

FIVE MINUTE SERMON

REV. F. P. HICKEY, O. S. B. NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE ENEMIES OF THE CHURCH: THE FLESH

For he that soweth in his flesh, of his flesh also shall reap corruption. (Gal. vi. 8)

The second great enemy of the Church and the children of the Church is the Flesh—that is, our own human nature, with its passions and concupiscences.

How, then, can we best learn not to walk according to the flesh? All have to face this struggle at some time or other in their lives, and most of the poor souls, who are lost for ever, have been ruined by the sins of the flesh.

Early in the history of the human race we read: "And God, seeing that the wickedness of men was great on the earth, and that all the thought of their heart was bent upon evil at all times, it repented Him that He had made man on the earth."

And, later on, we find another example. God had pledged Himself not to destroy every living creature as He had done, but in His wrath He singled out cities, and this time it was not water, but fire, that was the avenger.

These punishments fill us with awe, but perhaps, thinking we are not so wicked as to deserve such chastisement, they might fail to make us give up occasions and attachments that might lead us into sin.

Then, perhaps, the second reason for dreading this class of deadly sins, may fill us with God's holy fear. It is the difficulty, almost the impossibility, of being rescued from its entanglements.

Let us take the example of Lot. Perhaps none of us deserve this praise which St. Peter gives to him: "For in sight and hearing he was just, dwelling among them, who from day to day vexed the just soul with unjust works."

Every one of us, my dear brethren, must flee from sin to be saved. We must be afraid, lest we be contaminated. We cannot take things easily, enjoy ourselves, keep no curb upon ourselves without falling away, allured by our desires.

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MOTHER LOVE I dreamt I was a frightened little boy Running to mother's arms. All was well;

MERCY AND JUSTICE That our courts should temper mercy with justice is a proposition from which no good man and true will dissent.

AIM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH If there is one subject more than another on which clear and accurate statement is required in our day, it is the aim of the Church.

ONE TRIUMPH OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS In these days of bustle and confusion when the lowering war cloud has obscured intellects and unleashed tongues, it is consoling to note that graduates and students of Catholic colleges see their duty clearly and are keen to do it.

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The philosophy and the science of Plato and Aristotle had been in the world for three centuries when Jesus Christ came, but He made no allusion whatever to them.

SUCH FRUITS COULD GROW ONLY ON A GOOD TREE By Franklin MacGill, before the Chicago Historical Society, Oct. 1901

By Franklin MacGill, before the Chicago Historical Society, Oct. 1901 "Marquette and his companions travelled on snow-shoes when they did not go barefoot; they lived on moss when they could not luxuriously feast upon pounded maize; they lived in bark huts when fortunate enough to sleep indoors; and they died of labor and exposure when they were not murdered by the Indians.

THE UBIQUITOUS CELT MANY IRISH NAMES ARE STILL FOUND IN SPAIN The London correspondent of the Manchester Guardian gives the following account of the Irish element in Spain on the authority of a Spanish friend:

SOWING AND REAPING There are a good many Christians who seem to think that the laws of nature do not apply at all to spiritual matters. If they should sow nothing but the seeds of some foul plant in their garden they would be much surprised to get a fine lot of sweet flowers from them.

IN THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL Patrick MacGill, the soldier-poet, in his recent book relates a little incident that points to the triumph of faith over race prejudice even in the heat of conflict.

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