

GOD LOVE YOU!

By MOST REV. FULTON J. SHEEN

To love the Church as the Mystical Body of Christ is to be interested both in its progress and its trials throughout the world, just as to love yourself is to be interested in your arms and legs.

Here's a quick view of some mission problems. When England lost the faith, some families persevered in the faith. But Denmark lost the faith so completely in the sixteenth century that not a single Catholic family was left in the country. It was three hundred years before the Church got back to Denmark. Today there are only 25,000 Catholics in a population of four million. Iceland was converted in 931, lost the faith in the sixteenth century and today there are only 450 Catholics in a population of 145,000. Out of four million souls in Finland, only 2,000 are Catholic. Egypt has a population of twenty-two million. At one time in its history it was almost all Catholic. Moslemism destroyed the faith and today Egypt has only 70,000 Catholics.

But here is good news. In Ruanda Urundi, Africa, within the last five years the faithful increased from 900,000 to 1,200,000 and there are 460,000 taking instructions. Did you know the pygmies are very difficult to bring to the light of the faith, and with difficulty do they persevere. A recent exception is a pygmy of the Bawa race who is studying for the priesthood. . . . You can educate a young man for the priesthood for \$150 a year. A very good idea if you have no son a priest.

Most important fact of all: Did you know that every cent the Directors of The Society for the Propagation of the Faith receive goes directly to the Holy Father. If you are deluged with pleas, let Him decide where your money should go. He knows the needs better than any of us. Sacrifice something for him to bring souls to the Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

GOD LOVE YOU to M. J. "A friend owed me money for purchasing an article for him. As time went on, I couldn't remember if he had paid me. I didn't feel right accepting payment twice and didn't want the debt to go unpaid. I believe by sending it to the Missions everyone will be a little happier." . . . to Mr. and Mrs. E. A. "My husband and I have a small grocery store, we decided to send each week a penny per customer. Last week we had 648 customers, so enclosed is \$6.48." . . . to F. J. M. "Since every penny counts towards our less fortunate brothers in distant lands, enclosed is \$5 towards the Missions of Our Holy Father." . . . to A. C. for \$1. "I am six years old and in the first grade. For my first report card my grandparents rewarded me for my effort with a little money. Now I want to give this to the Missions you have worked so hard for." . . . to J. C. for \$1.25. "I am enclosing half of my baby-sitting money for the Missions. I want to be a missionary myself in a few years." . . . to E. G. for \$7. "I made a resolution to lay aside 25c a day for the Missions. This covers last month." . . . to Mrs. L. V. "I had a house party for the benefit of the Missions, so enclosed is the \$10 I made." . . . to M. M. for \$5. "Enclosed is my bonus for working in the laundry. I hope this will help a little with your mission work." . . . to L. B. for \$55. "Enclosed is my first week's wages which I promised to send the Missions. I had been unemployed for a time due to illness, then, because of my age, found it hard to get office work." . . . to L. O. N. for \$100. "Last summer when there was talk about a raise, I promised to put aside each week for the rest of the year whatever raise I should receive. To my surprise, it was more than I had hoped for."

Now, long has it been since anyone complimented you? It will only be a moment if you send the beautiful God Love You card to the Missions. The Society for the Propagation of the Faith has the honor of the world and the Cross in the Redemption of the world. The entire medal is framed by the ten letters of the word "God Love You" which form a decade on which prayers may be said. At your request and an offering of 35c, we will send you a sterling silver medal; or at your request and an offering of 15c, we will send you a gold plated medal.

Out from this column, put your order to it and mail it to the Most Reverend Fulton J. Sheen, National Director of The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 100 East 23rd Street, New York 10, New York or your District Director Very Rev. Monsignor E. Randall, 58 Chestnut Street, Rochester, New York.

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Missionary Vocations Emphasized



CATHOLIC STUDENT Missionary Crusade unit at St. John's Atainment Seminary, Montour Falls holds vocational meeting with above seminarians participating. They are (from left) James Judge, Daniel O'Shea, John Nava, Fred Haggerty, unit president, presiding; Tom Sykes, Robert Barcklow and Gerard Heberle whose home is in Rochester.

Family Life Conference

Working Mother Role Decried

New Orleans—(RNS)—Millions of married women, by holding outside jobs, actually are helping destroy the homes they seek to serve, the National Catholic Conference on Family Life said here. A resolution adopted at the closing session of the Conference's 22nd annual meeting declared that "unpaid mothers" of married women tried to justify working "on the frequently false plea of economic need."

TOO OFTEN, it said, young couples postpone having families, sometimes until it is too late. "Still others, mothers of small children, desert their homes and leave the young ones to fend for themselves while they compete in the labor market," said the Conference.

Its resolution said it was small wonder that juvenile delinquency and broken homes were the result. "Such work puts an undue burden upon the mother who must try to handle two full-time jobs, her work in industry and her more-than-full-time job as wife and mother."

"Her health and certainly the well-being of her family are bound to suffer as a result of this unequal struggle," the statement added. "THE CONFERENCE acknowledged that some women, 'widows and those of the lowest income groups' had to work to sustain life."

To these the delegates offered prayers and sympathy and expressed a hope that society would take steps to help them in their economic plight. "Our immediate concern is, however," said the delegates, "with the wives and mothers who follow the materialistic spirit of the day and hold jobs on the false plea that the standard of living of the home must be raised and that their financial contribution is 'necessary.'"

"Since there are none of us who will admit that our income is really sufficient, there is no stopping once this false matter is set in motion," the statement said. "The resolution admitted that working women had increased the nation's purchasing power and advanced its wealth, but it said 'the price, in the shape of the moral and spiritual ruin, is much too high.'"

"We would urgently ask all working married women to study their own family needs honestly, to determine whether their jobs are really necessary or whether they are merely an excuse to get out of the house, to get away from home and family duties, and to be able to purchase luxuries at such great cost to their health and the interests of their families."

Visits To Lourdes
Ottawa—(NC)—His Eminence Paul-Emile Cardinal Leger, Archbishop of Montreal, will be one of 26 members of the Sacred College of Cardinals who will visit the Shrine at Lourdes during the Marian Year; it was disclosed here. Cardinal Leger will visit Lourdes while on his "ad limina" visit to the Holy See in November.

Blue Cloud Abbey Installs First Abbot
Milbank, S. D.—(NC)—The Rt. Rev. Gilbert Hess, O.S.B., was installed as the first Abbot of the Benedictine Blue Cloud Abbey, located in the Coteau hills near Marvin, S. D., at ceremonies conducted by Archbishop Ignatius Esser, O.S.B., of St. Meinrad (Ind.) Archdiocese.

The Blue Cloud Institution was elevated on March 21, Feast of St. Benedict, from the status of monastery to abbey. Prior to the elevation, the monastery had been under the jurisdiction of the St. Meinrad Archdiocese, Blue Cloud, first abbey in the Dakotas, is the headquarters for Benedictine missions in North and South Dakota and also has a seminary for the training of priests and Brothers.

St. John's Seminary CSMC Observes Vocation Month

Montour Falls—In accordance with direction of His Excellency, Bishop Kearney to foster interest in vocations during the month of March, the Catholic Students' Missionary Crusade unit of St. John's Seminary devoted their March meeting to the topic of Vocations. Special emphasis was placed on the missionary vocation.

At a general meeting before the student body held on Sunday evening, March 1st, the teaching of the Church concerning vocations to the mission was treated. The meeting was presided by the Unit president, Fred Haggerty. The speaker of the evening, Robert Barcklow, spoke on the Encyclical of Pope Pius XII, "Rerum Ecclesiae" stressing the importance of prayer on the part of those at home.

A PANEL consisting of James Judge, Daniel O'Shea and John Nava, students of St. John's discussed Pope Pius XII's encyclical "Evangelii Praecones," emphasizing the preparation necessary for the mission field and the problems facing the missionary of today.

Haggerty announced that thus far this year the unit had assisted missionaries in Africa, India, Korea, Trinidad, British Columbia and the United States.

Pope Honors Korean Naval Commander

Montour Falls—(NC)—Pope Pius XII has awarded a gold medal to Commander Paik Kee Cho, commander of the Korean Navy base here, for his deeds of mercy during the war.

Commander Paik, a Catholic, was stationed on the east coast of Korea in 1951, when the Communists were pushing south. He evacuated civilian refugees by sea. Catholics of the Columbian Fathers parish of Kangung, and the children from their orphanage, were among the refugees he brought to safety.

When the body of Father Patrick Reilly, one of the Columbian Fathers, killed by the Reds in 1950, was found, Commander Paik arranged for temporary burial and had a stone marker erected.

Bull-Fighters Aid Guadalupe College

Morelia, Mexico—(NC)—Six skilled toreros took part in a benefit bull fight for the College of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Tepic, where underprivileged children are educated. The bull-fighters contributed their skill as an offering of personal devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of Mexico.

Catholic Papers Question Protestant Convert Survey

New York—(RNS)—Catholic newspapers, while admitting some "leakage" of Church members to Protestantism, questioned the accuracy of a survey claiming that more than 4,000,000 Catholics have become Protestants in the last 10 years.

The survey was made by Christian Herald, non-denominational Protestant monthly published here. The magazine said it based its figure on replies to questionnaires sent to 25,000 of the country's 151,000 Protestant ministers.

THE PILOT, official organ of the Boston Catholic archdiocese, noted that the Herald, in advance press releases about its survey report, did not say what percentage of the questionnaires had been returned.

On information thus far given by the Herald, said the Pilot, "it is of course impossible to analyze with anything like serious study the claims of the survey."

The Pilot declared that, lacking other information on the procedures of the survey, it would have to reserve judgment on the report.

Similarly, the Catholic Transcript, weekly paper of the Hartford (Conn.) archdiocese, said it could arrive at no conclusion about the truth or falsity of the survey conclusions.

Both papers suggested that many of the members reportedly gained by Protestant churches from the ranks of Catholics had fallen away from the Catholic Church.

Archbishop John F. Noll of Fort Wayne, Ind., founder and editor of Our Sunday Visitor, national Catholic weekly, said that leakage from the Catholic Church was due chiefly to mixed marriages and divorce, especially the latter.

The Christian Herald said the reason given for most conversions to Protestantism was mixed marriage.

ARCHBISHOP NOLL declared that a more frequent cause was the remarriage of persons after a civil divorce. Such people automatically put themselves out of the Catholic Church, the archbishop said, while most Protestant churches are willing to receive them.

Archbishop Noll said that if 4,000,000 Catholics had embraced Protestantism in 10 years, an average of 400,000 a year, it would mean only two converts received by each of the 151,000 Protestant pastors.

The Catholic figure of 120,000 converts last year, he added, represented at least three converts per Catholic priest.

The Catholic Transcript questioned whether Protestant ministers had reported as converts those persons who were only nominal Catholics married to Protestants.

"If they did," the paper said, "then the Herald's statistics are invalidated immediately."

"That there is leakage from the Church, however, is incontestable," the Hartford paper continued. "It has been called to the attention of Catholics time and time again by their own priests in writing in Catholic papers and magazines."

"THE CAUSES are manifold. But most of them can be reduced to the carelessness and indifference of those who fancy themselves to be excellent Catholics."

The Pilot cited a 1948 report of the Catholic Bishops' Committee on Mixed Marriages indicating that Catholicism gained as many members as it lost in "valid mixed marriages."

"We are led to believe then," the paper continued, "that the mixed marriage outside the Church—an invalid marriage for the Catholic party—must be the basis for the Herald's claim. In this case we should suppose, however, that the Catholic party had in fact already lost his faith even before the marriage."

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Prayer Rally
Auckland—(NC)—Thirty-three thousand persons here attended the first of 11 New Zealand Family Rosary crusades planned to be led by Father Patrick Peyton, C.S.C., U. S. family prayer crusader.

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