

SHRINE HERALD

Official Bulletin of Ste. Therese of The Child Jesus Parish

VOL. I.

Royal Oak, Michigan, Sunday, March 22, 1936

No. 20.

Shrine Destroyed By Fire . . .

By Rev. Charles E. Coughlin

Father Coughlin Gives Own Account of Fire

It is with a heavy heart that I attempt to relate the following few lines which officially will chronicle the untimely passing of our little shingle church. As I dictate these words I am reviving the picture of an ambitious young priest who, without a care, watched the carpenters who were busy, just ten years ago this month, as they started to build the first parish shrine in all the world dedicated to the Little Flower. As if by magic, its walls sprang into being. Inside those walls there were born a million memories. The first wedding, the first baptism, the first funeral! A group of lovely ladies who called this church their own; a score of solid men who loved every shingle on its walls, every piece of equipment which adorned it!

These past ten years have gone very quickly.

I recollect standing in the sanctuary preaching, or rather attempting to preach—at the funeral services of Mrs. King. She was a saintly lady who worked indefatigably for the Shrine. That was one day when I could scarcely open my mouth. This morning is was my duty to assist at the funeral of Gilbert Gervais who, just last Sunday, ushered at the last Sunday mass offered up in our little Shrine. I was unable to speak because my too reliable imagination peopled the Narthex of the new church with all these memories.

So now to be official and historical I am compelled to write this ugly sentence: the Shrine which you, and I both loved so much has been totally destroyed. March 17, 1936, will never be a happy memory for me. About 6:30 in the morning I was startled from my sleep only to behold the lurid flames wiping out of existence the building which I loved more than all the other buildings in the world. As I gathered the story, Mr. Currier had opened the church as usual about 10 minutes after six. He stirred up the furnace and prepared the altar for mass. Shortly after 6:15 two of the sisters came over to the church and knelt down to say their morning prayers. They were followed by Mr. Schwartz, the editor of Social Justice and, I believe, by Mrs. Siler of Huntington Woods.

Meanwhile Campbell Brown was coming to work. As he drove along Twelve Mile road he observed flames rising from the northeast corner of the roof. On arriving at the church he rushed into the sanctuary to notify Mr. Currier of what was taking place, then he seized a ladder and a fire extinguisher; climbed to the roof and tried in vain to

(Continued on Page 3)

Hail Mary, full of grace! The Lord is with thee, Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the Fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Announcements

Sunday, March 22, fourth Sunday of Lent

1. Masses will be held in this church every Sunday at 8, 9, 10 11, 12 and 1 o'clock.
3. Baptisms will take place every Sunday at 1 o'clock in the to 5:30 and 7:30 until 9.
3. Baptisms will take place every Sunday at 2 o'clock in the Narthex.
4. Lenten services will be discontinued for the rest of the season.

More Gold!

Do you recite the Rosary daily? If so, you will be interested in this: The church grants a plenary indulgence on the last Sunday of the month to those who have recited the Rosary three times a week during that month. Confession, Holy Communion and a visit to some church are required for the gaining of this indulgence.

5. Next Wednesday, March 25, is the feast of the Annunciation. You are all urged to attend mass and receive Holy Communion.
6. Masses will be held in the Narthex every morning of the week at 6:30, 7:15, 7:45 and 12 o'clock noon.
7. The instruction class for children attending public schools will be held next Saturday at 9 o'clock in the narthex.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Mother Of God The Annunciation

By Cardinal Lepicier

The great and joyful mystery of the Annunciation brings our minds back nearly two thousand years, to the little town of Nazareth, in Galilee, when a lowly virgin, the spouse of Joseph the carpenter, absorbed in deep contemplation, while considering the evils which afflicted mankind, was pouring her soul in ardent prayer that the Saviour of mankind should soon come to bring peace and happiness on earth. All of a sudden a heavenly messenger presents himself to her and bowing reverently addresses her in these words: "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee."

Such an unwonted message could

(Continued on Page 2)

Spelling Bee

On Friday afternoon of last week the children of the upper grades assembled in their respective class rooms to do battle for the honor of becoming the champion speller of the school and for a chance to become the champion for the metropolitan district of Detroit.

After a long siege of anxious moments within which the high hopes of many aspirants crumbled to the ground by tripping on their a b c's the winners were announced as follows: Eighth grade, John Crabb; Seventh grade, Kathleen Andrews; Sixth grade, Dorothy Lazarus; Fifth grade, Rena Baker.

Tell our advertisers you saw their ad in The Shrine-Herald.

Theresa
Neumann
of Konnersreuth

By Rev. A. M. Hutting

(The facts presented in this series are based upon the writer's three-day visit at Konnersreuth. The interview took place in September of 1928. For your benefit the writer shall refer frequently to a letter written to his mother at that time.)

The little town of Konnersreuth is located in Bavaria not far from the Bohemian border. Not even a railroad disturbs the peace of the hamlet. Perhaps the best approach to Theresa's home is made by train to Waldsassen and thence by bus to Konnersreuth. Many travel miles and miles by foot, and gladly so when they think of the rare privilege that will be theirs at the end of the journey.

We (a Cleveland and myself) crowded into a bus at Waldsassen and were deeply impressed by the silence of the passengers. Nearly all of them were priests. Scarcely 20 words were spoken during the entire trip.

When the bus driver honked the siren at the town limits of Konnersreuth, we beheld a simple village with narrow streets of cobble-stone. Quaint houses walled the streets and busy people hurried to and fro. Our bus came to a stop almost in front of the Catholic church. We were directed to the hotel to the "Little White Horse." It is customary in Europe to name houses after the "Red Rose," the "Blue Apron," the "Three Pigeons," etc. What interested us more than anything else was the simple yet beautiful white house standing a stone's throw from the church. People stood in clusters at the doors and windows of that house. Upon inquiry we learn that it is the home of Theresa Neumann.

We had intended to have an interview, if possible, with the stigmatic (one who bears wounds in imitation of Christ) on Thursday evening before she entered upon her sufferings. That being impossible, nothing remained for us to do but to retire to our quaint rooms in the hotel or to make a tour of observation through the town. There is something restful about that Bavarian village. Yet there are plenty of sounds especially at the evening twilight hour. The whistler and his dog, the little girl who tends the geese of the village, the lowing herd, all these furnish plenty of discordant notes for that medley which accompanies the close of day in the small town.

After an invigorating sleep we rose on Friday morning and were

(Continued on Page 4)

SHRINE HERALD

STAFF

Rev. Charles E. Coughlin...Publisher
 Rev. Albert HuttingEditor
 Rev. Cyril Keating.. Business Mgr.
 Phone: Royal Oak 4122

Church Directory

PERSONNEL

Pastor

Rev. Charles E. Coughlin

Assistants

Rev. Albert Hutting

Rev. Cyril Keating

Rev. Cassian, O. F. M.

Rectory, 2201 Roseland Avenue

Sundays—Hours of Masses, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 1 o'clock.

Baptism is administered every Sunday afternoon at 1 o'clock.

Holy Days of Obligation, Hours of Masses, 5:30, 6:30, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 12 o'clock.

Week Days, Hours of Masses, 6:30, 7:15 and 7:45 o'clock.

First Fridays—Masses, 5:30, 6:30, 7:15, and 7:45.

Confessions, Saturday, 4 to 5:30 p. m. and 7:30 to 9 p. m.

Emergency sick calls any hour, day or night, phone Royal Oak 4122.

MOTHER OF GOD

(Continued from Page 1)

but disturb the Holy Virgin's soul. Many holy persons had been saluted by the words: "The Lord is with thee," but of none is it recalled that he was named "full of grace." The angel hastens, however, to dispel the Virgin's doubts. "Thou hast found grace before God," he says, and "behold thou shalt conceive in thy womb and shalt bring forth a Son, and shalt call His name Jesus."

Mary then understands that the new alliance promised by the prophets and so much desired by the patriarchs is about to take place and that the earth, parched by the fire

Phone 2164

E. W. SMART PHOTOGRAPHER

Weddings and Childs' PORTRAITS
 224 Washington Drive

HOSE  SHOP

DRESS  SHOP

SHRINE SERVICE STATION

Robert Antwis

Blue Sunoco

Phone R. O. 9687



MR. GILBERT GERVAIS



The members of the Ushers Club feel keenly the loss of their highly esteemed president and genuine friend, Mr. Gilbert Gervais. To his dear wife and children the ushers of St. Theresa's Parish extend their deepest sympathy.

May his dear wife and children take consolation from the words, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, for their good works follow them."

Priests and parishioners shall storm heaven with prayers for the repose of his soul.

The members of the God's Poor Society of St. Theresa's Parish were deeply grieved to hear of the death of Mr. Gilbert Gervais. They shall never forget the wonderful work which he accomplished in the office of their treasurer when the organization was in its infancy.

of sin, is soon to be bedewed by the refreshing waters of grace. At the same time she realizes that she herself has been chosen to be the instrument of the new covenant between God and man.

A covenant or compact supposes the consent of both parties. It was not enough, therefore, that the Creator should be willing to unite Himself to His creature. It was necessary, moreover, that man should give his free consent to this mystical union. This was precisely the object of Gabriel's mission to the Virgin of Nazareth.

Here it is that we most admire Mary's generosity and her readiness in fully complying with the design of the Almighty. Hardly has she been instructed as to the miraculous manner in which the Divine Child is to come into existence, than she utters those admirable words, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it done unto me according to

Thy Word." This ineffable fiat uttered by the Virgin of Nazareth with a most lively faith and burning charity, is that wonderful key which opens the gate of Heaven and lets flow therefrom, upon the earth, the desired of the Gentiles, the Just One, and with Him all heavenly gifts.

SCHWARTZ FLOWER SHOP

Flowers for All Occasions

Phones: Day R. O. 5124

Night R. O. 4923

221 S. Main St. Royal Oak

MODEL CLEANERS

Phone R. O. 1011

Washington Square Bldg.

210 Washington Drive

CHAS. RANDALL

Staple and Fancy Groceries
 Agency for Mountain Valley Water

Delivery Service Phone 0404
 738 S. Washington

FONS COMPANY

Coal -:- -:- Coke
 SAND AND GRAVEL
 Phone R. O. 3288

Visit Our New
 GIFT DEPARTMENT

KLEBBA'S

Formerly
 R. O. STATIONERY CO.

308 W. Fourth Street
 Royal Oak

SINCE 1878

STRAUBE

— TONE QUALITY PIANOS —

No effort has ever been spared, to be consistently loyal through all the years of STRAUBE superiority to those ideals which form the basis of our place in the public esteem.

STRAUBE PIANO COMPANY

Factory
 5049 Columbia Avenue,
 Hammond, Indiana.

Office
 First Trust Building,
 Hammond, Indiana.

GERSHOW COAL COMPANY

QUALITY COAL

TWELVE MILE ROAD NEAR COOLIDGE

PHONE ROYAL OAK 1135

St. Tarcisus Altar-Boy Society

APPOINTMENTS

Week of March 23:

6:30 a. m. Robert Coughlin, Manard Cole.

7:15 a. m. Robert Fontaine, Jack McCready.

7:45 a. m. George Schwitter, Don Way.

Sunday, March 29:

8 a. m. Arthur Tamm, Robert Tamm.

9: a m. Bennie Benson, Jack Christie.

10 a. m. Don Way, George Schwitter.

Owing to the loss of cassocks and surplices in the fire these appointments will hold until further notice.

All
 Borden's Dairy Products
 Are Superior in
 Quality

-o-

Borden's Farm Products
 Co. of Michigan

Phone R. O. 2230 or Elm. 6686

Fred J. Douglass

Plumbing & Heating
 Stokers

Phone 376

Birmingham, Mich.

Rivest Coal & Coke

High
 Grade
 Fuel

Detroit Yard
 17239 Swift Ave.
 Longfellow 2300

Royal Oak Yard
 911 South Main St.
 Royal Oak 4076

Our Lord

**Jesus, meek and humble of heart,
make my heart like unto Thine.**

Jesus—
my God . . .
my Redeemer . . .
my changless Friend . . .

Meek and humble of heart—
meek of heart:

when persecuted by Herod. . .
when excommunicated from the
synagogue . . .
when reviled and spat upon . . .
when scourged and crowned with
thorns . . .
when led like a lamb to the
slaughter . . .

Humble of heart:
in awaiting Mary's consent to
be your mother . . .
in your birth at Bethlehem . . .
in your flight into Egypt . . .
in your life at Nazareth . . .
in your preaching days when
you had not whereon to lay
your head . . .

Make my heart—
I need your grace even to desire
to be holy . . .

And I need much grace because
of my own listlessness . . .
So gently but firmly make me like
to you . . .

Like unto thine—
You are meek; I am self-as-
sertive . . .

You are humble; my pride is
strong . . .

You are prayerful; I find it hard
to pray . . .

You are pure; unchastity tempts
me much . . .

You are kind to others; I am
selfish . . .

The transformation will not be
easy . . .

So make my heart like unto
thine . . .

Shrine Destroyed by Fire

(Continued from Page 1)

extinguish the fire. As Father Keat-
ing was about to leave the rectory
for the 6:30 mass, Campbell Brown
shouted to him that the Shrine was
on fire. In the meantime Cyril
Guthoerl appeared on the scene.

After the alarm had been tele-
phoned, the sisters, Mr. Currier,
Campbell Brown, Cyril Guthoerl
and Father Keating together with
several passers-by began heroically
to remove the sacred furnishings,
which we all loved so much. Father
Keating's strong arms lifted the
tabernacle off the altar. The
sisters gathered up the vestments.
The men rescued the lovely statues
of the Little Flower and of the
Blessed Virgin, of St. Joseph, and
of the Sacred Heart, of St. Jude and
of St. Christopher. Mr. Guthoerl was
responsible for saving the apparatus
in the radio control room by break-
ing down the door. The flames fan-
ned by a brisk north breeze, had
now spread more than half way
down the church. The men could
do no more. They saw the dove,
the symbol of the Holy Ghost, fall
to the floor. The rich draperies
were a mass of flames. The entire
church was a fiery furnace. Within
one hour after the fire was discovered,
the building was in ruins and in
ashes.

I do not know what caused the
fire. Perhaps there was defective
wiring. Perhaps there was not. It
is not my purpose to indulge in rash
judgements. I am certain, how-

ever, that the fire originated between
the ceiling and the roof approxima-
tely in the northeast corner of the
church. The few precious souvenirs
which we saved will be doubly
precious. It will be fitting in the
highest degree if we plan to use
them in the new church which, no
matter how beautiful, spacious or
elegant it is, will never replace in
my heart or your heart the precious
loveliness of the Shrine of the Little
Flower.

What do we plan to do? I suppose
we must bury the corpse even
though we love the soul which once
animated it. The debris will be
cleared away. Like every other
grave, I suppose we will adorn it
with flowers and with shrubbery to
cover the ashes and the dust of
what once was your spiritual
palace.

In my humble estimations I had
always considered that this little
Shrine throughout the years would
be a greater magnet of public

interest than we can appreciate at
this hour.

Thousands of visitors were ac-
customed to pass by the crucifixion
tower and hurry within the sacred
precincts of the shingle Shrine be-
cause to them, as to us, it was the
real edifice where dwelt the real
spirit of the Little Flower.

The loss is irreparable, although
the building was covered by insur-
ance to the extent of \$17,500. The
equipment was insured for \$10,500
and the organ, for \$7,000. How much
of this money we will be able to
collect I have not yet determined.
What is to be done? I shall have
to wait for suggestions. Meanwhile
my sympathies go out to you as I
know yours do to me.

Plastering-Painting

Decorating

JOHN BOLAN

Royal Oak 9776
1406 Rosewood, Ferndale

Huntington Woods

MARKET

Fancy Meats, Vegetables and
Groceries

Where quality is supreme

Open Sundays

925 WOODWARD AVE.

Tel. R. O. 5579 We Deliver

RITTER

Featuring
Kingsbury—Pale
Kingsbury—Export
Bass Ale Piels
297 E. Maple Rd. Birm. 1818

Since 1870

**KOENIG COAL AND
SUPPLY CO.**

Phone Cadillac 1584

Phone Royal Oak 1189

**ROYAL OAK
MONUMENTAL
WORKS, INC.**

MEMORIALS

1026 No. Main Street
and Rochester Road

Royal Oak



12 Mile Wigwam

Just North
of
The Shrine

PHONE R. O. 4971

FROM MOVING

Local and Long Distance
Insured
502 W. Fourth Royal Oak
Phone 3294
Estimates Free

ACE WINDOW CLEANERS

Spring Window and House-
Cleaning
Prompt and Efficient Service
R. O. 3470
A. Schmalz

CHILDREN'S DANCING

Toe, Tap, Acrobatic, Ballroom
Only ten Children in a Class
EDWIN CRAVES
Detroit Country Day School
10235 W. Seven Mile Rd.
Longfellow 9140

DAVIS DRUG STORE

Nellie Davies, Ph.G.
Royal Oak, Mich.
4th and Knowles
Tel. 5116 We Deliver

**Royal Oak Waste Paper
And Metal Co.**

We are now paying for Paper 35c
for 100 lbs. delivered. We also buy
iron, radiators, batteries, all kinds
of metals. Mr. Burnstein
401 E. Harrison Phone 4020

O'CLAIR'S

for
Dependable Furniture
Terms Open Evenings
218 S. Main Tel. 3795

Ornamental Glass

Glass and Glazing

Howie Glass Company

PHONE 3490

116 S. Main St.

Royal Oak, Mich.

Lawson Lumber & Coal Co.

The Home of Good

LUMBER

Builders' Supplies, Coal and Hardware

Phone: Royal Oak 6000

Established Since 1898

Resolutions

The following resolution was adopted by the Ushers' Club of the Shrine of the Little Flower at its meeting held on March 16, 1936:

RESOLVED, That it is with deep sorrow that the Ushers' Club records the sudden death on Sunday, March 15, 1936, of Gilbert A. Gervais, President of the club, and extends its heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Gervais and the other members of his family and

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, on behalf of the entire membership of the Ushers' club, attest to the inspiration and support which Mr.

Theresa Neumann of Konnersreuth

(Continued from Page 1)

surprised to see that large crowds had assembled at the doors of the Neumann home. There were priests and laymen, lawyers and doctors, nuns and nurses, believers and scoffers. There were representatives there from almost every nation. We waited in line for almost two hours before we were admitted into the home of miracles. It was the First Friday of the month. The crowd was unusually large. Theresa's agony appears to be more intense on First Fridays than on ordinary Fridays. The girl had gone into her ecstasy at 11 o'clock on Thursday night.

Theresa's father stood at the door of the house and met the people as they entered. He was a tall and rather severe looking type. He made it his business to see to it that not more than ten persons entered the house in one group. To gain entrance it was necessary to have a written permit from the Bishop of Regensburg (Ratisbon). This permission was readily granted at that time. Evil tongues have falsely accused the pastor of the parish at Konnersreuth as well as the father of Theresa of accepting money from travelers who come to witness the girl's sufferings. Not one penny is paid for the permit and not one penny is accepted by the parents of the stigmatic.

At ten o'clock we entered Theresa's home. The Father led us up a flight of steep stairs to the scene of the suffering. The room was very large and very simple. A bishop from Hungary was at the bedside while another bishop from Germany sat at the foot of the bed. The room was fairly crowded with witnesses. A large statue of the Sacred Heart stood alongside the sufferer. A canary fluttered about in a cage above the bed.

I was given a place at the foot of the bed where I could look directly into the face of the sufferer.

The priests and parishioners of this Parish extend their deepest sympathy and sincerest regrets to the Franciscan community of Duns Scotus College on the loss of their beloved Gaurdian, the Reverend Claude Mindorff, O. F. M., who died suddenly Tuesday evening.

Gervais brought to the deliberations of the Club, upon which he so faithfully served; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the Ushers' Club, and that a copy be inserted in the Shrine Sunday Herald; and that a copy be sent to Mrs. Gervais as a simple memorial of our sincere appreciation of Mr. Gervais' usefulness, not only as President of the Ushers' Club, but also to the Parish of the Shrine of the Little Flower.

A. FALK, Secretary.

Tell our advertisers you saw their ad in The Shrine-Herald.

Dr. Gordon K. Burr
Optometrist—Specialist

201 Royal Oak Savings Bank Bldg., cor. 4th and Main
Phone Royal Oak 3440

315 S. Main St.

Emil Gies

DRY GOODS

Men's Furnishings—Notions
Children's and Ladies'
"Ready to Wear"
Royal Oak, Mich.

LOUIS' MEAT MARKET

Quality, Reliability
and Courtesy
Our biggest policy

114 E. 4th St., Royal Oak
Post Office Block
Telephone 3400

NORMAN F. MARTIN

SALES  **SERVICE**

Phones: Elmhurst 6740-41—Royal Oak 4175
3488 Coolidge Highway at 12 Mile Road—1 Mile West of Shrine.

CO-ED

FEATURES TWO ENSEMBLES IN THE PARIS MANNER



TWO STUNNING ENSEMBLES
\$12.95 \$12.95

No. 1028. Paris sends along the word and CO-ED quickly reproduces an expensive fashion at a moderate price. The crepe dress with bodice of contrasting color is the latest word from the world's fashion centre. It is of the man tailored type so much in vogue. The frock combined with the new tuxedo jacket makes a costume of beauty. Sizes 12 to 20—11 to 17. Colors: navy coat with blue, rose, grey crepe frocks. The jacket is lined with the same material as the frock.

No. 1030. Just the type of ensemble . . . coat and dress that you will want as your first after-winter change. A colorful frock of print in an all-over design. The three-quarter coat, fully lined in the same print is of friendship crepe. Sizes 12 to 20—11 to 17. Colors: navy and brown.

You'll Enjoy Shopping at

DAVIDSON'S

139 So. WOODWARD AVE.

In the Heart of

BIRMINGHAM