held out and had touched me in the darkness, guiding me to the right way, while the gracious lady seemed to bid me welcome to this House of her Son, for she was hostess there.

And there was another holy provi dence for me in the fact that there was a mission in progress, and as I entered the church the sermon for the evening was being preached. At once I was impressed; the whole congregation was intent on the figure of the missionary, black robed, standing on a platform, a tall, black cross, with a white drapery on its arms rising up back of him. these things were only as a setting. for his grave, tranquil, immensely impressive discourse; his theme was "The Love of God for Sinners." God so loved the world as to give His only begotten Son." Peace in the words, peace in the face of the speaker, a hush, a promise of peace perhaps in my poor heart!
The beautiful discourse ended, and

the priest stepped aside, while another approached the altar, now brilliantly lighted by many candles. Why did he turn to the altar instead the people? With vivid expectancy my soul waited. I was telling myself that now, as had been the case in other churches. I was about to be disillusioned. I would see some of the evil things I had heard of Catholicity-and then-with a rapture of song, in a glory of gold, blossomed above the altar, the white flower of the Eucharistic Love, and into my heart of hearts peace had come at last-peace, wonderful, holy,

There in that Church of Our Lady, at that mission of the Paulist Fathers Conway and Kennedy, faith had come to Marion; afterward and with patient care she put herself under instruction to study the doctrines of the Catholic religion that she might give a reason for the faith that was in her. Each time she attended Mass she was thrilled to fresh wonder at each new coming of the Great Presence. How well she felt had Jesus of Nazareth guarded against the tendency of human hearts to forget: "Do this for a commemoration of Me." Divine power-yet a human plea in the words-and holding the Great Gift forever, men could not then forget whence it had come. Daily renewing the Great Sacrifice, remember Calvary, daily the Euchar istic Flower, touching men's lips and hearts, must needs renew the life that blessed and loved so long as in Palestine. A year later Marion was formally received into the Catholic Church, to have and to hold forever 'the peace that surpasseth understanding."—Constantine, in

THE SACRED HEART

The beautiful month of June is devoted by the Church to the honor of the Sacred Heart. The Sacred Heart of our Lord is the symbol of His love for us. This devotion is based on the Incarnation. Our divine Lord, the second Person of the Blessed Trinity, became Man. He assumed human nature, body and soul, and our human nature has become an attribute of His divine nature and inseparable forevermore, a part of His divine personality. So His His divine personality. sacred body is capable of adoration as a part and inseparable attribute of His personality, and likewise all the parts of His body. Thus there to His Sacred Heart.

The heart, in common language, is of His love and mercy and compas. coming their age. sion for man, for whom He shed His precious blood. Our Savior wants of confession and Communion which our hearts. When He says, My son, rests upon the child, falls back give Me thy heart, He means, give Me thy love and affection and service that is, parents, con-Me thy love and affection and service. And He also says, Learn of Me for I am meek and humble and heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

The demands our love and also to the confessor as the Roman and you will find rest for your souls.

Our divine Savior is our Master and King. At the Annunciation it was said, "Of His kingdom there shall be no end." The Magi asked, "Where is He that is born King of the Jews?" "My kingdom" our Lord the Jews?" "My kingdom" our Lord year to the children, and "My kingdom," our Lord Hence Christ's kingdom is not material or worldly.

They wanted to know who are highest in Christ's kingdom. Thus the mother of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of instruction and series of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of Zebedee days of instruction and series of the sons of the series came with her sons, adoring and asking something of him, that her (6) Those asking something of him, that her two sons might sit, the one on His right hand, and the other on His left in His kingdom. But Jesus said to them, "You know that the princes of the Gentiles lerd it after First Communion the children shall often approach the Centiles lerd it after First Communion the children shall often approach the came Baptists and so they remain is very main is very main. the Gentiles lord it over them; and they that are greater exercise power upon them. It shall not be so among you, but whosoever will be greater should bear in mind their most lish establishment never at any they that are greater exercise power and he that will be first among you shall be your servant. Even as the Son of Man is not come to be minis-

give His life a redemption for many." is greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. First, we should love God above all things, and then our Lord tells us

GENERAL INTENTION FOR JUNE

RECOMMENDED AND BLESSED BY HIS HOLINESS POPE BENEDICT XV.

THE DECREE ON COMMUNION FOR

CHILDREN One of the most amiable situations, and undoubtedly one very near historic truth, which artists give us on their canvasses, is that of Our Lord seated among children whose innocent faces, beaming with love and confidence are turned towards Him. The little ones were specially loved by Our Lord; it was His delight to have them near Him, to embrace them and bless them. "Suffer little children to come unto Me," He exclaimed, "and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God." One day He set a child in the midst of His disciples and warned them that unless they became humble as that little one, they should not enter heaven. Elsewhere He taught that children are so dear to His Heart that he who offends the soul of one of them were better cast into the

This attitude of Our Lord towards children was evidently inspired not merely by their actual innocence but also by His anxiety for their future spiritual welfare. The Church, which is continuing Christ's work on earth, shares His anxiety and wishes to see the little ones of her flock nourished and strengthened with His Body and Blood as soon as they are able to distinguish, even hazily, this greatest of gifts. Unhappily, a few iron-bound traditions regarding knowledge, dispositions, etc., engrafted themselves on the discipline of the Church in the past and had kept children away from the holy table. These traditions would probably be keeping them away still, had not the Holy See published, a few years ago, a Decree replete with the most cogent reasons why children should not be deprived of the Food of their souls because of their tender years or their lack of religious knowledge. This Decree set at rest all hesitations and scruples about the early admission of children to Holy Communion, and it should be familiar to parents and others who have little ones in their care. Space prevents us from reproducing this nportant document whose sole aim is to help innocent and immature als to become attached to Our Lord, to live His life, and thus obtain the graces necessary to tide them over the years when their spiritual ene-

mies are more than usually active. However, the following regulations taken from the Decree will be read with interest:

(1) The age of discretion required both for confession and Communion is the time when the child begins to reason, that is about the seventh year, more or less. From this time on the obligation of satisfying the precept of confession and Communion begins.

(2) Both for first confession and First Communion a complete and perfect knowledge of Christian doctrine is not necessary. The child will, however, be obliged to learn gradually the whole catechism according to its ability.

(3) The knowledge of Christian doctrine required in children, in order to be properly prepared for First Holy Communion, is that they are devotions to the Head crowned understand, according to their capacwith thorns, to the five wounds, and ity, those mysteries of Faith which are necessary as a means of salvation, that they be able to distinguish the seat of the affections, especially the Eucharist from common and of love. So our blessed Lord's material bread, and also approach sacred Heart is the symbol or sign the sacred table with devotion be-

(4). The obligation of the precept Our Lord demands our love and obedience to His will and law.

(5) The pastors shall take care to the Jews?" "My kingdom," our Lord occasions they shall admit not only answered to Pilate, "is not of this First Communicants but also others already been admitted to the sacred

holy table, even daily, if possible, as today. Their religion is redeemed Jesus Christ and mother Church from utter hatefulness only by the should bear in mind their most important duty by which they are obliged to have the children present at the public instruction in cateral and the property of the people of Wales. This are the public instruction in cateral and the property of the people of Wales. This religious officialdom has recently religious officialdom has recently religious officialdom has recently religious official and the property of the people tered unto, but to minister, and to this religious instruction in some

up the obligations imposed by this was united into one Vicariate; but when the English Hierarchy was acclesiastically set up ten years later, with must deeply concern every faithful Catholic, viz., the Most Blessed Segment of the Alter and the card Meneyia.

Great Britain were doubled, wales was the truth, but as the obvious and notorious truth? with obstinacy that never wearies in retailing calumnies, yet can never have patimed the Diocese of Shrewsbury, and South Wales into that of Newport is already half done; that much of the ground has been cleared for respect to the defence? manner of its administration to our children, who are the hope of the future. Who is not keenly interested in this? With special emphasis I appeal to all who are in close touch with our young people, especially to the clergy and all educators, male and female teachers, and in particular to Catholic parents, to fathers and mothers and those who their place. It depends on the faithful care of all those who have the charge of children, and particularly on the conscientious co-operation of parents, to carry out and apply in practice the regulations made in regard to the Apostolic Decree concerning First Communion, and thus render the Most Blessed Sacrament the supernatural, heavenly means of for our young people in the full and extensive m

full and extensive measure desired and intended by our Holy Father." Needless to dilate further on this topic. The little children of today will be the Catholic men and women on whom will devolve the responsibilities of carrying on the struggle for God and souls in the next generation. Pius X. the Pope of the Eucharist, put the same thought and grow, so also their souls have unceasing and urgent need of the Heavenly Food in order to grow in the spiritual life and remain faithful to its obligations.

E. J. DEVINE, S. J.

THE CONVERSION OF WALES

Rev. Walter Elliott. C. S. P., in The Missionary Before the Reformation no country of Europe was better permeated with Catholic truth than Wales. As elsewhere it was principally Roman legionaries who were the first mis-sionaries, and Catholic civil magistrates and their families helped the subsequent introduction of priests and bishops. Before St. Patrick set up his cross in Ireland, Wales was almost wholly Catholic—several generations before. In only the more inaccessible nooks of the mountains did paganism drag out a dying life for a few generations.

Constantine the Great was born in Britain, his mother, St. Helen, being a British princess; and when he established the peace of the Church in the Roman Empire the Welsh had but to proclaim openly the Christian faith they had already only half-secretly practised. As in conversion to licity so in their conformity to Papal liturgical rules and devotional practice, the Welsh Church ante-dated the Irish Church by several generations. Hatred of the Saxon pagans, who had conquered all of Britain except Wales, led these mountaineers to refuse the message of Rome voiced by St. Augustine, producing what seemed to be, perhaps amounted to, a schism. this sad condition passed away and left only such faint traces that from the earliest middle ages Welshmen ever boasted that they had never swerved from the Catholic and Roman faith.

The mere brutality of English propagandism explains the loss of of Wales what is sweet and noble in racial tradition—these preserved Catholicity as a sort of national relic of holiest wisdom and virtue for generations after the Welsh people had seen a Catholic priest.

in prose but also in verse; copies of these books are yet extant, worn with marks of incessant use, having been passed from hand to hand and announce and distribute general handed down from sire to son Communion once or several times a throughout the country for generations, witnesses of the slow and lingering death of the true religion What at last and only gradthere. who, with the consent of their ually took the place of the true parents and their confessor, have faith was not Anglicanism, a muddle of bald errors and half truths in doc-trine, and in discipline a way of life days of instruction and preparation shall precede.

whose practical standards were no higher than the mere proprieties of came Baptists and so they remain been rooted out by act of parliament, with every accompaniment of shame and dismay on the part of its hire-

traditions and ancient customs, that in past ages it seemed proper to the (8) It is an intolerable abuse not to administer Viaticum and Extreme
Holy See to separate them from the to administer Viaticum and Extreme Unction to children having attained the churches—especially after the philosopher. But how can we deal

letter to his own people, thus sums Great Britain were doubled. Wales the truth, but as the obvious and

But a new move has been made by decreed by His Holiness Benedict , which is to embrace all Wales, and the Episcopal seat, heretofore established at Newport, is trans-ferred to Cardiff, and the beautiful Church of St. David is to be the seat of the Episcopal Cathedral. over," says the decree from Rome, We constitute this diocese of Carwe constitute this diocese of car-diff the Metropolitan Sea of all Wales, with all the rights, privileges and duties that belong to Metropoli-tan Sees, and we decide that the See of Menevia be Suffragan to it." The first Archbishop of Cardiff was invested with the pallium at St. David's Cathedral, Cardiff, on the Feast of St. James, 1916. A national hierarchy has thus been restored Wales, and, naturally, the event has aroused great interest, not only among the Welsh, but throughout the British Isles. American Catholics will look upon the erection of Wales into a separate Ecclesiastical Province as a partial verification of our Saviour's words in the fourth chapter of St. Mark: "To what more cogently: "Just as children need to take food frequently to live or to what parable shall we compensate the state of the shall we like the kingdom of God?" or to what parable shall we compare It is as a grain of mustard seed which, when it is sown in the earth, is less than all seeds that are in the earth; and when it is sown, it grow eth up, and becometh greater than all herbs, and shooteth forth great branches so that the birds of the may dwell under the shadow there-Once more the Old Faith will be proclaimed over the mountains and throughout the beautiful valleys of Wales, and the religion that flour-ished there in the early centuries of Celtic life will take on fresh vigor

and a more splendid beauty. This expansion of the Kingdom of God throughout Wales seems to us a most reasonable object of hope, and is undoubtedly a token of heaven's benignant favor. Wales is Celtic in its origin, has conserved Celtic ideals, Celtic customs and traditions, and it will at no distant day come back to the Faith that it accepted of old when missionaries from Rome first brought to it the Gospel of Christ. The Welsh people, it must not be forgotten, never apostatized from the Faith. They never turned their back on the Church in which they found a religion not only adapted to all mankind but peculiarly suited to their Celtic character They are this day an intensely religious people. Occasionally swept away by a gust of emotional enthu siasm, like that awakened by the preachment of Robert Evans and other "revivalists," they have fallen into vagaries of doctrine and pracbut they return in time to tice: steadier views of religion. A good many of the Welsh are converted already, and are burning with zeal for the conversion of all Wales. They have a proverb that "it is easy to rekindle the fire on an ancient hearth." The converts and mission-aries among them continually ask the question : Where the sacred fires of the faith once burned so brightly who dares to say that they shall never burn again ?

Is it any wonder that the Catholics Rejoice with exceeding Wales to the Church of Christ. The great joy " at the establishment of native princes, the bards, the ancient the new ecclesiastical province personages of every Welsh commun. Religion among them is still, as of all inspired with the deep. yore, much more than a professioninstinct of the Celtic love of | it is a keen and dominant interest, an absorbing passion after a better life than that offered by non-Catholic forms and vague religious sentimentalism. They are still peculiarly susceptible to the stimulus of the supernatural. How often have they been aroused in recent times to spiritual frenzy by the passionate elo-quence of itinerant preachers. These tendencies, these religious traits and conditions, are valuable assets to be set against the heavy weight of sullen ignorance and prejudice commonly enough prevailing.

In the sermon delivered at the time of the investiture of the new Archbishop, by the Right Rev. Dr. Keating, Bishop of Northampton, he

says:
"We dare to hope, and in that hope to shape our efforts, for the return of the Welsh people to Catholic unity. To the faint hearted, the project will seem as wild as that of rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem is very much; we shall never be able to build the wall (II. Exdras iv.

10.)
"'The rubbish is very much.' It is mournfully true; and this is always the first and most formidable heart-breaking task even for the most Our Lord came not to be served but to serve. So be it with us. In Christ's kingdom not pomp or office but service is the badge of greatness. He who thinks more of others than of himself, he who serves and has more very love and compassion on others.

Other way.

(7) The custom of not admitting children to confession, or of not absolutely condemned. Wherefore the Ordinaries of places, using those means which the law gives them, shall see that it is done away with.

Other way.

(7) The custom of not admitting ling ministry and of derision and contempt on the part of the people upon whom it had battened since the days of Elizabeth.

The race differs so radically from the rest of Great Britain in language, traditions and ancient customs, that enthusiastic builders. In other respects we have no misgivings. We things, and then our Lord tells us
the second great commandment is to
love your neighbor as yourself.
Christ's sweet influence in our minds
and hearts will then mould our lives
and rule our hearts.—The Monitor.

Unction to children having attained
the use of reason and to bury them
according to the manner of infants.

Comment on these regulations is
unnecessary. Cardinal Fischer,
Archbishop of Cologne, in a pastoral

the ground has been cleared for us, and much of the rubbish carted away, in the course of the recent controversies on the subject of Dis establishment. The Settlement, as it is called, has had to be reviewed; and the revision of that historical event has certainly caused surprise, and possibly pro-found searchings of heart, to many who had taken the Protestantism of

Wales too much for granted." Bishop Keating is quite right, for it turns out—as we have before stated - that when the mcuth of history is unmuzzled, as it is being unmuzzled to-day, the Protestantism of Wales is no native product, but is a thoroughly foreign importation. It was as uncongenial to the Celtic temperament of the Welsh people as to the Celtic temperament of the Irish people. It was never native to the soil of Wales, and the engrafted branches have never reached a productive fruitage. over a century after Protestantism was introduced, the tyrannical attempt to enforce its acceptance by pains and penalties was resisted as vigorously, and almost as successfully on the eastern side of the Irish channel as on the western. We re-peat, that the Welsh people never formally apostatized from the ancient and Roman Catholic Faith; they never formally renounced their allegiance to the Pope of Rome; they never consciously embraced a religion. They ceased to be Catholic only when the means of knowing and practising their creed were cut off by those stifling meth ods of what the impartial historian might term "frightfulness." And to sword and faggot was added the stringency of a religious blockade of the most cruel and persistent kind, priests being excluded from the principality with relentless rigidity.

Thus it is that we believe with Doctor Keating that "the chill blasts of winter evict the birds from their pleasant groves, and drives hem into temporary exile; but at the return of spring, the magnetism of the old ne draws them back with unerring and irresistible power. So may it be with the soul of the Welsh people. Alienated for a time from the nest in which it was reared, inculpably condemned to lead a restless and roving it will come back to rest among the fragrant branches of the mustard tree."

MINISTER PROTESTS

AGAINST UNBELIEF BEING TAUGHT IN SCHOOLS Rev. Edward J. Bond (Meth.), Pottstown, Pa.

Feb. 6, 1917 'Citizens do not send their boys and girls to school to be taught the personal views that are held by the eachers on religion. Some time ago a student of our high school came to ne and said

"'Mr. Bond, is there a hell?" "'Certainly,' I replied.

"Said the student: 'My teacher at school says: 'I don't believe in a hell and no one can make me believe there is. Of course, this is just my own opinion.'

'Now, Mr. Bond, who says there is a hell?' said the boy.

" 'Why Jesus said so, just as He said that there is a heaven.

"This was the startling conversa-tion I had with a high school student and I submit to you, that if we cannot believe all the truth as Jesus taught it, where are we going to go for truth. Acceptance of Jesus Christ means the acceptance of any and all of His sayings. I confess I was indignant over the remark of that teacher

teacher

"Another instance of the same kind of harmful teaching came to my personal notice. I was instructing young person from our high school preparatory to his being received into the Church, and stated the principles of Methodist policy and the necessity of belief in the Scriptures.

"'What do you mean by belief in the Scriptures?' said the student, 'Does that mean believing the story of Moses, the flood, Noah, Jonah and all that? Why our history professor

said they are only myths." "Brethren, this is the sort of thing from school teachers that I indignantly protest against. If preacher said what his teacher did you would avoid his church, but it seems that the citizen cannot have his son avoid it if he wants to send his boy to school. I submit that it is the duty of citizens to see that teachers confine their teaching to the legitimate branches and keep their mouths shut about religion. when they teach evolution, let them believe they are of monkey origin if they like. I prefer a better ancestry. It is up to the parents to say that the skeptical teaching on religion that Ishave referred to have got to

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to the pupils. It is not up to any teacher to give personal religious do all I can to keep out of it, and help views in the class room. He is a others to keep out. It is all wrong to coward to spit out his opinions before lot of unsophisticated youths who antagonisms. It is right to take a ave no means of replying to or comstand for truth and keep it." — Our have no means of replying to or combatting them.

"There is a hell, and I am going to avoid speaking the truth for fear of Sunday Visitor.

Life is not so short but that there is always time for courtesy.-Emer

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