FIVE MINUTE SERMON

SEPTUAGESIMA SUNDAY

CHRIST-THE ARGUMENT OF OUR FAITH, THE FOUNDATION OF OUR HOPE AND THE MOTIVE OF OUR LOVE

And the rock was Christ." (I Cor. x, 4)

St. Paul, in this epistle, calls Christ the rock from which the Jaws de rived spiritual power and refreshment. What Christ was to the Jews before His coming He is in a more emphatic manner to Christians. He is not only the divine rock from which our Church receives strength and solidity but He is the argument of our faith, the foundation of our hope and the motive of our love.

Christ is the argument of our faith. The first question a person seeking the true religion naturally asks is, who founded it? If the founder was a man, the work is of human origin but if the founder was God, the work was divine. The founder of our religion, the Catholic religion, was Jesus Christ. This needs no demon stration. For our religion is an his torical fact. It is a society which did not spring into being today nor yesterday, but is known and acknowledged as a continuation of one that existed in the last century, in the century preceding that and so on up the stream of time to the age of the Apostles, to its very foundation by

Jesus Christ. Now Jesus Christ was God for He

proved His divinity and strengthened His mission by means of miracles, and a miracle is what God only can do, although He may use others as instruments In other words, a miracle is a derogation from or sus pension of a natural law wrought by a superior power and involving no intrinsic contradiction. All the miracles of Jesus Christ can be easily distinguished both from natural phenomena and from the works of Satan. For example : it is some beyond the natural to people from the dead, especially after decomposition has already commenced, and it requires one stronger, more powerful than Satan to drive Satan out from one possessed. No one but God could do such things as these and many others which, according to the Gospel, Jesus performed But setting aside the Gospel narra-tive which even taken historically, unanswerably shows Christ's divinity, the writings as well as the silence of the Jews and Gentiles establish it beyond a doubt. Lat it suffice to hear a few sentences from the re markable history of Josephus, a Jew who lived about the time of Christ. "But there was at this time." he Jesus a wise man, if it is right to call Him a man. For He was a doer of miraculous works, who on the third day after His death arose and appeared to His disciples as He and other divine prophets had pre-dicted." From the testimony of profane history, then, we see that Christ was no impostor; that He was believed to be more than man, and that this belief was founded on His miracles and especially on His resurrection from the dead. Hence we cannot but conclude that by His mira-cles, and by His life of humility and abnsgation and by the fulfillment in Him of all the prophecies, Jesus Christ showed that He was God. He, who brought the world to revere a and humiliations to the veneration of mankind; He, who overthrew the prevalent notions of morality; He. I repeat, could be no other than God. O. F. M., relates, in the Catholic If the whole world were to oppose Bulletin, Dublin, an instance of the Jesus Christ, it philosophy were to Irish priest's resourcefulness and that a religion erected on such a see a glint of humor in the situation foundation could be a religion of which he thus describes: human origin. As Jesus Christ was God, and as God can not deceive us and he was building a steeple in his

Christ is the argument of our faith. As Jesus Christ is the argument of our faith, so is He also the foundation of our hope. He came on earth, for the redemption of all. He elevated, ennobled human nature by becoming man. He became the hamblest of men for man's happiness. For this His whole life, from the manger at Bethlehem to the cross on Calvary, was a continual passion. And although one drop of blood, one tear, one sigh of the Man-God, being of infinite value, would have been sufficient to save all mankind, He nevertheless endured all those humi-liations, all those sufferings, all those degradations in order to inspire more and more our confidence, our hops.

The merits of the passion of Christ

give to our good actions all their efficacy. They give to them the quality of satisfying for our sins and of meriting the rewards of eternal life, so that even a cup of cold water given in His name will be rewarded. Go to the bedside of a dying Catho lic, and then you will see who is the foundation of our hope. Let us supse him to have been a good, faith ful Christian. His whole life now passes before him in a sort of panor-amic view. But his good far outweigh his evil deeds, and, relving on Christ's promises he hopes to obtain eternal life. He now thinks no more of earth, but begins to prepare for The priest administers the sacraments and consoles him with the thought of the resurrection and immortality. At length, breathing the sweet names of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, he silently passes away from earth and speeds his flight to the

Christ, Who is the foundation of our based upon sound argument. We

If Christ did nothing more than will constitute our happiness here cient to induce us to love Him. For it is but natural to love those who love us. But He did more. He died for us, who are His enemies. If we admire the cashing young soldier who fearlessly rushes up to the cannon's mouth for the love of family and fatherland; if we honor the generous statesman who makes great sacrifices for his country's wel-fare; if we venerate the noble martyr who generously gave up his life, his liberty and his all for God and his fellow Christians : - what ought to be our feelings of admiration, honor, of veneration, of gratitude, of love for Him, Who alone faced the furious rabble. Who sacrificed every thing, even His honor, for He was re puted among thieves, Who endured the most poignant sufferings in His terrible agony and horrible cruci-fixion, and all for us sinful creatures, His enemies? If we love Him, we will keep His commandments. could there be a more powerful mo-tive of our love than Jesus Christ, Who has done so much for us?

Now, my dear friends, from what has been said we may see that none but Jesus Christ could teach the world that faith, hope and love are virtues alike adapted to the educated and ignorant of mankind; that He alone is the argument of our faith, the foundation of our hope and the motive of our love; and that if we believe in God and in Him who was sent. Jesus Christ, and live according to this belief, according to our faith, we may hope, we may have the utmost confidence that we will enjoy His love for an endless eternity.

A CHEERFUL FACE

Carry the radiance of your soul in your face. Let the world have the benefit of it. Let your cheerfulness and let your smiles be scattered like the sunbeams, "on the just as on the unjust." Such disposition will yield a rich reward, for its happy effects will come home to you and brighten your moments of thought. Cheerfulness makes the mind clear, gives tone to thought, adds grace and beauty to the countenance. Smiles are little things, cheap to be fraught with so many blessings, both to the giver and to the receiver, pleasant little ripples to watch as we stand on the shore of everyday life. They are the higher and better responses of nature to the emotions of the soul. Let the children have the benefit of them, those little ones who need the sunshine of the heart to educate them, and would find a level for their buoyant natures in the cheerful, loving faces of those who lead them. Let them not be kept from the middleaged who need the encouragement they bring. Give your smiles to the aged. They come to them like the quiet rain of summer, making fresh and verdant the long, weary path of life. They look for them from you who are rejoicing in the fullness of Love the true, the beautiful, the just, the holy. - The Guardian.

TEMPERANCE

The genial Father Fitzgerald, s in com ating the drink evil trines, all this would fail to show It is characteristic of the narrator to

no more then we can deceive Him, native city, Cork. It was half way we rightly conclude that the religion up. One morning the parish priest— He founded by means of miracles a Kerry man—went up the scaffold was from God. Therefore Jesus ing to see the progress of the work. Christ is the argument of our faith. Jack had a bottle of whisky in his pocket, and, when he heard the footsteps, he shoved it into the wall he was building, intending to take it out later. But the P. P., not without a twinkle, opened his breviary, and sat down to read his office; and Jack had to go on building over and around the bottle until two or three feet of masonry covered it up. The P. P. turned up again in the morning and up higher went the wall, and the bottle of whisky remained im-prisoned in its hole in the steeple. Years rolled on. Jack Crowley got older and greyer. But he never passed that steeple without stopping tollook up at where his fine bottle of whisky was, getting older, too, but mellower. People used to say, "What a devout man Jack Crowley is, never to pass the church without looking up at it to say a prayer." A prayer, morraya! What Jack used to say, was "Sweet bad luck to all the Kerrymen from here to the Skelligs."

RAILROADS GOING DRY Mr. William H. Anderson, superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League for the State of New York, has addressed a letter to the presidents of railroads operating in his State calling upon them to discontinue the sale of liquors upon trains operating therein. Five hundred and eleven townships out of nine hundred and thirty two are already "dry" and to sell liquor on trains as they pass through these townships is a violation of the law. This cannot be done satisfactorily without having a miniature block system with red and

quote one paragraph:
"When practically all railroads pro point out to us a rule of action that hibit their employees connected with the operation of trains not only from and hereafter, thus proving His great drinking, but even from frequenting love for us, that alone would be suffi places where alcoholic liquor is sold under other control, it is most incon sistent to compel these same train men to go through and collect fares and secure their own meals in a per ambulating liquor dispensing place And it is a peculiarly vicious example to the men on the question of loyalty and obedience when such sale by the railroads is frequently in violation of the law of the State.'

It is a significant fact that temper ance sentiment is rapidly growing at this point owing to the embarrass ment of making themselves liable for illegal sales in dry territory. It is simply impossible to keep tab on the sort of a section through which a train is passing. Such service is extremely distasteful, and they are only too glad for an excuse—and a of "The Catholic good one at that—to throw the Anglican societies. whole thing overboard .- N. W. C. Advecate.

Makes Delightful Porridge

Many women who have purchased a package of Dr. Jackson's Roman Meal package of Dr. Jackson's Roman Meal disregarded instructions to make the porridge without stirring. They made a poultice instead of a delightful porridge. The flax oil in Roman Meal has been changed into a tasteless and odorless resin by driving oxygen out of it by electricity. If stirred while hot this resin again takes up oxygen from the air, becoming linseed oil, and making the porridge taste of linseed. The family will not eat it, and are deprived of the very best food on earth, and the most delicious if made properly. and the most delicious if made properly. In justice to your family try it again and make the porridge as directed on package. At grocers' 10 and 25 cents a

package.
Made by Roman Meal Co., Toronto.

THE EMPTY GROTTO

For centuries, even before Crusades, it had been the consolation of innumerable Christians, Orthodox and Catholic, to journey during Christmastide to the Holy Land. thousands men have traveled far over land and sea to attend the Masses of the Nativity and Epiphany close to the star that marks the place where Christ was born. Others who could not go in person to the church St. Helena, have gone in spirit; and as these latter knelt bafore the cheerless limestone grotto, which in imitation of what the gentle Francis of Assisi used to do, the Church has reproduced in all her Christmas chapels, they have thought of the straw and the manger, the shepherds and the Wise Men, Joseph and Mary and the Divine Child in Bethlehem of long ago. Mystic pilgrims these, cherishing in their hearts a holy envy of those who were pilgrims in very deed. This year there were only pilgrims in spirit. This Christmas there were no Christians to celebrate the Birth of Christ on the hillside where David tended his sheep. The Turk had bidden them begone. The sanctuaries, blest beyond all others, were attended: the light that hitherto had led the way to the anot that marks the beginning of man's salvation had been extinguished; unbelievers held the holy place; and if angel choirs sang again their welcome to the Infant Saviour, they were not heard by those who believe that God for our sake became a little child. Here is another of the wrongs to humanity that must be laid at the door of this cruel war. It has robbed Christians of their ancient Christmas privilege of keeping holy Christ's Birthday in the cave where to gain our souls He became like unto us in all save sin. One, Jacky Crowley, was a mason

RECENT CONVERTS

compiled by Scannell O'Neil The Rev. George Watts Dibben, curate of the Church of the Holy

East Finchley, London associate of King's College, London. The Rev. H. J. Proskitt, for the past four years curate of St. Hilda's, Leeds ; graduate Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, and afterwards went to Ely Theological College before

entering the Anglican ministry. The Rev. C. F. Farrar, who has been second curate at St. Saviour's, Leeds, for the past three and a half years; graduated at University College, Durham, in 1911. Brother Anselm Mardon, Superior

of the Anglican Benedictines of Pershore Abbey; now of Caldey.
William H. Keyser, Youngstown

Mrs. Fay Milburn Gaughler, wife of Lieut. Roland L. Gaughler, Fourth Cavalry, United States Army, baptized and received into the Church by Chaplain Fealy, of Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Mrs. Gaughler is the daughter of Frank P. Milburn, of Washington

Miss Sarah Garretson, Denver. Miss Lavona M. Duddleston, Den-

Mr. Robert Guggenheim, son of the New York multi-millionaire, and nephew of Hon. Simon Guggenheim; formerly United States Senator from Colorado.

Mrs. Casanove Young, Milwaukee,

born Miss Hannah Waurig.
Mrs. Claude Bridges, born Miss Mrs. Claude Bridges, born Miss Minerva Denham of White Hall, Ill, Mrs. Bridges' sister, Mrs. Navan, is also a convert. Mrs. Bert Parsons, Mrs. Celia Gavin and Mrs. H. J. Joseph, he silently passes away from earth and speeds his flight to the heavenly regions of his hope. O! that we all may die such a death! relying on the promises of Jesus attre block system with red and green lights rigged up in every dinker. O! that we all may die such a death! relying on the promises of Jesus attre block system with red and green lights rigged up in every dinker. O! the steward as signalman or wet and dry dispatcher. We cannot predict what effect such a letter will have, but his appeal is burg. Kan. Nineteen converts have been received at Pittsburg since July 4.

Mrs. Edward Stadmiller, Mrs. H. L. Armistead and Miss Marie Lowe, Memphis, Tenn. Charles Wonsetler, Ernest Hantle

and Hiram Baxter have been received at Seward, Kan. Mrs. William Littleston, wife of the Assistant County Treasurer, Trinidad,

Mr. Francis Chapman Leete, Guilford, Conn., a member of this historic

Leete family.
Captain W. J. Bethune, Mobile, He was received into the Church by Father Brannon, of Dallas, who as a private in the Confederate Army

served under the Captain. Mrs. George Cottrell, wife of a proninent Denver clothier. Ernest B. Murrell, Memphis, Tenn.

George Rexford Hinman, Denver. Levi Morton Barber, Memphis. Mr. J. R. Cox, secretary of the Ward of Our Lady of Perpetual Succor of "The Living Rosary of Our Lady and St. Dominic," London, and member "The Catholic League," both

According to an unbroken custom ever since his ordination, the Rev. Dr. Kemper, pastor of the church at Kerryille Tayon observed the church at Kerrville, Texas, observed his birthday one day during October by re-ceiving into the Church two converts. This year one of the converts was Mrs. J. E. Fain, wife of a radical Socialist while the other was the son of a prominent banker and secretary of the School Board. Dr. Kemper has under instruction about a dozen other non Catholics.

The following adults have been received into the Church at Stonega, Va.: Mr. George (Austi) Whitesell, of Stevens, Va; Mr. Frederick Campbell, Mrs. Gertrude Campbell, Miss Franciska Whitesell and Miss Maria Whitesell.

Rev. Bernard Moultrie, graduate of Keble College, Oxford, late Warden of the House of Mercy (Clewer Sisters), Clewer, England; author and hymn-writer. He is an able and gitted preacher, and has occupied the ulpits of various well-known Lonon churches, such as St. Alban's Holbern; All Saints', Margaret Street; St. Augustine's, Kilburn, and St. Peter's, London Docks.

Rev. S. F. F. Barrow, chaplain of St. Catherine's Home, Ventnor, Isle of Wight; graduate of Litchfield Theological Seminary.

Rev. John Ludlow Lopes secured the degree of B. A. (2nd Cl. Sacrist Theology) at Exeter College, Oxford, in 1905, and his M. A. in 1908. He attended St. Stephen's House, Oxford, and Ely Theological College. He held Anglican curacies at Saltley, from 1906 to 1909, and at St. Basil's, Daritend, from 1909 to 1912, and was curate in charge at St. Francis', Salt ley, from 1912 to 1914. Out of his income he founded St. Edmund's Hospital, Deritend; a Home, situated next to his own house at 187 High Street, Deritend, for orphans and the sons of working people with undesir able home surroundings.

The Rev. Arthur Ryland, who resides at the Camp, near Stroud, Gloucestershire, England. He was ordained by the Right Rev. Vernon Herford, Bishop of the Syro-Chaldean Church at Oxford some years ago.

Mrs. Guy Darrell Berry, daughter of the late Edward Sanderson, Milwaukee, Wis., and sister of the Rev. Harry Sanderson (also a convert. Her brother was lately an Episcopal clergyman of the diocese of Fond du and is now studying for the priesthood, in Maryland. Mr. Sauderson's daughter, Mrs. Alice Kane Sanderson Holden, became a Catholic two years ago. Mr. Sanderson and his sisters, Mrs. Berry and Mrs. Cush-Saints' Cathedral, Milwaukee, of which Mrs. Berry was a former parishioner.
Miss Mary Pickford, the famous

moving picture celebrity.

Alonzo B Ketcham, Oklahoma City, father of the Very Rev. Dr. Ketcham, of the Catholic Indian Bureau.

Miss Sara Delano, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Delano, of Barrytown, N. Y., now Mrs. Roland Living ston Redmond, of New York.

Lady Holmes, widow of the late Sir Richard Holmes, K. C.V.O, for thirtyfive years librarian to Queen Victoria and King Edward at Windsor Castle; eldest daughter of the late Rev. Canon Richard Gee, D. D., for many years Vicar of Windsor and Canon of St. Admiral Sir George Caulfield

the Crimean campaign. its real, true, deeper meaning Captain Carthew, Conservative forgotten, and the acquaintance

Ham, England.
The Rev. C. L. Harbord, Kansas City, for fifteen years pastor of the Christian Church, Rich Hill, Mo. Mr. Harbord's wife and family are Catho-

The Rev. Bernard Berlyn, curate at St. Alban's Church, Fulham, London, graduate of Oxford and late army chaplain, and his wife.

Miss Lisa Liljenstolpe, daughter of Count Knut von Liljenstolpe, a Swedish nobleman, of Omaha. is the great-great great granddaughter of Archbishop Lindloms, Protestant Archbishop of Upasla, Sweden; her aunt is the widow of a former Chamberlain to the late King Oscar; Lutheran.

The late John Powell, Memphis, Tenn.; electrician; received on his deathbed. The late Mrs. Annie Purkett, St.

Joseph, Mo. Miss Mary Myrtle Cook, Memphis, Tenn. The late Robert S. Elliott, Denver;

son of Judge Victor Elliott, of the Supreme Court of Colorado. Miss Laura Kallenbaum, St. Louis.

Mrs. T. J. Pargin, Temple, Texas. George S. Baker, Alie Abilene

Mrs. Collins, the eighty-two-yearold mother of Father Collins, Coron ado Beach, San Diego, Cal.

Mr. Norman F. Eastman, son of Joseph Eastman, 4 East Seventieth Street, New York; Presbyterian. Miss Grace Swinton Lewis, daugh ter of the late Alexander R. Lewis, of The Towers, Metuchen, N. J., and

mother became a Catholic two year Miss Ella Capps Estes, Memphis; granddaughter of a Methodist minis-

novelist; Episcopalian. Mrs. Lewis'

of Frank H. Spearman, the

Mrs. Anthony Olinger, Milwaukee born Miss Elea Roshr, daughter of Julius Roehr.

Mrs. Stephen F. Tierney, of Weston. W. Va., formerly Miss Bertha Thompson, of Bellefontaine, Ohio, was re-ceived into the Church on June 5th. Florence Mary Cohan, Chicago;

Jewese. Rev. Dr. Pompany, of Pittsburg Kan., received into the Church on July 4 the following adult Protest ants: Edgar M. Conrad, William R Troegele, Harvey J. Pierce, Albert Tye, J. J. Williamson, Bert Lance, David Mitchell.

On June 20, Dr. Charles Davis Douglas Davis, Lewis Hermes, Fred erick Hermes, Peter Sutherland and Clifford Dean were received into the Church at Annandale, Minn.

On Tuesday morning, Aug. 24, Lady Sibyl Frazer was received at the Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Succor, Hunstanton, Norfolk. Lady Sibyl is a daughter of the third Earl of Verulam, and was married last year to Captain the Hon. Alastir Fra First Lovat Scouts, a brother of Brigadier General Lord Lovat.

FAMOUS BRETON SHRINE

MONT SAINT MICHAEL IN FRANCE HAS A NOTED HISTORY -A PLACE OF PILGRIMAGE

Mont Saint Michael in France has been justly called the "Wonder of the Nature, art, and history, all West." three combine to please the eye in this fair spot. In the midst of an immense bay, scarcely less charming than that of Naples, surrounded by the picturesque country of Avranches and the rugged coast of Brittany, this granite rock rises into the air. up, more than 400 feet above the sands, it is crowned by a group of stately buildings.

In the year 708, St. Michael the Archangel appeared on this mountain to St. Aubert, Bishop of Avranches and ordered him to erect there a church in his honor. It was solemnly consecrated on October 16. Ever since, Mont Saint Michael has been the goal of pilgrimages from all western Christendom. Nearly every King of France visited the sanctuary, and also the Kings of England and Scotland. But it was Ireland which showed such a special devotion to St. Michael, and from the middle of the tenth until the sixteenth century, one of the most treasured possessions of the abbey were a sword and buckler specially brought from the Emerald Isle as a token of gratitude for a miraculous intervention of the Arch

The sanctuary of the Mont is the center of a world wide Archconfraternity, wherein are inscribed the names of all those who specially recommend themselves to the protection of St. Michael, and in this church prayers are recited every day for the assoman, were the aconors of the beauticiates. The war has given a fresh ful sedilia, credence-table, etc., to All impulse to this accient devotion. In particular, a great number of soldiers have sent in their names to be inscribed on the roll, in order to receive the scapular of "the prince of the angelic armies." Every day the post brings the chaplains countless letters of thanksgiving for extraordinary protection in dangers, which the soldiers believe to be due to the great Archangel.—Catholic Bulletin.

THE HEART OF A FRIEND

"Broken friendship, like china, may be repaired, but the break will always show," says an exchange. And it is a bit of real truth and wisdom. Friendship is a precious thing - too precious a treasure to be carelessly broken or thrown away. The world d'Arcy-Irvine, K. C. B.; veteran of handles the word "friend" lightly; its real, true, deeper meaning is member of Parliament for Southwest an hour or the chance comer is designated by the term which itself bears a wealth of meaning. Your friend is the one who appreci ates you - your faults as well as your virtues - who understands and ympathizes with your defeats and victories, your aims and ideals, your joys and temptations, your hopes and disappointments, as no one else does or can. It is your friend to whom you turn for counsel, for comfort, for praise; he may not be She as learned as some or as wise as augh- others, but it st ffices that he understands you, and even his quiet listening gives strength and renewed courage. Blessed is the man or woman into whose life has come the beauty and power of such a friend-Prize it well. Do all in your ship. power to keep such friendship un-broken. Avoid the break, for when it comes it can not be easily mended and the jarring note mars the harmony of the whole glorious symphony. It is not alone a question of forgiveness; that may be full and complete. It is the hurt in the heart that will not readily heal and the confidence that will not fully come back. — St. Paul Bulletin.





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