



Bishop James E. Kearney's two decades of spiritual leadership in Rochester See have seen Church change skylines in all areas of his 12-county Diocese.

The Bishop Of Rochester—Silver Jubilarian

Busy Prelate, who gave up teaching career for priesthood, to mark 25 years in episcopacy, served 5 years as Head of Salt Lake See and last 20 as Chief Shepherd of Rochester Diocese

BY MONSIGNOR PATRICK J. FLYNN, Editor of the Catholic Courier-Journal

When you want to find a man to do a job, find the busy man. The busy man always has the time to do an other job and do it well.

THE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER, James E. Kearney, describes his own life as a busy man. He has 60 years of priestly work, 25 years as a bishop and a number of other assignments.

At the age of 60, he is still very busy. He is the new Bishop of Rochester, appointed by Pope Pius XI in 1937. He is the youngest and youngest bishop in the Most Reverend hierarchy.

His busy life has been busy with the affairs of the diocese so that in 1937 he was elected to the 357,296 Catholics of the 12-county area of his diocese.

His outstanding record of achievement will be recalled on Sunday, October 25, when clergy, lay and civic leaders will gather in the Rochester Community War Memorial for a public observance of his Silver Jubilee in the hierarchy. Elevated to the episcopacy on October 28, 1937, by Cardinal Patrick Hayes of New York, Bishop Kearney served for five years as head of the Diocese of Salt Lake before coming to Rochester.

His two decades of devoted service and tireless labor in the Rochester See have seen the Diocese come of age in marking milestones in physical and spiritual advancement for

the diocese. He has seen the growth of the diocese from a small territory to a large and active one. He has seen the construction of many churches and the establishment of numerous parishes.

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his long career. Stricken suddenly he was forced to undergo major surgery followed by a four month period of convalescence.

Through this ordeal, the Bishop, buoyed up by the flood of prayers offered for him by his people, never lost his conviction that God would restore him to health.

The beginning of Lent found the Bishop out of the hospital and taking up his duties with all his characteristic zest and enthusiasm.

The first Sunday following his return to duty was like old times. He addressed the Communion Breakfast of the Nocturnal Adoration Men in the morning and attended several more ceremonies during the day.

When asked that he should not try to do too much too soon, the Bishop replied: "The good Lord didn't make me better to have me sit in a chair." Everybody knew that the Bishop was better.

ALONG WITH his spiritual approach to the affairs of life there is joined in Bishop Kearney another happy gift inherited from his Gaelic ancestors. This is his sparkling sense of Irish humor which helps to relieve moments of tenseness and trial.

This was illustrated following his return to health when he took every opportunity to thank diocesan groups for their many prayers during his illness.

He readily attributed his safe return to the prayers of his people.

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