

## FIVE MINUTE SERMON

BY REV. WILLIAM DEMOUY, D. D.

## THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

"WHERE ARE THE NINE?"

"And He said to him: Arise, go thy way; for thy faith hath made thee whole." (Luke xvii. 19.)

How illustrative of the ingratitude of mankind is this Gospel of today! Christ, in response to the appeal of the lepers, sends them to the priests and heals them while they are on their way. It would have been natural to expect all ten to return and praise and thank Christ for the wonderful cure He had wrought in them; but only one comes back to thank his great Benefactor and Saviour. Christ laments the lack of gratitude on the part of the others, but bestows a special grace upon the grateful one. We safely may assert that the new favor—far greater than the original one—was not granted to the thankless nine; namely, they were not made whole in their souls as well as in their bodies. They did not deserve to hear addressed to them the words, "Thy faith hath made thee whole." They were cured in body, it is true; but their souls—though perhaps their sins were washed away, since Christ's custom was to cleanse body and soul—were not adorned with the same amount of grace as was that of their thoughtful and faithful companion.

It may be well and instructive for us to consider briefly the reason or reasons that may appear, why these lepers—now cured—failed to return to Christ and render Him thanks. Evidently one of the reasons was the fact that they thought too much of their temporal welfare; for to regain their bodily health and vigor was their only desire. Their rejoicing, no doubt, was beyond comprehension; but this joy should not have so conquered them as to make them forget the obligations that followed such a favor as was granted them. Natural law itself would have dictated this to them. Hence, it is easy to realize how self-centered they were, and how they received a miraculous favor almost as if it were due them.

We all act similarly on many occasions. Favors come to us from different sources, we are blessed in various ways; but how seldom do we offer acts of thanksgiving to those from whom blessings come to us! Sometimes we ascribe the favors to mere luck; again, we say they are due us as much as they are due others. It may be that we prosper even though we welcome such thoughts and feelings, but certainly we are like the nine who did not return to thank Christ, and we are deprived of the additional blessing that was granted to the grateful one. If we were not so wise in our own conceit, we would think otherwise and our acts would be different. If we did not regard our bodily welfare of such great necessity and importance, we would be more solicitous about the well-being of our souls; and, at least, while the recipients of bodily blessings, we would grasp the opportunity of adding grace to our souls.

Another reason for the ingratitude of the nine lepers may be found in the fact that they did not appreciate how extraordinarily great was the favor that had been granted them. While usually we are expected to be grateful for even ordinary favors, we sometimes may be excused if we fail in this respect. But if we should neglect to show our gratitude for some extraordinary favor, we would be guilty of a fault so grievous as not easily to be forgiven. We are more or less entitled to certain ordinary favors from the rest of humanity, if not by nature, certainly by God. But we have no right, absolutely, to anything extraordinary or miraculous. We can not in any way become entitled to something so wonderful as was the cure of these lepers. Had all of them fully and conscientiously realized this truth they would have hastened to thank their Benefactor. It was impossible for them not to understand that their cure was extraordinary; but why did they fail to appreciate this fact as they should! It was, in all probability, because their hearts were not right. Perhaps a life of sin had blunted the acuteness of the minds with which God had blessed them.

During our own lives, we do not fully appreciate the extraordinary blessings God bestows upon us. In our Church we have a sacramental system through which God's grace—a truly supernatural and free gift—flows into our souls. We are accustomed to approach the altar often—many of us, perhaps, daily—yet how few stop to consider how easily favors so much above our own natural powers to attain, come to us, and how little we thank God for all. Truly we appreciate these heavenly blessings, but our gratitude for them is not full. Let us consider how little we deserve these favors, except through God's love, and we will show the deserved appreciation to God for them. Gratitude will add many other blessings, as it did to the grateful leper who had been cured.

Perhaps the nine failed to return because they thought all obligations ceased when they presented themselves to the priests. If this was the case, they lacked the knowledge of the obligations due directly to God. Or, as we would express it today, their religious instruction

was deficient in some respects. Under ordinary circumstances, it would have been enough for them to fulfil the law of Moses regarding cures from leprosy; but in so extraordinary an instance as this, more was demanded.

There are many Catholics today who do not comply with all the demands of God and His Church, because they have failed to acquire a sufficient religious knowledge. They do not sin, perhaps, when they are lacking in this knowledge, but they lose many graces they otherwise would gain.

As Christians, possessed of generous and humble hearts, let us always and for all things thank and praise God. Then the great supply of graces which God hands out to His children who acknowledge His favors will not escape us.

## THE POWER OF LOVE

The sad-faced Redeemer seated on the hill overlooking the city of Jerusalem is the most powerful figure of love known to the human kind. It is the apotheosis of the virtues which flash upon humanity from the face of God. Love, affection for one's kind, be it kindred, race or country, yea even enemies, is Man's answer to the divine command, Love your neighbor as yourself.

To the thinking mind, it is well nigh incomprehensible how or why men should hate their kind. Hate originated in the fallen angel; it begot the quintessence of diabolical aversion through Satan's envy of the Godhead. It coursed through the being of the angelic reprobate and spilled its venom upon the earth. Sired in hell, begotten of a demon, Hate has rested as the primeval curse upon the sons of men. Flowing in fiery stream like putrid lava, it has inundated the whole human family. Like filthy pitch it defiles and destroys every vestige of love in the human heart.

Love, on the contrary, is the white milk of heavenly nourishment that cleanses and purifies, strengthens and invigorates whosoever it touches. Instinct with the fragrance of divinity, it elevates and delights by its ineffable perfume. In the heart of the young levite, love sends him forth to battle for the cause of God among heathen and infidel. Blooming in the soul of the virgin, it leads her to the life of consecrated service to God and God's children. The power of love holds in a golden bond parents and offspring, communities and nations—that is, it should so hold them.

This ravishing virtue sees defects but to correct, and in the correcting it softens and wins the offender. Melifluous in itself it knows not of rancor or envy, ill will or harshness. It is the dew from heaven that gently enfolds all. It is the sunshine from the eternal throne that warms and vivifies. It is the silent snow that falls noiselessly to whiten and cleanse. It is the electric spark that enkindles high resolve in the cause of right and truth. In a word, love is the spirit of God walking abroad upon the earth to hearten and encourage, to lead men on to fraternity among themselves and to union with Him.

How disgusting the man who glories in berating his fellows; the miscreant who ever seeks the gratification of his dastard ambitions to the detriment of those who even as he, were created by the same God and for the same glorious end. Void of love of God's creatures, such miserable scoundrels walk in the footsteps of Satan, even though with pious grimace and affected mien, they strive to dissimulate the poison that oozes from their every word and act. Such an attitude is the root of discord and dissension, civil, religious and domestic.

Love of country should be transmuted into love of one's countrymen. Love of family should appear in every relation towards each member thereof. Love should temper authority and actuate subordination. It is precisely the lack of this God-given virtue that rests at the basis of every quarrel and disturbance among men. The hypocrite so values its power that he fain would assume its appearance and form. Down in his soul rankles the fire of hate, the worm of ambition, the contempt for others and the consuming spleen that evenoms his life and brings down decision upon the very profession or cause or country that he disgraces by his Satanic, his infernal egotism. Love puts out fear, and it also drives out hatred. It is all-conquering and is able to heal every vice but the ulcer of hypocrisy; this fiendish mask becomes one with its wearer and love itself is powerless to separate the two.—Catholic Bulletin.

## BE CONSIDERATE

The average priest does not know how popular he is until he is about to go on a vacation of some months, or happens to be promoted to another parish. These cloudbursts of good wishes, welcome and cheering though they be, might well be distributed throughout his ministry in a gentle rain of kind words and thoughtful deeds.

A priest in a parish is very much like a mother of a family. He has all the worries of the parish on his shoulders. His people come to him with all their troubles, but seldom with their joys. In their thoughtlessness they sometimes inflict pain

or needless fatigue upon him. If he insists upon the necessary restrictions to safeguard their faith and virtue, some will complain that he is too severe. If he insists that they support the Church, just as the adult members of the family should support the home, they criticize. At heart they appreciate the sacrifices that he is making for them and the benefits that are thereby accruing to them; but just as thoughtless children sadden the heart and shorten the day of their mother by their selfishness, so do even the good people of a parish increase the necessary burden of their pastor by their forgetfulness that he is a man with finely attuned susceptibilities, a very lonely man, whose only family is his parish.—Catholic Universe.

## A HAPPY CHANGE

For nearly eleven years I have been exiled, to a very pleasant country, 'tis true, from my native land, and coming back, I noticed enormous changes, and one of the most marked is the growing spirit of reverence for higher things. A sign of this, which I am happy to record is the disappearance of what in older days might have been called the fine art of swearing. There was a time when many Americans ripped out oaths almost unconsciously; but one seldom hears in any society of men or even in the streets, the blasphemy that used to make a reverent Catholic shudder.

Among Catholics, not of the Latin races (in whose language certain oaths seemed to be imbedded) the practice of swearing by the Sacred Name seems almost to have disappeared.

In Europe, among people who really count, one never hears an oath, and as a corollary, the risqué story, which formerly occupied much attention among men after a dinner party, is looked on as in bad taste. I have always greatly admired the phrase put up very visibly at the Gridiron club dinners—"The Ladies Are Always With Us."

A more useless, a more offensive habit—leaving out the question of morality—than of swearing by the Holy Name probably never existed. For the non-Christian it means a gratuitous insult to the convictions of nearly every man around him, and even a direct and insulting challenge to his Unknowing God. For the Christian, who is conscious of what he says, it is inexplicable. It is worse than the insulting of one's father with a blow. Of him, "Forgive them, Father, for they know not what they do." A man capable of voluntarily using the Holy Name in blasphemy shows to the world that he is almost willing to commit the crime of Judas.

Bad taste and bad morals have a certain connection. It is bad taste, as we all know, to shock the sympathies of the faith of those about us. When Cardinal Newman said that the first quality of a gentleman, whether Christian or pagan, was not to give pain, he laid down a principle which is thoroughly consistent with the practice of Christianity, when no great principle is involved; but when oaths are spoken and blasphemy uttered, sometimes very lightly in the presence of little children, the human being who does this falls immeasurably below even the pagan standard of gentlemanhood; and we know what Christ Himself has said to those who give scandal to the little ones.

It seems to me, speaking with all due deference to the superior knowledge of those who know present American conditions better than I, that this great change—this remarkable improvement in our reverential attitude—is due to the more frequent reception of the Holy Eucharist.

In Denmark, in Copenhagen, where there was scarcely a Catholic left after the Reformation, the aspect of the Church of St. Ansgar, where the diplomats of nearly all nations met during many terrible days to receive Holy Communion frequently—more frequently than before the sword of horror hung over them—one sees how quickly the spirit of reverence is growing. The experience of a long life shows me that the two keys to the problem of this life are reverence for the Holy Name, inwardly and outwardly, and the frequent reception of the Sacrament of the Altar.

MAURICE F. EGAN

## NEW LAMP BURNS 94% AIR

BEATS ELECTRIC OR GAS

A new oil lamp that gives an amazingly brilliant, soft, white light, even better than gas or electricity, has been tested by the U. S. Government and 35 leading universities, and found to be superior to 10 ordinary oil lamps. It burns without odor, smoke or noise—no pumping up, is simple, clean, safe. Burns 94% air and 6% common kerosene (coal-oil).

The inventor, T. T. Johnson, 246 Craig St. W., Montreal, is offering to send a lamp on 10 days' FREE trial, or even to give one FREE to the first user in each locality who will help him introduce it. Write him today for full particulars. Also ask him to explain how you can get the agency, and without experience or money make \$250 to \$500 per month.

## FREE AT LAST OF KIDNEY TROUBLE

## "Fruit-a-tives" Brought Her Health and Strength

624 CHAMPLAIN ST., MONTREAL  
"For 8 years, I suffered constantly from Kidney Disease and Liver Trouble. My health was miserable and nothing in the way of ordinary medicine did me any good."

Then I started to use "Fruit-a-tives" and the effect was remarkable. All the pains, Headaches, Indigestion and Constipation were relieved and once more I was well.

All who suffer from such troubles should take "Fruit-a-tives"

Madam HOUMIDAS FOISY.

50c a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size 25c. At dealers or sent postpaid by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

## Stained Glass Memorial Windows

We make a specialty of Catholic Church Windows.  
B. Leonard 5351 John St. Quebec, Que.



## BEAUTY OF THE SKIN

is the natural desire of every woman, and is obtainable by the use of Dr. Chase's Ointment. Pimples, blackheads, roughness and redness of the skin, irritation and eczema disappear, and the skin is left soft, smooth and velvety. All dealers, or Edmondson, Bates & Co., Limited, Toronto. Sample free if you mention this paper.

## Dr. Chase's Ointment

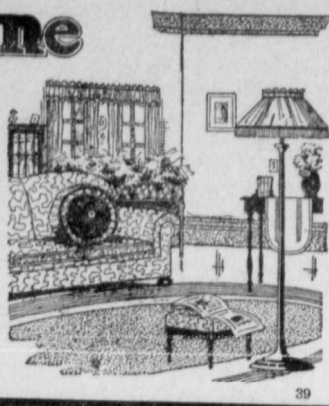
Newfoundland Representative: Gerald S. Doyle, St. John's.

## CHURCH'S COLD WATER Alabastine

Express your love of the beautiful by tinting your walls with Alabastine. There are twenty-one tints and white from which to choose and dozens of stencil patterns. Make up your own color scheme or use the Alabastine color plan book. You will have artistic, sanitary walls at a cost much less than that of paper or paint by using.

5-lb. packages, 75c;  
2½-lb. packages, 40c.

The Alabastine Company  
Paris, Limited  
Paris, Ont. Winnipeg, Man.



## A Piano Makes Its Home With You

It is there for all time to come—it embodies itself into your life, becomes an important fixture in your daily routine. That's why you should make sure the piano you buy is the best piano you can get for your home.

The Sherlock-Manning, truly a home piano, is "Canada's Biggest Piano Value". It is an instrument true to tone, a piano of faultless construction, a rare piece of beautifully finished furniture—that's why it makes it's home with so many lovers of good music.

## SHERLOCK-MANNING

20th Century Piano  
The Piano worthy of your home

Hear it at your nearest dealers, or write direct to us for prices and handsome Art Catalogue.

Sherlock-Manning Piano Company  
LONDON - CANADA



Sold only in sealed packets  
—dust-proof!

## Dissolves Instantly

LUX wafers are made so very thin—our own exclusive process—that every particle dissolves instantly in hot water. LUX makes a quick, wonderful cleansing suds for all fine, dainty things—and leaves no trace of free soap in the fabric to spot, or discolor it.

LUX is as harmless for the cleansing of all fine things as pure water itself.

## Mrs. Geo. Warman Tells How Cuticura Healed Pimples

"I had a breaking out of pimples on my face which irritated so much at night that I began to scratch and they broke out in deep, sore eruptions. My face looked so badly that I did not want to go anywhere. I saw an advertisement for Cuticura Soap and Ointment and I bought them. After using one and a half boxes of Cuticura Ointment, with the Cuticura Soap, I was completely healed." (Signed) Mrs. Geo. Warman, 13 Duchess St., Toronto, Ont.

Cuticura Soap, Ointment and Talcum promote and maintain skin purity, skin comfort and skin health. The Soap to cleanse, purify and beautify, the Ointment to soothe, soothe and heal and the Talcum to powder and perfume.

Sample Each Free by Mail. Address: "Cuticura, Ltd., 245 St. Paul St., W. Montreal." Send every where. Soap 25c. Ointment 25c. and 50c. Talcum 50c. Cuticura Soap shaves without mug.

## LONDON OPTICAL CO

Have Your Eyes Examined  
Dominion Savings Building  
Richmond St. Phone 6180

## F. E. LUKE

OPTOMETRIST  
AND OPTICIAN

167 YONGE ST. TORONTO  
(Upstairs Opp. Simpson's)

Eyes Examined and Glass Eyes Fitted



## Hotel Wolverine DETROIT

Newest and Most Modern  
500 Rooms 500 Baths  
Rates \$2.50 Up

## Casavant Freres

CHURCH LIMITED  
Organ Builders

ST. HYACINTHE QUEBEC

## Stained Glass MEMORIAL WINDOWS

COLONIAL ART GLASS CO.  
586 Bank St. Ottawa

## PUZZLE FIND THE CLOWN



HUNDREDS OF OTHER PRIZES.  
To enter this Contest you must find the Clown, mark the place with an X and send it to us with your name and address. We will then send you a BIG PRIZE LIST of the daily prizes we are giving away. Particulars of one simple condition that we ask you to fulfill. This condition is ever so easy, you do not need to cost you one cent of your money to fulfill. The prizes are bigger and better than ever, so send your answer right away NOW to SELF-STAR SPECIALTY CO., Dept. X, Toronto, Ont.

## Wild Birds of Killeveey

BY  
Rosa Mulholland  
(Lady Gilbert)

AUTHOR OF  
Agatha's Hard Saying  
Fair Emigrant  
Marcella Grace  
O'Shaughnessy Girls  
O'Loghlin of Clare, Etc.

\$1.42 Post Paid  
The Catholic Record  
LONDON, CANADA