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for the Propagation of the Faith, often described the Church's Community Chest for missionaries. A year later he was consecrated to the hierarchy and named auxiliary bishop of the New York archdiocese.

He wanted his consecration, like his ordination a half century earlier, to be a spiritual event rather than a publicity spectacular, so he requested that the ceremony be held in Rome rather than in New York or Washington. The rite was held in the Church of St. John and St. Paul, brothers who were martyred during the time of the ancient Roman persecution and buried in their own home which can still be visited beneath the church.

The Church of St. John and St. Paul is Cardinal Spellman's titular church in the Eternal City, dramatizing a bond between the two prelates that has survived many vicissitudes that the two were at odds with each other.

Bishop Sheen has not just written articles and books himself, he has also been the topic for others to write about.

Time magazine chose him as its cover man for its Easter issue in 1952 and hazarded the guess then that "Sheen may never get a see of his own, because he lacks administrative experience, but it is generally believed that he is some day destined to wear a cardinal's hat."

His appointment to Rochester doesn't really prove Time's editors to be wrong. Another bishop of Rochester became a cardinal—Cardinal Edmund Mooney, who was bishop here from 1931 to 1937, so speculation that history might repeat itself is certainly still valid.

Characteristic of Sheen's ability to do the ordinary thing in always a bit of an extraordinary way is illustrated in Time's concluding profile of the prelate.

In 1949, the magazine said, Sheen offered a prayer before the U.S. Congress which, remarked the editors, all Americans might take to heart.



Japanese women with Bishop Sheen at a missionary departure ceremony at the Maryknoll Seminary.

"Gentlemen . . . you ought to pray to God now as never before . . . You ought to pray that God, the sovereign King of nations, who once used Assyria as the rod and staff of His anger, will not now use Russia as the instrument of a Western World that has forgotten God . . . You ought to pray that our beloved country . . . may one day fulfill its glorious and certain vocation of being the secondary cause by which God will give freedom to the people of Russia and peace and order to all the world. Instead, then, of perfunctorily praying to God and then tacking the prayer as 'finished business,' we say to you: Gentlemen, this is the unfinished business—your prayers . . . God love you."

Prayer, for Bishop Sheen, is still the great "unfinished business" which he, therefore, continues to make the subject of so many of his writings and why he himself, without any ostentation but as simply and convincingly as any routine duty of life, introduces so easily into his talks, even his informal conversations.

Typical of this technique is the prayer poem which concludes his book *This is the Mass*:

As now, once more I walk the path of daily life . . .

Grant me, O Word my brother, born of a Virgin Mother,

Sharing with me life's sorrows and anguished end,

Grant me, when trustfully I kneel in Your sight,

Grant me to know that in You rests the answer to all that I seek.

Teach me how Majesty put on Mercy's robe

And bridged by the Cross the great chasm that set us apart;

May Your Blood be not shed in vain; save me, my God:

Let the Word of Your Love resound in my heart.



Monsignor Sheen at the dedication of St. Mary's shrine to Our Lady of the Highway in Rochester.



Bishop Sheen at a meeting of the Catholic Students Mission Crusade.



Students hear Bishop Sheen describe mission work at his office in New York City.

May God Bless You

In Your

New Mission of Charity

"caritas Christi urget nos"

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rochester and Its Affiliated Agencies

Catholic Charities
of the Diocese of Rochester

Camp Stella Maris

Auburn Catholic Family Center

Catholic Youth Organization

Charles Settlement House

De Paul Clinic

Elmira Catholic Family Service

Genesee Settlement House

Rochester Catholic Family Center

St. Ann's Home

St. Elizabeth Guild House

St. Joseph's Villa

Columbus Civic Center