



GOD LOVE YOU

Most Reverend
Fulton J. Sheen

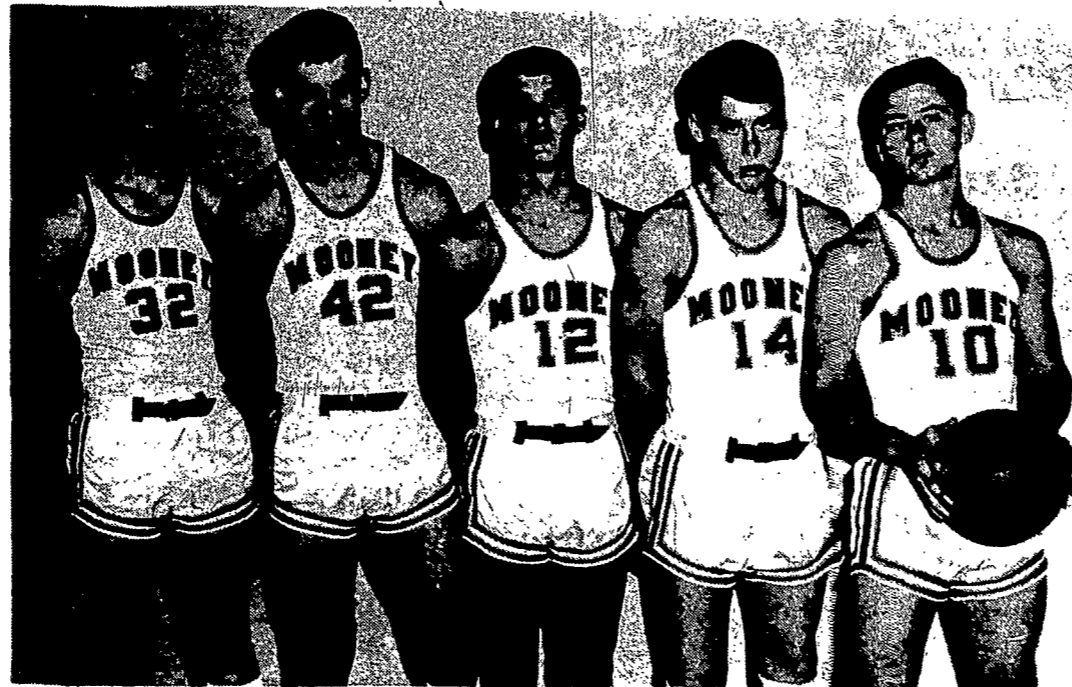
Is Christmas something that has happened or something that is happening? If you knew nothing about Christmas and were asked to imagine where God would become Man today, you would probably say: "In St. Peter's in Rome," or "as a Prophet in triumphant splendor in Russia." But actually, He became Man in a dirty stable, surrounded by its filth and wrapped in tight swaddling bands. Divinity is where you least expect to find it! When you read the following letter from Vietnam would you say: "This is Christ?" A priest there writes: "I am deeply grieved to inform you about the tragic death of a priest of the diocese. He was assassinated by the Viet-Cong on his way home from one of his parishes after he said the second Sunday Mass on November 20. There were five shots in all. Three of them hit and broke his head. The other two went through his chest. He gave his life for his sheep for the sake of whom he braved death itself, for the parish he visited was entirely controlled by the Viet-Cong, who once arrested and forbade him to come back to see his flock. His cruel death, for from frightening, stimulates on the contrary his fellow priests to do just the same if necessary to comfort and nourish God's people who cannot get out of the Red paradise."

Since He came to be our Savior, the Son of God had to enflesh Himself in the very race He came to save. He had to go down to the very rock from which we are hewn and put on our nature — not in its decorated, ornamental form — but as it is in the humblest and weakest. The poor cannot now say, He does not know what it is to be homeless. The lowly cannot now say, He does not know what it is to be depressed. This is the point where our spirituality fails. We make it exclusively vertical and not sufficiently horizontal; too much concerned with liturgical protocol and not sufficiently concerned with our neighbor's needs; too much thinking about "God up there" and not enough about God in our neighbor. That night in Bethlehem there were three who were denied entrance to the inn. Today thousands huddle in the streets, dums and hovels, shut out from their homes by wars, persecutions and disease, waiting for you to redress the wrong done by the innkeepers in Bethlehem.

One of the reasons writers today say, "God is dead," is because they cannot see our faith at work amidst the downtrodden and the homeless. "Not everyone who says 'Lord, Lord' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven." If Our Lord was enfleshed in poverty why are we enfleshed in comfort without sharing our comforts with others? If Our Lord was wrapped in the swaddling bands of crying, helpless humanity, as worthy followers we must take on His limitations and deny ourselves a luxury now and then. "This will be a sign"—a sacrifice from you. God Love You!

God's gift to us on Christmas was the supreme expression of love—He gave Himself in the Person of His Son. You can show your gratitude by giving in return of the gifts He has given you. First, make provisions to give your wealth to the hungry, the famished and the lepers in the impoverished countries of the world (either by Will, Annuity or Trust—the latter two giving you added tax exemptions and added income during life). Second, allow the Holy Father to make the distribution of your alms, because he knows more about the poor of the world than you, or me, or anyone else. Third, provide that all religious groups and societies share in this charity and not just on "Help somebody, everywhere and thus imitate the Providence of God. Fourth, if the grace of God inspires you to fulfill your stewardship of His blessings in the above ways (and what ways are better?) write to me including the date of your birth, and I will give all the details. God Love You!

Cut out this column, pin your sacrifice to it and mail it to Most Rev. Fulton J. Sheen, National Director of The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 366 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10001, or to your Diocesan Director, Rt. Rev. Msgr. John F. Duffy, 50 Chestnut Street, Rochester, New York 14604



Mooney's cagers Dick Felher, Jim Harrington, Otis Davis, Doug Farrell and Dan Shoniker will seek to defend their school's court reputation in holiday tourney.

Mooney Beats Kearney, 54-52

A jump shot by senior forward Otis Davis with 5 seconds to go, broke a 52-52 deadlock and gave Cardinal Mooney its first victory in Catholic High School competition. The win was the Cardinal's fifth straight against no losses.

Jim Harrington pumped in 17 points on 7 field goals and 3 free throws to pace the Cardinals. Sophomore guard, Doug Farrell had 12 points, sophomore center Dick Felher had 8 and Davis 7 to contribute to the offensive attack. For Kearney, Tom Mangione led the scoring with 15 points while Boss had 9 and Scott Shales, Charlie Battles and Dave DeVoldre had 8 each.

Both teams opened the first period with ball handling errors and cold shooting with Mooney leading 8-6. The Cardinals pulled away for a 7 point lead at the half 27-20 and a 17 point third period gave the Greece school a 44-32 advantage. The Kings roared back with a fine last ditch rally to tie the score 52-52 with 53 seconds remaining. The Cardinals took their last time out and controlled the ball until Davis' break-through for the winning tally.

McQuaid Nips Aquinas, 56-54

By KEVIN DWYER

The explosive rivalry of McQuaid and Aquinas provided its expected excitement last Saturday at the War Memorial as the Knights, after losing a big early lead, pulled themselves together and nipped the Little Irish, 56-54.

Against Aquinas, McQuaid was in command, 15-7, at the end of the first quarter behind the accurate shooting of John Koller, Bob Weingartner, and Jeff Gillenkirck. The Knights continued their pace with 7 in a row at the start of the second period for a comfortable 15-point bulge.

Sparkplug guard Paul Flore and reserve Eete McGuire then began finding the range and closed the gap to 24-19. But McQuaid struck for 6 straight and a 30-21 halftime lead.

After intermission, though, the Irish held the Knights scoreless for 5½ minutes. Meanwhile, Jim Murawski led Aquinas on a 10-point scoring run for a 31-30 lead. Still up, 37-36, at quarter's end, Aquinas opened up its biggest lead of the game

at 44-40 with about 6 minutes left. Weingartner came off the bench, then, to bring the Knights alive. After Combs and Koller had tied it on fouls, he twisted loose underneath for a lay-up, and Koller and Brad Smith hit on jumpers as McQuaid spurred to a 55-46 advantage in 4 minutes.

Aquinas came back again on the scoring of Jim Brady and Richie Greenwood and forced McQuaid to rely on Gillenkirck's foul in the last 20 seconds for some breathing room. Brady's basket in the final moments made it 56-54. Time then ran out for the Irish.

Priest Senate

Sloux City—(NC)—Priests of the Sloux City diocese have elected a number of their fellow priests to various diocesan offices, including the board of consultants, deans of six deaneries, and the newly instituted senate of priests, with the approval of Bishop Joseph M. Mueller of Sloux City.

CYO Parish Basketball

ELEMENTARY WHITE DIVISION

Blessed Sacrament 63, Mother of Sorrows 25; Sacred Heart 43, St. John (Greece) 16; Holy Rosary 42, Holy Family 23; St. Augustine 30, St. Charles 19.

Green

St. Joseph, Penfield 37, Lady of Mercy 21; St. Helen 28, St. John (city) 14; St. Michael 14, St. Louis 7; St. Jerome 47, St. Boniface 14; St. Cecilia 33, St. Monica 32.

Scarlet

OLPH 43, Holy Ghost 23; Mt. Carmel 31, Christ the King 13; Lady of Lourdes 38, St. Salome 30; Precious Blood 37, St. Thomas More 36; Holy Name 33, Immaculate Conception 19.

HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION

Northern

Holy Cross 49, Holy Name 23; Mother of Sorrows 54, St. Margaret Meary 37; Lady of Mercy 73; St. Salome 65; St. Thomas Apostle 48, St. Cecilia 35.

Southern

Blessed Sacrament 91, St. Boniface 54; St. Thomas More 83, Good Shepherd 65; Lady of Lourdes 55, St. John (city) 40; St. Louis 46, St. Joseph 34.

Western

St. Monica 81, Holy Apostle 60; St. Augustine 68, Precious Blood 59; Holy Family 50, Holy Rosary 48; St. Helen 68, Sacred Heart 64.

Eastern

St. Stanislaus 59, Mt. Carmel 43; St. Andrew 53, St. Michael 51; Holy Spirit 40, Holy Trinity 28, St. Ambrose 42, OLPH 36.

Reception Held For Students

Approximately 125 people, in addition to 50 students, attended the reception for foreign students at St. Catherine of Siena Parish Hall, Ithaca, Sunday, Dec. 11.

Miss Eve Firra, president of Tompkins-Tioga Deanery, the sponsoring organization, extended greetings to guests who included students from Australia, Colombia, Cuba, England, Formosa, Holland, Hungary, India, Italy, Peru and Taiwan. Co-chairmen for the event were Mrs. Amanda Chacona and Mrs. Agnes Goodsell.

Bowling

Rochester Catholic Women's

Shirley Bates 417, Betty Laumann 447, Myra Neichie 438, Ruth Garvey 484, Margaret O'Hanlon 416, 171; Rose Van Epps 402.

Mother of Sorrows Mixed (12-11)

Men: G. Postle 214, F. Wohleben 208, F. Wilson 193, Women: H. Ayotte 174, H. Passero 171, E. Diehl 168.

Sacred Heart Ladies' Nite (12-14)

R. Spaziano 188, 163, 160, 511; A. McCarthy 185, H. Zanatta 182, A. Edwards 177, 171, 165, 218; R. Frank 177, D. Roth 178, T. Lynn 169, H. Hurmes 167, C. Nodolewski 164, A. LeVere 163, N. Ransom 163, J. Wedow 163, M. Geisler 162.

Greece Catholic League (12-14)

A. Full 257, 600; J. Mikel 248, 224, 611; O. Anne 236, W. D'Arbrosia 225, P. Neu 216, J. Nolan 215, 207; E. Husman 212, E. Schultz 211, J. Klem 201, C. DuBois 203.

St. Helen's Ladies (12-13)

Gerry Stanski 509, Mary Anne Insech 502, Isabelle Col 496, Marie O'Neil 484, Marie Schaeffer 483, Lou Helget 479, Midge Peach 478, Pat Goodline 453, Judi Weipert 451.

Catholic Men's (12-15)

Henry Adamski 248, 202, 221, 671; Wm. Shalts 224, 240, 643; George Paul 257, 636; Ed. Heffer 210, 200, 607; Paul Creek 213, 606; Frank Kiel 204, 209, 602; Mike Cahill 241, 605; Don Cubitt 214, 604; Hank Wilezewski 205, 207, 600; John Bloom Jr. 214, 222; Clem Scholze 207, 222; Gene Sak 212, 214; Fred Chieiric 215, 201; Ray Thyssen 213, 212; B. Wynne 205, 210; Chris Casale 213, 201; Walt Andruszewski 204, 204; Joe Boeracino 200, 208; Louis Iuppa II 201, 201; Dick Robman 247, Frank Miller 236, Serge Charbonneau 235, Sam Romano 225, Phil Volz 223, Mike Lasek 220, Don Grub 219, Tony Lesione 217, Al. Czeay 216, Jim Kaseman 212, Norm Swaminie 211, Joe Dianno 210.

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