



Barquilla de la Santa Maria

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And how goes things with you today?

Father Edmond Ceslaus McEniry, O.P.

by J. Michael Finn, Ohio State Historian, Ancient Order of Hibernians

(Concluded, from Vol. XXVI, No. 3)

Literary Accomplishments

Between his teaching duties at Aquinas and his chaplain duties at Mt. Carmel, Father McEniry somehow found the time to edit, author or translate seven books between 1923 and 1946. Several of his books went through multiple printings. The *Columbus Register* reported that in 1948 there were 35,000 copies of Father McEniry's books in circulation. In order of publication, the following are Father McEniry's literary accomplishments:

A Book for Boys - This booklet was published in 1923. This small volume of "humor, pathos and short delightful stories" was edited and arranged by Father McEniry. The authors of this collection of small essays were the boys of Aquinas College High School English classes that were taught by Father McEniry. It is dedicated to Pope Pius XI. Father McEniry noted in the book, "Only boys can write for boys."

A New Life of St. Dominic - This book was published in 1926. It is a translation by Father McEniry from the Spanish work of Blessed Jordan of Saxony (1190-1237) and annotated by Fr. Louis Getino (1877-?). It is the very first English translation of Blessed Jordan's biography of St. Dominic de Guzman, founder of the Order of Preachers.

Hero Priest of the Ohio Penitentiary Fire - This book, written by Father McEniry, was published in 1934. It is a biography of Fr. Albert O'Brien, O.P. (1888-1933), Chaplain of the Ohio Penitentiary during the tragic 1930 fire that claimed 322 lives. It recounts the heroic efforts of Fr. O'Brien during the fire, and also documents Father McEniry's own service during the fire.

St. Thomas Aquinas Meditations for Every Day - This is Father McEniry's most famous work. Published first in 1938 with six editions through 1951, this is a book of daily meditations and devotions. It is translated from the Latin text of Fr. Denys Mezard and drawn from St. Thomas Aquinas' *Summa Theologica*. There were several attempts between 1968 and 1971 to have this book reprinted, without success. The book is dedicated to Father McEniry's mother, Mary McEniry. Father McEniry received the Papal Blessing of Pope Pius XII for this book.

St. Thomas Aquinas Explains Our Lady's Feasts - This book was published in 1945. A small book, only 57 pages, it was also taken from the writings of St. Thomas Aquinas and was translated from the Latin by Father McEniry.

God Cares for You - This book was published in 1944 with a second edition in 1945. The book is a translation from the Spanish work of Venerable Fr. Louis of Granada, O.P. (1505-1588) and re-

titled by Father McEniry. Father McEniry added his own remarks throughout the book and it is illustrated with several drawings and photographs from Columbus sources. As Father McEniry wrote about the book, "Through the visible things of God's creation, we rise to a knowledge and love of the invisible. Thus, we should use created things as so many mirrors in which we see the glory and goodness, mercy and power of our Maker and Savior."

The Sinners Guide - Published in 1946, this book is another translation from the Spanish works of Venerable Fr. Louis of Granada, O.P. Father McEniry states that the ever-increasing demand for *God Cares for You* encouraged him to publish this work by the same author. The Spanish title was *La Guia de Pecadores*.

As a result of the success of his *St. Thomas Aquinas Meditations for Every Day*, Father McEniry became well known across the country as a Catholic author. In 1943 Father McEniry was honored with membership in the Gallery of Living Catholic Authors. The Gallery, founded in 1932 by Sister Mary Joseph, S.L., included many noted Catholic authors of the 20th Century.

Good-Bye Columbus

On the morning of July 1, 1948 Father McEniry wrote a letter to the Sisters of the Holy Cross of Mt. Carmel Hospital. In the letter he announced that his work as chaplain would come to an end effective noon that day and he felt he owed them an explanation.

On May 18, 1948 Father had written the Dominican Provincial, Fr. Terence Stephen McDermott, O.P. and asked him for a re-assignment to missionary and retreat work. Father McDermott responded, "I shall be happy to assign you to the missions. I shall inform you later where your assignment will be and I know

you will do exceptionally well as a missionary due to your extraordinary work as a priest since your ordination and to your outstanding zeal."

In his letter to the Sisters, Father McEniry explained his reasons for requesting a new assignment. He wrote, "I felt convinced that I needed a change of work, after 26 years of assignment at Aquinas, 22 of them devoted to teaching there, in addition to 25 years as a chaplain at Mt. Carmel. I feel that with God's help, I can do better work for His church now, by doing one work well in the missionary field. It has been a joy and a privilege for me to have been a chaplain at Mt. Carmel for 25 years."

Although Fr. McDermott recommended to Bishop Michael J. Ready the name of a Dominican priest to replace Father McEniry as chaplain, "Bishop Ready decided to appoint one of his own priests as a chaplain at Mt. Carmel," wrote Father McEniry. Father announced the appointment of Father Joseph McGlynn as chaplain and said, "I do not know of any Diocesan priest who I would prefer to be the chaplain here, as much as I do Father McGlynn."

Why did Father McEniry wait until the effective date to announce his departure? He gave the following explanation: "The reason is because I felt it was not my place to make the news known to you and the public ... because I have so many friends in Columbus that if the news of my leaving Mt. Carmel had been widely known, the switch-board operators at Mt. Carmel and myself would have been constantly annoyed by telephone calls from Democrats and Republicans. I preferred also to leave quietly without saying good-bye. If I were to shake hands with all my Mt. Carmel friends, I would need many hands. Mt. Carmel has been a second home for me."

Father thanked the Sisters at Mt. Carmel for their many works of mercy toward the Dominican

sick. He then described a brief history of Dominican involvement at Mt. Carmel: "For more than 50 years, Dominican Priests from St. Patrick's, Columbus, and from St. Mary's of the Springs and Aquinas and from St. Joseph's, Somerset, Ohio, have rendered service to Mt. Carmel. I might mention especially, Fr. Damien Pendergast, Fr. Dominic Sullivan, Fr. Ambrose Smith, Fr. Gaffney, Fr. Bernard Hughes, Fr. Vincent Higgins, Fr. Patrick Heasley, Fr. Maurice Conlon, Fr. Albert Drexilius, Fr. M. S. Welsh, and Fr. James J. McLarney. It is safe to say that over 100 priests have rendered service to Mt. Carmel in the past 50 years."

News of Father's departure spread gradually to his friends, co-workers and former students. His good friend at the *Columbus Dispatch*, Johnny Jones, wrote an article on July 12, 1948 titled "We'll Miss Father McEniry." Jones wrote, "Never did I pass him (Fr. McEniry) on the street that it did take some minutes for us to go about our respective business. He always has something interesting to tell. His hand went up in greeting time and time again as former students or patients greeted him while we talked. It mattered not what creed or color the patient may be in the (hospital) room he visited, 'And how goes things with you today?' was his greeting. Nobody can quite measure the worth of such a laborer for God. I shall miss him on the street, as hundreds of others will. Let us wish God's speed, fine health, and fertile fields of endeavor for this beloved man." With only a few hasty good-byes and with many memories, Father McEniry left Columbus behind for what he hoped were many more years of "doing one work well."

"Doing One Work Well"

It has been a very difficult task determining all of Father McEniry's assignments after leaving Columbus in 1948. Several Dominican published sources cite that Father left Columbus in 1955, "After 33 years of faithful service."

This, of course, is not correct. After contacting several Dominican priories and the Dominican archives and with the kind assistance of many Dominican Fathers, a more accurate record of Father McEniry's assignments has been documented.

In his July 1, 1948 letter to the Sisters of the Holy Cross, Father McEniry wrote that the Dominican Provincial had asked him to report for the missionary's retreat at Providence College on August 22, 1948. On July 9, 1948, the *Columbus Register*, sounding somewhat disturbed by Father's quick departure, reported that Father, "Left Columbus for Detroit last week without so much as a 'God bless ye' from those who loved him." The *Register* went on to report that Father had been assigned to missionary work in Detroit, Michigan.

Father McEniry was, in fact, assigned to St. Dominic's parish in Detroit from August 1948 until 1952. Baptismal and marriage records at St. Dominic's Parish confirm this. The *American Catholic Who's Who*, Vol. 9, 1950-1951 states that while in Detroit Father McEniry was on the faculty of Detroit University, as well as, the Providence Hospital School of Nursing. One "old timer" from St. Dominic's Parish still fondly remembers Father McEniry, in particular, his habit of speaking Latin to the other priests.

In early 1952 Father was assigned as chaplain to Albertus Magnus College in New Haven, Connecticut. The records at Albertus Magnus College confirm that Father began there, as chaplain, in 1952. He did not, according to the records, have any other teaching assignments. Albertus Magnus was then a women's college run by the Dominicans of St. Mary's of the Springs. It remains a Dominican College today, however, it is now coeducational.

Father McEniry served at Albertus Magnus College until 1955. He was then assigned as

chaplain to St. Mary's Hospital in Philadelphia. At that time the Franciscans operated the hospital (it is now called Neumann Medical Center). Father resided at Holy Name of Jesus Priory, which was close to the hospital in an area of Philadelphia known as Fishtown. He also taught Medical Ethics at St. John's Night School for Adults in Philadelphia. St. John's Night School, operated by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, was apparently a very large effort at adult education in the city. It employed 28 diocesan priests and 65 lay teachers. In 1956 it had over 10,000 students.

Most of Father McEniry's assignments after leaving Columbus seem to reflect the same type of service that he was performing in Columbus, that is, education and hospital chaplaincy, although from the descriptions he was clearly working at a reduced level from his Columbus duties. As none of his writings from this period have been found, it is difficult to determine if he found the type of work he was seeking when he left Columbus in 1948.

Although his most famous literary work *St. Thomas Aquinas Meditations for Every Day* went into six printings through 1951, and there were several unsuccessful attempts to have it reprinted between 1968 and 1971, it does not appear that he authored or edited any new books after 1946. It is reported that he continued to write magazine articles but, so far, none of these articles have been found. Father McEniry was also a member of the Holy Name Society and the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus (which he had served as a Faithful Friar).

Ill health forced Father McEniry to gradually retire from active service. He left Philadelphia in approximately 1969 and served in semi-retirement for several years at St. Joseph's Priory in Somerset, Ohio, where he had received his habit fifty-five years earlier. In 1974 Father moved to Marian Manor, a nursing home in

Lebanon, Kentucky (now Norton Spring View Hospital).

Father Edmond Ceslaus McEniry, O.P. died on December 4, 1977 at Marian Manor at the age of 86. He is buried in St. Rose's Priory Cemetery in Springfield, Kentucky.

'God Bless Ye'

It is unknown whether "Father Mac" ever returned to Columbus to visit his many friends, patients and students. It appears that few in Columbus were aware of his reasons for leaving and many in Columbus were puzzled by his hurried departure. Father McEniry likely said it best when he responded to the *Columbus Register* article shortly after his departure from Columbus. Father McEniry wrote,

"I would have been happy to have said 'God Bless Ye' in my best Irish brogue to all my Columbus friends personally before I left, but to do so I would need Ohio Stadium and a loudspeaker. All of them will always be gratefully remembered in my prayers."

SOURCES

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Ohio State Journal - June 8, 1946

Columbus Citizen - June 7, 1946

Columbus Register - July 23, 1946 and June 9, 1948

The Catholic Times - December 9, 1977

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The Aquinas Patrician: May 15, 1931, March 6, 1935, October 26, 1936, November 10, 1938

Dominican Sources

Fr. Nicholas Ingham, O.P., Dominican Archivist - May 30, 1998
Fr. Carlton Jones, O.P. - May 26, 1999
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Fr. Malcolm S. Willoughby, O.P. - May 12, 2000

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Ohio Authors and Their Books, 1796-1950, edited by William Coyle, World Publishing Co., Cleveland, Ohio, 1962.

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Other Sources and Correspondence

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Sister Katherine Callahan, CSC, Director of Sisters of the Holy Cross Archives, and Sister M. Francis Helene Fox, CSC, Notre Dame, Indiana - Mt. Carmel Hospital information - August 14, 2000

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Archdiocese of Louisville, Communications Center, Louisville, Kentucky, Betty McDermott, Administrative Assistant - July 8, 1998.

St. John the Evangelist Church, Zanesville: Baptisms, 1828-1842

(Continued, from Vol. XXVI, No. 3)

1842, continued

April 4 Barbara, born March 4, daughter of Jacob Huff and Mary Ann Etehman [Etelman?]; spons. Remigius Kesinger and Magdalen Huff. Fr. A. J. Wilson

April 9 Bernard, born March 27, son of Bernard McGune [marginal, "McGuire?"] and Catherine McCalgin; spons. Thomas and Bridget Kelly. Fr. A. J. Wilson, O.S.D.

same day Juliana, born April 7, daughter of Killian Kummel and Ursula Kummel; spons. Andrew Kummel and Mary Hoffman. Fr. F. Cubero

April 10 Ann Mary, born April 3, daughter of Anthony Berkey and Mary Huff; spons. William Logan and Magdalen Huff.

same day Margaret Ann, born February 14, daughter of George Ax and Margaret Adenkolt; spons. John McCartney and Margaret Fullerton.

same day John Steph[en], born Dec. 26, 1841, son of Peter Deistz and Catherine Rostz; spon. George Brookd and Josepha Rioth. AJW

May 1 Mary Ann, born April 29, daughter of Adam and Eve Fall; spons. Joseph Resgh and Mary Hoffman. Fr. Francis Cubero

May 5 James, born April 28, son of Hugh M. McGuire and Mary Rennods; spons. Martin McGuire and Mary O'Roa[r]ck. FC

same day Mary Barbara, born April 30, daughter of Francis L. Fix and Mary Freeman; spons. Michael Freeman and Barbara Stoup. FC

May 8 Martin, born April 29, son of Martin McGuire and Ellen Masterson; spon. Hugh McGuire and Mary McGuire. AJW

May 15 Mary Ann, born March 5, daughter of Bernard Fix and Catherine P---l; spon. Mary Ann Fix and Frederick Keltzrer. AJW

same day Christian Peter, born May 7, son of Christian Sawyer and Mary Ann Lutze; spon. Remigius Kessinger and Anna Keisinger.

same day John Remigius, born May 8, son of Remigius Killian Millfelt and Barbara Keller; spon. Remigius junior and Mary Rink. AJW

May 22 Mary Ann, born May 7, daughter of Thomas Corek and wife Mary; spon. Nicholas Brady and Ann Halpan. FC

May 26 John, born May 22, son of John Bollinger and Regina Freeman; spon. Matthew Freeman and Mary Millialm [or Milliahn?]. FC

May [?]5 Adam, born April 13, of Adam Pehher [Pelcher?] and Elizabeth Baeshorts; spon. Martin Baushorts & wife Elizabeth. AJW

June 11 Catherine Theresa, born May 12, daughter of John Gersbach [marginal, Garshbough] and Ann Vangler; spon. William Koos and his wife Anna. Rev. H. D. Juncker

June 12 Mary and Ann, born Feb. 17, daughter [singular] of Henry Ranni and Mary Ann Happlewitz; spon. John Michaels and Ann Mary Mackets. HDJ

same day Elizabeth, born May 17, daughter of Michael Mildner and wife Ann; spon. James Debolt and Elizabeth Swin. FC

June 15 Charles Joseph, born April 21, son of John Herrick and Mary Gashbaugh; spon.

Charles and Catherine Herrick. Fr. C. P. Montgomery

June 18 Ellen Cecilia, born June 8, daughter of Saul (?) Montgomery and Mary White; spon. James Kelly and Margaret Fullerton. FC

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June 25 Mary, born June 10, daughter of Felix McGuinnis and Catherine McDermit; spon. Catherine Donnely. Fr. Joseph S Alemany OSD

June 29 Jacob, born June 16, son of John Echbacher and Maria Buttingkery; spon. Jacob Scherrer and Ritual Bottingkery.

same day Rafael, born May 5, son of Valentine Gabb and Gildicart Calpf; spon. Carl Clamont and Maria Ruff.

same day Jacob, born Feb. 12, son of Franz Joseph Gneintgh and Welburg Waghener; spon. Joseph Waghener and Magdalen Waghener.

same day Jacob, born April 27, son of Martin Hinick and Barbara Wheerin(?); spon. Michael Highson and Ritual Scherrer.

same day George, born May 1, son of Anndl Buttingkery and Mary Staus; spon. John Buttingkery and Magdalen Buttingkery.

same day Elizabeth, born Dec. 10, daughter of Jacob Lanine and Rosane Landle; spon. Jacob Greather and Margaret Walta.

same day Sarah, born January 13, daughter of George Brilemayer and Magdalen Buttingkery; spon. David Buttingkery and Ritual Wagly.

same day Christiana, born April 7, daughter of John Marter and Magdalen Fright; spon. Michael Highser and Margaret Frech.

[Fr. Joseph Alemany]

(To be concluded)

Abstracts from *The Catholic Telegraph*

(Continued, from Vol. XXVI, No. 1)

December 21, 1850

Subscriptions: T. H. McMullen, Mt. Vernon, O. John Klossen, Rosco, O. Timothy M'Carthy and John Brady, Steubenville, O. Jac. Snyder per J. McGinlay, Rehoboth, O. Robert Smith per Mr. Lehman, Newark, O.

December 28, 1850

A constitution for the government of the German Catholic churches of the diocese has been drawn up and sanctioned by the Archbishop previous to his departure for Europe. By a faithful observance of its principles, the spiritual and temporal interests of the congregations to which it applies, will be greatly promoted.

January 4, 1851

Subscription: B. Mathews, Kenton, O.

March 29, 1851

[Prints a letter from Sylvester H. Rosecrans in Rome, dated January 17, regarding Archbishop Hughes and priests of other rites offering Mass in a small church.]

Subscriptions: William Windle, Waverly, O. Patrick McPeake, Steubenville, O.

April 5, 1851

[In this issue is a pastoral letter of Bishop Rappe on temperance.]

April 12, 1851

Subscriptions: Michael Boyle, Mrs. M. Collopy, Mrs. H. P. Warden, and Rev. Mr. Boulger, Mt. Vernon, O. Benedict Magers, Danville. Elias Pagett, Jacksontown, O. Rev. J. M. Young, Joseph Lilly, and J. S. Aitkins, Lancaster, O.

April 19, 1851

ORDINATION -- On Sunday week, the Rt. Rev. Bishop HENNI ordained the Rev. Thomas Blake priest in St. Joseph's Church, in this city.

May 10, 1851

Subscriptions: Elias Durbin, Harlem, O. Michael Crean and Michael Carroll, Columbus, O. Jacob Fink and John J. Jackson, Somerset, O. H. Brennan, Marietta, O. Rev. T. J. Boulger, Mt. Vernon, O.

May 17, 1851

Subscriptions: Henry Gibbons, Pomeroy, O. Rev. George Carroll and William Guinnes, per Mr. Poland, Chillicothe, O. And. Lynch, Circleville, O. Denis McCormick, New Lexington, O.

May 24, 1851

Subscription: Denis McConnel, Chillicothe.

May 31, 1851

The Secular Clergy of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, have received from his Holiness the privilege of using the *Calendarum Romanum* in the recitation of the divine office. Our Archbishop was to be invested with the Pallium, by his Holiness.

June 7, 1851

Subscriptions: W. J. Clark and Michael Dittoe, Somerset, O. W. Gale, Newport, Washington Co., O. Ed Sheridan, Athens, O.

June 21, 1851

Subscriptions: Linus Dittoe and Joel A. Fink, Somerset, O. Mr. Treaze, Pomeroy, O.

June 28, 1851

Subscription: John O'Malley, Dresden, O.

July 26, 1851

MARRIED -- At St. Peter's Cathedral, on Thursday, 24th inst., by the lady's brother, Rev.

T. J. Boulger, Mr. WALTER WALSH, of Newark, Ohio, to Miss ELLEN F. BOULGER, of this city.

August 9, 1851

INFORMATION WANTED

of John Moran, who when last heard from was in Nashport, Muskingum county, Ohio. Address Rev. James F. Wood, Cathedral. His wife Abigael Moran, is at her sister's, Joanna Buckley, corner of Sycamore and Woodward st., Cincinnati, O.

August 30, 1851

[Rev. Richard Murphy has been appointed Pastor of the Church of the Nativity, Portsmouth. He has been many years an efficient and respected missionary in India.]

[Archbishop Purcell arrived in Cincinnati on Sunday morning.]

September 20, 1851

MOUNT VERNON, OHIO

We hear that the Catholic Congregation in this town is rapidly increasing. Several conversions have taken place, and many emigrants have settled in the neighborhood.

October 4, 1851

A correspondent in Circleville complains, that a Col. MAYPENNY refused to give him a small office in some department of the Public works, because he is a Roman Catholic. Well, rejoice that you have had an opportunity to suffer something for the Faith. In looking over some foreign Journals we observed that a young artist had been engaged to make a stained glass window for a Protestant Meeting House, in

England, but the contract was annulled when it was discovered that the artist's father was a Catholic! The same persecution has prevailed everywhere, from the day that Christ was crucified.

Our correspondent may console himself with the reflection that he and Col. Maypenny will soon be in the other world! Then the Colonel will apply for a small office to our friend, but he can return the compliment, by observing that no Protestant can hold any office in that country! The Church and State are there united, and there is peace since the red-republican senate was thrown out.

October 11, 1851

Pastoral appointments: Rev. Julius Brent of St. Luke's and St. Francis, Mt. Vernon, Knox Co. Rev. Edward Lieb, O.S.F., St. Peter's, Chillicothe. Rev. Thomas Boulger, St. Mary's, Chillicothe.

[Letter from George H. Manypenny denying that anyone was denied an office because of his faith. Manypenny is running for office.]

[Long letter from Rt. Rev. John Lamy, Vicar Apostolic of Santa Fe, to Archbishop Purcell.]

DIED -- On Wednesday morning, the 8th inst., at 3 o'clock, Louisa, infant daughter of John and Ann M. Slevin, aged 6 months and 28 days. [Formerly of Somerset.]

Subscriptions: P. H. Ewing and Susan G. Beecher, Lancaster, O.

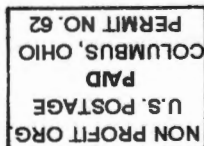
(To be continued)

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