

ARCHBISHOP CROWNS A MIRACLE STATUE

Thousands of Italians See Ceremony in Thomas Jefferson Park.

POPE SENT GEM FOR STATUE

Crowns Made from Gifts of the Congregation of the Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

The "miracle statue" of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, from the church of that name, in One Hundred and Fifteenth Street, near First Avenue, was crowned yesterday in Thomas Jefferson Park, One Hundred and Fourteenth Street, by Archbishop Farley, by special permission from the Pope. Such an event is of rare occurrence, and it was celebrated with elaborate ceremonies by the Italians who comprise the majority of the population in the district. The function marked the end of a novena, or nine days' season of prayer. The police estimate that 50,000 persons were in and around the park.

A solemn high Pontifical mass was celebrated yesterday morning in the Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Auxiliary Bishop Cusak being the celebrant. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Thomas J. Campbell, S. J., and among the assisting clergymen was the Rev. Father Whitmead of the Pius Society Missions, who came from Rome, Italy, for the special purpose of participating in the ceremony. At the conclusion of the mass the members of the congregation gathered in front of the church, completely blocking the street and sidewalks on both sides from First Avenue to the river. At 3 P. M. the start was made for Jefferson Park, the people marching two abreast, bearing the flags belonging to the various societies of which they were members. When the park was reached each two divided so as to make a lane through which Archbishop Farley and the altar boys and priests marched, and the statue of the Madonna, with the infant Jesus in her arms, was carried to the centre of the pavillon.

From the time the procession reached the park, which was densely packed with people, until the statue was placed on the platform, a fusillade of bombs was being fired into the air. Then there was a special song service by the choir. The two crowns, one for the head of the Madonna and one for the infant Jesus, were carried to the Archbishop by two priests, and he blessed them. A letter from the Pope, written in Italian, giving permission to Archbishop Farley to crown the statue, was read by Father Ferranta. The candles surrounding the statue were lighted, the choir rendered a chant, and Archbishop Farley descended from the throne and approached the statue. He then placed the smaller of the two crowns on the head of the infant Jesus and the larger on the head of the Madonna. An address was delivered by Bishop Casterman, a missionary Bishop of South America, and he was followed by Archbishop Farley, who said in his address:

"In granting permission for this function his Holiness shows the great interest and love which he feels in the Italians in the United States. In addition to permitting the coronation of the Madonna, his Holiness took a magnificent gem from his finger and it was placed in the crown which today I have placed upon the brow of the Madonna."

The larger of the crowns is six inches wide and eighteen inches in height, the smaller one being about one-third that size. Both are studded with gems, all gifts from members of the congregation. On the larger crowns under the cross is a large diamond, and below is set a magnificent emerald, surrounded by diamonds, the gift of the Pope. Just above the circlet is an emerald in a hoop of pearls, the gift of Archbishop Farley. The crowns are worth \$80,000.