

Former Star:

One More Film for Br. Humberto

After giving up a successful career as a film star to study for the priesthood, Humberto Almazan has been asked to make one more picture — this time for the glory of God.

The former Mexican film great, now Brother Humberto of the Mission Society of the Holy Apostles, will take the title role in a film about a modern Jesuit martyr, Father Miguel Pro.

"I'm excited about the prospect," he told 300 delegates to the 10th annual Theatre Day sponsored by the Rochester unit, National Catholic Theatre Conference, at Cardinal Mooney high school last Saturday.

"Father Pro's life is a wonderful one for a movie. His life was full of suspense, humor and courage," he enthused.

Brother Humberto should be a natural for the role of Father Pro, who was executed by a firing squad in Mexico City in 1927 for carrying on his priestly work, then forbidden by an anti-clerical government. Like Father Pro, the actor turned seminarian is short, peppy — and very Mexican!

The "life story" of Brother Humberto, now in his last year of study for the priesthood at Catholic University, is a fascinating chronicle in itself.

Baptized a Catholic 41 years ago, he had little formal religious training, and slipped away from the faith when still a boy. From childhood he yearned to be a movie star, but ran into parental opposition.

"My father insisted that I study to be an architect. I told him I would obey him until I was 21 years old. But the day after I turned 21, I enrolled at drama school," he smiled.

It took a while to break into films, but eventually he made the grade in Rome, through the good graces of a Franciscan priest who introduced him to director Roberto Rossellini.

This was the break which got him first, supporting roles, then, star billing in a series of Italian and French films.



BROTHER HUMBERTO

While working in Italy, he met a man who in a brief 15-minute interview changed the course of the young Mexican's life. The man was Pope Pius XII.

"It was at Castel Gondolfo," Humberto recalls with deep emotion. "I can't even remember what the Holy Father said. All I know is that I felt I had met a real saint — and it made my own spiritual poverty stand out."

It had been 14 years since the fun-loving film star had received the Sacraments, but from then on he began his journey back to God.

Returning to Mexico to do some films there, he confided to a priest soon after, that he was thinking about the priesthood.

"You're not ready," his wise counselor told him. "There are too many things you're straining for. Better wait."

The things he was after, Brother Humberto said wryly, included a flashy sports car, a swimming pool and an Academy Award. One by one, he ac-

quired them all — including the (Mexican) Academy Award. But they weren't enough.

"I remember the night I came home, triumphantly clutching the Award. I put it on the dresser, admired it, and felt terribly empty. After all, what could I do with the little statue — worship it?"

Shortly after this, he decided to consider the priesthood seriously. On a trip to Peru, he met some of the missionaries

of the Holy Apostles, a new order comprised of late vocations to the priesthood.

He entered their seminary, began his course of studies, and, God-willing, will be ordained to the priesthood in February of 1966.

Brother Humberto thought that the world of cameras and klieg lights was far behind him when he donned his black cassock. But last year, Father Gilbert Harke, head of Catholic U.'s famed drama school, came up with the idea of a movie on Father Pro, now a legendary hero in Mexico.

After convincing the superior of the Holy Apostles that it was feasible, they broached the subject to Brother Humberto.

He accepted the idea at once, and after some preliminaries, the decision was made to produce the film with a private company. There are still many problems before the film is made — including raising half a million dollars to produce it.

"But I'm sure we will make it — a film like this deserves to be made," said the likeable Mexican with a smile.

In another highlight of the Theatre Day, a longtime friend

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 PAGE 5

Interracial Sunday Set For May 2nd

Bishop Kearney will celebrate Mass at Immaculate Conception Church, Rochester, Sunday, May 2, at 10 a.m., to mark Catholic Interracial Sunday.

The fifth annual observance will be followed by breakfast at the Manger Hotel. Sponsoring the program are the Catholic Interracial Council and the Third Order of St. Francis. Chairmen are Mrs. William Plotter and Mrs. Henry Hickey.

Mrs. Alma K. Greene, president of the Interracial Council, said the public is invited to the Mass and the breakfast.

Bishop Casey Dedicates Annex to Bath School

Bath—Hearty congratulations to all who made possible the new \$88,000 classroom annex to St. Mary's School in Bath, were extended by Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence B. Casey, who blessed the building last Sunday, Apr. 4.

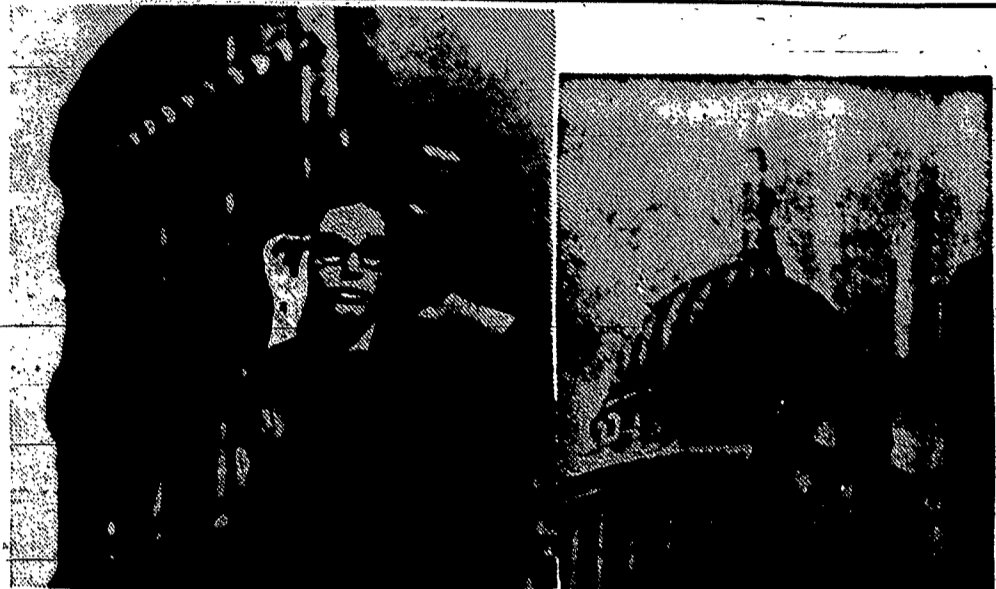
To an overflow crowd which more than filled the school auditorium, Bishop Casey spoke of the work of the Sisters of Mercy and the lay faculty of the school; of the sacrifices of the parishioners, "who made this attractive school a reality"; of the leadership of the pastor, Father John P. O'Malley. He also cited the cooperation of many leading citizens of Bath, whose help

made the school addition possible. Bishop Casey mentioned Judge Dominic Garielli particularly, as chairman of the building campaign.

Some 13 neighboring priests and 30 sisters from both the Mercy and St. Joseph communities were on hand.

The recently occupied second floor addition brings the school up to nine classrooms. The new annex includes three classrooms, a library, an audio-visual room and the principal's office. The first floor was dedicated by Bishop Casey on May 26, 1961.

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Holy Week at the Cathedral

Holy Week at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Mother Church of the Diocese, will be marked with solemn rites as follows:

PALEMONDAY — Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence B. Casey, Cathedral rector, will bless the palm at 4:00 p.m., preside at the procession honoring Christ the King and celebrate Solemn Pontifical Mass. Palm will also be blessed earlier and will be given at the Masses on Palm Sunday, 8, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11:10 and 12:15. All will be low Masses.

Confessions Monday and Tuesdays, 7:00-7:15 a.m., 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Noonday Mass, Monday through Wednesday, 12:15 p.m.

Afternoon Mass, Monday through Thursday, 5:30 p.m.

Confessions Wednesday 7:00-7:15 a.m., 3:30-5:45 p.m., 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Low Mass, Sermon by Rev. Louis J. Hohman, Wednesday, 7:45 p.m.

HOLY THURSDAY — Low Masses at 7 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Bishop Kearney will pontificate at the Solemn Mass of the Blessing of the Holy Oils at 9 a.m.

Holy Communion will be given during the Solemn Liturgy and 7:45 p.m. Masses and also at 8:30 a.m. (before the Pontifical Mass.)

Bishop Casey will celebrate the Solemn Pontifical Mass of the Last Supper at 7:45 p.m. Sermon by Father Hohman.

The Blessed Sacrament will be reserved in the Repository beginning at 8:45 p.m. The Cathedral will remain open throughout Thursday night and Friday morning for private visits and hours of adoration.

GOOD FRIDAY — Afternoon service will include: Stations of the Cross, 1:45 p.m.; sermon by Father Hohman, 2:10 p.m.; Bishop Casey will celebrate the Solemn Liturgy of the Passion and Death of Our Lord, 2:30 p.m.

Holy Communion will be given during the Solemn Liturgy at 3:45 p.m.

Veneration of the Relic of the True Cross will take place during the Solemn Liturgy and after the evening service.

Stations of the Cross, Sermon by Father Hohman, Benediction with the Relic of the True Cross, 7:45 p.m. Confessions heard today only after the evening service.

HOLY SATURDAY — Confessions, 3:30-6:00 p.m.—7:45-9:00 p.m.

Easter Vigil Service including Blessing of the New Fire, Paschal Candle and Baptismal Water; Renewal of Baptismal Vows; Baptism of converts; Litany of the Saints, 7:30 p.m.

Bishop Casey will celebrate Solemn Pontifical Mass of the Easter Vigil at 8:45 p.m. Holy Communion will be given during the Mass. Attendance at this Mass does not satisfy the Sunday obligation.

EASTER SUNDAY — Low Masses: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12:30.

Bishop Kearney will celebrate Solemn Pontifical Mass at 11 a.m.



Receives High Theatre Award

BISHOP KEARNEY presents the Order of St. Genesis to Miss Rosemary White, professor of English at Nazareth College, at the tenth annual Diocesan Theatre Day of the Rochester Unit, National Catholic Theatre Conference. The award is the highest given by the national organization. At right is Robert Smelt, toastmaster and Mid-Atlantic chairman of N.C.T.C.

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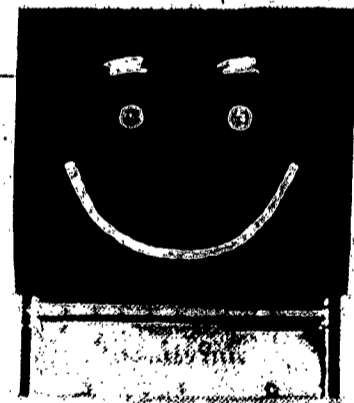
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1500	1651.68	68.82	1724.40	47.90	1797.12	37.44	1870.20	31.17
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