

Curse Forever

Slips and articles you may replace if they are lost, but a great intellect once abused, is a curse on the earth forever. John Ruskin.

What They Think

Don't worry over what people are thinking about you. They are not thinking about you. They are wondering what you are thinking about them.

Church Laws, Not Self, Offer Sole Marriage Relation Guide

By THE REV. DR. EDGAR SCHMIEDELER, O.S.B. In order to bring about an effective restoration of the divine plan with regard to marriage, not only submission to God's will but also obedience to the Church is necessary.

Such a restoration requires that the divine laws of marriage be known with certainty and without any accompanying error. In other words, conformity with these laws demands clear and definite knowledge of them. This implies obedience to the Church, the divinely appointed interpreter of the moral law.

It is far from a secret that the private judgment of the individual is easily exercised in the field of morals. If man is to make his own morals, they will likely be a rather haphazard type of morals. Man's passions readily distort his judgment and confuse his reason. Error easily creeps in. While this is true in the case of the moral law generally, it is all the more so when a particularly inordinate appetite or violent passion, such as sex, clamors for satisfaction. And once an erroneous decision has been made by man in the field of morals, he may be quite logical enough to continue it through to the end.

OBEY THE CHURCH

This is all quite clearly set forth in the words of the encyclical on Christian Marriage. It states:

"This conformity of wedlock and moral conduct with the divine laws, respective of marriage, without which its effective restoration cannot be brought about, supposes, however, that all can discern readily with real certainty, and without any accompanying error, what these laws are. But everyone can see to how many fallacies an avenue would be opened up and how many errors would become mixed with the truth, if it were left solely to the light of reason of each to find it out, or if it were to be discovered by the private interpretation of the truth which is revealed.

"And if this is applicable to many other truths in the moral order, we must all the more pay attention to those things which appertain to marriage where the inordinate desire for pleasure can attack frail human nature and easily deceive it and lead it astray; this is all the more true of the observance, for which, as experience points out, a weak man can find so many excuses for avoiding fulfillment of the divine law."

The encyclical continues: "On this account, in order that no falsification or corruption of the divine law but a true genuine knowledge of it may enlighten the minds of men and guide their conduct, it is necessary that a filial love and humble obedience towards the Church should be combined with devotedness to God and the desire of submitting to Him. For Christ made the Church the teacher of truth in those things also which concern the right regulation of

BISHOP ENDORSES NUNS' COOKBOOK

NEW YORK.—The Most Rev. Richard J. Cushing, Auxiliary Bishop of Boston and Director of the Boston Society for the Propagation of the Faith, related how a book of 200 recipes, cooked and tested by girls in the cooking class of the House of the Good Shepherd, here, is helping build a new convent for the Sister Magdalens.

Subscriptions for the book, which has a foreword by Bishop Cushing, have come in from all parts of the country, the Boston prelate said. All funds over and above the cost of the volume are swelling the building fund.

The hundred-page book gives recipes for meat and fish dishes, for salads, souffles, candy, cakes, and other desserts.

Mother in 4-Day Mountain Trek To Have Baby Baptized

SAN MIGUEL, Bolivia. A young Indian woman and her baby arrived at this little village after a four-day walk over the mountains. Her purpose in coming was to go to confession and have her baby baptized.

Father Norbert Verhagen, a Marist priest of Kankama, who is pastor of the village, reports that the young woman slept by the roadside each night. After the confession and baptism she started the long trek home.

moral conduct, even though some knowledge of the same is not beyond his human reason."

Special words are then added by the Holy Father regarding individualism, or that vaunted private judgment that has wrought such havoc in the religious and social world in modern times. He stated: **BE ON GUARD.**

"Wherefore, let the faithful also be on their guard against the over-rated independence of private judgment and that false autonomy of human reason. For it is quite foreign to a Christian to trust his own mental powers with such pride as to agree only with those things which he can examine from their inner nature, and to imagine that the Church, sent by God to teach and guide all nations, is not conversant with present affairs and circumstances; or even that they must obey only in those matters which she has decreed by solemn definition as though her other decisions might be presumed to be false or putting forward insufficient motives for truth and honesty.

"Quite to the contrary, a characteristic of all true followers of Christ, lettered or unlettered, is to suffer themselves to be guided and led to all things that touch upon faith or morals by the Holy Church of God through its Supreme Pastor the Roman Pontiff, who is himself guided by Jesus Christ our Lord."

One of the great curses of our day is precisely this religious individualism. Proud man will make his own religion. He will not hear the Church. Marriage has suffered much as a result. Divorces have multiplied. The prime purpose of the marriage union has largely been set aside. The whole of modern society has suffered. Individualism has indeed been a disintegrating moth in the entire social fabric. The cure is to be found only in one thing: in the acceptance of the divine guidance of the Church.

(N. C. W. C. Features)

Rochester Diocesan Council N. C. C. W. Columbus Civic Centre Lobby

The Board of Directors of the National Council of Catholic Women has accepted the kind invitation of His Excellency, the Most Rev. Karl J. Alter, Bishop of Toledo and the Toledo Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, to meet in national convention in Toledo, Ohio, Oct. 21-25, 1944. Convention headquarters will be the Commodore Perry Hotel.

The Board has given serious consideration to the question of a national convention in wartime, and after consultation with our advisers is of the opinion that the present work of the Catholic women of the country in behalf of the war effort and our role in post-war planning, makes such a convention necessary.

The theme of the convention will be "The Family as the Basis of Post-war Civilization." Since the welfare of the family is the underlying consideration of all of the committees of the National Council of Catholic Women, our efforts at this convention may well be directed to bringing the family back to the first place that it deserves. We urge representation from all affiliated organizations, and especially do we urge our diocesan council to take advantage of that provision of the N.C.C.W. Constitution and By-Laws which entitles us to the official delegates, over and above the one delegate to which each affiliated group is entitled.

Word has recently come to our National President, Mrs. Robert A. Angelo, that her eldest son, Robert, Jr., a splendid lad of twenty-six, died as the result of wounds received during the invasion of Bataan. A second son is in a hospital in Burma, and a third in the Medical Corps. We earnestly request your prayers for the Angelo family.

This week we chronicle the renewed affiliation of Court Rochester, C. D. of A., and of the Rosary Society of SS. Peter and Paul's Church, Elmira, N. Y.

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