

FIVE MINUTE SERMON

BY REV. WILLIAM DEMOUY D. D.

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER
EPIPHANY

THE SANCTITY OF MARRIAGE

"At that time there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the Mother of Jesus was there." (John II. 1.)

The very presence of Jesus was sanctifying; no one in any sense disposed toward grace could be near Him and not come under His influence. The attractiveness of Jesus brought souls to Him in all their purity; in fact, it was only the pure, and those who, though once stained, were repentant, that were attracted by Him. The wicked, at the time He walked the earth, as today, scoffed at Him and approached Him only from wicked motives. For this reason, neither received His sanctifying grace. No one can be an enemy of God and receive His divine grace while continuing in sin. There must be a complete change before grace can abide with the sinner; for it expels sin as the sun does darkness.

But Christ by His presence did not sanctify people only; for places and things were sanctified by Him as well. What places are more hallowed today than the scenes of Christ's life and passion? What earthly object is more sanctified than the cross upon which He died? We see the effect of the power He instilled in things, especially in the sacraments. In all of them there is something material, some visible sign which, when placed as ordered by Him, is the means of life-giving grace flowing into our souls. In the Gospel of this Sunday, the Fathers are wont to see an instance of the sanctifying presence of Jesus at a wedding feast. By His presence at this marriage, the contract at this sacrament which He had pronounced belongs to it. And it was not this marriage alone that He sanctified, but all Christian marriages.

Marriage was not a sacrament in the Old Law. Nay, it even had lost its primal sanctity, God permitting exceptions to the rule He established regarding it, because of the wickedness and hardness of heart of so many of the people. But this lenient permission of God in the case of marriage, as in many other customs and ceremonies of the Old Law, was not to last. When the fullness of time would have come, marriage would not only be made as it was in the beginning, but it would receive an additional dignity.

It would become a sacrament. This work Christ was to perform, and He clearly made it known that He did so, and indicated, evidently, that it must be monogamic. The husband and wife united in lawful marriage were to be husband and wife as long as they both lived. It was only the death of one that could permit another marriage of the other. There would be times perhaps when they would separate—specifically if one of the parties were guilty of adultery—but neither of the parties could enter into a new marriage as long as both were alive. Nothing but death severs the ties of matrimony—a union that God has made and sanctified—"what God has joined together let no man put asunder."

Alas, how much the world has separated from this law of God, and set up one of its own! What city is without its divorce courts, where men and women daily attempt to sever the links that God has eternally welded? We cannot exactly blame these courts for their existence; but we must blame the people who have brought it about that their presence is required. Upon what slight complaints and petty grievances of the one and the other these sacred ties are pronounced broken! What a mockery to have said to each other for better or for worse! Above all—and this is the greatest of all divorce evils—what a defiance of God's law, that law that is wise, that is eternal! What a disobedience to His commands!

The principal ends in matrimony are mutual help and the procreation of children. The possibilities of a divorce proceeding destroys them. Rather than mutual help, we see disgusting egotism; rather than the procreation and education of children, we see marriage used for the lowest end man and woman can propose to themselves, and children roaming the world parentless and homeless. It has gone to such extremes in many cases that not even the existence of angelic little ones—the rich fruit of a union—will hold man and wife together. The home is being replaced by a room in a hotel or a little quarter in an apartment house. And, unfortunately, the lesser the homes, the greater the crimes! Would that the family hotel were a true word. We must not be skeptical of all bearing this name, but there is poison in the combination. Divorce has brought all this about and it bids fair to play yet greater havoc among people.

Certainly, humanly speaking, incompatibility sometimes exists, but it is not an instantaneous production. In almost all cases it existed when the marriage vows were pronounced; that it comes about afterward is nothing more than a manifestation of its presence. Mutual help is the parasite to its very existence. Where there is egotism, there is marriage stripped of all its qualities. Marriage should be of compatibilities and not of foolish future expectations.

They who marry their kind, for the real ends of marriage, will never know there is such a word as incompatibility in the language, at least, from experience.

But how is one to know his or her kind? It is to be learned from the laws of the Church. Every Catholic is acquainted, or should be, with the chapter in the Baltimore Catechism on matrimony. There the wisdom of the Church—greater than which no other exists—is set before those considering marriage. The Church, too, is speaking with the experience of almost two thousand years to her credit. The Church predicted the only preservation of the home, and the Church today is the only preserver of the home. She has seen all the incompatibilities of today, the compatibilities of yesterday, and she is seeing them yet where God's grace is present. The Church alone puts before people the ends for which they marry. Will you doubt that, if people married from the proper motives and with the right ends in view, there would be no divorces? Must you not admit that day after day, by the hundreds, couples are marrying at an age when a bud that would otherwise some day blossom is spoiled forever? You need not call it crime. Call it imprudence if you will. But we may ask, who is to blame? Alas, in most cases it is the parents! Many of them did likewise. What is to be done? What can be done with a perverse society? Nothing, unless God and His Church be obeyed.

Catholics, fortunately, as a whole, are faithful to the Catholic law. But there are many cases where even they have followed the path of divorce. Of course, where they have done so, they have abandoned the work of their salvation, and defied their mother, the Church. Say what they will, their excuses are vain. Christ, who made the laws of marriage severe and stringent, has given to all who come under them grace sufficient to enable them to obey. In the Old Law, it was different. Marriage, not being a sacrament, had not the grace attached to it that is united to it in the New Law.

Customs of countries and of peoples can never justify Catholics in any divorce proceedings. Such customs, since they are contrary to God's eternal law, cannot lawfully exist. They are a continual defiance of God's wise, eternal legislation and unless abolished in time will bring a disaster that may call what will remain of man to what realization of his folly. What God has established, man must obey. He is not bound to do so physically, but his moral obligations are eternal. Divorce, if you will; physically speaking you can do so, but God, who united you, holds you yet bound together, and worst of all, will make you render an account for your sin, which is one of the gravest of the grave. But rather than fear have for motive love of God's law and obedience thereto. Then you will obtain the grace to overcome difficulties even of a married life that is not the most fortunate.

THE LIFE-BLOOD OF A
MASTER SPIRIT

Those who have had to do with the training of little children understand how real, how poignant are the joys and sorrows, the hopes and disillusionments of this age of innocence and trust. If older people have their hours of exaltation and anguish—and who among them has not—the little folks, too, experience the strange, seemingly unreasonable fluctuations between happiness and discouragement.

Teachers as well as parents know that the soul of the child is as melted wax, ready to be formed at a motion of the hand. What this formation shall be is of the utmost importance in the after life of the child; therefore the duty of guiding, of counseling, of instructing, is a most solemn one.

In an old and familiar classic there is a scene which has had a grip on the hearts of thousands of readers in every land where English is a familiar tongue. It shows us a child of ardent and tender sensibilities who has been misunderstood and laughed at in the presence of her elders. Not realizing that humiliations are the universal lot of everyone sooner or later in life, the child, overcome by a fit of passionate resistance, rushes away and seeks refuge in the attic. Here, striving to divert her mind from its sorrow, she opens an old chest and finds there, among other treasures of forgotten days, a little worn book.

"She took up the little, old, clumsy book with some curiosity; it had corners turned down in many places, and some hand, now forever quiet, had made at certain passages, strong pen and ink marks, long since browned by time. The child turned from leaf to leaf where the quiet hand pointed:

"Know that the love of thyself doth hurt thee more than anything in the world. If thou seekest this or that or wouldst be here or there to enjoy thy own will and pleasure, thou shalt never be quiet or free from care, for in everything somewhat will be wanting and in every place there will be some one that will cross thee. Both above and below, which way soever thou shalt turn, there everywhere thou shalt find the Cross and everywhere of necessity thou must have patience

if thou wilt have inward peace and enjoy an everlasting crown."

The words are familiar to all of us. In some cherished copy of the Imitation we have frequently met them and realized how true to life they are. And, like the unhappy child poring over the magic words in her attic room, and awakening to the startling realization that if life is a combination of pain and happiness, there is a remedy for the pain, we realize that the old monk who penned these lines long ago in the seclusion of his cloister was one of the greatest geniuses the world has ever known.

"A good book," says Milton, "is the precious life-blood of a Master Spirit." Its message travels down through the centuries, and thousands of weary-souled men and women, yea, even little children are attracted by the saneness and the wisdom of it. For when we are tossed by turbulent currents, when doubts and perplexities assail us, there is always a comforting and trustworthy voice ready to speak the word that shall fit our individual case as exactly as if it were the voice of some loved and trusted friend who perhaps may be far from us now, on the boundless shores of Eternity.

To study one such little book, to familiarize ourselves with its doctrine, to take it up haphazardly and open it at almost any page will become a practice well worth the effort given in the beginning. And then, when in the midst of the busy world, some sudden storm breaks interiorly or exteriorly over us, when, perhaps, we have neither leisure nor opportunity to read the printed words, we will recall in the depths of our souls some helpful message, some bit of wise philosophy that shall serve to tide us over in this emergency and keep our souls in peace.—The Pilot.

KEEP STRONG AND HEALTHY

People who are suffering from Constipation, Biliousness or Sick Headache are sometimes in doubt what preparations to take to relieve these ailments.

The ingredients of Dr. Norvall's Stomach and Tonic Tablets are printed on the label and Doctors and Druggists will tell you that if you require a tonic and laxative they know of no preparation that is the equal of Dr. Norvall's Stomach and Tonic Tablets.

These Tablets are sold throughout Canada at 25c. per bottle, and if your dealer does not keep them in stock we will mail them to any part of the Dominion or Newfoundland at 25c. per bottle or five bottles for one dollar.

All we ask is that you give them a fair trial and if they fail to do what we claim for them write us and we will refund the money.

Address:
The Dr. Norvall Medical Co., Ltd.,
168 Hunter Street,
Peterborough, Ont.

SCIENCE

DEMONSTRATES EXISTENCE OF
A CREATOR SAYS KELVIN

James J. Walsh, M. D., Ph.D., in America

At the end of June of this year occurred the hundredth anniversary of the birth of William Thomson usually known as Lord Kelvin who, while the acknowledged dean of physical science at the beginning of the twentieth century, did not hesitate to proclaim that science demonstrates the existence of a Creator. This shows so different an attitude toward creation from that which is usually associated with scientists that it seems well worth while recalling the place that William Thomson made for himself in modern science, and how much an expression of his on such a subject deserves to be regarded as representing the genuine opinion of thoughtful scientists in our day. Surely the anniversary must not be allowed to pass without recalling emphatically the very conservative attitude which Lord Kelvin occupied in this matter. When there was question as to the exact meaning of his words he added the sentence:

"We only know God in His works, but we are absolutely forced by science to believe with perfect confidence in a Directive Power, in an influence other than physical or dynamical or electrical force."

It is true that when he said that he was some fourscore years of age and some people might possibly think that it was because he was in his dotage or perhaps under the influence of that special state of mind which comes over so many men when they feel that death cannot be far away, that they try to make use of the expression. In response, it may be said that nearly thirty-five years before when he was just at the height of the maturity of his powers and when he occupied the highest position of the moment in the scientific world, that of President of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, he said in concluding his presidential address:

"Strong overpowering proofs of intelligent and benevolent design lie all around us; and if ever perplexities, whether metaphysical or scientific, turn us away from them for a time, they come back upon us with irresistible force showing to us through nature the influence of free will and teaching us that all living beings depend on One ever acting Creator and Ruler."

It is not surprising to hear that the man who said this, began the daily session of his class in the University of Glasgow, with this prayer selected by himself:

"Oh Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day: defend us in the same with Thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by Thy governance, to do always what is righteous in Thy sight; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen."

For over fifty years Professor Thomson served on the faculty of the University of Glasgow and there did the marvelous work which has rendered his name forever immortal in the history of science. When one reviews even very briefly the discoveries made by him and mentions by name only the inventions which he made, it is no wonder that honors came to him and that he was looked up to as the greatest scientist in physics in his generation. He belonged to nearly one hundred learned societies and academies either as an active or an honorary member and all of them were indeed proud to have his name associated with them. Nearly a score of royal and governmental distinctions of one kind or another had been conferred on him. No less than twenty-five universities had honored him by conferring on him academic degrees. No wonder that when he died in 1907 the appropriate resting place for him was considered to be beside the grave of Sir Isaac Newton. There is a statue of him in his birthplace, Belfast, and another near Glasgow University. There is a memorial window to him in Westminster Abbey—an enthusiastic tribute offered to him by the electrical engineers from all the English speaking countries.

There of Canada and the United States were particularly hearty in their recognition of the greatness of the work that had been accomplished by Lord Kelvin.

Perhaps the most interesting phase of his work for our generation in this year of grace 1924, especially here in America, where there are said to be at the present time over 5,000,000 sets of radio apparatus in active use is the fact that Lord Kelvin was the first to discover the law of electric oscillation or surge as he liked to call them, produced in the ether by the spark of a Leyden jar. It was this law that formed the basis of subsequent work in electrical development which led up to the practical application of wireless telegraphy. This was only one of his great practical benefits conferred upon mankind in the field of electricity howsoever. To him more than to anyone else, the world owes the success of the submarine cable. He accompanied the series of expeditions as a consulting engineer, and it is universally recognized that had it not been for his personal devotion to the cause and the electrical inventions of various kinds with which he enriched it, the successful laying of the cable would probably have been delayed for at least twenty years beyond the time when it came into use. There were many scientists of the time who declared that the venture would not be successful and who insisted that Professor Thomson was making himself absurd and would be the subject of ridicule in conjunction with it. But undaunted he went on to ultimate success.

While he was a real scientist, a discoverer of great principles which proved the basis of subsequent scientific evolution and the discovery of new truths, Professor Thomson was at the same time an extremely practical minded man and a great inventor. Altogether some three score of important inventions are due to him. Most of these are in connection with electricity. He was very much interested however in navigation. Nothing delighted him more than to spend his vacations sailing about his yacht, the *Lalla Rookh*, cruising in many waters. The long university vacations of those days permitted him more leisure than could be afforded now to busy university professors, but during this time his mind seems to have been particularly active and he came back to work out important problems which had occupied his thoughts in the midst of his leisure. It is not surprising then that many of his inventions which were not related to electricity were instruments to make navigation safer than it had been before. He invented a particular form of mariner's compass, a special astronomical clock, and a mechanical calculator to help in the solution of such problems in differential calculus as might come up in any way in connection with navigation so as to assure their solution even by one not acquainted with mathematical principles.

So far from being the only one of the great physical scientists, and above all of those connected with the development of electricity, to acknowledge the existence of a Creator, Lord Kelvin was only one of many who are noteworthy in this regard. Galvani, Volta, Ampere, Ohm, Coulomb, Ormstead and Faraday to whom we owe the great basic discoveries in electricity, so that the International Congress of Electricians considered it only proper to give their names to phases and units of measurement in electricity, were all of them not only fervent believers, but as a rule faithful practitioners of their belief

during long lives. Galvani and Volta each asked that they should be buried in the habit of the Third Order of St. Francis. Ampere saved Ozanam from the shipwreck of his faith when the poet-philosopher found belief so difficult in the University of Paris of the beginning of the nineteenth century. They are the ever living demonstration of the fact that the supremely great men in science have no difficulty about any opposition between their science and faith. Smaller men, and especially secondary scientists who learn the great truths of science from books and not from personal investigation, have found it so easy to gain knowledge, that it seems to them that it will be only a little while until they know all there is to know and that then there will be no place left for faith.

The most striking example of a great believing scientist among Lord Kelvin's contemporaries was his distinguished English colleague, Clerk Maxwell, to so many of whose ideas scientists are going back now that the very intimate relations of electricity and matter are being investigated and discussed. No one has thrown so much light on the constitution of matter as Clerk Maxwell, and no one ever was more devoted to the solution of the problems connected with its fundamental qualities, yet no one was ever less of a materialist in the ordinary acceptance of that word, than Clerk Maxwell. Toward the end of his life he once said to a friend: "Old chap, I have read up many queer notions, there's nothing like the old one after all." To another friend he said: "I have looked into most philosophical systems, and I have seen that none of them will work without a God." Writing of him in *Scribner's* for July of this year in the article "From Chaos to Cosmos," Michael Pupin, Professor at Columbia, who has recently been the recipient of half a dozen distinguished honors for his own work, did not hesitate to say: "Maxwell's formulation of the fundamental laws of electrical motion is the greatest intellectual achievement of the nineteenth century." He goes so far in his estimation of Maxwell's work as to place it beside that which Newton gave the world in his "Principia" concerning the motions of matter and he adds this compliment: "It exhibits the same simplicity and power of the language of mathematics."

It is surprising how many people are inclined to think of Lord Kelvin as standing almost alone among great scientists with his declaration that science demonstrates the existence of a Creator. The reason for that is that so many of the teachers of science during the past twenty years have not had the depth of intellect nor the strength of logic to follow out their thoughts to their legitimate conclusion. This was not true, however, of the great scientists. They had taken the step across the boundary of the unknown in science that made it easy for others to know more than they had known before, they had learned to rely on their human intellects and their powers and to realize, as Clerk Maxwell and Lord Kelvin must have done, that many a deep thought that came to them they could not demonstrate, and yet they felt that it represented a great truth. It is only now that some of Lord Kelvin's ideas and many of Clerk Maxwell's principles are meeting with confirmation that the surprise ceases as to why they ventured to put them forth with the most absolute confidence. They knew that intellects were given us

NEW LAMP BURNS
94% AIR

Beats Electric or Gas

A new oil lamp that gives an amazingly brilliant, soft, white light, even better than gas or electricity, has been tested by the U. S. Government and 35 leading universities and found to be superior to 10 ordinary oil lamps. It burns without odor, smoke or noise—no pumping up, is simple, clean, safe. Burns 94% air and 6% common kerosene (coal oil).

The inventor, T. T. Johnson, 216 W. Craig St., Montreal, is offering to send a lamp on 10 day's FREE trial, or even to give one FREE to the first user in each locality who will help him introduce it. Write him to-day for full particulars. Also ask him to explain how you can get the agency, and without experience or money make \$250 to \$500 per month.

Hotel Wolverine
DETROIT

Newest and Most Modern

500 Rooms 500 Baths
Rates \$2.50 Up

to use to the fullest extent but that we were bound to follow them and not stop wherever it suits us, because there are a number of conclusions that unpleasantly remind us of duties and obligations which we would rather not have too firmly or obtrusively thrust upon us.



Are You Going to Travel?

When travelling abroad it is most convenient to carry your money in the form of a Letter of Credit. It ensures the safety of your funds; it is readily convertible into currency, and acts as an invaluable introduction in foreign lands.

Letters of Credit are issued at any branch of this Bank.

IMPERIAL BANK
OF CANADA

190 Branches in Dominion of Canada.



Insist on BAYER TABLETS OF ASPIRIN

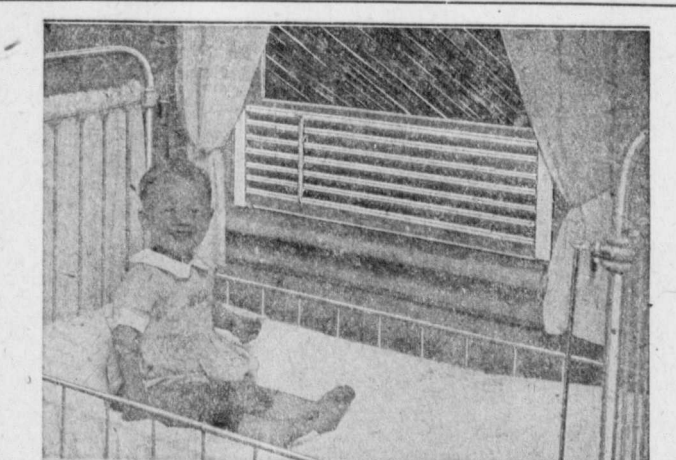
Unless you see the "Bayer Cross" on tablets you are not getting the genuine Bayer product proved safe by millions and prescribed by physicians 24 years for

Colds Headache Neuralgia Lumbago
Pain Toothache Neuritis Rheumatism

Safe Accept only "Bayer" package which contains proven directions. Handy "Bayer" boxes of 12 tablets. Also bottles of 24 and 100—Druggists. Aspirin is the trade mark (registered in Canada) of Bayer Manufacture of Monocetate-sulphate of Salicylic acid (Acetyl Salicylic Acid), "A. S. A." While it is well known that Aspirin means Bayer manufacture, to assist the public against imitations, the Tablets of Bayer Company will be stamped with their general trade mark, the "Bayer Cross."

ST. LAWRENCE
Underwriters' AgencyFIRE and AUTOMOBILE
INSURANCE

Head Office - Toronto

Fresh Air Without Draft
Dust, Snow, Rain

through ordinary windows. May sleep or sit next to open window. Louvers made of Metal. Enamel electrically baked on in artistic finishes of white and brown. Phosphor Bronze Screen on back. Used by Dominion and Provincial Governments, Hospitals, Schools, Offices, Homes, Hotels, etc. Recommended by Physicians, Medical Health Officers, Architects.

DRAFTLESS VENTILATOR and SCREEN CO.
Factory and Office - 47 Booth St., Ottawa, Ont.

— OFFICES —
TORONTO 53 Adelaide St. W. Phone Adel. 6594
MONTREAL St. Catherine St. W.
LONDON 430 Wellington St. Phone 1071 W