

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

LET US BE SWEETER

Let us be sweeter Than envy or hate; Let us be roses To bloom by the gate. Let us make mellow life as we go; Let us be gentlemen, Not the rough blow!

WHY WORRY?

A man worried himself because he could not sleep. The whole trouble was in his mind—he did not need to sleep. Nature would put him to sleep, if sleep was necessary.

Some men have no appetite for their meals. It is better than that they do not eat. If they worry about it, the trouble is in their minds, not in their stomachs.

Why may not the controlling mind joy in the difficulties, setbacks and oppositions that come as part of the day's work—joy in them as the competent athlete does in accepting some handicaps in the race, so as to show his skill?

HIS BABY

She is my mother, said the young man, but I call her my baby. She is eighty years old. Old people are very like babies, and we ought to love them, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven.

She loved me when I was ignorant and backward, needing constant care, and all because I was hers, born of her body and part of her soul.

A GENTLEMAN

Some time ago, says the St. Paul Bulletin, Charles H. Butler, military instructor of the Sioux City, Iowa, Catholic Cadet Corps, offered a prize for the best brief essay on the subject, "What is a Gentleman?"

"The chief qualities of a gentleman are charity, courage, courtesy, character and will power. He is a gentleman who does not have to be born of a high family or, as the dictionary says, 'one above a yeoman'.

"A gentleman does not have to be born of a high family or, as the dictionary says, 'one above a yeoman'. There are more yeomen gentlemen than those who call themselves aristocrats. A fine example of a gentleman was Lincoln. It has never been said that he was unkind or ungentlemanly, and he was what is called a yeoman. Washington was born of a high and rich family, but he was a model gentleman. A gentleman never inflicts a pain, jeers or sneers and always tries to avoid finding fault.

"One of the best and most noticeable traits of the true gentleman is his respect for the rights of others.

A gentleman is never overbearing, but, on the contrary, has a more or less retiring disposition. He is courteous to everybody, rich and poor; he is honest, upright and true to his word. He does his duty to the best of his ability. He is never boisterous and guilty of mean or vulgar acts. He is patient and can take a defeat without a whimper.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

SHORT SKETCH OF LIVES OF SAINTS OF THE WEEK

AUGUST 20.—ST. BERNARD

Bernard was born at the castle of Fontaines, in Burgundy. The grace of his person and the vigor of his intellect filled his parents with the highest hopes, and the world lay bright and smiling before him when he renounced it forever and joined the monks of Cîteaux. All his brothers followed Bernard to Cîteaux except Nivard, the youngest, who was left to be the stay of his father in his old age.

AUGUST 24.—ST. BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE

St. Bartholomew was one of the twelve who were called to the apostolate by our blessed Lord Himself. Several learned interpreters of the Holy Scripture take this apostle to have been the same as Nathaniel, a native of Cana, in Galilee, a doctor in the Jewish law, and one of the seventy-two disciples of Christ, to whom he was conducted by St. Philip, and whose innocence and simplicity of heart deserved to be celebrated with the highest eulogy by the divine mouth of Our Redeemer.

AUGUST 21.—ST. JANE FRANCES DE CHANTAL

At the age of sixteen, Jane Frances de Frénoy, already a motherless child, was placed under the care of a worldly-minded governess. In this crisis she offered herself to the Mother of God, and secured Mary's protection for life. When a Protestant sought her hand, she steadily refused to marry, an enemy of God and His Church, and shortly afterwards, kneeling at the feet of the venerable old man, she sought and obtained his last blessing promising to repay in her new home his sacrifice by her prayers.

AUGUST 25.—ST. LOUIS, KING

The mother of Louis told him she would rather see him die than commit a mortal sin, and he never forgot her words. King of France at the age of twelve, he made the defence of God's honor the aim of his life. Before two years, he had crushed the Albigensian heretics, and forced them by stringent penalties to respect the Catholic faith. Amidst the cares of government, he daily recited the Divine Office and heard two Masses, and the most glorious churches in France are still monuments of his piety. When his courtiers remonstrated with Louis for his law that blasphemers should be branded on the lips, he replied, "I would willingly have my own lips branded to root out blasphemy from my kingdom."

the death of children, friends, and of St. Francis himself followed, while eighty-seven houses of the Visitation rose under her hand. Nine long years of interior desolation completed the work of God's grace; and in her seventieth year St. Vincent of Paul saw, at the moment of her death, her soul ascend, as a ball of fire, to heaven.

AUGUST 23.—ST. PHILIP BENIZI

St. Philip Benizi was born in Florence, on the Feast of the Assumption, 1293. That same day, by means of himself, was founded the Order of Servites, and as an infant of the breast, Philip broke out into speech at the sight of these new religious, and begged his mother to give them alms. Amidst all the temptations of his youth, he longed to become himself a servant of Mary, and it was only the fear of his own unworthiness which made him yield to his father's wish and begin to practise medicine.

OUR HOLY FATHER

Throughout the present conflict one teacher has sought with great courage and fidelity to keep before men and nations the Christian principles that must guide all in time of war and that must rule any council table that is to make sure a lasting peace. For some it is almost impossible to understand such an office or to give credit for singleness of intention and purity of motive to him who claims to hold it. That is

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knights. When a captive at Damietta, an Emir rushed into his tent brandishing a dagger red with the blood of the Sultan, and threatened to stab him also unless he would make him a knight, as the Emperor Frederick had Paderin. Louis calmly replied that no unbeliever could perform the duties of a Christian knight. In the same captivity he was offered his liberty on terms lawful in themselves, but enforced by an oath which implied a blasphemy, and though the infidels held their swords' points at his throat, and threatened a massacre of the Christians, Louis inflexibly refused. The death of his mother recalled him to France; but when order was re-established he again set forth on a second crusade. In August, 1270, his army landed at Tunis, and, though victorious over the enemy, succumbed to a malignant fever. Louis was one of the victims. He received the Vinticum kneeling by his camp-bed, and gave up his life with the same joy that he had given all else for the honor of God.

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