FIVE MINUTE SERMON

SIX

BY REV. WILLIAM DEMOUY, D. D.

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE NEEDS OF MAN "Therefore I say to you, be not solicitous for your life, what you shall eat, nor for your body, what you shall put on." (Matt. vi. 25.)

There are two needs to be supplied in man: there is the necessary need and there is the need of taste. The necessary need includes many things. Some of these are men-tioned in the text—food to keep life althing to cover the body life, clothing to cover the body. Many of these needs are absolutely necessary, others are essential but not absolutely so. Again, some of these needs were created by God, such as the need for air in order to breathe tain kind of clothing to use in a particular country or when entering into the presence of certain worldle coult to the make the sacrifice and take monarchs.

ing in man; and, in the Gospel of this Sunday, mention is made of some of them. The intention of Our Lord, in these passages of the Gospel, is to teach us to be more solicitous about the welfare of our

soul than the care of our body. Christ says that we must "seek first the kingdom of God and His jus-tice and then all things else will be added unto us." He adduces examples to show that God has an individual interest in us and will solution the seek first the kingdom of God and His jus-tice and then all things else will be added unto us." He adduces examples to show that God has an individual interest in us and will solution the set of the sector of the set of the sector the set of the sector of the sector of the sector of the sector the sector of the sector of the sector of the sector of the sector the sector of the sect examples to show that God has an individual interest in us and will provide for our needs. As an argu-ment from less to greater, He reminds us that the birds of the air reminds to link in the birds of the air reminds to link in the birds of the air reminds to link in the birds of the air reminds to link in the birds of the air reminds to link in the birds of the air remet to link in the birds of the air remet to link in the birds of the air remet to link in the birds of the air remet to link in the birds of the air remet to link in the birds of the air remet to link in the birds of the air remet to link in the birds of the air remet to link in the birds of the air remet to link in the birds of the air are able to live without labor, and prohibition days there are very irrational and inanimate in the morning. things, how much more will He, in this respect, care for rational man when he is principally occupied "Come Back to Erin, Mavourneen."

about the salvation of his soul! God does not make mention of the need which we have termed "of teste" though we may find a dis-"of a bright summer's morning" about the salvation of his soul? tast allusion made to it when He speaks of the beauty in which the lilies of the field are arrayed—a beauty far surpassing that of Solomon decked in the most beauti-ful of his robes. We reasonably may say that this need is a creation of man, and, like most of man's man, and, like most of man's creations, has become exaggerated. The Gospel of today seems to offer an open condemnation of this need either to the song or my rendi-'of taste" as it exists around us at tion of it.

the present time. Real needs God does not condemn; nay, in His providence He provides for them, or does not condemn; nay, in His providence He provides for them, or helps us to obtain them. But arti-ficial needs—needs that are not ours by nature—He offers no assurance that He will aid us to satisfy. In all 'is a hymn which I learned as fact, when these needs are not in a lad at school, in Philadelphia : conformity with true Christian ideals, they virtually constitute sin. Now, we are wont to lament the fact that there is so much misery among men; that there is so much dishonesty; that there is so much It would appear that pretense much of this evil is due to the fact that people are endeavoring to satisfy a need that is not necessary.

tions as will lessen the number of the poor, and will provide for the destitute who still remain. For-tunately, America can offer the world a great example in this respect. It is a fact that within the limits of our great country, pre-time to four of our great country, pre-time to four pre-time limits of our great country, prac-tically all who make an effort can these things, especially the oration of the great Irish patriot. I did be more or less comfortable. But even this struggle for comforts has not know then what I know now and so it was that I wondered. created many a need, which, if un-satisfied, has caused suffering or, One night, on an opportune occa-

occasion. She was to occupy the seat of honor on the reviewing

Then, we decided that

sion, a committee of my fellow patriots who were not under senat least, much embarrassment. The Christian may feel sure that nce to be shot, informed me that his real needs will, with his co-oper-ation, be provided for by God, if he serves Him properly. Needs other than the real ones, however, man I had nothing to fear but "much cause for great joy." They swore with their right hands over their hearts that, come what might, just as soon as things quieted down has no assurance he will be able to satisfy. If he tries to keep pace with certain elements in the world, after my execution, poor as they were, they would erect a monu-ment to my memory in the public he may succeed or he may not. Often, if he so desires, he may try to provide for the needs of his posi-tion; but if he finds that he is park in Budapest directly opposite the statute of George Washington. It was a fine thought, and I am frank to confess that I was comforted. Kristicz growled a bit because no monument had been a more humble rank. God will exalt him and will bless him more promised to his memory; but the than if he had kept pace with those of recognizes these needs exist-na in man; and, in the Gospel of his Sunday, mention is made of old Baron waxed eloquent in description of the great parade, the crowds, the speeches and the music which would mark the day when my monument was to be unveiled. My wife was to be brought over to Budapest from the Bronx for the

A MINSTREL'S FATE

God.

stand, "up beside the King," who, by that time, would have been reestablished in his kingly residence As day after day came and went and we had no word of our execu-tion, I began to brighten up. Rumors reached us that the Italian Minister had interested himself in are able to live without labor, and production days there are very Minister had interested ninsen in that the lilies of the field are clothed in all their beauty by Him. If, sing in the morning following the hope. I began to shave again. And therefore, God is so solicitous of inght before. But, usually, I sing then I began to sing. It was early then I began to sing. It was early then I began to sing.

May and the gorgeous sunlight streamed through the little window of our cell and roused us from our sickening despondency. My cell mates were two labor-union officials Once, in Ireland, I knew a young lady in the parish of Cloone, in who were pagans. One day it occurred to me to have them join me in my urgent appeals to the Mother of God for aid. They were good fellows and after I had told them, in my style of German, all about her, I taught them to sing quietly and distinctly : 'Tis the month of our Mother, The blessed and beautiful days.

must, for our cause it is just After a week's practice "we had it down pat.' we ought to stand up when address-ing the Blessed Virgin and so, for I have a number of hymns in my hours at a time, we stood with our faces toward the window singing

this beautiful hymn. Though it is not much to boast about, I think I ought to say in justice to myself that, of the trio, mine was easily the best voice. The others were terrible. But they sang lustily and they meant it, too. A dozen times, we were threatened by the guards with decapitation, but we kept on, uponisted and updaunted

'Tis the month of our Mother, The blessed and beautiful days, When our lips and our spirits Are glowing with love and with

praise. All hail to dear Mary, The Guardian of our way,

To the fairest of queens Be the fairest of seasons, sweet

THE CATHOLIC RECORD

but one reply to all such queries: "Love was His meaning." Out of love for man God created all these marvels and, strange to say, all are obedient to Him save man alone.

'Tis the month of our Mother. The blessed and beautiful days.

This old reprobate knew the hymn well. He had learned it at home, when a lad in Ireland. He was pretty far gone when I met him, but not entirely so. And the hymn to the Mother of God, "the Guard-ian of our way," touched his heart. He told me the old familiar words kept ringing in his ears and gave him no peace at all until he sought out the Dictator and obtained his order for my release. And tonight, my little lad with the tousled head and the brown-

black saucer-like eyes, in an effort to show me the poor quality of the hymns taught at his school, stood five feet in front of me and sang : 'Tis the month of our Mother-'

CHRIST'S MEANING

"The world," says Father Faber "is a hard place to live in and at the same time avoid the spirit of it.' Personal experience has attested to the truth of this statement. Men call themselves Christians, followers of the Poor Man of Nazareth Who was poorer still on Calvary and in by the world.

on the shores of the dirty-brown Danube. As day after day came and went which Christ taught. A merely conscientious man, says

aim at perfection, but the chances are immensely against his succeeding, and for this reason, that he has not sufficient momentum. His impulse dies out, and he stops short of the aim.

Doing what is right because it is right is a maxim cherished by highest of all motives and not be ordinary good people of the world. ordinary good people of the world. But the man who calls himself a Christian cannot stop here. He must go a step further in his service; it must come from the heart as well as from the lips or the hands. hands. When the old anchoress, Juliana

of Norwich, held in her palm the Pilot. little acorn, seemingly insignificant in the scheme of the Universe, she

understood its message to the souls of men: "Wit well: Love was His meaning." Love was his meaning. In all that Christ did, in all that He shall ever do for men, love is His mean-ing. But to St. Margaret Mary He complained that this love of His Sacred Heart for men was often unrequited, was unsatisfied. And surely He could not do more than He has done for the souls dear to science has proved is a disease and not a habit and must be treated as such.

Him. When travelers in foreign lands gaze with wonder and admiration upon the glorious monuments of antiquity, they cry out in amazement and stupefaction at the handi-work of man. When men contem-

plate some brilliant thoroughfare at night, marvelously illuminated with There are numerous examples around us. How many convicts be-hind prison bars are there today because they tried to live up to a standard they imagined their posi-tion in life demanded, not in right-eousness but in material things! In other words, they were living beyond their means. They can not be excused for doing this, for did not this false need lead them to they idiaconst eats? We had gotten this far early one electricity in every conceivable figure

Is your child There are many men, good men, who pass and repass the church doors, knowing in a vague indefinite sort of way that Christ is taber-nacled within, and there invites His days they assist at Mass. Dimly they know that He is there, but they have nothing intimate to say to Him. Nay, they do not even know what to say or how to say it. Glibly they discuss political issues, business interests, they may be known as brillant conversationalists.

But they are dumb men before their God. They listen to sermons, but they are distracted with visions of the world the while. They are thinking of what they are going to do tomorrow or next week, or that the preacher has the gift of eloquence. But the message falls on deaf ears.

Intellectual conviction may be a very good thing. But man can never find true happiness or peace of soul or the solution of his problems in the intellect alone. It is only when he carries all his interest to

the Divine Heart of his God and there treats familiarly with Him, that love will be engendered in his such intercourse than that offered

By constant association men beome endeared to one another. There is no such thing as friendship that comes after a moment or an hour. To be true and lasting, friendship must take root and an ascetical writer, may be intellec-tually convinced that he ought to increase in frequent and loving intercourse, one with another. 1 When men realize that Christ is the best, the truest Friend, that He is ever ready for any exigency in our poor human lives, they will do right, they will perform heroic actions, they will labor and suffer for the will know better, realizing that "Love was His meaning."-The

> The dross of the earth the meek do not inherit; but all the true enjoyments, the wisdom, love peace, and independence, which which earth can bestow are assured to the meek as in their meekness inherent. -Henry Taylor

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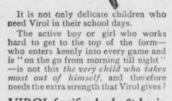
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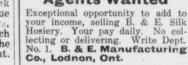
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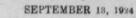
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things in life: What is ordinary society in this country demanding society in this country demanding of people today? Are its require-ments such as they always can satisfy justly and honestly? Far from it. We need only mention a few. Every season or every half season will bring its new styles. It is practically a necessity that people conform to them. If they fail, we know the result. They are like the know the result. They are like the guests in the Gospel, who came to the wedding feast not robed in festive garments. In like manner society treats those who do not con-form to the decrees of fashion. No doubt if many of the modern "palace dwellers" and "chariot-drivers" would change the "de-mands" of society, they would do more good for the suffering part of humanity than they accomplish humanity than they accomplish now, by sitting pompously at meetings directed towards charity, or by driving the most costly of automobiles to the doors of the poor, or by having their names appear as great having their names appear as great philanthropists in big headlines of the daily papers. New conditions must be created before humanity will be benefited. Of course, many people, especially charity workers, are in good faith and are doing their best. This we must admit and we best. This we must admit, and we admire them for it. But good faith

ing in all things necessary to sustain life, and, while He said there always would be poor, He never intimated nor had He any intention

hymns that are fine ones." We have held several conferences hyms that are fine ones." We have held several conferences in the matter without reaching an agreement. He has been persistent and recently startled me by the and recently startled me by the

and recently startled me by the rendition of one of the hymns, which, he says, are inferior in quality and tone. I am chagrined and dis-appointed and heart-broken. But, then, he was never in jail and never sentenced to be shot as a traitor. I was, and thereby hangs a tale. It was during the Bela Kun regime in Hungary. 'I was arrested for conspiracy, tried by a make-believe military court and sentenced to be shot, all in a period of less than twenty-four hours. I had been

to be shot, all in a period of less than twenty-four hours. I had been friendly with a group of counter-revolutionists who were striving heroically to stave off the frightful menace of Communism that threat-ened destruction throughout the land of the ancient Magyars. It goes without saying that, when the full realization of my predicament dawned upon me I was a thoroughly dawned upon me I was a thoroughly discouraged, dejected and dis-appointed Yankee. On a day yet to be named, along withmy friend Variation of the source of Kristicz, Baron Perenyi and a few others, I was to stand before a firing squad of the "Lenin Boys" and with never a sound of trumpet

are in good faith and are comptonent and, later, best. This we must admit, and we admire them for it. But good faith alone will not change things mater-ially, or really better the condition of mankind. Some may be inclined to think that these conditions have come about naturally; but this can not be true. God created a world abound-ing in all things necessary to sustain life, and, while He said there

ing in all things necessary to sustain life, and, while He said there always would be poor, He never intimated nor had He any intention of saying, that some were to starve. It is man's duty, and we may ven-ture to say that it is the most effica-cious and meritorious way of prac-tising charity, to create such condi-

be excused for doing this, for did not this false need lead them to their dishonest acts? But whythis need? No lawful reason can be assigned for it. It is a false need created by man, or by a certain class of society to which he belongs. But, to come down to more simple things in life: What is ordinary society in this country demanding

man who spoke with a rich Irish

unquieted and undaunted.

All hail to dear Mary,

The Guardian of our way,-

To the fairest of queens-

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