



O COME, LET US ADORE HIM!

"Come, O come, Emmanuel", sang the Prophets of the Old Testament. During the four-week cycle of Advent the Church joins in their longing for a Redeemer to free us from the bondage of sin. Especially does she express her expectancy in the "O" antiphons of the Divine Office, the prayers preceding the Magnificat at Vespers during the octave before Christmas.

This longing increases in intensity as His coming grows nearer. With the Church we call on Adonai, "Our Lord and Master". We beg for "Wisdom, Who cometh forth from the mouth of the Most High", the Word made flesh, "reaching from end to end, ordering all things powerfully, yet gently". We seek the "Root of Jesse", the "First Light of Day, the Sun of Justice". We petition "the King of Nations, Cornerstone, Who makest Jews and pagans one." We beseech the "Key of David," Who is to open to us the Kingdom of Heaven.

How great is the joy on earth when we are able to sing to all creatures, "To us is born a Savior". Emmanuel, God with us, has, as it were, inserted Himself into mankind by becoming "partaker of our humanity" to reconcile us with the Father.

As the Prophets address God in Advent, crying to Him, "O come", so at His birth they address us, crying "O come, let us adore Him!"

THE FONT LETTER

Vol. 2, No. 12

Fontbonne College, St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dec. 14, 1949

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Dec. 12 to 16--Pre-registration.
- Dec. 14 to 17--Clothing Drive sponsored by the Sodality
- Dec. 14--Ember Day. Gospel of the Annunciation
- 14, 12:10 p.m.--Fontbonne Keys presented to seniors by Mother Marcella, president
- Dec. 15, 11:40 a.m.--Spiritual Council meeting in Home Economics apartment, Science third floor
- 15, 12:10 p.m.--Meeting of FAA in Ryan 301
- 15, 2:30 p.m.--Christmas party of Mothers' club in Ryan Hall parlor
- 15, 3 p.m.--Students of Contemporary Art with Sister Annetta, their instructor, will visit
- 15, 5:30 p.m.--Resident Students' Christmas Dinner and Party. Day students are invited to the party and talent show at 7 p.m.
- 15, 16, 8:15 p.m.--Presentation of "Slip of a Slipper", an operetta, by St. Joseph's Academy in Fontbonne auditorium
- Dec. 16--Ember Day. Gospel of the Visitation
- Triple-cut day. Christmas vacation begins after the last class
- 16, 12:10 p.m.--Noon recital of Alice Cataldi, violinist
- 12:10 p.m.--Meeting of Phi Beta Chi, science club, in Chemistry lecture room
- 3 p.m.--Sodality Christmas party, featuring the packing of Christmas baskets in den
- 17--Ember Day
- 17, 10 a.m.--Fr. Clifford Howell, S.J., of England, demonstrates liturgy of Advent before students of Saturday classes

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec. 18--FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT. See explanation of the text of the Sunday's Mass in the St. Louis Register or in St. Andrew's missal
 18, 3 - 5 p.m.--Children's Christmas party given by the alumnae in residents' dining room
 7:30 p.m.--Giuseppe Di Stefano, Metropolitan tenor who sang recently for Fontbonne, will sing in the third annual "Joyful Hour" over KWK
 21--Feast of St. Thomas, Apostle
 22--Feast of St. Francis Xavier Cabrini, first American citizen to be canonized
 24--Christmas Eve
 24, 2:30 p.m. over WEW and 6:30 p.m. over WEW-FM--Fontbonne Glee club singing Christmas carols on the corporate college program, "Tune in the Colleges"

Dec. 25--CHRISTMAS DAY, Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Dec. 26--Feast of St. Stephen, the First Martyr
 Dec. 27--Feast of St. John the Evangelist
 Dec. 28--Feast of the Holy Innocents
 Dec. 29--Feast of St. Thomas à Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury
 Dec. 31, 8 p.m.--New Year's Eve Holy Hour of Reparation at St. Francis Xavier church, Grand and Lindell blvds., sponsored by the Sodality Union of St. Louis with Fr. Charles Hunter, S.J., as speaker

Jan. 1--New Year's Day, Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord
 Jan. 4--Classes resume. Triple-cut day

Jan. 6--FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD.
 6, 8:30 a.m.--First Friday Sodality observance. Mass of the Epiphany
 Jan. 7, 9:30 a.m.--Archbishop Joseph E. Ritter will preside at Epiphany Mass and blessings in lower church of St. Francis Xavier; program of the Liturgical Commission
 Jan. 8--3 - 5:30--Sodality Tea Dance
 Jan. 17 - 23--Semester Examinations
 Jan. 24--Registration for the Second Semester
 Jan. 25 - 27--Annual Retreat for students, conducted by Fr. Raymond J. Ireland, S.J.
 Feb. 3, 8 p.m.--Junior promenade in Medaille ballroom with music of Herman Drake's orchestra

CAROLING, in selected groups, both before various organizations and on the radio will be the main preoccupation of the Glee Club during the Christmas season.

Contributing to the corporate college program, "Tune in the Colleges" on Saturday, Christmas Eve, over WEW at 2:30 p.m. and WEW-FM at 6:30, members of the Glee club will sing "Adeste Fideles", "The Holy Child", and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas". Solos will be given by Mary Joy Molunby and Lorraine Hotfelder, and a reading by Carmelita Schnellig. At Nazareth convent, Lemay, a group of fifteen of these carolers will sing Dec. 18. Another party was selected to carol at a Silver Tea of the Women's Club of St. Joseph's school in Clayton at 2 p.m. Dec. 19.

Acting as chaperones for two groups of carolers from St. Joseph's academy will be Helen Cataldi and Mary Joy Molunby of the college glee club. On Dec. 15, Helen's group will sing at Miss Hulling's cafeteria from 5 to 7:30 p.m., and Mary Joy's group at Pope's cafeteria from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

An intra-mural volleyball tournament opened in the Fontbonne gymnasium Dec. 13 under the chairmanship of Dorothy Onelson, junior. The captains who are responsible for the class teams are Joy Frost and Marcella Vogt for seniors; Mary Gratiaa, juniors; Clare Burke and Joan Mitchelllette, sophomores; Katherine Borchardt and Joan Almon, freshmen. The freshman-sophomore game which opened the series Tuesday had final scores of 44-16 and 21-7 in favor of the second year players. A junior-senior game will be played Wednesday, Dec. 14, at 4:15.

"Layfolk's Week" is being conducted this week, Dec. 11 to 17, by Fr. Clifford Howell, S.J., of Rugby, England, in St. Peter's Church, Kirkwood, with services commencing at 8 p.m. Students are urged to attend and guaranteed a stimulating evening of participation in Fr. Howell's program of prayer and song. St. Peter's is located on Argonne drive and can be reached by the Valley Park county bus, which runs from the Maplewood loop.

Fr. Howell is to speak at a special assembly of the Saturday classes next Saturday at 10:30 a.m. in the auditorium. He will explain and demonstrate some details of the liturgy of Advent and Christmas.

Some adjustments have been made in the schedule of examinations as published in last week's Font Letter. They include the following:

Tuesday, Jan. 17, 3 to 5 p.m.--Ed. 107
 Thursday, Jan. 19, 3 to 5 p.m.--All 2 o'clock Tuesday and Thursday classes except Ex 1
 Monday, Jan. 23, 9:30 to 11:30 -- All Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9:30 classes except Hu 2a
 Monday, Jan. 23, 1 to 3 p.m. -- All 1 o'clock Monday, Wednesday, and Friday classes except Hu 2a

The MISSION TAG DAY collection of last week, which netted \$37.42, will be divided into two amounts, with \$25 being given to the Pontifical Society of the Holy Childhood, and \$12.42 allotted to the purchase of gifts for children taught by Fontbonne members of the Legion of Mary at the Center of the Helpers of the Holy Souls, 4012 Washington Blvd.

GRAILVILLE'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, included in a course for lay leaders which is now scheduled for Dec. 28 to Jan. 1, was explained at Fontbonne by Daniel Kane, a member of that group of Loveland, Ohio. To Sister Teresa Mary, moderator of the CSMC unit which sponsored his talk Tuesday, Dec. 13, and students interested in attending the program, he explained the daily routine, designed to acquaint the individual with the Catholic spirit which should prevail in the family during the Christmas season. In the morning are Mass, Communion, and lectures. Afternoon periods are filled with discussions and group projects. The evenings are devoted to community recreation. On the program for the evenings are two unusual numbers. One is the group reading of "Murder in the Cathedral" by T.S. Eliot on the feast of its hero, St. Thomas à Becket, and the other a community song and dance program to replace the many types of secular entertainment usually sought during the holidays.

An Epiphany celebration with ARCHBISHOP JOSEPH E. RITTER offering Pontifical Mass will take place Saturday, Jan. 7, in the lower church of St. Francis Xavier, commencing at 9:30 a.m. At the conclusion of the Mass, His Excellency will give traditional Epiphany blessings, especially of chalk as used in Catholic countries to mark the doors of homes in honor of the Magi. The service is under the sponsorship of the local liturgical commission, and all students are invited to attend.

THE DEAN'S HONOR ROLL. Completing the list of superior students in the first quarter are these:

Sophomores:	A	B
Angeline Bolesina	6	1
Joan Marie Bothe	3	4
Elizabeth Breen	5	1
M. Constance Fiedler	2	5
M. Therese Hartigan	4	3
Patricia Ann Herbst	2	4
Krekeler, Mary Jane	2	4
Patricia Lorenz	5	1
Marie Teresa Lyons	3	4
Jeanette Maschnann	5	1
Mary Claire Nolan	3	4
Ruth Marie O'Neill	4	3
Elizabeth Pape	3	2
Mary Ann Russell	5	2
Melba Stratzmann	3	4
Barbara Nell Sullivan	6	1
Freshmen:		
Marianne Bonner	5	2
Eugenia Marie Hottel	1	5
Barbara Rose Hogan	4	3
Lois Marie Knopp	4	3
Kruempelmann, Dorothy Jean	4	3
Kuhlman, Mary Ann	2	5
McCarthy, Patricia Anne	3	4
Naumer, Frances Jeanette	2	4
Odorizzi, Kathryn	3	4
Pitlyk, Rosemary	1	6
Patricia Antoinette Stahl	4	3

Clothing for small children among the needy is now being made by the Home Economics club as its annual Christmas project. The garments include dresses, suits, knitted wear, and layettes. Each member and probationer is required to supply one garment; however, two or three students together may assemble one layette, which includes a dress, slip, shirt, cap, nightgown, and sacque. Miss Teresa M. Carmody is moderator of the club.

Sister Helen Joseph, assistant professor of chemistry, will attend the convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in New York City from Dec. 26 to 31, accompanied by Sister Clare Edmond of the Academy of Our Lady, Peoria, Ill. While in New York, Sister Helen Joseph will also attend the national meeting of the Catholic Round Table of Science, of which she is chairman for the Missouri Regional unit. The Sisters will leave on Dec. 22 and spend Christmas at St. Joseph's House of Studies, their convent in Washington, D.C.

Representing Fontbonne on the program of the December meeting of the Classical Club last Sunday afternoon at Maryville college was Teresa Reid, senior. The topic was "The Classics and Social Ideas", and Fontbonne's discussion was on the social institutions and problems of the ancients as instructive to us today. Webster college was the objector this month, and will be hostess to the next meeting on Feb. 19.

A tentative program for the LITURGICAL WORKSHOP of the NFCCS units of this region to be held at Fontbonne Sunday afternoon, Jan. 29, has been announced by Peggy Murphy, senior, who is in charge. The high point of the meeting will be a demonstration of the administration of Baptism given by Fr. Patrick J. Molloy of Robertson, Mo., who was College Day speaker. Preceding this will be a discussion by a panel of Fontbonne students centering around Baptism and membership in the Mystical Body of Christ which the Sacrament brings about. The session will open and close with the chanting in English of an hour of the Divine Office of the day. All Fontbonne students are invited to attend.

A favorable reception was given to Fr. Raymond J. Ireland, S.J., scheduled to be retreatmaster at Fontbonne Jan. 25 to 27, by retreatants at the Commerce and Finance School of St. Louis U, to whom he preached Dec. 5 to 8. Comments from a C & F freshman this week indicate that Fr. Ireland was very generally liked, that he was appreciated as being down to earth and full of understanding of human nature. He also gave evidence of deep experience in dealing with youth, in fact had every retreatant feeling that the retreatmaster was really his friend.

The staff of Fontbonne's latest publication, the literary magazine, has put forth an experimental finger into abstract design. The cover of "The Fountain" indicates that the ideas and opinions contained in the volume are a source of knowledge leading upward to God. The design reflects this spirit in a flowing, upward surge that diffuses itself, suggesting that in the book are ideals that uplift the minds of readers and so help them to diffuse those same ideals to their neighbors. Thus is the cover design explained by Mary Ann Pierce, who drew it with the assistance of Miss Frances P. Troemel, director of the department of art.

The first issue of "The Fountain" will be distributed Thursday, Dec. 15, at the religion and philosophy classes. Any student not receiving her copy at that time may obtain it at noon Friday in the den from Sue De Lisle, editor. The copies are free, being paid for from the students' activity fund.

Entertaining at the meeting of SIGMA BETA MU, music club, on Dec. 12 in the recital room of Fine Arts were several student-artists. Their program follows:

Sonata, Op.2 No. 1, Beethoven; En Bateau, Zeckwer--Beverly Goldwyn
Ave Maria, Schubert, Katie O'Brien; accompanist, Naomi Barcone
La Cathedrale Engloutie, Debussy--Sylvia Hicks
Carol of the Birds--Jeanette Naumer; accompanist, Doraldine Garcia
Christmas carols--Participants and audience

SIGN IN RYAN. Students helping with the Sodality Christmas project are asked to join in groups of six to provide baskets of non-perishable foods and toys. All willing to donate should sign the list on the bulletin board in Ryan hall. The goal is twenty baskets, which together with the clothing collected through the sodality's clothes drive, also running this week, will be delivered to the Rural Workers in Fertile, Mo., on Dec. 18, Sunday, by the Fontbonne contingent. Students interested in making the trip, which is to start at Fontbonne at 10 a.m. with a return to St. Louis by 5 p.m., should also sign the list on the bulletin board in Ryan hall.

READ "VATICAN vs. KREMLIN" BY McKNIGHT IN THE GLOBE-DEMOCRAT THIS WEEK

EXPOSE
by Georgianne Landy

No doubt, you, my readers, have heard countless tales, each differing, sometimes slightly, sometimes widely, concerning the origin of the Christmas tree, and have chosen your own particular favorite, placing your trust accordingly. On first hearing the genuine story, I was tempted not to retell it, thereby not discrediting those beautiful but horribly-falsified tales. However, after much philosophic discussion with myself, I decided the truth must out. No longer should generations be deceived. Humphrey's tale would be retold!

Yes, it was Humphrey who shed the rays of truth upon my unbelieving ears. And who, you may ask indignantly, is Humphrey that he should know exclusively of the origin of the Christmas tree, and why has he not related the true story before now? In the first place, no one has ever bothered to listen to Humphrey. No one ever knew he existed until one blustery day, quite by chance, when he flew down, bumped into me, and demanded I listen to him. I did, for one rarely meets a talking bird, especially such an important one as the only-extant Christmas bird. For that is exactly who Humphrey is--the last-remaining Christmas bird.

Do not be startled, my dear readers. I likewise did not know of the presence of such a bird upon the confines of our earth and surrounding sky. But here is the information right from the bird's mouth.

It seems that on that memorable night, the night of Christ's birth, all birds courageous enough to venture out into the cold to witness the joyful event, brought to their ears by angel express, were automatically designated as Christmas birds and promised eternal bird life on the condition they were never to breed with other than their own. According to Humphrey, there were only fourteen such brave birds at the scene, he among them. The angel Gabriel, bearer of the promise, stipulated that that unless the promise was adhered to and the Christmas birds did not breed with the various other selfish species of birds too lazy to attend the world-shaking event, the Christmas birds would become again normal birds and die accordingly. Humphrey, with dejected head, informed me that one by one the other thirteen, through weakened wills, at one time or another in the last nineteen hundred and fifty years had regrettably broken the one condition.

At this point, I gathered enough courage to interrupt and asked why he had come down to converse with a human person.

He answered readily, "You well know that everyone loves the Christmas season and its tales, traditions, and legends. Fortunately, all of the tales are predominantly correct, that is, except for one. And that is the story of the first Christmas tree. My, how they've bungled that one. I've listened to all of them, and none is even close to the truth. It's discouraging, especially when you know you're the only one existing who is certain how it really came about. And that is why I came down to talk today. The idea of a false story I just could stand no longer. I had to tell someone and you looked like a human person who'd believe anything."

"Well," I said, ignoring the back-handed compliment, "since you took all the trouble to come down, go ahead and tell me the genuine story."

Humphrey, wasting no words, did just that.

"About midnight of the Twenty-Fifth, that very night of His birth, Sophia, one of the celestial stars, became so curious about the whole affair that she decided, gravity or not, to get a little closer. You realize, of course, that the Stable was a little crowded that night, what with all the angels buzzing around, and the only spot available for Sophia was the lone little tree outside. So there she perched, setting a blaze of light for miles around. Well, as you might imagine, this caused quite a commotion and furor among the other stars. If Sophia could get a first-hand view, why couldn't they? So down they came, every star in the sky, and old mother Moon right behind them. The little old tree was bending every which way with her tremendous load.

"The little Babe, when he first opened His lids, was half-blinded with the light from the overloaded tree. But, and I was there, the tree was the first thing to which He pointed His tiny, red, cherub-fingers. Gabriel, who as I told you, had given us birds our reward, dashed out to the little tree and told it that forevermore it would reign as the CHRISTMAS TREE. And so it did, and will do. You see, it's as simple as that. If you don't mind, I wish you'd spread the tale around.

And with that word of petition, Humphrey flew off heading south.

So, my dear readers, as you can see, I have considered it my duty to relate this version of the story of the Christmas tree. If it sounds fantastic or if you care not to believe it, give a call for Humphrey; my work is done.

MOTHER MARCELLA, THE DEAN, AND THE SISTERS EXTEND TO ALL THE STUDENTS BEST WISHES
FOR A BLESSED CHRISTMAS

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