SIX

## FIVE MINUTE SERMON REV. I. J. BURKS. PRORIA. ILL.

THE FEAST OF THE CIRCUM. CISION

His name was called Jesus." (Luke II. 21.)

My dear friends, our Divine Saviour received His Holy Name on the feast of the Circumcision. That name is the holiest of all names, because it was chosen by God Himself, because it is the name of the holiest of beings and because it means Saviour. "There is no other name under heaven given to men, whereby we may be saved." Since the name of Jesus is so holy,

honor it at all times by we should our words and by our actions. We should never dare to take the holy name in vain, to curse or swear, or

God has given us a tongue-the use of speech that we may give Him glory, and praise His holy name. How ungrateful we are, then, when we n this gift against Him.

I have even seen infants,-I shud. der to think of it .- I have seen them when scarcely able to lisp a name, taught by the father to take God's name in vain instead of to bless His admiring parent would sit back and laugh at what he considered manly in his little hero. It is no wonder that in such persons the habit grows and spreads untold evil and that God is sorely dishonored, insulted and outraged.

That tongue given to bless God is turned to curse man who is made after the likeness of God. Far better would it be not to be able to speak, than not to be able to restrain the tongue from cursing. It will not do to say "I did not mean it : I would not for the world wish such an evil to befall any human being, I was in passion." For there is a fault some where. You have reason and you have prayer as a means of grace. With reason and prayer you can control your passion and restrain your tongue.

Swearing is as common as cursing Whenever the name of God, of heaven of the soul or any of the nobler works of Creation is used with "by" or "upon " it is swearing; and even the common use of God's holy name is a sin, for, "The Lord will not hold him guiltless that shall take the name of the Lord his God in vain."

If you were in prison bound by chains which you could not sever, and some kind and generous benefactor would come along and deliver you from prison, loose your chains, or even give his life to free you, would you not be the lowest, the meanest of mankind to talk badly, insultingly of such a person or listen while others insult him ?

Our Saviour is this kind and generous benefactor. He freed us from the chains of sin. He gave His life for us and how do we repay Him ? By cursing, by swearing, by taking His name in vain, by insulting Him,

by our blasphemous language ? See, then, if you have contracted such a habit. If so, begin at once to correct it. Resolve not to curse or swear to morrow ; or at least reduce the number of times until the habit is broken up.

Did you ever consider what a fearful example it is to others-to the young and especially to your own children? We all have an influence over others. And as nothing so easily inclines to virtue, so nothing so powerfully attracts to vice as the conduct of those around us. Our Lord says, "Woe to that man

by whom scandal cometh; better were about his neck and he were cast into the sea.

scandal especially to the young. Woe to the parents who teach it to their A CRIPPLE FROM children. It draws down God's male diction, His curse on those guilty of it.

Prayer is the best remedy for blas phemy. Pray devoutly, pray fre-quently, and you will not blaspheme, you will not curse and swear. Make a good confession in reparation for Tartured Four Years Until He the nest and resolve for the future to avoid bad companions and other occasions.

**IUUK 'TIUIC-CIIIGS** RIDGRTOWN, ONT., May 21st. 1913. "Your "Fruit-a-tives" cured me of Rheumatism. It was the only medicine that made any impression on me. I was a terrible sufferer from Rheumatism. I was laid up for four winters with Sciati-ca and Muscular Rheumatism, and was a cripple completely, not being able to do anything. I doctored with four dif-ferent physicians, but they did not help me. Other advertised remedies were equally unsatisfactory, and I have taken several. Some neighbor of mine told me that If you are about to curse or swear you hear another blaspheme Blessed be God ; Blessed be the they do," or even politely ask him not to speak disrespectfully of God's Holy Name. By so doing you will gain merit for eternal life.

RHEUMATISM

Took "Fruit-a-tives"

Some neighbor of mine told me that

When

FOR JANUARY

THE LEAGUE IN SCHOOLS

## TEMPERANCE

FALSE POWER

"Fruit-a-tives" helped him, and I took them faithfully every day and the result was marvellous. For over two years now, I have been free from any Rheumatic pains whatever, and give "Fruit-a-tives" the full credit for making a remarkable even "When a soldier appears to gain courage under the influence of alco-hol it is not because he has become more courageous, but because he pays less attention to danger and re cure". tiects less upon it. The orator under the influence of alcohol does not al low himself to be disturbed or em barrassed by paying attention to minor matters and he, therefore, talks more freely and boldly. His judgment concerning himself is im-paired. He, therefore, loses some of the modesty and self-restraint which is natural.

The forerunners of wise thinking on the temperance question have been gathering in Anti Alcohol Con-"Many a man is astonished at the ease with which, under the influence gress in Europe. They are making the world to know that alcohol is of alcohol, he is able to express his thoughts, and his ready judgment on not of the fruit of the vine or of the grain of the fields. It is a product of matters which he would not dar consider when quite sober. All this a process started by a new life in these at a beginning of their disinteis not due to actual stimulation, but to the depressing action of alcohol gration. It is a poisonous drug The use of it is not less destructive upon a man's highest intellectual centres. These control the lower functions of the brain. When they pecause it is concealed in the juice of the grane and in the mash of the are depressed or paralyzed by alco Its character is the more hol this controlling function is lost hops. easily disguised because of the pro more or less. The result is to give cess of its formation. Its evils enter the appearance of greater efficiency. in most insidiously, and, therefore, when, as a matter of fact it is usual-ly less."—Dr. Carl Alsberg. Bureau it is the most dangerous of th drugs in which men indulge for sensual gratification.

of Chemistry, U. S. Government. OLD CAUSE NEEDS NEW LIFE Archbishop Ireland, whose work look for deliverance from this great

for total abstinence in former years gained him a world wide reputation, est curse of the race. A new era in temperance is dawning, because the world is beginning to think cors still eager to further the cause At the recent state convention of the rectly on this matter.-Father O'Cal C. T. A. U. of Minnesota he said : laghan, C. S. P.

The use of alcoholic liquors in the homes of to-day by fathers and mothers leads to the ruination of many of the American children. We have the highly popular juvenile courts which are said to be doing much good for better moral training and prevention of crime among youths. Intemperance is the cause of the juvenile court, and if we had

BY HIS HOLINESS PIUS X. universal education effecting total The Apostleship of Prayer is flour. abstinence, we would not have these ishing in so many colleges, convents juvenile institutions. and schools in Canada that one may There was a time when St. Paul be inclined to ask what use there is and Minnesota were noted the country over for their number of discussing a matter already familiar to our Catholic teachers. But it may total abstinence societies of Catholic

not be known, perhaps, that there organization. Every parish was a are still many institutions where the community of militant teetotalers, but somehow during the recent League has never been able to secure a foothold, possibly because years these societies have gone into winter quarters. On the tenth day those at the head of these institutions have never seized the spirit of of January, 1869, we organized the first total abstinence society in St. the League of the Sacred Heart, or weighed the value of its practices Paul. Before the meeting I was only for giving a direction to the piety of sure of one member and that was children and for strengthening school discipline among them. It is myself, but we started with eightythree charter signers and in two the experience of teachers that in months we had six hundred of the schools where the League is estabit for him that a mill stone were tied most militant abstinence workers lished the children are more piously that I have ever seen. These organ- inclined, more willing to make little izations strong and active sprang sacrifices, more generous to God in up in every village and hamlet in the various ways. The Morning Offer children is the General Intention state, and yesterday we sought them ing, made at the beginning o classes and they were lifeless and cold in teaches them among other things hibernating inactivity. But to day and to night mark their eternal res-actions. Children who make the urrection, in this city and the state of Morning Offering regularly seize in-Minnesota. stinctively the important truth that "The two or three members of each day is merely a succession of the doctrines of morality? What the old St. Paul society tell me that acts of work, play, prayer and suffertheir organization does not need to ing ; and that their days follow each be reorganized, and it does not, but other with monotonous regularity sadly needs replenishing. We in a word that their lives are mad it have it in name alone and I thank God that at least the name is left. ized by the daily offering, become The old guard is strong everywhere, pleasing to God and fruitful for themselves and others. but, like the great First Minnesota regiment that bore the brunt of the This great truth is brought home to pupils in schools where the battle of Gettysburg, they are few in League is in operation. It teaches number and not capable of their deeds of heroism of the olden days. children that they can turn dross into gold, that is, their daily acts, even the most indifferent, into works We need the co-operation of the younger people, and to carry on the total abstinence cause in Minesota I am willing to suspend every other work, even if necessary, that on the of merit. It gives a specially prac-tical direction to their personal piety and develops a desire for vocal prayers and Holy Communion ; it new Cathedral."

## THE CATHOLIC RECORD

And yet this is only one result arising from the simple practice of the Morning Offering; there is another which is not less stimula-ting, namely, the crushing out of selfishness in children by the appeal which is made to their zeal for the could of others beside their states of the little ones, and give a direction to their lives which will be a source of strength for themselves and of consolation for their mother, the Catholic Church. souls of others besides their own. Selfishness is one of those things

that educators are continually fight-ing against. Children are listless in

their struggle against self love when no noble outlook or inspiring cause is put before them. If loftier interests are never proposed to them they remain of the earth earthy, and this unamiable trait will stay with them for life; for later on, when grown to manhood or womanhood. their selfishness will keep them from giving their time their energies, their pecuniary help, to works which their Catholic cause requires and whilst their Catholic training necessarily postulates. It means much there fore for the future of a Catholic child to lead it to forget self and to strengthen it in the resolution to will and to act for others.

The practices of the League of the Sacred Heart do all this for school children, for they in-clude the idea of devotedness and W. T. RACHER If you are subject to Rheumatic At-tacks, Sciatica, Lumbago or Neuralgia, take "Fruit-a-tives" right now and start the permanent cure which "Fruit-a-tives" will complete if taken faithful-ly. soc a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size, 25c. At dealers or sent on receipt of price by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa. zeal. When the great truth is brought home to them that as members of the League all their works, prayers and sufferings have an inprcessory value for the souls of thers, that they may become others, apostles in their own way, their spirit of zeal is awakened and new horizons open up before their im pressionable minds. To assure children that they may work for souls everywhere, that they may alp the missionaries in China and Africa as well as at home by the offering they make to God of their studies, their recreations and their

amusements, is to stimulate them to higher things, and to give a direc-tion to their thoughts and aspirations which may, with God's favor develop in afterlife in unlooked for vays. When children ask how their deeds

insignificant though these be, can help in the saving of souls, the an swer given to them by well informed eachers is because the Morning Offering they make of their works, world classes the alcohol drinker with the morphine taker, we may prayers and sufferings are made in union with the intentions for which our Lord offers Himself daily in the Holy Sacrifice of the altar. The su-preme intention of our Lord, His one mbition in fact, is to save souls, and He is ready and anxious to accept the help even of children in this noblest of works. Let this fundamental truth penetrate the minds of His little ones and we may look for GENERAL INTENTION consoling results.

In order to make the League suc-RECOMMENDED AND BLESSED cessful among children, teachers should be assiduous in keeping up

the habit of reciting the Morning Offering at the beginning of class and the Daily Decade sometime during the day. They should explain the intentions recommended at the beginning of the month when the Promoters distribute the League Leaflets. Children as well as their elders want something tangible and practical to work upon ; they like o know what they are asked to pray for, and why.

The monthly League Leaflet is a reminder for children of the inten tions they are asked to pray for in union with those of Jesus Christ. On the Calendar page they may see the number of intentions that are recommended each day to the prayers of the League. These are prayers of the League. These are the classified totals of the requests received from all the Centers in Canada during the previous month. But what should especially appeal to

E. J. DEVINE, S. J.

AUTHORITY IN BELIEF

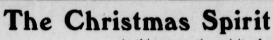
It is important, says the Rev. A. B. Sharpe, M. A., in dealing with the above subject in one of the Westminster Lectures, to observe that all beliefs, convictions and opinions are ultimately based upon reason, it being always the verdict of the intelligence that induces us to consent to any proposition. Not always, however, does our reason deal solely with ideals which are given to us by what is called sense-perception, as when we learn through observation and ex-periment. It also comes into use in whatever we learn by way of author ity: the source from which a very arge amount of all our knowledge obtained. The degree of confidence to which

any authority is entitled is deter-mined by the following considerations: first, how far is that authority free from the possibility of deception; second, what likelihood there may be of his trying to deceive us; thirdly, do we properly understand his re-port? Authority is, thus, a kind of evidence, and may be and is mis-understood and misused, just as other kinds of evidence may be and are misused. And in the domain of religious belief the tendency to mis-understand the meaning of the word authority is always great, since the distinction is not always made beween clearly revealed and unrevealed or natural religion. Revealed religion implies a belief in a supernatural communication made to some person or body of persons from a source beyond the sphere of human experience. Natural or unrevealed religion means a belief in certain results obtained by the collective ex-

perience of human beings. Such religions are Buddhism, Confucianism or "Lay Morality" creeds, in which private judgment is the ultimate

criterion of right and wrong. Belief in Revelation, therefore, im plies a belief in authority. Belief as held by Christians rests upon Divine authority ; but a human testimony is necessary for every one except the original recipients of that revelation. Consequently, in regard to Christian Revelation and its authority, we are confronted with two facts, namely, the historical and the contemporary nature of the testimony. The former consists of the history of Christ ; the second is the testimony afforded by the continuity of Christian influence and teaching from the Founder's day

to our own times. The one authority includes the other, and the living and teaching Church at all points and at all times, in the past as in the present, bears witness to both. For the Christian Church makes no claim that is built upon uncertain tradition it begs nothing from inference. Its tradition makes the bare and uncompromising claim, namely, that alone it holds the deposit of truth supernaturally revealed. The question of imposture by the Apostles (the first human recipients of the Divine authority) has never been seriously questioned. And the questions of deceptions (were they deceived ? did they deceive?) are surely and posi-tively settled by the unique moral character which no one denies be-longed to the Founder, as also by the genius which resulted in the formation of the great and powerful organization for humanity's good which ooks to Him as its Found No one so good as Christ could have been an intentional deceiver; no one so wise could have been the victim of a delusion so vast ; and consider, then, the gratuitous nature of his life of suffering, its humility, its poverty, its almost abject littleness from the worldly point of view. Compare Him and His appeal and that of Mohammed with his appeal to world-conquest and the sensual We make a specialty of Catholic church windows vices. Self-restraint and altruistic benevolence were on the other hand, the first principles taught by Christianity which alone among religions has proved its adaptability to every e pay highest Prices For variety of human nature. Though of purely Eastern origin — i. e., Jew-ish — it took root in the West within the first few years of its existence, and from its cradle in Jerusalem took possession of the world's center

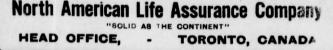


At this season the spirit of unselfishness seizes upon every heart and there reigns supreme.

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existence, His wonderful acts, His virtue of faith which is the correladeath and the influence of His teaching. How could several widely to those who possess it a kind of cer-separated communities have each titude transcending all others, and and all believed and related the same one of the most striking phenomena tale?

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Apart from this, all documentary evidence has unceasingly and from the first, been subject to inspection, analysis, and criticism, both friendly and unfriendly, from A. D. 49 at Council of Jerusalem to 1870, at the Vatican Council. Hostile criticism of the "higher" variety has as yet provided nothing in the way finality, and, in the words of the late Dr. Emil Reich, has only ended in

proving its own bankruptcy. So, then, there is no doubt as to the continuous written history of the Christian Church's tradition; all is in order for all intelligent men to read and attest. Its dogmatic decisions embody its

tradition and its first principles, and (says Father Sharpe) as there is no room for the growth of myth, neither is there room for distortion of per-

version. It must be freely admitted. says the lecturer, that Christianity asks us to believe much that is strange and seemingly improbable But, he says, strangeness and improbability are by no means inconsistent with truth, and in any case, in Chris-tian story we find that a sufficient valid or acceptable reason for any event, no matter how extraordinary, is alleged, namely, the exertion of upernatural divine power. Moreover, one of the most remark. able features of the Christian is the dream, but mouth to mouth.

tive of authority and which imparts one of the most striking phenomena of Christianity in every age has been

this absolute certitude resulting in a stability of principle and of action which has amazed the world under all adverse conditions.

OUR DIREST NEED

Apropos of the gift of a Catholic in fermany of \$100,000 to the Catholic press in that country, the Church Progress says: "What Catholic journalism needs most is subscriptions. A thousand faithful subscribers and readers are of vastly more import-ance than \$100,000 endowment. It is the paying and reading population behind it that counts. That is its best endowment. And the larger this population the richer the en-

In three ways has God at times made known hidden truths to man; first through his senses, as when angels in human form appeared to and conversed with Abraham, Jacob and Gideon; second, through his imagination, as when Pharoah in the kine and ears of corn, seven fat and fair and seven lean and blighted. foresaw the seven years of plenty and of famine; and, third, through his intellect, as in the case of Moses, to whom God spoke not in vision o

To be able to detect one grain of useful suggestion amongst a heap of worthless advice is a great power, truly. We pick out the Grain and hold it up for your observation, when we tell you that EDDY'S WARES are the most reliable and the Best, representing as the do over 60 Years' experience It is for you to benefit by this advice and insist every time upon having NONE BUT EDDY'S.

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**JANUARY 3. 1914** 

## or if say, name of the Lord ;" or, " Father, for-give them for they know not what

And particulary, woe to the parent who scandalizes, who gives bad ex-ample to his children. The wicked example of the parent is frequently seen in the crimes of his poster-For " Evil communications cority. rupt good manners."

How can any immoral parent teach effect will it have, if the parent who gets drunk and curses and swears eaches his child not to do so ?

The child thinks the parent is about If the parent curses and swears, the child, no matter what he is taught, will say, "I am going to do just as papa does." If you love your children, then, if you love your neighbors, give them a good example.

blasphemer is sure to be punished : if not in this world, in the In the Old Law promulgated next. by God Himself, we learn from the ok of Leviticus xxiv, 16, that the blasphemer was taken outside the camp and stoned to death by the

people. Blasphemy is still as great a crime, though not always punished in this world. The blasphemous kings, Antiochus and Herod, were literally de

voured alive by worms. In recent times we have heard of instances of blasphemers being instantly killed or struck dumb after uttering a horrible oath without being given time for repentance. And is it any wonder that God should at times show His utter detestation of that unnatural, ungrateful crime, the total depravity of which will be known only in Eternity ?

The great wonder is that He does not instantly strike down every one who dares to insult His Holy Name. Beware ! blasphemer ! the next time you curse and swear may be your

Abhor blasphemy, because nothing is more shocking than to curse God and His creatures with a tongue which has been sanctified by the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in

which has been sanctified by the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion. Blasphemy is the sin of the Jews who crucified our Lord, and it is the sin of the damned in hell. It is a

A FINE " REMOVER "

eye of God whose presence vividly A Temperance reader published in felt stimulates them to study and Ireland for use in the schools con-tains this note: "A ladies' paper says that alcohol will remove stains good conduct, a result which teach ers should be the first to weicome. from summer clothes. It will also remove summer clothes, and spring and winter clothes, not only from the man who drinks it but from his wife and children. It will remove household furniture from his house and eatables from his kitchen ; the smiles from the face of his wife, and happiness from his home. As a re-

mover of things alcohol has few equals." There is one particular phase of this question which I would like to burn into the soul of every Catholic man that is within reach o

to day and that point is that in fighting the battle against the evils of intoxicating liquors, we are not fight. ing a battle of the rich and of

presented every month by the Holy Tather to be prayed for by our mem bers throughout the whole world. Our attention is called every month to some great need of the Church considered so by the Sovereign Pon-

tiff, some great religious interest craving for our prayers for a whole month. It will suffice to turn to to former volumes of The Messenger to see how practical and how universal are the General Intentions that have been proposed. No coun-try has been overlooked, no need has been forgotten. It is not a small thing in life of school children to

have proposed to them every morning some pressing interest of the Universal Church, and to have their attention prayerfully drawn to it for a whole month at a time. A habit of mind is formed in them at Rome.

which brings out one of the noblest forms of sacrifice, that of praying human recipients of the Revelation misunderstood, and passed on their and working and suffering for others And not merely are they seized with misunderstanding to others. May the advantages of united apostolic prayer, but the example of the solinot the unlettered Apostles misconstrued the revelation a Apart from the fact that the con darity of Catholics throughout the whole world furnishes them with evisiderations already advanced are dence that they are simply units among hundreds of millions whose against such a theory, it is impos sible (first) to believe that a Master belief and practices are similar to who was able enough to persuad their own.

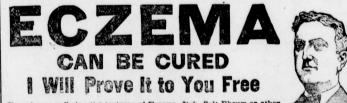
His disciples to die and suffer for Another way to foster piety and the things He taught, could have discipline in schools is the use of the failed for so long to perceive that He was being misunderstood, and Treasury sheets on which children are asked to mark down their good (secondly) that so marvellous a coinworks, so that they may make, as it cidence could have come into the final offering of them to the world, namely, that twelve persons could have at once taught the same Sacred Heart. This practice is a sort of pendant to the Morning Offering, the summing up of their daily deeds, teaching without variation, or heresy once the Master had passed. prayers and sufferings. It is not an essential element of the League, but At all events, we have documentary evidence for the belief of the Church

it is an extremely useful one, for it urges children to be more precise an extremely useful one, for it set children to be more precise systematic in the offering of r actions. hese few remarks may help those baye in hand the training of their actions. These few remarks may help those

vere,

the early Church instortans. These who have in hand the training of children. If the practices outlined above are strengthened by the fre-quent reception of Holy Communion, it is hard to see how ahatred of sin, a





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