

The marble white altar stood in solemn majesty in Rochester's old St. Patrick's Cathedral at the corner of Plymouth Avenue and Platt St.



Second home for the massive altar was Sacred Heart Cathedral. Here Bishop Kearney was enthroned as Rochester's fifth bishop in 1937.



New home for the historic old altar is St. Francis Xavier Church, Rochester. The six marble candle sticks are gifts of Bishop Kearney.

Historic Old St. Patrick's Cathedral Altar Now at St. Francis Xavier Church



Rev. Joseph Beatini, pastor at St. Francis Xavier Church, makes final adjustments to tabernacle in niche of marble tower which once stood at center of old Cathedral altar. The altar now stands forward so priest can face people during Mass.

The spirit of old St. Patrick's Cathedral will come back to life in newly decorated St. Francis Xavier Church in Rochester—and just in time for the feast of St. Patrick.

Bishop Kearney will dedicate the refurbished St. Francis Xavier Church at rites tomorrow evening, Saturday, March 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Dominant feature of the re-decorated church is the historic old altar from Rochester's former old cathedral.

The altar has been recon-

structed according to the latest directives of the Vatican for the new rites of the Mass.

It will once again serve as a link to the early days of diocesan history.

And when Bishop Kearney consecrates it in its new location he will do in this century what Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid, Rochester's first bishop, did for the altar's first location in the last century.

Bishop McQuaid celebrated the first Mass on the altar July 12, 1898, to mark his own 50th anniversary as a priest, his 30th anniversary as a bishop (and the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Rochester di-

ocese) and the 75th anniversary of St. Patrick's parish.

Every bishop of Rochester since then has stood at that altar for the great religious occasions of diocesan history—ordinations of priests, mission departures, and the ceremonies ranging from baptism to funeral rites for the lowly and the great.

The altar was a gift of Vincentian Father Frank O'Donoghue in memory of his parents who long had been members of the old Cathedral parish.

Archbishop Michael A. Corrigan of New York City solemnly consecrated the altar in October following Bishop McQuaid's anniversary.

When old St. Patrick's was sold to the Eastman Kodak

Company in 1937, the altar was taken to Sacred Heart Church which then became the Cathedral of the Diocese. The old altar was again dismantled in 1956 to make way for a new altar at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

Its ten year Sabbath is now ended.

And Saturday night's ceremony will be particularly nostalgic for one priest of the Di-

ocese — Monsignor Charles F. Shay, now living at St. Ann's Home.

Monsignor Shay was rector of the old Cathedral and celebrated the "last Mass" there on the gleaming white altar in 1937 just before the venerable structure was closed to await the wreckers' blows. He was again present in 1956 when Auxiliary

Bishop Lawrence B. Casey, Sacred Heart Cathedral rector, offered the "last Mass" at the historic altar there.

Now it will be Bishop Kearney's turn — like his famed predecessor and pioneer as chief shepherd of the Diocese—to begin again a new chapter for this venerable table of sacrifice.

Cathedral Rite for Silver, Golden Wedding Couples

A combined Silver and Gold Wedding Jubilee Celebration for all couples in the Diocese will be held at Sacred Heart Cathedral, on Sunday evening, June 19, at 7:45 p.m.

Couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary this year are invited to participate.

A Mass of Thanksgiving will be offered for the Jubilarians by Bishop Casey, who will preach for the occasion.

Any couple wishing to par-

ticipate in this Jubilee Celebration is requested to send their name to the Family Life Bureau, 31 Monica St., Rochester, N.Y. 14619.

Invitations will be sent to them outlining the program. A special certificate commemorating the occasion will be given to the couples. Couples are asked to specify which anniversary they are celebrating.

This will be the third Annual Jubilee Celebration. Last year more than 120 couples participated.

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ROCHESTER, N.Y.

LOCAL NEWS

SECTION

Vocation Mass

The Serra Club of Rochester is sponsoring its Fourth Annual Vocation Mass on Tuesday, March 15, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Church, His Excellency, Bishop Kearney, will preside and preach the sermon.

The public is invited, and a particular invitation is extended to 7th and 8th grade students to attend, and to offer the Mass for the special intention: That

at least one student from each graduating class in the Diocese will choose to enter the Religious Life.

Representatives of the various Religious Orders will be present at the Mass.

The Serra Club of Rochester comprises a group of laymen whose purpose is to encourage vocations to the Religious Life among Catholic youth.

High Schoolers Invited to Becket Hall

Junior and senior high school students interested in the diocesan college seminary, Becket Hall, are invited to spend Sunday, March 20, with the seminarians. The program will extend from mid-morning to mid-afternoon. It will consist of attendance at the Becket Hall Community Mass at St. John Fisher College at 9:45 a.m., brunch in the cafeteria, followed by a tour of Becket Hall and a chance to talk with the seminarians.

Students will be given an opportunity to see what the seminary is like and to obtain first hand answers to their questions.

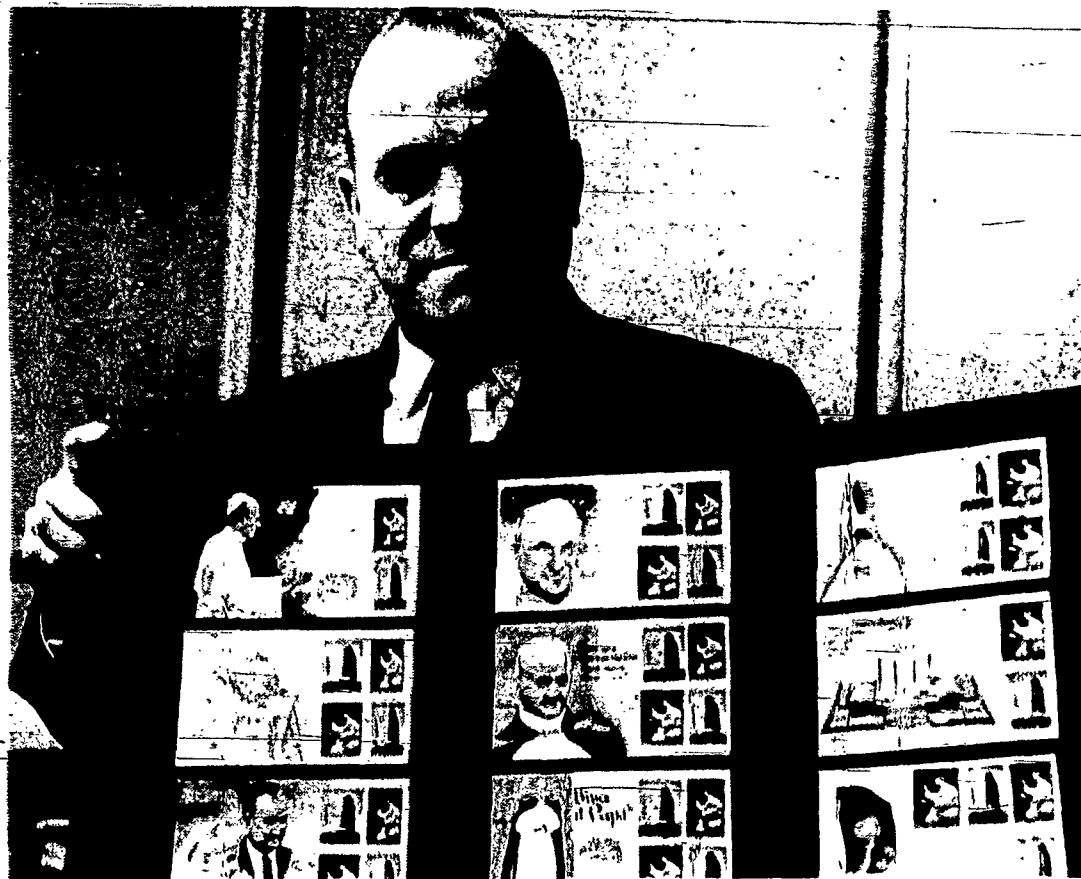
Those high school students who are interested should contact their pastor—who will make their reservation with Becket Hall. Interested students from public high schools are especially welcome.

Third Order Slates Meet

Our Lady of Victory Chapter, Third Order Secular of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, will hold their monthly Chapter Conference on Sunday, March 13, at 2 p.m. in Our Lady of Victory Church. Father Owen Goodwin, S.S.C.C., spiritual director, will preside.

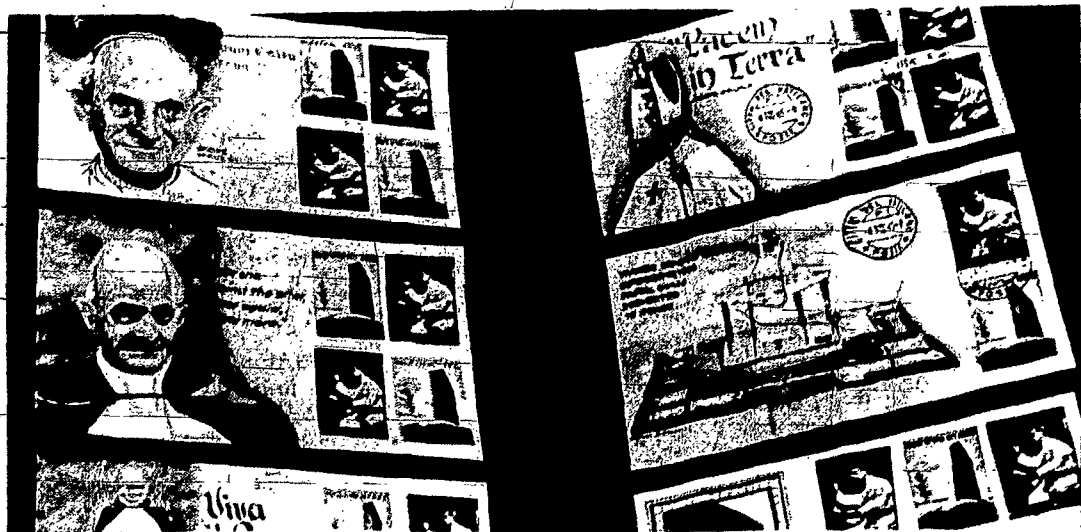
A Rule Meeting for novices and postulants is slated for 1:30 p.m. in the Rectory, under the direction of Novice Master William Grillo and Novice Mistress, Mrs. Catherine Clark.

Following the Chapter Conference, Business meeting will follow the Chapter conference in the school hall at 4 p.m. with Prior Joseph Latour presiding. He will announce plans for the official visitation of Father Howard Rafferty, O. Carm., Provincial Director of the Carmelite Third Order on April 17.



Historic Events on Envelopes

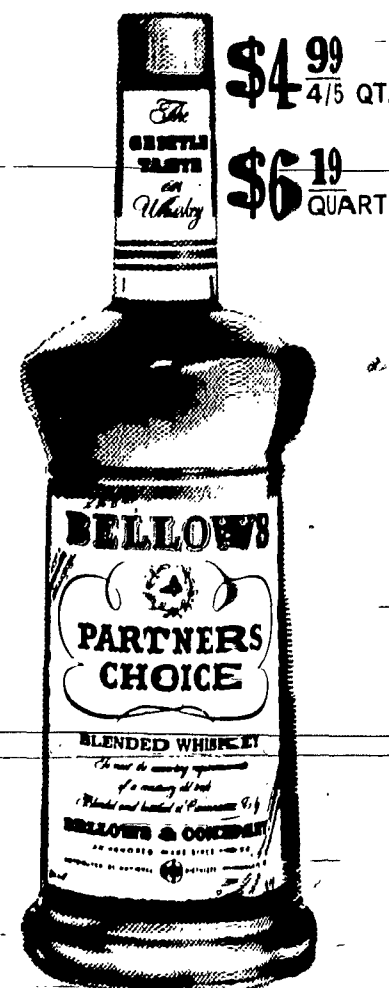
Mario P. DiCesare, 325 Holmes Rd., in St. John's parish, Greece, displays his hand-painted envelopes bearing Vatican stamps and postmarks for the October 4th visit of Pope Paul to the United Nations. DiCesare, an artist for the Robert Hart Co., has an extensive collection of commemorative cachets he designed for President Kennedy's funeral, the Gemini series of space flights and other historic events.



A close-up of Mario DiCesare's envelope art.

Rough Day?

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