

MANY RITES USED IN ROME AT EPIPHANY

By Mear, Enrico Pucci

Rome, Jan. 23.—In Rome the celebration of the Epiphany has been no less solemn than were the Christmas religious functions.

To the imposing ceremonies in the patriarchal Basilicas and in all the churches, were added those of the Greek rite, on the eve and Feast of St. Athanasius in the church dedicated to him, and those of various Oriental Rites celebrated in the church of Propaganda dedicated to the Epiphany.

The most popular celebration however, in honor of the Divine Redeemer manifested to all peoples, is that of "St. Andrea della Valle," devised and promoted by the venerable Vincenzo Fallotta, founder of the Pious Society of Missions, well known in the United States.

The venerable founder thought of dedicating the whole Octave of the Epiphany to the memory of the spreading of Catholic Truth to all the world, and with this aim in view, he instituted a series of services and sermons to bring home to the people the universal character of the Catholic Church. Therefore these functions, he thought, should be celebrated according to the several rites and in their respective languages.

In these days the apex of the Church of St. Andrea della Valle has been transformed to reproduce the Adoration of the Magi, with gigantic statues garbed in precious garments which are gifts from princely Roman families.

The days of the Holy Octave were devoted this year to services as follows: In the early morning Mass and preaching in Italian, for the people; at 8:30 Mass sung, in Latin rite; at 9:30 Mass in various Oriental rites; at 11:00 sermon in a foreign language. In the afternoon at 2:45 apologetic sermon in Italian and Benediction given by a Cardinal; at 6:00, preaching in Italian for the people and Benediction by a Bishop.

The Masses in Oriental rites were said this year in this order: Saturday, January 6, Pontifical Mass, Syro-Maronite; Sunday, January 7, Pontifical Mass, Armenian; Monday, January 8, Mass sung in Chaldean; Tuesday, January 9, Pontifical Mass, Greek-Ruthenian; Wednesday, January 10, Mass sung by Catholic Russian, Greek-Slav; Thursday, January 11, Pontifical Mass, Syro-Antiochian; Friday, January 12, Mass sung in Ethiopian rite; Saturday, January 13, Pontifical Greek.

For the Masses sung in the Latin rite, representatives of various religious orders officiated including: Theatines, Minor Conventuals, Servants of Mary, Capuchins, Dominicans, and Augustinians. The students of the Lombard College sang the Ambrosian Latin rite Mass and the Carmelite Fathers the Jerusalem Latin rite Mass. Sermons were given in French, German, Spanish, Irish, English, Polish and Dutch.

At the Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament the students of the following colleges assisted: Propaganda, German, French, North American (on January 9), Spanish, International Benedictine, Belgian, Pio, Latin American, Portuguese, and Polish. The students of the Irish College helped at the blessing of the water, which, according to the Roman ritual, occurs on the eve of the Epiphany.

Thus with the union of rites of various languages and nationalities, was the Revelation of the Divine Word celebrated in Rome, center of the Universal Church.

NEW BREED OF FOWL

The Trappist monastery at Oka, Que., the home of Oka wine, Oka cheese and a distinctive election of muskmelon that is especially served in Canadian and New York hotels, has been given new prominence as a result of the recent New York Poultry Show, at which the monks exhibited a distinctive breed of poultry, known as Chantecler. The breed is the result of more than ten years of experiment on the part of Brother Wilfred, the poultry husbandman of the institute and has already been recognized as an established breed by the American Poultry Association.

"Chantecler" represents an effort on the part of Brother Wilfred to produce a breed that would be eminently practical for Canadian conditions, that would eliminate as far as possible all "fancy" characteristics that might be disadvantageous and that would reduce to a minimum the combs and wattles that are subject to such danger of freezing in winter. Beyond this the new breed was to be a general purpose one; the hens should be good winter layers, and still the type should be such that it would serve well for meat purposes.

In casting about for types from which to breed the Cornish was selected by Brother Wilfred as the starting point, since it seemed to possess to a high degree the general conformation, vigor, and type of comb and wattles desired. For high laying qualities the White Leghorn offered obvious material, while the Rhode Island Red, Wyandotte and Plymouth Rock were introduced as being aids to the production of winter eggs.

In a casual inspection the "Chantecler" shows strongly the Cornish contribution to its ancestry. Not

only is this apparent in the comb and wattles, which are reduced to a minimum, but especially in the carriage and in the strong broad breast. The bird is heavily and closely feathered, and on the whole seems well adapted to withstand severe winter conditions. Exhibits of the breed at Montreal have shown a large percentage conforming to "standard" and the flock as seen at Oka exhibits greater conformity than might be expected after so few years of selection.

RELIEF FOR GERMAN STUDENTS

By Rev. Dr. Wilhelm Baron von Capitaine

Cologne, Feb. 5.—Contributions from the Pope for the relief of German students, and from Holland and Sweden for the relief of German priests and theological students, have been received recently. The generous contribution of 50,000 lire was sent to Cardinal Bettram, Prince-Bishop of Breslau, who transmitted it to the headquarters of the Albertus Magnus Union at Trier for distribution.

The Swedish Relief Committee has advanced 100,000,000 marks to be used to assist 4,000 students in Germany. It is specified that preference is to be shown to students from the occupied areas in the Ruhr in apportioning this fund. This aid will enable many students to continue their studies after the end of the present term, whereas it was anticipated they would be forced to discontinue their work.

German priests in the poorer parishes have benefited to the extent of 1,500,000 marks by the generosity of Catholic priests in Holland. The Dutch priests are also making arrangements to have a number of German seminarians spend their Easter holidays in Holland. This fund is being distributed through a central office in Paderborn.

OBITUARY

FATHER STEPHEN, O. M. CAP.

Wisconsin Catholic Herald, February 22

With his priest-brother, the Rev. Joseph M. Eckert, O. P., as celebrant, the funeral Mass for the Rev. Stephen Eckert, O. M. Cap., was sung in St. Francis church, Fourth and Harmon streets, at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning. Interment was in Calvary cemetery.

The decease was the Rev. James Aldridge, O. P., Minneapolis, the sub-deacon the Rev. Richard Clarke, O. P., Madison, Wis. The Right Rev. John Forbes, coadjutor bishop of Uganda, Africa, officiated at the Libera. His Lordship is visiting in Milwaukee.

An eloquent funeral sermon was preached by the Rev. M. M. Gerend, rector of St. John's Deaf Mute Institute. He spoke on the lesson of death, a lesson of hope, and then of Father Stephen's devotion to the colored people. The deceased priest had planned a new and more adequate boarding school and social center this year for his charges. Doubtless he would now pray for the success of the plan which death prevented him from carrying out.

Father Gerend pleaded with the colored children not to forget their friend. Negro children formed a guard of honor when the coffin was carried down the aisle after the Requiem Mass.

The funeral was attended by a large number of priests. They included the Right Rev. Msgr. P. H. Burnin, the Right Rev. Msgr. A. C. Breit, the Revs. A. Klink, J. H. Theisen, A. J. Berg, J. W. Bott, Peter Enrietto, Anthony Wisemewski, J. P. Quirin, J. W. O'Keefe, A. V. Skolaski, Cyrilus M. Wahle, O. P., Father Martin, O. M. Cap., William Mahoney, Father Sebastian, O. M. Cap., Father Philip, O. M. Cap., J. W. Berg, Peter Theisen, Father Chrysostom, O. C. D., J. L. Kaiser, A. J. Fischer, A. F. Chiborad, O. F. M., F. C. Ryan, J. J. Krieg, W. J. Pichery, J. F. Purcell, Joseph F. Barbican, F. M. Berg, P. W. Schnitzler, J. J. Oberle, J. J. Pierron, Charles Kremer, S. J., F. H. Whiteman, M. J. Graff, H. L. Hargarten, N. Maas, A. Van Halder, O. S. M., J. J. Ziebarth, L. F. Gabriels, E. B. Schiefen, Andrew Kinney, J. J. Grasser, H. T. Stemper, T. D. Dewey, S. J., Father Kilian, O. C. D., Stephen Klopfer, A. Bialinski, L. Peschong, J. S. Haensler, Father Roger, D. M. Cap., I. A. Klein, A. T. Reiningier, J. W. Shott, C. S. R., Martin W. Ostance, C. S. R., M. F. McEvoy, Peter Polonisky, Wenceslaus Picc, O. P., Albert Cassey, O. P., Philip Dreis, William Haberstock, J. J. McGinty, F. P. Reilly, M. J. Huston, M. J. Wentz, O. M. Ziegler, E. J. Beck, Sebastian Bernard.

Father Stephen, for nine years in charge of St. Benedict the Moor mission for negroes, 805 Ninth street, died in St. Joseph's hospital Friday, Feb. 16, at an early hour. He died in the same hospital in which the Rev. Nicholas D. J. Becker, founder of St. Benedict's mission, died the previous Friday.

A cold contracted by hearing a large number of confessions after being heated because of the vehemence of his sermon, led to Father Stephen's death. The cold developed into pleural pneumonia and despite the best possible medical skill and nursing, his life could not be saved. He contracted the cold while on a missionary trip into Iowa.

Four brothers, three besides Father Eckert of the Dominicans, and three sisters survive the deceased

priest, who was fifty-three years and ten months of age. His priest-brother came from Hawthorne, N. Y., to be celebrant of the Requiem Mass.

The body of Father Stephen lay in state from Sunday afternoon until the funeral Tuesday, and throughout this time large numbers of men, women and children visited the church to pay their last respects to the deceased priest and to pray for his soul.

Large numbers of Milwaukee colored Catholics realize how selflessly he was devoted to their welfare during his nine years in charge of St. Benedict the Moor mission, and colored men, women and children joined white men and women and of other Catholic churches in mourning Father Stephen's death.

The Rev. Stephen Eckert, O. M. Cap., was a native of Canada. He was born in Dublin, Ontario, April, 28, 1899. Having completed the classical course, he entered the Capuchin novitiate in Detroit, May 21, 1890. He was ordained to the holy priesthood July 2, 1896.

After his ordination, Father Stephen was engaged in pastoral work in New York City, Yonkers, N. Y., and Fond du Lac, Wis. While in New York he showed an exceptional love for the colored people and immense interest in their spiritual and social welfare. Seeing his devotion to the negroes and recognizing his zeal and ability, his superiors decided to entrust him with the care of St. Benedict the Moor mission for colored Catholics in Milwaukee.

LEUT. THOS. F. SULLIVAN

After a somewhat lengthy tubercular illness, Lieut. Thos. F. Sullivan passed away at Gravenhurst on Monday, Feb. 12th, in his twenty-eighth year.

The remains were brought to Oakville and Thursday morning were taken to St. Andrew's church, where Father Savage conducted Mass. Interment followed in St. Andrew's cemetery.

Thos. Sullivan was born in Oakville being a son of the late Dennis Sullivan and Mrs. Sullivan. He was educated there and entered the local post office, where he remained until War broke out. He enlisted, went overseas and was promoted to the rank of lieutenant.

Returning, he entered the train postal service running out of Toronto, until his illness made it impossible for him to remain longer in service.

Lieut. Sullivan married Ella Neelands of Strathroy, who survives along with his mother in Oakville, four brothers, James, John, Basil, of Oakville, Patrick of Toronto, and three sisters, Mrs. Edward Coorcan, of Orillia; Mrs. Arthur V. Goefroy, of Owen Sound, and Miss Annie Sullivan, of Linwood.

DIED

FLAHERTY.—At his late residence, Kellys, on Feb. 11, Patrick Flaherty, aged eighty-six years and seven months. May his soul rest in peace.

WEISENBORN.—At his late residence, 140 Peck St., Rochester, N. Y., on Saturday, February 17, John George Weisenborn, aged eighty-four years. May his soul rest in peace.

O'DONNELL.—At her home in Merrickville, on February 10th, Mrs. Hugh O'Donnell, in her seventy-first year. May her soul rest in peace.

KENNEDY.—On Wednesday morning, February 21, 1928, at his home Hillview Farm, Guelph Township, Mr. Donald L. Kennedy, in his forty-eighth year. May his soul rest in peace.

COLLINS.—At her late residence 196 Friel St., Ottawa, on Feb. 16th, 1928, Margaret O'Brien, widow of the late Michael J. Collins of the Savings Bank Branch, P. O. D., Ottawa. May her soul rest in peace.

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Alexandria, La., Feb. 26.—Members of the Ku Klux Klan need not expect appointments to public office in the State of Louisiana, according to a letter from Governor John M. Parker by L. B. Baynard, Jr., in response to Mr. Baynard's request that he appoint two men from Rapides Parish.

"I have made some mistakes," wrote Governor Parker, "but it was in doing what I sincerely believed best for the entire State and now I wish to write you very frankly that as long as I am governor I do not intend to appoint to any office of any kind any man without having his assurance that he is not a member of the Ku Klux Klan.

Investigation of the outrages at Mer Rouge is known to have been hampered for some time because Klansmen were holders of public offices in Morehouse Parish.

Leisure should be used, not wasted.

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