Mrs. O'Keefe Requiem Held

Funeral Mass for Mrs. Mary J. O'Keefe, one of the oldest parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church was offered in that church, Monday, September 21.

Mrs. O'Keefe, 73, widow of Rochester Fire Bureau Captain James J. O'Keefe, died at her home, 228 Frost Ave., Thursday, Sept. 17, 1959.

Solemn Requiem Mass was offered by Rev. Harry Maloney, S.S.J., assisted by Rev. Robert Egan, deacon and Rev. George S. Wood, subdeacon.

MRS. O'KEEFE, a native of Ireland had lived in her Frost Ave. home for more than 50 years. She was a member of the Rosary Society of her parish.

Surviving are two sons, James F. and Eugene V. O'Keefe; a sister, Mrs. Catherine Driscoll, all of Rochester; three grandchildren; also a sister, Mrs. Lena Collins, and a brother, Andrew Caverly, in Ireland; also nieces and nephews.

Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery where Father Maloney imparted the blessing. Arrangements by D. Bernard O'Brien Funeral Home.

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Bishop Casey Asks Devotion To Dead

(Following is the text of Bishop Casey's talk at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery annual Graves Blessing rite Sunday, Sept. 20.)

As we grow older, some memories of our youth stand out quite clearly. I recall the Blessing of the Graves in September, 1919, forty years ago today. As a first-year student of St. Andrew's Seminary, I saw Bishop Hickey preside at this ceremony.

There were about 20,000 people present and the street cars which transported them were lined up beyond Riverside Cemetery.

The passing years have seen the number taking part in this beautiful ceremony gradually dwindle. We could mention different reasons for the lack of attendance but it would seem to narrow down to a general forgetfulness of the blessed dead.

Our Catholic people certainly pray for their dead and have Masses said for the repose of their souls—and they do well. But we could wish that they would make this pilgrimage to the city of the dead, such as you have done this afternoon. Certainly, their devotion to their dead would be strengthened as a result.

There is something almost sacred about walking over to the place where our loved ones rest, awaiting the general resurrection on the last day. A duty of respect impels us to kneel near the headstones of those who gave us so much and did so much for us while they lived. Kneeling there, our memories are long and they are intimate, too intimate to speak aloud.

There are natural tears which flow from the heart. We come away with renewed allegiance to the family line of which we are heirs; we come away with the will to pray more often for those who now sleep the sleep of peace.

So, it is good for you to take part in this ancient and impressive ritual, to unite with the bishop as he prays that God may grant eternal rest to all who lie here buried, to listen to the seminarians chant the psalms which form part of the Divine Office for the Dead.

This annual ceremony at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery has a long tradition behind it, over seventy-five years. Here, four generations of Rochester Catholics have gathered annually to pray for their dead.

With such a tradition, we hope this ceremony will continue long into the future.

You have just witnessed the blessing of the bronze plaque which will stand as a memorial to the bishops who lie buried in yonder chapel.

The first two names represent sixty years in the history of the Diocese of Rochester; the great pioneer, Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid, who built this cemetery chapel with its majestic tower and erected St. Bernard's Seminary; who, with vision and courage laid the foundations of the Church of Rochester—and his friend, coworker, and successor, the saintly Bishop Thomas F. Hickey who ruled benignly over this See for twenty years.

The third name on the plaque recalls a bishop whose friends were legion, the amiable John Francis O'Hern. His reign was brief, from 1929 to 1933, but most fruitful. Into that short space Bishop O'Hern compressed the work of many years.

The fourth coat-of-arms memorializes a man whose body rests at Plymouth, Michigan. As Bishop of Rochester from 1933 to 1937, he caused the erection of the mortuary chapel for the bishops. Cardinal Mooney had a special affection for this spot. On his infrequent visits to the city, he came here to kneel and pray for the souls of his predecessors.

When he built the chapel, he thought that one day he would rest there. God had other plans for him and he is buried far away. Before he died, the Cardinal requested that a plaque be erected here in his memory. His wishes have been carried out with deep affection and gratitude.

The four Bishops of Rochester, devoted shepherds, all, of the flocks God entrusted to their care: May God grant eternal rest to them!

As we prepare to leave this hallowed ground to return to the world of the living, the Church would have us remember her consoling teaching on the Communion of Saints. As Catholics we believe that the Souls in Purgatory can and do help us who form the Church Militant on earth.

As we look around God's Acre, the serried rows of headstones, we are tempted to say: "They are at rest now; they can do nothing to help us."

It is true that these suffering souls cannot help themselves; for them "the night has come in which no man can work." The Church would tell us, however, that they are constantly working on our behalf, pleading to the Throne of God for those they left behind, praying for us as we meet our daily problems. They are not dead memories but living forces in our plan for salvation.

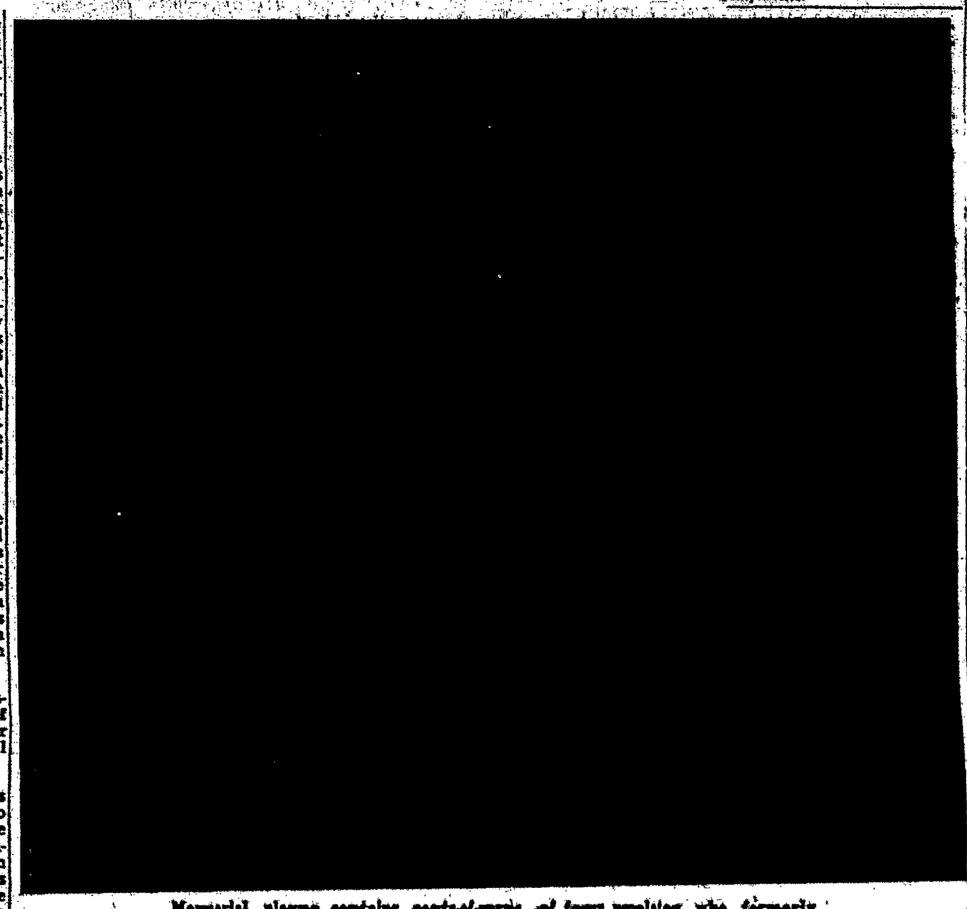
In our turn, we firmly believe that we can help the faithful departed reach heaven by our prayers, our Masses and Holy Communions, our acts of self-denial, our good deeds—offered to God in their behalf.

This ceremony, therefore, is for us no sentimental pilgrimage. Rather it is an occasion for reviving and freshening our devotion to the departed souls who need our help. They count on our constancy and loyalty. May our presence here be a pledge that we shall continue to pray for them until that day when, please God, we will be reunited with them in our everlasting home.

Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence B. Casey sprinkles holy water during Sunday afternoon procession through Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in annual Blessing of Graves rite.

He also blessed a plaque to honor the memory of four deceased bishops of the Diocese and gave the sermon in which he urged Catholics to make their "pilgrimage to this city of the dead" to keep alive a "devotion to the departed souls who need our help."

An estimated 3,000 attended the ceremony in which priests and seminarians chanted psalms and prayers for the dead. (Campbell Studio Photos)



Memorial plaque contains coats-of-arms of four prelates who formerly headed the Rochester See, from left: Bishop McQuaid, Archbishop Hickey, Bishop O'Hern and Cardinal Mooney. XP symbols in lower row are Greek monogram for name of Christ.

KC Clambake, Open House To Mark Columbus Day

All Knights of Columbus and their friends are being invited to the New England Style Pit Clambake at Corbetts Glen on Sunday, Oct. 4, Chairman Raymond Hazen announced today.

The clambake is part of the annual observance of Columbus Day to conclude with an Open House Oct. 18 at the Columbus Civic Center, Grand Knight Vincent L. Hannon said.

THE DINERS at the bake will have hot clam broth and relishes to be followed from the pit by clams, whole lobster, half young chicken, sweet corn and sweet potatoes, chef's salad, dressing and sherbet. Free refreshments from 2 to 3 and from 4 to 5 p.m.

Tickets are $4.75 per person for adults, $2 for children up to 12. Serving will be at 1:30 and 5:30 p.m.

Reservations are urged by Sept. 26. Tickets can be obtained from the K. of C. office, 50 Chestnut St., BAker 5-3043 or from any K. of C. officer.

Staud's Imports Irish Shoes

Years ago, at the turn of the century, when Rochester was one of the leading suppliers of shoes in the nation, The Staud Shoe Corp., manufacturer of shoes, were sending their finished products to such far away places as Texas and California.

Ironically enough, the same Staud Shoe Corp. has for the past several weeks been receiving shipments of men's high grade shoes from Ireland.

THE FIRST shoes to arrive from Ireland were made in County Louth and shoes from other factories in Ireland are expected to arrive within the next few weeks. Children's shoes will also be included in future shipments.

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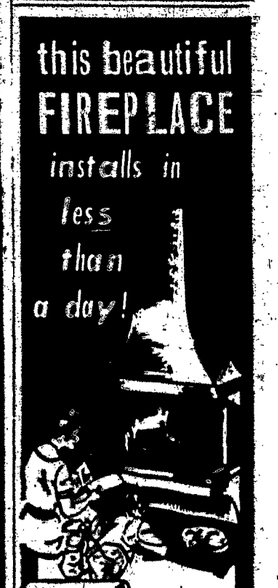
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Squires Slate Installed In Canandaigua Rite

Canandaigua.— New officers of the St. Dominic's Circle of the Columbian Squires were installed Tuesday evening at the meeting of the Canandaigua Council of the Knights of Columbus.

JAMES CAPRON is chief squire; William Ryan, deputy squire; Lowell Dunlap Jr., notary; Richard Pronti, bursar; David Johnson, marshall; William Belz, arm captain; James Bolan, pole captain, and William Morgan, sentry.

Albert W. Ryan of Shortsville, auxiliary chairman of the State Youth Committee, was in charge of the installation ceremony, and was assisted by Ralph Ritz of Manchester, Paul Furdock of Shortsville, Howard Burkhart and Francis McElwee of Canandaigua.

This followed installation of the new K. of C. officers. After the meeting, refreshments were served.

St. Dominic's Circle meets every Tuesday evening, usually at the Shortsville rectory.

Graves Blessing Listed In Webster

The Rev. George M. Kalb, pastor of Holy Trinity Church, Webster, has announced the Blessing of the Graves at Holy Trinity Cemetery, Ridge Rd., Webster on Sunday, Sept. 27 at 3:30 p.m.

An address will be given by the Rev. John T. Walsh, assistant pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Penfield.

The pastor will be assisted by the Rev. William J. Amann.

AUXILIARIES of the K of C

The business meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary Knights of Columbus, Rochester Council 1728 will be held Oct. 1 at 8:15 p.m.

Hostesses will be Mesdames Lawrence Ryan, Leo Rombaut, Thomas O'Connor, Edward Coughlin. Plans for a new fall project will be discussed.

Boniface Men Mark 50 Years

Bishop Kearney will be guest of honor at the 50th Anniversary Banquet of the St. Boniface Men's Club.

The banquet will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 30, at 6:30 p.m. in the school hall. Following the dinner, the club facilities will be available to all who attend.

Rev. Francis Taylor, pastor, is club moderator and honorary chairman.

President William Baker stated that the club intends to honor at this dinner the many men who, through the years, have contributed freely of their time and efforts.

The following committees have been appointed to assist the president and chairman to make the many banquet arrangements:

Decorations Committee: Ben Morlam, chairman; Robert Brownyard, Paul White, Lou Lippa.

Invitations Committee: Frank Schenk, Francis Maloney.

Publicity: William Gaffke, Ed Sloan, Robert Kaseman.

Ticket Committee: Arthur Schulz, chairman; Ralph Boothby, Charles Koster, Leon Newman, William Hall.

Special entertainment will be provided.

Invitation is extended to all men of the parish.

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