

The Catholic COURIER

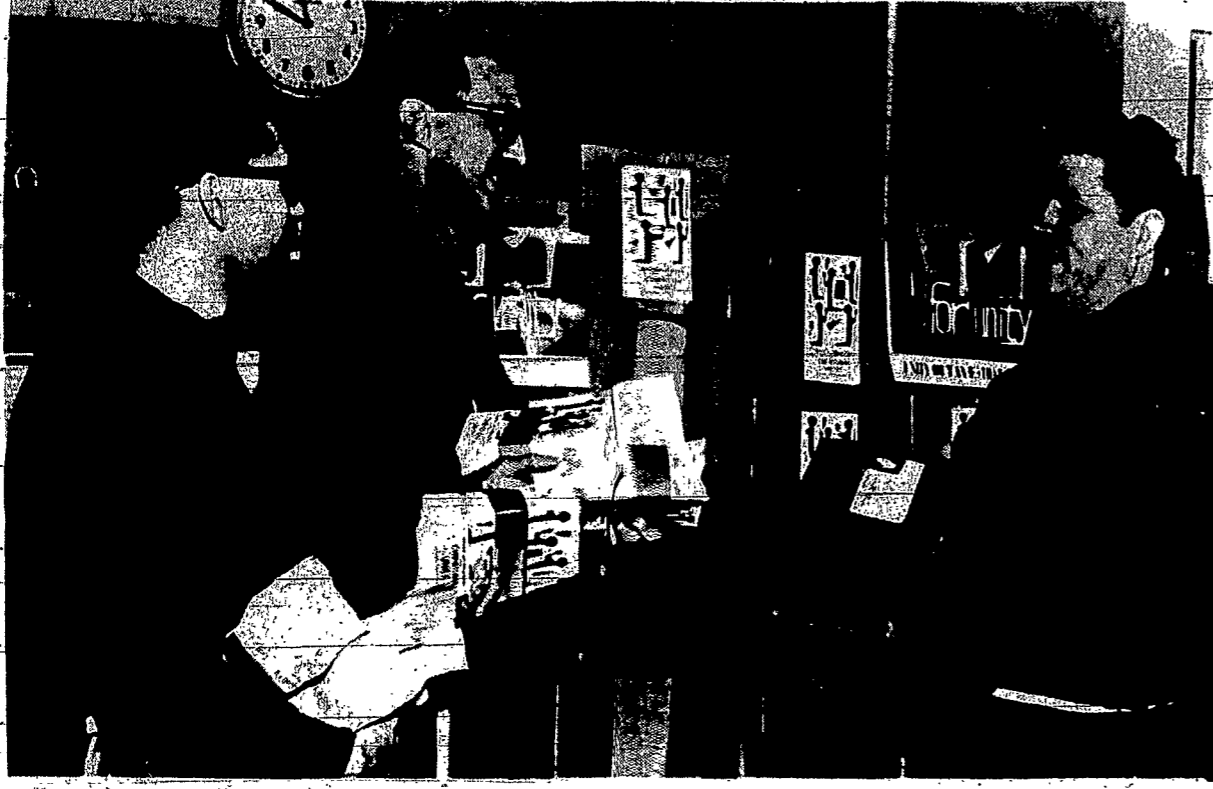
THE NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

Journal

77th Year

ROCHESTER, N. Y., FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 1966

Price 15 Cents



Graymoor friars at their Garrison monastery package booklets to be used by Catholics and Protestants during Jan. 18 to 25 week of prayer for Christian unity.

Church Unity Prayer Rites

Catholics of the Rochester Diocese, spurred by an appeal from Bishop Kearney, are expected to take part in unprecedented numbers in the week of prayer for Christian unity which begins Tuesday, Jan. 18.

The worldwide devotion launched in the early years of this century will, for the first time this year, link Catholics and Protestants in the same texts of prayers and, in many areas, in the same religious services.

The Rochester Diocese will not be the least in such activities.

A letter from Bishop Kearney to Catholics of the Diocese, encouraging them to join in the prayer crusade, is published below on this page of the Courier.

A series of services in Rochester and Elmira will be held in Catholic and Protestant churches to pray for the elusive goal of religious unity.

Climate of the week-long devotion in this Diocese will be an ecumenical service, open to the public, at the Eastman Theater, Sunday, Jan. 23, at 7:30 p.m.

Bishop George W. Barrett of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester and Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence B. Casey of the Catholic Diocese will lead Christians

of many denominations in prayer for Church unity.

The pattern and example for such services was given by Pope Paul who took part as a participant in a rite just prior to the close of the Vatican Council. Clergy of other churches read Scripture lessons and led prayers for religious unity. The Council in its Decree on Ecumenism authorized such services, changing previous Church prohibitions against Catholics and Protestants taking part in the same religious rites.

In Elmira, services will be held in Catholic parish churches each evening from Jan. 18 to Jan. 25. Protestants are invited to attend. The services have been arranged by the Graymoor Friars of nearby Montour Falls, the religious order founded by Father James Paul Francis who launched the unity prayer movement in 1908.

THE ELMIRA series of services will begin at Our Lady of Lourdes Church Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Monsignor Leo G. Schwab, pastor, will offer a Mass for Christian unity and Monsignor John E. McCafferty, chairman of Bishop Kearney's diocesan ecumenical commission, will preach.

Benedictine Father Benedict Tigh of Mount St. Mary's Monastery will preach at a similar Mass at St. Patrick's Church on the concluding night of the series Tuesday, Jan. 25. This and all other services in the Elmira series will be at 7:30 p.m.

Other parishes participating in the series include: St. Mary's, Wednesday, Jan. 19; St. Anthony's, Thursday, Jan. 20; St. Casimir's, Friday; St. John the Baptist, Saturday; St. Cecilia's, Sunday; and St. Peter and Paul's, Monday, Jan. 24.

IN ROCHESTER, the services, also open to both Catholics and Protestants, will be as follows:

First Reformed Church, 765 Main Street East, Tuesday, Jan. 18, 8 p.m. Rev. Charles Boonstra, pastor, will conduct the service. Rev. Raymond Kenny of St. Andrew's Seminary will preach.

First Baptist Church, 175 Al lens Creek Road, Wednesday, Jan. 19, 7:30 p.m. Rev. Lee Beynon, pastor, will preach. Rev. Francis J. Pegan of St. Thomas More Church will conduct the service.

Spencer Ripley Methodist Church, 1124 Culver Road, Thursday, Jan. 20, 8 p.m. Rev. Allen G. Skiff, pastor, will conduct the service. Rev. James Doyle of St. Ambrose Church will take part in the rite.

St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 4530 St. Paul Blvd., Friday, Jan. 21, 8 p.m. Rev. Raymond Kenny, speaker. Participating in the service will be Rev. Donald Stevens, All-Saints Episcopal Church; Rev. Paul Young, Resurrection Lutheran Church; Rev. George Haag, St. John's Lutheran Church.

Holy Rosary Church, 414 Lexington Ave., Saturday, Jan. 22, 7:30 p.m. Monsignor John E. McCafferty, pastor, will conduct the service. Rev. Glenn Alty Crafts, Grace Methodist Church, will speak. Participating in the rite will be Rev. Walter E. Muir of Ascension Episcopal Church.

The Sunday evening service will be at the Eastman Theater.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, East Avenue at Vick Park E, Monday, Jan. 24, at 5:30 p.m. Rev. August Kuehl, pastor, will conduct the service. Rev. Robert Bilheimer of Brick Presbyterian Church will speak. Monsignor Edward McAniff of Blessed Sacrament Church will be itinerant.

Salem United Church of Christ, 230 Franklin St., Tuesday, Jan. 25, 8 p.m. Rev. Friedrich Rest, pastor, will speak. Redemptorist Father Donald Fearon of St. Joseph's Church will read the Scripture lesson and lead in the prayers.



Seabees Help Hanoi Priest

Tan Hiep, S. Vietnam—(RNS)—Father Joseph Oanh, pastor of Sacred Heart church in Tan Hiep and a former student in the U.S., displays to parishioners samples of clothing given him by U.S. Navy Seabees. The priest, born in Hanoi, studied at Providence and Boston Colleges, and later returned to South Vietnam. Father Oanh received aid from the American GI's when he met them as they drilled the first deep fresh water well south of Saigon—right next to his church—for the entire village. The Seabees also gave Father "Joe" food, clothing, medicine, and school books and toys for the children. Sacred Heart church sustained major damage recently when Vietcong blew up a house nearby.



To a Vietnamese Child

(whose mother and father were killed in crossfire)

Here, little one, now where is your home?
By the wide sea shore where the breakers foam:
A place that only children know
If they have no other place to go.
The one who lives there upora that strand
Is looking for you to take his hand
And go with him, empty soul unfurled,
To share your pain with a wounded world.
As you hold that hand so strong and kind,
A deep wound within it you will find:
Like the break in your heart, it goes right through.
You are home—for that wound is there for you.
— Sister Emmy Crawford, re
Reprinted from "Encounter" magazine, published quarterly by the Religious of the Cenacle at Boston.

Solemn Rites, Music Concerts For New Organ at Cathedral

Worshippers will be feasted with a spectacle of sight and sound for dedication rites of a new organ at Sacred Heart Cathedral in a four day festival of ceremonies and concerts.

Bishop Kearney will preside at a solemn dedication Mass this Sunday at 4:30 p.m. World-famous organist Virgil Fox will present concerts Monday and Tuesday evenings at 8:15 p.m. and Kent Hill of the Eastman School of Music will present a concert Wednesday at 8:15 p.m. Music programs and clergy scheduled to participate in Sunday's Mass are listed on Page 3 of this Courier.

Music for Sunday afternoon's Mass was composed by Cathedral organist Francis J. Pilecki. Those who wish to attend this Mass are asked to come to the Cathedral by 4 p.m. to take part in a rehearsal.

An Appeal for Peace

by Father Patrick O'Connor
Society of St. Columban

Saigon—(NC)—Eleven Vietnamese priests have issued a statement calling on the authorities of North and South Vietnam to halt hostilities and make peace.

They "invite men of good will" in both regions "to overcome every form of oppression to express courageously the Vietnamese people's will for peace so that responsible authorities can no longer pretend ignorance of it."

In the only concrete proposal of the declaration they urge acceptance of United Nations intervention. "The only or almost the only way that may lead to a halt in hostilities, to

negotiations and peace is to recognize the mediation of the U.N.," they say.

Their statement has already been published in two Saigon dailies with gaps where passages were censored. One of the deleted passages complains of the "presence of foreign soldiers." In another the priests speak of "our brothers in the North as in the South subjected to the ravages of bombardments and oppression by ideologies."

Another deleted passage attributes to the two opposing sides, communist and anti-communist, "the same sincere love of country, the same determination to devote themselves to a great cause, the same thirst for peace."

Interest Soars In Unity Projects

Catholics in the Diocese of Rochester, both clergy and laity, have shown a keen interest in the Ecumenical movement, the priest who heads the Diocesan Ecumenical Commission stated this week.

Monsignor John E. McCafferty pin-pointed several signs of positive interest noted by the Commission in its first six months of existence. (The Ecumenical Commission, established by Bishop Kearney in July of last year, consists presently of Monsignor McCafferty and four other priests). The pastor of Holy Rosary Church picked two items from the 1965 picture as especially noteworthy:

• "Open House" programs in which members of one congregation play host to members of another parish or church, inviting them to visit their church and explaining their rites and traditions to the visitors.

• Clergy discussions, which gather Catholic and Protestant clergy for a dialog on a scriptural or theological topic. There has been "a great thaw" in clerical relationships, he commented.

"Mutual understanding must be the first goal," he stressed as he related the foregoing events as steps toward that understanding.

"We realize that unity is not something that will come overnight," he cautioned, but expressed satisfaction over progress made so far. "After all," he smiled, "we've hardly been on speaking terms for 400 years."

The forthcoming Church Unity Octave (Jan. 18-25) offers an opportunity for all Christians to associate themselves with the cause of Christian unity, he stressed. The Octave program in the Rochester area will be observed in a series of Catholic and Protestant churches nightly, highlighted by a "Community Ecumenical Service" in the Eastman Theater on Sunday, Jan. 23.

"Praying together is not only a sign of Christians desire for greater unity," he suggested, "but also a primary means to attain it."

After six months at the helm of the Diocesan Ecumenical Commission, Monsignor McCafferty looks back on a number of "enlightening and satisfying" experiences.

"I've been edified by the contacts I've had with Protestant clergymen," he said warmly.

The new pastor of Holy Rosary concluded his interview with the Courier Journal by stating how privileged he felt to be in on the pioneering stage of "this vital area of the Church's concern."

Asked for suggested reading that Catholics interested in Ecumenism might undertake, he added with a twinkle in his eye: "The Decree on Ecumenism of Vatican II Council would be a good start!"

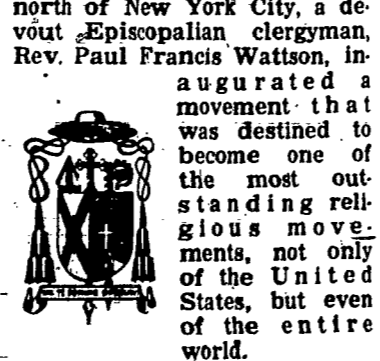
—Father Robert Kanka

A Letter from Bishop Kearney

'Fresh Hopes are Stirring' for Church Unity

My dear People:

In January, 1908, at Graymoor, a little town on the east bank of the Hudson, forty miles north of New York City, a devoted Episcopalian clergyman, Rev. Paul Francis Watson, inaugurated a movement that was destined to become one of the most outstanding religious movements, not only of the United States, but even of the entire world.



This is the movement known originally as the Church Unity Octave, now designated as the Chair of Unity Octave. It is an octave—that is, a period of eight days—devoted to special prayers that religious disagreements may be settled and that all men may unite in faith and worship under the leadership of the Bishop of Rome, our Holy Father the Pope.

The time of the year chosen by Father Paul Francis for this Octave was the week between January 18 and 25. The first of these days is a fast-day dedicated to St. Peter, inasmuch as the time of his office as

Bishop of Rome, known as the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter in Rome. The last day is the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul.

These two Apostles, who worked so diligently to spread the Christian faith throughout the world almost two thousand years ago, exemplify the objective of Catholics in taking part in this Octave of prayer that all men may recognize the Catholic Church as the one religious organization that God has appointed as the way to salvation for the entire human race.

Such was the purpose of the Unity Octave as Father Paul Francis established it. And in the course of the intervening years the project of this good and zealous man has grown and produced results to an astounding degree. Two years after inaugurating the Octave, Father Paul and the members of his religious society which he had gathered about him—the Society of the Atonement, as he called it—entered the Catholic Church.

The Octave of prayer is being conducted during next week in thousands of churches and chapels, where millions of voices and hearts join in the

fervent petition to Almighty God: "That all may be one."

This was the ardent desire of Jesus Christ, that all men would be united in religious belief and worship. This was what he meant when he expressed the hope that there should be "one fold and one shepherd" (Jn. 10:16). But this objective will be obtained not so much by argumentation and polemics as by prayers. In the words of Pope Pius XII: "It is necessary in the first place to beg the God of loving and fervent prayer."

Catholics believe that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, established one Church which he promised would endure until the end of time and which he has protected from error down through the ages. This was the significance of his promise to the official teachers of his Church: "Behold, I am with you all days, even to the consummation of the world" (Mt. 28:20). Christ declared that he would establish his Church on the Apostle Peter, and the bishops

of Rome are the successors of Peter in spiritual authority over the Church.

History proves that the Church established by Jesus Christ, which has endured down through the ages under the government of the successors of St. Peter, is the Catholic Church. Such is the Catholic attitude, and Catholics, happy in the possession of their faith, are anxious that others to share with them in their spiritual treasures. For this reason they pray during the Unity Octave that those who are not members of the Catholic Church will come to know it and will enter its welcoming doors.

At the present time, in the Ecumenical Spirit engendered by the Vatican Council, fresh hopes are stirring for the union of Christendom. We recall the words of the great pontiff Pius XII whose majestic spirit lives in the person of the present Pontiff:

"Let us labor strenuously that the light of the gospel may so illumine the minds of all that they may return as soon as possible to the unity of the Church, founded on the indestructible rock of the Prince of the Apostles, so that the divine prayer may be

realized. There shall be one fold and one shepherd."

"However," insisted the Holy Father, "it is necessary, in the first place, to beg this gift of God by loving and fervent prayer."

The Chair of Unity Octave now takes on a deeper significance as we pray for the realization of Christ's words:

"Other sheep there are that are not of this fold. These also must I bring and they shall hear my voice. And there shall be one fold and one Shepherd."

Let everyone join his prayers with the universal Church in the Chair of Unity Octave which begins next Tuesday and ends on the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul, January 25.

With my blessing, I am
Your devoted Shepherd
in Christ,

John E. McCafferty
Bishop of Rochester

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let us know about it so we can keep your Courier coming to you on time. Phone or mail us notice of your change of address. Include your old address and new address and the name of your parish.

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