

## FIVE MINUTE SERMON

## PENTECOST

## HOW TO PURIFY OUR SOULS

There appeared to them parted tongues as it were of fire, and it sat upon every one of them. (Acts ii. 3)

Ten days ago, my dear brethren, we celebrated the feast of the glorious Ascension of our Lord into heaven; at that time He departed from the midst of the apostles, leaving them, in a rather sad and perplexed condition as to their future mission; but not so, for though He, their guide and chief Pastor and Teacher, had gone from amongst them, yet before doing so He had promised in His place another Comforter in the Holy Ghost, the third person of the Blessed Trinity: "The Paraclete, the Holy Ghost, Whom the Father will send in My name. He will teach you all things, and bring all things to your mind, whatsoever I shall have said to you."

This sending down of the Holy Ghost, His descent upon the Apostles and the other believers, we are celebrating to-day, the Feast of Pentecost. "And when the days of Pentecost were accomplished they were altogether in one place: and suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a mighty wind coming, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them parted tongues, as it were of fire, and it sat upon every one of them: and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they began to speak with divers tongues according as the Holy Ghost gave them to speak."

You have noticed, in these words of to-day's Epistle, that the Holy Ghost came in the form of tongues of fire; now, as one of the principal properties of fire is to purify, we may naturally conclude that the Apostles were from that time purified from their former imperfections and defects. Concerning these faults of the Apostles we read that they were easily excited and gave way to feelings of revenge; speaking of the Samaritans they say: "Lord, wilt Thou that we command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" And turning Our Lord rebuked them saying: "You know not what spirit you are."

The Apostles were ambitious, they sought precedence and distinction, and Our Lord again rebuked them by placing a child in the midst of them, saying at the same time: "Amen I say to you, unless you be converted and become as little children, you shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven."

Lastly, we all know of the three-fold denial by Peter of his Divine Lord and Master. Such, my dear brethren, was the condition of the Apostles before the descent of the Holy Ghost; they were filled with the faults and imperfections of human nature, and remained so after the Ascension of Our Lord, and hence we see the reason of their fear and sad condition.

But the time has now come for their purification, and the fire, the grace of the Holy Ghost, performed a wonderful change in the followers of our Lord, for just as in nature fire purifies the iron, consumes the rust, and renders all things bright, and by fire only can these results be obtained, so also the grace of the Holy Ghost, the fire of Divine love, penetrates the hearts of the Apostles, changes them from proud, ambitious men, to men full of humility, of meekness, and of love; so that henceforth all worldly desires were banished for ever from their souls, and their aspiration were directed with ceaseless zeal to things heavenly; such are the workings of Divine love in man's soul.

From all this we clearly see the condition of the Apostles before and after the Descent of the Holy Ghost, and what a marvellous effect the grace and fire of the Divine love of God had on their souls; now, if such was the case of the Apostles, may we not hope for and obtain the same favor from our Heavenly Father? Surely we can if we but pray for it, and pray earnestly and patiently with entire trust in the goodness of God, that the Paraclete may descend into our souls and abide with us for ever.

## FEWER CATHOLIC GIRLS

DEPART VIRTUOUS WAYS THAN OTHERS, SAYS JUDGE LINDSEY

Rev. J. L. Juily, pastor of St. Helena Church, Fort Morgan, Colorado, has been dealing with a mess of calumnies against the Catholic Church by one Ballard, a Baptist minister. Judge Ben B. Lindsey, the nationally famous jurist who presides over Denver's Juvenile Court, who is a non-Catholic was shown Ballard's wild statement, that 95 per cent. of the social outcasts in six large American cities were Catholic girls and this is the reply that he immediately telegraphed to Father Juily:

"I have never heard any one make that statement and I do not believe it. My experience is that fewer Catholic girls go wrong than of any other denomination. Such a statement as you quote in my judgment is absolutely untrue."

All men are more or less deaf; the degree depending upon who is talking and what they want.

No soul was ever lost because its fresh beginnings, broke down, but thousands of souls have been lost because they would not make fresh beginnings.

## TEMPERANCE

## THE MOST EXPENSIVE TOMBSTONE IN THE WORLD

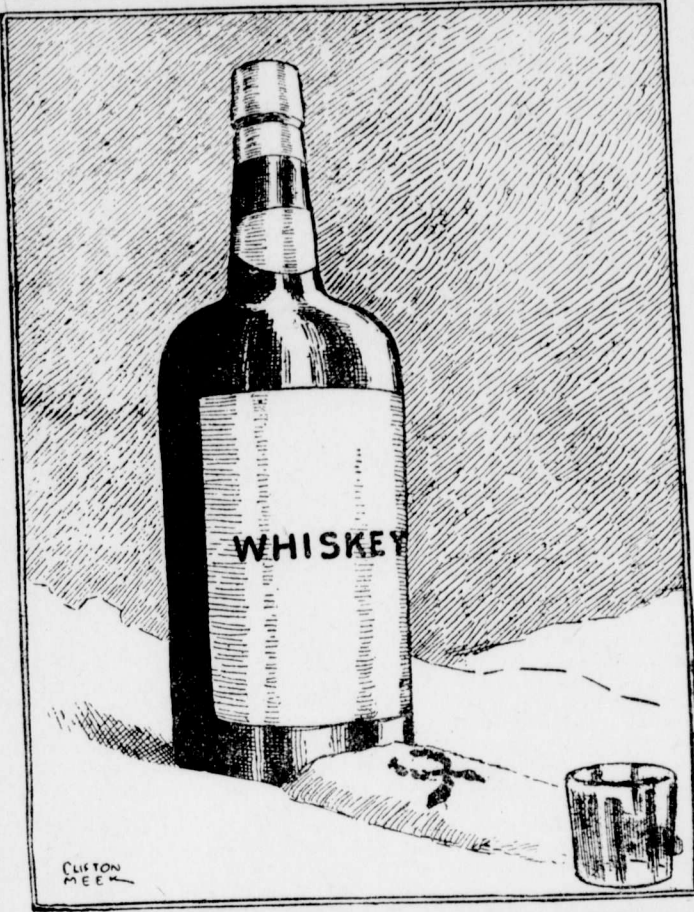
New York Evening Journal

Do you know any man who is investing money in a tombstone like this? If so, hand him this picture? Here is the tombstone that stands at the head of tens of thousands of graves. You cannot see it as you enter the graveyard, but the relations of the man in the grave know that the tombstone is there.

This is the tombstone that costs more money than all other kinds of tombstones put together. This is the tombstone that stands above ruined hopes, broken families, disappointments, bitterness and all misery.

If you want to do something useful, without too much trouble, cut out this picture, and paste it up where it will be seen by those that need it.

The huge bottle and the small glass, the weak will, the blasted career—and then the grave with the tombstone—that is the story.



## THE HIGHEST FORM OF TEMPERANCE

Intemperance in drink was the topic of the fifteen minutes' discourse of Archbishop Glennon of St. Louis, lately at the noonday services in the old Cathedral.

"A community," he said, "which manufactures liquor may, it is true, profit by selling it to outside communities. But it gains its profit by debauching those communities."

"See the poor woman moving about with a tattered shawl over her head, the thin, shivering child, and you have not far to look for the saloon, that is absorbing what should go for the support of wives and children."

"Business conditions to-day are eliminating the drinking man. Here and there may be a man who got his start in a day of other conditions, and who can still drink and be successful. But the time has passed when the drinking man can succeed as employer or as employee."

"What is the effect on men's minds? Why, the drinking man is the truly insane man. When one man invites another to have a drink with him, he is really suggesting that they go insane together—how insane depends on the quantity they drink and their degree of susceptibility to its effect."

"Why, there is hardly a crime of violence committed but that drink has something to do with it. God made man a little lower than the angels, but the drinking man makes himself lower than the beasts."

"You say you believe in temperance, but that you think it better to drink a little, just to show that you can be temperate. I tell you that total abstinence is the highest form of temperance. You are not surrendering your liberty when, of your own free will, you promise yourself for the sake of yourself, your family and your God, to let alcohol wholly alone."—Catholic Bulletin.

## THE CAPTAIN'S PROMISE

Dr. T. D. Crothers, editor of the Journal of Neurology, relates the following interesting incident, which he once observed on a vessel coming from Europe to America:

There were many professional men, including ministers, judges, doctors and teachers, on board, and all seemed to enjoy the festivities of the last day or two. Many times the passengers were hilarious, and the effects of wine were very prominent.

The captain, a ruddy-faced Scotchman, refused, though importuned, to partake in any way giving no reasons, but declining with the utmost courtesy. Some of the passengers were persistent to know why he could not join them in taking a little wine; among them was a judge, who on one occasion pressed with persistence the latter for reasons of his refusal. The captain answered in a very serious

tone: "When I was a boy in Scotland my ambition was to go to sea. This my mother refused to let me do. Finally after a long time she consented, if I would promise her never to touch wine or spirits during my lifetime. On my knees at her side, with my hand on the old family Bible, I made this promise, and I have never violated it, and never shall. It is too sacred. A few years later I was shipwrecked, and with two other comrades was lashed to the rigging and remained nearly two days before we were taken off. We were numbed, chilled, and exhausted, so that we could hardly move. The boat that rescued us carried with it a quantity of brandy, and we were offered all we could drink, but I refused, although told that it was at the risk of my life. I said: 'I will die before I will take any spirits.' Both of my comrades drank freely and became delirious then unconscious, and finally died; but I recovered, and, this taught me that spirits were not good even in extreme cases of exhaustion, and many times I have been grateful for the promise I made my mother. My

father was a seaman and a drinking man, and he died in middle life. My mother knew the perils of a sailor, and knew I could not be different, unless I was pledged in advance. She prayed for me while she lived, and that promise and her prayers have carried me so far, and will carry me as long as I live."

Tears came to the eyes of the judge and other listening passengers. Finally the judge said: "You have taught me a lesson. I, too, promised my father on his deathbed that I would not drink spirits. I have forgotten it, but my life shall change from this time, and I thank you, captain most sincerely for this lesson, and from this time forth it shall be the rule of my life to help others to keep away from drink."

Attempt the end, and never stand to doubt.

The man who permits himself to be ruined by prosperity would probably have been ruined by something else if prosperity had not come along first.

Ups and downs in the spiritual life are sure to be felt, and come from various causes; and the chief lesson is to plod on courageously, whatever one feels and whatever happens.

## A MESSAGE FROM A WOMAN TO WOMEN

"Every Woman Should Take 'Fruit-a-tives'"

LAKELAND, ONT., MAY 12th, 1911

"Kindly publish this letter of mine if you think it will benefit other women who might be afflicted with the diseases I have had in the past, but am now, thanks to 'Fruit-a-tives', completely cured of. It is my firm belief that every woman should take 'Fruit-a-tives' if she wants to keep herself in good health."

Before taking 'Fruit-a-tives' I was constantly troubled with what is commonly known as 'Nerves' or severe Nervousness. This Nervousness brought on the most violent attacks of Sick Headache, for which I was constantly taking doctors' medicine without any permanent relief. Constipation was also a source of great trouble to me and for which the Doctors said 'I would have to take medicine all my life', but 'Fruit-a-tives' banished all these troubles and now I am a well woman."

Mrs. FRED. GADKE.

50c a box, 6 for \$2.50—trial size, 25c. At dealers or sent prepaid on receipt of price by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

## PARENT STUDY

The modern child from the age of ten is almost his own master," writes an observant essayist. The helplessness of parents is amusing. What generation but ours "could have conceived of 'mothers' clubs' conducted by the Public Schools, in order to teach mothers how to bring up their children? The modern parent has become a sort of parliament registering the decrees of a Grand Monarque, and occasionally protesting, though usually without effect, against a particularly drastic edict." In such a crisis the perplexed and rebellious mother gets little assistance even from the numerous books on "child study," now so common, and written, not infrequently, by leisured spinsters. For while parents are trying to master these authors' theories, little Mildred and Lionel have been making so thoroughly practical a study of mamma and papa, that by ten or twelve they are quite ready to relieve their loving parents, in a great measure, of the anxiety and responsibility that was once thought inseparable from the proper bringing up of children. For the budding Mildred's study of her old-fashioned parents has taught her that she is far more competent than they to decide what is most suitable in dress, in books, and in amusements for a modern maiden, and if Lionel should consult his father and mother as to his choice of a college, a "set," or a career, it is only out of politeness, and not that he feels misgivings about his ability to decide these questions himself.

It would be hasty, however, to conclude that the young people of to-day are really unkind to their elders. Though the antique virtue of obedience is "going out," Mildred and Lionel are still so patient on the whole with the limitations of their father and mother that there seems to be no immediate need of a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Parents. Lionel does try to grasp his father's obsolete mental attitude toward the world of to-day, and Mildred sympathizes with her mother's pathetic efforts to solve with nineteenth century principles twentieth century problems. But oftentimes the results of the young people's well meant endeavors are not flattering to the parents. An English mother, for instance, who had been trying to entertain her daughter Mildred's schoolmate guest reports what a painful surprise it was to hear Mildred say to her one morning: "Dorothy has been telling me she can't make you out. She doesn't somehow get any further with you. And she doesn't know whether it is that she can't get at you or whether there's nothing to get at. I tell her there really isn't much to get at. What do you think?"

The mothers of girls like these would hardly venture of course to supervise in any way their daughter's recreation and reading, yet it is hard to see how parents who at all realize their responsibility for their child's eternal welfare can neglect to exercise due supervision of this kind. The old-fashioned Catholic mother used to know just what books her boys and girls were reading, what places of amusement they frequented and with what companions they passed their time. Such conduct some modern parents would doubtless call "an unwarranted invasion of the child's individual liberty," and others would consider it as unnecessary as it is impertinent. Others, however, there are—and all Catholic fathers and mothers, let us hope, are in this category—who never forget that God will exact from parents a strict account of their children's souls and always try to act in accordance with this conviction while bringing up the little ones entrusted to their care.—America.

## A PRIEST WHO OBJECTS TO A LARGE CONGREGATION

There is one diocesan priest who, unlike all others, has strong objections to a large congregation. While other pastors are pleased to witness increases in their flocks, he takes an opposite view. He never welcomes a new member. On the contrary, he finds fault with him for being at his church at all.

Not that this peculiar priest seeks to shirk his work, on the contrary he does his duty in such a way that he has been repeatedly complimented for his devotion to duty. His hostility to any increase in his people is well known to his friends, and the attention of his Provincial has been drawn to him novel views on small congregations, but the latter has no censure for him.

The congregation is noted for its regular attendance at all services. Wet or dry, snow or sunshine, every one in health is punctually in his place before the commencement of Mass, a trait which may be incidentally commended to most of our Vancouver congregations.

The priest disapproves of all collections, therefore he declines to have any on Sundays. Even at Easter and Christmas his flock escape paying tribute.

He never panders to the foibles of his congregations, and frequently assures them he would be far more delighted with their absence than with their presence. Yet, on the following Sunday not a member of his flock is absent, despite the uncompromising remarks of their pastor. No, I am not romancing. You ask the name of this peculiar priest and ideal congregation.

The pastor's name is Father Miallurd, O. M. I., and his church is in

## PRESIDENT SUSPENDER

NONE SO EASY

New Westminster Penitentiary. But, if you wish to keep in his good graces, stay away from his church. He does not want you.—Western Catholic.



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FRANK S. IDE.

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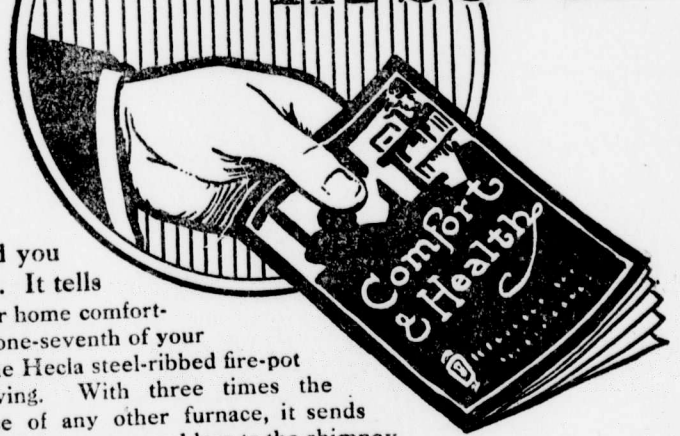
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With a good pipe and matches is my very great delight  
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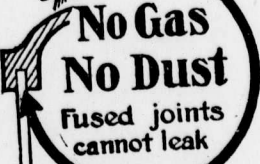
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