



Bishop Kearney and Courier editor, Thomas O'Connor  
**Looking Back**

## Floodgates of Memories On Bishop's Birthday

By THOMAS H. O'CONNOR

Throngs at New York Central on his arrival in 1937, throngs at the Holy Name Rallies in Red Wing Stadium, throngs at the War Memorial to honor a 20th anniversary and at the Mission Scenerama, and the turnout at Sampson Naval Station for his Masses, in part attest to the esteem in which Bishop Kearney is held here.

The Bishop's 82nd birthday today has opened a floodgate with rushing memories too numerous for recording.

Rochester's fifth Bishop and his concern for his flock is appreciated by all of us. His contacts with those of other creeds has resulted in his being acclaimed as one of the area's most distinguished citizens.

I can still see that crowd at the once beautiful New York Central Station in November 1937 where I went with Bill Lang, now Transit Company president, then with the Journal American. We managed to get up on the balcony and viewed the crowd reaction as Bishop Kearney appeared. That response of the people to their Bishop then is multiplied many times by his 29 years with us this year.

It was our privilege that night of Nov. 10 to go to the East Ave. residence to meet the new Bishop who gave us copies of the sermon he would give at the installation.

Now the river of memories begins to flow. The Bishop and the Knights of Columbus come to mind. He immediately was available and still is, for functions of the order. Early in his attendance at the knights' functions he sounded praises for the "K. of C. Widows," and immediately we were all allowed to go to meetings without the stress at home.

When I was grand knight the question of founding the First Friday Luncheon Club to encourage devotion to the Sacred Heart came up. How lucky we were to have Bishop Kearney all date chaplain to foster the movement and he still comes to the June and December meetings with a special message.

I have been privileged to know of Bishop Kearney's personal interest in his associates. When my mother died in 1939 he came to the house and presided at the Mass. Our Silver Wedding anniversary in 1947 was marked by Bishop Kearney celebrating the Mass in the Carmelite Monastery on East Ave. His remarks at the time have a still, strong impression on me, my wife Helen and the family.

The 25 years I had completed in Catholic Press work in March 1949 was an occasion to be long remembered. Bishop Kearney was principal speaker at a dinner in Hotel Sheraton arranged by him with Monsignor John S. Randall, our managing editors of our two local papers and other staff members, clergy and laity attended. It was memorable and inspiring.

One of the vast number of activities that the laity appreciates is Bishop Kearney's starting of the Family Communion Sunday with the breakfast "for mother" following. Our family was small when this practice began. Now we have 20 at the breakfast.

Another spiritual development for the laity which Bishop Kearney fosters and encourages is the Nocturnal Adoration Society. I have not been overactive but have witnessed the men who have kept up this practice. The Bishop termed it the "Spiritual Powerhouse of the Diocese." How the members feel about it is demonstrated on Passion Sunday when they turn out in droves to hear Bishop Kearney speak.

Before the Bishop came to Rochester, lay retreats were held at St. Bernard's Seminary, where too many were in attendance for the one retreat of the year. Bishop Kearney with the Redemptorist Fathers started the closed retreats at the Hovey estate in Geneva and when the demands warranted it, opened the 246 Alexander St. building. Now with the Bishop's encouragement a new and adequate retreat house is rising in Canandaigua.

What has impressed us is Bishop Kearney's faithful devotion to the Blessed Mother. What better way to spread this devotion than by the airwaves. The Family Rosary daily over W.S.A.Y. has the Bishop's constant attention. He leads the Rosary on a Feast of the Blessed Mother whenever it occurs.

There is not a Catholic group in this diocese that does not get the Bishop's attention and help. He has served as Supreme Chaplain of the Knights of St. John and presides at the solemn ceremony of conferring of the Noble Cross. What Knights of Equity dinner on St. Patrick's Day is complete without the Bishop's wit and wisdom?

The Catholic women's groups have not been overlooked, in fact they get the same attention as the men's groups. Personally I remember the Bishop's founding of the Catholic Nurses and his encouragement to them.

Each year in September as the Courts of Justice are about to open, Bishop Kearney has celebrated the impressive Red Mass in St. Joseph's Church. Jurists and lawyers regardless of creed turn out to hear his sermon.

This is not a report on the Bishop's activities during 29 years of reign. Where would we be able to record them all unless in a larger publication? I just thought his birthday today would be a good time to touch on highlights and stir others' memories of what he has done for all of us.

### Study Weekend Set at Cenacle

The Cenacle Retreat House will sponsor "A Study Weekend on Vatican II" on Nov. 25, 26 and 27 at the East Ave. retreat house.

Father Albert Shamon and Father Henry Atwell will lead the discussions.

The weekend will be spent in an in-depth study of Vatican II documents, concentrating on those most important to our contemporary Church.

Registration will begin at 5:30 p.m. Friday followed by supper at 6:30 p.m. and an evening Mass. The weekend will close around 3:30 p.m. Sunday. Offering is \$20.

### Nuns in Two New Parishes

## Focus on Adults

Without much fanfare or any particular notice by the rest of the Diocese, two parishes have quietly inaugurated this year what may well prove to be models of one of the most vital types of parish organization in the future of the Church.

Father Joseph Lynch, pastor of year-old Holy Spirit Parish in Penfield, and Father Thomas Reddington of Holy Name Parish in Greece, faced by the necessary restrictions on building new parochial schools in the Diocese and also very wary of the emphasis which the Vatican Council has laid upon an ever-greater lay participation in parish life, are putting into effect a full Confraternity of Christian Doctrine program in their respective parishes.

This full program includes another diocesan "first" in that both the Sisters of St. Joseph and the Sisters of Mercy release two teaching Sisters for full-time participation in these parish programs. Of course, Sisters from both of these Communities have done release-time and summer school catechizing for many years, but never before has CCD work been their complete assignment.

Many Rochesterians — and even many members of the two orders of nuns — are unaware of just what these Sisters "do all day," so this article is to help to spread the good news of this small but potentially dynamic apostolate.

Sisters Georgiana and Edwina are the two St. Joseph nuns assigned to Holy Spirit, and Sisters Chabanel and Eugenia the two Mercy Sisters at Holy Name. All four of the Sisters have had several years of teaching experience, and are good friends, having studied together this past summer at the University of Sudbury in Canada in preparation for their new work.

Although there are a few variations in the Sisters' programs in the two parishes, their work for the most part, is very similar. In essence, it consists of being a very real and integrated part of the entire parish life — rather than the isolated "specialists" which the regular parochial school faculty must very often be if they are to do their class-room teaching and preparation with the professional-excellence which is justifiably expected of them.

The "CCD Sisters" do some teaching, but it is largely at an adult level — assisting in many ways the lay men and women who do the actual instruction. Each parish has approximately 400 youngsters in grades 1-6 who are in the public schools of the areas. These children, with an attendance figure close to 100% each week, come to Saturday morning instruction classes taught by CCD-trained men and women who are, in turn, under the direction of lay principals. The Sisters assist in an advisory capacity, or occasionally act as substitutes when the lay substitute teachers are not available.

The two parishes handle their grades 7-12 public school students in a slightly different way. At Holy Name, the seventh through tenth graders attend seminar style classes held on Wednesday evenings. In small groups, these teenagers meet with the two Sisters, seven seminarians, and the Assistant Pastor, Father Gross; the ten teachers rotate classes every three weeks, discussing such topics as "personality," "communication," "prayer," "sex," and "honesty."

High school juniors and seniors meet each week for hour-long discussions in the homes of various parishioners who volunteered to lead the groups.

The home-discussion religion classes were also offered to the teenagers of Holy Spirit Parish, this time for all grades 7-12, as an alternative to a weekly release-time class in the afternoon. About 100 of these students selected the evening home classes, and these have proved so popular that an expansion of them is planned for next year.

The Sisters, again, act as consultants for the lay people who prepare these weekly discussions and conduct them so well. Another area of adult education carried out in both parishes, though again a little differently in each, is that of helping parents to prepare their own children to make their First Holy Communion.

Holy Spirit Parish started with nine children who had already received some instruction during the summer school of religion; the parents of these children were willing to continue the instructions, using books written expressly for this purpose, and meeting with the Sisters when any problem arose. Since the children did not make any confession before the Communion, the parents found these instructions very simple and pleasant to give. On Sunday, Oct. 23, the nine children received their First Communion with their families at the 10:30 Mass (held in the auditorium of Our Lady of Mercy High where the parish Sunday Masses are being held until the church is built).

At Holy Name the Sisters are holding classes for the parents of all of the children who are the right age for making their First Communion to help them with the preparation. As the children become ready for this Sacrament, they may receive with their own families; in the spring there will be a special Mass for all of the children with the traditional white veils and stoles, and procession.

Another wide area of the Sisters' CCD Apostolate is Home-Visiting — not to take a census, not to try to "convert" anyone, but simply to become acquainted and to let the parishioners know that the Sisters are "there," available to help them whenever and in any way they can. (This offer has been immediately accepted in some instances, as in the case of the lady with a bad back ache who needed her oven cleaned, and a teen-ager who needed help on a speech.)

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FATHER KUJAWSKI

## Funeral Rites For Father Kujawski

Solemn funeral rites for Father Leonard P. Kujawski, assistant pastor of St. Casimir's Church, Elmira, will be held at that church this morning, Friday, at 10:30 a.m.

Bishop Kearney will offer the Requiem Mass.

Father Kujawski, 40, died suddenly Tuesday, Oct. 25, 1966. Father Kujawski was born June 24, 1926 in Elmira, the son of Mrs. Charles E. Kujawski and the late Mr. Kujawski. He attended St. Casimir's School, Elmira Catholic High School, St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's Seminaries.

He was ordained June 2, 1951, by Bishop Kearney in Sacred Heart Cathedral. He celebrated his first solemn Mass on June 3 in St. Casimir's Church.

His first appointment was as assistant pastor at St. Stanislaus Church, Rochester. He was assigned to St. Casimir's on June 25, 1954. For twelve years he has served as assistant at the Elmira parish. In 1955 he was also appointed chaplain of the Elmira Firemen's Association.

A classmate remembers Father Kujawski as "a tremendously vivacious" priest and interested in all the activities of the parish and the area. He served several years as moderator of the Chemung-Schuyler Deanery of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women.

A vigil service of prayer was held last evening. Burial will be in SS. Peter and Paul's Cemetery, Elmira.



Teen-agers meet for weekly evening discussion sessions in the homes of both Holy Name and Holy Spirit parishioners.

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The "catechizing pioneers" in the two Communities have much to say to each other: Sisters Chabanel, Edwina, Eugenia, and Georgiana.

## The Catholic COURIER

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

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### St. Theresa's To Celebrate End of Debt

Mass of Thanksgiving will be offered at St. Theresa Church, Mark St., on Sunday, Oct. 30 at 5 p.m. by Monsignor John E. Maney, pastor of Corpus Christi Church.

The Mass will celebrate the liquidating of a forty year church debt by St. Theresa's. A banquet and the burning of the mortgage will follow in the parish hall.

Congratulations to parishioners for their cooperation in achieving payment of the debt were extended this week by Father Ambrose Walas, O.F.M. Conv., pastor, and Father Hyacinth Serement, O.F.M. Conv., assistant pastor.

### Forty Hours

Sunday, Oct. 30 — Christ the King, St. Francis Xavier, Rochester; Immaculate Heart of Mary, Painted Post; St. Mary of the Lake, Watkins Glen.

### Parishes Get Ready For Thanksgiving Drive

Parishes in the Diocese of Rochester are preparing this week for the 18th annual Thanksgiving Clothing Collection, to be held the week of Nov. 13-19. The Diocesan Director is Rev. Chester M. Klocek of St. Mary's, Canandaigua.

Usable shoes, clothing, bedding and piece goods, collected at the parish level, are sorted, packed and shipped to a central warehouse as part of a national effort.

Last year's total, from all the United States Dioceses, was well over 18 million pounds. One third of this amount was earmarked for immediate shipment to the needy of Viet Nam.

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