

FIVE MINUTE SERMON

BY REV. WILLIAM DEMOUY, D. D. PENTECOST SUNDAY

THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY GHOST. These things have I spoken to you, abiding with you...

Who will fail to admire the generosity of God and humbly to adore His divine majesty, for His endless list of favors in our regard?

This feast of Pentecost recalls to us the fact that God is with us, and the celebration of this feast should urge us to render thanks to our omnipotent Father for His paternal affection and guidance.

But it is sin only that keeps God from dwelling within us. Where sin does not exist, He is bound to be...

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God's presence, however, means even more. We need not speak of it only in so far as it bars sin; we also should say something of it as a spiritual force and strength for advancement and protection in the spiritual life.

A FIRST COMMUNION HYMN. Austin O'Malley, M. D., in America. A few weeks ago the baby in our house made his First Communion.

It is a glorious past, that of our Church and of our forefathers who fought so nobly for it. But could we ask them to tell us from heaven today how victory came to them...

is the work of the devil, and as God subdued him and sentenced him to the torment he deserves, so will God conquer the agents of Satan...

Today, in a special way, we must pray to the Holy Ghost for aid and strength, and also ask that we may be worthy to have His very presence with all His fruits, within us.

The world of plenty and of delight is a temptation to all. Never before as today were so many customs being introduced, amusements indulged in, and new doctrines taught.

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A few weeks ago the baby in our house made his First Communion. When he is called the baby he protests, but old folks are victims of habit.

Between colds and unpleasant recurrences like the measles and the whooping cough he goes to school in a convent, and of late the good nuns have been preparing the little ones for First Communion.

Pat made his preparatory confession to the priest, and then he made it over again to the family at the dinner table merely as a matter of conversation.

preeminence not so much of honor as of leg-length, or lack of length. The candles burned like lit topazes among the red roses, and above them were frescoes of Our Lord telling the disciples to suffer the children to come to Him...

The priest went on with the Mass, and the little lambs of God up near the sanctuary rail, between us and the feet of Christ, were as a trellis of jasmine blossoming.

Put Thine arms around me Feeble as I am; Thou art my Good Shepherd, I, Thy little lamb. Jesus, Lord, I love Thee With my whole heart...

Then the altar lights ran into lanes of misty flame before our eyes. Near me the wrong side of a mixed marriage slipped down on his accustomed knees.

Ah! what gift and present Jesus, shall I bring? I have nothing worthy Of my Lord and King.

He took them with tears in His own eyes. Oh! but it was wonderful! I have seen many strange and wonderful things in the past three score years, but nothing more strange and beautiful than that First Communion.

At the end the little lambs, with Him in their hearts, went out smiling up to us old folk—but it is too sacred to talk about.

Mir ist als ob ich die Hande Auf's Haupt dir legen sollt', Betend, dass Gott dich erhalte So rein und schon und hold. God be praised!

SAINT WENCESLAUS

The rare appearance of the name of the Good King Wenceslaus in a news report from Czechoslovakia recalls to Catholic minds one of the most romantic and saintly figures of the Ages of Faith.

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With a firm hand, and great moderation, the Good King set about making just laws and restoring peace to his people.

The outstanding feature of St. Wenceslaus' life was his romantic devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. He sowed with his own hands the wheat that was to be used for the Blessed Sacrament, tended it and watched it with prayerful devotion.

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We should bear tenderly with those whom Our Lord bears with; we must bow our heads, and bear ourselves contrary to our habits and inclinations.

None of us yet know, for none of us have yet been taught in early youth, what fairy palaces we may build of beautiful thought—proof against all adversity.

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