

panaceas for the ills that afflict humanity, the Church, true to its Spouse, Jesus Christ, and to His teachings, holds Him up as the true and only hope of the world. Says the encyclical: 'God alone is life. All other beings partake of life, but are not life. Christ from all eternity and by His very nature is 'the life,' just as He is the Truth, because He is God of God. This is true of the natural life,—but . . . we have a much higher and better life, won for us by Christ's mercy, that is to say, the 'life of Grace' whose happy consummation is the 'life of glory,' to which all our thoughts and actions ought to be directed."

"This is the Christian teaching," says our esteemed contemporary. "The Church from the beginning has always taught it. The Church teaches it now with the same unerring certainty as in the early days when pagan Rome and all its gods were arrayed against the Gospel. Christ was then the centre of all Catholic teaching. He is the same to-day. The passing centuries have made no change in the Church's doctrines. Like the first pontiff, Peter, Leo XIII. asserts the divinity of Christ and the crying need of increased faith and hope in, and love for, the 'Light of the World.'"

Worthy of Consideration.

During the last century the Church gained great numerical strength in America. Nevertheless a number fell away from the true faith—the causes of this loss as given by an observant writer are worthy of perusal. They are:

1. Catholic families settling in places many miles from church or priest.
2. Mixed marriages.
3. Neglect of religious instruction and deficient education at home.
4. Reading of bad papers.
5. Staying away from the church to evade contributing towards building churches and keeping up schools.
6. Catholic children compelled by

limited means to leave home to secure a living.

7. Occupations where there is no chance to hear Mass on Sunday.

8. Emigrants who had little faith when they left Europe.

9. The absence of solid Catholic literature from the average Catholic home.

10. Not enough priests. This cause is gradually disappearing.

11. A false idea of social position. This cause is confined principally to women of fat purses and little brains.

12. Not being taught Christianity and the beginnings of theology in the mother-tongue.

13. The oft-repeated attempts to introduce and keep alive foreign customs, manners, modes of thought, etc., which tend to make the Catholic religion appear as an exotic, instead of being racy of the soil.

14. Intemperance.

13. Want of activity in Catholic church circles for young men and women.

16. Briefest and best. A summing up of all—the world, the flesh and the devil.

To all our readers the Editor of the Carmelite Review wishes a Happy and holy New Year.

Our readers will, we hope, pardon any delay on our part in acknowledging the receipt of subscriptions. Many things prevent us in being as prompt as we would wish to be. There is some delay in sending out our "Catholic Home Annuals" which we give as premiums, but you will get the same in a reasonable time.

From Rome we just learn with pain that the assassin's blow has been aimed at the person of our esteemed and most respected Prior-General, Father Bernardini. His sufferings were intense and his condition serious for some hours, but now, thanks to Our Lady of Carmel, he is at present out of danger. May our Lord protect and preserve him to us for many a decade in the new century!