FIVE-MINUTE SERMON. Fifth Sunday after Easter.

PRAYER. "Hitherto you have not asked anything in My ame. Ask and you shall receive." (St. John xvi. 24.)

Our Lord does not mean by these words that His disciples had never prayed, because otherwise they would never have become followers of Him. No man could come to Jesus unless the Father should drawhim, and God always makes His graces dependent on prayer. Hence they must have prayed for the graces already received. When St. Hence they must have prayed for the graces already received. When St. Paul was announced to be a convert to the true faith, it was said as evidence of his conversion, "Behold he prayeth." A man who does not pray cannot receive nor retain the grace of God, because receive is of obligation and necessary to prayer is of obligation and necessary to the friendship of God.

What, then, does our Lord mean when He says to His disciples, "Hitherto you have not asked anything in My name?" He would have them understand that their prayers hitherto had only weak beginnings. This is evident from the fact that even the Apostles never realized the magnitude of their voca-tions until they were enlightened by the Holy Ghost on Pentecost. The mysthe Holy Ghost on Pentecost. The mysteries of redemption, the value of suffering and the glories of martyrdom, were all hidden from their eyes, lest they should become faint-hearted and falter in the course which they had to run. Our Lord, by the words of to-day's Gospel, begins to lead them on pointing out to them the means by which they are to be strengthened for their work.

That means, brethren, is prayer. Whenever God has a work for a man to do, He first inclines Him and teaches him to pray, and when he becomes a man of prayer, and acquires the habit of constant communion with God, then he is fit to do anything for God.

We have all of us got a great work to do—the work of our eternal salvation.

"For straight is the gate and narrow is the way that leadeth to eternal life, and few there be who find it." It is a mistake to suppose that we are going to be saved by the mere desire of not being lost, otherwise every one would be saved because no one wishes to be lost. But we have got to work for the reward of we have got to work for the reward of eternal happiness if we would attain it; and the first requisite for the accom-plishment of that work is prayer. There is one thing that makes that work easy, even to the weakest of mortals, and that work is prayer Have you done nothing as yet? Is temptation too strong for you to overcome it? Then you have not as yet learned to pray. Become a man of prayer and all will be changed Good works will become pleasure; difficulties will be conquered, and your life, instead of being wasted by sin, will be employed for God and your own welfare in time and in eternity.

Now, the grace to pray is the easiest of all graces to obtain. Because God wishes all men to be saved, says St. Alwishes all men to be saved, says St. Alphonsus, He gives all men the ability to
pray. Sinners can pray. One is not required to be in the state of grace in
order to pray. And if a sinner, no matter how deep his guilt may be, prays
sincerely and continuously, he is just as
certain to obtain the grace of repentance as the rays of the warm spring sun are sure to drive away frost. We have no excuse, then, for a life of

sin, because we have a remedy in prayer.
"Ask and you shall receive," says our Lord. The promise here given is infal-lible. All we have to do is to ask. And how does a man ask if he really is anxious to get a favor? He never gets weary of making his petitions. Suppose that you wished some man to give you employment. You would not hesitate to employment. For would not nestate to ask him for it twenty times if you thought there was the slightest chance for you to get it. So we should act towards God. We should be just as earnest as we are in seeking worldly advan-tage, and then God will not disappoint us, although men may do so. God has few petitioners at His court, although He has all the riches of the universe at His disposal, but those who are most urgent and most frequent in asking for His favors are His best friends.

THE MONTH OF MAY.

May, with its freshness and beauty will soon be with us. We, Catholics welcome this month with a peculiar joand cheerfulness; for it is the mouth that we dedicate to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the glorious Mother of God.

Ever mindful of the honors which the Almighty in His Divine Providence has showered upon her, ever thoughtful of her great prerogatives and interces-sory power with Her Divine Son, we delight to honor her and to invoke her almost limitless protection.

Who can doubt Mary's power? If, at Who can doubt Mary's power? If, at her request, Jesus performed His first miracle, although His hour, as He asserts Himself, had not yet come; if, when dying on the Cross, He confided the whole human race to her tender care and solicitude, is there any wonder that Catholics have the most filial confidence of the conf fidence in her powerful protection?

Year after year, we flock to her shrines, and we lovingly gather around her sanctuary during the month of May to pay her the homage of our dutiful service. Why is this? Because at some time or other, we have realized the sweet influences of her motherly

It may have been for some in sickness or distress; for others, it may have been or distress; for others, it may have been when they were sorely tried by temptation, for all of us, she has proved herself a true mother. Hence we should not fail to show to her our gratitude, and during the coming month of May we should endeavor to honor Mary.

Devotion to the Blessed Virgin is the surest guarantee of eternal salvation; for it has never been heard that any one having recourse to Mary, has been rejected. Hence let us during the coming month of May practise some devotion in her honor; let not a day pass by with-out doing something for her sake, and then, we may rest assured that she will assist us in the momentful passage from time to eternity and that, through her intercession, we will be admitted to the realm of the Blessed.—B. C. Orphan

STATE OF OBIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, LUCAS COUNTY.

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarth that can not be cured by the use of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARD of the use is asset of Catarrh that can not be cured by the use is Hall's Catarrh Cure, FRANK J. CHENEY Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presenthis 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

(SEAL) A. W. GLEASON, NOTARY PUBL

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CATHOLIC CHURCH AND TUBERCU-LOSIS.

Sold by all Druggists, 750 Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation,

WHAT IS NOW NEEDED TO CONQUER THE DISEASE IS THE COMBINED EFFORT OF THE PRESS AND THE PULPIT.

Enthusiastic praise of the Catholic Church for "taking the foremost position in the church war on tuberculosis" is expressed in a letter sent by Nathan Straus, the New York philanthropist, to Archbishop Ryan, of Philadelphia, who is directing an energetic campaign against the Great White Plague. Mr. Straus writes:

"I have been combating for a great many years tuberculosis and other milk-borne diseases by means of pasteuriza-tion, and I realize so keenly the tremendous power for good that you possess in being able to reach almost every community in the country by means of your parochial schools and churches, that I cannot refrain frem congratulating you on the good that you are doing human

"The value of the campaign of educa-tion on the means of preventing tuberculosis that can be carried on through thirteen thousand parochial schools, and from the pulpit of every Catholic Church, so great that it can be hardly esti-

" During the seventeen years that I have been fighting tuberculosis I have had the great satisfaction of seeing an immediate reduction in infant mortality in every community in which pasteurized milk has been introduced. I have increased my efforts every year until in 1908, I distributed over four million bottles of pasteurized milk and a million and a half glasses in New York City alone, in addition to the work done in other countries where I have established plants. But of greater importance than he actual distribution of milk I estimate the publicity that I have been able to to what can be done, all over the world, toward the eradication of human-

ity's greatest scourge.
"I have always advocated the very thing that you are doing so admirably. All that is now needed to conquer the disease is the combined effort of the press and the pulpit. Such combined effort will bring to pass the statement made a few days ago by the eminent London physician, Dr. Latham, that tuberculosis will be rooted out in forty

" Medical science has worked out the problems. All that the world now needs is enlightenment, and I am sure that a very great debt of gratitude is owing to you for the systematic work that is nov being carried on under your direction, and which I hope will continue." The method for the prevention of

tuberculosis and other milk-borne dis-

the song you want.



cases that Mr. Straus has used so successfully in his philanthropic work is the pasteurization of milk, which consists in heating it for at least trace. in heating it for at least twenty sists in heating it for at least twenty minutes to at least-one hundred and forty degrees. The temperature that he uses in one hundred and fifty-eight degrees; this kills all the disease germs, and the process, which is not patented and which can be used by any house-wife, has been strongly indorsed by the United States Public Health Service, in the least of the state of the stat

Cereal.

all Grocers.

FRANCIS MARION CRAWFORD.

Francis Marion Crawford stood in the front rank of modern American novelists. Not all his works were uniform, but he reached at times a rare standard of excellence and won a deservedly high place in the literary world. Endowed by nature with the gift of telling a good story, a gift that was soon discerned by his friends, he had also the faculty of weaving into literary form the incidents and details in such a way as to appeal to the taste and judgment of the literary

His rise to fame was instantaneous His rise to fame was instantaneous. He achieved a reputation by his very first book, a story of Indian life dealing especially with the aspects of the religion of Zoroaster. "Mr. Isaacs" came as a surprise to the reading public. Its freshness, its originality and its literary

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the Edison at a dealer's today.

But it is especialy in his delineation wife, has been strongly indorsed by the United States Public Health Service, in its report "Milk and Its Relation to the Public Health," which was the result of an extensive investigation conducted by Surgeon General Walter Wyman and Director Rosenau, of the Hygienic Laboratory, and a corps of twenty experts. his funeral.

Mr. Crawford became a Catholic early in his life, and though some of his writings proved distasteful to Catholics he disclaimed any intent to wound their feelings, and made public profession of his belief in the Catholic system of religion. One of his books constitutes a strong defence of the Catholic position on the divorce question, a book which for its literary finish and dramatic lower deserves to be ranked among his

He was a tireless literary and though not all his books will live, some at least will appeal for years to come to all lovers of good novels as keen and discriminating portrayals of character, expressed in attractive and artistic literary form.-Pilot.

CARDINAL MORAN ON "SPORT." A very interesting interview with

Cardial Moran on manly pastimes, especially on boxing, is reported in the columns of the Sidney Daily Telegraph. "I like to encourage manly sport," the Cardinal said, "and I do encourage it in Cardinal said, "and I do encourage it in every way, so long as sport is pursued for the pure love of sport, but when disputes, dishonesty and brutality enter into athletics, when sport is indulged in merely for the sake of money it brings in, then it is to be highly censured. Besides," the Cardinal went on to say, "sport nowadays is taken too much seriously and the pursuit of it has deseriously and the pursuit of it has developed into idolatry or a mania. The time of the young people is taken up completely with it to the exclusion of the other important affairs of life, and things which would bring honor and advantage to the country are neglected. When Rome entered into her period of decay, fell from the pinnacle of her ancient glory, the the pinnacle of her ancient glory, the youth of Rome were pursuing the same sport an after the same methods as the youth of today." The Cardinal prophesies ruin to any country if this modern mania is allowed to continue, and it is the duty of law abiding citizens, citizens who have the welfare of the Fatherland at heart to draw the line the Fatherland at heart to draw the line between sports that should be encouraged and those which should not. Not long ago somewhere in the columns of The Inter-Mountain Catholic we drew attention to the evil of gambling, especially in England, France and America. There is scarely a pastime nowadays but gambling enters into. On the day of boxing contests, football

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matches, horse racing, you will find thousands and thousands of people of all walks in life, those to whom a shilling means food and shelter, stake their all on the issue of those events. The legislators of England are at their wits' ends lators of England are at their wits' ends to stop gambling in connection with sports of all kinds. We have instances before our minds where the fathers and mothers were so fascinated by this evil of gambling that they pawned their own clothes and their children's in order that they might have the money to put on a certain race, a football match or a boxing one. It is not the mere love of the sport that to day fascinates people, but it is the money that such contests brings in, and we all know that where money enters into any contest, sport becomes vitiated, there is corruption becomes vitiated, there is corruption, bribery and all forms of unfair play, and equently those manly games which in themselves are good and for the welfare of the youth of any nation become on account of this money spirit a mighty evil, and the spirit of fair play and purity which should characterize them are totally absent. It is to be deplored that such a state of things is the

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The first rule observed by a virtuous is—av A missionary suggestions to "keep in" wit 1. Be caref

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