SIX

FIVE MINUTE SERMON

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

THE MARKS OF THE CHURCH : THE CHURCH IS ONE

There shall be one fold and one Shepherd. n x. 16.)

The Church, that our Blessed Lord came to found on earth, to be of use to the souls of men, must possess such features or marks that men can recognize it. And as there are so many various religions, it is all more imperative that these the marks should easily be noted, and found only in one Church, the original one that Christ founded.

These marks, as you know, are The Church is one, is holy, is lic and Apostolic. We are Catholic and Apostolic. bound to know and understand these things, and the knowledge of them braces us up to the practice of our holy religion.

Unity or oneness of the The Church, to take the first characteristic today, must be a real, visible and

perpetual unity. The world, and many religions likewise, talks of broadmindedness comprehensiveness, that every man should be free to pick and choose, and take or leave what he likes, as to spiritual doctrines and the service of God. But the Church of Christ insists on real unity in Faith, in Government, in Worship.

In Faith there must be the same Creeds-the Apostles', the Nicene, and the Athanasian. And each must be believed in the same manner, explained completely and definitely in the same meaning. Test the unity of belief of any sect or church you wish, with some such subject as the communion of saints, or the forgiveness of sins, phrases they glibly use. Test their unity of belief! There would arise such a storm of controversy, and a thousand and one However, there was a period of about opinions, that it would make us realize, in comparison, what is Cath-olic Unity. About "forgiveness of sins," for example, there is not one divergent thought in the minds of a hundred thousand good Catholics.

In Government, too, there must be real unity. All the figures of the Church, a kingdom, an army, a city, a fold imply a govern-ment, a ruler, a leader, a ment, a ruler, a leader, a shepherd. Why are there ministers tions in any church except to teach and preserve unity? Otherwise each minister would be a revolutionist, raising the flag of rebellion and leading the people his own way. And if there are ministers to pre serve order and unity, why not bishops or overseers, as the name signifies, to watch over the ministers; and if bishops, why not one chief Bishop, the Pope, the Father of the faithful, the Vicar of Jesus Christ, to be in supreme charge of the Government? A ship must have a captain- whom all obey, an army a general, a government a premier. Is the Church of Christ, then, alone to be left without a head, a ruler, one whom all must acknowledge and obey ?

Real Unity in Faith, in Government, and in Worship. By worship sigh, let us understand the outward and solemn service of God. The guardians of this unity are the ritual, the ceremonies, the rubrics or regulayea, the very language in tions. which the Sacraments are administered and the Mass said. Latin is used, a dead language, which means not a spoken, commonly-used language, which in the course of time might alter so much that changes and vesture, but his hat and his manner truth sufficiently clearly at the time errors could creep in, perhaps un- of wearing it will always reveal his

view as he has given your corres firmly by them - men, who know their faith, and can give an account pondent. It is a very distinguished of it, men, who obey and honour the citizen and a very government of their Church, and by Catholic speaking. that obedience and respect strength "THE INNER MEANING OF THE WAR en their Church, and make others notice and reverence it. By being men, again, who love their holy Worship, to whom every detail, cere-Signor Meda said You have done me the honor to ask me for an expression of my thoughts on the inner meaning of the mony, and word is something sacred. Blessed are such men, they are the servants of the Most High! To them He has committed the honor of

War and on the events which have His Church. By their good lives they make it visible as the one true Church of Christ. And generations of such men, handing the faith down from father to son, as the one treasany thoughts of my own to express. As such I adhere frankly and freely ure they possess, each in their day, make the unity of God's Church perto what has been said so often and so well by the illustrious president of What a picture ! Good Catholics,

the nations' ministry. My words must be regarded as the expression kneeling in many a Church today, attending Mass, saying their Rosary, are linked, by their faith and hope of my personal opinions. In the enormous overwhelming and love, to relatives and friends world crisis into which we have been long gone before them. We, their plunged for three years, it seems to children's children, are working now that there are three distinct for that glorious crown, which our periods to be noted. The first, from August, 1914, to the entry of Italy into the War, seemed forefathers have long ago received for fidelity to the one true Church.

which

TEMPERANCE

petual.

DIDN'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF HIS HAT

would soon be concluded. But the initial fact of the campaign, the vio-Associate Justice of the Supreme Court Henry A. Melvin tells the lation of Belgian neutrality, had following good story about the late already brought into existence a question of high ideal significance Father McSweeney in a recent numout of which necessarily arose the ber of the Oakland Tribune on which consequences which followed. Very paper the Justice began his career as soon all Europe saw that it was not a reporter. He had a brother reportthe defence of the Austro Hungarian er on the same staff.

monarchy against Slav pretensions This man's knowledge on all sorts of subjects was seemingly limitless and he produced "copy" with a wonderful facility. He had one fault Alliance that was at stake, but a far tion against the Franco-Russian Alliance that was at stake, but a far more vast problem : the desire of hegemony on the part of the against which he battled manfully but sometimes unsuccessfully. He Central Empires, to use military could not always resist the bottle. successes to ensure a position of absolute and perpetual predominance a year when, with the help of that in the world. fine Christian gentleman, Father Mcrealized that it was no longer possi-Sweeney, he succeeded in keeping ble to remain outside the conflict absolutely sober. He played the organ every Sunday in Father Mcwithout, at the very least, dropping Sweeney's church, and during the to the rank of a second class Power week the good clergyman used to call taking her place as vassal of her old Allies transformed into conquerors. frequently upon his friend for the Thus began the second period of the purpose of talking with him and conflict : and this has shown more trying to strengthen his good resoluand more clearly, through succeeding

military operations, the ethical and But one night this reporter was overtaken by the "enemy " and on the following morning he appeared the peoples allied against the Central at the office in a sadly demoralized state. I was instructed to take him to his quarters in the Galindo hotel. After much coaxing, mingled with the application of a few simple football tricks, I finally succeeded in getfresh and more awful conflagration. ting him locked securely in his room and knew that he was sound asleep "by the sound" as Milt knew it Schwartz would say.

As I emerged from the hotel carryof Germany and Austria-Hungary, of the necessity of bringing the War to ing in my bosom the proud conscious. a rapid conclusion ; and it was then ness of a good deed well done, I met Father McSweeney. We greeted each other and he said: "Have you seen that we had the so-called peace proposal of December, 1916, with which began the third phase of the conflict. Dave?" I regret to say that I In reality it was a proposal for surreturned an evasive answer, which render. If the Allies had accepted it led the good man to believe that I had not. "Well," said he, with a sigh, "I saw him early this morning in the terms in which the Centra "Well," said he, with a Empires put it forward, they would have found themselves in a very and he avoided me - purposely I short space of time in a terrible situ think." And after a moment's reflection he added musingly: "And I did not like the looks of his hat!" Many their efforts in such a way that they their efforts in such a way that they would not have been able to re-initimes since that time I have recalled that remark and have noted that the tiate them when it was found, by the hat is an unfailing index of a man's discussion of concrete terms, that the adversary's claims were impossible of condition. A drunken man may walk straight, talk without thickness of acceptance. The events which followed showed in the course of time might thing else about his bearing and clearly—although all did not see the

THE CATHOLIC RECORD

the cycle runs its course some other the only possible attitude of a reason country may see how impossible it is to be left outside. A solution and the second sec 1914-1917 A PERIOD OF REVOLUTION

But there is still another aspect of the world crisis that must be consid-

ered. It is possible that the changes which the War has brought about ered. among the peoples have not yet been sufficiently realized. Yet it should be enough to see how in all the fighting countries there has come about the actual condition of the "nation difficulty in replying. Not that as a member of the government, I have any thoughts of my compty in arms"; England passing at a bound every country, everywhere the rise of colossal war industries which would have been looked on before this time as beyond the range of possibility, the finances of every country undertaking obligations and

imposing taxes which before the War would have been looked on as madness, civil populations forced to undergo restrictions which would have been thought insupportable the realization of all this should suffice to mark the three years 1914-1917 as a "period of revolution."

DEMOCRATIC REFORMS MUST COME What wonder that this great social movement, which is under way, has caused the downfall of the autocratic regime in Russia, and has brought to the surface serious constitutional problems in Austria and Prussia. I will go further and say that it is only natural that the very countries which already enjoy free political institutions should see the opportune moment for a revision of those institutions in order to be better prepared to meet the internal situations which the War will have brought about. Above all things it would be a crime for parties to find reasons in the European crisis for weakening the cohesion of the whole state, to get undue advantage for themselves out of the suffering consequent on the War, to cause social disturbance, for by doing so, instead of repairing the osses they would be simply adding fresh ones, perpetuating war in the nation itself after it had been finished in the international field. But this does not mean that it would not be right, and indeed the duty of govern ments and statesmen to undertake a work of bold and prudent reform, to put on a more stable footing justice in relations between the classes, for a more fair distribution of taxation, to guarantee the direction of public historical character of the crisis; affairs in the hands of men who must Empires have seen the absolute necessity of a definite and radical be free, strong and honest, so that it may never come under the power of self-seekers, factions, and the ambisolution, without which it became self-seekers, factions, and the ambi-clear that peace would be no more tions and cupidity of individuals or

than a truce and in a very short time castes. But here you will understand that we should be all engulfed again in a I cannot specify. I think that for collective peoples the War is, so co Coincident with this realization on speak, a state of fever which excites, the part of the Entente came the burns, but consumes. When the alization, no less clear on the part temperature falls to normal again it leaves the organism weak. Then is needed convalescence and restoratives to regain the old energy, fresh and purified, so to enjoy new life and health with even greater pleasure than of old.—Chicago New World.

THE SACRED HEART THE SOLDIER'S FRIEND

"In these solemn days of war, devotion to the Sacred, Heart ought to take yet firmer grip upon men's souls," says the Missionary. "The thinks, then, the thoughts that are down by a mortal wound he yearns for a mother's tenderness, but he -the absolute necessity for a refumust die in tragic loneliness and ents often in unavoidable neglect merited, by his devotion to the the year 1917 there began to appear sibility in entering on this third period, but no one can help seeing Sacred Heart, comfort from the Friend of Friends! In such a moment none but his Divine Friend can come to him and, through a acters, who hold long conversations spiritual communion, can communion uninteresting subjects. Nor will cate something of that joy which He our historian fail, perhaps, to remark that, curiously enough, the rise of this new school of fictionists synbrought to him every First Friday through the Sacrament of His love. In the darkness of the night, amid chronized with the spread of the the loneliness of an abandoned trench, the faithful champion of the week-end in-bed movement. See how much, alas, the doctor who first pub-Sacred Heart will find Him Whom lished that prescription may have to his soul loveth." answer for !-- America.

from pride and stubbornness and error

Likewise, submission to an earthly authority divinely constituted and assisted to teach the truth is quite consistent with legitimate intellectual emancipation. Such we believe to be the authority of Christ's Church. To heed its teaching in matters of faith and morals is to heed Christ Himself. It is simply submitting to revealed truth. The "Reformation" rejected the authority of the Church in the name of emancipation of the spirit. The consequence has been an increasing class of opinions, a heing tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine. Is this true freedom of mind-true emancipation of spirit ?-The Guardian.

WEEK-ENDS IN BED

"Pass your week-ends in bed" is the novel advice a physician recently gave, through the public press, to the lean, the nervous and the weak. A conscientious observance of the practice, he wrote, would effect a complete restoration of health. Here is his prescription :

'The week end rest begins as soon as you get home on Saturday and lasts until you have to get back on the job Monday. Get right into bed and stay there. Have all food served in bed. No visiting. No talk. Just keep quiet and doze the time away. At the most, let someone read some good, light literature for you. Mon day morning you will find that you have found new vigor and strength for the week's work."

If that doctor's counsel is widely most revolutionary character are likely to ensue. For in all probability vast multitudes of men, women and children will now suddenly discover, for the first time, that they are dangerously lean, nervous or weak, and will joyfully hasten to adopt the pleasant panacea of a week-end in bed. The spread of the practice will sadly deplete, no doubt, our Sunday congregations. For those who now get up very reluctantly just in time to be late for the eleven o'clock Mass, will, on the plea of safeguarding their health, from evening Benediction. Then since empty pews and empty contribution boxes, as all the world knows, are near relatives, many a worthy parochial charity will probably begin to languish. Other economic results of the week end in bed movement will, perhaps, be the failure of numberless summer resorts, for fewer and fewer people will flit off Friday evening to mountain, lake or beach. The managers of theaters and film halls, most likely, will also go into bankruptcy owing to loss of patronage on what were once their best-paying days. Merchants, too, will be

threatened with financial disaster, for the the week end-in-bed enthusiasts will naturally buy but few new clothes, and those will be of the simplest, least expensive kind, and week enders will no longer use a golf sticks, which they once considered indispensable.

It will also be interesting to observe what kind of best-sellers will of four leaders of the Masonic order now be popular with those taking the soldier is lonely in the midst of a and somniferous character, for novels and which report condemned as libel-legion, when he faces eternity. He that are too thrilling or absorbing ous the statement that such an thinks, inter the barrier with the learness, but he week end in bed prescription is it will future historian of our Ame

THE CATHOLIC

CHURCH

"When I was a little boy my best

Feeling thus, I am all the more

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"First a respect for the organizing power and wisdom of the Catholic Church Take a map of Oakland and mark on it the location of the

Catholic churches. They are all over a mile apart, but not much over a mile apart. Then locate the Pro-testant churches. They are gathered in groups, competing with one another wastefully and foolishly.

Second, reverence and dignity in vorship are virtues of the Catholic Church, which are too often lacking in our Protestant churches. While the Catholic Church has limitations to its lack of congregational singing and in its use of a dead language, it followed, it is clear that results of a nevertheless secures a devotional spirit and an atmosphere of worship far greater than the average Protestant church. Our Protestant churches with their (too often) undignified architecture, gingerbread decorations, giggling choirs, cheap music and slangy preaching have much to learn from the dignity and reverence of the

Catholic Church. Third, along with this quality of worship goes democracy as an admirable quality in the Catholic Church. It is a curious contradiction that a church monarchial in organization is democratic in its worship. But Proconsider themselves excused even testantism has much to learn of these Roman Catholic churches where the rich and poor meet together, where the floors are bare and the pews austere, and the only display wealth and ornament is at the sacred focal point of the altar. The poor does not fear he may have man intruded into a rich man's club when he enters the Catholic Church.

" And finally, we Protestants have to learn from the Catholic Church that sense of membership in church universal, of fellowship with all the ages and all the world, which is the peculiar glory of the Catholic Church.

Rev. Mr. Palmer deplored what he termed is a libelous campaign being waged against the Catholic Church by "patriotic " publications and societies, and as an example read the fake oath alleged to be a part of the hundred things, from automobiles to ritual of the Knights of Columbus and compared it with the true oath of allegiance. He concluded with a reading of the report of a committee

appointed to investigate the charges new treatment. The stories will, of that the fake oath is a part of the course, have to be of a very soothing ritual of the Knights of Columbus will be likely to delay the patient's obligation formed any part of the " We find that Indeed, some neither the alleged oath nor any oath

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"THE LILY OF

JUNE 30, 1917

distinguished

AND THE PROBLEMS OF THE

to be a struggle, backed by armed forces, limited to the settlement of

all the matters which made for serious disagreement the center of

many thought that this struggle

was Balkan influence; and

It was then that Italy

FUTURE PEACE"

perceived

And this real unity must, secondly be visible. A mark by which a thing is known must be visible, or bow could the thing be recognized a This seems so self-evident that one can scarcely believe that it has been an argument for ages that the Church of Christ existed in its purity so long—that length of time is very much debated — and then it became submerged, and appeared again in radiance at the Reforma-And what became of the souls of men during those centuries in which the Church was lost to view, whether it was wandering in the desert like the Israelites, or pursuing its course as a subterranean river? To do its work—that is, to save souls—the Church must always be visible to the souls that seek her in earnestness and truth. That was the object of its Divine Founder; it had to be the light of the world, and no varying or uncertain light, to enlighten the souls of men. And if men say that its light was quenched, that it could not be discerned, are they not blaspheming

that Almighty, Who could create the sun in the heavens, and the moon, the faithful witness, and yet failed, the faithful witness, and yet failed, as they say, when He created His mined to support the Government in hurch ! The Unity of the Church has to be represented in the ministry, Signor Church

a real, visible, and perpetual Unity. How could it be one if it were not always the selfsame one? So the perpetual unity of the Church pre-cludes and makes impossible a fall, a lapse, a vital error in that Church. repentant Church, a reformed Church has not had perpetual unity. No, the Church of Christ, as it was

founded, so it has gone and will go future of the civilized nations, Italy unto the end, really the same one Church, visibly the same Church, perpetually the same Church.

-San Francisco Monitor took on themselves a grave respon

REFORMS MUST FOLLOW WAR

IS OPINION OF MEDA

has

period, but no one can help seeing today how right they were. Ger-many's recourse to the system of indiscriminate massacre, without quarter given, on the sea, has brought about the intervention of Filippo Meda, the distinguished America, perhaps the most striking episode in the whole cycle of history; Catholic member in the Italian and this intervention, apart from the Chamber, and now minister of the very important department of finance notable material aid which it will give to the Allies, has, above everyin the national cabinet, has given to thing else, an extraordinary moral your correspondent an expression of of the War (or 'The Inner Meaning of the War in the Sphere of Ideals') and the character of the struggle for the liberties of the peoples; for the Problems of the Future Peace." defence of civilization, for the reven-Both the man and the moment

dication of human rights. make Signor Meda's interview-article As things stand, and particularly after the magnificent English offen. of special interest. His working life been spent in Catholic literary, sive on the Western front, final vicsocial and political activity. In each sphere he has risen to the highest tory for the Allied arms may come comparatively soon. But at the same time it can be said without fear place. For many years now representing an important constituency in of denial that if that victory failed, Milan among the "Catholics who are the Central Empires, and Germany deputies" in the Italian Parliament, in particular, would emerge from the conflict, defeated, crushed under the he is recognized as their leader and, when Signor Boselli determined that weight of universal reprobation, for every shade of thought in the counno material success could cancel the sentence already written in history. The progressive widening of the

scope Meda was marked out to represent the Catholics whose patriotism has periods has had the effect of increasing by degrees the series of problems shown. up so gloriously in this national—and world—crisis. That is but a slight suggestion of the reasons why the utterances of Signor to be solved. No longer now is it Meda as a man are of special value. arise, Armenia and Palestine must For the moment, everyone is realiz-

And we have had the blessed latth given to us to belong to this, the Church of Jesus Christ. We can do honor to our Divine Master by being zealous subjects of the Church. By being men, who take a pride in knowing their duties and standing

EMANCIPATION

Emancipation is a high-sounding word, but not always with a corresponding high meaning. If a boy emancipates himself from the author-

ity of his parents he is evidently not playmate was a Roman Catholic and I have never lost the interest and doing a praiseworthy thing; nor is it a laudable achievement if a man kind regard for his church which I emancipates himself from the comacquired then. I have worshipped mandments of God. Neither is all intellectual emancipa-

gratefully and sincerely in Catholic churches both in America and Europe tion a deed to be proud of. For truth means freedom, error is slavery. The beginners in wisdom are most and I refuse to surrender my part in that great mediæval Catholic Church progressive widening of the of the War during the three aration as they advance in knowledge which built the cathedrals of Europe and which is the common ancestor of both the Protestant and the Cathotheir mind becomes enthralled by the facts of science and the vanities of philosophy. But this submission and Thomas A. Kempis belong by merely a question of the restoration of the mind to truth is its perfection inheritance to the Protestant just as much as to the Catholic. of Belgium, the restitution of Alsace and glory. The true emancipation and Lorraine to France and the natural confines to Italy. Poland must re-dom from error.

oncerned at the epidemics of anti-From this it follows that mental Catholic agitation which from time ing just now how vital that is for the future of the civilized nations, Italy among them. ing just now how vital that is for the future of the civilized nations, Italy the Austrian-Hungarian monarchy intervention does not necessarily the Austrian-Hungarian monarchy intervention does not necessarily intervention does not necessarily exclude dependence on authority. to time sweep across the country. have asked myself, as every thought ful man has, why this violence of anti Catholic feeling? Since Cath-Rome, the "Corriere d'Italia," has Questions of the spheres of influence authority in question carry a guar-been publishing recently the views in the Mediterranean and Africa of God. To claim independence from olics and Protestants must live to-

matter be fortunate for him if he has literature will, perhaps, note that in resemblance thereto in manner, spirit or purpose is used or a new type of novel, one quite devoid forms a part of the ceremonies of any degree of the Knights of Columof action and innocent of artistry, but abounding in tiresome descriptive passages and full of colorless char. bus "-Sunday Visitor.

> Mary was truly the valiant woman full of devotedness to her household and ordinary duties, forgetful of self, constant in habits of industry charity, and solicitude for others.

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in the Mediterranean and Africa of God. To claim independence from gether in this country, and it is prob-cannot be overlooked, and indeed the God in our thoughts would be both ably for each other's good that they