## CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

TRUE BLESSINGS

Better than gold is a conscience clear, Though toiling for bread in an humble sphere, Doubly blessed with content and

health. Untried by the lusts and cares of

Lowly living and lofty thought
May adorn and ennoble the poorest cot; The blessings that never brought

nor sold, That each may share, are better than

-FATHER RYAN.

YOU WILL NEVER BE SORRY

For living a pure life. For doing

your level best. For looking before leaping. For hearing before judging. being kind to the poor. thinking before speaking. For harboring clean thoughts. For standing by your principles. For being generous to an enemy. For asking pardon when in error. For being square in business dealings. For giving an unfortunate person a lift. For promptness in keeping your prom-For putting the best construc-on the acts of others.—Intermountain Catholic.

### DON'T BE CARELESS IN YOUR WORK

Never get careless about your work or think you are indispensable. No one is indispensable: there is always so you cannot afford to do anything your best. No matter how small the undertaking or duty, do it well as you can. If you are reliable in small things, you certainly cannot be trusted or relied upon for big undertakings.

## EMPLOYERS

Many articles have been written to employees-to give an honest day's work, to take an interest in the busi-ness, to be respectful and have gratitude towards the man or the firm Providence to give them the opportunity to earn their bread.

It would not hurt a good many employers if they were directed by some employes-to treat them like human beings, to give them a fair day's pay not to keep them waiting for their money, to promote them and increase their wages when they deserve it, and to take a paternal interest in

labor market to screw down their first, pours the precious ointment, in hands to accept less than a decent wage, to get angry over trifles, to head. And then we find the tomb of make their employes miserable, to show their own position, and to treat their servants like slaves. They'll the family of Bethany,

The other day an employer talked is almost impossible for me to get men that can do their work properly," he said. He pointed to the next room where a dozen youths were busy at desks. "Most of those are incompetent," he went on. "If I could get the same number of men on the absurdity of most of the present day talk against capital, in its treatment of labor. "Why, the trouble is," he insisted, "there isn't enough labor in the world, that is,

the men that worked for this employer. I asked him what he thought of those opinions. He burst of Jesus Christ, and placed themout laughing. "Why this place is a selves under his obedience. This kind of school," he said. "Men are was the beginning of the Society of continually leaving here to take Jesus. Our Lord promised St. Igna-other jobs in the same line of work tius that the precious heritage of His where they can get more money. The boss is continually letting good men go for the simple reason that he's too short-sighted to see how

ployer's method of dealing with his account of his imprisonment, he subordinates. I found that in nearly replied, "It is a sign that you have every instance his workers were young men. At first I supposed that he was a believer in youth, its eagerness and its energy. Such, however, proved not to be the case. He emcontent to work for comparatively small salaries. Where they had only themselves to support they could the 31st of July, 1556. live in some comfort and could dress well: but as soon as they began to

ployers often forget that the fault cautions possible to prevent the may lie in themselves. Nearly every man who has succeeded can look fast asleep, on the very night before back upon experiences that might he day intended for his execution, have been disheartening, directly resulting from the failure of employers out of the hands of his enemies. He to recognize good work when they was guarded by sixteen soldiers, four

was discharged from a responsible He was fastened to the ground by He came very near going into another line of work that he was plainly unsuited to.

There are employers who think it a good plan for them to keep down their men, that is, to keep the men discovery of his relics on the 3d of the series every opportunity for fault finding. In this way they weaken the incentive to good work and to ambition. Then they take a patronizing tone and complain of inefficiency and lack of interest.

dropped off from his hands. Following has guide, he passed after him through the first and second wards of watches, and through the iron gate which led into the city, which opened to them of its own accord. "in their place." So they never give encouragement. On the contrary ency and lack of interest.

It is only the exceptional employer who is clever enough to see that a good worker is an asset and that the est way to secure full, value from the worker is by liberal treatment.

I have just heard of an eccentric employer who takes his men off on employer who takes his men on on occasional outings. His competitors like to laugh at him. But he thinks he has the laugh on them. He knows that his personal relation with the men make them work all the harder. "When I am away," I don't feel any work. "I don't feel any worry. hard, if not harder."

This case is different from that of nother employer who is known as a slave-driver. He has made himself detested by his employes. They take pleasure in doing him up whenever they can. When he is not about they in groups and giving him abuse.-

## OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

SHORT SKETCH OF LIVES OF SAINTS OF THE WEEK

JULY 29.—ST. MARTHA, VIRGIN St. John tells us that "Jesus loved Martha and Mary and Lazarus," and yet but few glimpses are vouchsafed us of them. First, the sisters are set before us with a word. Martha re-ceived Jesus into her house, and was busy in outward, loving, lavish service, while Mary sat in silence at the feet she had bathed with her tears. Then, their brother is ill, and they send to Jesus, "Lord, he whom Thou lovest is sick." And in His own time the Lord came, and they go out to meet him; and then follows that scene of unutterable tenderness and of sublimity unsurpassed: the silent waiting of Mary; Martha strong in faith, but realizing so vividly, with and to take a paternal interest in their welfare.

Many employers seem to think that they are free to get the most work possible for the least pay possible, that they may take advantage of the labor market to screw down their her practical turn of mind, the fact St. Martha, at Tarascon, in Provence. When the storm of persecution came, the family of Bethany, with a few told differently on the Day of companions, were put into a boat, without cars or sail, and borne to the coast of France. St. Mary's tomb is with me about the difficulties he was experiencing in securing men. "It ed as the founder of the Church of Marseilles; and the memory of the virtues and labors of St. Martha is still fragrant at Avignon and Tara-

JULY 31 .- ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

St. Ignatius was born at Loyola in that really could do the work I should | Spain, in the year 1491. He served be willing to pay them twice the his king as a courtier and a soldier salary." Then he delivered a speech till his thirtieth year. At that age, intelligent and willing labor. Most others to join him in the service of of the so-called labor nowadays is God. Prompted by their love for Prompted by their love for incompetent. Men are unwilling to Jesus Christ, Ignatius and his comwork and they are stupid."

It happened that I knew one of Holy Land, but war broke out, and passion, should never fail his Society, a heritage of contradictions and persecutions. St. Ignatius was cast into prison at Salamanca, on a suspicion of heresy. To a friend who I made inquiries about this em- expressed sympathy with him on but little love of Christ in your heart, or you would not deem it hard a fate to be in chains for His sake, I declare to you that all Sala-manca does not contain as many fet ployed young men because they were ters, manacles and chains as I long to wear for the love of Jesus Christ." St. Ignatius went to his crown on

AUGUST 1 .- ST. PETER'S CHAINS think of getting married they found themselves involved in a grave prob-Herod Agrippa, King of the Jews, lem. There were all those expenses ahead, housekeeping for two, and later for others, with doctor's bills people, caused St. Peter, the prince and all the inevitable items of a of the sacred college, to be cast into family. It was those items that this prison. It was his intention to put employer wished to dodge. He complained because he could not secure exceptional ability in those inexperiup its prayers to God for the delivenced workers who would take less than a living wage for a family man.

In talking about subordinates emheard them. The king took all preto recognize good work when they was guarded by sixteen solders, four of whom always kept sentry in their tion. One of the ablest and most successful men of my acquaintance with him, and two at the gate.

prison, and an angel appeared near him, and, striking him on the side, awaked him out of his sleep, and one street, then suddenly disappear-ing, left him to seek some asylum. The apostle went directly to the surnamed Mark, where several disciples were met together, and were sending up their prayers to heaven for his deliverance. As he stood knocking without, a young woman knowing Peter's voice, ran in and informed the company that he was at the door; they concluded it must be his guardian angel, sent by God he says, "I don't feel any worry. I upon seme extraordinary account, know that the men will work just as until, being let in, he related to them the whole manner of his miraculous escape; and having enjoined them to give notice thereof to St. James

and the rest of the brethren, he withdrew to a place of more retirement and security, carrying, where-ever he went, the heavenly blessing AUGUST 21 .- ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI

parents near Naples, in 1696. octor in law, and he threw himself truth, he is not only a liar, but a perinto this career with ardor and suc- jurer as well. made a vow never to lose time, and, though his life was spent in prayer selves lawful. and work, he composed a vast number of books, filled with such science, unction, and wisdom that he has say unto you swear not at all. . and in his eighty-third year had pubdirector forbade him to write more. Very many of these books were written in the half hours snatched from his intercourse with one another. labors as missionary, religious What a person swears to in an superior, and bishop, or in the midst oath may be a present fact, somehold a piece of marble against his aching head while his right hand Yet he counted no time wasted which was spent in charity. He did not refuse to hold a long correspondence with a simple soldier I take an oath of assertion. lived in evil times, and met with many persecutions and disappoint. definite date in the past. from offering the Adorable Sacrifice :

1787, in his ninety first year. AUGUST 3 .- THE FINDING OF ST.

STEPHEN'S RELICS cious remains. His body lay long concealed, under the ruins of an old tomb, in a place twenty miles from Jerusalem, called Caphargamala, where stood a church which was served by a venerable priest named Lucian. In the year 415, on Friday, the third of December, about o'clock at night, Lucian was sleeping in his bed in the baptistry, where he commonly, lay in order to guard the sacred vessels of the church. Being half awake he saw a tall, comely old man of a venerable aspect, who approached him, and, calling him thrice by his name, bid him go to Jerusalem and tell Bishop John to come and open the tombs in which his remains and certain other serv-ants of Christ lay, that through their means God might open to many the gates of His clemency. This vision was repeated twice. After the second time, Lucian went to Jerusalem and laid the whole affair before Bishop John, who bade him go and search search for the relics, which, the Bish-op concluded, would be found under a heap of small stones which lay in a field near his church. In digging up the earth here, three coffins or chests were found. Lucian sent im-mediately to acquaint Bishop John with this. He was then at the Council of Diospolis, and taking along with him Eutonius, Bishop of Sebaste, and Eleutherius, Bishop of Jericho, came to the place. Upon the opening of St. Stephen's coffin the earth shook, and there came out the coffin such an agreeable odor that no one remembered to have smelled anything like it. There was a vast multitude of people assembled in that place, among whom were many persons afflicted with divers

position a few years ago on the ground of unfitness. The blow considerably damaged his confidence. In the middle of the carried in the coffin, with singing of psalms and hymns, to the Church of Sion at Jerusalem. The translation was perfomed on the 29th of Decembade him instantly arise, gird his coat about him, put on his sandals and his cloak, and follow him. The St. Stephen, commemorating the apostle did so, for the chains had discovery of his relics on the 3d of dropped off from his hands. Follow- August probably on account of the

Proper reverence for the Name of God demands that we use careful precaution in the taking of oaths. When a man takes an oath, he calls upon God to witness the truth of what he is saying, and in so doing, he virtually exercises an act of Divine We have perhaps heard that trib-

ute sometimes paid to a man's veracity in the assertion that "his word is as good as his bond;" that is to say, his simple statement may be relied on with as much confidence as though he backed it up with a sum of money If this were happily true of everyone, there would perhaps be little need of anyone's taking an oath. If all men were absolutely truthful,

their mere assertion would in itself

be sufficiently convincing.

Taking human nature as it is, however, and not as it ought to be, we re-alize that there frequently arises the necessity of making sure that a man St. Alphoneus was born of noble oble means what he says. He may be His considered capable of telling a lie spiritual training was entrusted to the Fathers of the Oratory in that city, and from his boyhood Alphon-Name in support of his falsehood. city, and from his boyhood Alphon-sus was known as a most devout Brother of the Little Oratory. At unusual moment, to "take an oath," the early age of sixteen he was made and if therein he fails to speak the

cess. A mistake, by which he lost an important cause, showed him the lawful, but under certain conditions, vanity of human fame, and deter-mined him to labor only for the honor of God. He entered the Book of Jeremias: "Thou shalt swear, priesthood, devoting himself to the as the Lord liveth, in truth, and in most neglected souls; and to carry judgment, and in justice," from which on this work he founded later the missionary congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer. At the age of sixty-six he became Bishop of St. Agatha, and undertook the reform of his diodundertook the cese with the zeal of a saint. He it follows that there must be some

When Our Divine Lord, as St. Matthew records, declared been declared one of the Doctors of but let your speech be yea, yea; the Church. St. Alphonsus wrote his first book at the age of forty nine, revoke the teaching of the Old Testament by forbidding all oaths, but lished about sixty volumes, when his rather confirmed its prohibition of such rash and unnecessary oaths as men frequently employ in their daily

of continual bodily or mental suffer-ings. With his left hand he would or something which is still to come. Thus, let me suppose that I call upon God to witness my veracity in saying that I know nothing whatever concerning the present whereabouts of a certain article or sum of money : who asked his advice, or to play the would be the same kind of oath, too, harpischord while he taught his novinfi I were to solemnly swear, e.g., ices to sing spiritual canticles. He that I was not present when a cer tain crime was committed on some

ments. For his last seven years he was prevented by constant sickness moreover, and be what is termed "Promissory,"—a sworn p that within a year I shall but he received Holy Communion that within a year I shall make daily, and his love for Jesus Christ amends for the damage I have caused and his trust in Mary's preyers sus-tained him to the end. He died in bears some resemblance to a vow, as we shall see later on.

mentioned, must obtain, to make an This second festival in honor of the holy protomartyr St. Stephen was instituted by the Church on the occasion of the discovery of his precious remains. His body lay long an eath must be made. Unless I have good cause, I must not take an cath. To do so would be making a vain and unnecessary use of God's Name, or of that object, sacred to

Him, by which I swear. Thus, if I were to take my oath that these shoes are more comfortable than any I have ever worn, I would not be employing the discretion which so solemn an act demands.

The "truth" of an oath demands that what I swear to be not probable but, to the best of my knowledge, really true, at the time I make the assertion. If I be in doubt, and still take my oath, I commit a grave sin in that I invoke God's support of my statement, without knowing whether

this really true or false.

Lastly, an oath, to be lawful, must be made in "justice,"—it must not injure anyone, or involve the commission of a sin. In an oath of assertion I would not fulfill this condition if I reveal, even thought it be true, something which I have no right to tell to another, as, for exsample, the hidden crime of a person. Again, I would be violating "justice" by taking my oath never to cross the threshold of the church again; or never to speak to a certain person who had offended me.

So much for the lawfulness of an oath. What is needed for its validity? We are taught that to take a valid oath, one must have the in-tention of swearing, and must employ some formula or other in doing so. If, without any intention of swearing, I feign an oath, I am makswearing, I feign an oath, I am making a vain use of God's Name, and thelling, moreover, an untruth in itself at least venially sinful. If my act involves injury to another, or to the public at large, my sin becomes a grievous one.

and they will stop their pursuit or you.

And before very long you will actually have joined the organization of non-gossipers. Gossip will be distasteful to you, and you will avoid it from taste as well as from

then shut them up. The Bishop consented to leave a small portion of them at Caphargamala; the rest were cause of the insult it offers to Divine Truth. It is not only a lie, it is sacrilege.

Not everyone who tells a lie while under oath is a perjurer, however. A man on the witness-stand may be come so thoroughly befuddled by the cross examination of a lawyer, that he will swear to anything and every thing; there is no guitt cause there is no "de deliberation.

The man did not know, perhaps what he was saying.

What obligation am I under to

keep my oath? If it was a valid oath, I am under a seriods obligation. If, on the other hand, I bound myself to do something which is un lawful, I am under no obligation. did wrong in making any such promise but I would do greater wron were I to fulfill it. If I make a promisory oath, and have tention of ever keeping it, grievously, and indeed against truth. Wherefore no one should promise under oath what, as he sees it, there

is no real probability of his being able to fulfill. For the consolation of those who report, annually or oftener, to priest, to take a temperance pledge which they break just as often, it may be mentioned that they are not guilty of having sworn

There are certain forms of bad language which resemble oaths. Their nature will depend on the intention of the person who uses the Such expressions as or "As God is my judge" may really be oaths, if those making them intend to invoke God's witness to the truth of their statements. ally, however, they are not intended in so serious a sense.

they must be employed, our ambition should be to honor the Holy Name in which they are made.

But we should strenuously avoid all those careless figures of speech in which the Holy Name is sounded irreverently. No tribute is paid to God by such appeals, nor is any greater force attached to what we say by the repeated mention of His Holy Name.—Catholic Transcript.

## UNFAILING SOLACE

The " Imitation " has helped many In the introductory study which Mrs. Wilfried Ward contributed to the volume of "Last Lectures" by her husband, the late Dr. Ward, she tells of the things that comforted him in his closing days-the care and devotion of friends, the tender solicitude of his household, and the spiritual solace that was greatest of all

"He usually managed to walk up the steep hill to the church, where he said the Miserere, and each night he read the whole chapter of the Royal Road of the Cross from the 'Imitation of Christ,' and often the one preceding it. He read, too, his W. Reilly. old favorite—the little volume of Fenelon's 'Letters to Men.' On the Translated by M. E. Mannix.

ordinary joy to him, and his reserve on spiritual matters was wearing thin. . . . His voice was failing, but he kept saying, 'Thank God! How wonderful!' and once he added: 'No one knows what it is to be a Catholic.' No one could doubt of his joy or fail to be comforted by it—the deep Christian penitence so constant and so complete for months past was turned into joy."

Such testimony as this serves to drive home the lesson of what the Church is to her children in all ranks ordinary joy to him, and his re-

Church is to her children in all ranks of the royal road of the Cross made Our Dumb Pets, Tales of Birds and Animals view.

Gossip is interesting. Few will deny that. But gossip is not worth while. And even if you must go to extremes to break yourself or your family or your friends of the habit of gossiping, you should persevere in a self-imposed task to lessen the

number of gossipers in the world. People cannot stop gossiping suddenly, unless they have great self-control and a strong, impelling purpose. They must gradually accustom themselves to the change: they must give themselves something else to think about.

Harmless and friendly talk about one's neighbors and acquaintances is all very well: and to talk of one's friends is the most natural and laudable thing in the world. Such kindly talk can do no harm, and often accomplishes much good.

But when you find yourself gossiping—when you find yourself repeating unkind things, or putting an peating unkind things, or putting an Brunowe.

Roberts.

The Mad Knight. From the German of O. v Schaching.

The Madcap Set at St. Anne's, Marion 3 Brunowe. odd and suspicious construction on things your friends have done, even if you do not repeat your suspicions
—then you should take yourself rigidly in hand.

Refuse to listen to unkind gossip At first your gossiping cronies will wonder at the change in you, and but gradually they will realize that you have left their chattering ranks and they will stop their pursuit of

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