

GOD LOVE YOU

Most Reverend
Fulton J. Sheen

It is indeed a mark of Christmas if we give as the Father gave us His Eternal Son. This is looking at Christmas from the "heaven side." How does the time after Christmas become vital in our lives if it is not by taking on the swaddling bands of humanity, the poverty and slum of Latin America, the open white sores of the ulcer, the 10,000 people who die daily of starvation? The Babe in the manger took on our burdens, infirmities, weaknesses. He gave no explanation of the evil that is in the world, nor promised that we would escape it. But He showed us how to overcome it.

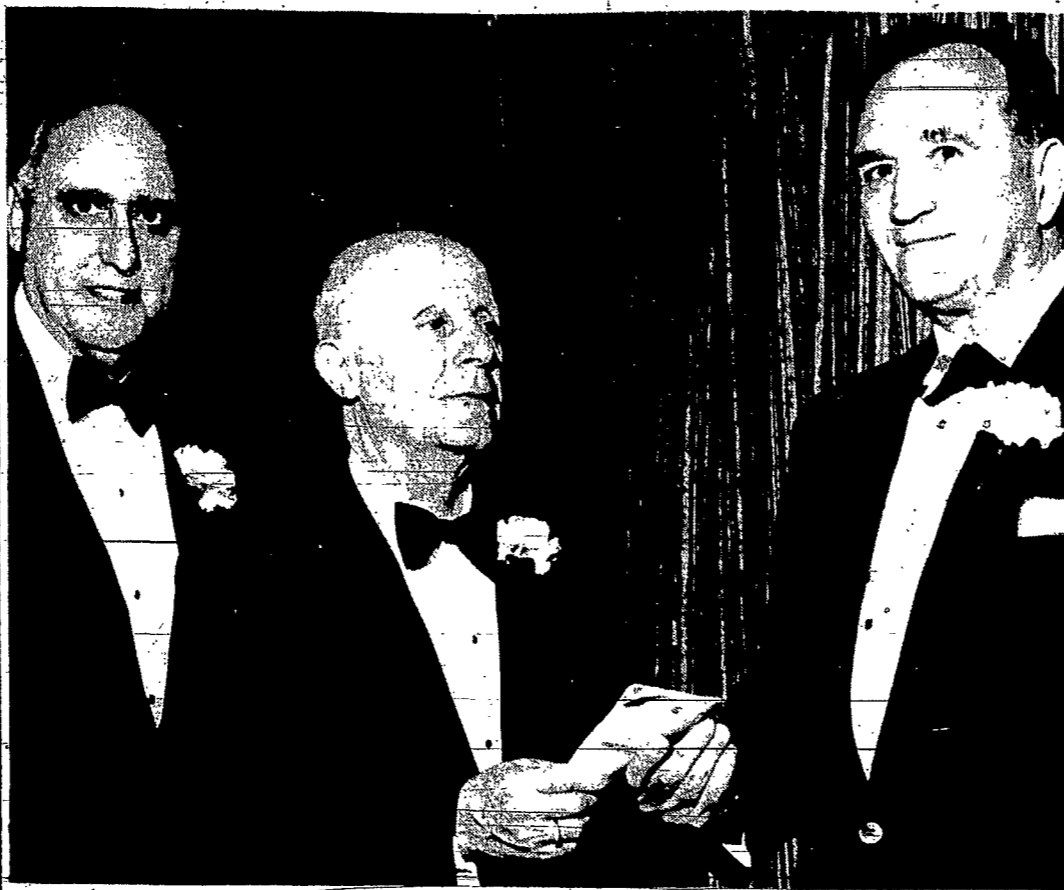
We give generously to those whom we love, but during the Christmas season we should think of those who are unloved. Christmas is the time when God did not remain at headquarters in heaven, receiving reports of the world's suffering and shouting a few encouraging words to us at a safe distance. He left the headquarters, came down into the front-line trenches, right down to where we worry about what the Communists do, where we contend with anxieties and emptiness and frailty, and where we must eventually die. There is nothing that He did not take on for us, no ache, no pain, no isolation, no betraying kiss. He understands everything. He does not wear the disinterested face of those people who call themselves religious but are disinterested in the stakes of the world. He has the eyes of those who roam about the ruins of the world. He took on wounds because He knew that only the wounded know how to heal the wounds. Therefore, His face, does not waver when the Christmas candles go out, and when the flickering flame is dissolved into wax, and when Santa goes up the chimney and when children at the door sing Christmas carols. He knows everything: our loneliness, and when we are alone, the things in our lives that we cannot handle, of the devil that annoys us in all our fears. He knows it all because He took all of this upon Himself.

Christmas, then, will be a sign to you in the following ways: If you are tight, close with your money, become generous. That will be a sign. If you have millions, it will be a sign if you send a million for the poor. If you are poor, it will be a sign if you send a dime. Christmas is a time for accepting limitations; seeing One Whom the universe could not contain become One of the little ones of this world; become identified with the homeless, the refugees, the slum dwellers, with the youths who are caught up in dope, lost sons and wayward daughters. Christmas is not a time of froth and sentimentality. Christmas is a time when God not only enters into the limitations of other people, but into our own. So Christmas will be happy not when someone gives something to you, but when you take on the burden of another. God Love You.

GOD LOVE YOU to the many groups who sent the poor the money they received singing Christmas carols. . . . to the A.B. Co. for \$500 "On Christmas day due to a severe storm in this area, it was necessary for me and my men to plow all day. We feel that this money should be used to help you in your work."

Bishop Fulton J. Sheen's talks used privately for over 40 years to help people of all faiths find meaning and deeper happiness in life, are now available to the general public on 25 records—**THE LIFE IS WORTH LIVING SERIES**. In 50 talks of 30 minutes each, His Excellency offers wise, inspiring guidance on problems affecting all age groups: love, marriage, raising children, suffering, anxiety, loneliness, alcoholism and death, as well as principles of the Christian faith. A wonderful gift for schools, clubs, colleges, rectories, prisons, the LP high fidelity album, manufactured by the RCA customer dept., can be ordered from The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 366 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10001. \$57.50

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, N.Y. 10001, or to your Diocesan Director, Rt. Rev. Msgr. John F. Duffy, 50 Chestnut St., Rochester, New York 14604



Italian War Vets 'Man of the Year'

JOHN J. PETROSSI was honored Jan. 21 at a testimonial dinner where he was named "Man of the Year" by the Italian World War Veterans Association. Real estate developer and investor, Petrossi (right) is owner of the Manger Hotel. Chairman of the dinner was Frank G. Sarpoli, president of the Rochester Pepsi-Cola Co., at left. Making the presentation is C. Joseph Venanzi.

KC Oratorical Contest Slated in Elmira Area

Applications are being accepted for the annual Elmira Council, Knights of Columbus, Oratorical Contest.

Any Catholic boy and girl who is a resident of New York State and who graduates from an area high school in 1967 is eligible to participate.

The local contest will be held Friday night, Feb. 24 at 9 p.m. at Columbus Center.

The winner will receive the Cornelius J. Milliken Award and a cash prize. The award is named for the late Cornelius J. Milliken, noted Elmira Catholic layman, outstanding area news editor and a past grand knight of Elmira Council.

The local winner will also be adjudged the district representative for the area contest to be held in Rochester in April. The district comprises the Elmira, Waverly and Ithaca sections.

The successful Rochester area finalist will compete for the State title at the Knights of Columbus State Convention in May, with three scholarships at the top prizes. The nine other finalists will receive \$200 United States government bonds.

Topic for all levels of competition is: "The Church Today—What Opportunities Are Presented To Our Youth."

Council Grand Knight Daniel B. Burns has appointed Atty. M. Joseph Danaher as contest chairman.

Application blanks and further details may be obtained by contacting Atty. Danaher, 914 South Ave., Horseheads (RE 9-2243).

Also in attendance were the Reverend Father's Lawrence Murphy, Cyril Carter, C.S.B., William Gordinier, Daniel Holland, Vincent LeFrois and Edward Zimmer.

Children of Sacred Heart School's upper grades attended.

Mr. McFarlin who was 39, died suddenly Saturday, Jan. 14, 1967 at his residence 599 Lake Ave. Dedicated to working with youth, he had coached basketball teams at Sacred Heart Cathedral and Aquinas Institute for more than 10 years. He repeatedly coached the Sacred Heart teams to championships. Leaders in local athletic circles paid him high tribute.

He is survived by his father, Harry McFarlin, retired sergeant of Rochester Police Bureau, several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Father Zimmer gave the blessing at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery assisted by other priests from the Funeral Mass. Arrangements by Robert J. Poole Funeral Home.

Canada Shrines Tour Planned

A pilgrimage to Canadian shrines has been planned for Aug. 14 to Aug. 19. All transportation and lodging is included for \$60, ten dollars to be paid with reservation and the balance two weeks before departure.

Itinerary includes: St. Joseph's Oratory and sightseeing in Montreal, visit to Expo 67, St. Anne de Beaupre, Cap de la Madeleine in Three Rivers.

For information, call Joseph A. Zimmer, 342-4039.

Canonization

Milwaukee (NC) — A rogatorial process (one seeking information) for the beatification and canonization of Father Samuel Mazuchelli, Dominican missionary, has been opened here by Archbishop William E. Cousins of Milwaukee.

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St. Cecilia's Cane Evening

What's described as "better than a trip to Bermuda" is a Cane Conference at St. Cecilia's parish hall, Irondequoit, Sunday, Feb. 5, to begin at 7:30 p.m.

Rev. Daniel Hogan, curate, said purpose of the evening's talks and devotions "is not to lay down the law telling you what not to do but to bring out the beauty, purpose and reality of married life."

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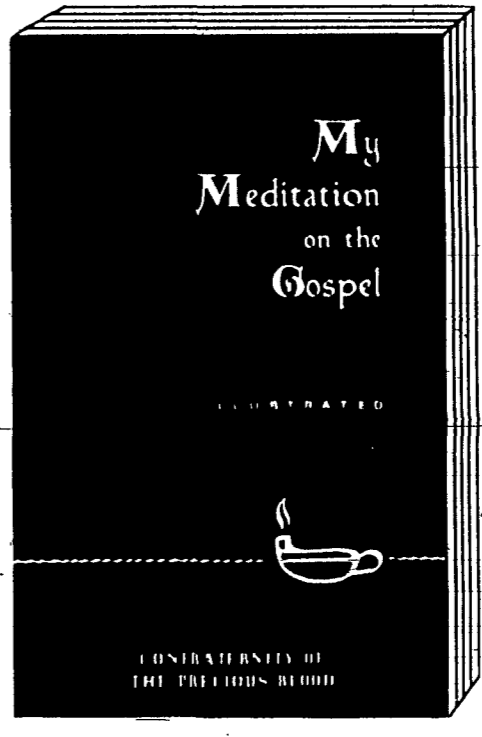
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