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Bishop Launches Drive For Retreat Center

Bishop James E. Kearney last week predicted success for the campaign for a new diocesan retreat center "because it is the work of God and because it is under the special guidance of Our Lady, to whom the Notre Dame Retreat House is dedicated."

His Excellency was principal speaker at the special gifts committees kickoff meeting in Blessed Sacrament Hall to inaugurate the $500,000 drive for construction of a permanent laymen's retreat house overlooking Canandaigua Lake.

Referring to "the first retreat of the followers of Christ" after the Crucifixion, the Bishop recalled that "the Immaculate Mother of God assured and inspired them until the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost."

BISHOP KEARNEY stated that the proposed Notre Dame Retreat Center, to be erected next year on a hilltop on West Lake Road, five miles south of Canandaigua, will be more satisfactory than present facilities at 245 Alexander St., Rochester, and should attract a greater number of retreatants.

Frank E. Wolfe, general chairman of the campaign, presided at the meeting, attended by nearly 200 special gifts committeemen from retreat leagues in parishes throughout the 12-county Diocese.

Speakers included the Very Rev. Michael G. Downing, C.SS.R., Retreat House rector; the Rev. William Jamison, C.SS.R., retreat master; Harold J. Coleman, special gifts chairman; Louis A. Langle Jr., head of the general solicitation committee, and Thomas Hughes, president of the diocesan Laymen's Retreat League.

COLEMAN ANNOUNCED that committee reports are scheduled next week as follows:

Region I: Monroe County—Monday, Oct. 12, Notre Dame Retreat House, 8 p.m.; Region II: Cayuga, Wayne and Seneca counties; Tuesday, Oct. 13, K. of C. Hall, Auburn, 7:30 p.m.; Region IV: Chemung, Schuyler, Tompkins and Tioga counties, and the eastern half of Steuben County; Wednesday, Oct. 14, St. Casimir's Church Hall, Elmira, 7:30 p.m.; Region III: Livingston, Ontario and Yates counties, and the western half of Steuben County; Thursday, Oct. 15, St. Mary's School Hall, Dansville, 7:30 p.m.

General solicitation committees, comprising nearly 1000 retreatants, will have their kickoff meetings during the week of Oct. 19, on the same days and in the same cities as listed above.

25 Years Ago

(From files of Catholic Courier, Oct. 12, 1939)

Consecration of a new burial ground and blessing of the graves in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Auburn by Bishop Kearney was followed by an address by the Bishop.

A "Mass in Honor of the Holy Name of Jesus" was dedicated to Bishop Kearney by the composer, Philip G. Kreckel, nationally known Rochester organist and choirmaster, it was announced in "Fischer Edition News."

Newly formed Holy Name Men's Club was organized in St. Stephen's Parish, Geneva to advance the social, spiritual and community activities of that parish.

MONSIGNOR CRAUGH

Alumni To Honor Rector

More than 500 alumni of St. Bernard's Seminary will honor Monsignor Wilfred T. Craugh, rector, at the school's bi-annual reunion Oct. 13 and 14.

Bishop Kearney will offer Mass at the seminary chapel Wednesday, Oct. 14, at 10:30 a.m.

MONSIGNOR CRAUGH, who is marking his fortieth anniversary in the priesthood this year, will leave after the alumni reunion for the Vatican Council in Rome.

He translated the Council's schemata (agenda items) from Latin into English for the American bishops. The translated texts amount to a library of approximately 100 volumes.

His entire priestly career has been identified with the seminary where he has served as faculty member and, for the past 16 years, as rector.

Other reunion events will include a business meeting following the Bishop's Mass, a noon dinner and small group discussions on forthcoming liturgical changes and pastoral administrative methods.

Forty Hours

Devotions of the Forty Hours will be conducted in following churches of the Diocese of Rochester:

Sunday, Oct. 11—Holy Ghost, St. Anthony, St. Augustine, St. Margaret Mary, Rochester; St. Hyacinth, Auburn; St. Ignatius, Hornell; St. Francis Solanus, Interlaken; St. Rose, Lima; St. Mary, Ransville.

MARCELL & CONRAD

New Convent For Nuns At Notre Dame, Elmira

Construction of the new Notre Dame Convent on lower Maple Ave., Elmira, will begin within the next week, it was announced Oct. 1 by Mother Mary Bride, Mother General of the Sisters of Mercy, and Haskell and Connor, architects.

Bids were opened Sept. 30, and were awarded as follows: general: Welliver Construction Company, $324,000; heating and ventilation: American Warming Company, $42,740; plumbing: American Warming Company, $57,688; electrical: Crum Electric Company, $38,967. Total cost is $463,395. The chapel was not included in the bids.

Other bidders included: general: Iverson Construction Company, $427,975; McLane Construction Company, $331,950; Smith, Langhans and McLaughlin Construction Company, $394,492; heating and ventilation: C. R. Evans Corporation, $46,449; Hogg-Nichols Inc., $52,770; Shriner Plumbing and Heating Company, $43,989; plumbing: C. R. Evans, $53,522; Hogg-Nichols, $51,730; Shriner Plumbing and Heating, $53,200; electrical: Bor Electric Company, $41,945; Cady Electric Company, $42,382; G. H. and J. T. Kelly Electric Company, $44,217; Terwilliger Electric Company, $40,870.

THE CONVENT will be built in two phases, the first to be finished by early spring of 1965. This first phase includes the refectory and kitchen wing, with ten sleeping rooms on the second floor; the center section with parlors, infirmary, lobby, retreat priest's rooms on the first floor and fourteen sleeping rooms on the second floor.

Basement of the center section includes laundry, ironing room, boiler room, recreation room, storage room and two walk-in coolers. Als included in the first phase will be a four-car garage for use by convent, school and chaplain.

The second phase of the building is scheduled for completion by late fall, 1965. Previous to this part of the program, the Sisters will move into the completed sections and the present convent will be demolished.

Phase two includes the wing housing the community room, TV room and sewing room, with ten sleeping rooms on the upper floor, basement with locker room and laboratories, trunk-room, all-purpose room and storage room. A screened-in, glassed-in porch is also part of this phase.

Finally the chapel will be built according to specifications dictated by the new Constitution on the Liturgy promulgated by the Second Vatican Council.

Plans for the chapel are as yet incomplete. Bids will be ready by spring, 1965. Sister Mary Lisette and Sister Mary Eric of the Rochester Sisters of Mercy are at present working on designs for the stained-glass windows and furnishings. One feature of the new chapel will be an altar so placed that the priest can face the congregation during the celebration of Mass.

The new Notre Dame Convent will be equipped with facilities for thirty-five Sisters. According to Mother Mary Bride, it will serve as a center for all of the Sisters of Mercy in the Southern Tier area. The Rochester Sisters of Mercy community is defraying four-fifths of the cost of the building; the Elmira parishes are contributing the remainder.

The present convent, a frame structure which was originally built in 1791 and rebuilt in 1906, was renovated and enlarged in 1954 at the time Notre Dame High School was constructed. Nineteen Sisters of the twenty-five who teach at Notre Dame live under cramped conditions; six Sisters commute daily from St. Patrick's Convent.

Consulting engineer for the architects is Edward Fassler of Syracuse.

St. Michael's Mission Hosts Scout Retreat

Twenty parishes of the Rochester Diocese were represented when four hundred Boy Scouts and Leaders registered for the annual Retreat weekend at St. Michael's Mission, Divine Word Seminary at Conesus last weekend.

According to Joseph Cesarone, Retreat chairman, units from Rochester, Hilton, Fairport, Bath, Corning, Dansville and Wayland participated in one of the most successful programs to date. Prior arrangements were made with the rector, Father Chester Nowicki.

THE RETREATANTS entered camp on Friday evening and after final preparations and instructions, began the full day program on Saturday by offering Mass and Communion for the success of the Retreat.

A portable altar, under the protection of the pavilion built by the Mission Brothers, was used to accommodate the large attendance.

Conferences were held throughout the day, followed by confessions. Meditation time included trips through the grottos and visiting the shrines and Stations of the Cross.

A game period during the afternoon allowed the boys to earn "gold-nuggets" for use in an auction that was comprised of many religious articles and Scout souvenirs.

In the evening, a most unusual candle light procession, in the form of a Rosary, was followed by the lighting of hundreds of candles as voices raised in reciting the Rosary prayers.

By special permission, Religious Brothers, and Fraters were allowed to join the Scouts and Leaders in a campfire songfest and "hootenanny" entertainment.

Scouts were awakened Sunday to attend Mass and Communion in Thanksgiving and receive the Papal Blessing.

After breakfast, Fraters and Brothers conducted tours throughout the Mission farms and buildings to show the Retreatants and visitors the self contained units that make up the educational background for young men who enter the Divine Word Seminary in preparation for Mission life.

Of special interest to the boys, was the opportunity to talk to the priests, Fraters and Brothers in an informal atmosphere. Many states and foreign countries are represented by the Religious assigned to the Seminary.

Dennis Andrew Merritt with John O'Brien, past chairman of the Catholic Committee on Scouting, sponsors of the Retreat, were supported by staff members Dennis Merritt Jr., Thomas Meritt, James Langdon and Doug Langdon.

All units attending, slept in tents and prepared meals over regulation fire pits and grills.

St. John of Rochester with St. Andrew's and St. Monica's parishes were cited for their attendance record. Each unit registered more than thirty people.

Recently, Scouters from the Rochester area operated booths at the Mission Festival as an expression of gratitude for the special permission granted to the Leaders to bring boys to the Mission grounds for their Retreat.

Plans are already under way for the promotion of next year's Retreat. Scout Leaders will be encouraged to invite the fathers of Scouts to participate. The theme, "A Day with Dad at the Mission," will be used.

Reidy Heads Festival Workers

Richard Reidy of 340 W. Washington Avenue, Elmira, has been chosen to be Chairman of the Saint Patrick's Fall Festival and Bazaar to be held on Saturday, October 17 and Sunday, October 18.

His Committee consists of the following: Robert Agan, F. X. Brown, Thomas Egan, Leo Krolak, Daniel Laux, John Limoncelli, Terry McManus, Thomas Tierney, and Paul Wills.

A Halloween Parade for the children of the parish will open the Bazaar on Saturday evening, October 17 — the parade will begin at 6:15 p.m. An invitation to the children has been extended. Awards will be given for the best, the funniest, the most original, the most ridiculous Halloween outfit.

Father Coonan Given Chalice

Mt. Morris — The Rev. John L. Coonan, past chaplain of the Mt. Morris Council of the Knights of Columbus, was presented a chalice as a gift from the council at the recent fall meeting.

Father Coonan, is now chaplain of St. James Mercy Hospital in Hornell. Lawrence Valentino, grand knight, made the presentation assisted by district deputy Raymond DiPasquale. The Rev. Dominic Grasso is now council chaplain.

Women List Father Hogan

Rev. Dr. Joseph L. Hogan, Professor of Dogmatic Theology at St. Bernard's Seminary, will be guest speaker at the annual dinner of the Rosary and Sacred Heart Society of St. Casimir's Church, Elmira, on Oct. 11, at 6 p.m. in the school hall.

At 5:30 p.m. members will meet in church for the recitation of the Rosary, Benediction and installation of new officers to be conducted by the Rev. Leonard P. Kulawski.

New slate includes: president, Mrs. Stanley Gush; vice president, Mrs. George Wodnick; secretary, Miss Marlene Semesky; treasurer, Mrs. Charles Gantert; marshal, Mrs. Stanley Augustine.

Unit Schedules Rummage Sale

The Mother Seton committee of the Elmira Ladies of Charity will sponsor a rummage sale on Friday, October 9 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the IOOF Hall, corner Madison and Church Streets.

Proceeds from the sale will be used to provide Christmas gifts for the residents of the County Home at Breesport.

Mrs. Regina Killian, cochairman will be assisted by Mrs. Robert Wall, cochairman.

Bishop Offers Red Mass

BISHOP KEARNEY is shown in front of St. John the Baptist Church, Elmira, where he was celebrant of the annual Red Mass on Tuesday noon. Shown with the Bishop are Chemung County Judge Donald M. Monroe and Supreme Court Judge Joseph P. Molinari. The Red Mass, offered in honor of the Holy Spirit, traditionally opens the fall term of the courts of justice.

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