SIX

FIVE MINUTE SERMON

BY REV. F. P. HICKEY. O. S. B.

THE SUNDAY AFTER THE ASCENSION

THE INNER LIFE

"Eanctify the Lord Christ in your hearts. 1 Pet. fii, 15.)

The Ascension, glorious as it was to our Blessed Lord, was the ultimate parting with His visible Presence on earth. The parting bids us keep His memory in our hearts. The lives of men seem for the most part very much the same. We cannot tell who are the good or who are the wicked-that depends on the inner life of the on the dependence of the inner life depende on this, do we "sanctify the Lord Christ in our hearts?" That we do by keeping His blessed memory as a motive and incentive to live for

Him alone That His blessed memory should dwell in our hearts, it has to be oultivated. Continual and actual recalling a person or a circumstance can result in the presence, as it were, of that person dwelling as a living memory in our hearts. A good mother can understand this. And we hear of people that have such affection for each other that, though separated, if one is suffering, the | into the empty tomb. other is unhappy; if one is in danger, the other is oppressed with fear; if one is dying, he may appear to the other, or that other feel what is happening, and mention it. Poor to His followers. To Mary Magdalen is Christ ! the Saints, we hope, had such a living, loving memory of Thee as this. But with our own selves days may come and go-yea, we may say prayers, go to the church, without the speaking memory of Jesus Christ awakening our hearts. Our inner life is in a lethargy. We must practise thinking of our Lord, meditating on His words, actions, events of His Life and Death. And by degrees His image will be im-printed on the retina of our soul, and develop more and more as we actually recall and study Him time disciples. Peter, who had thrice

after tim

And this remembering our Blessed Lord will have a great effect on our prayers. The great means of sanctiplanty of prayers, Many people say planty of prayers, but the quality is sadly deficient. Habit, repetition, hurry, reduce many prayers to a mere matter of form. And not steadying our mind before we begin mere is answerable for much poor, dis-tracted prayer. St. James tells us to "ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea, which is moved and carried about by the wind. Therefore let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord." (Jas. i, 6.7.) Before we begin, then, let us recall the memory of our Lord. Behold Him with the eyes of our soul, address Him, appeal to Him, watch Him. Such a remembering would make of our prayers a living manded, they spread His Kingdom; they died rather than deny His ory that would make its way straight to the heart of Jesus. It is not the words we use, but the intensity, the fixity of purpose, the whole hearted name. And now they see Him again, and their hearts rejoice, and their name. joy no man can take from them. ness with which we say them that makes the power of prayer. Read prayers that the Saints have used, and perhaps we may see nothing special in them, and yet those very to us the fruit of victory. It should make the children heart hungry for the home where their Father dwells. Saints may have worked miracles by those very words because their heart was in them. Sanctify Christ in your hearts by

thinking of Him, recalling Him, dwelling on His words and deedsin one word, by having His memory enshrined there—and your prayers will become powerful and efficacious and will ascend, sweet as incense, before the throne of God.

Then there is a third step in the inner life. Imitate Jesus Christ. Of course, we know that the imita-Those who preface every sentence, written or oral, with "I am beginof course, we know that the inita-tion must be of the humblest kind-a long, long way off. But the publi-can stood a long way off, yet his prayer was pleasing unto God. So

It would be the inner life of each day. Our occupations and business would go on as usual, but in our hearts there would be the remember-ing, the praying to, the imitating Jesus Christ our Logd, because we had offered all our prayers and works and sufferings to Him. Then would begin the mystic circle of love. The more we loved our Lord, the oftener we should renew the pure intention and the offering, and the oftener we renewed it the more we should love Him. And thus the inner life would grow and be strengthened, and thus day by day we should "sanctif Lord Jesus Christ in our hearts. sanctify the

THE ASCENSION

the Father Almighty."

flock.

FEAST, MAY 29TH

Ascension Day commemorates last great event in the earthly life of Christ. It marks the consummation of His mission, the close of the final

will get well". chapter of His life work. He had come down from Heaven to recome down from Heaven to re deem mankind. Redemption accom ALBERT VARNER. 50c. a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size 25c. plished, He returned whence. He had come : "He ascended into Heaven At dealers or sent postpaid by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa, Oat. and sitteth at the right hand of God

SUFFERED

TERRIBLE AGONY

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Him Ouick Relief

"For seven years, I suffered terribly from Severe Headaches and Indiges-

tion. I had belching gas from the

stomach, and I had chronic Constipa

nothing did me good. Finally, a friend advised "Fruit-a-tives". I

took this grand fruit medicine and

it made me well. To everyone who has miserable health with Constipa-

tion and Indigestion and Bad Stomach,

I say take "Fruit-a-tives", and you

tion. I tried many remedies but

Buckingham, Que., May 8rd, 1915.

It was forty days since that memthousands of soldiers heard of it orable morning when the holy women and the anxious apostles had gazed after they had arrived in France. Mr. Medill McCormick, at present s There could be member of the United States Senate and son of Robert McCormick, some time Ambassador to France, gave a no longer any doubt that this was the Christ of Calvary, who died, but who lived again. For, since then, many times Christ had manifested Himself fete for the French mission during the progress of which the former Premier of the French Republic was asked to address the guests. M. Viviani was moved to reminiscense to Peter, to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, to the apostles assembled in the upper room, to James and to over five hundred and his vein of satire led to the masterful way in which France had driven God from, the State, how brethren on a mountain in Galilee. But the manifestation that most after a tremendous struggle she had driven God from the schools and "Now," he concluded impressively, "we shall drive God from the appeals to us is that which occurred by the Lake of Genesereth, when the apostles, after a night of fruitless labor, decried, through the morning mist, a Man walking along the shore. churches. Being a diplomat, M. Viviani was

aware that the American is a Chris-tain nation, that it has so written It was Jesus, and a fire was kindled and fish were broiled, and the Master ate and chatted familiarly with His itself in its fundamental laws and in its charter and on its coinage where denied, now thrice protested his love may be found "In God we trust." It for Christ, and was rewarded by being confirmed chief shepherd of the is true that some preposterous per-formances have been credited to religion, Alexandra Campbell, Alex andra Dowie, Mary Baker Eddy. Those who heard the French Atheist But these happy days of reunion were not to continue. Christ's plans for His Church were completed, the "little while" during which He was were principally public men, and no one holding office under this Governto be with them had expired. And so one day He walked with His disment could utter such sentiments and retain his hold on his constitu ciples to the Mount of Olives. It was there He had begun His passion; it ency. To their credit, it can be recorded many protested to Mr. Mo-Cormick that they considered such was there they should witness His final triumph. There, while they gazed in wondering admiration, Jesus expressions blasphemous, and they declined to remain and be presented was lifted up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. They stood to the representative of Gallic civilization and progress. Those who heard the utterance and many others gazing after Him, reluctant to leave who heard of it, were always silenced until the angels' words aroused them. And then they went down from the in their objections by the assurance Mount, determined that where He had gone they also should go. They preached whatsoever He had com-

on, the American public was assured ent from a variety of sources, that ies. The thought of the Ascension should inspire us to lock up, and lift up our hearts. It should en-Those who watch the snail-like progress at the Peace Conference see no sign of this. They tell that Foch and his pious soldiery and the God-fear ing soldiery of every land, described in the letters and official reports of

every kind of chaplain, are deemed every kind of chaplain, are deemed worthy instruments to wage success-ful war, but that peace must be confided to the thinkers, the econ-omists, in brief to the scoffer and the infidel, like Viviani.

From British sources comes the vail that France, ever thrifty and Shall religion alone, of all the forces which brought victory to the armies arrayed against the Teutonic Powers, be deprived of its fruits? Those who preface every sentence, writhen or oral with "I am herit

THE CATHOLIC RECORD

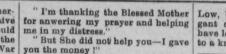
bracketed in here, that had an Amer paper, the laws of espionage would have reached out to silence the "But She did not help you—I gave paper, the laws of espionage would have reached out to silence the organ during the course of the War at least, if not forever. Sir Edwin Pears says simply, and as though the entire world shared his amazing knowledge, that the Boston Board of Wissions with its superb againment

knowledge, that the Boston Board of Missions with its superb equipment in Robert College, Constantinople, had wrought such pressure to bear on Washington, had made so plain that only by permitting these mis-sions to continue undisturbed—an impossibility if a state of war existed —could Bulgaria ever "find herself" and realize her true nonition smore and realize her true position among the Balkans. Sir. Edwin opines that since the President, the Vice-President and the Secretary of State were all concerned in the success of these missions, neutrality was accomp-lished, though the world stood amazed at the spectacle and some of the Allies were restive and appre-hensive. The article goes at length into the men and women who reared so strong a bulwark in Robert Col lege, that even in a war so terrible and unrelenting as that waged in Europe, the hand of religion could overreach that of diplomacy and even the mailed fist. Imagine the outcry were some author to write

of Catholic interests in Mexico and attempt such a flagrant usurpation of the privileges of the entire nation by a small group. Yet, it is logical to use the same weapons. It is readily imagined that neither Presi-dent Wilson nor his party were overgrateful to the British essavist and that if they had known of the paper in time they would have suppressed it. Bulgarian neutrality was a burn-ing issue in Washington, and the spectable of the friendliness of the Minister from Ferdinand's country a former professor in Robert College country with the Lansings caused a most painful impression to the Allied nations cognizant of it. But Mr. Lansing, premier of the Wilson Cabinet, is frankly Calvinistic, as Lansing, Wilson are the Fosters, the family into this a which he married. Witness his first ment: public statement after the signing of the armistice, not addressed to the general public or any official body. but to the faculty and students of Presbyterian Seminary, the in Auburn, New York, celebrating its diamond jubilee. Again it is from British journals that the most lum-Again it is from inous interpretation of this incident reaches the world. Mr. Lansing, according to the Westminster would try and Gazette, condemn Germany by the terms of the Westminister Confession and would have a peace such as Calvin could endorse,

a peace with some mercy, but with justice playing the stallar role, and who punishes all sin. Now that Sir Edwin Pears has so

adroitly pointed out the way, it that Viviani, a well known Free-thinker, did not present a typical religious to step up beside the diplo-side of France and as the war went should not be too great a task for all ent readjuster of national boundar-ies. M. Viviani, though of a race from a variety of sources, that from a variety of sources, that france had sorrowfully renounced her errors and that religion would again be respected and protected. are at stake, delicacy of feeling or tactful regard for national prejudices are cobwebs to be swept away. There are mediums for the away. diffusion of sentiment in France, and a lengthy roll of citizens repudiating the sentiments he uttered in Washington and asking his elimination from the peace proceedings and from future influence in shaping French policy, could not be taken amiss. The gentle art of minding one's own policy, business is not applicable in any phase of national development which infringes on the free exercise of religion. If influence were so power-ful a lever for the Protestant Mission Board of Boston, why can it not be used for Alsace-Lorraine and the ancient churches of the East, where the streets have been trod by the Redeemer and by those whom He



CATHOLIC MADE WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY POSSIBLE

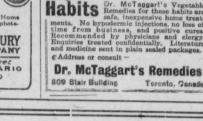
In a series of articles by Mgr. A. arges, Prelate to His Holiness the Pope, in the Echo de Paris, on tele pathy and second sight, says the London Universe, we learn of an-other scientific invention by a Cath-olic which is generally attributed to Signor Marconi, the inventor, or-in Signor Marconi, the inventor, or-in view of the information given us by Mgr. Farges-part inventor of wire-less telegraphy. After the Italian scientist had discovered the method of sending out the messages, the problem still remained as to an in-strument for receiving them, obvi ously an essential for the practical utility of his discovery. The instru-ment for responding to the etherial vibrations, the prelate tells us, "was a discovery due to the genius of a Frenchman, M. Branly, professor at the Catholic Institute of Paris." The world has resounded with the praises of Marconi-and we do not deny his deserts-but has heard little of the man without whose help Marconi's wonderful invention would have been valueless. And this is by no means the only instance man's getting all the honor for what is just by half his own work.

THE ANOMALIES OF HISTORY

One of the anomalies of history is hat sons and daughters of extreme bigots become converts to the Catho faith. The Liverpool Catholic lic Times, many years ago, observed this and made the following com-

"In the conversion of Mary Howitt daughter of the notorious author of 'The History of Priestcraft,' another instance is added to the many on record. The misguided zeal of their parents, or their blind fanaticism, may have led the children to examine for themselves the exaggerated allegations brought against the Church. The result of an impartial inquiry, coupled with humility, nat-urally leads to the discovery of truth. The sons of the great Wilkerforce are examples in point, and the only son who did not become a Catholic-Bishop Wilberforce-but, on the con justice playing the stallar role, and trary, developed a spirit of bitter full recognition of the stern God bigotry against the Church either out of hostility to his brothers or out of policy, lived to see his daughter and her husband, the Rev. Mr. become Catholics. Instances of this kind might easily be multiplied, for members both of High Church and







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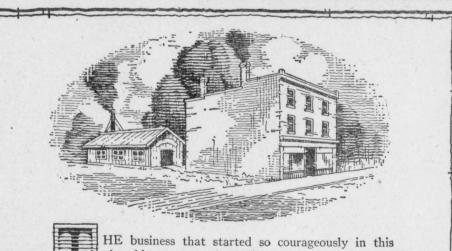
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MAY 31, 1919

we too might trace the footsteps of Christ, and try to follow on slowly and laboriously. We must cultivate the same aims and interests; the the broad avenue which leads to and laboriously. We must cultivate the same aims and interests; the the broad avenue which leads to and laboriously. We must cultivate the same aims and interests; the the broad avenue which leads to ancient domain of the Church, the cities of Jerusalem, Damascos, and leppo which France is claiming by her old title of defender of the East? Are the followers of religion to be removed from the persecution of the the bad, patient, meek, humble, developments in certain countries. He had, patient, meek, humble, developments in certain countries. we too might trace the footsteps of the cluttering obstacles placed on ized? Is it to be realized in that Christ, and try to follow on slowly the broad avenue which leads to must be the ways that we must try to cultivate; the friends He had must be our friends teo, and chief together as the East, the former of all His Blessed Mether Mary. This is trying to be like, trying to imitate, our Lord and Master. And He that created us, when He sees that we are trying to improve, and that soversign honor greater than even are taking Himself for a model, which the country cannot give, may could He not, and will He not, with have noted among the splendid a blessing transform us more and legends borne on transparencies, more to His own image and likeness a

large proportion of soldiers have answered in their transparencies, minions of the Turkish crown. Those who were witness of the We fought the war for God." Despite this, however, in many circles there is an awakened alarm, lest the welcome which New York gave her returning soldiers, a few weeks ago,

courage us to struggle, by revealing

THE FRUITS OF

VICTORY

-The Tablet.

fruits of this victory be wrested from whose efforts were put forth that God might be restored to the French State, also to the schools and the churches.

There is a simple, practical, direct ray of starting all this, and carry ag it on, from a very very burth It seems monstrous that some organized effort is not yet apparent ing it on, from a very, very humble beginning to the real sanctity of the inner life; it is nothing more nor less than a pure intention. What in Catholic communities. French and American, to save religion. It must be said for the body of Protestant missions with its grand sachem in Boston, that an alert eye indeed is the inner life; it is nothing more nor less than a pure intention. What was said of prayer can be said of mission had arrived in Washington put to see that Viviani's program does not touch Protestant missions a pure intention; we must make it, not through custom merely, but with the vivid memory of Christ our great corps and they were too few to great corps and they were too few to stem the tide. Viviani and the gen-ial lovable here of the first Marne, Marshall Joffre, toured the in the East. Indeed, if Catholics are offering, intention, transforms our daily life. Any form of prayer will Marshall Joffre, toured the country other parts of the world where the steel glove is safely covered with velvet, the union of diplomacy and do, but take, for example, the "morn-ing offering" of the Apostleship of Prayer: "O Jesus, through the most pure heart of Mary, I offer Thee the moths went by. All their comings religious interests as typified in the conduct of its Bulgarian and Turkish Protestant missions by the Boston Board, may be soultully offered as worthy of imitation.

pure heart of Mary, I offer Thee the prayers, work, and sufferings of this day, for all the intentions of Thy Divine Heart." Those taw words, it said devoutly, and with the memory of Christ vividly before us, would consecrate a whole day to God, and make of it a prayer and sacrifice. It would raise up everything we do, and make it worthy of God's accept ance and reward. method went by. All their comings of the same of it and many and make it worthy of God's accept ance and reward. method went by. All their comings of the same of it and many the battle of civilization as well. would raise up everything we do, and make it worthy of God's accept ance and reward. method went by. All their comings of the intentions of the method went by. All their comings of the intentions of the same position as well. would size up everything we do, and make it worthy of God's accept ance and reward. method went by. All their comings of the intention of the intention of the intention of the intention. But there was one speech of M. Vivi-method went by the same ported, indeed it was most carefully suppressed though several thousand people were aware of it and many the same of it and many the said indignantly. Pars, in the Contemporary Review tor November, 1918. It may be

sent forth to teach all nations? The League of Nations is not the impecthe dominant seventh, always leading forward, always inviting onward the chord of progress. God is tonic triad, the chord of repose. M. B. Downing in America

AN ANSWERED PRAYER

One winter day, some years ago, an English tourist was tramping through a poor district of Connemara. He passed the church. In the church-yard he saw an old woman praying before the statue of the Blessed Virgin. Of a kindly disposition, he stopped and asked the old woman why she was praying to the image.

"Sure, your honor, I'm not pray-ing to the image; I'm praying to the Mother of God, and asking her to help me in my distress, for if I don't have ten shillings for the agent on Monday morning, I'll be turned out of my little cabin on the road."

The gentleman put his hand in his pocket and handed her a half-sover-

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