SIX

FIVE MINUTE SERMON BY THE REV. F. P. HICKEY, O. S. B.

ALL SAINTS

ETERNAL REWARD Be glad and rejoice, for your reward is very eat in heaven." (Matt. y. 12.)

All Saints is a great and consoling

festival for each of us, who believes what he learned in the Catechism as a child: "God made me to know Him, love Him, and serve Him in this world, and to be happy with Him for ever in the next." Yes, it This for ever in the next. Tes, it is the vision of the next world, blessed and glorions, that lifts up our souls today. We behold the multitude of those blessed ones, who in life knew, loved, and served God, and are now happy with Him for ever in their Father's horie. It God, and are now happy with him for ever in their Father's home. It is not merely the festival of the great saints of God, whose names and lives we know and venerate, but of every man, woman, and child whose piety and fidelity have been rewarded with the crown of life. In humble hope and yet with loving confidence we too may count upon that reward, for God is faithful, if we now in life strive, strenuously to know, love, and serve Him.

The example of the saints should encourage us, in spite of our past sins and negligences and weakness and cowardice. What they did by the grace of God we too may accom-plish with the help of that same frace, which will never be wanting to us if we pray for it. True, the heroism of the martyrs, hermits, apostolic men may daunt us, but we must remember that it was by the power of God's grace they became the great saints whom we venerate. It was not the great actions and events of their lives that made them saints, but because they were so holy that they became famous. The foundations of their holiness

"Blessed are the poor," said our Lord, not only despising what the world could offer them, but the poor in spirit — that is, cultivating humility and the fear of God. "Blessed are the meek," those who forgive and bear no resentment. "Blessed are those that mourn," mindful of their sins and wasted opportunities. "Blessed are those hunger and thirst after jus-' putting God first in all things eir daily lives. "Blessed are tice. the merciful," for God takes as done to Himself all kindnesses done even to the least of our brethren. "Blessed are the clean of heart," for those who refrain from all taint of evil and act with a pure intention are rewarded, "for they shall see God." "Blessed are the peace-God." "Blessed are the peace-makers," thus imitating our Lord Himself. "Blessed are they who suffer persecution," and our Saviour warned His followers that this would be their portion, for the world hates those who are not of the world, for theirs is the Kingdom of God. These things are the foundations of the holiness of the saints. And the more faithful in their observance, and in cultivating their spirit, the more holy they became in life, and the more blessed now, "for great is their reward in heaven." It is on such a day as this that we

realize the transforming power of God's grace. What the world makes no account of, what the world makes no account of, what it might sneer at and despise, if done with a pure intention and for the love of God, is precious in His sight. Obedience, forgivingness, kindli-ness, humility-little thought of, yea, perhaps ridiculed in this world, are the secret springs of holiness, that have raised up countless thousands to become the saints of God.

and glorious in heaven, the saints are deeply interested in our weilfare the seek inspiration in its pages have Lord and Master loves us, died for us, is offered on our altars for us, as He loved and died for them. He as he loved and died for them. He nourishes us, as He did them, in His tender merey, with His own sacred Body and Blood. For His sake, then, for His glory, they are will-ing, yea, anxious, to help to save us by their example and their prayers. We can what they are interacted in We see why they are interested in us-because we are the redeemed of Christ. Our worth is what we are : and we are Christ's, and He ransomed us at a great price. And though we may have defiled our souls with many sins and much neglect, nevertheless we are worth the precious Blood of our Redeemer, for that has been given for us. For God has so loved the souls of men! And the saints are most anxious that we should remember this, and with all earnestness should cast off by repentance all that disfigures the coming rife among the Mussulmans, and that its baneful influence is soul that the Almighty values so. Let us ask the saints to make us spreading among the Hindus and the Malays. It would seem that the think of this, and be brave enough to attempt anything to make ourto attempt anything to make our-selves fit for heaven. It is all in-cluded in one word for us, by our great own English saint, the Vener-able Bede. He says: "Give thy-self and thou shalt have that"— that is, the Kingdom of heaven. "Give thyself!" That should be moment has come for some special effort on the part of the Christian world to counteract this movement, which, if permitted to go on, would injure the prospects of the Church in India and elsewhere in the East: The conversion of Islam is surely the thought to make us break with sin, to cast aside anything that is not leading us to God. And then with all our soul, give ourselves in with all our soul, give ourselves in faith and hope and love to God's good service. In His mercy, He accepts ourself — with all our moved to help them spiritually through a general motive of Chrispowers, thoughts, words, and deeds, our whole self offered to Him; and in return He gives us Himself, the light, glory, and joy of heaven: "Be glad and rejoice, for your reward is exceeding great in heaven."

GENERAL INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER RECOMMENDED AND BLESSED BY HIS HOLINESS POPE

PIUS XI. THE CONVERSION OF THE MOHAMMEDANS

The Mohammedan world com-prises over two hundred and twenty marked out for it in Algiers. But the conversion of the Moham In the conversion of the Moham-medans is a labor that call for much patience, delicacy and discretion. In the gaining of those souls, also redeemed by the Blood of Christ, there should be no clashing of mere commercial interests among nations; illions souls, who are spread ove the deserts and along the sea-coasts of Asia and Africa, from Mongolia to the Saharra and from the Philipto the Sanarra and from the Philip-pines to the Balkans. These vast populations are made up of Arabs, Persians, Turks, Malays and Berbers, and they are continually annexing minorities drawn from the Hindu, Negro, Abyssinian and Chinese vases for this would only turn away millions of subtle Arabs, for instance, who are well able to distin-guish between what man's obliga-

towards Christianity. Already in many Moslem countries Catholic ravers, threats, literature, fanciul descriptions of heaven and hell, effort has done much to break down the Judgment day and the Resur-rection." It is to this amalgam of barriers by benevolent societies and other works active within their fact and fancy, this half-political half-religious code, devoid of force borders. Well-disposed souls are won over by works of mercy, and and originality, that more than a couple of hundred millions of when they see zealous Catholic mis-sionaries studying their languages human souls have for thirteen and their traditions, merely with a hundred years been pinning their view of being useful to them, they faith and their hope of the here-after. Notwithstanding occasional are impressed and they yield easily to suasion. The Holy Father has his eyes turned in the direction of Islam. The teeming millions of Mohamme-dans in Asia and Africa appeal to heresies, they form a real interna-tional community, observing the same laws and keeping the same customs, the chief of which, besides their veneration of the Koran as the Word of God, are his paternal heart, perhaps all the more urgently for the reason that

since the late War the lack of mis-sionaries has weakened the Christheir five daily prayers, their pil-grimage to Meeta. their tithe, and their yearly fast of Ramadan. In past centuries, the Mohamme-dans played an important role in the world, at one time threaten-in the world, at one time threaten-in the world at one time threaten-

ing the existence of Christianity in Europe. While the struggle lasted, it was one of life and death, out it ended with the defeat of and adding a few choice flowers to past ; they will work other victories

her liturgy. Legend has it that the followers to Mahomet are impervious to heroic missionaries who are labor-ing among those peoples, but also Christianity, but history denies this. Between the eleventh and the seventeenth century, Spain, Sicily, Malta, Crete, Bulgaria, and Syria that he may inspire others to offer themselves for labor in such rugged had colonies of Christianized Moslems foreign fields. and gloried in canonized saints of Moslem blood, such as St. Anthony of Bagdad, St. Casilda of Toledo, Intention for the present month the Penitentiary Apostolic has author-ized (July 24, 1923) the following prayer for the conversion of the Bernard of Alzire, and others, all of which proves that the grace of God can subdue even the souls of the followers of Mahomet. And in Mahommedans, and grants an indulgence of three hundred days to our days, we are told, so marvellous is the working of that grace that one may discover among the Mohammedans men of lofty piety and humility of life who, while far from the Visible Church, de-prived of the priesthood and the scaraments and chained as it were all who will devoutly recite it once a day. A plenary indulgence, on the ordinary conditions, may be gained by all who will recite it daily for a whole month. PRAYER FOR THE CONVERSION OF THE acraments, and chained, as it were, to a hopeless religious system, are

modelling their lives on what little they know of the counsels and examples of Christ.

Redeemer of the whole world, vouch-safe we beseech Thee, through the However, these are the excep-ions. Since the value of a religious Immaculate Heart of Mary, to turn Thine eyes towards those nations belief may be gauged by the way it influences the lives of those who which for centuries have lived under the yoke of Mohammedanism. Forprofess it, writers are unanimous in give them for the opprobrium they asserting that the doctrines of have cast on Thy most Holy Name, and on the Christian people Thy Elect. With the rays of Thy light Mahomet have been a blight on the intelligence of the human race, and after centuries have left hundreds of millions of souls in a state of banish the darkness in which they are plunged, and in the waters of regeneration open up to them the treasures of Thy Heart, so that in the confession of the true faith they spiritual torpor and helplessness. The Koran, it is true, has preserved Inds to become the saints of God. Though now secure and blessed of glorious in heaven the saints of the Divine Revelation, but the sensual lives and antimay adore and glorify Thee, the Eternal Word made Flesh for our hardened them against what for us and the Holy Ghost. Amen. is the entire truth. The Moslems profess to follow the natural law, but their lives are a protest against BRUSH YOUR TEETH ON BOTH results and the numbers of stuthe integrity of Christianity and against the lofty asceticism which is one of Christianity's most consoling Care and cleanliness of the teeth outgrowths. All this shows what an immense field is open to Ch is-tian zeal; and what fruits might be is absolutely essential, therefore secure a perfect tooth brush marked "Nobility." gathered if intense missionary effort Each brush is guaranteed to last were undertaken to lead Islam into the true path.

other towards that integral civilizaprinciples of the Catholic peace tion which Catholicism represents. Russia, notwithstanding its present movement and endeavor to remove difficulties arising between Catholic condition, has its obligations to the Musseulmans in Kazan, the Caucau-RECONCULIATION OF FRANCE AND RECONCILIATION OF FRANCE AND

sus and Turkestan. England has its Egypt, Arabia, Zanzibar, Nigera. GERMANY Another proof of the fact that obedience to Catholic teachings and and especially India. Italy and Spain have their obligations in their principles forms the sole basis for real international reconciliation is African possessions; while the French Republic has its work revealed in the significant resolu-tion on the subject of a Franco-German entente. This resolution is as follows:

The French and German Catho lic delegates present at the Third International Catholic Congress have adopted the following resoluthe Jews. tion concerning reconciliation between the two peoples :

"The French and German Catholics attending the Third Internathe Hindu, Negro, Abyssinian and Chinese races. The religion they profess is based on the Koran, which, according to the Catholic Encyclopedia, is a heterogeneous mixture of "dogma, legend, history, fiction, religion and superstition, social and family laws, prevers threate literature family laws, preverse threate literature family laws, pr task but as a moral and religious duty, to be adjusted in accordance. with the will of God in a spirit of justice and charity. In accord with the directions of the Holy Father, the Congress recognizes as a duty to justice and charity that the damage caused by the one nation during the War be repaired and that on the other hand this reparation be rec- Jew

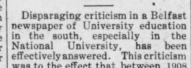
> both nations are urgently requested to work in order to bring about an early and direct understanding between the two nations.

The Congress accepted with great joy the suggestion made by the French Catholic delegates that on the first Sunday of every month a Peace Communion be held at which the French Catholics will pray for the Germans and the German Catholics will pray for the French, to the end that through unity in the people who might otherwise be attracted to Christianity. The Heart of Christ a new era of broth-Islam, meanwhile giving the Church of God new religious Ordere, aug-menting the number of her martyrs, victories over the Moslems in the world.

One of the most important digcussions was that concerning the Catholic press. A long resolution was passed urging Catholic organi zations to support the Catholic press by every means in their power, and to use the Catholic papers for publicity concerning their activities E. J. DEVINE, S. J. . rather than confine such publicity to their own local organs. Aid In connection with the General through increased circulation, advertising and active cooperation was also advocated; and Catholic leaders the world over were invited to celebrate Press Day annually June 29 as recommended by Pope Benedict XV., with a program of prayer, propaganda and publicity.

INTERNATIONAL PRESS URGED The resolution also recommended that Catholic organizations and Catholic leaders consider the advis-ability of forming an international press committee the task of which would be to create an international O Jesus, true God and true Man Catholic press agency, or at least a federation of existing hational Catholic news services. The crea-tion of an international advertising bureau for the benefit of the Catho lic press was also urged.

> HIGHER EDUCATION NOT DECLINING IN SOUTHERN IRELAND



An answer is given by an authority closely in touch with the work of the National University. The

periods which are not comparable.

based on a comparison of those two years, in view of the facts just

mentioned, falls to the ground at

The actual truth is that among both Catholics and Protestants in

and the Dublin Catholic University College testify.

PICTURE OF INQUISITION

dents.



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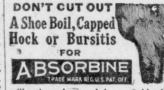
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at least six months and is manufac-tured of the finest bristles possible During the late War the ruin of to secure. No matter how severe you use the "Nobility" Tooth Brush it will not injure the teeth in any versity was abolished the National the temporal independence of the Mussulmans became an accom-plished fact. The Ottoman Empire way. Not one case of pyorrhea has ever been reported when the "Nobility" Tooth Brush is used. Ask for the "Nobility" Tooth plished fact. The Ottoman Empire is dismembered, and the Turkish caliph has no longer any sway except in the spiritual domain. Strange to say, this political down-fall is accounted of Brush which are guaranteed at all fall is coinciding with a renewal of Islamic missionary zeal. We learn that a spirit of proselytism is bedrug stores.

RECONCILIATION

MOHAMMEDANS /

union with the Fa

SIDES

REMARKABLE OUTCOME OF THIRD INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC CONGRESS

Southern Ireland there is a far greater number of University stu-Constance, Aug. 30.—The Third International Catholic Congress will dents now than in 1908, as the registers of Trinity College, Dublin, go on record as one of the most important and successful Catholic assemblies held in Europe this year.

It was attended by prominent lead-ers in the Catholic movement in every country, and the seriousness CATHOLICS PROTEST MOTION of the deliberations and timeliness of the resolutions passed give London, Sept. 18.-A moving picpromise of permanent and concrete

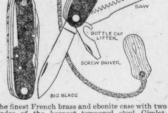
through a general motive of Chris-tian charity, just as one is moved to help abandoned children. Other nations having Moselms as subjects, and therefore with greater respon-sibilities towards them, should feel that it is a special duty of state to give the benefits of Christian training to those rather troublesome children of adoption. They should feel morally obliged to lead their Moslem subjects in some way or

was to the effect that between 1908 and 1921 there had been a deterior-

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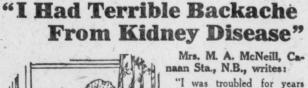
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