

Pope Reveals Mission of Paraclete

His Holiness Pope Pius XI, pronounced the following inspired discourse during the Canonization ceremonies of the Cure of Ars and Blessed John Eudes. The discourse of the Holy Father was delivered in Latin in presence of a great number of bishops and priests from all parts of the world, assembled on the Feast of Pentecost for the memorable event.

Discourse of Pope Pius.

"The venerable solemnity of this day brings to Us and to all the faithful a special cause for joy. We see here the Church adorned with all the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and manifesting itself for the first time to men.

"From this moment eternal life and virtue commenced to flow in the veins of the Immaculate Spouse of Christ, for, following the testimony of St. Augustine, what the soul is in our body, the Holy Spirit is in the Body of Christ which is the Church, and in consequence, being assisted very specially by the Spirit of Truth, not only is she preserved from all error, but she ceases not to sow and cultivate with the utmost zeal the germs of holy doctrine and truth in the entire world, since she was born for the common salvation of all peoples.

"The divine virtue of the Paraclete which arms the Church against the contagion of errors has clearly appeared in the Council of Nice. May it please God that this divine virtue, illumining and transforming souls, hasten the reunion of the dissident Churches with the Apostolic See, conformably to Our most ardent desire.

"The work which the Apostles accomplished after Pentecost is perpetuated by the missionaries who carry to the pagans the light of the Gospel, and by all those who seek to promote the suppression of vice and the practice of virtue. The Holy Spirit distributes His gifts liberally to these souls in order that they may communicate them in the same measure to others. He bestows them with such abundance upon some souls that to sanctity of life they unite an admirable apostolic zeal.

"This was precisely the case with the two priests whom to-day We place among the number of the Saints. Before Our eyes there arises the frail silhouette of John Baptist Vianney, his head encircled with abundant white locks, his countenance sunken and emaciated by fasts, all his person resplendent with the innocence and sanctity which shone from his soul, so sweet, so humble that his very appearance among the crowds gave birth to salutary reflections.

Fisher of Men.

"Who that was in sin could resist his words, his tears? Who was not inspired to repent of an evil life and to conceive new love for Jesus Christ? This was the result of the action of the Holy Spirit upon an unlearned and uncultivated man to the end that he might more easily become a fisher of men.

"A wider field was offered to John Eudes. His voice re-echoed throughout all France. He was an eloquent preacher of the eternal truths, snatching from the enemy of souls much prey to offer the Divine Redeemer.

"He transmitted to the Congregation of Jesus and Mary the heritage of his apostolate, and that of his holy ardor to the Sisters of Our Lady of Charity, who, besides the three usual Vows, take a fourth, to strive to recall fallen women to habits of virtue after the example of Our Saviour, illustrated by His dealings with the Samaritan woman and the woman taken in sin.

"To all those who have the care of souls we would say, therefore, fix your eyes upon the figure of the Cure of Ars. To those who preach We would recommend that they place themselves in the apostolic school of St. John Eudes."

Pope Pius closed his beautiful allocution with the recommendation to all present to pray to the Holy Spirit for an abundance of His gifts upon themselves, the Church and all men.

—The Pilot (Boston).

HIBERNIAN SOCIETY

ST. JOSEPH'S BRANCH, DUNEDIN.

The usual fortnightly meeting of St. Joseph's branch (No. 73) of the H.A.C.B. Society was held in the branch's club rooms, Moran Buildings, Octagon, on Tuesday evening, the 21st inst.; the president (Bro. A. Gillick) presiding over a large attendance of members. All the office-bearers were present. The sick visitors (Bros. W. E. Simpson, E. Lyng, and A. Berland) having reported sick allowance and other accounts were passed for payment. Correspondence from the Friendly Societies' Council was dealt with. One new member was initiated and three candidates proposed for membership. Bro. R. A. Simpson, P.P., reported on the visit paid to St. Joseph's (Ladies) branch, Port Chalmers, on Tuesday, the 14th inst., and spoke in high terms of the welcome and entertainment accorded to those who journeyed out from the city. At the conclusion of business an adjournment was made to the club rooms and a few pleasant hours were spent playing billiards and cards, while a number of members enjoyed a question debate which proved very interesting and instructive.

The club is proving a great success and the keen interest taken in it by the members is very encouraging to the promoters who attach so much importance to the movement. Entries for a billiard tournament are to close on the 31st inst., and Tuesday, August 4, is set apart for a "question night." The committee desire the assistance and co-operation of all members in maintaining and extending the club's activities, the aim being to render it an attractive centre for Catholic young men. Those desirous of joining may obtain all information regarding the club from the secretary (Mr. J. J. Ford) or the assistant secretary (Mr. J. N. Smith).

The club rooms, besides being centrally situated are very comfortably furnished.

ST. MARY'S BRANCH, PORT CHALMERS.

The half-yearly meeting of St. Mary's branch (No. 536) of the H.A.C.B. Society, Port Chalmers, was held on Tuesday, the 21st inst., in the Port Chalmers Convent Schoolroom, B.P. Bro. S. T. King presiding. The usual routine business was carried out, correspondence dealt with, and accounts passed for payment. Bro. C. Enright was installed treasurer for the ensuing term. The branch secretary (Bro. W. D. Mead) reported having attended two meetings of the United Friendly Societies' Council. In connection with the branch and that of the ladies' branch, a euchre party was held in the Schoolroom on Thursday, the 23rd inst., when, despite bad weather, a large number of visitors assembled. Twelve games of euchre were played, and those gaining honors were—(Ladies) First prize, Miss D. Parsons; second, Miss V. Dougherty; third, Mrs. Keenan; consolation prize, Mrs. W. Simpson; (gents) first prize, Mr. J. Hart; second, Mr. H. Fisher; consolation, Mr. T. Flynn. Supper was served by a band of willing workers. The next euchre party will be held on Thursday, August 6, and the committee trust that the liberal support given in the past will again be forthcoming.

Can the Dead Sea Live Again?

RECLAMATION SCHEMES.

Pilgrims who have made the wonderful descent from Jerusalem to Jericho (the Holy City is more than 2000 feet above, and the Dead Sea 1300 feet below, the level of the Mediterranean) and who have stood on the brink of the most desolate sheet of water in the world, its beach thickly spread with naked branches and the skeletons of dead fish, will rub their eyes on reading that this spot, forsaken by God and man, is "before long to become a centre throbbing with life and industry." The rights to recover the immense chemical deposits lying in those unknown depths, and place them on the world's markets are (says a writer in the *Edinburgh Catholic Herald*) already becoming subjects of negotiation and discussion. Perhaps, however, there are still some old-fashioned students of the Old Testament who are sceptical as to the coming reversal of the doom pronounced of old over the Cities of the Plain. It is easy to talk of the millions of tons of potassium chloride and other valuable chemicals at present lying waste and undeveloped in this great sterile inland sea. But it may possibly prove to be beyond the powers of even the "British Mandate in Palestine" to transform, by a wave of its wand, the most desolate region on earth into a land flowing with milk and honey.

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