FIVE MINUTE SERMON

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

JOY IN GOD'S BLESSINGS Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rece." (Epistle of the day.)

Brethren: It seems to me like a reproach from God that we should have to be reminded to rejoice. It is as if a friend made you a handsome present and observing your in ratitude, requested and urged you gain to be thankful. Blessed is the man who remembers—the man who is thankful for favors received, for there is much in that remembrance to make the heart thoughtful, cheer-

ful, hopeful.

Now, Catholic men and women living in a Catholic atmosphere, you have much to remember, much to be thankful for and much to rejoice over. With the Prophet Isaias, you have good reason to say to yourselves: "I will remember the tender mercies of the Lord," and remembering them, the command to "rejoice and again will come home to you with

ofitable results. I say it is like a reproach that God have to call upon us, as He does in the first words of the holy Mass to day, to rejoice. And why? Because, as a matter of fact, we do not rejoice half enough over the bless. us. I take it for granted that these words are spoken to Catholics who we the great and inestimable privilege of living in a Catholic atmoshere, of living where they have mple opportunities of attending ass, of hearing the Word of God, of having every desire of their Catholic hearts fulfilled—and to such Cath-olics, I maintain, it is a reproach that God should be obliged to com-mand them to rejoice. And breth-ren, is it not too true that we do not rejoice as we should over these advantages and blessings God be-stows upon us? Who are ws? What are we better than our fellow-men that we should enjoy fellow-men that we should they are the many blessings of which they are in part or wholly deprived? We think it a great sacrifice to walk a few blocks to attend Mass at any hour we please, while there are thousands of Christians who rejoice to hear Mass even though they have to travel miles to enjoy this blessed privilege. They who really make the sacrifice rejoice, while we sluggards fancy we are doing great things if we fulfil the ordinary and easy duties

onder, then, that God would be obliged to command us to rejoice We are fools and ingrates if we do not, because of the advantages that are at our very doors. We seldom realize them until we are deprived of them, as the man who never realizes the value of money until he feels the pangs of hunger and discovers that he has not the means to supply his wants. Oh! God forbid that we wants. Oh! God forbid was have should be ungrateful, for we have abundant reason to rejoice. Think, my brethren, of all that God is doing for you. You might have been a cast; you might have been brought up without the faith ; circumstance might have placed you where the consolations of religion would be removed far from you—all these you have, the faith, the sacraments, the Mass, the frequent hearing of the Word of God in the you have the Word of God -in fine, you have the Remanuel, God with you, and with all these blessings you have reason to rejoice.

of religion.

Be joyous, then, from the bottom of your hearts; be thankful for the opportunities placed at your disposal; and if at times the difficulties you encounter discourage you, again I say, rejoice and think of those who have all these same difficulties without the advantages which you Let your hearts be filled with joy on this mid-Sunday of Advent, this season of expectancy, of hopes and joys to be fulfilled. Let the tender to be fulfilled. mercies of the Lord remind you of your great privilege, as well as duty, to rejoice always in the Lord.

TEMPERANCE

ALCOHOL AND INHERITANCE

The influence of alcohol as a detrimental factor in inheritance is one which has not readily lent itself to convincing experimental proof in the past. During the last four years Prof. Stockard of the Cornell University Medical School in New York City, has been engaged in a study of the effects of alcohol in heredity. He has demonstrated conclusively that the germ cells of male guinea pigs can be so injured by allowing the individuals to inhale fumes of alcohol that they give rise to defective offspring although mated with vigorous females. The extension of these unique investigations, in which the offepring from the treated animals which reach maturity are usually nervous and slightly undersized, have further shown that the effect of the injury of the germs cells is not only exhibited by the immediate onveyed through their descend-There are many instances of matings followed by negative results or early bortions, still born young or de-

fectives. An instructive illustration was afforded in a case in which two of the four young animals were completely eyeless, the eyeballs, optic nerves, and chiasma being absent. Such de-fects result, according to Stockard the injury originally inflicted on the germ cells by the experi-mental treatment. Yet this injury may have been received by earlier generations only. Thus the parents | prove.

of the guines pigs mentioned were untreated, their four grandparents were also untreated, but their greatgrandfathers were all normal animals. The detective eyes of descendants are due to impaired development, not to direct action of

Plainly the germ cell is actually weakened, if not disabled, by the alcohol treatment and all individuals arising from combinations in-volving such a germ cell are likely to be below normal. As the Journa of the American Medical Association says, there is food for reflection in these facts.

A STRANGE-ACTING LIQUID One autumn my father and I camped near a pretty lake in Southern Minnesota. In the grove of trees where our tent was pitched was the where our tent was placed was the home of a prosperous farmer. This man had a good wife, who kept his home neat and clean; he also had several bright, happy children. His barn, his sheds and fences were in

good repair.
While in town one day with some friends, he innocently swallowed a glass of a peculiar liquid. The first drink he took called for more. The strange thing about this liquid was that as he continued to take it into paint off his barn and to remove the boards from his fences. It made the weeds grow on his fields; his horses and cattle were neglected. The more he applied to his stomach the

more he applied to his stomach the more shabby his clothes became. But the effect of this liquid went even farther. It made the tears stream down the face of his devoted wife. I saw them flowing freely many times. It took the bread out of the mouths of his children. It took all joy and love out of that home, and finally completely wrecked

Can you guess what that liquid was that created such havoc with this man and his home? It was alcohol. Beware of it! It is no respecter of persons, and will use you the same way if you have anything to do with it.

Alcohol will preserve anything that is dead and will kill anything that is living. It is useful in a museum; but keep it in a bottle and not in your stomach. The man who has an ambition to become anything, from a ditch digger to President of the United States, should leave alcohol alone.—C. E. Holmes in Youth's

GERMANS ASSAIL ALCOHOL ONCE MORE

The report of Professor Elster to the Prussian Minister of Public Health has caused considerable com-ment in Europe because of the sweeping character of the charges against alcohol and the position of the man

making the report.

The Elster report declares that there is hardly a known disease that is not developed and strengthened by the drinking habit, that alcohol causes 30 per cent. of insanity, that it lessens the efficiency of labor, that the organization of young clerks of Berlin is burdened with an annual sick fund bill of \$500,000 solely for the support and cure of men suffering because of drink, that 50 per cent, of the poverty in Prussia is due to the use of alcoholic beverages that crimes of cruelty, assault, negli gence, etc., are almost entirely due to this cause, that thousands more ecause of paternal indulgence, and that numerous specified illnesses are caused by the so-called harmless beer which Americans are told has solved the problem of temperance in Germany.

RUSSIA BARS LIQUOR

INDUSTRY The Russian government never again will embark in the manufacture and sale of alcoholic drinks. This statement, confirming previous reports was made in the name of

Emperor Nicholas on October 30. The Russian Union of Abstinence, which devotes its energies to com-bating alcoholism, addressed to Emperor Nicholas a solicitation that he forbid forever the sale of spirituous liquors in Russia. His majesty replied in a telegram sent in the name of Grand Duke Constantine and addressed to the president of the alliance, in which he said :

"I thank you; I long ago decided to interdict for all time in Russia the sale of alcoholic drinks by the government."

THEIR REASON

Dr. Stephen S. Wise, at the Free Synagogue in Carnegie Hall on Sun-day, challenged the issue in plain words on the question of religion in politics in America. He said:

"The Guardians of Liberty, who-ever they are, stated during the last campaign that it is dangerous to public welfare to have a Roman Catholic Governor. They gave no reason. I say that the leadership in Protestant churches in America must deny this issue, disavow it, or honestly admit it. Above all, they should not keep silent and admit their cowardice. I say to you that if you think it is dangerous to have a Roman Catholic in public office it is your business to say so and give your reasons. If you cannot give reasons, and reasons exist, then you must be ashamed of

They have no reasons except reasons of bigotry and intolerance— the same that the Orangemen in Ireand have for their hatred of the Pope and their Catholic fellow-country-men. The Orangemen never give reasons because they have none to give that honest people could ap-

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Pure Blood Is Absolutely Necessary To Health

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These Wonderful Tablets, Made of Fruit Juices, Are The Best Of All Tonics To Purify And Enrich The Blood.

Pure, rich blood can flow only in a clean body. Now, a clean body is one in which the waste matter is regularly and naturally eliminated from the system. The blood cannot be pure when the skin action is weak, when the stomach does not digest the food properly, when the bowels do not move regularly, when the kidneys are strained or overworked.

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"Fruit-a-tives" is sold by all dealers at 50c. a box, 6 for \$2.50 trial size 25c. or sent postpaid on receipt of price by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

Dr. Wise also appeals to " Roman Catholic leaders" in reference to parochial schools. "If you are convinced," says he, "that parochial schools should be supported, wholly or in part, from public funds, come out and tell us so." out and tell us so.

The answer to this suggestion may here be brief — "Roman Catholic leaders" are convinced that for the value in secular education given to the State by parochial schools there should be compensation or remuneration by the State in some shape or form.—N. Y. Freeman's Journal.

SOCIOLOGY OF THE CHURCH

It is to be deeply regretted that the study of sociology to day is almost exclusively in the hands of infidel teachers in our colleges and univer-sities—at least they are avowed unbelievers in the supernatural. They pay very little, if any, regard to the attitude of the Catholic Church on this science. In fact, some of them openly charge that the Church does not promote the study of social sub-jects because she is only seeking to promote her own wealth and power. They accuse her of opposing the free investigation of scientific truths and But this calumny is easily disproved, for the Church welcomes all scientific research for the reason that science and religion proceed from the same eternal sources of truth, and when properly understood, cannot contra-dict each other.

A writer in America, puts this fact

Needless to say to the instructed Catholic, far from opposing investi-gation, the Church welcomes it, knowing that all truth, whether in the world of matter or of spirit, is coordinated, and so far as it is possible for the infinite mind to know the manifestations of the Infinite, the more a really scientific treatment of facts is developed, the more is the reasonableness of the Divine plan

Catholic philosophy contains noth ing that is against reason, but there are mysteries in life which we cannot explain without the aid of religion And so it happens that with all the boasted progress of modern scientists they have not yet been able to explain the mystery of the growth of a single blade of grass or the process of vari-egation in the wealth of colors and

signature of flowers.

Science has been reduced to a system and is defined: "Knowledge which binds together into complete unity the objects with which it has to deal according to their homogene-ity and in which the separate objects of knowledge are apprehended as parts of a whole. . . Systematic knowledge of related facts is what

As such, with all the difficulties which its study involves, the Catho-lic Church welcomes and fosters its progress. Sociology by its very nature must needs be an inexact science, but deductions from ob-served facts may reach satisfactory conclusions, which will be found not to contradict revealed truths. It is only the complete separation of scientific conclusions from the revealed truths of religion, or their outright condemnation by teachers in our secular institutions of learning that the Church depreciates and condemns.

Church depreciaves and condemns.

Christ's teachings, bearing upon sociological subjects, included many precepts which had been known before the pagan world for pure reason was always the receptacle of God's truths, but it was His particu-

lar mission to fortify mankind against the false deductions of reason, adulterated by the passions and pre-judices of a sinful life. The America

writer says : "Before the coming of Christ no philosopher ever attained to that complete and all satisfying truth which He teaches; not that He did which He teaches; not that He did not teach and reinforce many moral precepts that already obtained, but it required His teaching in all its fulness to fortify mankind against the errors of natural reason. Imper-fectly as the world has actually put in practice the ideals which He revealed to them, the most superficial student cannot ignore their effects
upon human conduct."

e line of demarcation between Catholic and secular sociology is ing it as the foundation of true soci ology, and the other ignoring or re-garding it with unmitigated condemn ation. And the surprise is that these modern teachers hold to their system not only with tenacity with absolute dogmatism, and they regard the Catholic way with utter

ontempt.
It can hardly be realized how evil is the influence of such teachings upon the minds of the young. They become imbued with the conviction that the Christian religion is not up to date and that its mysteries are mere fables or myths.

A Catholic writer, Forester, ob-serves: "Catholica non leguntur. serves: Catholica non leginutr. Exaggerated and perverted accounts of Christian teaching are taken at third and fourth hand, and not the slightest effort is made to understand the real official teaching of the Church. . The fundamental Christian position was defined with such absolute clearness by Dante that any misunderstanding should have been impossible. It is not

Nature herself who is corrupt; false guidance it is which has darkened Reason, unaided by revelation and God's grace, is always liable to go astray, for it is not self-sufficient, and its guidance must be super-natural. The results of merely naturalistic teachings will ever be disastrous. The false teachings of Nietche and other philosophers of the infidel school are largely respon-

sible for the indescribably horrible

war in Europe to-day. What we sow we shall reap.
On the other hand, the Catholic Church has always been the foster dren are numbered among the most eminent scientists of historywhile her own mission according to not the teaching of human science as such, but the propagation and perpet uation of His precepts, the observ-ance of which makes for happiness here and hereafter, she has been keenly alive to her duty of cham-pioning the truth, built upon eternal principles and not upon the aberrations of the human mind, unguided by Divine revelation. Reason is ever

ments, and unsupported by God's grace. "God resisteth the proud."—Intermountain Catholic.

weakened by sin and nothing is so liable to error as the human mind,

THEIR FATHER'S EXAMPLE "The father who sets a good ex ample to his sons is their best in-structor in religion," says the Cath-olic Columbian. "They see him go to Mass every Sunday, abstain from meat on Friday, receive the Sacraments frequently, observe the fast of Lent, go to the meetings of his Catholic society, treat his wife with loving kindness, act like a good neighbor to all his acquaintances, pay his debts, avoid profanity and drunkenness, use every available op-portunity to do good, and advance in gentleness, kindness, justice and

Drunkenness Can be Cured

It is a Disease, Not a Habit

"Some years ago I was a heavy drinker.
Demon drink had me in his grip.
Friends, business, family, were slipping
from me. Ruin stared me in the face.
"But one frier d remained, a physician.
Through his efforts

I WAS SAVED

"This man had made a scientific study of drunkenness as a disease. He had found a cure for it."

It was a case like this that made me realize how many others were in need of aid and determined me if possible, to offer Samaria Prescription to the world.

The treatment is absolutely different from others. It can be given without the patient's know edge if desired. Thousands of wives, mothers, daughters, s.sters, have saved their men-folk from the curse of alcohol through it.

IT CURES

in a few days. All craving for alcohol is gone and the patient is restored to health, happiness, family and friends, and the respect of all.

I am ready to tell you about it abso-

FREE SEND NO MONEY

write you at once and send you my free book, telling you all about my wonderful cure for DRINKEN. MESS, and will also send you a TRIAL PACKAGE, which will show you how the treatment can be given without the patient's knowle ge. All this I will send you ABSOLUTELY FREE in a plain scaled package at once.

Do not delay; send me a post-card, or write me a letter to-day. Do not be afraid to send in your name. I always treat correspondence as sacredly confidential. WRITE NOW.

mercy from day to day.

He is the Christian life and practice. He is the Catechism fulfilled and the Mission sermons carried into action. He is the proof of the beauty of grace, and the evidence of the daily miracle of God's love to man. The boys look to their father to learn from his conduct what is right and what is wrong, knowing that he will follow the good and avoid the evil. Happy the sons who are not disappointed, misled and scandalized."

DAYS OF ANXIOUS QUESTIONING

There never was a time perhaps, says America, when the world had such insistent need of renewing its tath in the doctrine of original sin.
The catastrophe which is looming so large in Europe is making men listen to doubts about the goodness and providence of God. Those who have held high places and so cominfluence of religion, because it has not prevented the outbreak of war. Christianity is held up to scorn, as dermined and its claims discovered to be groundless and all because it has failed to exercise a sovereign inuence over human passio human freedom. Pages which are fearlessly blasphemous in their denunciation and repudiation of Almighty God, are applauded for their outspoken frankness. The problem of evil is obtruded on the public's and the individual's attenion at every turn, and a morbid em phasis is laid on life's suffering and sorrow. Unfortunately nothing is proved, no explanation is offered; only false deductions are drawn. It men think of God at all, they declare Him cruel.

We have good reason to believe that our Catholics have in no way been tainted by this blasphemous un-belief, and yet there is need of watchfulness. Each one must look to himself lest he too give lodgment in the hidden depths of his inmost thoughts to evil questioning of the God of all. Life's pain is not an unsolved and insolvable mystery, at least to us. Others may peer into the darkness and find no answer, but it is not so with the Church's children. We have the solution of revealed truth. We accept and believe the doctrine of original Poverty and desolation, the wasting of tissue and the breaking of hearts, rime and death and war, all have their explanation in the transgres sion of God's law by the father of the human race. In these days, therefore, of growing and distressing doubt, Catholics would do well to earch their hearts and minds and ask themselves how firm is their grasp on this fundamental dogma of

WHERE OUR GIRLS MAKE A MISTAKE

It has for some time been current comment among observing people that in the question of dress it has street to distinguish one class of girls from another. The Parisian fashions that come to America are not those that the nice women of Paris wear; they are essentially the styles of the manuequin and the Parisian underworld. The American counterparts of these French women know this, and copy their foreign sisters, as it is perfectly proper they should do. What is the hall-mark of a particular class of women on the streets of Paris, known to every Parisian, becomes the hal mark of the same class in America. But the French girl of modesty never wear these styles, and that is where our American girl of modesty goes astray. She does not dress like her French sister, but like the girl whom her French sister disclains. We have got things mixed up a bit in this country, as far as Paris fashions are concerned, and the time has come when American parents of daughters should wake up to the fact. It is not at all an impossible transition from the Parisian imprint upon the hat or the dress to the Parisian imprint upon the character of the wearer.

HERE'S FOOD FOR PROTESTANT THOUGHT

We would like to ask our separated brethren, in all sincerity and in all charity, if they really believe that they are giving Catholics a square deal when they give credence, with-out the slightest investigation, to books, papers and men that vilify the old Mother Church and her devoted children? Are they satisfied in their hearts that they are doing unto us as they would have us do unto them?

Can they name even one Catholic paper which makes it a practice to circulate lies about any Protestant church or its adherents? Can they mention any Protestant minister who has been received into our fold that was ever encouraged or allowed to traduce the denomination from which he came? On the contrary, is it not a fact that every sectarian clergyman who has been converted to the Cath-olic faith has exhibited only the most fraternal charity towards his former co-religionists? Who ever heard of an ex-minister being booked, like a theatrical star, for a circuit of the country in a campaign of calumny asylums or the deaconesses of any

Protestant denomination?

Is there no food for thought in

brothers? Have you been exactly fair to us? Or do you regard Cath olics as outside the jurisdiction of the golden rule?—Catholic Telegraph.



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TO THE **Wives and Mothers** of Canada

There are in our Dominion one hundred and eighty thousand widowed women, of whom doubtless, many, on the death of their husbands, were left on their own resources.

And in addition there were, doubt-

And in addition there were, doubtjess, in numerous cases children left
to be supported and educated. Fortunate, indeed were those women
whose responsibilities were lightened
by life insu ance.

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