

Religious Orders

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mediate St. Joseph's parish, Rochester, a Eastern Rite parish, and the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Child at St. Francis of Assisi parish, Rochester.

Canonized sisters who originally came to the Rochester Diocese in 1858 to their new convents were the Sisters of St. Joseph, who Bishop Kearney termed "the new sisters" when he presided at their new convent in 1858.

There are twenty religious communities established in the Rochester Diocese, previous to Bishop Kearney's coming in 1937 have continued to increase their numbers and are doing the past twenty

years. Communities include the Sisters of the Redemption, the Sisters of St. Joseph, the Sisters of the Holy Child, the Sisters of the Holy Family, the Sisters of the Holy Spirit, the Sisters of the Holy Trinity, the Sisters of the Holy Eucharist, the Sisters of the Holy Communion, the Sisters of the Holy Sacrifice, the Sisters of the Holy Offering, the Sisters of the Holy Sacrifice, the Sisters of the Holy Offering, the Sisters of the Holy Sacrifice, the Sisters of the Holy Offering.

Other religious orders of women were working in the diocese when Bishop Kearney came in 1937 and the two diocesan committees of the Sisters of St. Joseph, the Sisters of Mercy, as also the Sisters of the Holy Child, the Sisters of the Holy Family, the Sisters of the Holy Spirit, the Sisters of the Holy Trinity, the Sisters of the Holy Eucharist, the Sisters of the Holy Communion, the Sisters of the Holy Sacrifice, the Sisters of the Holy Offering.

There are also Carmelites, Trinitarians, Sisters of the Holy Child, the Sisters of the Holy Family, the Sisters of the Holy Spirit, the Sisters of the Holy Trinity, the Sisters of the Holy Eucharist, the Sisters of the Holy Communion, the Sisters of the Holy Sacrifice, the Sisters of the Holy Offering.



Bishop Kearney blesses first Trappist Abbot for Our Lady of the Genesee Abbey

The first Trappist Abbot for Our Lady of the Genesee Abbey, Rev. Fr. ...

... of the Rochester Diocese has demonstrated his keen desire to develop the spiritual programs of all the religious groups by providing adequate monasteries and convents for them.

He has included a call to virtually every new building program of these

orders whether it be to turn the first shovel full of earth by the cornerstone or bless the completed structure. His crowded schedule records his willingness to preside at the dedication of a million dollar construction program as at St. Agnes High School, Rochester, directed by the Sisters of St. Joseph, or attend the blessing of a garden shrine as at Notre Dame Retreat House conducted by the Holymporist Fathers.

To assure the Sisters of Charity that they could have urgently needed new hospital facilities, Bishop Kearney personally directed their fund drive in 1942 and blessed the completed edifice the following year.

One phase of work of the religious orders especially close to the heart of the Bishop is the education and character training of young Catholics. The story of Catholic education is told in a separate article in this edition but there is a close tie-in between schools and religious orders.

ACTUALLY, it is through their work for souls that every true priest and nun best performs the perfect service of God, according to Bishop Kearney. The chartered and the active communities are thus linked by a common bond, the love of God and His love for immortal souls.

Speaking of religious vocations at this year's profession ceremony for fifteen Sisters of St. Joseph, Bishop Kearney noted that the mistake is sometimes made of stressing the current need for Sisters to staff schools, hospitals and institutions.

"It is God who wants these dedicated lives," he emphasized, "and I think in this age in which we live we should accentuate more the beauty of association with Jesus Christ."

"The supreme significance of a religious vocation," said Bishop Kearney, "is the invitation and the opportunity to carry out more fully the words of our Divine Lord: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart, with thy whole soul and with all thy strength. And thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

St. Ann's Home for the Aged

Renew their pledge of prayers
and devotion to His Excellency
Bishop James E. Kearney
on the occasion of His
Silver Jubilee in the Episcopate