

Historic Rite At Cathedral

With the "richness of our liturgy, the depths of our prayers and the significance of our songs," Sacred Heart Cathedral was consecrated in age-old rites Wednesday morning.

The unusual rite (only twice performed before in the Rochester Diocese) marked the high point of the golden jubilee of the Cathedral parish.

The consecration rite dedicates an edifice "to the vocation of being a home for our Lord Jesus Christ," Bishop Kearney said at the anniversary Mass Wednesday evening.

The Bishop described the "homes our Lord has had, and not too many of them were as beautiful as this one, our Cathedral."

He cited the cave of Bethlehem and the humble cottage of Nazareth and the plight of the Saviour during His public life that He had "not whereon to lay His head."

When God, omnipotent and all-wise from all eternity, in the fullness of time sought a home among men because "of His love for men," the Bishop said, the first home on earth for this mighty God was the virginal womb of a young maiden, the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The tender love of Mary and Joseph for the young Christ more than compensated for the simplicity of Bethlehem and Nazareth but the love of the Saviour for all men prompted Him on the night before He died "to fashion for Himself His final home among men—a type of home which brings us here tonight."

The sacrament of the Holy Eucharist by which Jesus Christ fulfills His "delight to be with the sons of men" has challenged Christians through all the centuries to love and devotion.

The Bishop said mankind since that evening has met that challenge. The finest works of architecture in Christendom have been the great cathedrals built by the love of men's hearts trying to make up for the poverty of Bethlehem in the beauty we now give Him.

"That brings us now to another story—the love and devotion to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament which filled the heart of your pastor, Bishop Casey, to give him the courage to beautify this church and make it a cathedral of which we can all be proud," Bishop Kearney said.

He praised the "unceasing efforts" of Bishop Casey, Cathedral rector since 1952, and the Cathedral parishioners to make the majestic edifice worthy of the consecration rite. He also paid tribute to the founder and first pastor of Sacred Heart parish, Monsignor George Burns, who established it in 1911 and served until failing health forced his retirement in 1952, two years before his death.

Bishop Kearney explained why the Cathedral is the "Mother Church" of a Diocese filled the Cathedral for the anniversary Mass.



Bishop Casey traces Greek and Latin alphabets in ashes on Cathedral floor.

Microfilm Books In Hebrew

Waltham, Mass. — (RNS) — Microfilms of priceless Hebrew manuscripts housed in the Vatican Library will be made available here through a gift to Brandeis University by Cardinal Cushing of Boston from funds collected by a group of Catholic donors.

More than 800 volumes of manuscripts, considered in academic circles to be a treasure chest of medieval and post-medieval writings, will be placed on microfilm at both the Brandeis University library here and the Pope Pius XII Library at St. Louis (Mo.) University.

The writings will be the largest single microfilm collection at the Brandeis library, and it is estimated that the total microfilm footage, when completed, will represent the equivalent of the contents of 300 months of a metropolitan daily newspaper's lineage.

Their availability will be the result of a joint project of the Jesuit-run St. Louis University, which has established the Vatican Library's American counterpart in the Pope Pius XII Library, and the Jewish-sponsored, non-sectarian university here.

The Pope Pius XII Library already contains microfilms of the most important Greek, Latin and Western European language manuscripts from the Vatican Library as a result of a project sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Catholic laymen's organization.

every parish school, manastery, institution in the twelve-county area.

In the Cathedral sanctuary, he said, "the religious life of all our people receives its constant strengthening." The holy words in baptism, confirmation and extreme unction are blessed at the Cathedral each Holy Thursday; priests are ordained to say Mass, receive the Eucharist, and perform the sacraments on the altar.

The Bishop pointed to the majestic bronze figure of the Saviour above the Cathedral's main altar as a dramatic symbol that the Sacred Heart of Jesus blesses "not only the members of this parish but every parish and every person of our Diocese."

Pope John XXIII telegraphed his congratulations and blessing to the Cathedral clergy and laity and Archbishop Egidio Vagnozzi, apostolic delegate to the United States, also wrote his "prayerful good wishes."

Participating in both the morning and evening ceremonies were students of St. Bernard's Seminary and the seminary choir directed by Rev. Robert Smith. In the morning, hundreds of nuns attended the three hour consecration ceremony, and in the evening, scores of the Diocese and hundreds of Cathedral parishioners.

The rite of consecration included sprinkling the outside and inside walls of the Cathedral with a specially blessed oil. The Greek and Latin alphabets in ashes spread in fashion on the floor to symbolize taking possession of the edifice for God, announcing the walls with holy oil (where candles will burn each year on the anniversary of the rite) and sealing the walls of martyrs in the main altar.

The relics were those of St. Lawrence, martyred in the year 258 A.D., and the seventeenth century Jesuit martyrs of North America John Brebeuf, Charles Garnier and Gabriel Lalemant.

The ceremony was recorded and will be broadcast next Sunday, November 5, by radio station WHAM at 11 a.m. and high school students will be released by St. Bernard's Seminary.

The only two churches of the Diocese previously consecrated were old St. Patrick's Cathedral which received the blessing in 1898 and St. Mary's Church on South St. Rochester, 1858. All other churches have received the simpler form of "dedication."

Stay Healthy Don't Eat

Miami Beach—(NC)— Heart specialists meeting here indicated that Trappist monks may be less prone to heart disease because they eat no meat, fish, or fowl.

They have only one-fifth as much heart disease as Benedictine monks, who eat an average American diet, said Dr. J. Condon Barrow and his colleagues of the Georgia Department of Public Health in Atlanta.

Members of the group have been studying about 2,000 monks in 25 monasteries in the U.S. and Canada since 1957.

They said Trappists get less fat in their food, have had fewer heart attacks and in general had lower cholesterol in their blood. Cholesterol, a fatty material, is believed to be a major factor for clogging the heart and arteries.

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