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A Catholic newspaper in a parish is a perpetual mission. Let all who truly and from their souls desire that religion and society defended by human intellect and literature should flourish, strive by their liberality to guard and protect the Catholic press, and let everyone in proportion to his income, support them with his money and influence, for to those who devote themselves to the Catholic press we ought by all means to bring helps of this kind, without which their industry will either have no results or uncertain and miserable ones

POPE LEO XIII.



SATURDAY, MAY 23, 1903.

CALENDAR FOR NEXT WEEK.

- MAY.
- 24—Sunday within the Octave of the Ascension.
 - 25—Monday—St. Gregory VII., Pope.
 - 26—Tuesday—St. Philip Neri, Founder of the Oratory.
 - 27—Wednesday—St. Bede the Venerable, Confessor, Doctor.
 - 28—Thursday—Octave of the Ascension.
 - 29—Friday—St. Mary Magdalen de Pazzi, Virgin.
 - 30—Saturday—Vigil of Pentecost. Fast Day.

ROGATION SERMONS.

Last Sunday at High Mass in St. Mary's the Very Rev. George Meyer, Visitor of the Brothers of Mary, who conduct the Catholic schools for boys in Winnipeg and St. Boniface, preached on prayer. He began by giving the historical origin of the Rogation Days. The Rogations began in 470 in the Kingdom of Burgundy, where they were instituted by Mamertus, Bishop of Vienne in Dauphiny, at a time when the province suffered from earthquakes and other calamities. Thence the custom of chanting the Litany of the Saints on the three days preceding the Ascension spread through France and later on Leo III. made the practice obligatory on all Catholics of the Latin rite. The Rogations were at first three days of fasting and abstinence. Father Meyer then spoke of the necessity of prayer, of the efficacy and power of prayer, and went on to develop the qualities of prayer. He insisted upon faith and trust, which Our Lord so often inculcated upon his hearers: witness the centurion and the Canaanitish woman. Humility was also exemplified in the publican who went away justified while the proud pharisee was condemned. Perseverance in prayer was the crowning quality. Family prayer, wherein parents and children join in supplication to God is a spectacle pleasing to God and men.

Rev. Father Frigon, O. M. I., preached in the evening, on the Blessed Virgin, and said in part as follows:—

Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy!

What a beautiful and comforting invocation! During this blessed month, consecrated in a special manner to the service of Mary, it ascends from all parts of the Catholic world to the throne of our hea-

venly Queen. There is perhaps not a city, not a village, where the Blessed Virgin is not actually honored, praised and invoked. Innumerable faithful of all ranks and ages, with hearts full of fervor and love, gather as we do every evening, around her altars, either in churches, oratories, or even in their houses, mingling their hearts and voices in hymns of love and in prayers. Blessed, a thousand times blessed are those who thus daily honor the Mother of God. A thousand times blessed are the families where Mary is thus daily invoked. How many motives could I bring forward to exhort you to observe the sweet devotion of the month of May, of this month of graces and merits for the just, and of conversion for sinners.

This devotion is most pleasing to God, to whom we give much glory and gratification when we honor His Blessed Mother. He has revealed His will that we should honor the Queen of Heaven by Himself exalting her to the highest point of dignity and glory. In fact, He has elevated this most Blessed Virgin above all others to the unspeakable prerogative of the Divine maternity, and filled her with all gifts and graces.

Moreover, God has shown how pleasing the May devotion is to Him by rewarding it with an abundance of blessings. Witness here the numberless miracles which He has wrought in favor of those who, during this beautiful month, have rendered to the Blessed Virgin a special tribute of love and confidence.

And if God rewards us with such munificence when we assist or help a poor person in need, and considers this as done to Himself; if it is so pleasing to Him to see us honor the manger in which He has been laid, or the Cross on which He died, how much more gratifying then must it be to Him when we venerate His Blessed Mother, not once, not for a day, but during a whole month!

It is also pleasing to the Saints and Angels who long for all to unite with them in proclaiming the praises, the glory and power of their exalted queen, who is also ours. We read in the lives of the Saints, that the mere fact of hearing the name of Mary pronounced, would cause their hearts to beat with joy. How must they not rejoice then, when seeing that this praiseworthy Virgin is now hailed, loved and invoked on earth, by thousands, by millions of faithful servants!

Thirdly, the celebration of this month is most pleasing to Mary herself, not so much for the glory she derives from it, as on our account. And that because May devotion affords her the occasion to show us her love and her merciful kindness, to enrich us with graces and blessings.

Being our Mother, she wishes us to live happily in this world, and she is more anxious than we are ourselves perhaps about our eternal welfare.

Smiling sweetly upon the miseries of this life she calls us all to her: "Come over to me, all ye that desire me." She is the dispenser of the Divine graces, and she longs to distribute them to one and all.

"Come over to me," cries this sweet mother incessantly; come over to me all you who are in need and I will help you. Come all you who weep and I will console and comfort you. Come all you who suffer and I shall heal the wounds of your hearts. Come all you who are guilty and I shall obtain for you the grace of reconciliation."

In exemplification of what a mother's love can do for a repentant child the eloquent young priest here related a touching incident in the reinstating of the prodigal son in the affection of a father of a French Canadian family.

"Correspond, then, with the ardent wish of your heavenly Mother. Show that you are worthy of her affection, and she'll provide for you in all your necessities; she'll help you to live a true, good, honest, Christian life; she'll protect you against temptation of the devil, and of the world; she'll protect you even against divine justice. 'He that shall find me, shall find life, and shall have salvation from the Lord.'"

At the Church of the Immaculate Conception Rev. Father Cherrier

spoke from the text, "Ask and ye shall receive." All needed the blessing of God not only in spiritual but in temporal affairs. Prayer was a duty. The speaker said: "Everyone of us owed to God to acknowledge Him as our God, our Lord and our Father. Everyone of us must feel the want of grace, and grace came by prayer. If the necessity of praying was true of everyone individually, it was likewise true of the congregation as a whole and the whole society of Christians. It was as necessary for society as for the individual to adore God, and to acknowledge Him as the Supreme Being and the only source of happiness. The wants of society were the wants of individuals, therefore, the necessity of public prayer. The Saviour taught His disciples the lesson how to pray in the Lord's prayer, first to adore God and then to mention temporal wants. We were the children of God, ought we not then to love Him and to pray to Him, morning, noon and evening and during our work? Pray that His Holy Name might be blessed, blessed by the young, by those of mature manhood and womanhood, blessed by those who were getting near the end of their pilgrimage here on earth. Our Lord Jesus Christ came on earth to have the word of God sanctified and His glorious promises spread over all the world. This was not understood by the Jewish people, who looked for a temporal King. In the coming week they would celebrate the Ascension and there would be solemn processions which had formed part of religion from the earliest times. The sons of Israel used to take part in such processions in times of great rejoicing or of great tribulation. Jesus had three processions. One when the people acclaimed Him with Hosannas, once when the same people cried "Crucify Him" on the procession to Calvary, and the last when He ascended to heaven on Ascension day, which they would celebrate next Thursday. Father Cherrier said that his hearers had also their processions from a state of sin to a state of grace. They had made this transit at Easter. Perhaps there had been backsliding since that time. If so, they should walk once more in the hallowed path of repentance. For this there could be no better time than the Feast of the Ascension and the coming feast of Pentecost. He proceeded to paraphrase the rest of the Lord's prayer, which asks for temporal necessities, which begs for forgiveness on the condition that we also forgive those who may have wronged us, and which prays for help against temptation and succour against the wiles of the Evil One.

TEA QUESTION.

Within the last few years a great change has taken place in America regarding the consumption of foods. In former times the housewife would order her goods and accept them irrespective of particular brands; to-day she knows exactly what she wants, and demands those wants with exacting discrimination.

This condition applies no less to teas than to other articles of consumption. The result is a decrease in the sale of tea in bulk and an increase in the sale of package goods, the abandonment of the cumbersome tea-chest, and its supplantation by neat little (1 lb. and ½ lb.) packages of tea, free from dust and other extraneous matter.

Since the establishment of the "pure food" reign the displacement of China tea by Ceylon and India teas is remarkable. In 1866 96 per cent. of the tea in the world came from China and only 4 per cent. from India; in 1894 only 12 per cent. came from China, and 88 per cent from Ceylon and India. This may be partially accounted for in the fact that the higher the elevation the more delicate the tea. Now in Ceylon some of the tea fields are at an elevation of 5,000 feet. Then, too, as the tea industry in India and Ceylon is principally under the control of English capitalists, the old custom of curing the tea by hand is displaced by the adoption of the latest mechanical devices and most sanitary means. On enquiry of the firm of Messrs. G. F. & J. Galt it was learned that the sale of "Blue Ribbon Tea" is increasing very rapidly. Nothing but the highest grade of Ceylon tea is selected for this now famous brand.



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- Quartered Pineapple in marasquin, specially for cocktails, glass jars, 90c.
- Lunch Olives, stuffed with peppers and capers, per bottle, 20c.
- Pitted Cocktail Olives, in glass, at 45c.
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- Hazel Nuts in marasquin, for cocktails, per bottle, 85c.

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UNIVERSITY ITEMS.

The conferring of degrees in Arts and Law took place on Friday, May 15, in the Legislative chamber. Hon. Judge Dubuc, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Manitoba, took the chair and read an interesting address on the growth of the University during the past year. While regretting the absence of the Chancellor, the Archbishop of Rupert's Land, he was happy to announce that His Grace would soon return to Winnipeg with health greatly improved.

The attendance of spectators at this solemn function was smaller than it has been for many years. This was probably due to two causes: first, the fewness of the graduates, only twenty in all as compared with fifty or sixty in recent years, the difference arising mainly from the fact that the final year has been cut in two by the addition of a fourth year to the curriculum, which formerly comprised only three years; and secondly, the absence of any special speaker for the occasion. Of course each graduate attracts a circle of friends anxious to witness his academic triumph, and the larger the number of graduates the larger the attendance of well-wishers. As to the absence of the "orator of the day," that was not intentional. No less than three persons had been invited, but all were unavoidably detained by other business. It would be well, in future to invite the speaker of the day some months beforehand, so that he may have time to make sure of the date and to prepare a suitable address.

Sir Donald McMillan, our popular Lieutenant-Governor, and official



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