

# The Catholic Journal.

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## Father Ladden's Trial

Father Ladden was tired when he came in from church. He had been hearing confessions since 6 o'clock in the afternoon, and two hours of whispering and being whispered at, as prescribed by no specialist as a tonic for over-wrought nerves.

The confessions had increased with the passing of the last two years. When first he came to Our Lady of the Snow things had not been so depressingly prosperous. Had he been an invalid then the work in the confessional could hardly have tired him. Now the old order had changed. All the weary afternoon he had sat there giving sympathy from his own aching heart, and counsel from his whirling brain. And his priestly hand had showered down its absolutions.

Once or twice the mad impulse had possessed him to interrupt the story that an old saint was pouring into his ear and tell her his own troubles, seeking her advice instead of giving his. But he restrained himself. In fact his tongue grew thick and seemed to cling obstinately to the roof of his mouth. Then he remembered that the Master had suffered in silence. Was he, the disciple, to be so very different? And he had closed the slide on her without asking for even one short prayer.

It was in the confessional that the awful responsibility of the priesthood well near crushed him. The very souls of his penitents throbbed mercilessly against his own. Had the burdens of his calling appeared so vividly before the oils of ordination were upon him as now, surely he would have long hesitated before assuming them.

It was a terrible thing to reflect that his words carried so much weight. It was too depressing to remember that the results of his advice would go careering down the ages, and, as he dolefully assured himself, "Perhaps keep me in purgatory until the day of judgment."

Father Ladden yawned wearily as he flung his head back in his chair. He bit his lips nervously, and he sighed. Of late sighs were almost his only method of speech—they came more easily than breaths. Oh, the reality of life as it is lived! How unlike youth's dream-picture of it!

From the pocket of his cassock he drew forth an envelope. It was stamped "Peoria, Ill."

The Angelus was ringing and, letter in hand, the young priest lent his lips to the saying of it. But his heart was filled with many things. The Angelus was the forerunner of the dinner bell, and the dinner bell, according to the maxims of the Cure of Ars, played but a minor part in the rubrics of the day. Father Ladden, however, was thinking little of the Cure of Ars. The trials and troubles of Robert Ladden were absorbing his leisure moments.

He fell listlessly again into his chair, his long church cloak thrown down by his side. It was an easy chair, with a soft, undulating back calculated to deal a deathblow to penance. But Father Ladden paid not the least attention to its shortcomings in the way of mortifications. He sank back into it. At least it was something that mutely sympathized with him, and that he felt was more than the rest of the world did.

So this sorrow had been doled out to him: Vera, his sister, was going to marry a Protestant—at any rate she was going with one. And Father Ladden sighed as he absently flicked the envelope.

But the Japanese gong for dinner cut short his lamentations. Father Henderson was waiting for him. Neither ate much. The cook was almost at the point of giving notice when she beheld one dish after another returned to her "hardly touched" as she said.

"It's enough to scald one's heart, the appetites of them," she confided to Annie. "In all my career I never seed the likes."

But Annie consoled her. "Sure, they're too healthy for a man like Father Henderson, who's indigestion. And Father Ladden's all broken up about something, but I haven't found out yet what it is."

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Father Henderson stirred his coffee slowly. The physician, who had to answer for the pastor's health, had mildly forbidden the use of the berry, and Father Henderson had just as mildly agreed to give it up. But at the second meal of this heroic treatment, he had decided that it made him more nervous to be doing without it, so he took the law into his own hands. He released himself from the order.

The conversation lagged and neither seemed interested enough to revive it. Father Ladden arose and pushed back his chair.

"Excuse me," he said, "I'm going out to the confessional."

Father Henderson made no reply. Instead he drew forth a cigar case from the depths of a pocket.

"Have one," he offered, "I bought them myself."

Father Ladden accepted. "I'll smoke it after confession," he answered. "And now I'll go out."

"It's early yet," said Father Henderson, blowing a wreath of smoke above the table. "Sit down."

"You're not looking yourself lately, child," he said tenderly. His eyes were far from the face of the curate. The rings of smoke from his cigar seemed to absorb all his attention. "What's the matter?" he asked lightly.

"Nothing," Father Ladden fibbed thoughtlessly. "I'm a little worried—as, indeed, we all are now and then—but that's all."

His pastor blew out another wreath of smoke.

"Are you going to light your cigar?" he asked, and the ghost of displeasure was in the tones.

Father Ladden lit it. Then he threw the cape that Anne had brought him significantly around his shoulders. The act was wasted on Father Henderson.

"Sit down child," he commanded gently. And he smiled in an amused sort of way. "I know that you, like the Cure of Ars, are sure to have a line waiting for you, but then we are neither of us the Cure of Ars and at times it is well that we remember it."

Father Ladden winced. He was not quite sure whether Father Henderson was sympathizing with his own or Father Ladden's limitations, and the suspense was not pleasant.

Father Henderson was tapping his fingers gently upon table.

"Let's see, it's this next St. Catherine's day that's the anniversary of your ordination, is it not?" he asked.

Father Ladden nodded. Anniversaries were unpleasant things just at present. A picture of Vera's—married to a Protestant—came before his mind.

"I received the mail the other day," continued Father Henderson, "and I noticed a letter from Peoria for you. No bad news, I trust?"

Father Ladden coughed a hesitating cough. "It was a matter on which he wished to say little, and even for that little he thought the time hardly ripe."

"Well," he answered reluctantly, "I did receive a letter from home, and it does contain news—bad news, if you will." And presently he was unburdening himself.

"It's about Vera, my sister Vera. She's going with a Protestant." And Father Ladden dropped the cigar and pulled the letter out of his cassock pocket.

"Here it is, I'll read it to you," he said.

Father Henderson smiled resignedly. He hated to be read at, for the only way he understood things was to hear them through his eyes, as he put it. But Father Ladden left him no choice.

"Read it slowly, then," he compromised.

"Dear Bob," began his curate, then looked up—"you know that spells my name for them," he smiled.

To be continued

## Pope's Encyclical of Peace.

Rome, Nov. 16.—The Pope today caused to be published his announced encyclical urging peace among the warring nations of Europe.

In this document the Pontiff attributes the war to four causes, namely, lack of mutual and sincere love among men; contempt of authority; injustice on the part of one class of the people against another, and the consideration of material welfare as the sole object of human activity.

The encyclical begins by tracing a horrible picture of the present war and by calling upon the rulers and the peoples to end the fratricidal fight in order that the dawn of the new pontificate be blessed by a voice announcing peace throughout the world. The present bloody war is terrible because, the encyclical declares, it is a struggle of souls as well as a struggle of bodies, the soul being the origin of the body.

After making reference to the doctrines of Christ, the Pope, in his communication, says:

"The spirit of Christ, does not reign to-day. The people talk to-day of brotherhood more than they ever have before, yet brotherhood is ignored to-day to a degree greater than ever before. Nations, races, cities and individuals are divided to-day by rancor and selfishness more than they are by political frontiers. The lack of reciprocal charity is causing a lack of respect for authority."

"Love does not alter differences between social classes, but it makes those above inclined towards the humble with Christian virtues, most of all with justice, while the humble trust their superiors, awaiting brotherly assistance from them."

The Pope expresses the view that to bring about the desired change it will be necessary to extirpate the secret root of all evils, which he described as the view that material good is the only object of life.

The second part of the encyclical is devoted to an appeal for peace within the church. It urges the suppression of all differences, and in particular the extirpation of the "evil growth of modernism, together with the evil modernistic spirit which seeks novelty in everything."

The message expresses the wish for peace among all nations, which will find inestimable good in peace, and also peace for the church, which will find in it its essential liberty, as well as in its essential liberty, as well as in its "cessation of the abnormal state of affairs whereby the vicar of Christ is placed in Rome, by renegeing the protest of his predecessor against which condition he is fulfilling his sacred duty."

## Bishop Hanna Aids Relief Fund

Rt. Rev. Edward J. Hanna, formerly of Rochester and now auxiliary bishop of the archdiocese of San Francisco, was a speaker at a recent mass meeting in San Francisco, to raise money for Belgian relief. At the meeting \$118,000 was raised within an hour. Bishop Hanna assured the meeting that the diocese he represented was heartily in favor of the Belgian relief movement.

## Mrs. Peter Needham.

Lyons, Nov. 17.—Mrs. Johanna M. Needham, died in her home in Franklin street, Tuesday morning, aged 60 years. Mrs. Needham was born in Savannah, December 24, 1854, and has lived in this village for the past twenty-four years. She leaves her husband, two daughters, Nellie A. and Loretta, of this village; three sons, Peter H., of Buffalo; John D., of Rochester, and Richard, of this village; one sister, Mrs. Thos. McDermott, of Newark, and one brother, John McCarthy, of Spokane, Washington. The funeral was held from St. Michael's Church Thursday morning at 9.30 o'clock. Rev. B. W. Gommengier officiating, with burial in Elmwood cemetery.

## Gaelic Association Give A Comedy and Dance.

The second effort of the Dramatic Club of the Gaelic Literary and Musical Association was a comedy entitled "A Husband's Difficulties," which was given at the Conservatory of Music on Saturday evening and was enthusiastically received by the audience which filled the hall.

Mr. D. C. Ryan, the director of the Club, expresses himself as highly pleased at the success of his efforts and is most enthusiastic in his praise of his class.

The comedy represents the efforts of a husband to make retrenchments in his wife's dress-making department, in the cause of which he realizes that he has tackled a bigger proposition than he can handle. The part of the husband "Mr. Dabbleton" was ably taken by James W. Dunne, president of the association. Mr. Dunne introduced some very effective "bits" in which he played on the peculiarities of some of the members of the association in a manner which convulsed the audience, he did not spare even his dramatic manager Mr. Ryan.

Miss Lillian Smyth, as "Mrs. Dabbleton" left nothing to be desired, wittily and cleverly she turns the tables completely on her economizing husband so effectively as to prevent all future efforts in that way by Mr. Dabbleton.

Miss Elsie Cole as "Mrs. Bird Plover," made an ideal newly married bride, assuming all the airs of pretty conceit usually attached to that role. Mr. Francis O'Byrne (Bird Plover) admirably filled the role of her husband.

Miss Mollie Woods as "Maggie," the Irish colleen filled her role without any effort, for she is a sweet little Irish colleen both off and on the stage, her dialogue with "the Doctor," M. K. Fenelon, kept the audience in a scream.

The Association will hold its second annual masquerade on Saturday evening, Nov. 28th, at the Conservatory of Music hall.

## Order of Alhambra.

### New Caravan in Syracuse, N. Y.

The institution of the new Caravan in Syracuse, N. Y., will be held on Thanksgiving day. The new Caravan will be known as Navarre Caravan No. 31, and will start with a charter list of 100 members from Syracuse and adjacent cities. The organization has been under the auspices of Sir Noble Angelo Newman as organizing officer, by special designation of the Supreme Commandery, and the plans include, in addition to the initiation ceremony, a banquet at the Empire House. A large number of candidates will come from the city of Oswego, accompanied by the Oswego members of the Alhambra, headed by Hon. Thos. F. Hennessy, Mayor of the city.

## Knights of Columbus.

A meeting of Rochester Fourth Degree Assembly No. 178, Kts. of Columbus, will be held at the Assembly chamber, November 23, at 8.15 p. m., at which time the officers elected at the October meeting of this Assembly will assume their respective stations, as follows:

Faithful Navigator, Walter B. O'Neill; Faithful Captain, Thos. F. Sharkey; Faithful Admiral, Wm. H. Rossenbach; Faithful Pilot, Wm. T. Nolan; Faithful Comptroller, Henry K. Wheaton; Faithful Inside Sentinel, Cyril J. Statt; Faithful Outside Sentinel, Frank H. Biel.

Council 178, will hold a reception and ball at the Seneca Hotel, on Wednesday evening, Thanksgiving eve.

## West Bloomfield

West Bloomfield, Nov. 16.—Monday afternoon a class of 25 boys and girls were confirmed at St. Joseph's Church by Bishop Hickey of Rochester.

## News From Ireland

Thomas H. Doyle, Warkworth street, Belfast, one of the survivors of the Hawke disaster, has returned home. Two Belfast comrades of his, Harber and Dawson, have lost their lives.

After forty years' service, Thomas Mulligan, Raws N. S. Middletown, has retired on pension.

Dr. F. P. Colgan, Greenville, Carlow, has been appointed a medical referee under the Workmen's Compensation act for County Carlow, in place of the late Dr. Nolan.

The death has taken place on October 14th, at Aghade, Tullow, of Robert Macauley, aged 72 years.

Rev. Father P. McGriakin, O. C., has been transferred from Cavan to Drumkeerin, County Leitrim. Father McGriakin is a brother of J. D. McGriakin, J. P., postmaster, Killyclogher.

The late Thomas Finlay, formerly of Ballybratney and Bawnboy, left unutilized property of the gross value of \$15,135.

B. A. Wade, pension officer at Ballybratney for the past three years has been transferred on promotion to Glasgow.

On October 6, at the Cathedral Ennis, by the Rev. Dennis O'Dea, Adm. (with nuptial mass), Laurence, youngest son of the late Thomas O'Donohue, Ballytown, Gort, was married to Elizabeth (Gis), second daughter of Joseph McDermott, Jall street, Ennis.

A marriage was solemnized at St. Eugene's Cathedral, Derry, by the Rev. L. Hegarty, O. C., between Joseph McGhee, Greenock, and Bridget, eldest daughter of James and Mary Johnston, 71 Argyll street, Derry.

On October 10, 1914, at his residence, Killybegs, the death took place of John C. Ward, ex-N. T., professor St. Eunan's College, Letterkenny, aged 72 years.

Dr. P. Merrin, Mount Clarence, Kingstown, has been appointed a magistrate for County Dublin.

The death of Francis McInerney, of 6 Rossory Terrace, Enniskillen, has taken place at the age of 23 years.

Dr. Sandys has been elected medical officer of Gort Dispensary district, defeating Dr. O'Dea (house surgeon, Galway County Hospital) by twenty votes to sixteen.

At her residence, Market place Kinsale, on the 12th ult., the death occurred of Mary, daughter of the late Daniel and Julia O'Callaghan, Commeen, Kilgarvan.

J. E. Reynolds, principal Herbertstown Boys' N. S., has been awarded the Blake and Carlisle premium.

Rev. J. Donnelly, C. C., Dunleer, has been presented with an illuminated address from the parishioners of Collon, as a token of their esteem for his services in the parish, and as president of the Volunteers. M. J. Healy made the presentation.

M. F. Lavin, son of P. Lavin, Cloonfad, Ballyhaunis, has been awarded a medical scholarship, value £25, with honors, by the board of studies of the University College, Galway.

The death has taken place October 20, at his father's residence Antylstown, Navan, of John, second son of John Fagan.

On October 18, at 263 Crumlin road, Belfast, the death occurred of Kate, relict of the late James Murray, Monaghan.

## Catholic News Notes

The parochial schools of the United States cost annually, says a report, \$55,264,375.

Last year the collection for the charitable institutions of the diocese of Boston totaled \$22,222.11.

Rev. Brother Eleazer, a former president of Manhattan College in New York City, has been selected to fill the presidency of the Christian Brothers College in Memphis, Tenn.

Cardinal Gibbons makes the very interesting statement that Pope Benedict XV is able to converse a little in English.

The German parish of St. Joseph, Paris, Ill., recently celebrated its golden jubilee. The pastor is Rev. Fr. Justin, O. S. B.

The Carmelite Fathers, West Twenty-ninth street, Manhattan, N. Y., will celebrate the silver jubilee of the foundation of their parish on December 12th.

In the United States the Sisters of Mercy number about 5,000. They teach approximately 125,000 children in parish schools, and about 10,000 in higher schools.

Rt. Rev. John J. McCort, D. D., has laid the corner stone of the Ladislava Church, Philadelphia, of which Rev. Joseph Kuczmarski is the rector. It will be one of the largest Polish congregations in the city.

The Women's Catholic Circle of Foresters has voted \$20,000 to aid in building 40 mission schools.

St. Bonaventure's College, Allegany, Pa., is to have a new building, to cost \$100,000.

Detroit, Mich., is to have a new handsome church of the Blessed Sacrament, whose cost will be about \$300,000.

During the past year 809 applications were made for admission to the Catholic orphanage of Cleveland; 402 children of this number were admitted.

In Chicago there are about 8,000 Chaldean Catholics.

Canon Toner of the Archdiocese of Glasgow, Scotland, was consecrated Bishop of Dunkeld.

Mount Olivet Catholic Cemetery, in Denver, is free of debt.

Rev. Father Bernardine, professor of Canon Law at the Catholic University, Washington, is a nephew of His Eminence Cardinal Gasparri, of Rome.

On his mother's side Benedict XV belongs to the family that gave Pope Innocent VII to the Church in 1404.

The Irish Christian Brothers in Rome have a handsome College for the "Prati," attended by 450 students.

The greatest chime of bells in Belgium was in the destroyed Cathedral of Mechlin. This Cathedral was a magnificent Gothic edifice, being 309 feet in length.

Parish priests in France, Belgium, Germany and Austria are overworked, as so many of their assistants are now in military service.

The Dominican Fathers at Soul choir, France, have given 44 of their members to military service.

At Summerville, County Meath, Ireland, another church was dedicated to Our Lady of Lourdes.