

FIVE-MINUTE SERMONS FOR EARLY MASSES.

BY THE PAULIST FATHERS. Preached in their Church of St. Paul the Apostle, Fifty-ninth street and Ninth Avenue, New York City.

New York Catholic Review. FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT.

And He came into all the country about the Jordan preaching the Baptism of Penitence for the remission of sins. St. Luke III, 3.

The most of us, dear brethren, receive the sacrament of baptism in infancy. By it the stain of original sin was washed away, and we were invested with the title deeds of the Kingdom of Heaven.

But we did not receive a right to Heaven unconditionally. We were told: "If thou wilt enter into life keep the Commandments." And our Lord said the same thing to the young man who asked, "What shall I do that I may enter into eternal life?"

We must keep the Commandments; it is an absolute necessity; nothing can take the place of it. How many pray as the Pharisees did, recitation of prayers, utterance of sentiments about the love of God and our Saviour Christ, and all this is nothing without you sincerely strive to keep the Commandments.

Without the keeping of the Commandments, you are what he calls "the sounding brass and the tinkling cymbal." The very first thing then for a Christian to do when he understands in what relation he stands to God is to be firmly resolved to keep God's commandments.

To keep them all, one just as much as another. This resolution he should strive to deepen and strengthen in every way possible, by constant prayers, by attendance at Mass, by confession and Communion.

Also, how many do fall in this way. A temptation comes, it draws one powerfully. God and the eternal truths are all put aside and the delight of every pleasure is preferred.

With full deliberation and full understanding we choose this wicked thing and reject God and throw away our right to heaven. And then when we have done this, we see that we have done a foolish thing, we are condemned in our own hearts, we wish we had not done it, and we desire to be reconciled to God once more.

AN AMERICAN CATHOLIC VIEW. The Parnell difficulty has reached that stage when it can be safely left to the Irish people for settlement.

It is not necessary, however, that many of the reports published in the daily newspapers are manufactured in the interest of Parnell. The correspondent of the Herald, who signs himself "A Member of Parliament," is a Parnellite, and the cables to the Sun are also tinged with the Parnell spirit.

Nothing is more curious in the present trouble than the attempt of the Sun and other Parnell adherents to belittle the action of the Irish hierarchy, and to laugh at the connection of person, morality with public politics.

Life is Misery. To thousands of people who have the taint of scrofula in their blood. The agonies caused by the dreadful running sores and other manifestations of this disease are beyond description.

Milnard's Liniment cures Colds, etc.

PHILANTHROPY AND TRUE CHARITY.

THE MODERN PHARISEE. London Univers.

On Sunday the annual appeal in aid of the funds of the Hospital of St. John and Elizabeth was presided in the Church of St. John of Jerusalem by the Rev. Langton George Vere. Taking for his text: "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy," he pointed out that by the providence of God those in that congregation had come there that day that they might receive from God a great and special grace.

It is a more blessed thing to give than to receive. Those were the words that he said, and he was right. He was afraid that in the nineteenth century, though there was so much of the sentiment of philanthropy, and so many men with great ideas for the amelioration of the condition of the poor of the working classes, true Christian charity was being crowded out and put into the background.

PEOPLE NOW A DAYS knew what aims giving meant? Alms-giving was almost a sacramental power. The preacher then dwelt upon the efficacy of alms-giving. It was like unto the sacrament of baptism, for as the Holy Scriptures said, it purged the soul from sin and men from death.

MANLY REPLY OF A JUSTICE-LOVING AND FAIR-MINDED EPISCOPALIAN. In your edition of last Sunday you alluded to my criticism of the pastoral letter of the Rt. Rev. Bishop Cox as having given ground to the Parnellites.

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