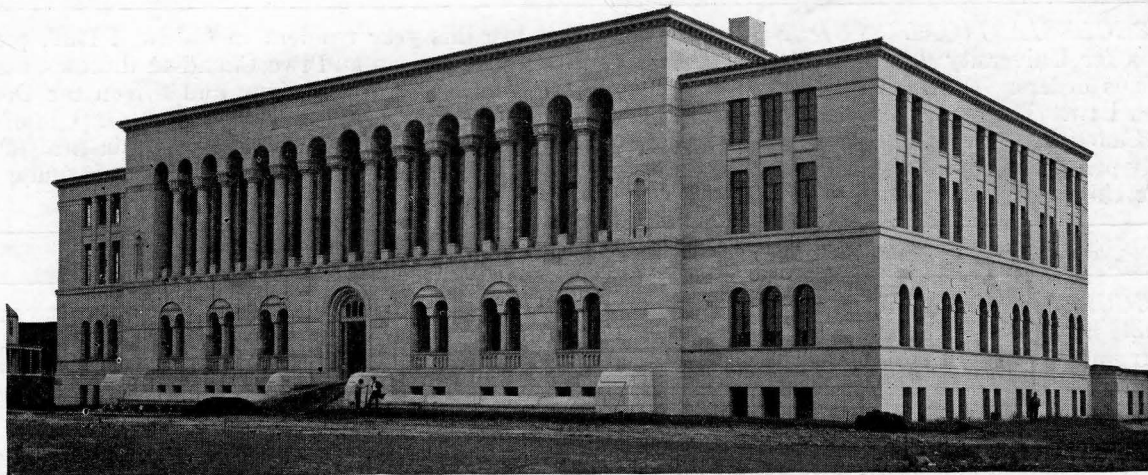


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THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY *of* AMERICA

*Appeals to the Catholic Clergy for aid in the support and development of its
beneficent work in favor of higher ecclesiastical education*

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 8, 1927.

To the Catholic Clergy of the United States:

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA has the honor to appeal, a second time, for your co-operation in the good work it is privileged to carry on at the National Capital for the higher training of our Catholic clergy, particularly our younger priesthood, as it issues from the seminaries and novitiates.

This is, indeed, a request for charity, but for that charity which deals with mind and spirit, for goods of the highest order, for the best possible advantages in the way of "bona studia" in favor of our younger clergy, as they go forth to take the places of their elders in the sublime ministry of redemption.

We priests of Jesus Christ could ask no stronger confirmation of this truth than the words of Pius XI, himself a life-long student and favorably known in all the great Universities of the world. In his Apostolic Letter of April 25, 1922, he proclaims his "firm conviction that the Church in America will derive the greatest benefit from a house of studies in which Catholic youth can be more thoroughly trained in virtue and science." He praises the great work of the Catholic University of America and blesses the zeal of those who strive by all means to further its growth and development. His predecessors Leo XIII, Pius X, and Benedict XV, spoke and wrote in the same strain.

In the hope of securing your practical interest in the support and development of the University, I am taking the liberty of laying before you, in a series of interesting and edifying facts, some of the substantial ecclesiastical services that the University has rendered in the near past to the Catholic Church in the United States. While more could easily be said on this score, the following will sufficiently justify the profound interest of the Holy See in the welfare of its own creation:

PROFESSORIAL TEACHING: In the two Faculties of Theology and Canon Law a staff of eighteen learned priests devotes its entire time to the teaching office. There are at present one hundred and forty ecclesiastical students under their guidance. The University Library is very rich in works of the ecclesiastical sciences, and is at the disposal of the ecclesiastical students, particularly the graduate students. The great Library of Congress is also at our disposal and has proven most helpful in the preparation of the learned Dissertations that issue annually from the two Faculties. The extensive Departmental Libraries of the Government are likewise open to our ecclesiastical professors and students and often render great service. Nowhere in the United States is there such a vast collection of books, reviews, and other aids to study and learning as within the shadow of the University.

ECCLESIASTICAL STUDENTS: Sixty priests are this year resident in Caldwell Hall, pursuing studies for University degrees. They represent twenty-five American and two Canadian dioceses, also four religious orders. Of these students ten are candidates for Doctor of Theology and fifteen for Doctor of Canon Law. The others are candidates for Doctor of Philosophy or for the degrees of Licentiate of Theology, Canon Law, or Master of Arts. This is our largest number of matriculated ecclesiastical students, mostly priests. They exhaust the accommodations now at hand for the proper reception of our young priests at the University.

ECCLESIASTICAL WRITINGS: (a) Our ecclesiastical professors have written this past year some valuable books—Rev. Dr. John A. Ryan, "Declining Liberty and Other Essays," also a new edition of his "Distributive Justice"; Rev. Dr. John M. Cooper, "Religion Outlines for Colleges, Course II: Motives and Means of Catholic Life"; Rev. Dr. James H. Ryan, an English translation of "The Encyclicals of Pius XI"; Rev. Dr. Joseph P. Christopher, St. Augustine, "De Catechizandis Rudibus"; Rev. Dr. Peter Guilday, a two-volume "Life of Bishop England" and "Church Historians"; Rev. Dr. A. Vaschalde, "The (Syriac) Commentary of D. Bar Salibi on the Gospel of St. John." (b) Fifteen doctoral Dissertations by our young priest-students, aspirants to the degrees of Doctor of Theology or Doctor of Canon Law, were printed this year, averaging about two hundred pages each. A gift of eleven valuable Canon Law publications, a little canonical library in themselves, was offered this summer to every member of the American Hierarchy in addition to six of the same kind sent previously. Many Bishops have found these publications most useful for their diocesan administration, and have asked for a continuation of the courtesy. The discourses, sermons, books, reviews, Encyclopedia articles, etc., of our ecclesiastical professors are far too numerous to mention, not to speak of their active co-operation in the annual meetings and conventions of many learned societies.

SEMINARY COURSE OF THEOLOGY: This year our ecclesiastical professors have added to their graduate courses a Seminary Course of Theology, two years of philosophy and four years of theology. It is meant solely for the students of those religious houses at the University whose superiors wish them to profit by the advantages of such a course. One hundred students of the (24) religious communities at the University are registered in this course, in addition to the numerous younger religious who follow the arts courses. This seminary course of theology was long desired by our religious houses of study, and is giving great satisfaction. It will probably be followed still more numerously in coming years.

EDUCATIONAL TRAINING: Six priests devote their entire time to the Department of Education, its history, nature, philosophy, methods, problems, statistics, etc. Many young priests, secular and religious, follow these courses in preparation for the school and college work that they will later be called on to carry.

SOCIAL SCIENCES: Four priests are engaged in the teaching of social science, *i. e.*, social theory, its order and history, the family, criminology, recreation, delinquency, and other problems and conditions of childhood. Several dioceses and religious orders keep constantly a number of young priests at these modern and indispensable studies.

CATHOLIC SISTERS COLLEGE: Twelve priests devote much time to the instruction of our Teaching Sisters (140) in the Catholic Sisters College. It is affiliated to the University, which confers on successful candidates the higher academic degrees. For sixteen years it has rendered an incalculable service to our Catholic schools.

LEARNED REVIEWS AND PUBLICATIONS: Ecclesiastical professors of the University carry on the following learned reviews:

The Catholic Historical Review; The Catholic Educational Review; The Catholic Charities Review; The New Scholasticism; Studies in Psychology and Psychiatry, and The Ecclesiastical Review, not to speak of *Salve Regina* and the Catholic University Bulletin. In union with Louvain University it carries on the "Corpus" of Oriental Christian Writers, and shares the editorial work of the Universal Knowledge Foundation. The technical skill devoted to these publications is very great, and is surely deserving of the approval of their brethren in the ministry.

OTHER PROFESSORIAL WORK: Our ecclesiastical professors are highly prized teachers in Trinity College, a graduate School for (370) Catholic young ladies, and the National Catholic School of Social Service (37).

BISHOPS MEETING: About seventy members of our American Hierarchy met at the University and were entertained there during the third week of September. This is the seventh time the Annual Conference of our Bishops has been held at the University. Nowhere else in our country could so large a body of Bishops have been cared for with so much comfort, convenience, and dignity. The University is very proud that it can regularly render such a service to American Catholicism. It feels that Our Holy Father in his recent beautiful Apostolic Letter to the American Hierarchy on the National Catholic Welfare Conference was not unmindful of the humble share of the Catholic University in the religious success that so gratifies him.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES: The National Catholic Charities Conference, whose Thirteenth General Meeting was held this year at Los Angeles, is entirely a creation of the Catholic University of America, and owes its nation wide success to the tireless devotion and Catholic zeal of our professors and students. It is they who have made it such a noble exponent of the vast religious possibilities that lie in the realization of all that the Charity of Jesus Christ suggests to the hearts of His followers in the way of the social and economic betterment of our neighbor, and his reasonable enjoyment of those earthly goods which our Heavenly Father has bestowed so generously on mankind.

NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: It is to the priests of the Catholic University that is owing the steady growth of this greatest of our religious monuments, the splendid response of love and devotion that goes up from the American Catholic heart to Mary Immaculate, patroness of our country and of our University. Its great Crypt, that can seat nearly two thousand, has arisen as if by magic in the last five or six years, and is already enshrined in the hearts of over one hundred thousand annual visitors from all the States of the Union. Its architecture and artistic decoration are unequalled in our country. Every year religious services of a national character are held in it by our principal Catholic associations. It is a source of much honest pride and spiritual joy to the thousands of Catholics who visit the National Capital for business or pleasure.

So much excellent ecclesiastical service naturally endears the Catholic University of America to every priest who loves Holy Church, particularly in view of the grave religious responsibilities that now fall so heavily on our clergy amid the increasing decay of Christian faith and the growing moral disorders of the time.

HOWEVER, THE EXPENSES OF THE UNIVERSITY KEEP PACE WITH ITS SERVICE TO THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY. Salaries, books, libraries, academic equipment of several kinds, the proper custody of so many buildings, the entire upkeep and administration of such a great educational estate, call for an ever-increasing outlay. In default of large private donations we can look only to the immemorial treasury of Holy Church, the unflinching generosity of our Catholic clergy and their faithful people.

Will you not generously come to our aid by a small donation of
TEN DOLLARS ANNUALLY
FOR A PERIOD OF TEN YEARS

We feel that you will consider it a privilege to contribute this modest sum in aid of a great educational work that deserves so well of our Catholic clergy.

To those sacerdotal brethren who have already met this request, in full or in part, we are deeply grateful. We ask the further alms of their prayers, their good-will, and their personal influence.

From my letter of last year I make bold to repeat that there are two other ways in which every Catholic priest can help the University. He can inform well-disposed Catholic men and women of its place in our Catholic system of education, of its merits, and of its claim to some reasonable share in their generosity. He can also remember the University in his will, and thus imitate the Catholic priests of old whose affectionate forethought built the halls of Oxford and Cambridge, and endowed them with no small share of the funds by which they yet live and prosper.

Hoping that you will consider favorably this appeal to your priestly heart, and wishing you all the blessings of the approaching Christmastide, I remain

Very sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Thomas J. Shahan

Rector of the Catholic University of America.



1. Bishop Lenihan	9. Bishop Gannon	17. Bishop Heelan	25. Bishop Rohlmann	33. Bishop Griffin	41. Bishop Toolen	49. Bishop Finnigan	57. Bishop Hoban
2. Bishop MacGinley	10. Bishop Shahan	18. Bishop White	26. Bishop Drumm	34. Bishop Jeanmard	42. Bishop Schrembs	50. Bishop McAuliffe	58. Bishop Boyle
3. Bishop Van de Ven	11. Bishop Noll	19. Bishop Kelly (Winona)	27. Bishop Schwertner	35. Archbishop Dowling	43. Bishop Gallagher	51. Bishop Gerow	59. Bishop Hickey
4. Bishop Gibbons	12. Bishop Reverman	20. Bishop Byrne (Ponce)	28. Bishop Busch	36. Bishop Welch	44. Bishop McGrath	52. Bishop Turner	(Providence)
5. Cardinal Mundelein	13. Bishop Feehan	21. Bishop Gercke	29. Bishop Gerken	37. Bishop Brennan	45. Bishop Lawler	53. Bishop Morris	60. Abbot Taylor
6. Cardinal Hayes	14. Bishop Althoff	22. Bishop Mahoney	30. Bishop Swint	38. Bishop Beckmann	46. Bishop McGovern	54. Archbishop Shaw	61. Bishop Kelley
7. Archbishop Hanna	15. Bishop Mitty	23. Bishop Bohachevsky	31. Bishop Lynch	39. Bishop Schuler	47. Bishop Tihen	55. Bishop Pinten	(Oklahoma)
8. Archbishop Daeger	16. Bishop Hafey	24. Bishop Tief	32. Bishop Walsh (Trenton)	40. Bishop Conroy	48. Bishop Floersh	56. Bishop Lillis	62. Rev. Dr. McKenna

SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN HIERARCHY
 HELD AT THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA
 WASHINGTON, D. C., SEPTEMBER 14-15, 1927,