

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

Vol. XL, No. 8

Monday, October 10, 1960

Notre Dame, Ind.

THE NUMBER of those who pause each day to pray at the temporary tomb of Cardinal O'Hara continues to increase. The little chapel will no doubt become a favorite place of prayer for future generations of Notre Dame students. No tomb could adequately tell the story of his life. But that you might better know this holy man of God, we print today the sermon preached by Bishop Furey of Philadelphia at the time of the Cardinal's death. On October 24th, the anniversary of the BULLETIN'S first appearance we will print excerpts from some of the Cardinal's BULLETINS.

● IS THERE A BETTER CANDIDATE for the title of Honorary Chairman of BEAT STATE WEEK than the Cafeteria's genial Jimmy McGerraghy? Next Saturday's game will mark the 350th time Jimmy has seen the Irish take to the field! Last Saturday night, as he stood at the Circle with former University president Father Matthew Walsh, awaiting the team's return, Jimmy's thoughts turned to the students' desire to win. "It'll never die!" he insisted. His conviction was justified as a thousand or more students moved towards the Circle and lined the avenue to back up their belief that there is one thing that's as important as winning, and that's knowing how to turn defeat into victory. And that goes not only for the game of football but for every worthwhile undertaking.

● THURSDAY OF THIS WEEK IS THE FEAST OF ST. EDWARD. Fr. Sorin bore the name of this great saint, and for this reason, the day became known as Founder's Day. This year the formal observance will be on Sunday, the 16th. Fr. Sorin's veneration of his personal patron took the form of an annual reminder of how great and important it is to become holy. We ought all of us to honor our own patrons on their feastday and renew that same conviction.

● JUBILEE'S October issue is devoted to vocations. An excellent issue; pick up a copy at the pamphlet room in Dillon.

● YESTERDAY marked the second anniversary of the death of Pope Pius XII. How long has it been since you made a prayerful remembrance of the illustrious Pontiff who occupied the Chair of Peter during most of your life?

● TOMORROW IS THE FEAST OF OUR LADY'S MOTHERHOOD. Mary has many glorious titles and privileges, but the basis of them all is the fact that she is God's Mother. She is the Mother of all noble loving, of reverence and true knowledge and holy hope. If, then, we mean it when we salute her as "Notre Dame", we ought to make a special effort to celebrate her feast tomorrow.

● NOW IS THE TIME to join the Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary. Stop by Room 116 Dillon and sign up.

● PRAYERS. Deceased: Eileen Fitzgerald; Howard Cassin. One special intention.

'IPSAM SEQUENS, NON DEVIAS' **'Following her, you will not go astray'**

by
Bishop-elect Francis J. Furey, D.D.

Some of the saints have written so beautifully about sacred things, that they seem to have been inspired by the Holy Ghost. Their inspiration must not be compared to that of the sacred writers of the Bible, of course, but there is often a spiritual quality about their words and thoughts that reminds one of Heaven rather than of earth.

SUCH A SAINTLY writer was St. Bernard of Clairvaux, who lived in the first half of the 12th century. He wrote on many subjects, but his favorite was the Queen of Heaven. In all literature there is no one who speaks more sublimely or more beautifully of Mary.

One of St. Bernard's most famous sermons was on the Holy Name of Mary. He calls Mary "the glorious Star of Jacob," whose rays illuminate the whole world. He assures his readers that they will never be in danger of shipwreck on the sea of life if they keep their eyes fixed on their guiding star: "Respice stellam; voca Mariam."

Then comes the most sublime passage of the sermon. "Following her, you will not go astray; praying to her, you will not lose hope; thinking of her, you will never make a mistake. If she is your support, you will not fall; if she is your protectress, you have nothing to fear; if she is your guide, you will never grow weary; if she is on your side, you will reach your goal."—"Ipsa Propitia, Pervenis."

Each year, on the feast of the Holy Name of Mary, September 12, we read this sublime sermon in the Roman Breviary. How fitting that our late beloved Cardinal Archbishop should have chosen for his episcopal motto a phrase from St. Bernard's homily on the Name of Mary.

CARDINAL O'HARA possessed many great qualities of mind and heart. Editorials have been written and will continue to be written on his learning, his zeal, his kindness, his humility, his simplicity. But no single factor of his life is more deserving of mention than his tender, child-like devotion to Mary.

AFTER THE EVENING MEAL, visitors to his home would be invited to go with him to his chapel to recite the Rosary of Our Lady. After the Rosary, he himself would lead

his small congregation in the Litany of the Blessed Virgin, which he knew by heart and which he loved to say. The name of Mary was always on his lips, and, what is much more to the point, always in his heart.

This does not surprise us when we realize the deep religious spirit that animated every phase of his life. John O'Hara was an excellent student. The young Father O'Hara was a learned professor. Father O'Hara was a prudent counsellor, an able writer, a truly spiritual guide. President O'Hara was more than a college administrator: he was the school's very heart and soul.

Bishop O'Hara was an inspiration to countless chaplains and soldiers during our country's darkest hours. **Bishop O'Hara** was the beloved shepherd of his flock.

Archbishop O'Hara was a father, to young and old, weak and well, normal and deformed, poor and rich, black and white, good and bad.

Cardinal O'Hara was a glory to the Sacred College of Cardinals, a favorite son of Pope John XXIII, and the pride and joy of our great Archdiocese.

But throughout all the various steps of his life, as a priest and before his sacred ordination, John O'Hara was a true Religious. By word and example, he did all in his power to promote the supernatural life of all the Religious in the Archdiocese.

He was responsible for the successful and encouraging Institute for Religious at Cardinal Dougherty High School. He was most solicitous for the spiritual and temporal welfare of all Religious in the Archdiocese, especially for those who were teaching in our vast school system.

I AM SURE he must have meditated on his vow of obedience when he was called to become a member of the College of Cardinals. Nothing would have pleased him more than to have remained in the background and to have avoided the pomp and circumstance that go with the great cardinalitial dignity. By nature and by grace quiet, reserved and retiring, it was a genuine effort for him to be in the public eye.

A TYPICAL EXAMPLE of his love to be known as a humble priest is the following incident. In spite of many physical disabilities and pain, he agreed to attend a gathering of the Philadelphia Delegation in Rome on the evening of December 18, 1958, following the public consistory in which he had been created a Cardinal.

When he arrived at the hotel where the Philadelphians had assembled, he was met at the door by the manager and by several attendants bearing large lighted torches. They went with His Eminence everywhere and waited outside the large room where he had gone to deliver a brief address.

He was most anxious to visit his sister who was slightly indisposed in a room in the same hotel, but he tried in vain to elude his "captors," as he called them. Finally, with a typical gesture, he said, "I'm trapped. Please tell my sister that I'll try to get around to see her in the morning."

Our beloved Cardinal Archbishop preferred to be known as "Father John" or "Father O'Hara." More than once after his coming to Philadelphia as our Archbishop, he caused consternation by announcing on the telephone that "Father O'Hara" was calling. More than one receptionist was embarrassed when the Cardinal went unaccompanied on a visit and said merely that "Father O'Hara" was downstairs or in the waiting room!

Because of the many great honors that came to him in his latter life, we are apt to forget the Religious of Notre Dame, the Father O'Hara whose name is held in benediction by thousands of Notre Dame men in this country and throughout the world. If I were to be allowed to look at one single entry of the Recording Angel in our Cardinal's Book of Life, I think I would like to see how many hours he spent in the confessional throughout his priestly, Religious existence.

CARDINAL O'HARA never signed his name without placing after it the initials "C.S.C." He was justly and properly proud to be known as a member of the Congrega-

tion of the Holy Cross. And how well he lived up to the name as well as to the ideals of his Congregation when, like our Blessed Savior, he was called on to carry a heavy cross of suffering and sorrow. Like our Divine Lord, he never complained, but rather seemed to welcome the opportunity of proving himself even more worthy to be a Religious of the Holy Cross.

Our beloved Cardinal Archbishop possessed a rare combination of priestly qualities. He was learned and wise, like St. Thomas Aquinas. He had the gentleness of St. Francis de Sales. He had the humility and sense of humor of St. Philip Neri. He had the zeal of the Cure' of Ars. Like St. Bernard, he had an abiding love of Mary, his Queen and Mother.

CARDINAL O'HARA was, and is, an edifying example to all of us: To you, his fellow Religious, priests, Brothers and Sisters; to us, his diocesan priests and faithful laity. It is not easy to follow in his footsteps, but he would want us to try.

To follow in his footsteps, we must follow Mary. "Ipsam sequens, non devias." Cardinal O'Hara followed Mary in life and he follows her in death. His lips are still in the embrace of death, but we can repeat for him the inspired words of Mary Immaculate: "My soul doth magnify the Lord . . . because He that is mighty has done great things to me, and holy is His name."

This generation, and generations yet unborn, will call him blessed for his saintly, priestly life and work. Especially will they call him blessed for having followed his Heavenly Queen and thus being assured of never going astray.

May we have the wisdom to follow in his path.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon his priestly soul!