

Nocturnal Group Sets Breakfast

The Rochester Nocturnal Adoration Society has scheduled its annual Communion and breakfast for Passion Sunday, March 27.

The announcement was made this week by Dr. John M. Brophy, chairman.

The breakfast will be served at the Bausch and Lomb cafe.



DR. JOHN BROPHY

At 8:30 a.m. and will be preceded by Masses at 7 a.m. at the four local centers, Sacred Heart Cathedral, St. Monica's, Blessed Sacrament, and St. Andrew's Churches.

Following a custom established many years ago the Society will have as principal speaker Bishop Kearney.

The spiritual directors of the four local centers will also attend. They are: Bishop Casey, Monsignor Gerald C. Lambert, Monsignor Edward J. McAniff, and Rev. Charles J. McCarthy.

August M. Maier, co-chairman, is in charge of arrangements and is being assisted by a committee including Urban G. Kress, executive secretary of the central committee, Angelo Di Nieri on seating, and officers and members of the four centers as ushers.

Dr. Brophy is faculty member of the College of Business Administration, at the University of Rochester and a member of the Cathedral parish.

LOCAL NEWS SECTION



BROTHER BRADLEY

Jubilant To Be Honored At Mass Today

Rev. Brother Michael H. Bradley will mark his fiftieth anniversary as a member of the Christian Brothers of Ireland at a Mass in Christ the King Church, 100 Adelphi, this morning, Friday, March 18.

Bishop Kearney will celebrate the Mass and Monsignor Charles V. Boyle will preach.

Brother Bradley is chairman of the modern language department of Bishop Kearney High School. He teaches Spanish. Faculty and students will attend his jubilee Mass.

He was born in Newport, County Mayo, Ireland, and entered the Brothers' community in 1916. His teaching career has included assignments at Gibraltar, New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles, Seattle, Washington and Oradell, N.J. He was assigned to the Bishop Kearney High School faculty in 1964.

Lay Women's Apostolate

Rev. Eugene Carson Blake, new general secretary of the World Council of Churches, recently said the "increasing involvement of lay men and women must be a prime objective of the Church in the decade ahead."

He said this will require "a revolution in the thinking of most ministers and lay people."

One clergyman who had his own revolution to this way of thinking was in Rochester early this month—blind Dominican Father Joseph Marie Perrin of Marseilles, France.

He was here to visit fifteen members of Caritas Christi, the local outpost of his worldwide organization for women who want to be both authentic lay people and also effectively apostolic.

Because such an idea is still so unusual—"why not be a nun if you want to work for the Church?" is a frequent response from those who meet a Caritas Christi member—Father Perrin advises this apostolic flock not to mention their affiliation—just "be good, Christian lay people."

The spur to form the organization came to him in 1937 when, newly ordained, he was appointed as chaplain to college students at Marseilles.

He admired the faith and generosity of his young charges but couldn't quite find a solution for those who wanted both to "serve the Church but stay in the world." The priesthood or convent life was a vocation, Father Perrin said, for only a few—what about the majority?

This came through to him most clearly when he gave a mission in a small village not far from Marseilles. There he met one of his former college parishioners who was thinking of becoming a Carmelite nun. The village where she lived was under the spiritual care of a very elderly priest and she had shouldered the burden of instructing the youngsters, organizing the teenagers and putting new life into the adult societies.

If she went off to a monastery, who'd fill the gap?

"God provides, I know," said Father Perrin, "but it looked to me like he already had provided. Why should I disrupt His providence?"

With a nucleus of similar apostolic young women, he established Caritas Christi (Latin for "The Love of Christ"), an organization that is technically called a "secular institute."

Father Perrin is stocky, cheerful, devout and optimistic, speaks only French but his message is clear. He was ordained despite the fact he was blind since twelve years of age—his blindness has given him the chance to "see" what most of us so often miss.

One of his Caritas Christi members described her organization's goals and methods in an article in the Evangelist, Albany diocesan paper recently. It is as follows:

Caritas Christi is the name given an organization of laywomen dedicated to bringing Christ not only into the marketplace but into all the places where they live and work and speak with others. "The essential aim to which the lives of the members of the Institute are directed must... be to abide in the love of God, loving Him and making Him loved where Providence has placed them" (Constitutions, Art. I).

In the Albany diocese one young woman, longing to devote herself to God's service but not wishing or able to accept the restrictions of community life in a convent or cloister, found Caritas Christi an almost unbelievable invitation to give her life and love to God without altering the secular environment in which she lives and works.

Recently, after much correspondence, study and discussion, her vows of poverty, chastity and obedience were given in a quiet Schenectady chapel be-



FATHER PERRIN

fore a representative of the Bishop. Witnessing the sacred ceremony were only four others—two priests and two members of Caritas Christi, one from Rochester, the other from Boston. Neither relatives, nor business associates, nor friends know of her dedication so that she is able to live a truly secular life not a life of known dedication which would make her appear "different."

This is one of the Articles of the Constitution that in order to remain completely secular the members resolve to keep secret their special dedication to Christ out of respect for the "secret of the King" in themselves and others, and to avoid any withdrawal or distinction which would separate them from their fellows.

It all began in 1937 when a group of ten women, desirous of enkindling love of God in their own and the hearts of others, formed the Union of Caritas Christi in Marseilles, France. Inspired by the spirit of St. Catherine of Siena they hoped to reconcile the active life of the world with the contemplative, offering themselves for the members of Christ's mystical body, doing all in harmony and with the approval of the Holy See and the Bishops.

Caritas Christi spread to other dioceses of France and to other countries. It was among the first secular organizations for

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Instant Retreats for GIs

American GIs in Germany have been introduced to "instant retreats" in the form of Days of Reflection by Father Joseph G. Gefell, a U.S. Army chaplain from the Diocese of Rochester.

Father Gefell, a lieutenant colonel, told the Courier in a letter this week that he and Protestant chaplains decided on the one-day programs in place of weekend retreats or week-long missions in order to reach more men more often.

His military parish stretches 250 miles and he hops by helicopter or plane from base to base each day but "it takes thirteen days to cover them all," he said.

Mission Group's 6th Year At Blessed Sacrament

Ladies of the Blessed Sacrament of Blessed Sacrament Parish entertained members of the Mission Group recently at a Desert Party to mark the completion of six years of monthly meetings to roll bandages and make hospital gowns.

Meetings are held on second Thursday of each month in the Rectory Meeting Room following 12:15 noon Mass. New members are welcome. Donations of sheets, shirts and linens are needed, and may be left at Blessed Sacrament Rectory, 267 Rutgers Street, Rochester.

Theme of the days of recollection has been "Strength for Living." Speaking to Catholic GIs has been Oblate Father Patrick J. Fennessy, Rev. M. Edward Gibson, to Protestants, and Chaplain Marvin Schieder, to Jews.

Photo shows Father Gefell, in boots, at lower left, with Father Fennessy and a group of the one-day retreatants.

Father Gefell has a twin brother, Gerard, also a chaplain.



Sacred Heart Nun to Speak To Catholic, Jewish Men

Mother Katharine Hargrove of Manhattanville College at Purchase, N.Y., will be the speaker at a dinner to be held at Our Lady of Lourdes parish hall, Brighton, Wednesday, March 30.

Attending the dinner will be the men of the Lourdes Holy Name Society and the Temple Club of B'nai B'rith.

Mother Hargrove, a Religious of the Sacred Heart, the community which operates Sacred Heart Academy on Prince St., Rochester, is the author of the just published book "The Star and the Cross"—a workbook for Catholics and Jews who wish to learn more about each other's beliefs and attitudes.

She is also the author of articles in the soon-to-be-published New Catholic Encyclopedia, the recently published Catholic Youth Encyclopedia, and for many Catholic magazines.

The Lourdes-B'nai B'rith men's groups have had an annual get-together to establish friendships and to develop a greater awareness of their separate religious traditions.



Army Honor

Father Edward J. Christoph, a U.S. Army chaplain from the Rochester Diocese, was awarded the first Oak Leaf Cluster for meritorious service, his mother, Mrs. Catherine Christoph of 15 Navarre Rd., Rochester, learned this week. Father Christoph, who holds the rank of Major, is currently assigned to the Eighth Army near Seoul, Korea. He is an Aquinas Institute graduate and began his chaplain's duties in 1955.

Praise from LBJ

James Kenny of Holy Rosary parish, Rochester, proudly displays a letter from the White House, thanking him for a poem he wrote to the President suggesting increased prayer for peace in Vietnam. President Johnson replied that he intended to set aside a Day of Prayer later in the year for this purpose.

Ithaca Knights Donate Chalice

Rev. Richard G. Stanton, pastor of Lady of the Lake Church, Kings Ferry, used the 1955 Memorial Chalice of the Ithaca Fourth Degree Assembly Knights of Columbus for the first time at the 9 a.m. Mass at the All Saints Mission Church at Ludlowville.

Young Poets Win Awards

Geneva—Young poets of Geneva's two parochial schools and one from Geneva High School emerged winners in the annual 1966 National Poetry Contest sponsored by the Catholic Daughters of America.

The local contest was arranged by Court Annunciation of Geneva. Mrs. Joseph M. Bihary was project chairman. Winners in the contest were Michael Morganti, St. Stephen's; Richard Staellenberger, St. Stephen's School; Barbara Deputy John Herson, also attended.

Scholarship For Nursing

Geneva Chapter, Rochester Diocesan Council of Catholic Nurses, is offering the Bishop Kearney Nursing Scholarship again this year.

It is available to graduates of Geneva High School and DeSales High School who are residents of Geneva.

The student applying must be accepted at St. Mary's Hospital School of Nursing, Rochester, or St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing, Elmira or St. James Hospital School of Nursing, Hornell.

Ten young women have already benefited by these scholarships and seven have already completed their nurses training. Funds for the scholarships are secured by the chapter.

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