



Paratroopers board a C-119 for a training jump over Japan in 1953. What's it like to step out into space a quarter mile above the ground? Father Francis L. Sampson, paratrooper-chaplain, will tell you in his book "Look Out Below" which begins this week in the following article.



FATHER SAMPSON
Paratrooper Padre

LOOK OUT BELOW!

Now, (Lt. Col.) Francis L. Sampson, U.S. Army chaplain serving airborne troops, tells the story of fear and courage which characterize a paratrooper's life. This week's chapter describes his first days in training at Fort Benning, Georgia, in 1942.

CHAPTER ONE

IN 1942 THE CHAPLAIN School was located at Harvard University. Although I was only one year ordained, my Bishop, Most Reverend Gerald T. Bergan of Des Moines, had granted me permission to enter the Army, and I was taking the indoctrination course for chaplains at Harvard.

At this time the Army asked for volunteer chaplains for the paratroopers. Like a zealous young business man starting out in a strange town, I was ready to join anything out of a sheer sense of civic duty.

Frankly I did not know when I signed up for the airborne that chaplains would be expected to jump from an airplane in flight. Had I known this beforehand, and particularly had I known the tortures of mind and body prepared at Fort Benning for those who sought the coveted parachute wings, I am positive that I should have turned a deaf ear to the plea for airborne chaplains.

However, once having signed up, I was too proud to back out. Besides, the airborne are the elite troops of the Army, and I already began to enjoy the prestige and glamour that goes with belonging to such an outfit.

I literally basked in the praise bestowed upon me by the other chaplains, who didn't know that I had signed up without realizing that I would be required to jump. Had they guessed my predicament, the whole school would have had a good laugh at my expense. It has remained, however, my own deep dark secret until now.

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Msgr. Krieg Funeral Held In Brockport

Solemn funeral rites were held for Rt. Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Krieg in the church he built in Brockport, Monday, Feb. 2.

Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence R. Casey offered the Requiem Mass and imparted final absolution.

Monsignor Krieg, 83, died Thursday, Jan. 29, 1959.

He had been pastor of the Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin, Brockport, for 37 years. He was in his 57th year in the priesthood.

The veteran pastor retired from active duty in 1954 and for the past year resided at the St. Pius X home for retired priests in Syracuse.

THE EULOGY at his funeral Mass was given by Rev. Edward J. Lintz, who succeeded him as pastor of the Brockport parish.

"If you seek his monument in Brockport, look about you, and see," Father Lintz said. (Full text, page 6)

Monsignor Krieg, during his pastorate, built the present church and rectory, purchased a residence for the nuns who staff the parish school, reorganized the school and revamped the former church to serve as a parish hall.

He announced to his parishioners in 1950 that the parish was debt free.

Two years later he was elevated to the rank of domestic prelate with the title Right Reverend Monsignor.

The forceful pastor played a prominent role in community life including the annual Community Chest campaign, a fund drive for construction of the Lakeside Memorial hospital and programs for students of the Brockport State Teachers College.

Monsignor Krieg was an honorary life member of the Rochester Council, Knights of Columbus.

He attended St. Michael's and St. Patrick's parochial schools, Rochester-St. Andrew's and St. (Continued on Page 2)



MONSIGNOR KRIEG

Diocesan Donations

Mission Total Up \$60,000

Vatican City — (RNS) — The first two canonizations of Pope John XXIII's pontificate are scheduled to take place in St. Peter's Basilica on Sunday, April 12.

Proclaimed among the canonized saints of the Church will be Blessed Charles of Sezze, an Italian, Franciscan lay brother, and Blessed Joaquina Vedruna de Ma, Spanish-born foundress of the Institute of the Carmelite Sisters of the Poor.



Lent starts Wednesday, February 11th, with the solemn reminder, "Remember, man, that you are dust and to dust you will return." Father Hugh Zrazy at Corpus Christi Church enacts the rite for Joseph O'Grady and Daniel F. Casey. Bishop Kearney has asked that Catholics of the Diocese observe Lent with Eucharistic devotions — daily Mass, Holy Communion and spiritual reading.

Eucharistic Lent

My dear People:

The traditional impressive and significant ritual of Ash Wednesday will open the Lenten period of our Eucharistic Year. The Lenten regulations in the matter of self-denial and penance are available in the Courier-Journal and your own parish notices. These salutary exercises call for an acceptance of the spirit of penance, a willingness to make definite acts of self-denial, apart from the letter of the Church law.

However, Lent in a Eucharistic Year has a character of its own. It is a Lenten Season marked by special devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. Certainly daily Mass and Communion become our first concern; it should be our first resolution. Our Lenten reading should center upon the Blessed Sacrament. There is a veritable wealth of fine literature on the Holy Eucharist and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

As a special Eucharist feature of this Lenten season, I grant permission for an Evening Mass every week-day during the Lenten Season, provided that at each Mass there be a brief reading or instruction related to the Holy Eucharist. (On Friday the Stations of the Cross may take the place of the Eucharistic reading.)

This daily Lenten service will give our Lenten Season of 1959 the unique character of being intimately associated with the Holy Eucharist. What better preparation of the soul for the sacred mysteries which bring Lent to a close!

Finally, may I ask that your Eucharistic Lent be marked by personal visits to Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. There is a deep spiritual refreshment from sitting alone in the presence of your God hidden behind the door of the tabernacle. There He waits with the patient and sympathetic ear of a Father who never tires of listening to the problems of His children.

A Eucharistic Lent should bring to everyone an intimacy with our Sacramental King deeper than any we have known before. It can set the spiritual atmosphere for the rest of the Eucharistic Year.

With my blessing, I remain

Your devoted Shepherd in Christ,

James C. Kearney
Bishop of Rochester

(A general dispensation from fast will be granted on Tuesday, March 17, 1959, and on the day of the legal celebration of Washington's Birthday, Monday, February 23, 1959.)

Catholics of the Rochester Diocese contributed nearly half a million dollars to the missions in 1958, the year's audit of the Propagation of the Faith Society revealed today.

Rev. George S. Wood, Diocesan director of the Society, said the exact total of \$482,925.23 was the highest amount ever contributed from this Diocese.

This total indicates an increase of \$60,000 over last year's \$423,488.

Parochial school children contributed over \$46,000 to swell the overall total to its new record high. Their contributions, Father Wood said, will be used to "adopt" pagan babies in mission lands who were abandoned by parents but rescued by priests and nuns on the frontiers of the faith.

Mass stipends also reached a new high total of over \$56,000. Father Wood said he has aided 250 missionary priests through this stipend fund.

OTHER SOURCES of income for the missions include the annual end-of-October collection in all parish churches which this past year passed the \$100,000 mark by a bare \$15.22. Specially designated gifts to particular mission societies soared to a \$28,311.66 total. Requests from wills came to \$19,332. A Christmas time appeal for aid to lepers totaled \$9,533.58 and purchases of mission articles, medals, statues etc. netted \$1,989.72.

Donations sent directly to the national office of the Propagation of the Faith Society in New York were \$78,441.76.

Appeals made from pulpits of parish churches by 28 mission societies resulted in contributions of \$74,813.25.

"The people of the Rochester Diocese certainly deserve congratulations for their generosity," Father Wood stated.

Lenten Fast, Abstinence Laws

Page 4

'Greater Virtue'

End Executions, Castro Advised

Santiago — (NC) — Archbishop Enrique Perez Serantes of Santiago has appealed to revolutionary leader Fidel Castro to suspend the death penalty in the convictions of "war criminals."

The Archbishop, an outspoken supporter of the new Castro regime, issued a pastoral letter stating that the executions of persons convicted of atrocities are just.

But he said that suspension of capital punishment at this time would be a sign of greater virtue than strict justice.

In the pastoral letter, Archbishop Perez Serantes denounced

the "vile" killing "in cold blood" perpetrated against thousands of young Cubans by henchmen of the Batista regime.

The outside world look little or no interest in the arson, torture and killing under Batista, he said. But he noted that many persons abroad are now holding that the present trials and executions of convicted murderers are un-Christian.

Table Talk

By Trudy McFall

Starting next week, Trudy McFall, widely known for her TV home cooking program on WROC-TV, will write a special article for Courier-Journal readers. Housewives will welcome her practical tips, especially on how to prepare tasty Lenten lunches and dinners. Watch for her column every week in your Courier Journal.



Children To Hear Pope's Message

Pope John XXIII's first message to American school children will be broadcast from Rochester radio station WYAM Ash Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 p.m.

Local NBC stations should be consulted for the time of the broadcast in other areas of the Diocese.

The Pope's message will be read by Archbishop Karl J. Alter of Cincinnati.

Entrance Test For Seminary

St. Andrew's Seminary entrance examinations will be held at the seminary, 1150 Buffalo Rd., and in Auburn, Elmira, Geneva and Howell, according to Rev. Richard Quinn, rector.

Applicants from Rochester and Monroe County are to take the test scheduled at the seminary, Saturday, Feb. 21, at 10 a.m.

Tests in the other four cities will be given at a date to be announced.

Applicants are to bring a testimonial letter from their pastor, Father Quinn said.

Abp. Vagnozzi Heads For U.S.

Manila — (RNS) — Archbishop Egidio Vagnozzi, former Papal Nuncio to the Philippines, was sent off by nine Filipino archbishops on 36 bishops on his departure here to take up the new post of Apostolic Delegate to the United States.

In the Solemn Hours, flowers are more comforting than words. In the beauty of flowers is confirmation of the faith which sustains all who have suffered loss. Blanchard Florist, 58 Lake Avenue, BA 5-9494. — Adv.

Nuns' Infirmary Drive Under Way

Keynote speeches by Bishop Kearney and Auxiliary Bishop Casey, sparked more than 1,000 members of committees for the Sisters of St. Joseph appeal this week to begin solicitation of pledges toward construction of a \$1,500,000 infirmary.

In an address to 100 members of the advanced gifts group at a dinner in Nazareth College cafeteria Jan. 29, Bishop Kearney termed the Sisters "spiritual mothers" and told the men that the prospects upon whom they would call "will take care of their spiritual mothers just as they do their real mothers."

THE BISHOP pointed out that the Sisters of St. Joseph "have enriched the lives of thousands through their dedicated service."

He said that "their need for adequate care and comfort in their old age is obvious, and I welcome this opportunity to recommend their appeal to the generosity of their thousands of friends."

More than 1,000 general committee members heard Auxiliary Bishop Casey at a kickoff rally Wednesday night, Feb. 4, in Nazareth Academy Auditorium. Bishop Casey noted that "the success of this appeal will be measured in the generosity of the average wage earner."

"When the chips are down our people come through," Bishop Casey told the capacity audience.

"This appeal offers the many friends of the Sisters an opportunity to show appreciation for the order's 105-year service in our diocese."

FINAL REPORT meeting for the advanced gifts committee is Feb. 17, and for the general committee Feb. 19.

Depending on the response to the appeal, it is hoped that construction of the proposed three-story infirmary, to be erected adjacent to the Nazareth Motherhouse, 4095 East Ave., Pittsford, will begin in the spring.

Pledges are being sought among relatives, alumnae, parent groups and friends of the Sisters. Also (Continued on Page 2)

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