

FATHER SINNOTT'S INSTRUCTIVE SERMON AT ST. ANTHONY'S

In St. Anthony's Church, this city at High Mass, on Sunday last, a very instructive sermon was preached by the Rev. Father Sinnott. His subject was the Sacrament of Baptism. This was the Sacrament as he proved, dated back to the first years of the Church; and was therefore no modern teaching of the Church, as some people thought. As our Saviour was sending forth His Apostles to convert the world, He breathed upon them, and said: "Receive ye the Holy Ghost." In the ceremony connected with Baptism the priest, after the preliminaries are over, breathed upon the face of the child three times in the form of a cross. The form of the cross signified that all salvation came from the cross; and the breathing three times symbolized the Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost. This was not the Sacrament but the ceremony in connection with it. It prepared the child for Baptism by removing any obstacle to the effect of the Sacrament which might exist, internally or externally, such as possession of the evil spirit. The Creed was recited at Baptism so that those present might know what their duties were, as it was a synopsis of the teachings of the Church.

Why did the Church ask that each child should have a godfather and godmother, or at least one or the other at Baptism?

The Council of Trent had laid it down that either one man or one woman, or one man and one woman, and not more than one man or one woman, must be present, in order that, by the spiritual relationship which either or both contracted toward the child, it should be brought up in the Catholic faith, and in the knowledge of its moral obligations towards God and its neighbor. As by Baptism the child was cleansed from original sin and became one of the children of God, somebody was required to look after its spiritual interests during the period that preceded maturity. The pastor of course had charge of the spiritual interests of the whole parish, but he had no time to look spiritually after those of each individual child in the parish. Therefore he was not allowed to undertake the responsibility. If the parents died then the godfather or the godmother was in duty bound to take up the responsibility of looking after the child's spiritual and mental development. The duties of godfathers and godmothers—who were selected either by the parent or parents—

were, therefore, real and serious, and they should not be assumed lightly or perfunctorily. St. Dionysius, a disciple of St. Paul, had written of the duties of godfathers and godmothers. He said that, "it has entered into the minds of our leaders (the Apostles) that a wise and prudent person should be selected at Baptism." "to see that the child grows in the knowledge of its duties towards God." The saint also wrote out the form of promise to be made by godfathers at Baptism.

This proves that the doctrine has existed for eighteen hundred years. The great St. Augustin, who was born in the year 354 and died in 430, had also written about the same subject.

The Council of Trent specifically mentioned the class of persons who must not be selected as godfathers or godmothers. Priests and monks cannot be selected, because they have no time to perform the duties of godfathers; and members of religious sisterhoods are forbidden to be godmothers for the same reason. Jews cannot be chosen, for obvious reasons; and finally, non-Catholics cannot be chosen. How could a Jew be entrusted with the solemn task of seeing that a child was brought up in the faith and morals of the Catholic Church?

How could a non-Catholic be expected to take care that a Catholic orphan was brought up a good and well instructed Catholic, or to give it those "serious exhortations" to which St. Dionysius refers? It sometimes seemed hard to parents when they asked that some dear non-Catholic friend of theirs should be selected as a godfather or godmother, and were refused by the priest. But they should bear in mind that the priest has no discretion in the matter. That has been settled by the Council of Trent.

Baptism does not remove one thing; and that is concupiscence. A hundred years ago that word, which comes directly from the Latin, had its proper meaning—to desire or covet. A person might desire something, as, for instance, "David had concupiscence for the Lord." It all depends upon the object desired or coveted. Now, it has but one meaning—to desire or covet immorally. Prayer is the great shield against this temptation when it comes to us.

The evening Lenten services at St. Anthony's will begin on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 7.30.

LENTEN SERMONS AT THE GESU.



REV. THOMAS J. CAMPBELL, S.J., Rector of Fordham College, N.Y.

We give to-day a picture of Rev. Thomas J. Campbell, S.J., Rector of Fordham College, N. Y., who is one of the foremost members of the Jesuit Order in America. He has been invited to Montreal to preach in the Church of the Gesu, and is to give a retreat in English to men, and to take up some of the Sunday evening discourses at the Gesu during Lent. Father Campbell was born in New York City, in 1848. He made his classical studies in St. Francis Xavier's College in his native city graduated in 1867. The same year he entered the Society of Jesus. He studied philosophy and theology at Woodstock College, Md., and Louvain, Belgium. In the former college he had as professors, the present Cardinal Mazzella and F. de Augustinis, the eminent Roman lecturer who died a few weeks ago.

Fr. Campbell's name came prominently before the public two years ago on the occasion of an address delivered before the Xavier Alumni Association, at the Buckingham, New York. His theme was "Classical Education" and his address was published in all the Catholic papers of America and England, and favorably commented upon by many non-Catholic writers.

Later he spoke on "Marriage and Divorce," before the Colgate Baptist University. This discourse created a very strong impression in favor of Christian marriage in both the United States and France. His most recent address of note was on "Catholics in non-Catholic colleges," which was published in the "True Witness."

Father Campbell is a specially gifted man. Besides his vast theological attainments, he is a polished speaker and the purity and elegance of his diction have received more than one compliment from sources whence little is to be expected, when Catholics are in question. Personally, he is a charming man to meet, being the highest type of the true American gentleman. He will arrive in Montreal on Saturday morning, and will preach in the Church of the Gesu on Sunday evening next, at 8 o'clock.

NOTES OF LOCAL INTEREST.

At the regular meeting of Division No. 1 Ancient Order of Hibernians, the yearly financial reports were read, which showed the division to be in a very prosperous and flourishing condition, there being some \$1800 in the sick and death funds, besides a handsome surplus in the emergency and contingent funds. The division, by a majority vote, decided to support the Gaelic language. Mr. McIver, the financial secretary, was highly commended for the able manner in which the books and finances of the branch were attended to, and in recognition of his services will be presented with a jewel at next meeting. Mr. James Byrne, vice-president was in the chair.

His Honor Lieut.-Governor Jette, paid an official visit on Tuesday afternoon to the Montreal College. His Honor was accompanied by Madame Jette, Madame R. Lemieux, (M.P.) and Miss Quigley. The party were received by Rev. Canon Racicot, V.G.; Abbe Mignau, Lenten preacher at Notre Dame; Abbe Colin, P. S. S.; Abbe Bourassa, Abbe Gauthier, Mr. and Mrs. Husner Lamctot, Mr. and Mrs. J. Decarries, Mr. and Mrs. H. Gervais, and Mr. A. Chauvin, M.P.

Addresses were presented in both languages and suitably responded to. Madame Jette was presented with a splendid bouquet. The students produced a cantata by Rev. Abbe

ROUMET, which was an adaption of Gounod's "Redemption," His Honor dined with the faculty subsequently.

On Thursday afternoon he visited the institution of the Soeurs de la Misericorde, Dorchester Street. The Rev. Sisters accorded him and his party a hearty welcome. His Honor expressed himself as greatly pleased with the excellence of the institution and extolled the work of the reverend ladies who devoted their lives to rescue and succor the unfortunate.

Mount St. Louis College Sherbrooke St. on Thursday evening tendered the Lieut.-Governor a grand reception, and entertainment. The hall of the college was crowded with the parents and friends of the pupils.

A French historical drama, entitled "The Discovery of Canada" was presented and most admirably enacted. The Mt. St. Louis band rendered several selections during the evening. Addresses in French and English were read by the pupils and His Honor replied in a suitable manner.

According to the statistics of the City Health Department, there have been seventy-six deaths from the "grippe" in this city since December 17th last. There were ten deaths from the disease last week alone.

The regular monthly meeting of the St. Patrick's T. and B. Society, was held in their hall on Sunday last. Moved by Mr. J. H. Kelly and seconded by Mr. James Meek, resolutions of condolence were unanimously adopted upon the recent death of two of their esteemed fellow members, the late Messrs. John Buckley and Denis Barry. A committee was appointed to convey the deep sympathy of the society to the sorrowing friends of the deceased.

A committee was also appointed to make arrangements for the fitting celebration of the society's anniversary which will take place in the form of a grand concert on Easter Monday, in their own hall, Alexander street.

The first annual dinner of the St. Anthony's C.Y.M. Society was held at McHugh's Hotel, Lachine, last week, and was a success in every way. Some forty members and their friends sat down to partake of the good things provided, and after the inner man had been satisfied, a musical programme was gone through and was very much appreciated. The next event on the programme of the society is a progressive euchre party, to be held in their hall, 329 St. Catherine, on Monday, Feb. 20th. Invitations have been issued to members and friends. The committee expect a bumper house on the 20th. Some valuable prizes will be offered.

At the euchre party which was given in St. Ann's Hall for the benefit of the Montreal Catholic Sailors' Club, on Wednesday the 8th inst., the prizes were won by the following ladies and gentlemen—

Lady's first prize, Miss L. Cox; second, Miss Lizzie Daly; consolation prize, Mrs. P. McGovern; gentleman's first prize, Mr. J. Bohony; second, Mr. P. T. O'Brien; consolation, Mr. McLean.

The evening's success is due especially to the energetic management of Mrs. Rogers and Miss Cullinan. Among the guests were: Rev. Father Kavanagh, chaplain of the Club; Mr. and Mrs. F. B. McNamee, Mrs. P. McGovern, Mrs. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Asselin, Mr. and Mrs. Quinlan, Mr. and Mrs. Coffey, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Tansey, Mr. and Mrs. McIver, Mr. and Mrs. D. Gallery, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Power, Misses Quinn, Miss P. Mallette, Mrs. F. Payette, Misses Sutherland, Drew, Gillies, Byrne, O'Brien, Holt, Wheeler, Daly and others. Particular thanks are due to Mr. Wilder, who kindly loaned tables, also Messrs Alexander and Rough for their generous donations; also the young ladies who assisted in the hall on the evening of the entertainment, and to Mr. P. T. O'Brien for his able management.

St. Patrick's Branch, 26, C.M.B.A., held another successful euchre party on Monday evening last in their hall, Alexander street. There was a large attendance and a most enjoyable evening was spent. The following ladies and gentlemen won prizes—

Lady's first prize, Miss S. Delaney; second, Miss O'Shea; third, Miss Finn; consolation prize, Mrs. Cowan. Lone hand, Mrs. C. O'Brien. Gentlemen's first prize, Mr. B. Tansey; second, Mr. J. Rowan; and consolation prize, Mr. J. Gorman. Lone hand Mr. H. Ryan.

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ST. MARY'S CONFERENCE OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY.

American newspapers are filled with accounts of the distress caused by the recent extremely cold weather. In cases where distress previously existed amongst the poor the suffering was, of course, increased by the cold wave. Montreal, too, like other large cities, has had its share. The public charitable organizations, Catholic and Protestant, have done their duty well. But there are cases, which from a variety of causes they do not reach. Wealthy and well-to-do Catholics have little idea of the vast amount of hardship and suf-



MR. JAMES MORLEY.

fering which is alleviated by an organization which works in private, and the good deeds of whose members are unknown to the outside world. It is the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. A recent visit of a representative of the "True Witness" to St. Mary's Conference of this society, afforded an idea of its charitable work and its methods. Unostentatiously this conference is supplying 25 needy and deserving families with the necessary food and fuel. The conference meets in the basement of St. Mary's Church, Craig Street, every Saturday night, under the capable presidency of James Morley, to consider the applications for assistance, in the form of tea, sugar, bread, oatmeal, and hardwood. Thorough inquiry is made into each case, and no deserving applicant is left unsupplied. In all instances the cause of poverty has been found to be due to the lack of employment.

Mr. Morley, who is prominent in business circles in Montreal, and one of the most earnest and enthusiastic workers in St. Mary's parish, being a churchwarden, and holding important offices in the Irish National and Fraternal organizations in the East End, is the "True Witness" representative noted, well qualified in every way to discharge the onerous duties associated with his office, and he is ably assisted by the other zealous members of the conference. The funds for the purchase of supplies are received by two collections in the parish church, by donations from friends, of whom Ald. Lareau, one of the sitting members for St. Mary's Ward, is worthy of mention, and by contributions from the members of the conference.

From our knowledge of the good and noble work performed by St. Mary's Conference, we are convinced that other conferences of this noble charitable organization, founded by that great French Catholic layman, Frederic Ozanam, should be established in every Irish parish in the city. There is a conference in St. Ann's Parish, which, we hear, is doing much good, and which we expect to send a representative to visit at an early date.

TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES AT ST. ANN'S.

Psalms, in the Book of Ecclesiasticus. Let us remind ourselves, too, that the place of man's reason in his being ought to be that of ruler and guide; it is intended to stand in the relation of mastership towards the other powers of his being. How do we know this? We know it because every-day experience teaches us that to merit the place of ruler and guide and master, one must be fitted to direct, one must be fitted to deal with ends and means, one must be fitted to see and use the relations that exist between persons and things; we know, too, from our knowledge of ourselves that the only power in us that is capable of fulfilling these important functions is the power we call our reason.

Now, to exercise mastery of any kind, we know, means to have persons and things to help you, to help you truly not merely in the name or appearance, but to help you to go forward towards your true end in this world and in the world to come.

Such is the theory about man's and reason's place in the drama of life; but when we turn to look at facts, to

look at the practice, to look at what is, what a contrast we are met with! How seldom does man bear himself like a master in the midst of the persons and things about him! How seldom does reason rule the other parts of his being!

The particular abuse of God's gifts, and the particular violation of the law of reason that has brought us together this evening, the evil of intemperance, is one against which our holy mother the Church prays every day, in that part of her divine office which is her morning prayer, the office of Prime. And with good reason; for the Catholic who is given to the vice of intemperance, besides doing harm to his own soul and body, harm to those who are related to him, or connected with him in any way, harm to those among whom he lives, does harm also and great harm to his religion and to his Church; he often hinders the Church from being seen as she truly is, he hides in a degree her beauty and attractiveness from those who only see her in him as her representative, and he exposes himself to make them turn aside from the path that led to the only true Church. What a terrible responsibility!

And now dear brethren wear entering the holy season of Lent. We must check our appetites in order to keep our flesh in subjection. Therefore let us take advantage of this holy season, and those who have not the pledge should take it for the season of Lent at least. Make it a season of self-denial and do something to make up for the past. If we do this God will be gratified and we will secure blessings for ourselves and for those about us.

Solemn Benediction of the Most

Blessed Sacrament was then chanted, Rev. J. A. McCallen, S.S., Rev. president of St. Patrick's T. A. and B. Society, being the celebrant, assisted by Rev. Father McDonald, of St. Gabriel's Church as deacon, and Rev. Father Jackman of St. Ann's as subdeacon. The lay Brothers of St. Ann's Church who had charge of the decoration of the altar displayed great taste in the arrangement of the many tapers, colored lamps and flowers. A choir composed of the pupils of St. Ann's Christian Brother's School, rendered the following music during the Benediction, under the able direction of Prof. P. Shea, the organist of St. Ann's. Riga's Sanctus (Minor), Luzzi's Ave Maria, Wm. Murphy, soloist; Billotti's Tantum Ergo (C Minor).

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH.

Friday the 17, the ceremony of the solemn and beautiful devotion of the "Forty Hours," commenced in this Church and will close on Sunday at High Mass. In the evening at 7.30 there will be an English service, followed by the Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

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