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NBC Will Broadcast Opening of Holy Year From Rome Christmas

NEW YORK. — A special Christmas Day program from Rome will broadcast a description of the ceremonies attending the opening of the Holy Door and the inauguration of the Holy Year on Christmas Eve. The program will be broadcast over the National Broadcasting Company network from 2 to 3 o'clock Eastern' Standard Time, the afternoon of Christmas Day.

Jack Begon, NBC correspondent in Rome, will describe by transcription the activities of His Holiness Pope Pius XII at the opening of the Holy Door, and it is expected to bring not only the music and the prayers but also the Holy Father's voice and the sound of the actual tapping of the Holy Door with the ceremonial hammer. A dramatic musical presentation of the Oratorio de Natale, with orchestra and the chorus of St. Cecilia Academy in Rome directed by Maestro Perosi, will be a feature of the broadcast.

Holidays at Nazareth Feature Many Parties

NAZARETH. — Gifts of colorful and serviceable clothing were just a few of the assortment of gifts the Knights of Columbus of North Carolina presented recently to the children of the Catholic Orphanage at Nazareth at a Christmas party held preceding the holiday week. It was the biggest party ever staged at the Home by the Knights.

The presents were arranged around the big Christmas tree, the names of children were called by jovial Santa Claus and each child received a number of these personalized gifts.

The boys and girls were also feted by the management of the (Continued on Page 12)

GREETINGS

"The North Carolina Catholic" takes this occasion to extend Christmas Greetings to all its readers, advertisers, and correspondents; to the pastors of the Diocese who have rendered such valuable help during 1949; to Mrs. Francis J. McMahon, President of the North Carolina Catholic Laymen's Association, and to the members of her Executive Board; to the eight Deanery Chairmen and their secretaries, and to all parish officers of the Association who, have done such a commendable job in promoting the program of the Association.

To all who have made a tremendous burden lighter, a heartfelt thanks and sincerest wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Holy New Year!

Fr. Frederick Koch, Editor Fr. Francis A. McCarthy, Clerical Promoter, NCCLA.

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FELIX CAELI PORTA PORTA VENITE ADOREMUS HOLY CHRISTMAS—HOLY YEAR

THE DOOR

(Original cutout by Sr. Mary Jean, O.P.)

Wide is the path to Caesar's house And marble paves the floor, But rough and narrow the lonely way And none but the small ones may enter in That leads to a stable door. And none but the small ones may enter in For the door is low and small Where He sleeps on the world's one stainless throne Who is Ruler and Lord of all. Caesar is counting his hosts today, Recording the gainful hands, For feet that walk on a marble way Are fettered with iron bands; And only the shepherds are poor enough To gaze at a midnight sky And kneel in awe where the Queen of Heaven Is singing a lullaby. They are splendid roads that are Caesar's roads And great is the power of Rome; But a star is bright in a darkened sky. Higher than Roman eagles fly And further than exiles roam. O, wanderer, come where the small ones are, To the gate that is lighted with light of star, Where Heaven's King and His Mother are,

SISTER MARY JEAN, O. P.

The gate that leads all men home.

Bishop Waters to Offer Solemn Pontifical Mass At Midnight Christmas

Throughout the entire Diocese, the Pastors and their Assistants have prepared an elaborate program for the observance of Christmas in their various parishes. The attention of the Diocese will be focused on the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart where His Excellency, Bishop Waters will offer a Solemn Pontifical Mass Christmas at midnight, when as Chief Shepherd of the Diocese he will deliver his annual Christmas sermon to the faithful.

Radio Station WNAO of Raleigh will broadcast the entire service. The Rev. Francis A. McCarthy will be the narrator of the Mass for the Radio broadcast.

Assisting Officers

The assisting officers at the Pontificial Mass, the Very Rev. J. ennox Federal, Rector at the Cathedral, Assistant Priest; the Rev. Francis J. Tait and Rev. Romeo Trahan, S. S. E., Assistant Deacon; the Rev. Francis J. Murphy, Deacon of the Mass, and the Rev. John S. Regan, Subdeacon of the Mass. The Very Rev. Francis K. O'Brien, Chancellor, will be the Master of Ceremonies.

The Rev. Paul J. Byron will direct the Cathedral Men's Choir and the organist will be John Vaughan.

"Stella Matutina"

The music of the Catholic Pontificial Mass will be from the Mass "Stella Matutina." This Mass was written by A. G. Carnvail, well known liturgical composer and organist. It has as its motif the prayer of all peoples to the Queen of Heaven for peace. The strains of a violin soloist will accompany the organ, with John B. Dughi, as violinist, Miss Elizabeth Murphy will be soprano. The score of the Mass has a very delightful soprano line. It does justice to the voice of a soprano. The tenors and bass lines will be sung by twenty trained voices of the Cathedral Men's Choir founded some years ago by Rev. Charles J. O'-(Continued on Page 12)



Christmas Greetings to the Priests, Sisters, Laity, the Benefactors of the Diocese of Raleigh and the Readers of the North Carolina Catholic. That Christ's Birthday will be for each one of you a day of Joy and Peace and one abundant with Graces which will endure throughout the Holy Year is the fondest wish of

VINCENT S. WATERS Bishop of Raleigh