



This St. Thomas Chapel in St. Joseph's Villa was dedicated by Bishop Kearney as a memorial to his predecessor in the Rochester See, Archbishop Thomas Hickey. Mr. Thomas Hickey, nephew of the late Archbishop, is shown here with Bishop Kearney as they examine the chapel erected in 1949.

'We Have An Altar . . .'

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THE BISHOP HAS welcomed to the Diocese the Dormition Nuns of the Perpetual Rosary who have their Monastery of Mary the Queen of Peace, Mission, Helpers of the Sacred Heart who have our very first immaculate Conception parish in the city and in the Assumption parish in

Empire. Last year the Bishop blessed the new altars of Our Lady and St. Joseph which the Disciples of the Holy Cross built in Protestant suburbs and adjacent to Rochester. In other places which he has dedicated are of particular interest. These are the St. Don Bosco Chapel at the St. Mary's Hospital, the St. Mary's Hospital Chapel in Rochester and the St. Thomas the Apostle

Chapel at St. Joseph's Villa also in Rochester. The latter was dedicated as a memorial chapel to the late Archbishop Thomas F. Hickey, one of Bishop Kearney's predecessors in the Rochester See.

Added to all these altars and tabernacles, more familiar to the general public, are the private chapels provided in more than 30 new parish convents established or constructed

for the school Sisters during the last two decades. These convent chapels also reflect the Bishop's concern for any place where an altar is raised and find him offering suggestions for their construction and ready to inspect them and dedicate them.

Construction in recent years of St. John Fisher College and four new diocesan high schools has included, much to the Bishop's delight, provision for chapels and altars. The new high schools are: McQuaid Jesuit High School and St. Agnes High School in Rochester; Mount Carmel High School in Auburn and Notre Dame High School in Elmira. The chapel, the Bishop believes, is the important feature of these schools and the other major educational institutions of the Diocese.

In the Bishop's mind the students of these schools should recognize the importance of having the Mass in their midst and share with St. Paul the proud boast, "we have an altar."

AS BISHOP KEARNEY sees it, all the efforts of a pastor and his people to beautify their church and their altar constitute an act of faith. This he has explained many times at rites blessing churches and altars. "I call the beautification of a church a great act of faith," he has stated, "because to me there is no stronger manifestation of faith in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ on the altar than a parish's concern for the beauty of His house."

On other occasions he has hailed the building of beautiful churches and tabernacles as "an attempt to atone for the mistake of Bethlehem when the Saviour of the world was housed in a stable."

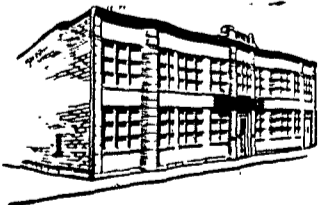
Those who know the Bishop of Rochester feel certain that he will never cease in his endless quest to raise new tabernacles for Christ. For Bishop Kearney, the daily prayer of the Mass is a living reality — "I have loved, O Lord the beauty of Thy house and the place where Thy glory dwelleth."

SHOULD WE THE PEOPLE of a diocese privileged to join with their Bishop in the celebration of a three-fold anniversary. Fifty years a priest, twenty-five years a bishop, twenty years Bishop of Rochester — an one of these events would more than justify a great tribute to the man who has reached such a milestone!

It is indeed fitting, then, that not only the members of his flock, but the entire community, has paused to recognize this almost unparalleled occasion in the life of a truly great man of God.

But perhaps of even greater import is the fundamental reason why, regardless of creed, everyone has found a genuine pleasure in extending his congratulations to Bishop Kearney. And that reason is because he has always been one of them, a great doer of things, a man dedicated not only to the spiritual welfare of his own followers, but also to the temporal welfare, growth and progress of all the people in his diocese. His unflinching efforts in the fields of education, charity, and religion have left their mark on both the community and on himself — a mark which proclaims him a leader among leaders.

It is with pride in his achievements, pride in his humility, and pride in his greatness, that the employees and management of Christopher Press, Inc., join with all men who know and love him in saying "Happy Anniversary."



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