

MSGR. CLOAREC IS WELCOMED!

Midnight Demonstration upon His Arrival in Burlington

Long Procession Escorts Him from Railroad Station to St Joseph's Rectory

Thanked Parishioners for Greetings

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The Rt. Rev. Jerome Marie Cloarec, pastor of St. Joseph's Church, returned Monday night from Europe, and his welcome was enthusiastic and sincere.

Three months ago he went abroad; during that time he had an audience with Pope Pius X, visited his birthplace at St. Sauveur in Brittany, France, and attained his 80th birthday, June 17 last.

He arrived in New York from Havre, France on Sunday and came to Burlington on the 10:45 train the following evening. The railroad station was thronged with parishioners and citizens and the big locomotive moved slowly through the crowd. As the train stopped there was a rush for his car; policemen kept clear the space about the steps.

"There he is!" shouted a voice, as Monsignor Cloarec was seen through the windows, making his way down the car aisle, almost the last of the file of passengers. He was trying, quietly and simply, to come home without display. When he appeared on the car platform, the onlookers cheered and Sherman's band struck up. Monsignor Cloarec raised his hand in deprecation, but the demonstration only grew the louder.

Several policemen and members of the reception committee escorted him through the crowd, packed densely about him. The band marched down Battery Street and the procession formed behind it, moving up Main street to Church, with Napoleon St. George chief marshal, assisted by F. H. Robillard, J. J. Childs, Charles Bacon and Arsene Boucher. Police, Sherman's band, more than 100 men on foot, and several automobiles made up the long procession.

As it passed up Church Street, red torches were lighted and to the music was added the chimes of St. Joseph's and St. Mary's churches. Elmwood Avenue from Pearl Street to the rectory was illuminated with red fire, and as the procession approached its destination the marchers halted and stood with bared heads while the automobile carrying Monsignor Cloarec passed between the two long lines of men.

Precisely at 11:30 the pastor stepped from the automobile and was escorted up the walk to the rectory, through hundreds of persons who trampled the grass of the lawn and with bared heads applauded the returned Vicar-General. For several moments Monsignor Cloarec stood at the top of the steps, holding his hat in his hands, and smiling over the throng of familiar faces, some of which he had known for more than 40 years.

He was home again.

For a considerable time he was unable to speak, on account of the noise. Every window of the rectory was brilliantly lighted; red torches planted on the lawn and thrust into the bark of trees sputtered as they illuminated the entire neighborhood.

Finally the applause ceased and in strong steady tones which denoted that in spite of his 80 years, he was in good health, Monsignor Cloarec spoke briefly in French, thanking his parishioners for their kindly welcome.

NOTE: Monsignor Cloarec sailed on the ship SS ROCHAMBEAU from Le Havre, France to New York from September 6 to the 15th. He was Naturalized a US Citizen in 1867.