

# The Catholic Journal.

—THE LEADING DIOCESAN NEWSPAPER—

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## A Noted Cathedral

### Baltimore's Famous Century Old Sacred Edifice.

The celebrated Baltimore cathedral, which was recently the scene of a grand celebration on the occasion of its one hundredth birthday, stands today as one of the most interesting buildings in America. As a center of historical and religious interest the cathedral stands second to no edifice in this country. Perhaps no better history of the sacred pile could be given than the recent talk of Cardinal Gibbons, when he said:

"April 29th was the hundredth anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of this cathedral. In celebrating this event the name of Archbishop Carroll naturally occupied a conspicuous place.

"John Carroll was appointed first bishop of Baltimore by Pope Pius VII, and was consecrated Aug. 15, 1790, in the chapel attached to Lullworth castle, Dorsetshire, England. His see embraced then the whole United States. The consecration prelate was Right Rev. Dr. Walmsley, vicar apostolic of the London district, who was not only a learned and pious churchman, but also a scientist of national distinction.

"I regard the selection of Bishop Carroll as a most providential event, which was fraught with far reaching consequences for the welfare and development of the Catholic Church in America. For, if, at that time, a prelate of narrow views, a man out of sympathy and harmony with the spirit and genius of the new republic, had been chosen, the progress of religion would have been seriously hampered and impeded.

"John Carroll was the man for the occasion. We may apply to him the words spoken of John the Baptist: 'There was a man sent from God whose name was John. This man came for a witness to bear witness of the light. He was a man of sterling piety and enlightened zeal. These gifts endeared him to the faithful. His consummate tact, his courteous manners and unfailing charity won the respect of his fellow townsmen, with many of whom he had intimate relations without distinction of creed. His sturdy patriotism and the active part he bore in strengthening the cause of the new republic commanded the confidence and esteem of his fellow countrymen and the friendship of the Father of His Country.

"The site selected for the new edifice was purchased from Governor Howard of Revolutionary fame. The architect of the cathedral was Benjamin Henry Latrobe, the grandfather of our distinguished fellow citizen, General Ferdinand C. Latrobe. The cornerstone of the cathedral was laid by Bishop Carroll on July 7, 1806. We can form some idea of the bishop's sublime courage and pious audacity, or, rather, I should say, of his keen foresight and deep penetration, in undertaking this gigantic work when we take into account the slender resources at his command and the sparseness of the population of our city. Baltimore, which has today nearly 600,000 souls, at that date had a population of about 20,000, and the Catholic community hardly amounted to 5,000 souls.

"The granite with which the church is built was brought from the quarries of Bilcott, City in parts drawn by oxen. The work of construction steadily progressed until 1812, when it was interrupted by the war with England, which continued from 1812 to 1815. After the close of the war the work was resumed and carried on till the completion of the building in 1821.

"On May 31, 1821, the sacred edifice was dedicated by Archbishop Marshall. About fifty years ago the portico was constructed by Archbishop Kenrick.

"On Ascension day, Thursday, May 25, 1876, the cathedral was solemnly consecrated by my venerable predecessor, Archbishop Bayley. The sanctuary was erected in 1870 and the building was enlarged and the new sanctuary added in 1888, during my administration.

"When you visit this shrine you have a double duty to perform. You should not only adore your immortal Saviour swooning in the tabernacle, you should also pray for the souls of the deceased archbishops whose mortal remains are interred beneath the sanctuary. In the crypt under the high altar are deposited the ashes of Carroll and Marcellus of Whitefield and Eccleston, of Kenrick and Spalding. Many of our American citizens are in the habit every year of making pilgrimages to Mount Vernon to view the spot where the Father of His Country is buried. And many a citizen of the republic of the United States has come to this temple that he may contemplate the last resting place of the patriarch of the American church."

"The lowest round trip Homeseekers' rates to the West, Northwest and Southwest are offered by the Nickel Plate Road—the first and third Tuesday of each month. Write R. E. Payne, General Agent, 221 Main St., Buffalo, N. Y.

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"SHORT SERMONS. The idle man kills time; time kills the idle man. Cheerfully to praise a good action is to participate therein.

## REV. FATHER F. X. WERNZ.

The New General of the Society of Jesus.

Rev. Father Francis Xavier Wernz, recently elected general of the Society of the Congregation of the Company of Jesus, in succession to Father Martin, who died last May, is one of the most brilliant men in the Church in Germany. Father Wernz was born at Kottwitz, Wurttemberg, on Dec. 2, 1842, and at the age of fifteen years entered the society of which he has been chosen head. After a long course of preparatory work he took up the study of canon law at Dittan Hall and in 1883 received an appointment as professor in the Gregorian university. He also has been rector of the university since 1904.

Following the election of Father Wernz a messenger was immediately dispatched to the Vatican to inform the Pope of the choice, which, to become effective, required the Papal sanction.

"He is just the man fitted for the position," said Pope Pius when he had heard the message. He sent to Father Wernz the Apostolic benediction and also an affectionate letter of greeting.

It is predicted that the choice of Father Wernz as general of the Company of Jesus will result in the infusion of new life into the organization. He is recognized in Church circles as a progressive man of present day ideas and extremely energetic.

An interesting anecdote of Father Wernz's boyhood, when a gypsy soothsayer predicted his later success in life, is recalled in connection with his election. The story is that when the old gypsy fixed her eyes on the boy she raised her hands above her head, exclaiming, "There is a man of the future."

"Will he become chief of the gypsies?" asked one of the spectators.

"He will be more than that," the old woman replied. "Others may be kings of the gypsies, but he will be Pope of the gypsies." Many see in this a veiled reference to the Jesuits, who perhaps more than any others are the wanderers of the Roman Catholic Church.

## THE CALL OF THE CONVENT

Answered by a Beautiful Mistress, Who Renounces the World.

Miss Celeste O'Shaughnessy, the beautiful daughter of the millionaire Newport (Ky.) distiller, tired of worldly life just as she was stepping upon the threshold of it, has entered Mount St. Martin's convent for life.

The close friends of Miss O'Shaughnessy were surprised at her action. She is accomplished, winsome, light hearted and a social favorite. She was possessed of everything that ordinarily insures happiness.

Miss O'Shaughnessy was graduated from the Immaculate Conception academy four years ago and later from the Academy of Notre Dame. On Aug. 10 she called in her intimate friends and relatives, distributed her jewels and other valuables among them and bade each goodby and was driven in a closed carriage to Mount St. Martin's academy in the hills back of Newport. She left her friends with a laugh and a wave of her pretty hand, from which all rings had been removed.

Inquiry at the home for a motive for her act elicited only the fact that she yearned for the atmosphere in which she had been educated.

"It was the call of the convent, and she answered it," her relatives said.

## Catholic Chaplains.

The number of Catholic chaplains in the navy has increased rapidly of late. In the Brooklyn navy yard, in New York, is the receiving ship Hancock, and aboard her as chaplain is Rev. William Henry Ironsides Reaney. At Norfolk, Va., on the receiving ship Franklin, is Rev. Louis Paul Reynolds. In Charleston is Rev. Edward Joseph Brennan. At the Newport training station is Rev. George Edward McDonnell, Wabash, who until recently has been at sea aboard the Iowa. Rev. Matthew Gleason is the chaplain of the Missouri. The last priest to receive appointment in the navy was Rev. Joseph Michael Francis McGluty, who at present is assigned to the West Virginia.

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## A Task of Obedience

### Such Must Be a Good Life From Beginning to End.

The proverb, "Who learns to obey learns to command," contains an important truth not always well understood. The qualities of mind under the good commander are not greater than nor perhaps different from those that teach a true obedience. A good life is from beginning to end a task of obedience.

We follow rules of right and morality against evil promptings and temptations, that but for our resolve to obey would be more attractive to us. The voluntary consent to obey and to be governed by some well settled purpose is an exhibition of the strongest will and the highest quality of mind. Especially is this true where temporary interests must be forgone and various distractions and provocations resisted. The will power that withstands all opposition of this kind is that of the highest obedience. It is manifested in that stern devotion to duty that is willing to sacrifice all to the cause of right. It is seen in the life of one who gives up the worldly credit of his deed sooner than let it be undone. There are greater men in the rank and file of the world's great movements than ever led the van.

Men who can thus subordinate all their personal ambitions, all their passions and hopes to the furtherance of a great object are certainly possessed of the qualities of leadership. Their obedience is the most perfect self command, and that is the test of the highest ability to rule.

From a purely religious standpoint obedience is even a higher virtue. It is insisted upon more than anything else in God's government. One of the chief lessons that our Saviour taught the world by His life here on earth was this virtue of obedience. He remained subject to His parents "for three and thirty years, thus emphasizing for us the need of a willing obedience to a proper authority. In the discipline of the church this lesson is repeated. Peace and order demand the relationship of authority and obedience. Otherwise Christianity would not have spread as it has done, and religion would be lost and dissipated in a multitude of varying and conflicting sects.

Men have often wondered and stood amazed at the unity, strength and vitality of the Catholic Church. When human organizations have fallen it has survived. Where other religions have succumbed to time it has remained unchanged. Under the most violent persecutions and in the face of the great obstacles it has lived and flourished. Various explanations of this wonderful vitality have been offered, some possessing a grain of truth and others merely apparent. Nothing but the divinity of its origin can fully account for it with us. But this divinity undoubtedly manifests itself in some great qualities, and the willing submission to authority, the voluntary obedience to superiors, which the government of the Church so strongly enjoins, is certainly one of those qualities.

The obedience of the religious—the monk, the nun and the brother—is the truest humility combined with the strongest will power. The vow of obedience is entirely voluntary and taken after long and full consideration. From the monastery have often come those who by obedience themselves have shown a wonderful power to command obedience in others. Gregory VII, obtained in the seclusion and obedience of a monastery that firmness and strength of mind that afterward fitted him to so successfully free the Church from the dominion of worldly rulers.

The obedience which the priest owes to his bishops should be with Catholics an example of the respect and deference they owe the priest as their immediate spiritual guide.—Catholic Citizen.

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## THE TOMB OF LEO XIII.

He Will Be the Seventeenth Pope to Rest in the Lateran.

Leo XIII. is about to be moved from his temporary resting place in St. Peter's to the majestic tomb which he built for himself long before his death in the ancient and famous basilica of St. John Lateran, so called because it stands on the site of the mansion of Senator Plautius Lateranus, who was put to death by Emperor Nero because of his conversion to Christianity. Emperor Constantine presented the site to the bishop of Rome and founded the present basilica, the oldest portions of which therefore date from the fourth century. Consequently it has every right to its title and dignity as the mother of all Christian churches.

Pope Leo's tomb consists of a beautiful marble sarcophagus placed over the great door leading into the sacristy to the left of the choir and is in keeping with that of Pope Innocent III, which is over the corresponding door on the opposite side of the choir. The sarcophagus of Leo XIII is surmounted by his recumbent figure and is ornamented with delicate tracery in gold. Leo XIII will be the seventh of the Popes to be entombed in the Lateran, Innocent III having been the contemporary of the crusader king, Richard Cesar de Lion of England, in the baptism, in which Emperor Constantine, who labored with his own hand to build the cathedral, was baptized, and in which Rienzi, "the last of the tribunes," bathed the night before his fall. Within the main altar are said to be preserved the skulls of St. Peter and St. Paul and a wooden table upon which St. Peter and the early Christians in Rome were in the habit of celebrating communion at the house of Senator Pudens. In fact, the church is filled with relics most sacred in the eyes of all good Catholics.

Every Catholic Family Should Possess a "Life of Christ." "Fabiola" used to be read wherever good books were looked upon with favor. It is not a great novel. Few are, but it is decidedly big and splendid and worth while. It is surprising that the young people of today do not take any real interest in it or do not seem to. It is as full of "thrills" as a book by Harry Castleman or Oliver Optic. And it is well written, fully the mood and word of cultivation compared with the work of new made novelists that pour from the press. It is as Hyperion to a satyr. It moves, it draws the sharp breath of dramatic life, it is the sort of book that every hearty boy and girl should have.

Another book that should be much more widely read is one of the better printed lives of Christ. Our Catholic truth societies should see to this. So should the curates at our crowded city churches. Only a short time ago the writer was told by a young priest in a congested parish of Boston that he had in his house to house visit always taken pains to recommend the reading of a standard "Life of Christ." He found the people willing enough, but they scarcely knew how to commence. The Catholic Truth society was communicated with, and several hundred books of the sort required were distributed at a sum that simply covered the cost of production. This should stir up activity everywhere.—Boston Republic.

Father Fidelis. Father Fidelis (the Rev. Dr. James Kent Stone, Harvard graduate, descendant of an old Puritan family and former Episcopal clergyman) has been appointed provincial of the eastern province of the Passionist order monastery of St. Michael the Archangel in West Hoboken, N. J. The houses of the Passionists in this country have just been divided into two provinces, after the manner of the Jesuits. Father Fidelis was born in Boston Nov. 30, 1840. In 1867 he became president of Kenyon college, which he resigned a year later to accept the presidency of Hobart college. In 1869 he left the Episcopal church and became a Catholic. He was married in 1863 to Miss Cornelia Fay of Boston, who died after bearing him three children, all of whom are living.

Archbishop Ireland. His grace Archbishop Ireland has presided over the archiepiscopal see of St. Paul since May, 1888. He is sixty-eight years old, having been born on Sept. 11, 1838, in Ireland. He came to the United States in his boyhood, was educated in the cathedral school at St. Paul, studied theology in France and was ordained to the priesthood in 1861.

In the civil war he was chaplain of the Fifth Minnesota regiment. He became rector of the cathedral in St. Paul and later was secretary and coadjutor to Bishop Grace. He was consecrated Dec. 21, 1875. In 1901 Yale conferred upon him the degree of LL. D.

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## Story of the K. of C.

### Brief Sketch of This Promising Organization

The Knights of Columbus owes its origin to the late Rev. Michael J. McGivney—the Great Work of National Secretary Daniel Colwell.

The order of the Knights of Columbus owes its origin to the Rev. Michael Joseph McGivney, then a curate of St. Joseph's church, New Haven, Conn. He conceived the idea of a great Catholic society, to be restricted in its membership to practical Catholics and to be organized under the auspices of the Church. He had seen many Catholics fall away from the faith through connection with secret societies that were antagonistic to all religion, so he resolved to organize one that Catholics could join with the free sanction and indorsement of the Church.

He associated with him in the enterprise such men as Daniel Colwell, who has been national secretary of the order since its foundation; James T. Mullen, Matthew O'Connor, Cornelius F. Driscoll (afterward mayor of New Haven), John T. Kerrigan and William M. Geary, and with them organized and incorporated the Knights of Columbus on March 29, 1882.

After seven years of labor as a curate in New Haven Father McGivney was appointed rector of St. Thomas' church, Thomaston. He assumed charge of the parish on Nov. 16, 1884, and labored there zealously for nearly six years, almost liquidating the entire debt on the property.

But the arduous labor he had performed in the foundation of the Knights of Columbus and his parish work soon began to tell upon him, and he was called to his reward on Aug. 14, 1891.

A charter was granted by the legislature to the Knights of Columbus for the transaction of a fraternal insurance business. Although chartered as an insurance organization, those who formed the organization had an additional and higher motive in view. Their primary object was Catholic unity, the uniting of all Catholic gentlemen into one compact body devoted to the interests of Catholicity, with "Charity, Unity and Brotherly Love" as their motto. The unlagging zeal, undaunted adherence to principle and undying faith in their cause enabled a very small band of Catholic laymen in New Haven to establish on firm and enduring principles the great order which today embraces within its ranks nearly 130,000 members.

To one man perhaps more than to any other is due the credit for the beautiful ritual of the order and the series of degrees which lend such attraction and dignity to the organization. This man is Daniel Colwell, one of the original incorporators and the national secretary of the Knights of Columbus since its inception. He brought to his duties of office an undying devotion to the cause and a method and well developed mind stored with the best of literature and poetry of the ages.

The first council of the order was founded in Meriden, Conn., on Feb. 2, 1882, and was called San Salvador, a name particularly appropriate for a Catholic order which had taken the name of the great Columbus. For the three ensuing years the order made rapid strides in Connecticut.

A council was established in Rhode Island, in Westerly, on April 15, 1885. The next state entered was New York, where the first council was instituted in Brooklyn on Sept. 23, 1891.

In the following year the order was established in Massachusetts, when Bunker Hill council, No. 62, was instituted in Charlestown, a section of Boston, on April 10, 1892. This rally marks the beginning of the great growth of the order.

The members in Massachusetts take great pride in having instituted the first council in the state of New York, and to them also is due the credit of having established the first council west of the Mississippi, in St. Louis.

The old Bay State furnished a supreme knight in the person of the late James E. Hayes of Charlestown, Boston, who by his able leadership and indefatigable energy succeeded in making the order a power for good in the country as a power for good. The present supreme knight, Edward L. Hearn, is also a Massachusetts man, having been formerly a resident of South Framingham, but now living in New Haven, Conn.

Daniel Colwell, national secretary of the Knights of Columbus, was born in North Adams, Mass. On July 15, 1866, he located in New Haven and worked at his trade of shoemaking. For many years he kept a shoe store. He was elected town constable in 1876 and served seven years, when he resigned. He was court officer in the superior criminal court during these years and had charge of many of the most noted prisoners. He was one of the founders of the Sarsfield guards and was a member of the social organization known as the Red Knights, which was perhaps the fountain from which sprung the Knights of Columbus. He drafted the articles of incorporation for the Knights of Columbus and was chairman of the committee that filed the first constitution and report of the

order. He was also chairman of the committee on ritual and prepared the original three degrees and ceremonies of institution and installation. He was elected general secretary of the order in 1884 and has ever since held that position.

The Knights of Columbus has not only the support of the hierarchy of the Church, but has even attracted to its membership some of its high dignitaries and many priests—Catholic Mirror.

## AUBURN, N. Y.