

How We Get Our Hosts

By ARTHUR FARREN

From the wheat fields of Minnesota to altar rails in the Rochester Diocese... this is the mile-long journey of wheat kernels which provide many of the altar breads received in Holy Communion in this area.

A seemingly simple process—transforming wheat flour into an altar bread; yes, simple enough, when compared to the great Abbey of Transfiguration, by which that same wheat becomes, through the God-given power of the Holy Priesthood, the Body and Blood of the world's Redeemer.

Who produces the little wafer of eternal destiny which we receive in Holy Communion? Well, in the Rochester Diocese, it is done principally by two communities of Sisters—the Sisters of St. Joseph and the Holy Angels Nuns.

IF WE WERE reporting business trends, we would categorize the making of altar breads as one of the more important items of more consumption expected this year over last year's total in the Rochester Diocese alone.

This "trend" reflects many things: the recently relaxed fast before Communion regulations, evening Masses, Bishop Kearney's designation of 1959 as the Eucharistic Year in the Diocese, a growing realization on the part of the faithful as to the need for and value of the Blessed Sacrament.



Cutting the hosts.



Pouring and baking the batter.

High Tribute Paid Chaplain At End Of Long Service

Service as chaplain of Elmira, Reformatory for over 37 years was climaxed last week for Monsignor Francis J. Lane with a testimonial dinner held at the Mark Twain Hotel and attended by over 250, including Bishop Kearney, priests of the Diocese, State, County and City officials and other friends of the noted chaplain.

Bishop Kearney, guest speaker paid fitting tribute to the internationally recognized chaplain—when he cited Father Lane's career as one in "which he was designated to be alone with God."

ONE OF the most significant moments in Father Lane's life was when almost 40 years ago he "met" in the Cathedral and the Rector of the Seminary was asked, "Is he worthy?" This was at his ordination, and the Rector answered, "He is worthy as human knowledge can tell."

The Bishop then said, "Thanks be to God," knowing another man had joined the link of those who serve their fellow men, Bishop Kearney stated:

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The two Sisterhoods produce nearly 8,000,000 altar breads yearly—a figure which, depending on how you look at it, is either "a fabulous number of altar breads" or "a real close to God on the part of many thousands of persons in our Diocese."

There's nothing exclusive about producing such breads—they can be made by parishes themselves, and in fact they are. But it isn't so easy—special equipment and skill are required. Church regulations are also involved. Production of these breads is not specifically assigned— it just happens to be one of the many things the Holy Orders of Sisters in our Diocese do to carry on the work of the Church and at the same time to provide themselves with one means of income.

FATHER WILKINS, chaplain at Woodbourne Correctional Institution called Monsignor Lane "a Chaplain's Chaplain" and added "we are tremendously proud of you and the tremendous amount of good you have done will be known completely only to God."

Father Wilkins presented two citations to Monsignor Lane. One was the St. Dismas Award from the Catholic Chaplains Association and the other from the American Chaplain Association—Three Faiths.

Monsignor Lane expressed his appreciation to all his associates and said "he had been more fortunate than most of my colleagues because I was assigned to a field that was more fertile to carry out the burden of my work." He concluded by saying, "I did the best I could and that's what God wanted."

Mass Honoring St. Anne Set At Coldwater Shrine

Announcement of a Mass for invalids and shut-ins at the Lourdes shrine at Holy Ghost Church, Coldwater Rd. Sunday, July 28 at 7:30 p.m. has been received with considerable enthusiasm according to the Rev. Albert J. Geiger, pastor.

Arrangements are being made for a large crowd with space reserved for the cars of those who are unable to leave their homes.

Visiting priests will hear confessions and distribute Communion in the cars when necessary.

The Mass will be celebrated by Father Geiger and the sermon will be given by Rev. Alphonsus Trabold, O.F.M., son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Trabold of Coldwater Road. The Sisters of Notre Dame will lead the congregation in the recitation of the Rosary and prayers to St. Anne and Our Lady of Lourdes.

A guest organist will play the church organ and lead the congregational singing of the hymns for Benediction which will conclude the services.

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perfection doesn't in any degree lessen the final result—God's Body and Blood—but when you are doing something to produce such an Almighty result, you want to do it right.

Let's momentarily visit the Holy Angels Nuns and their altar-bread room—one of several work rooms in this busy monastery of 13 Sisters.

THEY PRODUCE large hosts for Mass and Benediction (approximately three inches in diameter) and small hosts of an approximate one-inch diameter. They turn out from 12,000 to 18,000 small hosts daily— demands are seasonally greater in Advent and Lent.

The Sisters start with 100-pound bags of "special bleached unenriched bromate" pure wheat flour from a midwest milling company (no chemicals added), which they sift to a smooth consistency in hand or electric mixers. One part pure water is added to three parts flour until the substance is "runable."

The batter then is poured onto an electric "baker" (a sort of waffle iron preheated to 350 degrees) with upper and lower plates of approximately 8x10-inch surface, on which are imbedded Eucharistic symbols. Nearly a minute later a pure-white thin-baked "altar-bread-sheet" is removed and placed in an electric steam-humidifier (a stainless steel cabinet which can hold more than 1,000 sheets). These sheets remain in the humidifier overnight, at 125-150 degree temperature.

It is before and several times after this process that each sheet must be carefully examined for flaws and imperfections. Humidity affects the end-product: it must be flawless, pliable, fresh Summer and winter room-humidity makes a big difference. Goal: nothing but the humanly perfect for that which will become the All-Perfect.

WHEN THE sheets are removed from the humidifier they go next to a cutter—one electric, two hand, with automatic counters. These machines punch out the circular hosts, large and small, 35 to 50 small hosts are obtained from each sheet.

All the hosts-to-be are next placed in sealed airtight cans, and refrigerated to be kept moist until packing. Within 24 hours after baking the cellsophane are put into airtight cellophane



Seton Groups In Action

64th BRANCH will hold a steak roast with members and their friends being entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Anthony P. Termollo, 29 Ridgeland Dr. on Saturday, July 25 at 7:30 p.m.

Bishop To Ordain Benedictine Monk

Bishop James E. Kearney will ordain Father Benedict Tighe of Mount Saviour Monastery, Elmira, to the priesthood on Saturday, July 25.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Tighe of Somerville, Mass., Father Tighe came to the Benedictine community in Elmira in the early summer of 1951. He is the senior of those who have been professed as monks and ordained to the priesthood since the founding of the community in the spring of that year.

He spent his year of novitiate at the Abbey of St. Benedict in the Province of Quebec, Canada. Following his simple profession of temporary vows in 1953, he spent the intervening years at the International Benedictine College of St. Anselm, Rome, where he will return to continue his studies.

THE ORDINATION will take place in the chapel of Our Lady Queen of Peace at Mount Saviour at 10 a.m. The archpriest who will present the candidate for the priesthood will be the prior of the monastery, Very Rev. Damasus Wizen.

Assisting the Bishop at the ordination and Mass will be the Rev. John Hayes, pastor of St. Patrick's Church, Elmira, and the Rev. Edward J. McAniff, secretary to the Bishop, Seminary, Rochester will act as

Bishop To Bless Honeoye Church

Bishop Kearney will offer the dedication Mass, give the sermon and bless the new St. Mary Church in Honeoye this Sunday, July 26 at 4 p.m. according to the Rev. J. Joseph O'Connell, pastor.

The new church built in 1958 to serve the growing population and summer visitors of the Honeoye area is constructed of cedar wood and seats 500.

Sunday Masses are offered at 7:45, 9, 10:15, and 11:30 a.m.

CW To Hear Fr. Shamon

Rev. Albert J. Shamon, of St. Andrew's Seminary, and moderator of the First Saturday Luncheon, will be the speaker for the luncheon on Saturday, Aug. 1, at 12:15 p.m. in the Powers Hotel Ballroom, Father Shamon's talk will be "What The Mass Is."

The luncheon is sponsored by the Monroe County Council of Rochester Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. Mrs. Cyril Barker is president. Guests each month are Rev. E. Leo McManus, moderator of the Rochester Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, and Rev. Joseph Reinhart, moderator of the Monroe County Council.

MRS. LEO MUCKLE will preside as toastmistress assisted by members of Father Shamon's Morning Group, the originator of the First Saturday Luncheon. Reservations should be received by Mrs. James Hilbert, 146 Normandy Ave., not later than Wednesday, July 29.

Keating Urges Soviet Study

Senator Kenneth B. Keating of Rochester told Congress this week he believes all schools should teach Communist doctrines to expose "the Soviet plan for world domination."

His proposal seconded a suggestion made previously by Cardinal Cushing of Boston.

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