

GOD LOVE YOU!

By MOST REV. FULTON J. SHEEN

THE more Catholics in grief, worry, difficulties and distress come to us with their burdens, the more we are saddened at their want of understanding their Holy Faith. Many never expect defeat, or a trial, or a difficulty. Because they say their prayers, give a dollar in the collection, are faithful in marriage, they expect immunity from the Cross.

No! Our Faith begins with defeat. Even on Easter Sunday the Crucifix is still kept before our eyes. Natural religions with their sentimental piety are all right for sunny days. But when life contracts us, then we need the sign of the contradiction to assure us that Calvary does precede the empty tomb. Our Lord spoke of a "daily cross," and added that it is personal. It is "your cross." Every cross is tailor-made; it fits us and no one else. Our Lord further said that we would be cut and purged like vines to make us more fruitful for the Heavenly Father. Every Mass we attend is an offering of ourselves to Christ; we are on the paten and in the chalice as bread and wine. But we are there to be crucified with Christ at the moment of consecration.

Learn then to deny self. Die daily, and each little death will be a rehearsal for the final masterpiece. Get up a half-hour earlier and go to Mass; put one less lump of sugar in your coffee; spend five minutes longer in night prayer; give up a movie a month.

But to your full hearts—do these things because you love. Our Lord who gave us His Life for you. Turn the material of the sacrifice, for example, a dime, a quarter, a dollar or a thousand dollars into the maximum good. And what is that? The Holy Father said: "Charity to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith exceeds all other charities as heaven exceeds earth, and eternity time." Begin to be Catholic and to be Catholic means to make sacrifices and to love the Church over all the world, namely the Mission. Any sacrifice you send us will be sent to the Holy Father who himself makes the distribution to 100,000 missionaries, 225 leprosy, 300 homes for the aged in Africa, Oceania, Asia, Europe and the Americas—that Christ may reign in their hearts and Mary His Mother be loved.

If you have broken your Lenten Resolutions and would like to make up for them in some way, make a sacrifice for the poor and hungry of the world, and at the same time honor the Blessed Mother. For a \$2 offering and your request we will send you a small silver God Love You Medal (on a chain, \$3). For an offering of \$3 and your request we will send you a 10K gold-filled medal (on a chain, \$4). The God Love You Medal has been especially dedicated to the Blessed Mother.

GOD LOVE YOU. D. S. F. and friends for \$10. "Our club usually gives a party to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. This year however, we have decided to forego the festivities and send the money to the missions instead." to E. A. S. "Here is the \$5 I have saved so far during Lent by giving up my morning and afternoon coffee break." to M. P. C. "This is the carfare I would have spent on a trip to N. Y. The trip was cancelled and I am going to send the money, (\$4) to the missions."

Get out this column, pin your sacrifice to it and send it to the Most Rev. Fulton J. Sheen, National Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 300 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N. Y., or your Diocesan Director, Very Rev. Messrs. John S. Randall, 58 Chestnut Street, Rochester 4, New York.

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and All Our Prayers
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TROPHIES EMBLEMATIC of championships are presented by His Excellency Bishop Kearney to Floyd Bernard (left) of St. Monica high school team and Jim Taylor of St. Monica grammar school team, winners in the two divisions of the Diocesan Basketball Tournament sponsored by the CYO Diocese. The trophy was held at Columbus Civic Center.

St. Monica's Wins Both Diocesan Cage Titles

By FRED BUTTACIO

Before a record crowd at Columbus Civic Center, St. Monica's became the first team in tournament history to win both grammar and high school division championships.

Trailing most of the game against St. Charles, defending high school champs, St. Monica's pulled away late in the final quarter to defeat the "Dewey" avengers 61-55 to win the high school championship. Jim Smyles

senzahl and Joe Clapp lead the scorers with 13 and 15 points respectively.

IN THE SEMIFINALS of the high school bracket St. Charles eliminated Immaculate Conception of Ithaca 40-32 while St. Monica's tripped Holy Rosary 62-58. Grammar school semifinals saw St. Francis de Sales, Geneva advance to the finals by whipping strong Holy Cross 56-47 and St. Monica's dropped their rivals St. Charles 36-27.

More than 40 teams entered the tournament which started Friday night with eliminations

continuing through Sunday morning and the finals held Sunday afternoon at CYO auditorium. Immediately following the championship games some 500 happy and hungry rooters adjourned to the Columbus Civic Center ballroom for the 5th annual awards banquet where Bishop James E. Kearney, Honorary General chairman, presided.

Included in the many distinguished guests were Rev. Arthur Raligan of the Catholic Charities; Rev. Cyril Carter, C.S.B. of Aquinas Institute; Tom Farrell of the CYO; Mrs. B. Trunk of Catholic War Veterans Auxiliary, and Andy Knaut of the Knights of Columbus.

HIGHLIGHTING the evening's activities was the presentation of the "Bishop Kearney Trophy" emblem of the high school championship to coach Don Garland of St. Monica's. He also received the "Bishop Casey Trophy" for the grammar school championship.

Bishop Kearney also presented the all star awards to each team player and spoke on loyalty in sports as compared with loyalty to God and family.

The cheerleaders award was won by St. Thomas in the grammar school division and by St. Monica's in the high school division. Howie Meath, tournament chairman, who with Rev. Eugene McFarland directed the tourney, had high praise for his committee made up of Roger Bunce, George Monagan, Tom Emmanuel, Dee Forman, Neil Monahan, Joe Murphy and Marilyn Winfield and to the hostesses and CYO staff.

Salute To The St. Joseph Sisters

By Mary Lennon Snyder

Today as we salute the one hundredth anniversary of the Sisters of St. Joseph in this diocese, I find myself considering the tremendous number of lives which the Order has influenced during the past century.

Both my husband and I attended schools staffed by the Sisters of St. Joseph, and now our children are also under their tutelage, so that one might say that their influence is particularly strong in our family.

The Sisters are wonderful teachers; even as younger people when we left our parochial school and went on into more advanced studies, we were impressed with the thoroughness of the training in the fundamentals which we had received. And today I watch with interest the manner in which the Sisters keep abreast of the educational times.

A few years ago in one of the lower grades one of my children was kept off the honor roll because of her poor handwriting. It was poor writing and I agreed with the justice of excluding her from the honor roll, but I wondered what could be done to help her improve.

So I had a short visit with the teacher. Sister looked me straight in the eye and with the confidence born of training and experience said, "Now don't worry, Mrs. Snyder, when she leaves my room, she will be a good writer."

I TOOK SISTER'S advice and my confidence in her confidence was rewarded because the child did become, and I say this without maternal boastfulness, a very good writer.

But it is not of the Sisters' teaching successes I wish to write today because I believe the instruction in all our diocesan schools is excellent. I would like to write briefly of the wonderful teaching and example in the art of living close to God which the Sisters give to the boys and girls they instruct.

Not only in the more formal aspects of religious training such as prayer, methods of attending Holy Mass and preparation for reception of the Sacraments but even in the purely mundane concerns there is a constant training in turning to God; for example, whenever our youngsters hear a siren, it is possible they bless themselves—and they always say a short silent prayer.

FROM KINDERGARTEN on, the Sisters direct their minds away from the idle curiosity or vicarious excitement caused by the blowing of the siren to an exercise of charity, to pray for those for whom the alarm is sounding and also for the firemen and policemen who are en route to help the distressed.

A very simple proof, if such is needed, of the influence of the Sisters on all of our lives is the number of offers of help which I received when it was learned that this paper was preparing a centennial issue. Because they remembered gratefully and affectionately the unselfish women who had worked hard for them, any number of Auburnians said, "If there is anything I can do to help, let me know."

I cannot conclude this column without commenting on a fact we have all observed, that of all the people in all walks of life, those who best exemplify the statement, "The Good never grows old" are surely the Sisters. Not only have many of the Sisters who taught us also taught our children, but they seem to meet each class with the same verve and enthusiasm as they did a generation ago.

SO IMPRESSED have I always been with this eternal youthfulness of mind and spirit that when I recently met the Sister who taught generations of sixth grade girls in St. Mary's School, Elmira, to dance the Irish Jigs, I asked her, "Sister, do you still

teach the Irish dances?" to which she replied with what I interpreted as regret, "No, Mary, I gave that up a few years ago."

Looking at her, I thought she appeared just the same as she did when she used to dance step for step with us, and I suspect she would still be doing so if some prudent man of medicine had not thought the work too strenuous for her.

And so today I would like to present myself as a sort of unofficial spokesman for the thousands of boys and girls who have been not only taught by but also have been educated by the Sisters of St. Joseph and to express our gratitude for all that the Order has done to make our lives worth more in Time and in Eternity.

Congratulations Sisters of St. Joseph

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