



**PHOTOS BY LAURENCE E. KEEFE  
AND SUSAN MCKINNEY**

The bands were thumping away, the beauty queens waved coyly from the passing Cadillacs and flashed their toothpaste smiles, the motorcycles flashed back and forth with grinning policemen.

The crowds that lined Lake Avenue in Charlotte numbered in the thousands as they waited for the start of the annual St. Anthony's Day parade on Saturday, June 9. The parade is an annual event accompanied by a festival on the Holy Cross grounds, and it attracts the best in marching bands, twirlers, American Legion marchers, and the usual contingent of politicians.

Traffic jams and perfect weather made this year's march a crowded and boisterous affair. Little children gawked at the balloon vendors who patrolled restlessly in front of the masses lining the sidewalks; family groups sat outside their homes on folding chairs; and each tavern had its cheering section outside.



**Bishop Kearney marching band performs in front of Holy Cross.**



**Crowds, far left, lined the streets for the parade, which included, center, the Scuba Squad's amphibious vehicle pulling a toy model of itself. One of the bands, left, at the start of the parade, huddles to get their signals straight. Above, the infantry of American Legion Post 474 rest rifles.**