

FIVE MINUTE SERMON

BY REV. F. PEPPIERT
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

"For this cause I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ..."

As all outward mortifications are merely means of perfection, and not an end in themselves, they ought to be recommended and employed only in as far as they do not interfere with health...

How absurd it would be to give to one patient the medicine prescribed for another, and to imagine that a drug which proved beneficial in one case, must be a cure for all sick people...

It does not at all follow, because a confessor orders one man to practice one particular mortification, that another person ought to practice it too; on the contrary, what is beneficial to one may be harmful to another...

To sum up what I have said to day: We may be sure that no exterior practices of mortification ought to injure our health or interfere with our duties. Let us be guided by our principles, and we shall then be in no danger of giving way to false piety...

What kind of piety is this, that does this or that simply in order not to be unlike others? Experience teaches us that those who do things that attract attention, solely from a desire to copy others, are equally ready to copy what is bad. It is my duty to caution you never to put yourselves forward to guide or counsel others with regard to any extraordinary works of mortification...

Public cafes, in which liquor is dispensed, cater to young men as well as young women. Boys scarcely out of their teens, stagger along the streets, very often half-dragging the young girls, whose condition is a disgrace to womanhood and a shame to the man...

That temperance work is one of the highest forms of social service, has long been recognized. It is especially gratifying to note the following editorial which appeared in a recent issue of the Boston Journal:

One of the most useful organizations in this city, from a constructive point of view, is the St. Joseph's Total Abstinence Society of the West End, which was organized fifty years ago and which celebrated its golden anniversary in April. It is the oldest association of its kind in Boston, and it was doing welfare work in its section of the city when welfare work as such had not even won its modern designation.

SHE RECOMMENDS "FRUIT-A-TIVES"

Mrs. Corbett Read the Advertisement and Tried It

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There is no need for me to prove that our exterior mortification ought no more to interfere with the performance of our ordinary duties than be prejudicial to our health. Our duty is always the chief thing for us to keep in view, as it is imposed upon us by God, and is the expression of His will. It is by no means right to undertake any voluntary good works that cause us either to neglect our duty, or to discharge it in an imperfect manner...

TEMPERANCE THE OTHER SIDE OF HOLIDAYS No one of us would deny the honest workingman, the laborer in shop, office or factory his holidays, and every citizen is pleased when cheerfully smiles upon all!

From all we know of the Blessed Virgin, it is reasonable to suppose that her entire life was practically contemplative. She could not have had many household duties, for she had too small a family. But did you ever hear of her participating in any public affair? It is true that she attended a wedding once. But even then she was the greatest woman that the world has ever known. Catholics believe that she enjoys the highest gifts and power which Almighty God can give to a creature.

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for mutual helpfulness in every parish of every faith. SOBRIETY, AN ESSENTIAL VIRTUE "Sobriety is the essential virtue of a successful railroad man and the chief requisite for permanent employment in any railroad service. Especially in every man connected with the movement of trains, a clear head and steady nerves are necessary for the correct judgment that will prompt right action at the right time to avert danger and insure safety. The officers of every railroad know that the employee who gives a part of himself over to the slavery of liquor is not the man they want. They want a complete man, not a part of a man."

IS LIFE WASTED IN CONTEMPLATIVE ORDERS? ON THE CONTRARY, THE WORLD OWES THEM INESTIMABLE DEBT FOR PRAYERS Because a daughter of a prominent Denver family, says a writer in the Denver Catholic Register, has entered the postulancy of a contemplative religious order, there has been much talk, within the past few days, about whether this is really an ideal state in life.

Talking against people of any sort, no matter whether clergy or laity, is one of the commonest besetting faults of humanity. Whether such talk is harmful or not depends entirely on the circumstances of each case. If people do things which ought not to be done, they can only expect to be talked against. In such cases, if the talking is confined to the truth, and is done with due moderation, this amounts to "fair criticism," and not a word can be said against it.

In every age of the Church we have had contemplatives. The story is told of an anchoress in the early Church who lived forty years within a radius of four feet. "Life wasted in the contemplative orders? Stop to think why man was created. We believe that we have been sent here to honor and adore God on earth, then to enjoy him forever in heaven. Is a life wasted, then, which is spent entirely in adoration?"

It is not God's will that all our orders should be contemplative. Christ has plainly told us that His expects Christians to care for the sick, the poor and the ignorant. His Catholicity, as in nothing else, His command is strictly carried out. The religious orders devoting themselves to this work are extremely popular, even among non-Catholics, in America, for there is a vast wave of humanitarianism extant. But the religious orders devoting themselves to this work are extremely popular, even among non-Catholics, in America, for there is a vast wave of humanitarianism extant.

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A Clean Mouth Promotes Health Oral hygiene is quite properly focusing the attention of the medical profession as well as the laity. A noted authority is quoted as saying: "There is not one single thing more important in the whole range of hygiene than hygiene of the mouth."

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