

Library Suggest

The Sword Of Prayer

By Rev. Benedict Evans

The Sword of the Spirit has taken as its very special object the Christian year and prayer.

Let us wish I could describe the origin and aim of the sword of the Spirit, pointing that this was a sword which I had used in my program of prayer.

Prayer, if the world is to be brought back to God, prayer must be the first order of the day.

For instance, thinking that prayer is merely asking God to play us something, ending the day with a prayer, and so on.

Prayer is far more than asking God. That's where the rub comes in. Prayer is a nature; let's say, an adventure.

There ought to be many times a day when our prayer asks for nothing, but desires only to give of ourselves to God.

The best offering I know is just to say the word "God" and let it pervade you; but if you are going to use that word take five or seven lines, minutes a day to think about God.

Sursum Cardis

Thomas Jefferson: Nobody's Fool

By Rev. James M. Gillis, C.S.P.

A syndicated newspaper column, which shall not be named, contained, in the midst of a fervent eulogy of Thomas Jefferson, the accusation that he was deaf, dumb, blind and stupid.

"I have always had a great reverence for Jefferson," said the columnist, "but I am compelled to confess that on one occasion he put down on paper an opinion that is nothing but blithering nonsense."

This indictment of Jefferson's common sense or veracity, or eyesight, or of all of these things together, is not new.

Consider what the indictment means. It means that Jefferson couldn't see that some men are brighter and calmer than others; that some have extraordinary talent and others have little or none.

Did Jefferson never listen to a stupid conversation—or perhaps a monologue conducted by some pretentious and pompous bore? Did he never sit in at a legislative assembly and suffer from the devil that goes on in such groups?

Jefferson had ears to hear, eyes to see and a mind with which to think. One would imagine therefore that when to—and by the way all the others—put their signature to the "self-evident truth" that men are created equal, the obvious thing to ask is "what did they mean? Equal in what sense? Equal in what characteristics?"

"So when you feel weary, and say 'God' it will be more than saying a word, it will be setting your feet on the rock which is Jesus Christ, the Word of God, the Light of the World, the Bread of Life, the Water of Life, the Word of God, the Light of the World, the Bread of Life, the Water of Life."

When we make ourselves so intimately one with the Heart and Will of God, our heart desire will be a perfect prayer. But our desire will not be fulfilled in each divine communion, but in each sanctifying grace.

That is the way and the power of real prayer to God, Christian prayer. There we begin to see that and, each of us do it, some of our other wrong actions will vanish, too.

Admissions of space prevent any further expansion of the program of the sword of the Spirit. But this theme of prayer is so important for our time that I do not regret having to put off the other themes for another issue.

Fact a fundamental dogma. It is essential to our religion as well as to our political system. We have it in one of the first pages of the catechism.

There is a familiar expression usually spoken in jest but profoundly and dogmatically correct. "There's about as much human nature in some folks as there is in others."

We Catholics have suffered, like Jefferson, from misunderstanding of our dogmas. We say, for example, "The Pope is infallible," and misunderstanding impudently charges us into a brain storm.

Five and Ten Years Ago From Thursday, Apr. 11, 1924 Edition With the Most Rev. Gerald Murray, C.S.M., Bishop of Victoria, B. C., heading the list of authors, the CATHOLIC COURIER announced a special series of articles on Our Lady of Perpetual Help to be published in conjunction with a Novena of Wednesdays at St. Joseph's Church, Richmond.

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From Thursday, Apr. 11, 1924 Edition That a beautiful new marble altar, gift of the late Mrs. Mary Collins, would be the center of Easter services in Immaculate Conception Church, Ithaca, was announced by the Rev. Dr. William Byrne, pastor.

STRANGE BUT TRUE Little-Known Facts for Catholics

By M. J. MURRAY



EDITORIALS

Control. Such projects of the unmaterial desire the control of potential leaders in time of peace or total defenders in time of war.

Our men at arms, our soldiers, our sailors, our airmen, will begin into their new homes in camp and on board ship. They will begin their training, their country, ready to give their all for the defense of religion wherever they are.

Bishop Kearney led the congregation in prayer for their boys in service. Mt. Carmel Church will continue to be the center of which will gather parents and sons, hearts and heads of the boys who have gone to the front to bear Holy Mass in their own hands and pray for them.

AFTER THREE DAYS, I WILL RISE AGAIN

Christ's work was for all. Christ's words were for all. Christ's love was for all. Christ's sacrifice was for all. Christ's resurrection was for all.

"After three days, I will rise again." The Chief Priests and the Pharisees received this message. They knew Christ had made this claim. They acted on it. They made it the basis of a plan that the disciples would try to steal the body of Jesus; they asked Pontius Pilate to place a guard at the sepulcher because of their own wickedness.

Into the end they had Christ's blood. His life, his work. Now determined that His promise that He would arise after three days should have no fulfillment, they placed their complaints with Pilate. They sought a guard, they placed their own guard of Roman soldiers. Unwittingly, they played their part at the door of the sepulcher.