

# The Catholic Journal

The Only Catholic Newspaper  
Published in the Diocese.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY AT  
184 1/2 East Main Street, Rochester, N. Y.  
BY THE  
CATHOLIC JOURNAL PUBLISHING  
COMPANY.

If paper is not received Saturday notify the office  
without delay any change of address giving  
both old and new.

Communications solicited from all Catholics,  
accompanied in every instance by the name of the  
writer. Names of contributors withheld if desired.  
No money is sent in any other way than by  
draft, express money order, post office money order  
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES:  
For Year, in Advance, \$1.00  
Entered as second class mail matter.

ROCHESTER TELEPHONE 2353.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 1901.

## THE CHURCH MILITANT.

The Church has scandals, she has a reproach, she has shame; no Catholic will deny it. She has ever had the reproach and shame of being the mother of children unworthy of her. She has good children; she has many more bad. Such is the providence of God, as declared from the beginning. He might have formed a pure Church, but He has expressly predicted that the cockle, sown by the enemy, shall remain with the wheat, even to the harvest at the end of the world. He pronounced that His Church should be like a fisher's net, gathering of every kind, and not examined till the evening. . . . There is ever, then, an abundance of material in the lives and histories of Catholics, ready to the use of those opponents, who, starting with the notion that the holy Church is the work of the devil, wish to have some corroboration of their leading idea. Her very prerogatives give their special opportunity for it; I mean that she is the Church of all lands and of all times.

If there was a Judas among the Apostles, and a Nicholas among the deacons, why should we be surprised that in the course of eighteen hundred years there should be flagrant instances of cruelty, of unfaithfulness, of hypocrisy, or of profligacy, and that not only in the Catholic people, but in high places, in royal palaces, in Bishops' households, nay, in the seat of St. Peter itself? . . .

What triumph is it, though in a long line of between two and three hundred Popes, amid martyrs, confessors, doctors, sage rulers, and loving fathers of their people, one, or two, or three are found who will fulfill the Lord's description of the wicked servant, who began "to strike the manservants and the maid-servants, and to eat and drink and be drunk?" What will come of it, though we grant that at this time or that, here or there, mistakes in policy, or ill-advised measures, or timidity, or vacillation in action, or secular maxims, or narrowness of mind have seemed to influence the Church's action, or her bearing toward her children? I can only say that, taking man as he is, it would be a miracle were such offenses altogether absent from her history.—Cardinal Newman.

With the simplicity and absence of ostentation that mark his character even in a religious sense, Cardinal Gibbons has passed through France without causing noise or sensation. The press was able to say but little about him, because in general he gave journalists a wide berth. But, on certain persons of eminence with whom he came in contact, the impression he created was such as to rebound to the honor of the American Episcopate in general. Stopping at Lyons, on his way from Rome, he paid a visit to the Vicomte de Meaux, Montalembert's son-in-law. While in Paris he stopped at the Seminary of Saint Sulpice and there received many private friends. One, an eminent ecclesiastic, says: "I spent a delightful three quarters of an hour with Cardinal Gibbons." The Archbishop of Baltimore expressed himself greatly pleased with his visit to Rome, and with his reception by the Holy Father, who readily granted him favors he asked for certain of his fellow-American Bishops.

When one observes Catholics leaving the Church as the priest, commences to read the last Gospel, he is inclined to ask: "Do these people appreciate as they should, what the Mass is? Do they realize the fact that they are insulting Our Lord and treating as a common meal the most precious of all? Do they receive our friends, when they come to us with courtesy and most

to the Son of God, when He comes on our altars in the Adorable Sacrifice of the Mass.

Although Cardinal Kopp, prince-bishop of Breslau, Germany, ordained a few days ago no less than 56 new priests for his diocese, the supply of clergy is still insufficient to fill up all the gaps created by the long defunct Kulturkampf. How this can be possible may be gathered from the vast extent of this diocese which, in addition to 2,200,000 Catholics in Silesia, has also to supply the spiritual wants of the Catholics of Brandenburg and Pomerania.

Good Catholics rejoice in the opportunity of sending their children to Catholic schools. To them it is of the greatest importance to know that when their children leave the sanctuary of Catholic homes they are committed to the care of those whom God himself has appointed to lead men to Him.—Catholic Universe.

The schools at St. Joseph's Church, Dayton, O., will be free the coming school year.

## THE DRIFT OF THOUGHT.

The Age Passing Through Darkness Into Light.

A striking lecture on the religious outlook was that delivered a few days ago by Father Morgan M. Sheedy, at the Catholic Summer School. All familiar with the works of Father Sheedy know him to be one of the deep thinkers of the country, far-seeing and conservative, yet possessed of an ardor that uplifts and urges forward. "No one," said he in part, "can deny that there is a profound interest in religion at the present time. Neither is it less evident that profound changes are taking place in the religious world. As a result of these changes there is a truer understanding of what religion means. The drift is, I believe, towards Catholicity."

Reviewing the opinions of the pessimists, he shows how they consider that "Christianity is disintegrating into lifeless elements; that its creeds are being cast aside; that science has shattered the foundations of faith; that modern scholarship has shown the Bible to be full of myths and errors; that as a consequence men and women no longer believe the old teachings; that ministers are preaching principles of skepticism and open infidelity."

"If Protestantism were all that stood between the human race and infidelity these fears were well founded. Protestantism is disintegrating and has been ever since Luther succeeded in misleading the credulous.

"His leaven not being that of truth, the more it ferments the more rapid its decay. The more men think the more they will differ from each other so long as each tries to be the leader and guide. As his mind is trained to think and becomes open to the truth, the time will come, and is coming to many even now, when he will see that the Catholic Church teaches all the truth that God has seen fit to reveal to man. As the world becomes more intelligent it must become more friendly to the church. Bigotry, prejudice and selfish fanaticism are her worst enemies. When Protestantism is sufficiently disintegrated it will be known for what it is—Mostly a conglomeration of errors. Then the grains of truth it holds will be identified with those of the true church. As to Dowelism and Pridyism and those fads which make a show of Christianity for profit, there is no place in the church for it.

## CATHOLIC NOTES.

Seventy priests were ordained recently at the Seminary of St. Sulpice, Paris.

The Association for the Propagation of the Faith maintains 5,600 priests and more than 10,000 religious women in all parts of the world. No salaries are paid the officers of the association and the missionaries, both men and women, receive nothing but the necessities of life for their labors.

It is expected that Rev. John Fenlon, S. S., who has been at San Sulpice, Paris, will be one of the faculty at St. Joseph's seminary, Dunwoody.

The Catholics of Buffalo are doing their utmost to offset the evil attractions of the Midway at the Pan-American. Mass is said every Sunday in chapel of the Philippine village on the grounds at 9 o'clock by a priest from Canisius (Jesuit) College. Last Sunday the attendance was about eighty, comprising Indians, Mexicans, Filipinos and Arabians. The Indians belong to the Jesuit mission in Dakota and are devout Catholics.

The New York Sun answers an enquirer as follows: Chicago last year had 121 Catholic churches; New York, 113; Brooklyn, 88; Philadelphia, 76; St. Louis, 65; Boston, 44; Baltimore, 41; Cincinnati and St. Paul, 40 each; Cleveland, 38; Louisville and San Francisco, 30 each. There are besides fourteen cities with more than ten and less than thirty Catholic churches.

An interesting item of information to all Irish Catholics is the announcement that the canonization of Oliver Plunkett, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of Ireland, is now in the advanced stage at Rome, and is expected to take place at an early date. The illustrious Irish prelate fell a victim to Cromwellian ferocity and died a martyr to faith and country during that gloomy period when freedom of conscience was forbidden to the Irish people.

## A GLORIOUS EVENT?

THE TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR OF THE PONTIFICATE OF LEO XIII.

The Catholics of the entire world are called upon to celebrate the occasion with prayers of supplication and thanksgiving.

Within a few months the Catholic world will celebrate a glorious event, the twenty-fifth year of the Pontificate of the illustrious Leo XIII., whose life has been so long spared that he might continue to guide the Church through the troubled waters that ever seek her destruction. In prolonging the life of the Holy Father, we see another evidence of divine protection for the Church, which is to continue her work until the Angel shall proclaim that time has run its course.

The Catholics of the world will join in this celebration with prayers of supplication and thanksgiving. And the faithful in our own highly favored America will not be slow to show their love for the Sovereign Pontiff, who has on so many occasions given evidence of his affection for our country, and its people. While but few of the millions of American Catholics will enjoy the great pleasure of making a pilgrimage to Rome, to prostrate themselves at the feet of the Holy Father, they will join with the faithful of other lands in observing this jubilee.

The committee in charge of the celebration has just issued the following circular letter:

An extraordinary event approaches to give joy to the Church of Jesus Christ. But a few months, and the universal Father of the faithful, the Sovereign Pontiff Leo XIII. will begin, under divine favor, the twenty-fifth year of a Pontificate, that will remain glorious in all Christian ages.

To increase the beauty of order, which will naturally be resplendent in the manifestations of so many millions of hearts united, through the charity of Christ, as one heart only, the Work of Catholic Congresses, the Primary Roman Society of Catholic Interests and the Committee for Homage to the Redeemer, have been formed, in fraternal union, into one Special Committee, under the presidency of His Eminence the Cardinal Vicar of His Holiness. This committee, to which all other Catholic associations will lend their aid, now addresses itself to the brethren of the eternal city and of the whole world, proposing and recommending with affectionate vehemence the following special marks of honor and congratulation towards the august person of Christ's Vicar on the happy occasion of his Pontifical Jubilee.

The first act to be fulfilled is certainly that of great prayer. The Divine Goodness must be invoked for the Supreme Pontiff, not only in private but also by means of public prayers. Already to this end, His Eminence the Cardinal Vicar has enjoined for Rome, that during this time there be recited the prayer, Pro Papa, at Holy Mass, as also, that in the public recital of the Rosary, there be added the prayer: Oremus pro Pontifice nostro Leone . . . Dominus conservet eum, etc. And it is truly touching to hear in the churches of Rome, the pious multitudes uplifting to heaven this filial petition for the longevity, health, happiness and triumph of the Holy Father. Besides this, there has been arranged, for Sunday, the 9th of June, a function in the Church of St. Ignatius, at which the Holy Sacrifice will be celebrated by His Eminence, the Cardinal Vicar, and to which will be invited all the Catholic associations and institutes, when also the faithful will approach the Holy Sacraments. Let this be the principal point, where brother may vie with brother, all aspiring to offer to God these, the best gifts, for the prosperity of the Holy Father.

The desire of comforting the heart of the Holy Father has further guided us to these other designs for which we make a fervent appeal to all the Catholics of the universe who can co-operate with us.

The object of affection for all must be the Cathedral Church of the Roman Pontiff the Arch-Basilica of Saint John Lateran, to the vault of which certain papers are urgently needed. Whoever, in the spirit of faith, has once passed its threshold, can never cease to remember with affection, the glorious church of Constantine, the Mother and Mistress of all the churches of the world. Now, the four Ministers-General of the Franciscan Order have cordially accepted the proposal to crave from their Tertiaris, an offering, however small, for the necessary repairs to the vault of that magnificent temple. And we trust that all Tertiaris, loving the beauty of God's house and the place where His glory dwelleth, and desirous of giving the Pontiff, who loves them so well, a proof of their gratitude, will extend their hand in this manner, to sustain the glory and decorum of that heavenly vision so innocent the Third, as upheld by Francis the Poor Man of Assisi.

Here we make a respectful appeal to the pastors of all the dioceses that their priests, yielding to their paternal invitation, would design to set apart for the same purpose the stipendium of one Mass. This the venerable priests will be able to remit into the hands of the Bishops, who will present it, together with the list of subscribers, to the Holy Father for his beloved Cathedral, by means of His Eminence the Cardinal Vicar, President of the committee.

To the Sisters, the female institutes, the Catholic ladies of each and every diocese, a very earnest appeal is directed that, by their able and pious work, they prepare in aid of pious churches, a special display of sacred vestments, to be afterwards distributed in the respective dioceses. The number of dioceses in which the Work

for Poor Churches, has been established, is consoling; there, the fruit of the jubilee of this Supreme Pontificate will be abundant. Where this work has not been established, may there arise a grand exposition of sacred vestments. It is a delight to see these exhibitions of objects that take from the poverty of the churches and confer honor and splendor on the worship which centres in the Most Holy Sacrament. And it will be a pleasure opening these exhibitions to find them better furnished and richer by reason of this festival. Such gifts, offered in this manner in honor of the Holy Father will on the one hand, afford him the consolation of seeing so many hearts united in ardent love for the Blessed Sacraments, which veil the Lamb that takes away the sins of the world; and on the other they will be deemed more precious, because of the fact, that the Pope, after receiving these gifts as his own, will grant their distribution be made by the respective bishops, but in his august name.

For the second half of April of the year 1902, it has been determined there should take place a great pilgrimage of the Catholic world to the Tomb of the Apostles and the feet of the Pope. Home invites in large numbers her most distant children. To the work, therefore all who are in authority, or who, by their office, by their Catholic action have the power to help! Let us all prepare this solemn homage to the Apostolic See and to the Venerable Watchman who rules there. It is the intention of the committee that especially those Catholics conspicuous for dignity, authority and learning, should present themselves to the Holy Father to render him particular homage, it being but just that they who have received from God greater gifts should more publicly render Him in His Church, honor and glory, to the edification of the brethren.

The Peter's Pence in these sad times must be held rather as a sweet and necessary, nay, almost a preceptive tribute of the faithful children of the Church to the Holy Father, than as an alms; a concourse in aid of Catholic missions and other great works promoted by him so that Holy Church may always better provide for the many needs of souls and the greater diffusion of the faith. On the approaching joyous occasion therefore, let Catholics be more generous than usual in their offerings to the Holy Father, sending their tribute through their Bishops; their excellencies, the Bishops may, as occasion offers, either remit the Peter's Pence of their dioceses to the committee and for it to the Cardinal Vicar, or, have the consolation of presenting personally, to the Pope, this aid of their flocks.

Under the auspices of the Primary Society for Catholic Interests, there will take place in Rome special festivities. In the same way special festivals are recommended in all the dioceses, promoting particularly those works that may most avail to strengthen the people in the faith and love of Jesus Christ, who, in His Church's Vicar, continues to the human race the benefits of a copious redemption.

Catholics of Rome and of the world! Correspond with all the ardor of your souls to the present invitation. The world suffers the more, the farther it removes from the Pope and the less it cares for Him; it enjoys most the gifts of Christ, the more united it is to Christ's Vicar. Our festivities in celebration of the 25th year of the Tiara of Leo XIII. have in view to unite us to Him more closely, to bring those who have strayed to the feet of Him who holds the keys of the Kingdom of heaven. May the Lord bless our concord in the works proposed, and may they ripen in the world the desired fruits of eternal life.

Rome, Feast of Corpus Christi, 1901.

## CONVERTS FROM MORMONISM.

During the two middle weeks of the past month, says the Catholic Sentinel, Rev. W. Hopper, C. S. P., gave a most successful mission in Demsey, Bannock county, Idaho. This little congregation is composed of Mormon converts, taken into the Church by Father Hendricks, of Montpelier, who built a nice chapel for them. People coming from McCammon and elsewhere were camping at the foot of the hill, upon which the little church is situated. To understand how impressive it is to see these good people, now saved from the horrors of Mormonism, receive Holy Communion, one must witness the ceremony. It is this belief in the real presence of Jesus in His sacrament of love that causes the greatest admiration and affection in the hearts of these happy converts. The sermons preached made a great impression, and other deluded persons have requested to be instructed.

## CHOOSES AN IRISH NAME.

William Olejniezak, a resident of Green Bay, Wis., appeared at the office of the register of deeds, recently, and filed his declaration to make the change in his name. One of the paragraphs of this declaration reads as follows: "The object and purpose of said change of name is to adopt a name more easily pronounced, and to comply with a request of ray affianced wife, whose present name I intend to adopt. My name as changed or adopted shall be William McLaughlin."

In the presence of a large gathering of Catholic clergy and lay Lord Edmund Talbot, M. P., on Friday of last week opened a new elementary school in Dale street, Chelsea, England, which has been erected by the Fathers of the Brampton Orotary. The principal part of the cost has been defrayed by a sum of \$15,000, presented to the Fathers by the Duke of Norfolk, on behalf of the Catholics of England in commemoration of the golden jubilee of the Orotarians in London.

There is said to be only one Roman Catholic on the Faroe Islands—an old woman. She has a special dispensation all to herself, and once a year a Catholic priest is sent over from Denmark, a distance of four hundred miles to administer the communion.

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