

20,000 at Rosary Rally *(Sleepy Eye Herald Dispatch Oct 9, 1958)*



This picture taken from the third base line at Johnson Park in New Ulm shows just a portion of the crowd of more than 20,000 which attended the Family Rosary Crusade rally Tuesday evening.

The throng stood in a drenching rain as Father Patrick Peyton, Rosary crusading priest, delivered his message pertaining to the need of family prayer.

A few drops of rain fell before the program started at 8 p.m. As the rain grew heavier one of the clergymen on the

platform held an umbrella over the head of Father Peyton and his successor to the microphone, Bishop Alphonse J. Schladweiler.

Prayers recited together by the family throughout a lifetime cannot help but be heard, Father Peyton said, as he told of the effect prayer has had in his own family. He told of being stricken with tuberculosis and how he asked the Blessed virgin Mary to intercede to her Divine Son in his behalf that he might be cured. He regained his health, was ordained to the priesthood

and is going to the ends of the earth to expound the need for prayer.

Speaking in a soft, Irish brogue, he asked God's blessing on the crowd and told his listeners the Lord would be pleased with their efforts in turning out in such large numbers for the rally.

The pre-rally commentary was given by Father John Murphy of Gibson. Monsignor Joseph A. Eitel of New Ulm served as master of ceremonies and Father Mark Otto of Bird Island led the Rosary. Father Peyton bless-

ed the rosaries of those in attendance and Bishop Schladweiler, following a brief talk, imparted his blessing. The program closed with the singing of "Holy God We Praise Thy Name."

Bands from St. Mary's of Sleepy Eye and Holy Trinity of New Ulm furnished music.

Hundreds of parishioners from St. Mary's church attended the rally. Dumper to bumper traffic moved slowly along Highway 14. Highway patrolmen, New Ulm police and national guardsmen were on hand to direct the cars.