Father McCarthy

Following is the text of the eulogy preached by the Rev. Leo V. Smith at the Funeral of Father Joseph F. McCarthy, Monday, March 24, 1958, at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, Rochester.

It seems fitting that I should begin my sermon today by recalling the words of the holy Apostle St. Paul: "Rejoice with them that rejoice; weep with them that weep".

It was only a few months ago that I had the honor and the joy of preaching on the occasion of the silver jubilee of Father Daniel McCarthy. Truly on that day last June I rejoiced with Father and with his family, as we all gave thanks to God for the blessings that were recalled through the twenty five years of a faithful priesthood.

It was so soon thereafter that the smiles of joy were changed to tears of sorrow. We had the painful duty of bringing the word to his family that Father Daniel McCarthy had suddenly been stricken by a fatal heart failure. Only the wonderful faith of the good mother and her family enabled them to bear the trial with admirable resignation to God's holy will.

Today I cannot but feel that I am speaking as an elder brother of Father Joseph McCarthy, that I speak as from the heart of the family, that my loss is of a kind with their loss.

If we are saddened by the loss of so good a son, so good a brother, we know that his goodness is our great consolation. It is like sweet healing balm poured into our sorrowing hearts that we know, in faith, that this good priest is loved by the Lord Christ with a far greater love than any our hearts could know.

Only our faith can change our sorrow into a holy joy and consolation, our faith which makes us know what things God has prepared for a priest He loved so much, for a priest who loved Him so much.

I say that I feel much like to an elder brother to Father McCarthy.

I administered the last Sacraments to his father, I think in 1925. I watched the family grow up under the faithful care of a courageous mother. I saw Father on his way through grade school had him as an altar boy, was happy to see him enter St. Andrew's Seminary.

Again he came under my care during the years of his course in theology at St. Bernard's Seminary. I can think of no boy or young man I have ever known who followed his chosen course through life with such singleness of purpose, with such steady progress on the way he had chosen to go.

His following of the Lord Christ was like the progress of the sun in the heavens — the dawning light of his vocation from God, the advance in wisdom and age, and grace with God and men, the noonday fullness of his ordination, when the Holy Spirit put the indelible seal on all that had gone before.

BUT GREATLY as we had admired the ways of Father McCarthy as a boy, as a seminarian, and as a young priest, we know now that we could never have had a full appreciation of his worth, his priestly character, if we had not had the privilege of having him live with us as an assistant.

It was only so that we came to know how well Father had fortified himself with knowledge. It was only so that we could come to know and to value his prudent judgment. Everyone in our parish learned to revere Father McCarthy as a most sincere, kind and considerate priestly gentleman. God's graces and blessings flow most freely through such a minister. At the altar of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, in the confessional, in the sick room, God's merciful graces were abundantly poured out through his anointed hands.

We are certain that what was true here was true wherever Father carried out the work of his priesthood. Born and bred in gentle surroundings, the Lord made use of his amiable character to fruitful ends.

It was not until a few months ago that we were made aware of the Christlike fortitude with which Father McCarthy was silently bearing with pain and distress. There were nights of which he did not tell us then when he had to leave his bed and spend many hours sitting up because he could not breathe freely lying down. But each morning and each day found him ready for Holy Mass, ready to go about his work of catechizing in school, or calling on the sick.

For a longer time than we know he was bearing about in his body the mortification of Jesus, that the life of Jesus might come to be made manifest in him.

We are all glad that in this New Dispensation of God's mercy the priesthood is not assigned to a particular tribe, a particular family. Now the Lord brings the call to priesthood into homes of His choice, homes where He finds strong faith and generous love.

This change came about in this manner: "Jesus walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea (for they were fishers). And he said to them: Come ye after me, and I will make you to be fishers of men. And they immediately leaving their nets, followed him. And going on from thence, he saw two other brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father mending their nets: and he called them. And they forthwith left their nets and father, and followed him."

"Fishers of men" — what a world of meaning Christ put into those words. Christ's first Apostles, fishers of men. These fishermen had experienced all the dangers, hardships, and uncertainties of fishing the treacherous waters of the Sea of Galilee.

When the Holy Ghost had come upon them and they set out on their apostolic mission, they had only that one God-given ambition, to be fishers of men. They made use of all the courage they had learned in battling against the winds and the waves. They gave to the cause of Christ's kingdom all the patience and perseverance that belong to fishermen.

Their successes they offered to the Lord joyfully, and their failures they accepted humbly. Because they worked with Christ, as other Christs, they had power to change the face of the earth, to dispel darkness, to spread the wonderful light of divine faith, and hope, and charity.

IT IS AN inspiring thing to observe the ways of a humble priest working under Christ as a fisher of men. It is good to see with what care and skill he will use every artful wile of the true fisherman to win the souls of men. You see him imploring grace from the Lord in his daily Sacrifice at the altar. You see him begging the Holy Mother of Jesus for Her powerful aid, as bead by bead, he moves his Rosary through his fingers, Ave by Ave drawing grace and help from the Immaculate Heart of the Mother of God.

He will exercise unfailing charity, infinite patience, and an abiding confidence in the promises of Christ. Of these graces and virtues he weaves the net of the fisher of souls. At the word of the Lord he lets down his net for a draught and captures the souls God has ordained for salvation by his hands.

WE KNOW that it was in this manner that Father Joseph McCarthy always labored as a priest of God. We know that his labors had the blessing of the Lord, because he had no other will, no other desire but to fulfill the mission he received in his ordination, to offer sacrifice, to bless, to govern, to preach and to baptize.

The singleness of purpose which had marked his way as a young boy as a seminarian, marked his way all through the years of his priesthood. In him was the same mind which was in Christ Jesus, to give honor to the Father in Heaven, to extend His holy kingdom on earth.

The Almighty God could give us no greater blessing than His holy priesthood.

In priesthood Christ perpetuates all His love and mercy. He would have the infinite love of Calvary's sacrifice to be renewed each day, from the rising of the sun to its going down. He would have His own mercy in the hands of men, who can say to the sorrowing sinner, "Go in peace, thy sins are forgiven thee."

We thank the Lord Christ today for having placed among us a priest who knew so well Christ's own ways of mercy and compassion. We earnestly pray the Lord that speedily He may bring this beloved priest into the glorious light of His everlasting reward.

We have no least doubt that a good part of God's mercy to Father McCarthy will be to give kind comfort and consolation to his loving mother and to his most devoted sisters and brothers. God will not be outdone in generosity.

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Marquette League Director Named

Rev. Lawrence J. Cahill, former assistant director of the New York archdiocesan office of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, has been appointed Director of the Marquette League for Catholic Indian Missions in New York City. He succeeds Monsignor Bernard A. Cullen who has been appointed pastor of Most Precious Blood Church in Walden, N.Y.

How Could He Refuse?

At the request of a little girl who met him at the airport, Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, National Director, Society for the Propagation of the Faith, stops to bless youngsters of Blessed Sacrament School, South Fort Mitchell, Ky. When the youngster told him that she had come to the airport just to ask him that, the noted prelate smiled, "How can I refuse?" (NC Photos).

American Confirms Lazarus Tomb Site

Jerusalem, Jordan — (NC) — An American Franciscan priest who is an internationally known archeologist has confirmed the traditional site of the tomb on Mount Olivet where Christ raised Lazarus from the dead.

Father Sylvester Saller, O.F.M., has published the findings of his seven years of study and excavations in a 389-page volume. The book on the diggings at Bethany, about a mile from Jerusalem, is one of a series of scientific publications promoted by the Franciscan Fathers at the Convent of the Flagellation here.

FATHER SALLER'S new work is divided into two part—the first a study of the several churches erected at Bethany over the tomb of Lazarus or nearby, and the second a description of the archeological findings on the site.

The priest discovered that the earliest church commemorating St. Lazarus was built alongside the tomb because of the hilly ground. This fourth century structure was apparently destroyed by an earthquake, according to the Wisconsin Franciscan, and was rebuilt in the fifth century.

In all, Father Saller notes seven levels of occupation over the centuries. He holds that the modern church completed under the Italian architect Barluzzi two years ago is fully warranted by the previous buildings on the site.

The Bethany area has not only been long inhabited at the time of Christ, according to Father Saller, but the locale goes back to Persian times of the sixth century B.C.

THE PRIEST shows that the tomb of Lazarus, which was mentioned by Origen as early as the third century, is surrounded by a cemetery confirming the Gospel account that Bethany had its own burial place.

The tombs have the funerary arrangements peculiar to the era of Our Lord, and their distance in the light of Jewish purification and hygienic laws enables an approximation of the surface area of the village of Bethany.

But Father Saller says that neither the house of Martha, Mary and Lazarus, nor that of Simon, where Mary washed the feet of Christ, is discernible in the ruins.

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Indian School

Bombay, India — (NC) — Cardinal Gracias, Archbishop of Bombay, laid the cornerstone of a technical school being built here beside the 100-year-old Church of St. Ann.

Funeral Rites Held For Father McCarthy

(Continued from Page 1)

During his three years in Waverly he aided the pastor there, Rev. G. Stuart Hogan, in supervising the construction of a new parochial school for that parish.

In 1954 he was appointed to Our Lady of Good Counsel Church but during the past three years suffered from the cancer which finally claimed his life this past Friday.

HE IS SURVIVED by his mother, two brothers, Jerry and Jack McCarthy; two sisters, Mary and Margaret McCarthy; an aunt and several nieces and nephews.

Priests of the Diocese chanted Office of the Dead Sunday evening in Our Lady of Good Counsel Church where Father McCarthy's body lay in state.

ASSISTING Bishop Kearney who celebrated Father McCarthy's funeral Mass were Rt. Rev. Msgr. James C. McAniff, assistant priest; Rev. Leo J. Crowley, a cousin of Father McCarthy, deacon; Rev. Leo J. Mateszewski, subdeacon; Rt. Rev. Msgr. John E. Maney and Rt. Rev. Msgr. Charles V. Boyle, deacons of honor.

Rev. Edward McAniff and Rev. John A. Morgan were masters of ceremonies.

Acolytes were Rev. George Wood and Rev. John S. Hayes.

Rev. Richard M. Quinn was miter bearer; Rev. William Nolan, candle bearer; Rev. Edward J. Tolster, gremiale bearer, and Rev. Conrad Sundholm, thurifer.

Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence B. Casey assisted at the Mass in the sanctuary and gave the final absolution at the grave in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Bearers were the Rev. Fathers John Murphy, Joseph Donovan, Vincent Collins, Albert Shamon, Joseph Hogan and Bernard Kuchman.

Funeral arrangements were made by D. Bernard O'Brien.

ATTENDING Father McCarthy's Funeral Mass were the Rt. Rev. Monsignors William J. Naughton, Maynard A. Connell, Charles Shay, Wilfred T. Craugh, George V. Predmore, John M. Duffy, Charles J. Mahoney, Arthur F. Florack, Richard K. Burns, John S. Randall, Charles Boyle, John Maney, Gerald C. Lambert.

Also the Very Rev. Monsignors John E. McCafferty, and Dennis W. Hickey.

Priests attending included the Rev. Fathers Charles McCarthy, Paul Cleeman, Elmer J. Schmitt, Richard E. Murphy, Michael Daley, John J. Hempel, Walter F. Cushing, Edwin B. Metzger, John J. Phillipps, William J. Stallesy, Daniel R. Brent.

Fathers George J. Weinman, Paul J. Cuddy, Thomas J. Kuchman, E. Charles Bauer, John L. Coonan, John A. Murphy, Bernard Kuchman, Joseph D. Donovan, Robert A. Kelcher, Joseph P. Haffey, Alphonsus R. Crimmers, John J. Leary, Matthew A. Sadara, Elmer A. McNamara, G. Stuart Hogan.

Also Fathers Francis D. McCarthy, Syracuse, N.Y., Thomas I. Glyder, Syracuse, N.Y., Stanley Matuszewski, Raymond L. Pierce, Joseph P. Brennan, Gerald [illegible] Kreer, David Finks, Edward J. [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

Also Fathers John J. Murphy, [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Edward E. Steinkirchner, Eugene H. McFarland, Thomas F. Kane, William Trott, Raymond P. Nevar, William H. Hickey, James J. Barnett, S.J., Joseph M. McDonnell, L. John Hedges.

Fathers Leo J. Mans, Raymond Wuest, [illegible] Albert H. Schnacky.

Fathers Charles A. Bennett, W. Davey [illegible] J. Fegan, Louis Hohman.

Fathers Leonard A. Kelly, Charles V. Connell, Francis E. Donoghue, James W. [illegible]

Fathers Leo V. Smith, Albert Geiger, Paul Tuite, Joseph McNamara, William Schifferli and Charles [illegible]

Cardinal Tisserant To Represent Pope

Vatican City — (RNS) — Eugene Cardinal Tisserant, dean of the Sacred College of Cardinals, has been named by Pope Pius XII to represent him at Marian congresses to be held at Lourdes, France, next September.

An International Mariological Congress and an International Marian Congress have been scheduled to take place during the week of Sept. 10-17 in connection with the centennial of the famous French shrine.

The nomination of Cardinal Tisserant as Papal Legate to the congresses was seen here as ending rumors that the Pope himself would go to Lourdes to take part in the year-long celebrations.

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Roast Leg of Easter Spring Lamb with Fresh Mint Sauce
Broiled Half of Spring Chicken ala Amerline
Roast Prime Ribs of Beef, Au Jus, with Yorkshire Pudding (5.50 extra)
Planked Georgian Bay White Fish
Asparagus Tips with Hollandaise Sauce Sliced Buttered Carrots
Tiny Creamed Silver Onions
Candied Sweet Potatoes — Creamy Whipped Potatoes
Georgian Peach and Cottage Cheese Salad
Tossed Spring Salad, Choice of Dressing
Assorted Rolls
Angel Food Cake ala Mode Hot Apple Pie Chocolate Cream Pie
Peach Melba Choc. Sundae Fruited Jello Strawberry Shortcake
Liederkranz, Roquefort of Camembert Cheese
Coffee Sanka Tea Milk
3.75 per person
children under 12 — 2.25
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