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Rome . . .

Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence B. Casey attended the recent Vatican Council in Rome. Here he is in the vast piazza in front of St. Peter's Basilica. Pope Paul sent word from Rome this week he wanted Bishop Casey to be Bishop of Paterson, New Jersey.

Your Joys, Tears Heartaches Will be Mine Too

This is Bishop Casey's statement to the clergy and laity of his new diocese of Paterson, New Jersey.

Our Holy Father, Pope Paul VI, has asked me to shepherd the flock of Christ in the diocese of Paterson.

I come to you as a stranger and as one who is well aware of his shortcomings. But I come to you commissioned by Christ's Vicar to extend the Kingdom of God in your midst.

The responsibilities of a bishop are heavy. To him is entrusted the flock so beloved by the Father that He sent His only-begotten Son to save them, and so beloved by the Son that He gave His life for their salvation.

Christ laid down His life for you, and for the many who are with you in spirit and for the many more who are not of your fold and have not yet heard the voice of Christ. All of you are the object of God's love and it is the responsibility of your bishop to preserve this treasure and to multiply it a hundred-fold.

As your shepherd it is my responsibility not merely to preserve the strong, but also to seek out the strayed and bring them back to the fold, to find the injured and bind them up, to look for the sick in order to heal them (Ezekiel, 34). Your joys will be my joys; your tears, my tears; your heartaches, my heartaches.

I welcome the opportunity to work for you and all men of good will. From the heart, I ask your prayers that I be a good shepherd.

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'Paterson Will Be Blessed' Says Bishop Kearney

This is Bishop Kearney's statement made to the press when it was announced that his Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence B. Casey was to be Bishop of Paterson, New Jersey.

"While I have always felt that the day would come when Bishop Casey would be promoted to the administration of his own diocese, nevertheless, I have hoped at the same time that such promotion might not come during my declining years. The bishop has carried so much of the burden of administration since his appointment as Auxiliary Bishop and Vicar General that I shall miss him very much.

"For close to thirty years, first as my secretary, then as a pastor and finally, in his present position, he has been a very close friend and a very loyal assistant in my work. I know that the Holy See is well aware of his loyalty and his sincere devotion to his work.

"Paterson will be blessed with the coming of a fine priest and an understanding administrator. Rochester will lose an exceptionally gifted leader—and I shall lose what Hamlet called, 'As fine a man as e'er my conversation coped withal'."

I Ask the Prayers Of Priests, People

Bishop Casey issued this statement to comment on his appointment by Pope Paul to be Bishop of Paterson.

Pope Paul VI has named me Bishop of Paterson. This appointment means leaving the city where I was born, and the diocese where I have worked for thirty-six years. However, I made a commitment to the Holy Father when I was consecrated a bishop in 1953 to go wherever he would send me, so I welcome this opportunity to serve the flock of Christ in Paterson.

The years in Rochester have been happy years. God has been good to allow me to serve three great bishops. The close association with Bishop Kearney for over twenty-eight years has been a real blessing to me and a major influence in my life. He has been most patient and understanding and he has been a true father and friend at all times.

The burdens of office have been made considerably lighter by the clergy and the religious of this diocese. They are hard workers, zealous, generous and concerned only with the spiritual interests of their people. Bishop Kearney and his diocese are fortunate to have such an outstanding group of priests and sisters, and I shall miss them much.

It has been easy too, to serve the Catholics of this diocese. Their faith is strong and they cooperate so well with their bishops and priests, and are extremely generous to the cause of religion. Beyond this, the climate in this diocese is a friendly one. The various religious groups work well together in projects which will promote the common good, and the ecumenical spirit of charity is growing stronger each year. Protestants, Jews and Catholics in the diocese have a mutual respect for each other and this is no small blessing.

The departure to New Jersey marks the close of a long chapter in my life, and I am grateful to all who have made it such a happy one. I ask the prayers of priests and people that God may give me the grace and strength to do His work well in the Church of Paterson.

A New Bishop For Paterson

The Catholic COURIER

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

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His Task - 'To Interpret Christ Correctly'

Rome reached into Rochester this week for a bishop for Paterson, New Jersey.

Pope Paul chose Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence B. Casey to be the fifth bishop of the thirty year old, three county diocese in New Jersey.

He will be the spiritual shepherd of 325,000 Catholics in a total population of an estimated 800,000 people.

Bishop Kearney aptly stated, "Paterson will be blessed with the coming of a fine priest and an understanding administrator."

And Bishop Kearney does not hide the fact that he will miss a long and dear friend.

Bishop Casey has been one of Bishop Kearney's closest collaborators in diocesan projects for nearly thirty years.

And Paterson's gain will leave a great void in the Rochester Diocese.

Bishop Casey, in his quiet but always so efficient way, has rooted himself deeply in the life of the Diocese.

He has long been a familiar figure in every parish church as he accompanied first Bishop John F. O'Hern, then Cardinal Edward Mooney and, finally, Bishop Kearney for confirmation rites and other major ceremonies.

In recent years, since he became Auxiliary Bishop, he has himself visited virtually every church of the Diocese on one occasion or another for rites ranging from confirmation and ordination to ground-breaking or blessing of new structures.

Even if it sounds like a mere cliché, it is simple honesty to say that the Rochester Diocese will miss him.

Adults as well as youngsters greeted the announcement of his Paterson assignment with amazement, then tears.

They realized, of course, that he too would miss them.

He choked up a bit in making the announcement at Sacred Heart Cathedral Wednesday morning moments after he received the papal notice.

What he told young nuns two years ago as they began their religious life seems apt again in his own case—

"If there be tears here today, let them be tears of happiness."

His appointment by Pope Paul is a seal of approval from the world's highest ecclesiastical authority or, his priestly career—and his own personal life.

Bishop Casey, on the eve of his going to Rome for the Vatican Council last autumn, said the Council's task was "to interpret correctly Christ's thoughts, not to change them."

That has been his own objective in the 36 years of priesthood—to be a loyal servant of

Not Everybody Is a Stranger

Bishop Casey goes to Paterson knowing nobody there except one person—a former Rochesterian.

Franciscan Father John F. Larkin, once Bishop Casey's altar boy, is master of novices at St. Raphael's Novitiate at Lafayette, near Paterson.

The Franciscan priest, whose religious name is Theophane Venard, is the son of Mrs. Thomas Larkin and the late Mr. Larkin of 132½ Bronson Ave. in Immaculate Conception parish, Rochester.

He was one of the first to phone his congratulations to Bishop Casey when the appointment was announced Wednesday.

Father Larkin and students at St. Andrew's Seminary used to serve Bishop Casey's Mass at the Monroe County Jail where Bishop Casey served as chaplain.



Rochester . . .

Bishop Kearney and Bishop Casey have been closely associated since 1937 in administering the Diocese of Rochester. The two are shown at the Chancery Wednesday morning as they were interviewed by newsmen.

the Church and to the souls entrusted to his spiritual care.

He has lived up to the motto he chose when he was selected to be Auxiliary Bishop for the Rochester Diocese in 1953: "Illi Soli Servio—I serve only God." He hasn't compromised that dedication . . . and he doesn't want anybody else to compromise their religious duties either.

He is a trim, tall figure who keeps in shape—and hides his sixty years—by just plain hard work.

His day begins at the altar at 6:30 a.m. and the rest of it is scheduled, often to the precise minute.

If he asks you to call him at 8:25, he doesn't mean 8:25, but he'll just as often interrupt a diocesan policy meeting to talk with a parishioner who wants him to visit a sick child in the hospital . . . and he'll be there for the visit before the day is out.

Passersby on Flower City Park often notice the light in his office at the Cathedral rectory burns late and those who

call on him there know he works on scores of projects—the parish bulletin, a speech for one of the diocesan organizations, a sermon, assignments of the clergy and a mound of correspondence which he labors manfully to keep up with.

His going to Paterson will be his first assignment away from his native Rochester.

He is the son of the late Joseph L. and Agnes M. Switzer Casey. He attended Corpus Christi and Holy Rosary schools, St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries.

He was ordained by Bishop O'Hern in 1932, and then to op, in old St. Patrick's Cathedral June 7, 1930. The altar where he knelt to be ordained later became the altar at Sacred Heart Cathedral where he served as rector in addition to his diocesan duties—and that altar will begin a new chapter of its life when it is blessed for the newly decorated St. Francis Xavier Church this Saturday.

Bishop Casey's first assignment as a young priest was as assistant pastor of old St. Mary's Church, Rochester. His esca-

tion in ecclesiastical life began two years later, to be vice-chancellor and secretary to Bishop O'Hern in 1932, and then to Cardinal Mooney in 1933 and next to Bishop Kearney in 1937.

During his years as secretary to these three prelates he also served as chaplain at Our Lady of Mercy High School and at the Monroe County Jail—providing him a rather unusual contrast in human character, but both students and those who had run afoul of the law testified he filled both jobs well.

Bishop Casey was named pastor of Holy-Cross-Church, Rochester, in 1946, and the following year was elevated to the rank of domestic prelate. He succeeded Monsignor George Burns, first pastor of Sacred Heart Cathedral, when he retired in 1952. Then the next year, he was consecrated to be Bishop Kearney's Auxiliary Bishop.

In his 13 years as both Auxiliary Bishop and Cathedral rector, Bishop Casey has made the Cathedral a model of parish life for the Diocese. He has seen to its redecoration, the installation of a new altar and new organ, and has set a pattern of prompt observance of the changes called for by the Vatican Council in ritual ways of worship and in relationships with people of other religious faiths.

He will continue his diocesan and parish assignments until he leaves for Paterson at a date yet to be determined. Monsignor (Continued on Back Page)

Bishop Casey's 'Own Table'

Bishop Casey has encouraged curates anxious to be pastors of their own churches to be patient, telling them, "It won't be long before you have your feet under your own table."

What kind of a table will the Paterson diocese be for Bishop Casey?

He succeeds as fifth bishop to a diocese that was begun in 1937, the year Bishop Kearney came to Rochester.

The Paterson diocese counts 325,000 Catholics in a total population of 800,000.

They're all packed in quite a tight little area of three counties—compared to the twelve counties of the Rochester Diocese with close to half a million Catholics.

His diocese has just completed a new preparatory seminary and its first students will begin their studies there in September.

He will have 400 priests, about 200 diocesan and 200 who belong to religious orders, to aid him in the care of souls.



Paterson . . .

This will be Bishop Casey's Cathedral in Paterson—the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist.