

## The Bishop Of Rochester

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In that far western diocese was the debt liquidation and dedication of the beautiful Cathedral of the Madeleine in the capital city of the Mormon state.

**T**HIS TIRELESS concern for all that concerns the altar and the tabernacle reflects Bishop Kearney's profound devotion to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and his ardent faith in the Real Presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

He has a realistic conviction that the Sacramental Presence of Christ in the tabernacle of the Catholic Church is a blessing to any community. This he has explained many times.

"The very Presence of Christ," he says, "in a Catholic church influences the entire community. Just as the presence of Christ affected everyone with whom he came in contact as he walked the roads of Galilee, so from every tabernacle there goes forth the power of His Person, affecting the individual, the home, the community, the entire country."

As involved as he is in the "brick-and-mortar" progress of the Church—the building of new churches and schools—the Bishop of Rochester is careful not to neglect the care of the poor and unfortunate.

**H**E ONCE STATED publicly that when he first started out his career as a young priest his mother told him, "Be good to the poor." And the record shows that Rosina Kearney's son has remembered her counsel.

He remembers, too, Christ's promise that anyone who gives a cup of water in His name does a service to Christ Himself. This conscious identification of the needy with the Person of Christ makes Bishop Kearney a ready supporter of all appeals advanced in the name of charity.

In dealing with the welfare of the needy, Bishop Kearney leans heavily on his own Diocesan Catholic Charities, an organization continually expanding in personnel and community services.

With its headquarters in Rochester and branch offices in such centers as Auburn and Elmira, the Bishop's Charities embrace a program of services vastly more extensive than merely dispensing relief or material assistance.

With his hearty support and encouragement, the Bishop's Charities provide not only material aid to the needy but also such vital services as guidance for the delinquent or problem youngster, marital counseling, assistance to the aged, arrangements for child adoptions, foster homes and orphan care, settlement house work in congested areas, assistance to refugees and immigrants, and a variety of recreational programs for youth.

To insure the most efficient direction of his welfare programs the Bishop has assigned priests in charge who were first trained specially for work at the Catholic University in Washington.

In the field of medical care, the Bishop takes particular interest and is active in the presence in his Diocese of four Catholic hospitals: St. Joseph's Hospital in Rochester, St. Joseph's Hospital in Elmira, Mercy Hospital in Auburn and St. James Hospital in Hornell.

All of these institutions have expanded or improved their facilities through the aid of Bishop Kearney and with his personal assistance.

THE PRESENT St. Mary's Hospital building, opened in 1942, is an example of Bishop Kearney's ability to get things done even in the face of difficulties. It was his determination to give Rochester's first hospital (founded in 1857) a much needed



LITTLE FRIEND — The Bishop always enjoys the youngsters who come to his home during the annual

New Year's reception for the laity.

plant that moved him to assume personal leadership of a citywide fund drive which raised \$313,150 and made erection of the new building possible.

Dedication of the million dollar wing for St. James Mercy Hospital in Hornell (1951), and the convent for nuns who staff Mercy Hospital in Auburn (1956) found the happy Bishop on hand to preside and speak words of congratulations. Last Fall before his sudden illness, he gave the keynote address at the dinner opening the million dollar fund drive

(successfully reached) for the new six story addition to Elmira's St. Joseph Hospital.

Bishop Kearney has the happy knack of seeing the spiritual significance of every enterprise sponsored by the Church. For him the Catholic hospital role is the role of charity inspired by the Gospels.

So, in his appeals for Catholic hospitals he often likens their role to that of the Good Samaritan in the Gospel parable who went to the aid

of a wayside victim, pouring into his wounds oil and wine. Like the Good Samaritan, the Bishop explains, "the work of the modern hospital, with twenty centuries of technology behind it, is to pour oil and wine into the wounds of the sick."

Christ, he reminds, was always pained at the sight of human suffering and used the Parable of the Good Samaritan to answer the question, "Who is my neighbor?"

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The Sisters of Charity congratulate

Bishop Kearney on the occasion of his

Silver Jubilee of Consecration and wish

him many more years to be added

to his devoted care of his flock.

**St. Mary's Hospital**

Rochester 11, New York