

# The Catholic Journal

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### Advent

Another ecclesiastical year has rolled around and a new one has commenced.

The Church is now in preparation for the advent upon earth of the Saviour of mankind, the promised Christ. As before a great feast, the faithful are enjoined to prayer and penance and the purple vestments and the sacred offices all are in preparation for the birth of Christ.

We as Catholics should observe Advent as the Church enjoins us, so that we may appreciate the more the feast of Christmas.

### Our Spokesmen

Answering the charge of "Catholic politicians" and "A Catholic political party", Archbishop Glennon of St. Louis well said on 'All Saints' Day:—

"A certain type of bigotry declares that the Catholic Church wants to go into politics and put forth its representatives and stand back of those representatives.

"You want to know who are representatives of the Catholic Church? I will call off for you a list of those who represent us. They are those whose names are written in the walls of our temples, in the annals of our faith, and who are to-day with their Lord and Master. Whom they serve. The only representatives of the Catholic Church has are its saints. It is these heroes whom we honor on this feast of All Saints that are our representatives.

"It would be well for our people to realize that to the fullest extent, to show by their acts that they are true to virtue wherever it is, true to the truth in whosoever it may be represented.

"We should render to all citizens the equal rights that the Constitution give. The Church has no secret society to promote its worldly aims. The Church's purpose is to lead men to God. Its heroes and representatives are our saints."

### Well To Go Slow

There is no need of undue haste in action upon the proposal that Rochester establish a municipal farm for inebriates. At present the Monroe County penitentiary inmates who are physically able are employed upon a county farm. True, those who would treat the criminal classes better than those who are honest, who work every day and pay their taxes when due, insist that the drunkard is a sick man and should be placed in a hospital. These also try to argue that the drunkard should not be humiliated by commitment to a public institution. We are not impressed overmuch by these arguments. It is true that there are drug and liquor habitues who are physical and mental derelicts who cannot shake off the evil habit. Such cases are probably better subjects for medical attention rather than forcible restraint in correctional institutions. But there are many others whose physical and will power is not

stunted and when these kill or maim in drunken frenzy they are criminals and should be punished as such.

We should not hasten unduly to incur the expense of equipment and maintenance of a municipal Keely Cure. What if prohibition should carry in Rochester?

### "Are of the Faith"

To all Catholics but especially to the weak-kneed Catholic and the Catholic who is not over-zealous to spread knowledge of his religious affiliation, these words from the Freeman's Journal apply with peculiar force:—

"You are of the faith," Catholic men and women, the faith that has made heroes out of weaklings and from the refuse of humanity has uplifted saints and witnesses to the mercy and glory of God. Maybe in the false glow of life here this does not look a great thing to you, but when the shadows fall and your quickened souls see out beyond the darkness, what then would you take for your Catholic hope and your Catholic faith and the ministrations of the Catholic priest who lifts his hands in absolution about you?"

"You are of the faith." Then be proud of your faith, for it has a glorious record; be true to your faith, for it is God's truth amongst men; be ready always to fight for your faith and to die for it if need be, for it is the highest and holiest thing on earth."

### Worthy of Support

That Catholics of Rochester are appreciative of the unselfish labors of the Catholic Charity Guild and of those who are helping to maintain St. Ann's Home for the Aged was amply demonstrated by the splendid success of "Catholic Charity Day."

The good Sisters who teach in our schools are also deserving of our hearty financial co-operation. Were we compelled to pay the Sisters the salaries paid lay teachers in the state schools, our Catholic schools might not exist.

Therefore, let us be generous in our school collections and in every appeal for the benefit of our teaching orders!

### Is There Reaction?

Some persons who affect superior knowledge as to current events, their cause and effect, seem to think that the results of the elections of 1914 betoken a swing of the political pendulum away from the radical policies that appeared to find favor during the last few years and back toward the old machine methods and policies.

These justify their assertions by the great decrease in the Progressive vote as compared with that polled by Mr. Roosevelt in 1912; the success of William Barnes, jr., in the New York state primaries; the triumph of United States Senator Boies Penrose in Pennsylvania and the defeat of Roger Sullivan in Illinois; the re-election to Congress of ex-Speaker Joseph Cannon, of Congressmen William B. McKinley and of Nicholas Longworth.

On the other hand, the shrinkage in total vote cast in New York state by the republican and democratic parties practically equals that of the Progressive party. The war accounted for much of the apathy toward matters political. Here in New York state all the parties were pledged to progressive ideas and policies.

No, we do not think there is any reaction in favor of ancient conservatism but we think that there are signs that a revolt has set in against useless fads and faddists while the sentiment in favor of real reform and progress is stronger than ever.

Let us be generous in our contributions to charity this year when distress is so plentiful.

Do not forget that December 8th is a holiday of obligation.

### Great Feast Day

Next Tuesday we celebrate the patronal feast of the Catholic Church in the United States, the feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The church in America was placed under the patronage of the Immaculate Conception shortly after that dogma was proclaimed in 1870 and our Blessed Lady's prayers for the successful history of the Church in this great Republic have been heard is evidenced by the wonderful growth she has had here.

We should observe this national feast by assisting at the Sacrifice of the mass and by special devotion.

Governor Glynn will be a private citizen soon but he will not be forgotten for the record he has made.

What has become of the Guardians of Liberty? Have they folded their tents until the next election?

Now is a busy time for the new state officials. Applicants for jobs are as thick as flies in summer.

If all would boost and not knock and resolve to insist that this country is resourceful enough to control the trade and commerce of the world, there is little doubt that business would prosper and that good times would be here.

"Do not bear false witness" applies to everybody, to you as well as to me.

A year's subscription to a Catholic paper makes an acceptable Christmas present.

### Line of Swiftest Descent.

What is the line of swiftest descent? To any one not acquainted with the laws of higher mathematics a proposition such as this would appear absurd, the most obvious answer being a straight line. However, it has been proved by mathematicians that the line of swiftest descent is a curve called the cycloid. It is this curve that the angle unconsciously utilizes in his wonderfully swift swoop to his prey. The analysis of the curve is simply a straight line motion combined with a circular motion. The best illustration showing this is a cartwheel as it rolls along the ground. Any point on the rim of the wheel is describing a cycloid, and no point is at any time describing a circle or going in a straight line. A peculiar thing is deduced from this knowledge, and that is that no point on the rim of a wheel rolling on a surface goes round the center of the wheel, for the center is describing a straight line, and all the points on the rim are describing cycloids, thus no circular motion exists, the statement holds.—New York Press.

### Tennyson's First Poem.

The wind came sweeping through the garden of an old Lincolnshire rectory one morning in the beginning of last century and blew upon a child five years old, who opened his arms to the blast and let it carry him along, crying as he traveled, "I hear a voice that's calling in the wind." That was Tennyson's first line of poetry. The first poem he ever composed was written upon a slate one Sunday morning at Louth. The subject, set him by his brother Charles, was "Flowers," and little Alfred covered his slate with blank verse after the model of Thomson's "Seasons." His next attempt was an elegy upon his grandmother, who had just died, written at the request of his grandfather. When it was written the old man put 10 shillings into the boy's hand and said, "There, that is the first money you have ever earned by your poetry, and, take my word for it, it will be the last."—Westminster Gazette.

### Different Doctors.

There are a great many "doctors" who know nothing of medicine. In its technical sense doctor is a universal degree, the highest given. It is given in recognition of attainments in many branches of learning, and so there are several kinds of doctors. There is the familiar M. D., doctor of medicine; the LL. D., doctor of laws; the Ph. D., doctor of philosophy; the D. D., doctor of divinity; the J. D., doctor of jurisprudence; the D. D. S., doctor of dental surgery, and many another. So if you hear a man referred to as "doctor" you must find out what he is doctor of before you can determine to which profession he belongs.

Doctor of laws seems to have been the earliest of the doctor's degrees, it having been awarded as early as the twelfth century. Doctors of divinity appeared somewhat later. It was a century before the now familiar M. D. (doctor of medicine) came into use.—American Boy.

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### Buried With Dons.

In the Chinese menagerie one of the strange sights is a number of life size dolls which are buried to accompany the corpses as they servants to the next world. They are doubtless a relic of the time when human beings were thus buried as companions of the deceased.

### More Darkness.

"I'm all in the dark about how these little are to be paid," said Mr. Hardup to his wife.

"Well, Henry," said she as she pulled out a colored one and laid it on the table, "you will be if you don't pay that one, for it's the gas bill."

### Vegetable Sponges.

Vegetable sponges are used a great deal by the poorer class of natives in Ecuador. They assert they are better in washing dishes and in bathing than are the animal sponges.

### Athletes of India.

The wrestlers and athletes of India develop great strength by living on milk, a little goat's flesh and plenty of food made from flour.

### Culture.

Culture is familiarity with the best that has been done or thought. It is the soul's warm friendship of the great spirits, living and dead.—Ellis.

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