

## HER CROSS AND MINE

(From Sister's new book, "The Only One I Have to Breathe,"  
just published.)

"This is my cross—here, Sister, see—  
The only one I have to breathe."  
A flash of gold fell over me,  
And precious lights were every where.

She was a lovely, restless thing,  
With time in blossom at her feet,  
And on her hand the enchanted ring,  
Whose promise always is so sweet.

I was a nun. My fearless eyes  
Had looked the air full on youth.  
At something quiet in the skies,  
And veiled my face against the re-

My cross was dark and darkly stained  
Even from the heart of one who  
Invaluable drops of blood had rained  
Thereon, when love was crucified.

That laughing girl could pity me,  
Because she fancied from my cry  
The world had fallen. Such as she  
Still think to lose the world—is lost.

Yet, heavier is her cross than mine  
For in the fatal judgment there  
(Oh, will she seek for help divine?)  
Lies all the world to bear.

**FIVE-MINUTE SERMON**  
**FOR EARLY MASSES**  
By the Paulist Father

Preached in their Church of St. Apostle, Fifty-ninth Street and Avenue, New York.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

In one of his epistles (II Tim. 1-5.) St. Paul speaks of dangerous Christians, when "men shall be themselves, covetous, haughty, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, wicked, without affection to kindred, traitors, stubborn, and lovers of pleasure more than having an appearance, indeed, but denying the power thereof."

At the present time there is

At the present time, especially in populous small number of men who have bination of vices so forcibly described by the Apostle St. Paul. In some of them they may be in the majority, the power to enforce their depravity on their righteous neighbors. Slanders they can revile virtuous persons, blasphemies they endeavor to bring into disrepute God's plan of ruling the world. Hatred of religion is manifested in the regulation of personal and social life, also in their business methods, and in their utterances on public questions.

stubborn, puffed-up lovers of self, traitors to God, who are without and without peace, could be assigned reservation in some corner of their range of influence would within a definite area. But the devil, though permitted to place to place, owns no real has no absolute dominion over a of this earth.

Hence it is an important Catholic young men to consider upon themselves of the unfavorable contact with those in the world more or less infected with error.

or have become the victims of these voices. Such characters are to be found in nearly every department of business. It often happens that a young man begins to work, is obliged to enter beyond the control of his parents, and he will be in close proximity to those infidels, who claim an intellectual superiority on account of their unbelief. These engagements may compel a young man to be within hearing of shallow skeptics, who take advantage to ask questions—not for information, but merely to vex and confound. For all religious teach-

By a sort of indifference, respect for dry rot, they have allowed them to get into a very unsafe state concerning their duties to God.

Enlightened self-interest shows every young man to keep a sharp eye for all that is beneficial to his life, and have the best religious training available with the virtuous surroundings of home, but these will not avail him without his own personal selection by preference heretofore.

thinkers as the companions of hours; if he is so puffed up with his own ability that he Catholic associates worthy of him if he is so confident of his own that he habitually neglects to receive Communion, he has become the King of Heaven. Our His followers to attain the height of human excellence. To Him and fearlessly keep His commandments He gives the courage to true manliness; and the power to surmount every obstacle on the way to heaven.

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most essential laws of h  
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nature's power, giving

natural manner, and  
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