



Bishop Kearney at the Chancery

## Bishop McQuaid's Altar Boy

### Personal Glimpses Of Bishop Kearney

By Auxiliary Bishop  
Lawrence B. Casey

The night Bishop Kearney arrived in Rochester in November, 1937, seems a very long time ago. The priests and people gave him a big welcome, filling the New York Central Station as he arrived from Salt Lake City. Later that evening at his home, 947 East Avenue, he called Monsignor Hart, Monsignor Bergan and myself, holders from Archbishop Mooney's regime, into the library and told us he was making no changes and that we would keep our old jobs. And thus began an association and a friendship now almost thirty years old.

The Bishop has weathered twenty-eight years as Ordinary of Rochester in fine style and is still as spry as ever, as his September and October list of appointments in the Courier will attest. He doesn't walk to the office anymore, as he did in the old days, but he is at the office desk in the Chancery each morning, writing answers to letters in his own copperscript. Perhaps the secret of his endurance is his ability to relax. The job doesn't get him down and his patience (in most things) is monumental. A good sense of humor, the ability to see the incongruous in himself and others and to make a fast quip about it, has also enabled him to take the good days and the bad days with equal hand.

This Bishop has witnessed many changes in the world and in the Church since, as a lad of ten, he served Bishop McQuaid's Mass in St. Agnes

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Four priests of the Rochester Diocese have served in turn as secretary to Bishop Kearney. The Courier asked them to write their comments about the Bishop, personal glimpses of the man who has the responsibility for the spiritual care of 400,000 souls in his twelve-county Diocese.

Church, New York City — a brief encounter between the first and the fifth Bishop of Rochester over seventy years ago.

Even in the twenty-eight years here, he has seen significant changes, from the slow beginnings in the depression days of the late thirties, the trying years of World War II, and the period of vast expansion for the Church in our diocese in the fifties and sixties. Through it all, he has walked a steady pace, never faltering as he met the increasing demands of his office. It takes a strong and simple faith to keep going in such varied circumstances. He has it.

Each New Year's night, after the annual reception for his priests, the Bishop has dinner with his Chancery, his close personal advisors, the men who do the staff work for him. It is usually a time for reminiscing, and one can almost feel the presence of the friendly shades of Monsignor Hart and Monsignor Bergan, his right-hand men for so long, who attended those New Year's gatherings for many years.

"Remember the time . . ." and one colorful incident recalls another — the Sunday he had six engagements, three in Rochester, the others in Geneva, Elmira and Corning. We covered the waterfront that day and he was as fresh as a daisy as we drove into 947 that night at eleven . . . The Christmas eve of 1943 when he said Midnight Mass for 10,000 recruits in one of the large drill halls at Sampson Naval Training Station. He gave a real fatherly talk to the lonesome boys.

The trip to Clyde to give Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament for a group of 200 Italian prisoners of war . . . The time the two of us walked down the middle of East Avenue to the Chancery after the great snowstorm of 1944 . . . The confirmation at Marion when all the lights in the church went out and we finished in candlelight, and the church (unidentified) where the organist screeched so loud he forgot the form of confirmation and had to stand there for a moment until his memory came back.

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Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence B. Casey was Bishop Kearney's secretary during World War II, a time when young Americans found strength in their faith as they trooped from their homes to military camps and foreign battlefields.

# Bishop Kearney's 81st Birthday

Bishop Kearney will celebrate his 81st birthday Thursday, October 28.

And thousands will celebrate it with him.

His principal birthday gift will be something he will never use for himself — the nine million dollar fund to expand college and seminary facilities for the Diocese.

He will spend the day on the job — at his desk in the Chancery and, that evening, at the rally at the Rochester, Monroe County War Memorial to launch the final phase of the current diocesan-wide fund drive.

In the four-score years since he was born in Red Oak, Iowa, the son of Irish-born parents William Patrick and Rosina O'Doherty Kearney, he has clung to a simple personal creed — devotion to God and generous service to his fellow man.

He has been a priest for 57 years, a bishop for 33 years

and spiritual shepherd of the Rochester Diocese for 28 years.

The Bishop is noted for selecting an apt quotation from Shakespeare for every occasion.

Any effort to pay Bishop Kearney adequate tribute inevitably founders. And Shakespeare can be aptly quoted to explain why —

To guard a title that was rich before,  
To gild refined gold, to paint the lily,  
To throw a perfume on the violet,  
To smooth the ice, or add another hue  
Unto the rainbow, or with taper-light  
To seek the beauteous eye of heaven to garnish,  
Is wasteful and ridiculous excess. (King John, Act 4)

Greater than any words is the sincere affection 400,000 Catholics have for their Bishop and their deepfelt sincerity when they wish him a "Happy Birthday—Ad Multos Annos."

## The Catholic COURIER

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

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77th Year

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# 3 Fund Drive Rallies For 20,000 Workers

Nearly 20,000 parishioners throughout the Diocese, mobilized to seek contributions from fellow-parishioners for the Joint College Fund appeal, will attend major campaign rallies in four cities next week which also will include tributes to Bishop Kearney on his 81st birthday.

BISHOP KEARNEY will address the rallies, scheduled as follows:

Tuesday, Oct. 26 — National Guard Armory, Corning, 7:30 p.m.; North Dame High School, Elmira, 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 27 — East High School Auditorium, Auburn, 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 28 — War Memorial Building, Rochester, 8:00 p.m.

## What's This Drive All About?

Our grandparents, many of them poor immigrants from Europe, built a network of parish schools a generation ago to root the faith firmly in the hearts of their children.

Our parents, in their turn, despite the grinding years of a nationwide depression, added the Catholic high schools to the Church's educational program.

Now the torch is passed to the present generation to provide a vastly expanded Catholic college system.

American Catholics have a tradition of looking to the future . . . of providing a heritage of excellence for the next generation. That's what this campaign is all about.

Guest speaker at the Rochester rally will be Francis Keppel of Washington, U.S. Commissioner of Education of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Other speakers at each of the four rallies will include Very Rev. Charles J. Lavery, C.S.B., president of St. John Fisher College; Sister Helen Daniel, S.S.J., president of Nazareth College;

Very Rev. Joseph L. Hogan, first rector of Becket Hall, the House of Studies to be erected adjacent to the St. John Fisher campus for pre-theology students, and Rt. Rev. Msgr. John S. Randall, coordinator of the parish phase of the \$6,000,000 JCF campaign.

Also to be featured at each rally will be selections by the Glee Clubs of the two colleges.

Among guests at the Rochester campaign will be Lt. Gen. William W. Momyer, a member of the board of regents of St. John Fisher College.

Several parishes throughout the Diocese are arranging bus buses and for "pooling" of rides to the rallies.

Minimum goal of the parish division is \$5,750,000, with each parish having a campaign quota. For campaign purposes the Diocese has been divided into three regions, Rochester, Auburn and Elmira.

Campaign aims include construction of science, library and student center buildings at St. John Fisher College, an auditorium with music and arts wings at Nazareth, and a residence for seminarians now taking their pre-theology college courses at St. John Fisher.

More than 400 alumni of the two colleges will begin calls on fellow-alumni on Sunday, Oct. 24. Alumni contributions will be credited to the quota of the parish with which the donor is affiliated.

Three other campaign committees—the corporate, major gifts and commerce and industry divisions—have been soliciting for several weeks. Pledges announced this week through these committees totaled more than \$2,500,000.

More than \$665,000 in pledges has been reported to date by the special gifts committee of the parish division.

The \$6 million JCF drive represents the largest single financial goal ever undertaken in the 12-county Diocese. Bishop Kearney has made a strong and urgent appeal for support for the three-fold campaign objective.

## Astronaut Meets Pope

Vatican City — (RNS) — John H. Glenn, Jr., the famed United States astronaut, was received in audience by Pope Paul VI together with his wife and officials of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

When the Pope asked Mr. Glenn, first American to make a space flight, if he was making his first visit to Rome, the latter replied, "It is my first visit to Europe."

"At this, the Pope smiled and said: "Ah, but you have seen it all before, from on high."

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## New Steps Toward Unity

Catholics of the Rochester Diocese will take two more major steps on the Church's road toward ag-gloriamento, according to directives given priests this week.

The longlocked door for Catholics and Protestants to worship together was flung open and laymen will play an increasingly prominent part in the ceremonies of the Mass.

And irritating rules regarding cemeteries have been erased.

Priests of the Diocese were told of the new and obviously "liberal" directives at clergy conferences held in Elmira and Rochester.

Members of the recently formed Ecumenical and Liturgical Commissions explained the directives which carry Bishop Kearney's endorsement.

The 20-page "Diocesan Directives on Ecumenism" and the four-page "Guidelines for Mass with the Pope" translate Vatican Council decisions into practice at the local level.

HIGHLIGHTS of the Liturgical Commission's "Guidelines" include:

- Announcements of parish social events and financial appeals are preferably to be made prior to the Mass and the sermon time reserved for a strictly spiritual message.

- A cleric or layman is to lead the congregation in the prayers and hymns.

- A litany-like prayer may be introduced at the offertory listing intentions for which the people are asked to pray—for deceased parishioners, the sick, parish projects, world peace.

Directives are also given for

Mass at an altar facing the people, for "concelebration" (when several priests say a Mass together) and when lay people may receive Holy Communion under both the form of bread and wine—such as at their wedding and anniversary Mass or when a person becomes a convert to the Catholic Church.

The far lengthier instructions from the diocesan Ecumenical Commission begin with the blunt admission that existing divisions among Christians are "a scandal to the world and a contradiction to the will of Christ."

The Commission's statement puts the Rochester Diocese firmly in the "ecumenical movement"—the current worldwide effort to bridge the chasm of disunity. The statement terms such action "the clear mandate of the Council . . . (and) the evident will of the Church."

Highlights of the Ecumenical Commission's "Directives" include:

- Need for "a change of heart" on the part of individuals through prayer and study on the subject of religious unity.

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## Eight-Page Tabloid Tells College Story

An eight-page tabloid is part of your Courier this week. It tells in pictures and articles the story of the current college-seminary fund campaign.

You'll find all the why's and the how's — the answers to countless questions many people are still asking.

In case your Courier doesn't include this special tabloid, phone the Courier at Rochester, 454-7050, and we'll send you a copy.

Extra copies will also be available at parish churches this Sunday.