



THE LATEST ENCYCLICAL

The Pope Writes to the Whole Church on Devotion to St. Joseph.

To Our Venerable Brethren the Patriarchs, Primates, Archbishops, and other Ordinaries, in Peace and Union with the Holy See:

Although We have already many times ordered special prayers to be offered up in the whole world, that the interests of Catholicism might be insistently recommended to God, none will deem it matter for surprise that We consider the present moment an opportune one for again inculcating the same duty.

During periods of stress and trial—obscurely when every lawlessness of act seems permitted to the powers of darkness—it has been the custom in the Church to plead with special fervor and perseverance to God, her author and protector, by recourse to the intercession of the saints—and chiefly of the Blessed Virgin, Mother of God—whose patronage has ever been the most efficacious.

You well understand, Venerable Brethren, that these considerations are confirmed by the opinion held by a large number of the Fathers, to which the sacred liturgy gives its sanction, that the Joseph of the ancient times, son of the patriarch Jacob, was the type of St. Joseph, and the former by his glory prefigured the greatness of the future guardian of the Holy Family.

And in truth, beyond the fact that the same name—a point the significance of which has never been denied—was given to each, you well know the points of likeness that exist between them; namely, that the first Joseph was the favor and especial goodwill of his master, and that through Joseph's administration his household came to prosperity and wealth.

The special motives for which St. Joseph has been proclaimed Patron of the Church, and from which the Church looks for singular benefit from his patronage and protection, are that Joseph was the spouse of Mary and that he was reputed the Father of Jesus Christ.

the divine house whose chief he was. And during the whole course of his life he fulfilled those charges and those duties. He set himself to protect with a mighty love and a daily solicitude his spouse and the Divine Infant; regularly by his work he earned what was necessary for the one and the other for nourishment and clothing; he guarded from death the Child threatened by a monarch's jealousy, and found for Him a refuge; in the miseries of the journey and in the bitterness of exile he was ever the companion, the assistant, and the upholder of the Virgin and of Jesus.

Now the divine house which Joseph ruled with the authority of a father, contained within its limits the scarer-born Church. From the same fact that the most holy Virgin is the mother of Jesus Christ is she the mother of all Christians whom she bore on Mount Calvary amid the supreme throes of the Redemption.

Jesus Christ is in a manner the first-born of Christians, who by the adoption and Redemption share his brotherhood. And for such reasons the Blessed Patriarch looks upon the multitude of Christians who make up the Church as his offspring, and he is especially his fatherly affection spread over the earth, over which, because he is the spouse of Mary and the Father of Jesus Christ, he holds, as it were, paternal authority.

It is, then, natural and worthy that as the Blessed Joseph ministered to all the needs of the family at Nazareth and girt it about with his protection, he should now cover with the cloak of his heavenly patronage and defend the Church of Jesus Christ.

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Consider, secondly, in a more particular manner, what damnation is, and how many and great are the miseries it involves. A dying life, or rather a living death—a darksome prison, a loathsome dungeon—a binding of hand and foot in eternal chains—

Consider, thirdly, that of all bodily torments, which we so suffer in this world, there is none more terrible than to burn alive; but there is no comparison between burning here and in hell. Our fire is purgative, but not destructive; if compared to the flames of hell, the fire of this world is made to serve us, and is our comfort; but that of hell was created to be an instrument of vengeance of God upon sinners.

Consider, fourthly, and in order to frame a just notion of hell's torments, give ear to a most authentic vision, related by St. Teresa, chap. xxiii, of her life. "As I was one day," says the saint, "in prayer, on a sudden I found myself in hell: I know not how I was carried thither; only I understood that our Lord was pleased that I should see the place which the devils had prepared for me there, and which I had deserved by my sins.

Consider, fifthly, that the state of the poor sick man, of whom we have just now been speaking, how deplorable soever it may seem, might still be capable of some alloy of ease, or degree of comfort; an easy bed to lie on, a good friend to encourage or console him, a good conscience to support him, a will resigned to the will of God, and, in fine, certain knowledge that his pains must shortly abate, or put an end to his life.

Consider, sixthly, that there is no man on earth, in his senses, who would be willing, even for the empire of the world to be broiled on a gridiron like a Lawrence, or roasted for a short half hour by a slow fire, though he was sure to come off with his life; nay, where is the man that would even venture to hold his finger in the flame of a candle for half a quarter of an hour, for any reward this world can give? Where is then the judgment of the far greater part of Christians,

who pretend to believe in a hell, yet live on with so little apprehension and concern, for years together, in the guilt of mortal sin; in danger every moment of falling in this dreadful and everlasting fire, having no more than a hair's breadth, that is, the slender thread of an mortal life between their souls and a miserable eternity! Good God! deliver us from this unfortunate blindness from this desperate folly and madness.—Catholic Columbian.

A JERSEY MURDER MYSTERY.

Horrible Crime in a Farm House.

CAMDEN, N. J., September 9.—This morning at Leoney's Mill, two miles from Marchantville, Annie Elizabeth Leoney, the twenty-eight year old niece and housekeeper of Chalkley Leoney, the miller, was murdered by a brute who first attempted to outrage her and who also committed robbery. This morning Annie prepared breakfast for her uncle and a colored farmhand. They ate about 6 o'clock and went out into a field to work. The niece remained alone in the house awaiting another colored farmhand, Frank Lingo, to come to breakfast. Lingo did not appear in the field, but shortly after seven o'clock a girl residing on a neighboring farm ran to the field, announcing that she had been at the house and had seen Annie lying on the floor with her throat cut. The sister hastened to the house. Lingo on her back on the floor between an old fashioned settee and a stove was found, her head on the settee cushion, which had been dragged off on the floor. Her throat cut from ear to ear, and by the side of her head was a long-edged butcher knife with a sharp point, with which the crime had evidently been committed.

350 KILLED, 1,200 INJURED.

Frightful Explosions in the Antwerp Dynamite Factory.

ANTWERP, September 8.—Dynamite exploded today in the Corvelton Cartridge factory, in the vicinity of the Bourse, killing, it is estimated, 300 persons and injuring 1,200 more. Portions of the Bourse were struck by the burning fragments and set on fire, causing a panic in the building, which was as the time crowded. The explosion occurred in a workshop where old cartridges were being taken to pieces. Men and women were actively at work breaking them up and twenty-five millions had been partially broken. The number of dead was first estimated at 150.

The fire raged with irresistible fury, and by 7 p.m. covered two acres of buildings and docks. Eighty thousand barrels of oil in two large Russian oil warehouses caught fire almost simultaneously and the burning oil was scattered in all directions, setting fire to everything it touched and creating such an intense heat that no one could approach to within two hundred yards of the conflagration. The flames shot up an immense height, while a continuous roar of the explosions, almost drowning the roar of the flames, indicated that the dynamite was not all destroyed, and kept firemen and soldiers from approaching within working distance of the flames.

The factory was situated behind the docks, upon which millions of cartridges were being loaded. These exploding killed scores of men, women and girl employees before they could get out of reach of the deadly dynamite. The establishment had been condemned by the Municipal Council, but the Deputation Permanente, through some influence, had permitted work to continue. The victims are mostly girls and women.

Besides the oil works and Nobel's sheds there are many other houses burning and the shipping in the Africa and American docks is greatly endangered. Several vessels have been burned. Police, gendarmes and soldiers, as well as citizens are assisting in attempting to extinguish the flames, which it will be utterly impossible to control in less than twenty-four hours, while priests and sisters of charity are looking after the injured.

The city's streets are shrouded in an almost impenetrable gloom caused by the thick, black smoke. The losses will amount to many millions of francs. Windows and crockery three miles distant have been shattered by the explosions.

MIDNIGHT.—The latest estimate is that there are 350 dead and 1,200 injured. The explosions continue. At the American docks all the ships have been saved, owing to the favorable direction of the wind. The stained windows of the Cathedral are smashed and it is feared the steeple will collapse. The whole vicinity is strewn with debris. The dock sheds and hydraulic cranes are greatly damaged.

Soldiers and a large number of citizens are assisting the firemen. Many are dropping from suffocation. The scenes at the hospitals are heart-rending. King Leopold has sent a telegram expressing sympathy and asking for particulars. The people are incensed at the Deputation Permanente for allowing work to continue in the cartridge factory.

ANTWERP, September 8.—The fire which started in the cartridge factory Friday has at last been extinguished. Several more corpses have been found and the number of the dead will certainly reach 200. King Leopold and the cabinet ministers to-day visited the hospitals where the sufferers by the fire are being cared for. The arrest of M. Carvillan, the proprietor of the cartridge factory, has been ordered.

Many persons passed the night in the open air dreading to remain in their homes owing to the explosions of petroleum which occurred at intervals until Sunday morning. The village of Austrawell, inhabited by artisans, was completely destroyed for hundreds of yards and in its vicinity not a building escaped damage. All parts of the city show more or less damage and portions appear as if bombarded.

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A DISASTROUS TIDAL WAVE

Creates Consternation and Havoc at Several Summer Resorts.

ROCKAWAY BEACH, L. I., September 8.—This afternoon great consternation was caused here by a tidal wave which rolled seventy feet up the beach and broke over two or three thousand persons, men, women and children, who were sitting, walking and standing on the sands. It came without warning and though a rush was made for shelter few escaped being drenched. In receding the wave carried a number of women and children some distance with it, but all were saved, though many narrowly escaped drowning. A large number of small buildings, stands, etc., were washed away. The oldest inhabitant does not remember anything like it.

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Hartington and Churchill to the Electors.

LONDON, September 8.—Lord Hartington speaking at Bradford last night, said that while he did not favor a fusion of Unionists and Conservatives, he thought such a coalition might be desirable at some future time. He referred to American safeguards against a change of constitution as an example for England in dealing with Ireland, and urged the Government to adopt an active constructive policy.

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