

Auburn Pastor's Funeral

(Continued from page 1)

ganization, the Lyceum Players, the Recreational Clubs, the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts became an important part of parish life.

IN THE CIVIC life of Auburn, Doctor Cowen was an active leader. He served on the Board of Directors of the Auburn Community Chest for many years and as president in 1946. He was a member of the Executive Board of the Cayuga Home for Children, the Board of Trustees of Mercy Hospital, the Red Cross, Social Service Agencies and a member of the Executive Board of the Boy Scouts.

Doctor Cowen was chosen a member of the papal household in 1947 by Pope Pius XII and given the rank of Right Reverend Monsignor.

In 1952, the year of his Golden Jubilee of Ordination, Monsignor Cowen purchased the site for a new parochial school and six years later retired from activity due to failing health.

Monsignor Cowen is survived by four nephews and a niece: Edward J. Driscoll, Williamsville; William C. Driscoll, Albany; John and James Cowen and Mrs. Chester Osterman, Auburn.

Burial was in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Auburn. Arrangements by the Nagel Funeral Home.

Orphans To Be Aided

Dusseldorf — (RNS) — A has been initiated by Catholic children's groups in West Germany toward the construction of an orphanage for Catholic children at Cuchi, Angola.

The drive will be conducted under the slogan, "A Brick for Angola Orphans." During 1959 and 1960, similar drives were conducted by German Catholic children — "Rice for India," and "Children help Children in the Congo."

Tributes Honor Father Paul Lynch

Cardinal Spellman made the following statement about the August 24 death of Father Paul J. Lynch, U.S. Army chaplain, in a helicopter crash in Greenland. Bishop Kearney read the Cardinal's statement at Father Lynch's funeral Mass Tuesday morning in St. Mary's Church, Canandaigua.

It grieved me very much to learn of the death of Father Paul J. Lynch, a priest of the Diocese of Rochester, who died in a tragic accident soon after he volunteered for the special assignment with the Army Engineers on the ice cap at Camp Century in Greenland.

I am sure that during his parochial work as an assistant at St. Mary's in Auburn and at St. John the Evangelist in Rochester he gave spiritual counsel to many young men who were entering the military service; no doubt the letters he received from these young men in many countries of the world and also from his brother-priests from his own Diocese who accompanied these military personnel and their families, aroused in him a selfless, spiritual solicitude which prompted him to ask Bishop Kearney for permission to enter the service.

Conscious of the fine priestly qualities of Father Lynch, Bishop Kearney graciously permitted Father Lynch to relinquish his many parochial duties to volunteer — as all priest-chaplains do — for military service. On Holy Saturday, 1954, Bishop Kearney endorsed the application of Father Lynch to the Military Ordinatee. At that time Bishop Kearney said in part:

"Father Lynch has an excellent record of service in this Diocese and hence we have confidence in his ability to do wonderful work. We can not easily spare him; however, I realize that some of our priests who have borne the burden will soon return to the Diocese and that you must have replacements and I am very happy to endorse Father Lynch."

The most recent words of praise for Father Lynch came in March of this year from his military authorities of the 2nd U.S. Army Headquarters, Fort George G. Meade, Maryland. The citation stated in part:

"The Commanding General, 2nd U.S. Army awards the Army Commendation Ribbon to Chaplain Paul J. Lynch. As assistant Catholic Chaplain Hqs. Fort George Meade, Maryland during the period September 1959 to February 1961 Chaplain Lynch distinguished himself by meritorious service. During this period the operation of the office of Post Chaplain was heavily burdened by the critical shortage of Catholic priests. Chaplain Lynch was instrumental in alleviating this unfortunate condition by his exceptional ability and his meticulous attention to detail.

"Especially noteworthy was the outstanding manner in which Chaplain Lynch supervised and co-ordinated youth activities of his denomination. He personally supervised the refurbishing of a building to be used as a Sunday catechism school under the Self-Help-Program and devoted many long hours of his time to ensure the successful accomplishment of this project. Through his capable leadership and superior counseling he inspired personnel with whom he came in contact to such an extent that they became much better soldiers for God and country.

"His exceptional broad knowledge of administrative matters coupled with his competence and resourcefulness enabled him to make many material contributions to the accomplishment of the missions of the office of Post Chaplain. Chaplain Lynch's foresight, keen analytical mind, sound judgment and enthusiastic approach to the numerous and complex problems faced by military personnel in their time of need was outstanding. The outstanding record achieved by Chaplain Lynch reflects great credit upon himself and is in keeping with the highest contributions to the military service."

The above statement summarizes very well the fine priestly qualities of Father Lynch. For the past 22 years my association with the chaplains has been a source of inspiration and gratification. Together with my fellow-Americans I am humbly grate-

ful to Father Lynch and to all those priests of our country who have volunteered to serve with the Armed Forces. Thousands of selfless, zealous priests have accompanied our Armed Forces in war and in peace in almost every country of the world. In World War II 78 priests gave their lives for their country; in Korea 6 priests made this similar complete sacrifice.

Not only during the time of actual combat are the priests in the dangerous areas with their men but wherever the military forces are stationed, no matter how desolate or how remote the site, our priest-chaplains gladly, willingly, accompany their men.

There is no site, no matter how distant or how bleak, in which the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass has not been offered; this is a great tribute to the generous devotion of the priest-chaplains. It was on such an occasion as this that Father Lynch made the supreme sacrifice. A special group of Army Engineers went to Greenland for temporary duty. Father Lynch did not have to go but volunteered to leave his home base in Virginia to go with this group to Greenland so that they might have the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and the Bread of Life during their rigorous and most difficult days in Greenland.

Father Lynch was well aware how much it would mean to these men to have a priest with them and without any thought of himself he gladly joined them.

To his beloved parents, brother and sister, we extend our heartfelt sympathy; they must be consoled by their awareness that Father Lynch was so highly regarded by his ecclesiastical and military superiors. Father Lynch never looked for praise. Schooled as he was in the way of the military, he knew that his efforts were appreciated when he heard the familiar "Well done, padre" coming from his commanding officer. As an outstanding chaplain, he heard this phrase frequently from his superiors.

For such a life well-lived, Almighty God will certainly say "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of the Lord." In the Masses of hundreds of his brother priests and in my own Masses, the Eternal Priest will receive our supplication that Father Lynch will soon receive that divine greeting.

Following is the text of a letter to Bishop Kearney from Chaplain Frank A. Tobey, chief of chaplains, U.S. Army.

Please accept my sincere sympathy in the loss your Church has sustained in the tragic death of Chaplain (Captain) Paul J. Lynch.

Chaplain Lynch was indeed one of our finest chaplains. Prior to departing on his last assignment he was presented the Army Commendation Medal for "Meritorious Service" during his tenure as Assistant Post Chaplain at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland. This recognition was a signal honor and reflected the great confidence of his superiors in his military ministry.

I want to express my sincere appreciation to you for sharing this outstanding priest with us. His loss will not only be felt by the Catholic clergy but also chaplains of other faiths. His forthright personality always reflected confidence and ability which seemed to radiate religious graciousness.

I am confident that his noble life will continue to inspire our chaplains in the work of our Lord.

Following is the text of a letter to Bishop Kearney from Monsignor William J. Moran, deputy chief of chaplains, U.S. Army, and senior Catholic chaplain.

While the Chief of Army Chaplains has, on behalf of the entire United States Army Chaplaincy, conveyed to you and the Diocese of Rochester his condolences on the death of Father Paul Lynch, I wish as Deputy Chief of Chaplains and Senior Catholic Army Chaplain to express not only my own personal sorrow but also that of all our Catholic chaplains.

I have been privileged to know Father Paul Lynch for several years, and I can say that he was truly an exemplary and zealous priest and an outstanding chaplain. He was extremely popular and held in the highest regard by his brother priests in the service, who as fraternal friends numbered in the hundreds.

His cheerfulness and enthusiasm were always present in his work and his devotion to duty was of the highest. This was so true even to the end, for you will be pleased to know, it was in the accomplishment of a military mission, for which he had volunteered, that he made the supreme sacrifice. His loss will be keenly felt by the church, the United States Army, and his brother chaplains.

It was my intention to be present for Father Lynch's funeral as representative of the Chief of Chaplains and particularly in behalf of all Catholic chaplains, and this would have been possible on any day other than next Tuesday. Due to certain military commitments on that particular day, over which I have no control, I regret very much that I shall be unable to attend. However, I have requested Monsignor James B. Murphy (Chaplain-Colonel), President, U.S. Army Chaplain Board, to be the official representative of the Chief of Chaplains and myself, and to express to Your Excellency, the priests of the Diocese of Rochester and to Father Lynch's bereaved family the sentiments which I am feebly trying to convey in this letter.

Please be assured that Father Lynch has been and always will be remembered in our prayers and Masses.

Father Paul Lynch

Bishop Kearney gave the following eulogy at the funeral Mass for Father Paul Lynch, U.S. Army chaplain. The funeral was held in St. Mary's Church, Canandaigua, Tuesday. Father Lynch was killed in a helicopter crash in Greenland Thursday, August 24, 1961.

I have glorified Thee on earth; I have accomplished the work that Thou has given me to do, John 17:4.

These words are taken from the lips of our divine Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

On the night before His crucifixion, He gathered His apostles for the last time as the end of His life drew near. He lifted His eyes to His eternal Father and said, "I have accomplished the work that Thou hast given me to do."

We are here this morning because that story has been repeated in the life of this young priest whose ambition it was to imitate our divine Lord and Saviour, who was honored with the title "another Christ."

Even in death he is like his divine Master—who after His crucifixion was placed in the arms of His blessed Mother. So today our hearts go out in tenderness to the mother who brings the remains of her son to the altar where as a young boy, Father Paul Lynch prayed that he might someday ascend to it as a priest of God. Here are the confessionals which as he passed he hoped someday he too would have the privilege of helping the souls of men. As he looked at this pulpit, he looked forward to a day when in a similar pulpit he would have the privilege of shaping the lives of men and women.

On his ordination day, I asked the representative of those who trained him in the seminary, "Is he worthy?"

The rector of St. Bernard's Seminary, the school which has given so many fine chaplains to the armed services, said, "Insofar as human judgment can be relied upon, I feel assured that this man is worthy of the honor of the priesthood." And I closed the interrogation with these words, "Thanks be to God."

On that day we looked forward with confidence but into an uncertain future. In these chaotic times, no priest ventures into the priesthood without some concern as to what might happen to his ideals and ambitions as he is faced with the countless trials, temptations and dangers which confront every man.

But today it is my privilege again to say, "Thanks be to God." Now we do not look forward in anticipation nor with

uncertainty but upon the priestly life of Father Paul Lynch as an accomplished fact and it elicits our firm, "Thanks be to God."

The story of his consecrated service to God in Auburn and in Rochester and finally his outstanding accomplishments in the past few years is an open book for all to read with admiration. He carried the hopes of his ordination day into his parish work and then into the great missionary field to help the men and women in the service of our great country and he consecrated himself totally and wholeheartedly to this mission he loved so much.

That sense of consecration has enriched the lives of countless young men and women far from their homes but with their Saviour always near them through the priestly work of Father Lynch.

That is why we can repeat the phrase of the ordination ritual—"Thanks be to God" that He gave to our Diocese and to the service of our country a priest who so carefully imitated the great High Priest Jesus Christ.

Father Lynch has been given many compliments and those who knew him well frequently remarked, "He was a great man." That is true, and it is true because he was God's man.

Thirty New Parishes

Bologna — (RNS) — Giacomo Cardinal Lercaro, Archbishop of Bologna, has ordered the building of 30 parish churches here as the first step in a program to combat a drift from religion disclosed by a two-year study.

Results of the survey — ordered in 1959 by the cardinal — showed that only 102,647, or 21.2 per cent, of the city's 415,424 inhabitants could be considered practicing Catholics.

Survey teams reported that while educated people are returning to the observance of Catholic religious faith, the presence of strong Marxist parties is widening the distance between the faith and too many of the masses.

Two Win Racial Awards

New York — (NC) — An insurance firm official and a woman social worker have been chosen to receive the 1961 James J. Hoey Awards for Interracial Justice.

Ralph Fenton, official of a fire insurance firm in Norwood, Mass., was selected as the white recipient and Mrs. Osma Spurlock, Indianapolis, Ind., social worker, was chosen as the Negro recipient of the annual honor.

The awards are named for the late James J. Hoey, a pioneer in race relations work in New York. He helped to found the Catholic Interracial Council of New York and served as its first president.

Fenton is active in work of the Boston Catholic Interracial Council and in the Third Order of St. Francis at St. Anthony's Shrine in Boston. He directs a program known as Action for Interracial Understanding for the Third Order. He is a member of St. Catherine of Siena parish in Norwood, a Boston suburb, and the father of two daughters. An alumnus of Northwestern University, he served in the Army during World War II and also served in the Massachusetts States Guard.

Mrs. Spurlock is vice president of the Indianapolis Catholic Interracial Council. She is an alumna of Hunter College, New York, and Atlanta (Ga.) University. She is the director of social services at Flanner House, a social work organization. Mrs. Spurlock is the first Negro and first woman to serve on the Board of Health and Hospital Corporation of Marion County, Ind.

Mrs. Spurlock is vice chairman of the Mayor's Human Rights Commission, of the advisory committee of the Downtown Center for Senior Citizens and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. She is the wife of Albert C. Spurlock, an Indianapolis high school teacher. They have two children, a son and a daughter.

Information Center
Frankfurt — (NC) — The Catholic information center returned here last fall has mailed over 48,000 pieces of literature concerning the Faith to more than 5,000 persons at home and abroad.



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