

SIX-MINUTE SERMONS.

SHOWING FORTH OUR FAITH. The manifestation of our Lord to the nations in the persons of the three wise men is what holy Church bids us consider to-day.

What we wish more particularly to insist upon is the missionary office of every Catholic, especially in these days of error and inquiry. Now, it is a characteristic of all spiritual good that it is in some sense communicable.

From the sacredness and sublimity of the Catholic priesthood flows its high dignity and the great reverence shown to it by the faithful. Indeed, St. Thomas, the prince of theologians, calls the priest the mediator between God and man.

We read in history that the Portuguese admiral, Albuquerque, was, with his vessel, in a fearful storm that threatened every moment to overwhelm them.

TALKS ON RELIGION.

Its very name describes the office of the priest. When we see a Catholic priest we know him just for what he professes to be.

A priest is one especially consecrated and set apart to the service of a divinity. He is considered the medium through whom worship, prayer, sacrifice, or other service is to be offered to the being worshipped, and pardon, blessing, deliverance, etc., obtained by the worshipper.

Prophecy of the angel Gabriel to Daniel: And a people with their leader shall come and destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be waste, and they shall tread the appointed desolation; the victim and the sacrifice shall fall.

Now God, Who, in the old law appointed a priesthood to offer sacrifices which could not of themselves take away sin, did not surely leave the sacrifice in which the "Word," as St. Ignaceus says, "is offered" to Him, without appointed ministers and guardians.

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We clearly see from these passages of Holy Scripture that God is pleased to accept the mediation of men, to say nothing of that of angels. This being so, what must we think of the power and efficacy of the mediation of the priest in his official, sacerdotal capacity, whose dignity and power, as such, are greater than that of angels!

Do we sufficiently realize the great gift that God has left us, in giving to us this three royal priesthood? We fear not. Do we pray God to bless, defend and reward our priests? Do we fervently ask God to keep and preserve our spiritual fathers in His Holy Grace, that they may perform their God given mission and duties as worthy ministers of God and brothers of Jesus Christ—the Great High Priest of God? Do we daily pray for the eternal rest and perpetual light for the souls of our departed fathers in God?

STRANGE TREATMENT OF THE BIBLE. The North China Daily News, April 2, 1906. I found a week or two ago, says a Bible agent of Yang Ping Fu Chihli Province, China, that our copies of the Scriptures were being surreptitiously bought from colporteurs on the streets and then employed in wrapping up copper coins, much in the same way that dollars are wrapped up by foreign banks.

Dr. McTaggart's remedy removes all desire for the weed in 20 days. A vegetable medicine, and only requires taking the tonic with it occasionally. Price 32.

THE EPIPHANY.

The birth of our Saviour was announced in a miraculous manner by an angel to a few shepherds, and they spread the news throughout Judea. It was made known to the Gentiles in a no less wonderful manner. A star, never seen before by them—and many appeared moving through their eastern sky.

They offered Him gifts: gold to the King of Kings; frankincense of God; myrrh to the Man of Sorrows, the Saviour. We, too, can offer gifts. The Scripture shows us love under the image of gold: "I counsel thee to buy of Me gold tried in the fire." (Apoc. 3: 18.)

Masses for Non-Catholics. "Does the Church allow the offering of Masses for the souls of non Catholics?"

INDIAN WHO IS A PRIEST. A POTTAWATOMIE WHO SPOKE IN THE TONGUE OF HIS FATHERS IN ROME. To be the first full blood Indian to become a Catholic priest, says the Topeka Capital, is the unusual distinction of the Rev. Father Albert Negahnquet of Kansas, now conducting religious labors among his fellow race-men in the Oklahoma and Indian Territory.

Religion of the Soul. The Irish priests . . . have taught their people a religion which penetrates their lives and which in its essential features is not far from the spirit of Christ. Such a religion is not to be sought by words. The man who imparts it must understand it and possess it in his own soul.—Review of Reviews (quotation)

Help Spread Good Catholic Literature. We will mail you FREE a copy of the "Little Folks" Annual for 1907, if you send us the names of ten earnest Catholic Women.

Tobacco and Liquor Habits. Dr. McTaggart's remedy removes all desire for the weed in 20 days. A vegetable medicine, and only requires taking the tonic with it occasionally. Price 32.

this New Year—that of the Magi docile to the inspirations of grace or that of the Jews or of Herod, independent or hostile?

The faith of the Magi was great when they set out to follow the star, still greater when the star disappeared, but heroic when without hesitation they entered the stable. "They are not disgusted by the stable," says St. Bernard, "not offended by the swaddling clothes, not scandalized by the silent infant; falling down they adored Him."

When he returned, he might find civil war raging, or worse still for him, a usurper on his throne. This was one of the risks which the Wise Men were taking.

His parents and members of the family removed to Pottawatomie county, Okla., where there are now many members of that tribe. In the southern part of that country the Catholics in an early day established a great community—a monastery, schools and the like. The missionaries of that church naturally came and worked among the Indians near by.

He was the honor man at Washington and from there he went to Rome. He studied philosophy and theology there in the Propaganda College, being one year in the College of the Pope.

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Works of Archbishop O'Brien. Memoirs of Bishop Burke, \$1.00. Life of St. Agnes—Virgin and Martyr, 25. After Wary Years, 1.00. Aminta—a modern life drama, 1.00.

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GS WITH YOUNG

A New Year's Talk. At the end of one year's living of another one, is to take stock. You were to die to-night, you go?

After attending to the interests of your soul, you want to consider the needs of your mind. What reading? A course of history or biographies, the poets of or what? What are your Socialism, the money question, the issue of railroad what?

Next, you should consider your affairs. Are you in this year that you were last year you made any progress? What have you?

And what about enlarging your circle of acquaintance? Are you taking care of your health? Do you take exercise every day? Do you use excessive use of tobacco, liquor?

Be a good son to your good brother to your good sister, a good lover to your good friend, a good neighbor, a good citizen, a good member of some good Catholic club, a good business man, a good man.

Always Absorbing Knowledge. I know young people who are better educated than through the habit of carrying a book of pocket to read at odd moments during their school days, through college.

JANUARY 5, 1907.

GS WITH YOUNG MEN.

A New Year's Talk. At the end of one year and the beginning of another one, is a good time to take stock.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

A Parable. Rev. H. J. Hughes, in the Freeman's Journal. The Young Year as a child, stood looking over the edge of the world.

PURGATORY CONSIDERED HISTORICALLY.

The Catholic doctrine on purgatory is clearly set forth in the Old Testament. (II Maccabees, xlii xlii 43.)

But the moral standards of the Catholic, especially in literature and the drama, are different from those of the pagan world, and must be remembered in amusements.

Why are Catholics women ever seen at evil plays? They are too good and pure to enjoy them, of this the Archbishop was confident.



Colonel Saunderson. Colonel Saunderson, Orangemen's solitary boast as regards intellect or ability, is no more.

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History of the Reformation in England and Ireland

(In a series of letters) By William Cobbett. Price, 85c., post-paid. Catholic Record, LONDON CANADA.

URNS HER PALACE INTO A CONVENT.

RAHROD MAGNATE'S WIDOW, A CONVENT, WILL LIVE WITH NUNS. Having decided that her life was a disappointment, says a press despatch from Springfield, Mo., Mrs. Alice O'Day, wealthy widow of a former president of the Frisco Railway systems, has turned her elegant mansion into a convent, and proposes to spend the remainder of her life as a guest of the twenty-four black-robed nuns who now own the \$250,000 estate.

THE "IMPERIAL" WON THE CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD

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ARCHBISHOP O'CONNELL EXPLAINS THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES.

Archbishop O'Connell of Boston, addressing a meeting of Children of Mary recently, dwelt on the responsibility of the Catholic woman in the world, and the importance of the right standards of conduct.

FATHER KOENIG'S NERVE TONIC

For over six months I could hardly sleep and had a burning sensation in my feet, that would go through my whole system. I took Father Koenig's Nerve Tonic and I can say well, I will never be able to praise this remedy enough for what it did for me.

A WORD TO WOMEN.

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A BURNING SENSATION.

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THE POSITION OF AN ALTAR BOY IS ONE OF HONOR AND OF SPECIAL PRIVILEGE, WHICH ARE NOT FULLY APPRECIATED BY SOME.

The altar boy should understand that he is in the august presence of the Unseen God, and should at all times comport himself accordingly, and not giggle and laugh, turn around and run a race up and down the altar steps to see who can take hold of the dalmatic first or ring the bell.

ALWAYS ABSORBING KNOWLEDGE.

I know young people who have acquired a better education, a finer culture, through the habit of observation, or of carrying a book or article in the pocket to read at odd moments, or by talking courses in the correspondence schools than many who have gone through college.

YOUTHS WHO ARE QUICK TO CATCH AT NEW IDEAS.

Young people who are quick to catch at new ideas, and who are in frequent contact with superior minds, not only often acquire a personal charm, but even, to a remarkable degree, develop mental power.

THE WORLD IS A GREAT UNIVERSITY.

From the oracle to the grave we are always in God's great kindergarten, where everything is trying to teach us its lesson, to give us its great secret. Some people are always at school, always taking up precious bits of knowledge. Everything has a lesson for them. It all depends upon the eyes that can see, the mind that can appropriate.

VERY FEW PEOPLE EVER LEARN HOW TO USE THEIR EYES.

Very few people ever learn how to use their eyes. They go through the world with a superficial glance at things; their eye pictures are so faint and so dim that details are lost, and no strong impression is made on the mind. The eye was intended for a great educator. The brain is a prisoner, never getting out to the outside world. It depends upon its five or six servants, the senses, to bring it material, and the larger part of it comes through the eye. The man who has learned the art of seeing things looks with his brain.—O. S. M., in Success.

ALL GOD'S WORKS OF PROVIDENCE, THROUGH ALL THE AGES, MEET AT LAST, AS SO MANY LINES IN ONE CENTRE.—EDWARDS.

All God's works of providence, through all the ages, meet at last, as so many lines in one centre.—Edwards.

RECORDERS' ADVICE TO A FORMER PUPIL.

The first thing every Christian ought to have, wherever he may be, is a father, a master, a spiritual friend, is the first thing you have to find. You need a heart devoted to you, one who will keep you in the right path.

RESOLVE TO ACT AS YOU OUGHT TO ACT TO PLEASE GOD AND MAN IN 1907.

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