

Holy Rosary Pastor Retires

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St. Mary's Hospital, it was he himself who called St. Ann's Home and asked that he might have hospitality there.

He saved me the heart-rending experience of having to do it which was characteristic of the man.

I know that in these declining years, as he husbands life's taper to a close, down at St. Ann's, he will never forget the good people of this parish. I know you will never forget him. He is one of the finest priests that I have ever been associated with.

I recall very vividly when I was a young assistant in New York City and when the Italian population began to move into that part of the town, I went downtown to try to get a book which would help me understand Italian confessions, and talk to the mothers of the young children who were coming into our school and who then talked only their native tongue. The book that I bought was one written by Monsignor Shay.

When I was sent here as Bishop I recalled it and he was so pleased. The first time I met him I said: "I used your little book."

"Church Italian and English" he called it, so that anybody with a little bit of attention and zeal could learn to talk to these people who were just coming to this country from the other side. It was characteristic of the man.

And so as this morning, in the presence of Our Blessed Lord and on the great Feast of the Holy Rosary which he loved, we pray that God may make the years that are yet to come comfortable, pleasant, and may God bless him.

We are assigning in his place—and I am announcing it today because I feel that the people of this parish should be the first to know it—Monsignor John McCafferty who has been the chief judge of our diocesan Tribunal, a very fine priest and one who rather reluctantly gives up a very important position in this Diocese; but who expressed it by saying that it is a great honor, a great privilege, and a great responsibility to follow in the footsteps of Monsignor Shay. I think that you will find your new pastor worthy of that responsibility. God bless you.

Monsignor Shay's priestly career began in 1912 when he was ordained in old St. Patrick's Cathedral in the heart of downtown Rochester—the

Church to which he was later named as pastor.

His first assignment was as assistant pastor at St. Ann's Church, Hamlet. He was then named assistant chancellor of the Diocese and secretary to Bishop Thomas F. Hickey, Rochester's second bishop. He next served as curate at St. Augustine's Church, Rochester, and as pastor of the Church of the Epiphany, Sodus.

Monsignor Shay was appointed rector of St. Patrick's Cathedral in 1923. In his fourteen years at the Mother Church of the Diocese he witnessed the major events of Catholic history and devotion. Here the solemn ceremonies of Holy Week were enacted in their full splendor; conventions of the laity began their sessions with Mass at the Cathedral, and three bishops of the Diocese presided at the Cathedral throne—Bishop (later Archbishop) Hickey, Bishop John Francis O'Hern and Archbishop (later Cardinal) Mooney.

In the daily routine of parish life, Monsignor Shay celebrated Mass at the Cathedral's great white marble altar where he had served as a boy and had his first dreams of the priesthood.

Monsignor Shay recalls that his career as an altar boy began when Monsignor Hippolyte DeKegge, chancellor of the Diocese and a member of the Cathedral staff, asked a nun of the Cathedral school to recruit servers for him. The nun chose twelve youngsters whom Monsignor DeKegge called his "twelve little apostles."

Ten year old Charles Shay dutifully learned his Latin and was assigned to serve his first Mass. Celebrant of the Mass was Father John Van Ness, then a curate at the Cathedral and later to be first pastor of Holy Rosary Church.

Time and industry crept around the Cathedral at the corner of Platt St. and North Plymouth Ave. and diocesan officials decided to close the venerable edifice and use Sacred Heart Church on Flower City Park as the Cathedral for the newly appointed shepherd of the Diocese, Bishop James E. Kearney.

The old Cathedral's last moment of glory came when Monsignor Shay's predecessor as pastor of Holy Rosary Church, was consecrated Bishop of Syracuse, the Most Rev. Walter A. Porey.

Monsignor Shay offered the last Mass in old St. Patrick's Sept. 12, 1937, and after the tower bells rang out the eve-

ning Angelus, he turned the key to lock the massive front door and write finish to an era of diocesan history.

He aided in arrangements to make the parish hall church, the present St. Patrick's Church on Plymouth Ave. North, and then took up his new duties as pastor at Holy Rosary.

In twenty-five years at Holy Rosary, Monsignor Shay has also found time to serve as diocesan consultant (he is the dean of the group), a trustee and secretary of Holy Sepulchre Cemetery and a trustee of the Carmelite Monastery on Jefferson Road. He has a record of service to Rochester Catholic Charities since 1923 and helped organize the Nocturnal Adoration Society in 1929 and has consistently promoted it since that time.

During his pastorate at Holy Rosary, the church has been redecorated three times, the school enlarged and renovated.

He was commended by Pope Pius XI for translating a catechism of St. John Bosco from Italian into English, a book which was published with the two texts on facing pages. The same pope later honored the then Father Shay by making him a domestic prelate with the title Right Reverend Monsignor in 1932.

A perfectionist all his life, Monsignor Shay—despite over 50 years saying his Mass each day in Latin—shifted to the new English format without a slip-up.

Monsignor Shay, born April 23, 1886, is the son of the late Michael and Margaret Kelly Shay of Olean. The family soon moved to Rochester's ninth ward in St. Patrick's Cathedral parish.

He attended the Cathedral school, St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries. He will reside at St. Ann's Home, Rochester.

Monsignor McCafferty, a native of Geneva, studied for the priesthood at St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries. He attained his doctorate in canon law in 1949 at the Catholic University, Washington.

He served as curate at St. Mary's Church, Canandaigua, and at Immaculate Conception Church, Rochester, and as director of the Family and Child Care Division of the Rochester Catholic Charities. He was appointed to his Tribunal position in 1951 and as Chairman of the diocesan Ecumenical Commission this past summer. Pope John elevated him to the rank of domestic prelate with the title Right Reverend Monsignor in 1958.



A Time To Drive Safely

Autumn leaves and little children are beautiful. The leaves will inevitably have to fall... but you can help keep the children bright and happy—drive carefully, don't pass stopped school busses, keep alert.

Anglicans Watch Rome On Ordaining Women

Vancouver — (RNS) — A colorful Church of England educator Miss Mollie Batten, O.B.E., predicted here that women eventually will be ordained to the ministry.

"There are signs," she said without elaboration, that the Roman Catholic Church is reviewing its stand against women priests, "and if it moves on this, it will move very quickly." Some Anglicans, she added, are watching this development as possibly setting a pattern.

"I don't think it will come to my Church in my time," she said however.

Miss Batten, 59, plump, gray-blond and forthright, who smokes a pipe in private because cigarettes give her a cough, is principal of William Temple College, a residential college at Rugby, in the English Midlands. The 15-year-old college specializes in the relation between the Christian faith and industrial society, offering

Some Urgent Problems

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munion. He also stated that women should be given an equal share with men in reading Scripture lessons at Mass and serving at the altar.

The prelate claimed that much of the Church's laws and customs bypassed "half the People of God."

And milestone or milestone is a statement made at the end of September but still rumbling through the Council—a recommendation by Melkite Archbishop Elie Zoghbi that the Catholic Church reconsider its present ban on divorce. The prelate asked for a return to the earlier practice of permitting "innocent" spouses in cases of desertion or mental illness to remarry.

But for most Catholics, the most important Council statement hasn't as yet been made—the answer to the birth control problem.

Like his action this week on celibacy, Pope Paul last year took the birth control question out of the Council and turned it over to a special commission of his own choosing.

He recently told Milan newspaper Alberto Cavallari that he knows the world is waiting for a statement on the subject but he "is still not clearly certain" what his answer will be.

Since this is a major question confronting a vast number of married couples today, Cardinal John Heenan of London said the Council should skip any statement on the subject of marriage until the Pope issues "a definitive declaration" on birth control.

Cardinal Angelo Rossi of Brazil said he thought far more study of the subject is needed and it would be better not to rush into a decision "affirming today what could be denied tomorrow."

Meantime, in between these Council speeches on what one bishop termed "some urgent problems of the day," the bishops have been quietly voting on previously discussed topics, piling up lopsided victory after victory for Pope John's vision of an aggiornamento—an updating of the Catholic Church.

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Catholic Agency to Aid Divorce Law Revision

New York—(NC)—A spokesman for New York's eight Catholic bishops has pledged assistance to legislators studying changes in the state's divorce law and urged them to move with caution.

Charles J. Tobin, Jr., of Albany, secretary of the New York State Catholic Welfare Committee, asked that "divorce and the license to remarry be carefully guarded... for the good of society."

Adultery is the only ground for divorce in New York. Critics charge that fraud and perjury often are used by parties seeking a divorce and that courts fail to administer the law seriously.

Tobin told a special joint

committee of the New York State Legislature there are "unfortunate conditions" in administration of the present law.

"Divorce and annulment proceedings are not afforded the serious concern in our courts which they demand," he said.

Tobin added that the Catholic committee will "oppose any suggestion that government cooperate in the moral breakdown of family life in New York State."

"Realistically and honestly," he said, "we are concerned lest the grounds for divorce be so broadened and the procedures of our courts so abused that government would, in effect, be permitted a procedure tantamount to divorce by consent."

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