

# GOD LOVE YOU!

By MOST REV. FULTON J. SHEEN

Recently there was unearthed in Ur a golden statue, encrusted with jewels, of a ram caught in a thorn-crowned thicket shaped like a cross. It dated back to the time of Abraham who inspired the representation.

God asked Abraham to sacrifice "his only" and "his beloved son" on a mountain. While Abraham was setting the wood of sacrifice on his son's shoulders, the latter asked: "Father... where is the lamb we need for a victim?" Abraham with stupendous faith answered: "My Son, God will see to it that there is a lamb to be sacrificed." When Abraham lifted the sword, God intervened and provided the ram.

Abraham was thus a type of God the Father Who offered His Only Begotten Son on the Cross, as a kind of substitute for our Calvary. Isaac's question "Where is the lamb?" was answered in Christ, the Lamb of God. No wonder our Lord said that Abraham longed to see the day of His coming: "he saw, and rejoiced to see it." In other words, Abraham foresaw that Isaac was a type of the Crucified Savior, for as St. Paul wrote, "He spared not His own Son."

Two lessons are to be noted:  
1. Sharp trial and readiness to deny ourselves means increased possession of God.  
2. Abraham received back more than he gave. As God said to him: "More and more will I bless thee; more and more will I give increase to thy posterity, till they are as the stars of heaven." We who have the Faith are Abraham's children — "Spiritual Semites," as said Pius XI.

Our Lord confirmed the blessings attached to those who make sacrifices for His Kingdom: they "shall receive, in this present world, many times their worth, and in the world to come, everlasting life." Even here, blessings will be multiplied. But the sacrifices must be made for the Kingdom of God — the spreading of the Faith, the planting of the Church in pagan lands.

Let not a day pass without a sacrifice for the Vicar of Christ who has 150,000 missionaries to support. The Holy Father has no favorites among the mission societies, because he is the Holy Father. Aid him and you aid all. You do not have enough to answer all appeals. But by sacrificing for him you equalize distributions.

GOD LOVE YOU to M.H. for \$4 "Two dollars of this amount represents a shampoo and hair set which I won at a local beauty shop, in a drawing. Please use as you see fit."... to E.V. for \$10 "I am sending this sacrifice so that I will have the courage to follow God's Will and to help me make amends for my sins of pride and selfishness."... to A.M. for \$3 "For the Banks of Heaven. God pays the most interest."

For information about annuities in the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, request one of our pamphlets. We will be happy to send it to you.

Cut out this column, pin your sacrifice to it and mail it to Most Rev. Fulton J. Sheen, National Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 366 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N.Y., or your Diocesan Director, Rev. George S. Wood, 50 Chestnut Street, Rochester 4, New York.

## DOWN ON THE FARM

Preliminary work on the construction of a new farm at FISH CREEK, INDIA, has brought many farmers into this area. These men have begun the task of converting a great section of forest into fertile soil, suitable for cultivation. Presently there are more than 200 Catholics living at the site of the farm. This figure includes, in addition to the regular workers, government employees and construction workers. As work on the farm progresses, more and more farmers will be moving in to establish themselves permanently. Even though the bulk of the people working on the project will leave upon its completion, the influx of farmers is so great that there will soon be more than one thousand of them living at the site permanently. It will be the nucleus of a new people for the land. For the growth of this nucleus, the Bishop of Trichy, within whose Diocese FISH CREEK is situated, has secured a plot of land for the erection of a Church. The cost of materials will be \$2,000. The farmers and the construction workers will supply the labor.

## WORLD REFUGEE YEAR

THE HOPES OF THOUSANDS OF REFUGEES have been very high during this World Refugee Year (June 1949-June 1950) that sufficient financial help would be forthcoming from the world's more fortunate people—those who never had to flee home and homeland—to enable them to live more normally, even in exile. Any donation that you can send us will be gratefully received for it will enable us to do more for those exiled people who are our special concern—the REFUGEES FROM PALESTINE. \$10 will feed a family for a week.

## THE CROSS OF ILLNESS, is made, if not lighter, at least easier to bear when care is being given by nursing sisters.

Throughout the world, many are the hospitals staffed by Catholic nuns who give unselfishly of themselves in ministering to the sick. SISTER MONICA and SISTER MARY are two of the MEDICAL MISSION SISTERS, KOTAYAM, INDIA, who have offered God the gift of spending their whole lives in caring for the sick. Before beginning their training as nurses they must spend two years in the novitiate to be trained in the religious life. The minimum cost for the training of a novice is \$150 a year. The novitiate training takes two years. To "adopt" Sister of these services costs \$100. This amount can be paid all at once or in installments. If paid in installments it is about \$100 to be paid within one year.

## DURING MARY'S MONTH, WHY NOT ENROLL AS A DEPOSITOR IN MARY'S BANK ONE-DOLLAR-MONTH TO HELP SUPPORT A GIRL IN A MISSOURI COUNTRY.

BUILT BY CRUSADERS, St. Ann's Church will stand today in Jerusalem. This Church is built over the traditional birthplace of Our Lady, and on the same grounds is the Sanctuary of St. Ann where the White Fathers have been working for the past 100 years. Every morning the crucifixion of the Most Holy and receive Holy Communion in this magnificent Church dedicated to the Mother of Mary, IMMACULATE and SEBASTIAN are among the prayers which are prayed here daily. You would have a precious share in their prayers if you could help to pay for their education. The cost of training a girl for the priesthood is \$400-\$100 a year for six years. The girl will be given all it costs for her maintenance. If given in installments it is about \$100 to be given within the space of a year.

**Near East Missions**  
FRANCIS CARDINAL SHEEN, President  
Send all communications to:  
CATHOLIC NEAR EAST WELFARE ASSOCIATION  
400 Lexington Ave., at 44th St., New York 17, N.Y.

## BOOK SHELF

### Geronius

By SISTER MARGARET TERESA  
Nazareth College

The Dream of Geronius, by John Henry Newman. First published in the Month, in the Issues of May and June, 1852. Oratorio of the Dream composed by Sir Edward Elgar, first presented in 1900.

The genesis of Rochester's musical event of the week, Elgar's Dream of Geronius at the Eastman Theater, takes us back, as everyone knows, almost one hundred years.

It was in January of 1854 that the already famous Father Newman, then living quietly in the Birmingham Oratory and paying little heed to the outrageous accusations made against him from time to time in the papers (that he was secretly an infidel; that he kept to turn cells for those not of his faith, and so on) was attacked in Macmillan's Magazine by Charles Kingsley the novelist.

Said Kingsley, "Truth for its own sake had never been a virtue with the Roman clergy... what a subject! A moment we are all curious about, yet a moment drowsed always in the bewilderment and suffering of the betrayed."

In all the fierce and devoted language of his correspondence with Newman during the months of the body, its new, cooling words, he never really looked back those words. And he lectured and will, its long and tender talk the publishers of the magazine afterward that his whole purpose had simply been to pay back Newman's attack on the Newman's preaching had struck him with his own sword; he had drawn toward Rome and toward the Catholic life of his present head, and he had been "moved" from all that by falling in love and marrying.

A curious grudge indeed. Why should he hate Newman after that particular sequence of events? Why seek to give pain to a body and honorable servant of God?

And what has the Dream of Geronius to do with this? Newman's answer is that it is a story of the life of a man who was a great reader, a great writer, a great thinker, a great man.



## Spanish Speaking Apostolate

St. Louis — (RNS) — Executives of the new National Catholic Conference for the Spanish Speaking met together in St. Louis with Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell. From left, Magr. George G. Higgins of Washington, D.C., director of the Social Action Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference; Archbishop Robert E. Lucey of San Antonio, chairman of the Bishops' Committee for the Spanish Speaking; Secretary Mitchell, and Father John A. Wagner of San Antonio, executive secretary of both the Bishops' Committee and the National Conference for the Spanish Speaking.

## Blind People

### Take Care of Themselves

Buffalo — (NC) — Father John H. Klocke, S.J., director of the Xavier Society for the Blind in New York City, told the annual Communion breakfast of the Catholic Guild for the Blind in Buffalo that there are far more opportunities today for the blind than there would have had 40 years ago.

## Orthodox Hope For Faith Unity

Portland — (NC) — An Orthodox priest attended a Catholic Melkite Rite Mass here and expressed the hope that the forthcoming ecumenical council will bring about reunion of the churches.

## South Africa Needs 'Lot Of Prayer'

New York — (RNS) — What South Africa needs today above all is "a lot of prayer by people everywhere" for a sound solution of its racial problem, which is "the most complicated of its kind anywhere in the world."

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