday afternoon Aug. 4 from 1 to 4:30 o'clock.

The announcement was made by St. James pastor, Rev. Francis M. Feeney, who told his parishioners: "We feel sure that you will be quite proud of the home you have built for the Sisters."



FATHER FEENEY

Members of the parish pledged \$180,229 to a fund appeal conducted for the convent in March, 1956. Basic cost of the new building, without furnishings, Father Feeney said, will be \$226,000.

Workmen this week were rushing to complete final details of the two-story building erected in an L-shaped area on the parish property along Brett Road and Whittington Road. Main entrance of the new Sisters' home faces on Whittington Road.

Constructed of steel and cinder block with buff brick veneer to match other parish properties, the new convent provides separate bedrooms for 20 Sisters on the second floor.

DURING NEXT Sunday's inspection Father Feeney and the Sisters will take their greatest pride in showing visitors the convent chapel which features a marble altar, stained glass windows, and Italian hand-carved Stations of the Cross.

The marble altar has a background of Verde antique with Cardiff green side wings, a Tennessee pink mensa or table, and Travertine floor. Side walls in the sanctuary are of Botticino marble.

In striking contrast to the dark colors of the altar are the bright gold tones of the brass appointments hand-hammered by artisans in Switzerland. These beautiful altar and sanctuary appointments include the tabernacle, candlesticks, missal stand, and sanctuary lamp.

HAND CARVED statues of the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph will complete the sanctuary appointments.

Figures in the chapel's stained-glass windows are carefully chosen to recall the spiritual history and association of the 7-year-old St. James Parish.

Rear chapel windows depict the Apostle St. James, parish patron, and St. John Fisher, patron of the Rochester Diocese.

Neighboring parishes from which St. James was formed in 1949 are saluted in rear chapel windows dedicated to St. Ambrose and St. John the Evangelist, brother to St. James.

Sanctuary windows symbolizing the mystery of the Holy Trinity are dedicated to another neighboring parish, Holy Trinity in Webster.

In keeping with the wood-carved Stations and the deep oak wainscoting lining the body of the chapel, light oak pews with prayer-book racks will be installed to accommodate 24 Sisters.

FATHER FEENEY has already celebrated Holy Mass in the Sisters' Chapel which together with the convent will be formally blessed in the Fall by Bishop Kearney.

Modern lighting, vinyl tile flooring and gas heating are installed throughout the new building.

Another attractive feature of the Sisters' new home is the porch-patio in the rear of the building. The porch-patio faces on a private owned garden where an outdoor Shrine of Our Lady, the gift of the St. James school children, will be erected.

Reception rooms for visitors, music room, modern kitchen, refectory, community room, and a private suite for a lay woman cook round out the main facilities of the new convent which is conveniently connected to the rear of the school by an inclosed corridor.

THE NEW St. James Convent was designed by Edward M. Lorschler, architect. General contractor was John Luther & Sons with Joseph R. Panello, superintendent. Other contractors included Caslette Electric and A. J. Heinzie, Inc., plumbing and heating. Marble altar in the chapel was installed by Gerstner & Statt.

Since the opening of St. James School in September, 1950, the Mercy Sisters have occupied temporary quarters on the second floor of the school. These quarters are now being transformed to provide four new classrooms for the school's reopening in September.

According to Father Feeney, St. James School will have an

enrollment this September of 730 pupils and a teaching staff of 12 Sisters of Mercy and 3 lay teachers. Last year the pupil enrollment was 680, he said.

The school which started seven years ago with 220 pupils in double grades, this year will have two classrooms for each grade except the seventh and eighth grades.

With his eyes on the future and mindful of the almost 500 pre-school children now living in the parish along with the 100 who will enter the kindergarten this Fall, Father Feeney pointed out that the four new classrooms now being readied will give St. James School a

pupil capacity of 990.

The new convent will complete the major facilities of the infant St. James Parish whose church and school were opened only in 1950. Increased enrollment forced the construction of a four classroom addition in 1953.

This rapid expansion of parish buildings in such a short time means that Father Feeney has been too busy to take a vacation since his appointment to organize the parish in 1949.

As you talk to him you suspect that he is still planning for St. James Parish. "We are going to need a new church," he admits with a feeling stronger than mere wistful thinking.

**Father Fenton  
Receives Army Post**

An alumnus of St. Bernard Seminary, Father (Lt. Col.) Bernard J. Fenton, a priest of the Fall River, Mass. diocese was appointed to a post in the Office of the Chief of Army Chaplains. It was announced Wednesday in Washington.

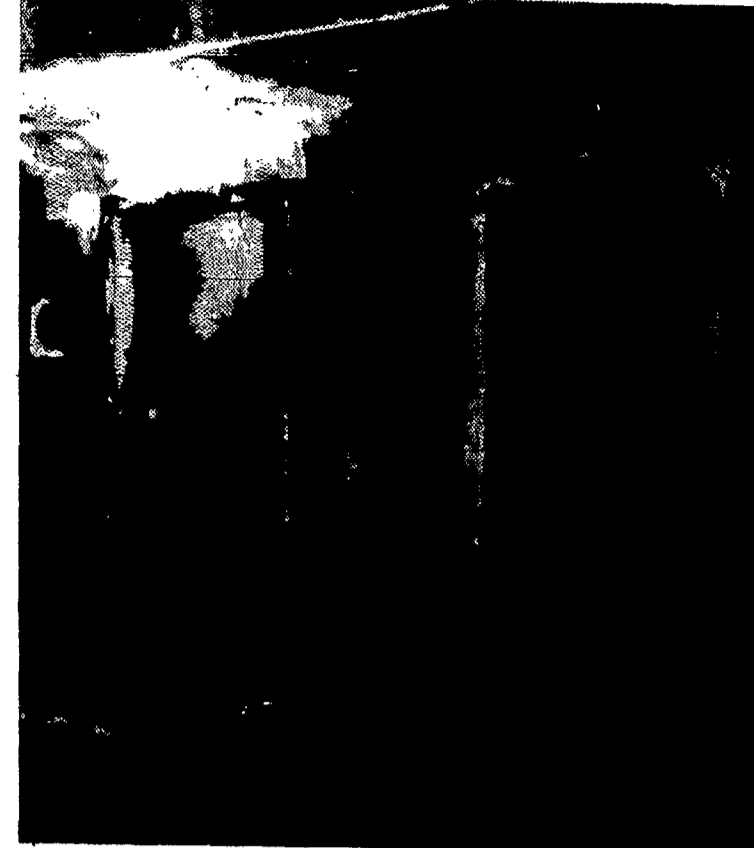
Chaplain Fenton was assigned by Monsignor (Maj. Gen.) Patrick J. Ryan, chief of Army chaplains, as chief of military personnel division which handles recruitment, assignment of chaplains and other personnel matters.

He is a member of the class of 1934 at St. Bernard's.

**Boys Average 50  
At CWV Swim Classes**

Attendance at the learn to swim classes sponsored by Monroe County Chapter, Catholic War Veterans at CYO pool, Columbus Civic Center each Saturday afternoon averages about 50 boys each session.

The boys are picked up each Saturday at their respective parish or school hall by members of the CWV and taken to their swim classes.



SOME OF THE DAMAGE to Church of the Annunciation, Norton St. Rochester resulting from the fire is shown in top photo of charred confessionals. Below, three of parishioners who helped in scraping scorched areas of ceiling are: (from left) Tony Cappadonio, Bill Flynn and Frank DeLuca.

**\$40,000 Church Fire  
Spurs Friends To Aid**

The \$40,000 fire which swept Rochester's Church of the Annunciation, July 25 brought new meaning to the old scriptural passage "see how these Christians love one another," for the pastor.

Father Albert L. Simonetti reports that, although no funds have been officially solicited, nearly \$1,000 has been turned in at the rectory to aid in the restoration of the church.

A SPECIAL collection was held last Sunday in the neighborhood parish of St. Andrew's resulting in a purse of more than \$650 which was presented to Father Simonetti by St. Andrew's pastor, Monsignor George W. Eckl.

Teenagers of the parish will hold a benefit dance next week in a nearby public school auditorium. Children of the parish have gone from door to door asking for donations and have brought sums amounting to more than \$40 to their pastor.

One youngster even offered his "life savings" of \$18 to help in the restoration.

PARISHIONERS and workmen began the clean-up this week of the burned and blistered church where fire the cause of which is still undetermined, completely destroyed the choir loft, organ and stairway.

Intense heat and smoke also seriously damaged the interior of the body of the frame church, scorching walls, ceiling and pews.

While the clean-up continues, the Blessed Sacrament is being reserved in the church basement where Mass is celebrated each morning.

The 34-year old church itself stands bare of any of the ornaments that would identify it as a Catholic Church, except for Father Simonetti's nameplate over a charred confessional.

ANNUNCIATION parish is in the midst of constructing a new church and school at Norton and Goodman Streets. In a \$125,000 drive last September, 300 men of the parish conducted a two-hour parishwide canvass and received pledges totaling \$248,251, nearly twice the minimum goal.

The proposed buildings are being erected on a 2½ acre plot on Norton St. directly opposite the present church and rectory, which is still undetermined, completely destroyed the choir

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mar school age are eligible for enrollment in the school, which it was hoped would be open this September.

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**Stanley Parish  
Slates Picnic**

Stanley — Annual church picnic of St. Theresa Church, Stanley will be held on the church grounds, Sunday, August 4, according to the pastor, Father Francis Harding.

Dinner chairman is Mrs. James Berry, Sr.

Main feature is a chicken dinner served country style according to Stuart Moore, general chairman. Various booths and amusements are in charge of other parishioners. The public is invited.

Serving will begin at 1 p.m. Income from the picnic will be used for property improvements at the Stanley church and at St. Mary's, Rexville.

Monastery in Congo

Achel, Belgium — (NC) — The monks of the Cistercian monastery here are considering the establishment of a second monastery of their order in the Belgian Congo, about 100 miles from a monastery founded there three years ago.

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**What! No Chestnut Tree?**

The poetic "spreading chestnut tree" is gone, but the blacksmith still lives. This "smith" is William Schaefer of the Gas and Electric's General Maintenance Department. He and his fellow smiths at RG&E no longer make horseshoes. Instead, they use special equipment needed to keep your gas and electric service as possible. It's just another of the many interesting jobs to be done by these vital services.