

A Familiar Greeting---from the New Bishop of Rochester

God Love You!



The new spiritual shepherd of the Diocese of Rochester — a photo taken from his book 'This is the Holy Land'.

The best known U.S. Catholic bishop is the new Bishop of the Diocese of Rochester.

Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, of television fame, author of more than 50 books, newspaper columnist and noted speaker, was named this week by Pope Paul to be the sixth spiritual shepherd of this Diocese.

The silver-haired and golden-tongued prelate will succeed Bishop Kearney who resigned after 29 years as head of the See.

No date has as yet been set when Bishop Sheen will be installed here.

Bishop Sheen, sixteen years national director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, papal mission aid

agency, at his office in New York City, made this statement to the people of the Diocese:

"For sixteen years I have worked officially for the Missions, now I am happy to add to my love of the Missions my pastoral work of caring for souls. I am very happy to go to a Diocese so well prepared by Bishop Kearney and trust that I can merit the affection of priests and people as he has done. I wish to say God Love You to all the people of Rochester whatever be their creed, religion, race or color. To all I say God Love You."

Bishop Sheen will not come as a stranger to Rochester. His visit here on the occasion of the Mission Scenerama in 1956 drew capacity throngs to the just-completed Community War Memorial where he gave two talks on the final day of the week-long exhibit, first event held in the Memorial.

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The Man Everyone Knows

How do you try to write about a man the whole world knows?

And it's no wonder the world knows him — he's as transparent as a just-washed picture window.

He greets you warmly — answers the door and the phone at home himself — smiles widely, knits his brow sternly when in thought, looks right through you when he asks you a question, enjoys a joke — including especially his own — and, as any ordinary Christian would be expected to do, says his prayers humbly and frequently.

That's Bishop Sheen — but there are, of course, depths which no one can probe even with a lifetime of knowing him.

Asked if he has any specific plans about being Bishop of Rochester, he said he hadn't had time to think of any — he was obviously delighted with all he had heard about the Diocese — its schools and industries, its clergy and nuns and lay people, and particularly about the nightly radio broadcast of the Family Rosary for Peace.

His motto as a bishop is "Da per Matrem me venire" which he translates "Grant that I may come to Thee through Thy Mother."

Although he hasn't set the date that he'll come here, he made it clear he wants not just the prominent people to attend his installation rite — but ordinary people too, and I want the poor to feel welcome too."

'A Champion of the Faith of Christ Jesus'

Following is the statement Bishop Kearney made on the appointment of Bishop Fulton J. Sheen as his successor to be the Bishop of the Diocese of Rochester:

The Holy Father has honored this diocese by appointing as our bishop one of the leading churchmen of our day and our country. Bishop Sheen is indeed not merely a national figure but a man known and honored all over the world. He will bring to his position here a wealth of experience and a depth of piety and knowledge. A gifted speaker, his has been a world wide apostolate as champion of the faith of Christ Jesus. He has lived that faith as sincerely as he has preached it, for many years. The crozier of the historic See could not be in a worthier hand.



"God Love You."

Bishop Sheen enjoys the cartoons which spoof his popularity as television personality.

First — for the World

One of the first questions which came into countless minds when it was announced that Bishop Sheen was to be Bishop of Rochester was—What about his mission activity?

Bishop Sheen has been the national director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith for 15 years.

Will his appointment to Rochester narrow his interests?

Emphatically no, he said.

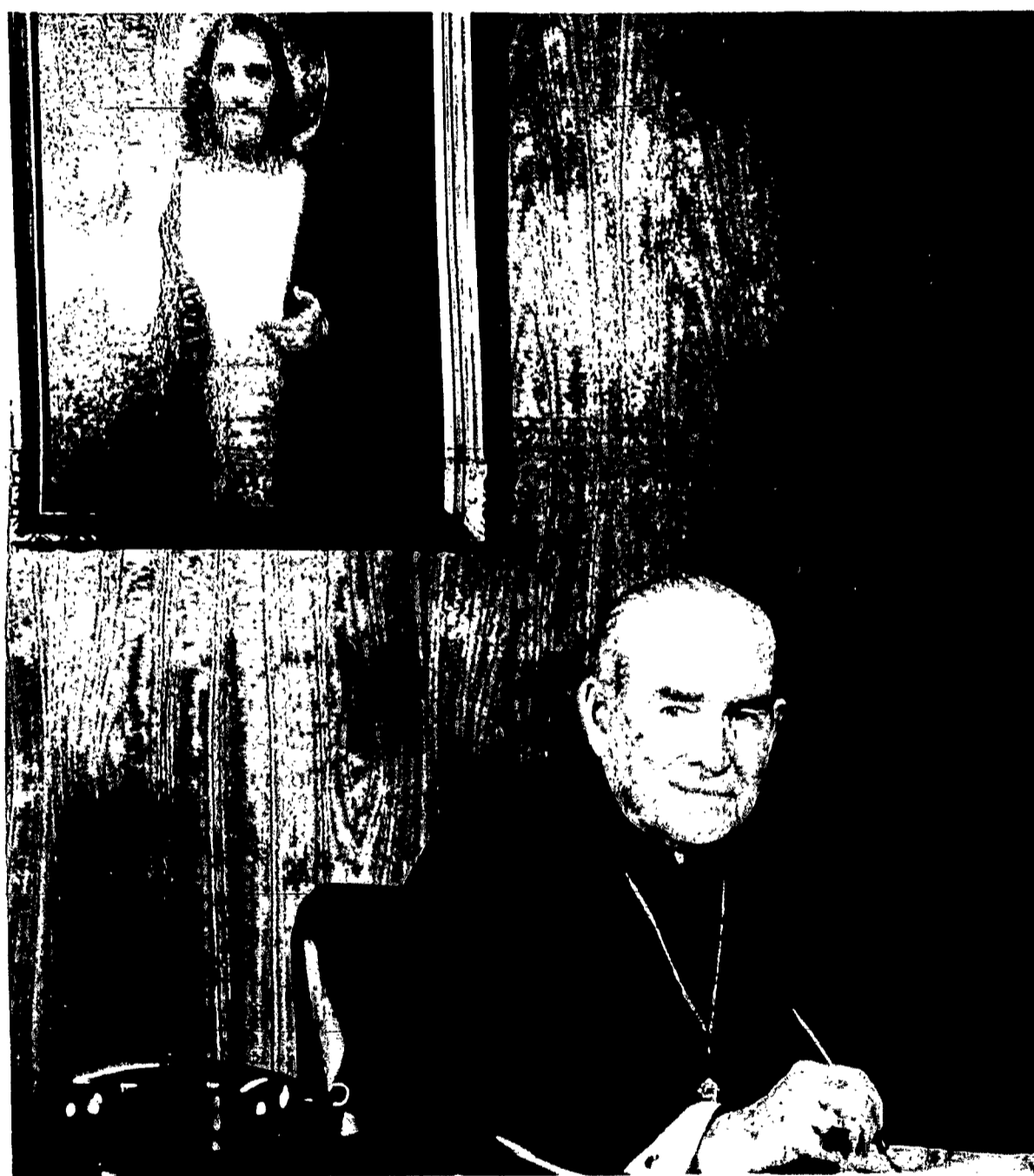
"I'm a bishop — first for the world, then for a diocese.

"But I've always loved the people of Rochester too— because they're included in my love for humanity."

Dispensation On Nov. 11th

Bishop Kearney has dispensed Catholics in the Rochester Diocese from the Church's law of abstinence for Friday, Nov. 11, Veterans Day.

Catholics may, therefore, eat meat as on any other day.



A papal birthday gift—a relief from the burdens of office.

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At 82, Time For a Respite

Today is Bishop Kearney's 82nd birthday. His present from the Pope is the chance for a respite from the burdens of 29 years as Bishop of Rochester.

The burdens never seemed to lay heavy on him, however.

He defied the usual toll of eight decades to keep a schedule which would weary a man half his age.

His resignation, accepted by Pope Paul, does not mean, we are sure, that he will cease to take a personal interest in the close to 500,000 Catholics of his Diocese.

Most of them live their faith today in large measure due to his more than a quarter of a century as spiritual shepherd of this Diocese.

Most of the 400 priests of the Diocese he ordained. Most every church or school in the Diocese has been either built or redecorated and then dedicated to its purpose with his blessing.

The number of youngsters, many of them now adults, whom he has confirmed runs into the thousands.

Most striking monument of his nearly thirty years as Bishop here is St. John Fisher College, the college he founded to cap the Catholic educational structure of the Diocese.

But the heritage of faith and unity throughout the Diocese is a monument better than any of brick or stone.

Bishop Kearney, in turning over the reins of administration to Bishop Sheen, will link the sixth Bishop of Rochester with the first bishop here, Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid.

Bishop Kearney, as a lad in New York City, was altar boy to the then Father McQuaid, little suspecting that one day he would succeed the man he served.

All Saints, All Souls

The feast of All Saints, a holiday, occurs Tuesday, Nov. 1. Parish bulletins should be consulted for exact time of Masses.

The following day, All Souls Day, although not a holiday of obligation, is a day of prayer for the faithful departed. November, in Catholic devotion,

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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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From an Illinois Farm to World Fame

BISHOP SHEEN was born May 8, 1885, at El Paso, Illinois, one of four sons of Newton Morris and Della (Fulton) Sheen. He was baptized Peter and took the name John at confirmation, later adopting his mother's maiden name.

His father was a farmer, but the family later moved to Peoria, Ill., where he attended St. Mary's School and Spalding Institute, from which he was graduated in 1913.

He received his A.B. and M.A. degrees from St. Viator College, Bourbonnais, Ill., where he first tasted the pleasures of speaking and writing as a member of the college debating team and newspaper staff. He completed his theological studies at St. Paul's Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., and was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Peoria, September 20, 1919.

A year later he obtained his degree of Bachelor of Sacred

Theology and Bachelor of Canon Law from the Catholic University of America, and went to the University of Louvain, Belgium, where he was awarded a Ph.D. in 1923. He also attended the Sorbonne in Paris and the Collegio Angelico in Rome. In 1924 he received his Doctorate of Sacred Theology in Rome, and a year later while teaching dogmatic theology at St. Edmund's College, Ware, England, he was made an Agrege en Philosophie by Louvain and awarded that university's Cardinal Mercier International Philosophy Award.

His honorary degrees include L.L.D., Litt.D. and L.H.D.

On his return to the United States, he served as a curate of St. Patrick's Church in Peoria and joined the faculty of the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., in

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1926 as a philosophy of religion instructor, later being promoted to a full professorship. In June, 1934, he was appointed Papal Chamberlain and was elevated the following year to Domestic Prelate.

He was consecrated Bishop on June 11, 1951, a year after he became National Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

As a preacher he has been heard by millions in the United States, Canada and England, through the media of radio and television.

A prolific writer, he is author of two syndicated columns: "God Love You" for the Catholic press, and "Bishop Sheen Speaks," for the secular press; and is editor of two magazines: World-Mission, a quarterly review, and Mission, a bi-monthly.

The popularity of his radio and television programs can be judged from the fact that his daily mail is a result of these

programs has reached as much as ten thousand letters in a single day — about one-third of them from non-Catholics. The largest single delivery of mail after a program was thirty thousand letters.

He conducted the first religious service ever telecast, served as narrator for a March of Time film, and has had his sermons issued in record album form. His interests are wide, and as well as serving in such organizations as the Catholic Literary Guild and the American Catholic Philosophical Society, he is an active member of the Mediaeval Academy and the American Geographical Association.

The long list of his more than 50 books started with publication of "God and Intelligence in Modern Philosophy" (Longmans, Green, 1925).

FERRY FLOWERS for all occasions. Ethel M. Perry assisted by Tom Lavaglia, Mgr., Ben Weingartner, Asst. Mgr., 441 Chubb Ave. PA. 8-7722.—Adv.