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MOST REVEREND JAMES EDWARD KEARNEY, D.D., President

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## Victory with Peace

America and her Allies face the world today victorious over the forces of evil. It has been a long struggle and a hard one. Years of preparation made the Axis powers far superior in men and munitions to the Allied forces. With God's help we have built up our army and navy and air force, we have produced munitions, we have carried on to victory. The odds were against us, but justice was on our side and carried with it the blessing of Heaven.

Humility should go with our joy in victory. "Conquer we must, since our cause is just—And this be our motto—In God is our Trust." We have looked to God for help and have been heard; our prayer has been answered. Without the divine aid, we could easily have gone down to bitter defeat, and our friends likewise to a defeat that would have meant loss of liberty for all nations for all the years ahead. Grateful to God for His timely aid, we should show our gratitude by the manner in which we accept the peace.

Let vengeance be far from us, let justice be our goal, with charity for all who have suffered from the war. Justice demands that war-criminals shall not go unpunished. Wicked men have brought war on the world, have brought death and devastation on millions of people, have made famine the portion and the prospect of whole populations. The common people have been victims rather than promoters of the war. May God help us to bring to them wherever they are the blessings of a lasting peace. To heal up their wounds, to restore their homes, to bring them food and the means of raising food, to restore them to an honest place in their respective countries and in the world, is one part of our duty. More important is the restoration of those freedoms that mean so much for man's happiness, above all freedom of religion.

Prayer has played a large part in securing victory for our arms. The Queen of Peace has been called on every day in private devotions and in public prayer to hasten the end of the war. The Holy Father has urged prayers to Mary; bishops in their dioceses, pastors in their parishes, have preached and practiced earnest devotion to Mary. It is more than a coincidence that our war which began on the eve of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception four years ago should come to a propitious end on the eve of the Feast of her Assumption. More than ever shall She be known and revered as Queen of Peace!

Secura tibi serviat libertate — so do we pray in the Mass for Peace that by the destruction of all errors and adversities God's Church may serve Him in assured freedom. May we strive with the Church to give better service to our God, to use the blessings of peace here on earth to prepare ourselves for the everlasting peace of Heaven!

## Post-War Problems

Peace brings problems with it that will call for all the skill and devotion of our American officials and people. All will have to cooperate to solve them. The return to civilian life and industry of millions of men, the release of other millions of war-workers, the conversion of munition factories to the production of the many articles so long denied to civilians, will require planning of the most skilled kind. President Truman has called Congress for a new session early in September.

Lowering of wages, shortening of overtime hours, changes in occupations and trades, will surely come with post-war conditions. Every American will be held to cooperate to the end that reconversion be made with as little injury as possible to employer and employee. Capital and labor should work as a team, with the one end in view, the guarantee of continued prosperity for all the country.

Religious awakening should go with post-war planning. Serious changes have come over men through the war. A re-dedication of each soul to its Creator is in order. Let God take His proper place in the heart of the nation and in the soul of every American.

## V-J Day Celebration

A certain restraint is evident in the celebration of V-J Day. All seem to feel the solemnity of the occasion is too great for trivial observance. Too many have felt in their own family the loss or injury of a son, a husband, a brother. Victory is ours, but it has exacted a great cost.

The closing of bars and liquor stores by action of the prohibitionists is to be commended as a help toward sober observance of the day. The younger element will have their fling in the celebration, but they seem to be more restrained than in the celebration of an earlier Armistice Day. No one can deny the opportunity to show the meaning of peace.

## A Victory Prayer

Archbishop Francis J. Spellman of New York issued the following prayer of thanksgiving for victory and peace in the Pacific:

O God of destiny!  
Our Nation, still bleeding from the wounds of war.

Thanks Thee for the Victory of this hour.  
Won by our valiant dead.

Oud soldiers' blood,  
Our country's tears.  
We were not alone when we groped through the night of war.

When we drank the cup of grief,  
Thou, Lord God of hosts, wert with us.  
For we were with Thee.

O God of mercy!  
Thou didst become our shield and sword.  
When lawless nations rose against us.  
Thou didst save us.

By Thy power that works in justice,  
By Thy compassion upon our passion.

O God of nations!  
Thou hast builded this nation in a vast wilderness,  
Quickening it with the blood of many peoples.  
Thou hast nurtured us in a chosen land  
Potent with the riches of the earth.

Thou hast made us into a mighty nation  
Loving peace, yet terrible in war.

O God of law!  
Thy laws are force, ruling planet and plant,  
Disposing all things mightily and gently.  
Thy laws are light, guiding men's hearts and minds.

By the measure of Thy laws nations and men wax and wane,  
For what they sow, they also reap.  
Thou wilt not be mocked, O God of law.  
Make us to know and to obey Thy will.

O God of justice!  
Repent not making of us an instrument of right,  
Spending our blood, spilling it freely, curbing mad nations.

But grant that in victory we not offend Thy justice  
By revenge, aiming against mercy,  
By hate, destroying also ourselves,  
Turning upon ourselves the wrath of Thy Judgment.

O God of peace!  
We thank Thee that the clouds of war have lifted.

We pray Thee that the peace that comes be Thy peace,  
Thy peace, which alone is our good,  
A peace in obedience to Thy laws.

Thou callest us  
To feed the hungry,  
To clothe the naked,  
To defend man's rights.

And God's rights,  
And in that service,  
To win back man's hearts to Thee,  
And make man worthy of Thy trust in him  
By man's trust in Thee.

## Glory to God

Man was made to give glory to God. With a mind to know God and His works, with a will to show love for God, man is well equipped to give glory to God. All about him he sees God's ordinary works, in the blossoming of the trees, the ripening of the fields, the beauties of earth and sea and sky, the union of the sun's heat with the reasonable rains and the contents of the soil to furnish food in season. An occasional cure of one sick by contrast tells of the millions maintained in health every day by God's ordinary Providence.

But the extraordinary Providence of God is shown in miraculous cures wrought by His power. We see such cures even today at the great shrines of Lourdes or Beaugey. We note many of them when Christ walked the earth. The sea lapsed made clean by Christ, as related in this Sunday's Gospel.

Glory to God! To recognize His power, His goodness, and to give open expression to our gratitude for them—that is to give glory to God. Our daily duty is to give glory to God for all the things He has done for us. Not merely to receive His gifts, but to use them well and to thank God for centering them on us.

## Feast Days

- Sunday, Aug. 13—Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
- Monday, Aug. 14—St. Bernard
- Tuesday, Aug. 15—St. Jeanne Frances de Chantal
- Wednesday, Aug. 16—SS. Timothy, Hippolytus and Symphorian
- Thursday, Aug. 17—St. Philip Denis
- Friday, Aug. 18—St. Bartholomew
- Saturday, Aug. 19—St. Louis of France

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

## Communism Finds Human Nature

Peter F. Drucker, an excellent authority on Economics and especially on Soviet Economics has a catchy commencement to an article, "Stalin Pays 'Em What They're Worth'" in The Saturday Evening Post for July 21. He invites his readers to guess who said this:



"What is the cause of industrial inefficiency? It is the demand for equal incomes, which makes the unskilled man lose all interest in becoming skilled and in the prospect of advancement. The key to industrial efficiency is an income scale that reflects correctly the difference between skilled and unskilled work, between trained and untrained men. Incomes must be paid according to work done and not according to need."

No, says Mr. Drucker, it wasn't Horatio Alger or the National Association of Manufacturers, but Josef Stalin who uttered that highly capitalistic principle. He had learned by fourteen years of experience (1917-1931) what any one of us could have told him in the beginning and before the beginning of the economic revolution in Russia. As a matter of fact Stalin and Lenin could have learned from the Gospel, if they hadn't been obsessed with the nonsensical notion that the Gospel is opium. In the parable of the talents our Lord makes the distinction between workers and loafers, as well as between capitalists who add to their capital and capitalists who let their capital remain static or dribble away. Even further back than the Gospels, the race in general had learned that men differ in the will to apply themselves to the job in hand.

Upon that perfectly obvious fact employers had built up a system in which the value of incentive was recognized. Promotions, better wages, the balancing of rewards with responsibilities, the prospect of membership in the firm and other advantages were held out as prizes for good will and hard work. Loafers, slackers, time-wasters, clock-watchers were fired. Call this Horatio Alger or Samuel Smiles stuff if you wish, but it was a system based on justice, common sense and a knowledge of human nature. There were abuses, cruelties, injustices, but they were not inherent in the system.

Came the revolution. In 1917 and until 1931 the rulers of the Russians tried, or pretended to try the fantastic system of paying identical wages to all workers in all grades. When we whose opinion was based not on a belief in capitalism but on knowledge of human nature, told the old-fashioned Socialists and later the Communists that their system wouldn't work, we were denounced as cynics, reactionaries, stick-in-the-muds. When we had the hardihood to add something about original sin, quoting the catechism (that marvellous little compendium of truth about man and truth about God) to the effect that in the primeval derangement the will of man was weakened—his will to work included—we were dismissed as hide-bound bigots.

Now at long last Communists are learning what Catholics have known for two thousand years, and the human race for perhaps several times two thousand years. The Commies are not so quick on the pick up after all. Any one who wishes to see in how many other departments of life the Soviets have abandoned their experiment, and how many features of the "Capitalistic" system they have re-adopted, may take a look at pages 117-217 in Arthur Koestler's, "The Yogi and the Commissar."

Unfortunately, with the good, the Russians have taken up again the bad. Russia has become again a nationalistic Empire, quite as eager for expansion, quite as militaristic and quite as unscrupulous as it was in the days of the Czars. It's always the way, and it's one more proof of the inborn perversity of human nature, and especially of the human nature of revolutions. They swing from one extreme to another and take back in an exaggerated form, the defects of the system against which they rebelled. In the return of the system of the differential wage, bonuses, civic privileges, tax exemptions and all that, Soviet Russia is now more "capitalistic" than capitalism. We look on and say, "it was inevitable." The economic revolution in Russia was too violent and furthermore, it was not and it still is not "on the level."

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Most Rev. Richard Cushing, D.D.: "Women are the natural custodians of reverence which is opposed to vulgarity, coarseness and rudeness."

Commander Gene Tunney, U.S.N.: "The practice of daily religious obligations brings man close to God. If a young man wishes to become a champion athlete, he must live by the rules that make for expertise: clean living, clean thinking, and clean habits of mind."