## FIVE MINUTE SERMONS FOR EARLY MASSES

By the Paulist Fathers.
eached in their Church of St. Paul the
Apostle, Fifty ninth Street and Ninth
Avenue, New York.

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST.

"A certain man went kown from Jerusa-em to Jericho. and fell among robbers."— st, Luke's Gospel, chap. x., v. 39.

This man described in to day's Gospel, my brethren, is a type of mankind. Sup-pose any one who had determined to climb a mountain, and had made all his climb a mountain, and had made all his preparations were to say, after he had gone for a few hundred feet, 'Oh, this is too hard work, I will go back.'' Do you not think his neighbors would laugh at him? Yes. "Surely," they would say, 'here is one who has no energy; he never will amount to much!" So it is with the world. The man who surely mounts to the pinnacle of fame, or wealth, or honor to which he aspires is called great and has the respect and admiration of the world. Success is the measure of the world's estimation of man's efforts in this age, and he who does not succeed must, so far at his world is concerned, go to the wall. If this is so in the world, how much more in the Christian if He who is constantly elimbing the ladder of well-doing, or he who falls back as soon as he sets his foot on the first rung?

The very first thirg we notice in the parable in to day's Gospel about this man is that he had turned his back on Jarusalem and was going down. It is evident that one must go either up or down on the road to heaven; one cannot stand still.

But notice, my brethren, the consequences of this backward journey, as he went further and further away; at last he fell among robbers. So it will be in the Christian life if men do not keep their minds constantly set on heaven and its attainment. They will begin committing little venial sins deliberately, going down, down, and before they know where they are mortal sin has taken them. They have fallen into the hands of that the very fallen into the hands of that the have fallen into the hands of that the carried of the prefer recovery a snake had appeared on a beam in the certified to the erround and instantant.

the Christian life if men do not keep their minds constantly set on heaven and its attainment. They will begin committing little venial sins deliberately, going down, down, and before they know where they are mortal sin has taken them. They have fallen into the hands of that robber chief, Satan, and he has despoiled them of their treasure and has left them in the hope that they may die before help

comes.

There is but one way to avoid this fate, and that is by keeping one's self free from sin. By preserving ever a high standard of right and sticking to it. Don't get started on the downward track, for it is

We have great admiration for the zeal and perseverance of our altar boys; a zeal and perseverance which brings so many of them, morning after morning, at early hours, to serve at Holy Mass. If, there-

hours, to serve at Holy Mass. If, therefore, we have aught to say of them, in the way of criticism, it is for the purpose merely of suggesting faults, in order that they may be remedied.

In spreading the Communion Cloth, for the faithful about to receive, some of our young friends show too much haste, rushing to the railing, while yet reciting the Confiteor, and jerking swiftly, even violently, the cloth into its place. This is unseemly, occurring, as it does, during one of the most solemn parts of the Mass—the priest's Communion. So, it is

corum.

So, we have something to suggest with regard to the ringing of bells, during the progress of the Mass. Some churches use mounted gongs, rather large; and when it comes to sounding them, many of our young friends strike these loud-sounding instruments with all their force. The result is a series of jarring clangs, by no means musical, but on the contrary trying to ears and nerves; and not in keeping with the solemn stages of the Mass, at which the bells are to be sounded.

The same with hand-bells; many altar boys, at the Elevation, Communion, etc.,

boys, at the Elevation, Communion, etc., clatter them with as much rapidity and force, as they possibly can. Thus sounded these bells remind one of the boarding. house call to meals; or, of the clamor, on a larger scale, of bells in country towns, when the people are summoned in haste to put out a fire.

Our churches are not so large as to re-

quire that gongs and hand bells should be so vigorously sounded, in order to be heard throughout. The hushed and adorheard throughout. In most of them, can hear the slightest tinkle; and soft, subdued sounds are more in keeping with solemnity of place, and with the sacred character of Sublime Rites of our Catholic

Altars.
We trust that those of our readers who are altar boys, and who have not hereto-fore thought of these things as now presented, will, for the future, amend little shortcomings.—Holy Family. amend these

## MANNA STILL GATHERED.

Rev. Luigi Sartori writes from Upper Falls Post Office, Baltimore County, Md., as follows: "Travelling in the East last year, from Arabia to Palestine, I mit a good Armenian Catholic priest coming from Mesopotamia. Among various articles of diet he brought with him in his journey to Constantinople there were about five younds of manna incased in a leather brg. At his meals he partook of that food as we do of cakes. He posi-tively maintained that such food falls from tively maintained that such food falls from heaven as white powder two or three times a year, and is collected from the leaves of trees and from the surface of flat stones. The food, when protected by leather, wilk keep for five or six years. I send you a piece of this manna for curiosity. I eat of this food, and it contains a great deal of sugar. From the positive description of the good priest it cannot be a natural exudation from the leaves and brarches of the plant albagi maurorum,

which was believed by the early Arabian writers to have fallen from heaven. The good priest had excellent credentials. We both were allowed to say Mass at the historical Franciscan convent at Jaffa."

#### POSSESSED BY THE DEVIL.

MISSIONARY IN CHINA RELATES TWO CASES OF THE FOUL FIEND'S WORK. Father Rossi, S. J., Missioner in Kiargnau, (China), reports two cases of diabon-

cal possession:

"In May," he writes, "a festival in honor of the Smake was held in the Pagoda Zuo-wang-mias, not far from our

snake had appeared on a beam in the ceiling. When they tried to kill it, the reptile fell to the ground and instantan-

eously disappeared.
"I add another fact which a woman that wanted to become a Christian told me: 'I am a widow, and one of my daughters is married to an under officer in the army. But the devil entered into her, and her husband sent her back to me. She will of right and sticking to it. Don't get started on the downward track, for it is too easy to go on it and the end is disastrous if you are not stopped. By the aid of prayer, with the help of the Sacraments, and all the other assistances which the Church provides and suggests climb to the top of the mountain of perfection and reach heaven as your everlasting reward. Never turn your back on heaven to go down hill, lest when accounts are squared up at the last day your lot may fall with the unsuccessful ones.

A WORD TO ALTAR BOYS.

We have great admiration for the zeal

We Should Blot Out Disease in Its
Early Stages.

The disease commences with a slight
derangement of the stomach, but, if neglected, it in time involves the whole frame, embracing the kidneys, liver, pancreas, and in fact the entire glandular system; and the afflicted drags out a miserable existence until death gives relief from suffering, The disease is often mistaken for other complaints; but if the reader will ask himself the following questions he will be able to determine whether he himself is one of the afflicted —Have I distress, pain, or difficulty in breathing after eating? Is there a dull, heavy feeling, attended by drowsiness? Have the eyes a yellow tinge? Does a back sticky sweeps getter shout the one of the most solemn parts of the alass one of the most solemn parts of the alass one of the most solemn parts of the alass chiraly unnecessary, for there is always entirely unnecessary, for there is always thick, sticky mucous gather about the plenty of time to do all that is needed, at plenty of time to do all that is needed and back? Is there a fullness about the right side as if the liver were enlarging?
Is there costivness? Is there vertigo or In there coativness? Is there vertigo or dizziness when rising suddenly from an horizontal position? Are the secretions from the kidneys highly coloured, with a deposit after standing? Does food ferment soon after eating, accompanied by flatulence or beliching of gas from the stomach? Is there frequent palpitation of the heart? These various symptoms may not be present at one time, but they torment the sufferer in turn as the dreadful disease progresses. If the case be one of long standing, there will be a dry, hacking cough, attended after a time by expectoration. In very advanced stages the skin assumes a dirty brownish appearance, and the hands and feet are covered by a cold sticky perspiration. appearance, and the nands and feet are covered by a cold sticky perspiration. As the liver and kidneys become more and more diseased, rheumatic pains appear, and the usual treatment proves entirely unavailing against the latter agonising disorder. The origin of this malledy is indirection ordernance, and a malady is indigestion or dyspepsia, and a small quantity of the proper medicine will remove the disease if taken in its will remove the disease it taken in its incipiency. It is most important that the disease should be promptly and properly treated in its first stages, when a little medicine will effect a cure, and even when it has obtained a strong hold even when it has obtained a strong hold the correct remedy should be persevered in until every vestige of the disease is eradicated, until the appetite has returned, and the digestive organs restored to a healthy condition. The surest and most effectual remedy for this distressing complaint is "Seigel's Curative Strong Complaint most effectual remedy for this distressing complaint is "Seigel's Curative Syrup," a vegetable preparation sold by all chemists and medicine vendors throughout the world, and by the proprietors, A. J. White, Limited, London, E. C. This Syrup strikes at the very foundation of the disease, and drives it, root and branch, out of the system. Ask your chemist for Seigel's Curative Syrup. Those who are in the "Asthma Furnace" should lose no time in obtaining

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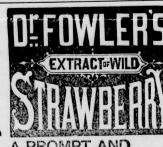
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