

SHRINE HERALD

Official Bulletin of Ste. Therese of The Child Jesus Parish and of The Radio League of The Little Flower

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Royal Oak, Michigan, July 31, 1938

No. 39.

Shrine to Have New Parish School

Confession AN ANSWER BY FATHER COUGHLIN

"Dear Father Coughlin: Some time ago I had occasion to be present at a party where there were both Catholics and Protestants. One of our Catholic friends did not, to my way of thinking, conduct himself properly and his language was anything but clean. I did not single him out because he was a Catholic; but I was very much surprised at him and expressed this surprise to a Protestant friend without prejudice or discrimination, because none of us were angels. My Protestant friend gave me another surprise when he said, "Oh! that's all right, he has the consolation of knowing it will be all fixed up when he goes to confession. A Catholic can sin as often as he pleases and as long as he goes to confession everything will be O.K. An argument followed because I, although a Protestant, did not think this was true. Am I right or wrong?"

Father Coughlin's Answer

"I wonder if there is a probability of your having been misinformed by your Protestant friend regarding the young man who was so indiscreet at your party?"

"It is not my province to judge the young gentleman to whom you refer. Rather shall I use these few lines simply to let you know what are the requisites of a good confession.

"Firstly, an individual who maliciously sins with the intent of going to confession and having his sin completely forgiven has the wrong conception of the Sacrament of Penance. Confession implies not only the telling of your sins but also the firm purpose of avoiding these sins in the future and of repairing either the injustice or scandal which they have begotten. Therefore, if this young man is a sincere Catholic; if he has intentionally given scandal, it is his Catholic duty to repair the harm which he has done. Otherwise his confession is a mockery and means nothing.

"Kindly apprise your Protestant friend that Catholicity does not permit Catholics to practice sinning with the presumption that such sins can be forgiven by the mere form of confessing and of receiving absolution. Such a person is rather guilty of a second sin which we call presumption."

Last week the ground was broken for the foundation of the new Shrine Parish parochial school.

On Dartmouth Road, immediately south of the church, the J. E. Utley Corporation, contractors, began the construction of a ten-room grade school to accommodate the parish children from the first to the ninth grades inclusive.

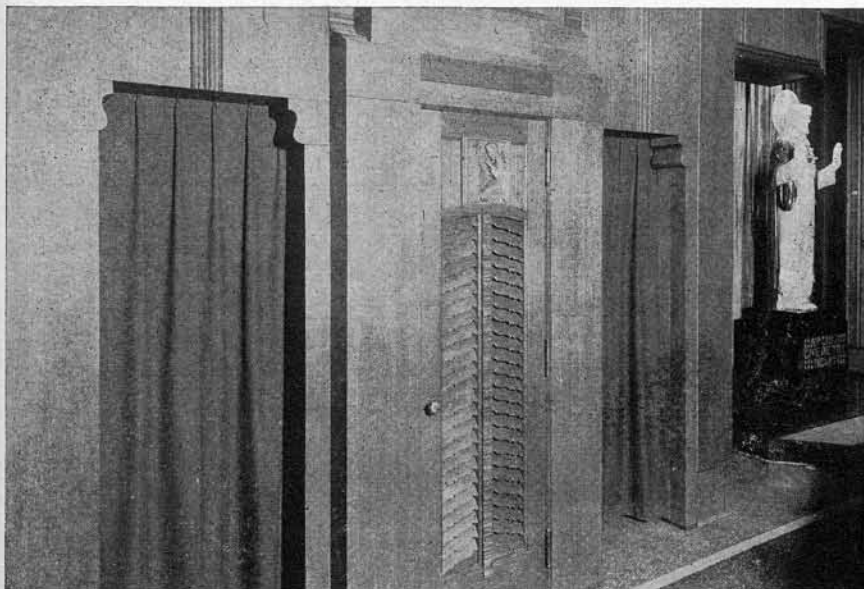
Mr. Clair Ditchy of the parish is the architect selected for this building.

Excluding the cost of the property, the school will cost in the neighborhood of \$125,000 equipped. All the classrooms face Dartmouth Road. It will be a two-story structure.

This new building will place a financial burden upon all who regularly attend the Shrine. As is the custom, the seat collection taken at the door long since has been allocated for the maintenance of the school. It will be the ushers' obligation to collect twenty-five cents from each adult attending the Shrine Masses, all of which money will be segregated to liquidate the debt which we are incurring on behalf of the children.

For the maintenance of the church, its priests, organist, choir, janitors, gardeners and all current expenses, the offertory collection will be kept separate.

This new school will require the services of approximately (Continued on Page 2)



A Confessional at the Shrine

Priest Observes 32nd Anniversary Here Pope Pius XI Was His Teacher

The Shrine of the Little Flower was signally honored on Monday morning, when Rev. Joseph August Kern of Corcoran, Hamel, Minnesota, celebrated the thirty-second anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Father Kern sang a Mass of thanksgiving at the main altar.

One of the many cherished memories which he possesses of his student and priesthood days is the privilege which he enjoyed of being a pupil of the present gloriously reigning Pontiff, Pope Pius XI. Monsignor Ratti (the Pope's name before his consecration) was then in charge of the famous library at Milan and was teacher at the seminary there. Father Kern was one of the members of his class.

Our visitor told us that his honored teacher was stern and thorough. Especially clever was Monsignor Ratti at asking pointed questions. He would call upon one of the members of the class and ask: "Have you any doubts about this particular problem?" If the pupil answered "No," the professor would quickly answer: "You may take your seat. You have not studied your lesson."

We wish to thank Father Kern for the interest that he takes in our Shrine and we promise to remember him in our prayers that he may continue the splendid work which he has carried on for so many years.

SHRINE HERALD

STAFF
 Rev. Charles E. Coughlin.....Publisher
 Rev. Albert Hutting.....Editor
 Rev. Cyril Keating.....Business Manager
 Phone: Royal Oak 4122



Church Directory

PERSONNEL

Rev. Charles E. Coughlin, Pastor
 Assistants: Rev. Albert Hutting, Rev. Cyril Keating, Rev. Cassian Sand, O.F.M.; Rev. Peter Wiethe, O.F.M.
 Rectory, 2201 Roseland Avenue

Sunday — Hours of Masses, 7, 8, 9, 10, 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 o'clock.

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.

Perpetual Novena Services every Thursday evening at 8 o'clock.

Holy Name Communion Mass: 8 a. m. on the second Sunday of each month.

Shrine to Have Parish School

(Continued from Page 1)

imately twelve teachers, including music teachers. To accommodate the Sisters, an annex-convent has been built at the rear of the rectory.

Recognizing that every parishioner and regular attendant at the Shrine will take personal pride and will make personal sacrifice for this new and necessary project, it is the hope expressed by the priests of the parish that those who constantly enjoy all the privileges associated with our magnificent church which was the gift, for the most part of the American people to us, will strive sacrificially to bear the financial and moral burden entailed in the construction of the school which will serve not America but only the children of this parish.

Acknowledging a Holy Mass

Mrs. Lawrence McLaughlin of this parish wishes to thank the group of ladies who had a Mass offered up for the repose of the soul of her father, Charles Langlois, who died recently. This kindness was deeply appreciated.

The Sick Are Thankful

Many of our parishioners have passed through days of critical illness during the past week. The following wish to thank you for your prayers for their recovery:

- Mrs. Robert Antwis
- Mrs. Edwin Craves
- Miss Lillian Schwan
- Mr. Grant Schell
- Mr. Arthur Laffrey

Concerning Baptism

The Sacrament of Baptism is administered at the Shrine of the Little Flower every Sunday afternoon at 1 o'clock sharp. Late comers need not complain if they are disappointed.

The Chasuble

Over all the other vestments the priest, when preparing to celebrate mass, puts the chasuble. This was originally, like the tunic of the Jewish high-priest's ephod, a square or round cloth with a hole in the center for the head. The chasuble worn to this day in the Greek Church is of this form; and it falls around the whole person, unless the arms are kept up so as to be free. This requires, at times, the assistance of attendants. In the Latin Church, from its greater missionary field and the necessity of priests frequently traveling, and with few clerics to attend them, the sides were cut open to give play to the hands, and the garment gradually trimmed down to the present shape. For more than a thousand years, the chasuble has been the characteristic vestment of the priest, assigned to him at his ordination, as the habit peculiar to his order when about to offer up the holy Eucharistic Sacrifice. The cross was early marked upon it in embroidery, though the position varies. In this country, following the usage of France, Belgium, England, and Ireland, the cross is on the back of the chasuble, while, in Italy and other countries, it is on the front.

More than one spiritual signification has been attached to the chasuble. Alcuin, in A.D. 800, regards it as emblematical of charity, and this idea is conveyed in the ordination service; St. Germain of Auxerre says that it represents the purple garment in which our Lord was attired. It is also said to express the yoke of obedience and the burden of the priesthood; and this is implied in the following prayer, said by the priest when putting it on: "O Lord, Thou hast declared that Thy yoke is sweet and Thy burden light; grant that I may carry that which Thou dost now impose upon my shoulders, in such a manner as to merit Thy grace."

In Catholic countries, where canon law prevails, the people or faithful are divided into fixed and proper parishes, and to each parish is assigned its own perpetual and peculiar parish priest, from whom alone the faithful may, as a rule, lawfully receive the Sacraments. He is assisted by as many curates or assistants as are necessary for the wants of the parish. He is, as a rule, appointed for life, and is, generally speaking, removable only for causes expressly stated in law and after due trial. In the United States,

St. Tarcisius' Altar Boy Society



APPOINTMENTS



Sunday Afternoon, July 31

3:00—Jerome Ford, Robert Andrews, Frank Campi, Robert Leslie, Thomas McGraw, William Shove, Richard Christie.

Week of August 1

6:30—Frank Campi, Robert Robidoux.

7:15—Richard Christie, Jerry Cassidy.

7:45—James Hamill, Roland Sedano.

Tuesday, August 2, Wedding Mass

9:00—John LeJeune, John Enners, Cyril Guthoerl, James LeJeune.

Thursday Evening, August 4

8:00—Bennie Benson, Jack Christie, Cyril Guthoerl, Robert Andrews, John Schmalz, Richard Christie.

Sunday, August 7

7:00—Jerome Ford, Robert Tamm.

8:00—Jack McCready, Don Way.

9:00—Thomas McGraw, John Enners, Walter Seery, William Seery.

10:00—Robert Fontaine, Manard Cole, Warren White, Bernard Meyers, Victor Roll, Jack Merdian, John Rusher.

12:00—Bennie Benson, Robert Robidoux.

1:00—William Shove, Bernare Cassidy, Roland Sedano, Jerry Cassidy.

and generally in missionary countries where the diocesan government is not yet fully and perfectly organized, congregations are considered merely as missions, not canonically established parishes, and the pastors appointed to them are removable, generally speaking, at the pleasure of the bishop.

The priests serving the churches under the bishop, and doing the parochial duty, or otherwise employed by him or directly under his jurisdiction, are called secular priests. Those who belong to monastic or other religious orders are known as regular priests.

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The Sacrament of Penance

By Father Hutting

There is one practice in the Catholic Church which is the target of severest criticism from those outside the Church but at the same time the source of greatest consolation to those within the Church. It is the practice of forgiving sins, of hearing Confession. This practice is not an invention of priests as some would have us believe. It has been in existence ever since the very founding of the Church itself. It has for its author none other than our Savior Himself.

The Lord of Mercy

We know that Christ came into the world to save sinners. "I am come into the world to save the sheep that were lost." That this was His Mission was shown on a hundred different occasions by His mercy and compassion toward sinners such as the women taken in adultery, Mary Magdalene, the thief on the Cross, His very murderers and many others. That He had the power to forgive sins is made clear by the miracle which He wrought over the sick man with the palsy. Jesus was moved to compassion at the sight of the sick man. Our Saviour saw in that sick man something far more hideous than the sickness of the body, He saw sin, the disease of the soul, and in His mercy He said to the sick man: "Thy sins are forgiven thee."

Now there were some Pharisees present who were seeking to ensnare Jesus in His speech. They pretended to be scandalized at Christ's claim to exercise such power, and they accused Him of blaspheming. Whereupon Christ turned to them and said, "Which is easier, to say to the man sick of the palsy, Thy sins are forgiven thee, or to say, Arise, take up thy bed and walk? But that you may know that the Son of man hath the power to forgive sins, He saith to the man sick of palsy, I say to thee, Arise, take up thy bed and go into thy house."

Conferring of Power to Absolve

Now the same motive that prompted Christ to come down to the world prompted Him to send His Apostles out into the world, namely, the salvation of souls. Accordingly He conferred upon them the selfsame power which He possessed. When they were gathered together in the large upper room, Jesus appeared to them and said, "as the Father hath sent Me, I also send you. When He had said this He breathed upon them and said, "Whose sins you shall forgive they are forgiven them, and whose sins you shall retain they are retained." That the Apostles exercised this power is clear from St. Luke: "And the people came confessing their sins."

Destined for All Ages

This power of forgiving sins was not to end with the Apostles. Christ founded His priesthood for the whole world, for all times. "Going therefore teach ye all nations."

An Abuse

It is wrong when waiting your turn for Confession to stand so near to the confessional as to enable you to hear what is being said either by the priest or the penitent. If you are guilty of this abuse you violate a very special rule of propriety; you offend God; you do an injustice to the person who is confessing and you do yourself a great harm.

At the Shrine we have many visitors. What they see here makes a profound impression upon them either for good or for evil.

We know that you will cooperate with us in correcting any traces of abuse which may have crept into your method of waiting your turn for confession.

"Behold I am with you all days even to the consummation of the world." From these words it is clear that the power which Christ conferred upon His Apostles was meant for the lawful successors of the Apostles, namely the Bishops and priests of the Holy Catholic Church. Hence, there can be no question concerning the right and power of our priests to forgive sins.

In instituting the Sacrament of Penance Christ was meeting the demands of the individual as well as conferring a great blessing on society. We need someone to whom we can go with confidence with our troubles and know that someone will deal mercifully with us because he is the vicar of the God of Mercy. We need someone to analyze our ills and to prescribe remedies for the same. We need something definite. The world is too full of generalities. We want something specific. Confession demands that we check up on ourselves. Confession demands that we determine to follow a definite path of reform. Confession gives us the assurance that we are properly disposed, we are here and now forgiven the very moment the priest raises his hands in absolution over us. Thousands of individuals have found peace of mind and courage of heart within the sacred tribunal of penance. Thousands of families have been kept firmly united through the saving influence of this Sacrament. Society has at all times and in all places regarded Confession as the saving plank of sinking humanity.

Christ's Ambassador

But some will object: I do not see why I should tell my sins to a priest. He is a man and I shall not let any man intrude himself between my God and me. It is true he is a man and as a mere man Mr. So and So can not forgive sins. But when Mr. Man is ordained a priest of God he is no longer a mere man but he is the ambassador of Christ, Christ's vicar on earth vested with Divine Power. To him has been given the key to Heaven.

Whatsoever he shall bind upon earth it shall also be bound in Heaven. Whatsoever he shall loose upon earth it shall also be loosed in Heaven. My friends, how dare we trifle with this God-given Sacrament. If we dispense with it as unnecessary we are flinging back into the face of our Lord a remedy which He Himself gave us for our spiritual cure. If we remain away from this Sacrament for long intervals we run the risk of losing all appreciation of its power, all faith in its effects. We should go frequently and regularly to Confession if we would receive plentifully the graces of this Sacrament. It is the best method of obtaining peace in this life; it is the best way of assuring ourselves of a favorable judgment at the hour of our death.

First Friday of August

Large crowds are expected to attend the Masses next Friday which is the first Friday of the month of August. Masses will be celebrated at 5:30, 6:30, 7:15 and 7:45 a. m.

Confessions will be heard on Thursday evening beginning at 7:30 and again on Friday morning before each of the Masses.

Sick people in the parish who would like to receive Holy Communion on the First Friday of the month may have their desire granted by seeing to it that one of the priests is notified.

We must build the natural before we can expect Divine Grace to do its work.

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Parish Briefs

You are asked to help us in spreading devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. One of the best ways of doing this is to make the nine Fridays. Why not begin next Friday?

We hope that you will avail yourselves of the rich indulgences which may be gained on August 2. The conditions will be explained elsewhere in this paper.

The first shovel of earth for the site of the new school was turned by Father Coughlin at 11 o'clock on Monday, July 25. Parishioners are asked to pray for the successful completion of the project and to do all in their power to support their school.

Plans are being made for the blessing of the outdoor stations of the Cross which adorn the grounds where once stood the cherished little Shrine. Further information concerning these ceremonies will appear in a subsequent issue of this paper

It is a mark of disrespect to the Blessed Sacrament to rise from your place in church and depart when the door of the Tabernacle has not yet been closed. If you arrive in church when Holy Communion is being distributed, it is proper to genuflect on both knees.

Have you a sick-call outfit in your home? Sickness comes unexpected and unannounced. It is well at all times to be prepared.

It is well to send flowers to your sick friends. It is better to arrange that a Mass be said for their recovery.

High Masses for the Week of July 31, 1938

- Monday, August 1—
 - 6:30—Special Intention.
 - 7:15—Repose of the soul of Michael Mozurkevich.
 - 7:45—All Souls.
- Tuesday, August 2—
 - 6:30—Thanksgiving in honor of St. Therese for favor received.
 - 7:15—Special Intention.
 - 7:45—Poor Souls.
- Wednesday, August 3—
 - 6:30—Poor Souls.
 - 7:15—In honor of Sacred Heart for Special Intention.
 - 7:45—Special Intention.
- Thursday, August 4—
 - 6:30—In honor of the Blessed Mother for favor received.
 - 7:15—Special Intention.
 - 7:45—Novena Intention Mass.
- Friday, August 5—
 - 6:30—Special Intention.
 - 7:15—Special Intention.
 - 7:45—All Souls.
- Saturday, August 6—
 - 6:30—Special Intention.
 - 7:15—Special Intention.
 - 7:45—Special Intention.

Portiuncula Indulgence

When St. Francis returned from his journey to Rome he settled down beside a little church belonging to the Benedictines, about a mile from the place of his birth. He called this small plot of ground with its tiny church the Portiuncula (small portion). Here he lived in the performance of the severest penance; here he prayed day and night, and here he laid the foundation of that Order which was to fill the whole earth with the splendor of its virtues. In this church, which was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin and to the Angels, he received from Christ Himself the celebrated indulgence known to the whole Christian world as the Portiuncula Indulgence.

It happened thus: In the year 1221, on the anniversary of the church's consecration, while the saint was praying there with fervent devotion, Our Lord appeared to him and said: "Francis, demand what thou wilt for the salvation of nations."

Francis replied: "I ask the remission of the guilt and punishment, a plenary indulgence for all that shall visit this church with a contrite heart and confess their sins."

"Go, then," said Our Lord, "to my representative, the Pope, and demand this indulgence in my name."

Francis went at once to the Pope, Honourous III, who first by word of mouth and later by a special decree confirmed the indulgence, which was afterwards extended to all the churches of the Franciscan Order.

When Can the Indulgence Be Gained?

You can gain this indulgence from 12 o'clock noon on Monday, August 1, until midnight of August 2. It can be gained as often as the conditions are fulfilled within those time limits.

What Are the Conditions?

To gain the Portiuncula Indulgence it is required that you confess your sins, receive Holy Communion and make a visit reciting six Our Fathers, Hail Marys and Glories for the intention of the Holy Father in a church which is in charge of the Franciscans. The nearest church to the Shrine of the Little Flower is the Shrine of Saint Anthony (Duns Scotus College), Evergreen and Nine Mile Road. The Indulgence is a "toties quoties," which means that it can be gained as often as the conditions are fulfilled within the above mentioned limits.

A Helpful Hint

The confession required for the gaining of this indulgence may be made during the eight days immediately preceding or the eight days following the day of the visit to the church.

The Holy Communion necessary to gain the indulgence may take place either on the day or its vigil or during the eight days following.

We are well pleased with the work of Rev. Mr. Brophy who has been acting as guide to the tourists at the Shrine during the summer months. Our parishioners who attend the Shrine regularly might well follow this thorough guide on one of his tours through the Shrine. His instructions and explanations are profitable to all.

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