

The light of Christ's countenance

shine upon your Excellency!

His love delight you and speak through you

+ + +

THE MONKS

OUR LADY OF THE GENESEE ABBEY

PIFFARD, NEW YORK



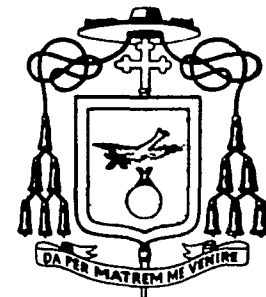
WELCOME

BISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN

Rochester is both proud and privileged to welcome you. The esteem and affection which has been accorded you by members of all faiths bespeaks the universal appeal of your accomplishments.

TO BISHOP JAMES E. KEARNEY
we extend our best wishes for health and happiness in your retirement.

The National



GOD LOVE YOU + + +

from the People of

ST. HELEN'S PARISH

Rochester, N. Y.

Bishop Kearney, Founder of St. John Fisher College

By FATHER CHARLES J. LAVERY, C.S.B.

A priest is ordained to bless, to sanctify and to offer sacrifice. A bishop, with the fullness of the powers of the priesthood, and, as a successor to the apostles of Christ, is charged further with the responsibility to teach.

The command of Christ to his apostles to go forth and teach all nations and to bring to them the wisdom and love of God has been echoed in this diocese for almost thirty years by Bishop Kearney. But it has been echoed for almost sixty years since he was ordained a priest of God.

If one looks through the life of Bishop Kearney as priest and bishop with a telescopic lens he will note a constant theme in the midst of all his activities, and that is a love of teaching and a deep and continuing respect for education—from the home to the highest levels of graduate education. His love for the classroom came from his own home from his parents. They knew the values and beauties of education and their family received their vision of the joys of education for them.

If one looks through the recorded words of Bishop Kearney, if he notes the thousands of occasions when his eloquent voice was heard, in every instance it was the word and voice of a teacher who strove to give something of what he loved and wished to share with others.

It may have been at a baptism, a confirmation, a nurses graduation, a college capping ceremony, at a public event, but on

every occasion one thrilled to hear a quotation of Shakespeare, or of some opera, a piece of poetry, and, above all, a humble expression of the love of God and the secret of a happy and successful life on earth.

Elsewhere in this paper the truly human life of Bishop Kearney and its many jewels are described for us, but they have been suggested here because they are at the center of his life as an educator. They are the foundation of his keen interest in every aspect of Nazareth College, of Catherine McAuley and St. John Fisher Colleges, and of St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's Seminaries. The loftiness of the occasion, the eminence of the guest of honor were but occasions for Bishop Kearney to proclaim his joy in his colleges and to give in a few sentences a message of majestic excellence and of memorable significance.

Since coming to Rochester in 1937 Bishop Kearney has personally handed diplomas to approximately fifty thousand high school graduates throughout the diocese and as Chancellor of Nazareth and St. John Fisher Colleges he has conferred over four thousand degrees.

These moments, so thrilling to parents, were a joy to him because in almost every instance he had confirmed those who were receiving their diplomas and degrees. His pride was that of a father and his blessing was given in that spirit.

The deep and paternal interest in the students of the high schools and colleges of the diocese has been matched through the years by his unlimited interest and concern for the institutions themselves. Nazareth College was established before Bishop Kearney came to Rochester. But from the mo-

ment of his first visit in 1937 it became his own. He played an important role in the Nazareth fund appeal in 1940 for a new campus. He participated in the laying of the cornerstone of every building and in 1963 dedicated a dormitory named in his honor. For 28 years he participated in the Baccalaureate Mass as speaker or celebrant and on countless occasions he was a joyful participant in college events.

For obvious reasons this writer can speak with greater reference to Bishop Kearney and his role in higher education through his

activities at St. John Fisher College. As close as his relationship is to the college, nonetheless it reflects his constant awareness of the importance of Catholic colleges not only in Rochester but throughout the State and nation.

In 1947 Bishop Kearney together with the Basilian Fathers originated the project which led to the establishment of St. John Fisher College. He said that this was his most important undertaking. At that time

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From the Council of Churches

Dear Bishop Sheen,

To be asked to extend a word of greeting to you as you take up your Pastoral duties is to be the recipient, not of a burden, but a gift. Welcome, then, Bishop Sheen to this hour and this place!

For many years we of Protestant, Orthodox, and Anglican faith have lived and worked side by side with our Roman Catholic neighbors. Friendships have been formed, pleasures shared, politics argued. Rochester is a community which has been good to many of us and we are conscious that the more crude manifestations of ill-will and mistrust have not characterized our civic life.

But there has also been much that Christ has said to us to which we have not given a listening and obedient ear. Our charity has sometimes been of a perfunctory nature rather than an affair of the heart. We tend to be comfortable and self-enclosed. We tend to wish that others would become more like us rather than ourselves becoming more like the Son of God.

We are, under the impact of these momentous times, becoming restless. We are questioning the extent of our progress in civic health and human relations. We are uneasy about our token gestures of brotherhood and good will. We are wondering if God does not have something better in store for us all than polite exchanges on the surface of life.

May your leadership bring us new heart for common endeavors, new enthusiasm for joining in service to people and the enrichment of our common lot. The Ecumenical movement is a reality for us—its tangible and practical fruits are now our quest.

On behalf of our member churches, pastors and people, we wish you a warm good welcome, and pray that God may bless and uphold you in your manifold tasks.

Richard Norman Hughes, Executive Director
Rochester Area Council of Churches

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF GREECE

All our parishioners wish you

God's Blessings

and a long life in the service of Souls

+ + +

ST. CHARLES BORROMEO

OUR LADY OF MERCY

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

ST. LAWRENCE

MOTHER OF SORROWS

ST. MARK

HOLY NAME OF JESUS

We join in a warm welcome
and best wishes to

Bishop Sheen

TRANT'S, INC.

Rochester's oldest and largest
Catholic Supply Store

and

WM. J. WOERNER & SON

Rochester's foremost manufacturer of Church Furni-
ture and Equipment. Designed and made in our shop.

"We serve the Church"