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FR. CK'S CORNER: WHAT IS YOUR IMPACT?

By Fr. Christopher Klusman



The Lenten journey is now finished, and we've now arrived at the holiest solemnity (and season) of the liturgical year: **Easter!** Jesus is Risen, Alleluia!!!

Like I said earlier on page one of the Lenten section, just as when the round stone slab covered Jesus' tomb when he was buried doesn't mean that you can roll away the round stone slab by PEEKING inside yet until Easter, meaning to not also peek into this section!!! When the time arrived for Jesus to rise from the dead – when the round stone slab rolled away – then this section is made open for you to look and read through.

Praise be to God for his greatest gift: Jesus' resurrection. My prayers are with you during this beautiful season of rejoicing!

I had mentioned about my experiences with driving and seeing Christmas decorations. I will also talk about seeing Easter decorations, too. During the Christmas and Easter seasons, I remember seeing lots of decorations about Santa Claus, reindeers, the Grinch, rabbits, duck, and eggs. My heart ached at how the world tries to change the meaning of those two beautiful and "impactful" seasons by replacing Jesus' birthday with Santa Claus and the Grinch (??), while replacing Easter (Jesus' resurrection) with bunny rabbits!! So heartbreaking ...

But I'd pass a house here and there with a Nativity scene during Christmas season. Then I'd pass other houses during Easter with signs of "He is Risen!" My heart, which was weeping, changed to rejoicing! I thought, "Praise that household for their witness to Our Lord!" They are making an impact through their

► FR. CK'S CORNER - Continued on Page 2.

Easter Joys

The joys of the Resurrection are with us to gladden many hearts. And true Easter happiness is centered in the Risen Saviour. It spells Christ-like peace and resignation. It is a song of gentle trust in God. It means the clothing of the soul in the white garb of Sanctifying Grace.

The smile of the sun, the fragrance of the flowers, the youthfulness of Spring, the welcome of friends, the soaring of incense are but minor chords in the harmony of Easter. Without the Risen Christ they may soothe but not satisfy. Without Him they are but vain and empty. If Christ be not risen from the dead, then our faith is vain, and we are still in our sins; but Christ has risen from the dead, the first fruits of them that sleep." This is the true Easter happiness – in Christ Jesus, Our Lord.



MISSION STATEMENT - DEAF APOSTOLATE

The Deaf Apostolate in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee exists to enable all Catholic Deaf and Hard of Hearing people to participate fully in the liturgical, educational, pastoral, spiritual and human concerns ministries in the Church.

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decorations!

This leads to an important question for us: What decorations have we been using during the Christmas and Easter seasons? Do we know how many people pass our homes? Do we know how many people see the items in our homes? And the impact it can have on them? If they see Santa Claus and bunny rabbits, it teaches them something. Or if they see a Nativity scene and a "He is Risen!" sign, what would that teach



them? There is a BIG difference.

Maybe you are thinking, "What is my TINY and ONLY ONE home going to do compared to all the many homes? What



"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples."

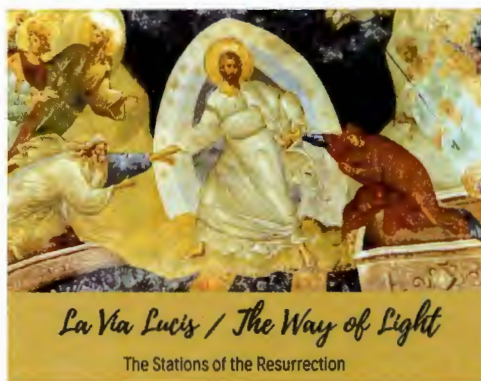
- Mother Teresa

is my impact going to do?" Don't forget what St. Mother Teresa said (see picture): "I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples." And another amazing quote, "If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one." The answer is: YES! Your TINY and ONLY ONE home with Nativity decorations and Jesus' resurrection decorations do make an impact!

I close here with an opportunity for you to think deeply: Think about the one impact your one home can have for people driving and walking by. Think about the impact your home's decorations will have when people go inside and see your Catholic decorations for Christmas and Easter. Happy decorating!!

THE VIA LUCIS: THE STATIONS OF LIGHT

With the Lenten season over in which we have prayed with the Stations of the Cross, we can now turn to a different Stations of the Cross called the *Via Lucis*, the Stations of the Light, which show the many important events of the newly Risen Jesus.



You are most welcome to join this beautiful devotion on YouTube. When you log in, go to the search box and type in "Deaf Apostolate Milwaukee." You will find various videos. You may have to scroll down to find the *Via Lucis* videos in which there are a total of 17 videos. Begin with the Introduction video, then watch in order the 15 Stations. At the end, there is a Conclusion video. They are all in American Sign Language (ASL).

Enjoy! The Lord is Risen, Alleluia!

VIA LUCIS

The *Via Lucis*, or The Way of Light, or The Stations of the Resurrection, is a prayer ritual that is much lesser known than the more traditional practice known as The Stations of The Cross. The *Via Lucis* is far more contemporary having been initially presented in 1988 and formally adopted by the Vatican in 2001.

This prayer devotion focuses more on the light and hope that is the direct result of the Resurrection of Our Lord on Easter Sunday. The *Via Lucis* is observed by some parishes on Friday evenings during the Easter season, and in other parishes on Sunday afternoons or evenings from Easter through to Pentecost Sunday.


 /rcamaoc | www.rcaml.org



St. Andrew Parish DEAF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MINISTRY SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

FROM THE DELAVAN CORNER: SELF-DISCIPLINE FOR EASTER AND EVERY LITURGICAL SEASON



**By Jennifer Paul, Coordinator
Deaf Religious Education
& Deaf Ministry
St. Andrew Parish, Delavan**

Last year, we talked about how Easter is a liturgical gift to start anew after a period of repentance and sacrifice during the Lenten season. As we begin anew, we need to pray for self-discipline to be better than before. It is like Catholics have a second chance at New Year's Resolutions!

All kidding aside, we pray for self-discipline in thoughts, words and actions so that we can be the best version of ourselves for the Easter season and for all seasons thereafter. Fortunately, along with prayer, we have several more reinforcements to help build up our self-discipline.

Self-discipline is tough. Research shows that we give up on New Year's Resolutions about two weeks into the new year. I know I am guilty of that, and I have only myself to blame. A well-known proverb, "You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make it drink" comes to mind. At the end of the day, we are the ones responsible for our own thoughts, words and actions. We are also responsible for NOT doing things we are supposed to do, i.e., sins of omission. Of course, this is not about people who are intellectually and/or mentally incapable of making such choices. This is for the general population with reasonable capabilities and self-determination over their lives.

Having made our sacrifice(s) during the Lenten season, which gave us plenty of practice for self-discipline, we can take comfort knowing that we have pulled through the Lenten season. It is

from that practice we have a stronger resolve to start anew and to make a more concerted effort at self-discipline. That is one reinforcement given to us from the Lenten season.

In our Religious Education class, we talked about different ways God shows himself to us. One of the ways God shows himself is the Mass. We talked about the Order of the Mass, which is divided into four parts: 1) Introductory Rites; 2) Liturgy of the Word; 3) Liturgy of the Eucharist; and 4) Concluding Rites. Regarding self-discipline, during the Introductory Rites, there is a step for the examination of conscience called the Penitential Act where we pray the following:

"I confess to almighty God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God."



This prayer during the Introductory Rites at Mass is another reinforcement. Every time we celebrate Mass, we say the Penitential prayer. It invites the all-powerful Holy Spirit to come in and help hold us accountable. We do feel stronger with the Holy Spirit as it steels us against temptation!

At last, but not least, we have the gift of Reconciliation (also called Confession). It is an opportunity for us to acknowledge our sins with deep repentance. Committing sins and confessing

► FROM THE DELAVAN CORNER - Continued from Page 3.

them repeatedly would not sit well with us, we just would not feel good. We would feel that we ought to know better, though God is Mercy and ever so patient!

Therefore, the gift of Reconciliation is a good reinforcement to keep in mind as we try to nurture our self-discipline. We

take comfort that while we do not need to be afraid of making mistakes (which are, at times, really sins), we also know that the all-powerful Holy Spirit is within us to help us stay strong and true to him with the sins wiped clean.

As we keep learning what thoughts, words and actions would be pleasing for him, we pray for self-discipline to abide by his teachings this Easter season and for many seasons for all eternity!

REFLECTION QUESTION:

Try to start a conversation with your family and/or friends about this question.

What is the true meaning of Easter? Why?



They spent the evening dining. They danced, and then a show. She had no thought of the expense; the money – it did go!

They parted at the front door; she whispered with a sigh, "I'll be home tomorrow night." He answered, "So will I!"



In St. John's School for the Deaf's publications of the "Our Young People," there is a section that has their current news. I hope you will enjoy these various news clippings:

News
of
St.
John's



CATHOLIC QUIZ

1. Who raised Dorcas from the dead?

- (a) St. Peter (b) Jesus
- (c) St. Paul (d) St. Timothy

2. How many Sacraments are only received once?

- (a) 1 (b) 3 (c) 4 (d) 5

3. Jesus is from which Tribe of Israel?

- (a) Asher (b) Joseph (c) Benjamin (d) Judah

4. Who asked Pontius Pilate for Jesus' body and placed it into his own tomb?

- (a) Zebedee (b) St. Joseph of Arimathea
- (c) St. Mary Magdalene (d) St. Paul

5. What moved the object in front of Jesus' tomb?

- (a) earthquake (b) the object moved itself
- (c) the 12 Apostles (d) an angel



(Answers on page 16.)

The older children are eagerly preparing for their Confirmation day on May 18th. The Bishop will administer this sacrament at St. John's on that day.

May, 1957

When the Pilgrim Virgin statue was at Sacred Heart Church, just across the street from St. John's the children were privileged to visit the church and see the beautiful statue.

May, 1958

Screams of delight were heard all over the playground one April day when the little tots hunted and found Easter eggs hidden in various places. Again it's thanks to the Optimist

May, 1960

REVEREND JAMES HALL, M.S.C.: A MINISTRY FROM THE HEART (SEPT. 8, 1936 – JUNE 26, 2006)

In some of our newsletters, we have interviews or articles about various individuals. In history, there are a few Deaf priests in the world. Do you know about Fr. James Hall? While he passed away shortly after his 5th anniversary of his priesthood June 26, 2006, I hope you will enjoy a beautiful article in tribute of him and his service to God's Deaf flock. This article is from the Society of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart (MSC) Newsletter (called the Spotlite), Vol. 27, No. 3, from the Fall of 2006.

By Reverend Joseph A. Mulcrone

Fr. Jim Hall loved to tease people. He saw the humor and irony in many aspects of life. So, it was sadly ironic that for someone who had such a loving heart and who belonged to a religious community committed to the Sacred Heart, that Fr. Jim should die suddenly sometime Monday, June 26th.



Fr. Jim's life was the story of someone with an amazing heart. He was born in Painesville, Ohio, on September 8, 1936. He became Deaf from spinal meningitis at age nine. As a young man, he had to overcome many of

the prejudices and stereotypes people had of Deaf persons. So often, the Deaf person (like all young people with disabilities) is repeatedly given the message, "can't". You are Deaf... blind... in a wheelchair... have Cerebral Palsy... etc., and society, the schools, even your closest relatives tell you, "Well you can't have dreams like everyone else; your goals have to be different (less) than other young people; aim lower."

Fr. Jim Hall had experienced such attitudes, though NOT from his family! Yet, Fr. Jim had a desire to serve Christ from his earliest days. Therefore, he would not allow the faulty attitudes of others to discourage him from seeking the Lord in his own life and choosing to serve the Lord in the way he felt was best.

I was privileged to know Fr. Hall, to work with him, and to have often enjoyed his friendship. He told me once that the reason he had chosen the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart was because of the visual symbol of the Order: The Heart of Jesus. As a young Deaf person, that symbol and what it represented touched him very deeply.

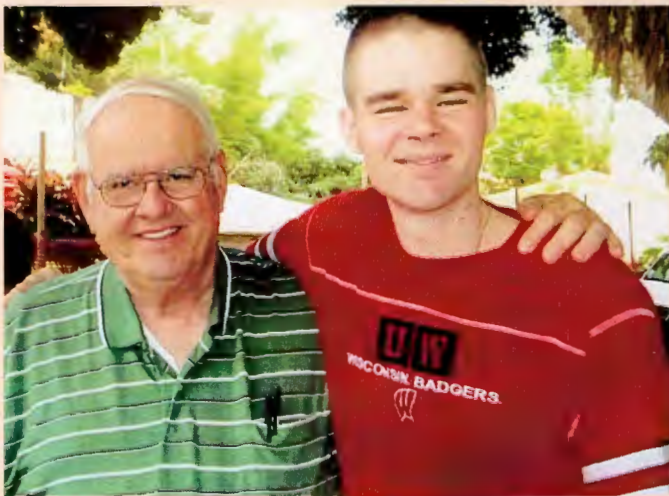
Fr. Jim entered the novitiate of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart at the MSC center in Shelby, OH in 1972. He made temporary profession of vows in 1973 and perpetual vows as a Religious Brother in 1976. Brother Jim enjoyed the various responsibilities he had in the Order. Yet, he was never satisfied. He always believed he could accomplish more.

From 1980-1983, he studied at Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., where he received his B.A. degree in Psychology (with honors!). After that, Brother Jim wanted to do more for the Deaf community. He realized that the vast

Becoming a priest is a great joy for me as I reach out and touch the lives of other Deaf in a special way which includes bringing the word of God into their lives and helping them to live His word. I feel especially blessed to be part of this ministry.

—Fr. Jim Hall, M.S.C.

TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE



Note from Fr. Christopher Klusman: On the 5th anniversary of Fr. James Hall's ordination June 9, 2006, I had the huge honor of being with Fr. Hall. Fr. Hall was going to offer a Mass in celebration of his milestone. He shocked me by asking me, "Christopher, would you do the honor of being my acolyte/ server?" I was like, "YES!" To this day as a future Deaf priest, it truly meant so much to me to be able to share that with him.



► REVEREND JAMES HALL - Continued on Page 6.

► REVEREND JAMES HALL - Continued from Page 5.



majority of Deaf people in the United States (and the world!) were unevangelized. He believed that as a Deaf person, he could witness to the Gospel in a unique way.

As Brother James Hall, he worked for a number of years in the Diocese of Gary, Indiana. In his role as Pastoral Worker with the Deaf, he... visited the sick and forgotten... arranged for Masses and sacraments to be interpreted in sign-language for Deaf people... worked to get Deaf children into religious education programs... held a yearly retreat for Deaf people... tried to develop marriage enrichment programs for Deaf couples. And always, ALWAYS, traveled all over — bringing with him his wonderful smile and great sense of humor. He always made himself available for anyone who would come to him with a problem or a question about faith. He chalked up an amazing number of miles in his ministry throughout the northern part of Indiana.

On June 14, 1998, Brother Jim was ordained to the Diaconate at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Hammond, Indiana. As a deacon, he worked at Our Lady of Consolation Parish in Merrillville, Indiana. In 1999, he moved to Aurora, Illinois to do part-time work with the Deaf Ministry in the Archdiocese of Chicago, while continuing his studies for the priesthood. (At this point, it would be a natural question to ask, “how did he live in Aurora, do ministry with the Deaf in the Archdiocese of Chicago, and study for the priesthood?”) Locked inside that large body and behind that always-smiling face, was a heart that burned with deep desire to be of service to God’s people. Jim Hall knew that in the United States, there are less than 10 Catholic priests who grew up Deaf. Jim understood better than most how much a DEAF PERSON’S VOCATION was an incredible symbol of hope for people in the Deaf community.

After diligent study, Most Reverend Thomas G. Doran, bishop of the Rockford Diocese, ordained Deacon James Hall to the priesthood on June 9, 2001 at St. Therese of Jesus Church in Aurora, Illinois. At the age of 64, he became only the 7th Deaf



person to be ordained a Catholic priest in the United States.

The day of his ordination and the next day’s celebration of his First Mass were incredible

events. These were days filled with the sacramental liturgies of the Church, the gathering of the MSC community, a tremendous turnout of family, friends, and Deaf people; all expressed in voice... and SIGN LANGUAGE! It is hard to overestimate the incredible sense of pride and joy felt by Deaf people at Fr. Jim’s ordination. As much as he was a member of his own human family and a deeply committed member of the MSC family, it was his Deaf “family” to whom Fr. Jim brought an authentic sense of the “Good News” of Jesus Christ.

After his ordination, Fr. Jim maintained a busy and, at times, hectic schedule. He celebrated the Mass and Sacraments in the Archdiocese of Chicago, as well as the Dioceses of Joliet and Rockford, Illinois; Gary, Indiana; and Madison, Wisconsin. He traveled around the country and gave retreats to Deaf communities from Texas to the East Coast. He participated in Catholic ministry workshops with the National Catholic Office of the Deaf, located in Washington, D.C. Yet, there was a particular ministry that Fr. Jim did with unalloyed enthusiasm.

Fr. Hall never tired of visiting people in nursing homes and hospitals. He would get into his car early in the morning after celebrating Mass, and off he would go from Aurora to... the northern suburbs of Chicago... a small town in Indiana... the residential facility for Deaf senior citizens in the heart of Chicago... anywhere a Deaf person needed a visit or wanted the comfort of the sacraments. He brought people the Eucharist, shared with them the Sacrament of Reconciliation, anointed them with the comforts of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Yes, Fr. Hall liked the other aspects of ministry, but his gift of care and concern for those who were suffering and alone was special.

I have been a diocesan priest for over 35 years. My experience of religious life and how each Order has its own charisma is not part of my experience. Yet, through Fr. Jim Hall, I came to appreciate what the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart believe as their particular ministry in our world today.

The motto of the MSC is “May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be Loved Everywhere!”



HOW CAN I BE A GOOD GODPARENT?

This is borrowed from “The Catholic Company’s Get Fed: Bite-Sized Faith.” Enjoy!

Being a godparent is a joy – and a big responsibility.

When a friend asks you to be the godparent of their new baby, you likely feel a sense of great honor. As you should — choosing a godparent isn’t a decision that Catholic parents take lightly! The godparent has a huge role to play in this child’s life.

The responsibilities of godparents are quite lost in today’s society and, since we live in society, it’s easy even for us Catholics to forget what a godparent is really for. The modern world seems to consider it just a sentimental gesture, a nice way to pay tribute to a family friend.



For the Church, however, the godparent is much more. In fact, at least one godparent is required for the Sacrament of Baptism.

So what does a godparent do that is so important? Well, in short, it is his or her job to make sure the child is raised in the Faith.

While this, of course, is primarily the parents’ responsibility, a godparent provides surety for the child’s faith if the parents are unable or are struggling to form their child in the Faith. Even



if the parents are doing fine in this department, a godparent still offers everyday guidance and assistance. Additionally, a good godparent is an extra source of support for the child in other arenas — offering advice and encouragement

throughout the child’s life.

The handy little book [Becoming A Great Godparent](#) offers some insights from Catholics regarding their relationship with their godparents. Some say that their godparents were deeply involved in their lives and were an invaluable support through thick and thin. Others say that their godparents weren’t involved at all. Of course, we all want to be the former, not the latter!

But how?

It starts, of course, with a godparent’s presence at the baptism and with prayer. No matter what happens, we as godparents can and should always pray for our godchildren. We should also try to be present — as far as possible — at their reception of the sacraments as they grow older. And for all the time in between, we should strive to keep up communication with our godchildren, encourage them in their faith practices, teach the Faith when necessary, and offer support, especially in times of difficulty.

It’s a lifelong commitment. We won’t always do it perfectly, but if we accept the role and its responsibilities, the rewards for us and our godchildren will be eternal.

Taken from: <https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed/how-can-i-be-a-good-godparent/>

► REVEREND JAMES HALL - Continued from Page 6.

Fr. Jim Hall gave his heart — with a ready smile, a great sense of humor, and a deep love — to all he met. In the most special way, he proclaimed THE GOOD NEWS of JESUS CHRIST to Deaf people everywhere — many of whom had only seen the Church as belonging to hearing people only.

His death truly broke the hearts of many Deaf people and those hearing people, like myself, who were privilege to minister with him and call him “friend.” As we gather with his sister, Joan Hall, his sister-in-law, Alice Hall, and their families, and joined with

his MSC family, we prayed, smiled, cried, laughed, but most of all — MOST OF ALL — celebrated God’s great love. He had given us a loving son, a caring brother and uncle, a dear friend, a wonderful priest, a model of ministry, and a truly wonderful example that what counts most in the end is the memories we leave. Our memory of Fr. Jim Hall is of someone who believed in the love of God, and never stopped communicating that love — in all he did, in how he preached, but most important — in the way he loved us all.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

ST. VINCENT FERRER, MODEL SAINT FOR THE MEANING OF EASTER

By Fr. Christopher Klusman

Jesus Christ is Risen! Alleluia! While thinking about Jesus' Resurrection, this led me to think: "Did any of the saints ever raise anyone from the dead?" Be careful about this, as there is a big difference between raising people from the dead versus Jesus' Resurrection.

Jesus is the only person who rose from the dead (particularly, resurrected). The others who were raised from the dead, such as Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead, St. Peter raising Tabitha (Dorcas) from the dead (Acts 9:36-43) and St. Paul raising Eutychus from the dead (Acts 20:7-12) are more like "resuscitations" in which those people will die again. But with Jesus' Gift of finally rising from the dead (particularly: the resurrection), now those who had died (after Jesus' Resurrection) leading lives of faith in Our Lord will be resurrected at the Second Coming of Jesus. Be sure to know the difference. So, thinking and praying for who would be the model saint for the meaning of Easter this year... it has to be about a saint who did raise (resuscitate) several people from the dead!

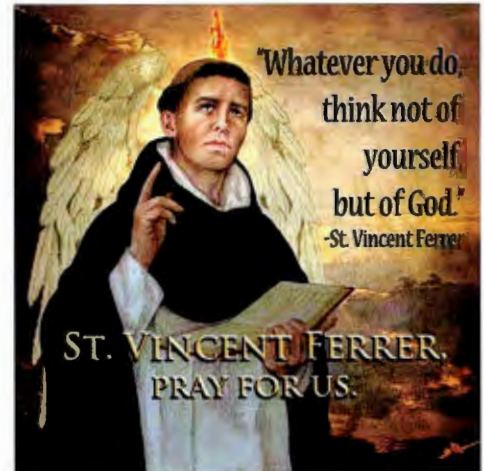
For this newsletter's Model Saint for the Meaning of Easter, we will learn about St. Vincent Ferrer, a famous and powerful saint who had raised people from the dead. Let's look at this fascinating saint and what he can teach us... I have borrowed some of these stories from a website whose author is Sunil Saldanha at: <https://medium.com/@suniljepc/st-vincent-ferrer-and-the-stories-of-those-he-raised-from-the-dead-3a3d0f48d057>.

St. Vincent was born in Valencia, Spain on January 23, 1357. During the year of 1374, he entered into the Order of Preachers, otherwise known as the Dominicans, which is the same order as the famous St. Catherine of Siena and St. Thomas Aquinas. In his studies, he had received his doctorate. After that, St. Vincent worked hard to try to become a perfect follower of Jesus Christ on a daily basis. When St. Vincent was 46 years old, he became very ill. Our Lord appeared to him with St. Dominic and St. Francis.

Jesus said, "Arise, then, and go to preach against vice; for this have I specially chosen thee. Exhort sinners to repentance, for my judgment is at hand." St. Vincent was immediately healed and went to be a missionary: evangelizing in nearly every province in Spain. Having a gift of languages, he went



on to preach and evangelize in France, Italy, Germany, Flanders, England, Scotland and Ireland! Many conversions (and miracles) happened as a result of God working through St. Vincent! He even converted St. Bernardine of Siena and Blessed Margaret of Savoy.



There is a cool story about an innocent man who had been condemned to death in Pamplona. St. Vincent knew that the man was innocent and tried to help him without success. While they were having a procession to lead the man to the scaffold for his execution, they ran into another procession that included people carrying a corpse to a cemetery. St. Vincent had an inspiration and spoke to the corpse, saying, "You no longer have anything to gain by lying. Is this man guilty? Answer me!" The dead man on a stretcher sat up and said, "He is not [guilty]!" As soon as the dead man spoke those shocking words, St. Vincent offered to reward him to become alive again. The man said, "No, Father, for I am assured of salvation." After having said that, the man laid back on the stretcher and was dead. So they went on to carry his body to the cemetery for burial.

There is one story that showed the important lesson that no one must mock the gifts God gives to others. There was an incident when a boy pretended to be dead, while his friends snickered. St. Vincent went over to the boy and said, "He pretended to be dead to amuse you, but evil has come upon him; he is dead!" Yikes! A cross was placed there to help people remember that lesson.

There was a horrible incident that was made better by St. Vincent. While on a missionary journey, St. Vincent was allowed to stay at a place welcomed by a married couple. The wife was said to be a virtuous woman, but she suffered from bad attacks of the nerves that led her close to madness. One time after the father had left to listen to St. Vincent's preaching, he came home to find his son dead, chopped up with a portion of his son served to him as a cooked meal from his wife!! Realizing what happened, he fled in horror to St. Vincent. St. Vincent went back to the place with the father and prayed as he gathered the pieces together. He said to the father: "If you have faith, God, who created this little

► ST. VINCENT FERRER - Continued on Page 9.

► **ST. VINCENT FERRER - Continued from Page 8.**

soul from nothing, can bring him back to life.” St. Vincent knelt and prayed and made the Sign of the Cross over the reassembled body. The pieces came back together, and the boy came to life and St. Vincent gave back his son to the father. Praise be to God! This incident is made into a painting that now hangs in the Vatican Museum by Francesco del Cossa. This miracle is one of many submitted by the bishop for St. Vincent’s canonization.

There were other events as well. I will include one more that happened after St. Vincent Ferrer became a canonized saint. Here is an excerpt from the website by Saldanha:

In another report, a priest judged a child to be dead. The child’s whole body was mangled and broken. A vow was made, and the child was restored to life. It is not known for certain whether this is the same child as that in the following miracle.

Fifty years after Vincent’s death, young Jean de Zuniga, son of Don Alvar de Zuniga, Duke of Placensia and Arevola, and of his Duchess, Leonor de Pimentel, died at the age of 12. The Duchess’ confessor, Jean Lopez de Salamanca, O.P., counseled the noble lady to invoke his fellow Dominican, the newly canonized Vincent Ferrer.

The mother made a vow to build a church and convent in St. Vincent’s honor. As soon as she had formulated her vow, the boy came back to life. This boy became the Grand Master of Alcantara, the Archbishop of Seville,



The tomb of Saint Vincent Ferrer inside the Vannes Cathedral, with a reliquary bust on top where his relic is placed.

and a Cardinal. The Duchess became very devoted to Vincent and fervently desired that his life, virtues, and miracles be written about. When a grand ceremony was held at the newly finished cathedral, the Duke and Duchess presented their son, and the raised boy then understood all about his resuscitation.

On the feast day of St. Vincent Ferrer at that same cathedral, the scheduled preacher became ill and did not appear. But a wonderful, charming, unknown preacher appeared from nowhere – and mysteriously disappeared after giving his sermon. Many believed it was Vincent repaying the honors given him.

Records show that St. Vincent had raised (resuscitated) from the dead about 24 people! It was done solely for the purpose of giving greater glory to God and for the conversion of sinners! The saints said it was not their power (which they had none) but God’s power working through them.

St. Vincent Ferrer died at Vannes (Brittany, France) April 5, 1419. April 5th is his feast day. He is considered a patron saint of builders because he built up the Catholic Church’s community and helped make her stronger through his preaching, missionary work and teachings.

St. Vincent Ferrer, pray for us!

Boo: “My brother fell from a fifty-foot tree this morning.”

Hoo: “Goodness! Was he killed?”

Boo: “No, he had only climbed up three feet.”



“ANGELS” TRANSFORM PLAYGROUND INTO CHILD’S PARADISE



Saturday traffic jam — Patrick O'Brien, Eddie Hoberg and Kevin Haggenjos deliberate at the crossroads.



Donna Sheehan and Brenda Wernimont gallop across the prairie while Jean Glenn and Janet Jerins slide the time away.

Begun in the previous Fall 2019 Newsletter, an article/feature is chosen from an older newsletter to revisit important people, events and places in our rich history. I hope you enjoy this selection from the St. John's Newsletter dated May 1968. With spring already here, as well as the newly Risen Lord giving us a new life with God, this article fits in with a new chapter at St. John's School for the Deaf in which they have a new playground. Enjoy the article and photos!



Intent on kite flying are Bradley Nesmith and Marty Sphatt . . .

Spring activities began unusually early this year, due to the mild winter. The first sure sign was the kites. Spring was heralded by Rita Kucinic. Soon after, many more colorful kites began dancing high overhead. It was fascinating to see boys standing on empty oil drums or on the hill, slowly moving their heads back and forth. Their string and kites were barely visible, and then somehow the trees suddenly loomed up and

swallowed quite a few.

Hardly a day passed this year that our little boys did not run around our beautiful new one-fifth mile racetrack. This winter it filled the big gap created by the lack of snow for sleigh riding and the absence of the gym. But Spring brought a new sight. Sister Marie Celeste felt that her Fair Ladies should get some fresh air and exercise, so she set the good example. The little boys loved it. First, they raced with Sister. What a panic. Some went around twice. She persisted. Now the High School Girls use the track, and the little boys look up admiringly at them.

No Birds

We have only one sad note this spring. The birds have not moved into our area as their familiar landmarks are gone. We hope that by next year they will reestablish themselves.

Sitting back and watching Cinderella's Fairy Godmother change a little thing into a dream come true might prompt some practical people to say that it is only fantasy. It can not be true. But we at St. John's have seen something little and very unassuming looking, change our play areas into a child's paradise. And who is the Fairy Godmother? Why it is you, and you, and you.

For the elementary and high school boys there are three basketball courts in back of school. There is a constant stream of balls going in and out of the nets. Sometimes the teams have four players, other times there are 12 or more, but there are always enough players to keep the game interesting.



. . . but look where it went. Oh well, no matter. That's Kevin Crawley to the rescue.



Okay you guys. On your mark! And before you can say "bang" John Collieran, Nick Flanagan, Leo Dignan, Steven Levin, Neal Ahearn, and Kevin Crawley are on their way down the track.

► ANGELS - Continued from Page 10.



And what's better than a sand pit when digging for silver?

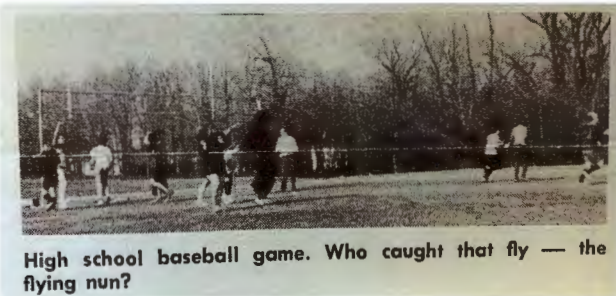
For the first time the Nursery set has its own play area, and do they ever have a ball or (should I say bawl) out there! The setting is two large concrete figure eights for bike riding. A climb around, a space saver slide, six special swings, and two sand pits are in the centers of the eights, while attractive

airplanes and animals on Chrysler springs are lined up along the shrubs. Bill Keane and Charles Schulz could find much aspiration while watching our 20 imaginative 3- to 6-year-olds go through their capers.

A child's concept of fun on the slides is to climb up the slide section and walk down the steps, or to go down the slide head first, backwards or over the side. On the swings, it is best to stand, sit two to a swing, twist the chains, twirl back to normal position and then start all over again. How come grown-ups keep spoiling all of the fun?

Tether Ball

Something entirely new for us is playing tether ball. The boys' court is right by the back door and so from the minute they get outside until minutes after the last boy is back in the building the ball is in perpetual motion. Many of the neighborhood children have made friends with our boys over a game. Our boys really can wallop that ball.



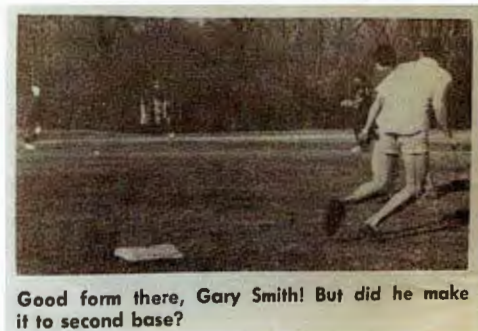
High school baseball game. Who caught that fly — the flying nun?

Another first at Saint John's is a baseball area for the elementary girls. It is out on the parking lot

between the pond and the front of the school. Now the girls will not have to be afraid of having their home runs spoiled by the ball sailing through a window. [The area] is intensive, imaginative, and adequately equipped.

Fairy Godmother we still need you! Please wave your magic wand and keep those S and H Green Stamps coming our way.

We think you're just grand!



Good form there, Gary Smith! But did he make it to second base?

Hate has 4 letters, so does Love.

Enemies has 7 letters, so does Friends. Lying has 5 letters, so does Truth. Negative has 8, so does Positive. Under has 5, so does above. Cry has 3 letters, so does Joy. Anger has 5 letters, so does Happy. Right has 5 letters, so does wrong. Hurt has 4 letters, so does Heal. It means life is like double edged sword... so transform every negative side into an aura of positivity... We should choose the better side of the life.

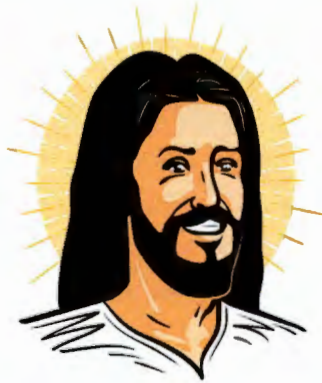


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THE APOSTOLATE OF SMILING

Just a Little Smile on Your Lips

Cheers your heart
Keeps you in good humor
Preserves peace in your soul
Promotes your health
Beautifies your face
Induces kindly thoughts
Inspires kindly deeds



Smile to yourself . . . until you notice that your constant seriousness, or even severity, has vanished.

Smile to yourself . . . until you have warmed your own heart with the sunshine of your cheery countenance. Then

Go out — and radiate your smile

That smile . . . has work to do — work to do for God. You are an apostle now, and your smile is your instrument for winning souls.

Sanctifying Grace dwelling in your soul will give the special charm to your smile which will render it productive of much good.

Smile — on the lonely faces

Smile — on the timid faces

Smile — on the sorrowful faces

Smile — on the sickly faces

Smile — on the fresh young faces

Smile — on the wrinkled old faces

Smile — on the familiar faces of your family and friends — let all enjoy the beauty and inspiring cheer of your smiling face.

Count . . . if you will, the number of smiles your smile has drawn from others in one day. The number will represent how many times you have promoted contentment, joy, satisfaction, encouragement or confidence in the hearts of others. These good dispositions always give birth to unselfish acts of noble deeds.

Your smile . . . can bring new life and hope and courage into the hearts of the weary, the overburdened, the discouraged, the tempted, the despairing.

Your smile . . . can help to develop vocations if you are a Priest, a Brother or a Sister.

Your smile . . . can be the beginning of conversations to the Faith.

Your smile . . . can prepare the way for a sinner's return to God.

Smile, too, at God . . . Smile at God in loving acceptance of whatever he sends into your life, and you will merit to have the radiantly smiling face of Christ gaze on you with special love throughout eternity.

The Wounds of the Risen Christ

JESUS said to the Apostle Thomas: "Put in thy finger hither, and see My hands; and bring hither thy hand and put it into My side; and be not faithless, but believing." (John xx, 27.)

Yearly during Eastertide, we have before us by faith the risen Saviour ascending to heaven and sitting at the right hand of His Father, whence He sent the Holy Ghost down upon the Apostles.

The Gospel and the Doctors of the Church teach that in this glorious and triumphant state, our Divine Saviour preserved the marks of His Passion, and it is thus that He is always represented by Christian painters. Saint Thomas in his *Summa Theologica*, says: "It was fitting for Christ's soul at His Resurrection to resume the body with its scars." (3a. q. liv. Art. 4.)

1 In the first place, for Christ's own glory. For Bede says on Luke xxiv, 40, that He kept His scars not from inability to heal them, but to wear them as an everlasting trophy of His victory. Hence Saint Augustine says (*De Civ. Dei. xxii.*): "Perhaps in that kingdom we shall see on the bodies of the martyrs the traces of the wounds which they bore for Christ's name: because it will not be a de-

formity, but a dignity in them; and a certain kind of beauty will shine in them, in the body, though not of the body.

2 To confirm the hearts of the disciples as to the faith in His Resurrection (Bede loc. cit.)

3 That when He pleads for us to the Father, He may always show the manner of death He endured for us (Bede loc. cit.)

4 That He may convince those redeemed in His blood how mercifully they have been helped, as He exposes before them the traces of the same death (Bede loc. cit.)

5 That in the Judgment-day He may upbraid them with their just condemnation (Bede loc. cit.)

Hence, as Saint Augustine says (*De Symb. ii.*): "Christ knew why He kept the scars in His body. For, as He showed them to Thomas, who would not believe except he handled and saw them, so will He show His wounds to His enemies, so that He who is the Truth may convict them, saying: Behold the Man whom you crucified! See the wounds you inflicted! Recognize the side you pierced, since it was opened by you and for you, yet you would not enter!"

Grade Three was making up a spiritual bouquet for the priest, and one of the little boys proudly presented his offering of 225 litanies recited during a fifteen-minute recess period.



"But Tommy," the Sister objected, "how could you possibly say so many litanies in so short a time?"

"It was easy, Sister," said Tommy. "I took my prayer book and made the Sign of the Cross and I said:

"All the saints on this page, pray for us."

"All the saints on the next page, hear our prayers."

"All the saints on the next page, we beseech you to hear us."

"And from all things on the last page, O Lord, deliver us."

CLARIFYING MISCONCEPTIONS

In my conversations with some members of the Deaf community, I'm always surprised when they realize that the Holy Spirit is also God, too ...

Misconception #1

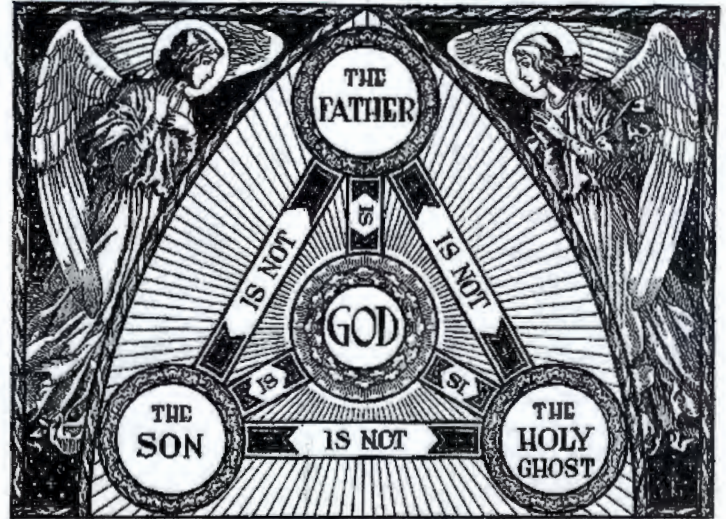
The Holy Spirit is not God, but has some important role with God.



No matter how many times, but I'm always so shocked when the Deaf people look at me with their eyes open wide and mouths gaping open as they say, "the Holy Spirit is God too?!"

Here is a quotation from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #253: "The Trinity is One. We do not confess (believe) three Gods, but one God in three persons, the 'consubstantial Trinity.' The divine persons do not share the one divinity among themselves but each of them is God whole and entire: 'The Father is that which the Son is, the Son that which the Father is, the Father and the Son that which the Holy Spirit is, i.e., by nature one God.'"

From #254: "The divine persons are really distinct from one another. 'God is one but not solitary.' 'Father,' 'Son,' 'Holy Spirit' are not simply names designating modalities of the divine being, for they are really distinct from one another: 'He is not the Father who is the Son, nor is the Son he who is the Father, nor is the Holy Spirit he who is the Father



A good concrete illustration of the Blessed Trinity is an equilateral triangle. Such a triangle has three sides equal in every way, and yet distinct from each other. There are three sides, but only one triangle. As we see in this illustration, each Divine

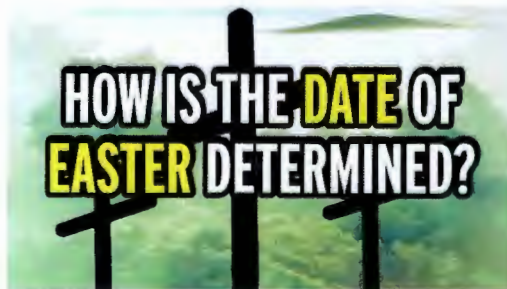
Person is different from the other two, but all three are God. Each one is God, distinct from the two others, and yet one with them. The three Persons are equal in every way, with one nature and one substance: three Divine Persons, but only one God.

or the Son.' They are distinct from one another in their relations or origin: 'It is the Father who generates, the Son who is begotten, and the Holy Spirit who proceeds.' The divine Unity is Triune."

So, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit is God. This means that the Holy Spirit is God Himself. I also double-check with others to make sure they also know that Jesus is the Son and that he is God himself, too.

THE DATE OF EASTER

Easter is the first Sunday which occurs after the first full moon of the spring equinox, or more accurately the fourteenth day of the moon. The earliest date is March 22 and the latest is April 25. In the first centuries of the Church there existed a very famous dispute in determining Easter. Some churches followed the Jewish computation and celebrated Easter on the fourteenth day of the moon of the vernal equinox no matter on what day of the week that date fell. The Western Church held forth for Sunday as the day for the celebration of Easter, and through the authority of the pope, that custom prevailed and became the law. This dispute occurred under Pope Victor about the year 190. The council of Nice (A.D. 325) determined for the universal Church that Easter should always be celebrated on a Sunday, that this Sunday should follow the fourteenth day of the paschal moon and that the paschal moon was that whose fourteenth day followed the spring equinox.



A SPLASH OF HOLY WATER

Here is a moving story shared to me from the "Our Young People: The Friend of the Deaf" issue. The front cover is missing, so the date is unknown.

I shall ever remember the shock I received when Mother Kelly ushered me into that neat little sitting room at her plain old boarding-house. Everyone called her Mother Kelly and the name came to be regarded among the boarders as a respectful honor. She was a real dear of a mother to them all, but she had her [unique] little ways. Has there ever existed a boarding-housekeeper who hasn't had them?

The group will always remain in my memory as they were sitting there that night – a truly happy family.

Looking out over a newspaper was big Dan McCarthy with his merry blue eyes twinkling and his laughing mouth humorously dispelling the adverse situations. "Big-hearted Dan" he was affectionately termed, and the name was fitting because his generosity, both in and speech and in material assistance to many a poor fellow, was his outstanding characteristic.

Molly Kelly, the widow's only child, a girl of twenty summers, almost took my breath away when she seemed to search my thoughts with her big brown eyes. Placing her fancy-work on the table as he stood up, she tossed a wisp of brown wavy hair over her ear and displayed as attractive a person as one could desire to view. I had a suspicion then, that I'd love this new acquaintance, but I might have realized that every young man must have felt the same way toward her.

Young Brian Pitt sat at the end of the table and chewed the handle of his pen over his half-finished school exercise. Brian had been sent by his father from the country so that he could benefit by attending the Christian Brothers' College. He grinned, shook hands with me, and shuffled back to his chair to chew the pen handle again.

A rather superior young fellow, Ken Bowman, rose, placed his book and pipe on the table and gave me a courteous welcome. His very correct manners seemed to remind one that Ken was a little above the ordinary – but still tolerable. He was a bank accountant and a friend of the "Big-Hearted Dan." Usually Mother Kelly would not accept boarders until they were



recommended by the priest, and Ken was not even a Catholic but he was allowed in temporarily to please Dan.

Molly slipped out and placed my belongings in what was to be my room. She was one of those thoughtful types of girls to whom it never was any trouble to do just the right thing to make people pleased. Tea was announced and as we sat down to table I got a shock. "Bless yourselves now" said Mother Kelly, "and let us say Grace." I confess I almost blushed, but the rest of the "family," excepting Ken Bowman, complied without any noticeable concern.

Mother Kelly then proceeded to brandish an ordinary eight-ounce medicine bottle while she held her finger partly over the opening of the neck. Large drops flew into every corner of the room and over every person there. "There now," said she, quite contented with the purifying effect of her administration.

"Hmmm," came from Ken as his head reappeared over the level of the table and a splash immediately flew in that direction with the general remark, "A drop wouldn't do you any harm."

Mother Kelly had no respect for persons in the distribution of Holy Water; she believed in it and used it profusely.

Even when Molly was going to the theater and had finished the application of cosmetics so as to appear a startling beauty, she would receive a shower which would leave the holy drops upon the eyelids and nose. Never did the sweet child do other than smile.

Another thing was conceded to Mother Kelly – her love of news. Everyone of the household would unburden to her the latest that was abroad, but this was seldom "news" to Mother

▶ HOLY WATER - Continued on Page 15.

► HOLY WATER - Continued from Page 14.

Kelly. Sometimes she was a little late with the meals after spending a few minutes at the corner shop. Sometimes she was late as she strolled slowly down from the church on the hill, a smile across her brow and her calm eyes expressing the pleasure of a contented mind.

Ken would tease her by referring to the shortage of water in Father Mahon's house and prophesied a curtailment of the water in the font. The smile never left her face.

Sometimes when Ken was abed and his thoughts of the day's cares were slipping, while sleep invaded his person, a few drops of Holy water would fall on the semi-conscious form of the "heathen," as he was playfully referred to.

Every one of us admired her neat, clean home and enjoyed the kindness she daily showed to her "family," but the wheels of Time never rest, and, as the years passed round, one morning saw the sunshine and Mother Kelly had not raked the boys out for Holy Mass. She was ill, so it was Molly who knocked on the doors that morning.

There was always some good intention why we should bestir early; perhaps it was Brian's examination; perhaps someone was "entering" today; perhaps the Holy Souls; perhaps a sick friend; an anniversary; a thanksgiving or a favor. We often said that we did more novenas than would fit in the year, and all except Ken, from the church hill, saw the sun rise morning after morning.

Ken received the enviable cup of tea before the party, who were fasting, left the boarding house. It was evident that Ken was very often in the old lady's thoughts.

What a strange feeling it was to imagine her ill. It was not possible for us to know Mother Kelly other than she always was - happy. As we joked and smiled to cheer her, the days drifted on and quietness crept into the household. No one hinted that she was not improving. The doctor came twice a day instead of once. Molly never left the bedside, but, nevertheless, it became necessary to remove her to the hospital. A few days later big-hearted Dan, who was in touch with the doctor, depressed the household by informing them that there was "No hope."

That night at the hospital a quiet, thoughtful party endeavored to take the old lady's mind off herself, while we talked by the bed which held the fading frame.

"You'll soon be right again and you'll be out of here in a few days, Mother," said Ken.

"Yes, only a few days, Ken, but I want to ask you something before I go."

Molly hurriedly fumbled and straightened the bed clothes. "Yes,

Mother, when you do get up, it will do, don't worry Ken now."

"There's many a good kick in you yet, Mother," cheerfully contributed Dan.

"This time I am going to meet my God."

An awkward pause followed this declaration. The frank statement froze me to helplessness; I could not make any remark. My eyes involuntarily turned to Molly. She had turned quietly away to fix the flowers by the window, while tears glistened on her long eyelashes.

"Er, you're not going to do anything like dying; we're expecting you home in a week," said Ken, trying to banish the idea.

"Yes, I am," was the resigned reply. "I am not so dull as to misunderstand my condition. The impression from Father Mahon's long talk to me today convinced me."

"You wouldn't be so happy; you know that well."

"Why shouldn't I be happy?"

"If you were going to die!"

"That makes me happier, my boy."

"Oh! Mother, how could you die and feel happy? I'd feel intensely miserable and perhaps I'd be shaking and howling."

"My boy, I always trusted God; I believe in Him and He'll not forsake or disappoint me now. I am ready when He wishes to call me."

Silence fell on the party. Mother Kelly lifted up her Rosary beads which had heard numerous supplications from her during the past years. "God will welcome me. What more do I want?" Such sweet faith.

It was soon time for us to go and we left Molly conversing with the Sisters and awaiting the arrival of her aunts.

We passed out into the street. The cold silence of the night seemed to magnify the tread of our heavy feet.

Ken brought us back to our world of reality. It seemed odd to hear him speak; his voice was different. "Do you mean to say that counting the prayers on the Rosary gives one courage like Mother Kelly has?"

If you were suddenly asked that question by a non-Catholic, about whose sincerity you previously were skeptical, you would understand that feeling which confounded me. Big Dan relieved the strain; his worlds were slow and kind.

"Ken, the beads are not required to make one believe in God. Beads, books, statues, crucifixes, and even churches only help us

► **HOLY WATER - Continued from Page 15.**

to honor God and pray to Him; the basis of the Catholic religion is Faith in God - the rest are adjuncts to His praise and glory.”

“Well, I always thought Mother Kelly was a good principled old lady. I know tonight my opinion of her is right, but this has made me think.” He lit his pipe and continued, “There’s more in this than I anticipated – it’s not window-dressing. This is the first time that I’ve come so closely in contact with one facing death.”

Dan and I remained silent. I doubt which of us was thinking the harder.

Ken was determined to spend as much time as he was allowed in Mother Kelley’s company, and, in her last hours which passed quickly, he sat at the window and watched her. I reserved all my support for Molly and Dan scarcely slept. Ken told us later that he was desirous to know how she traversed beyond her last few milestones on this earth. He afterward told me, “I benefited from the valuable example of a weak old woman with just her faith in her church, defying with a soft smile the terrors of death.”

When the sorrowing day came, the hundreds of tearful eyes of downcast persons too truly told the history of her good actions in life – out of which she passed peacefully while praising God.

Molly’s aunt managed the boarding house and she was precise and exact. The boys always got their meals on time then, but they got no Holy Water, except in special danger, when Molly would administer it.

Again the wheels of Time demanded change – I was transferred to a position in another town. I kept in touch with Molly and Dan by as many letters as I conveniently found time to write, which, however, became rarer as the years passed.

Molly invited me back to spend my annual holidays with them. I accepted. The old home was filled again with laughter. As big-hearted Dan and I walked up the steps, a [different] feeling that I felt in some past years came over me. The room was much the same. Molly enthusiastically welcomed me, and her eyes – between tears and smiles – drew my affections to breaking point. She looked more beautiful than ever and I felt I must tell her so – when I noticed the ring.

I ventured to congratulate her without showing my feelings. “Oh! Who is the lucky man?”

“Ken.”

“The heathen?” The word slipped playfully from me.

“Yes,” was her slow quiet answer, and she pressed my arm with an expression that seemed to hope I’d express approval. “I’ll tell you all about it later, but you remember that night when Mother

wished to ask Ken a question?”

“I’ll never forget.”

“Well, she never asked it and that worried him; he told me so; he thought she would ask it of him before she died. That was why he remained in her presence so much.”

She hesitated a while and we seemed to be very much alone.

“Well, I asked him that question.”









“What was it?” This demand was spoken before I had time to check my tongue. I felt annoyed that I was so careless as to ask it.

“Had he a soul? Mother wished him to supply the answer to his own conscience, satisfy himself that it was honest, and answer it any time – even on his death bed. Well, that question led to many a long talk. Once he admitted he was really afraid Mother Kelly would conquer him when the stray drops of Holy Water seemed to accompany him to peaceful sleep.”

I smiled as the thought of those happy old days passed through my mind. Molly’s lips parted also and her eyes shone.

“He’s no longer the ‘heathen’ now!” she said.

I told her I was glad and I felt so because I was sure Mother Kelly prayed for his conversion. Certainly, Ken had found matter for thought and in the end Mother Kelly could claim another victory.

 <p>HOLY WATER & ITS MEANING</p> <p>CatholicLink</p>	<p>1 ORIGINS</p> <p>ACCORDING TO THE CHURCH'S TRADITION, POPE ST. ALEXANDER I INSTITUTED THE USE OF HOLY WATER, AND DETERMINED TO USE SALT IN ITS BLESSING.</p> 	<p>2</p>  <p>WHY WAS ITS USE INTRODUCED IN THE TEMPLE?</p> <p>TO REPLACE AN ANCIENT JEWISH TRADITION IN WHICH MEN WASHED THEIR HANDS BEFORE PRAYING, AS A WAY OF ASKING GOD TO PURIFY THEM.</p>
<p>3</p> <p>WHAT DOES IT SYMBOLIZE?</p> <p>IT SYMBOLIZES OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST'S SWEAT ON THE MOUNT OF OLIVES, AND THE BLOOD THAT FLOWED FROM HIS PIERCED SIDE.</p> 	<p>4</p>  <p>DISPELS ANY DEMONIC POWER OVER PEOPLE AND PLACES WHERE IT IS SPRINKLED.</p>  <p>REMOVES VENIAL SINS.</p>	<p>WHAT ARE ITS EFFECTS?</p>  <p>TAKES AWAY DISTRACTIONS DURING PRAYER.</p>  <p>INFUSES US WITH THE DIVINE BLESSING TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENTS AND ADMINISTER THEM.</p>
<p>SOURCE: Churchpop.com * 5 cosas que no sabias sobre el Agua Bendita (Translated) http://es.churchpop.com/2016/09/13/cosas-que-no-sabias-sobre-el-agua-bendita/</p>		

Quiz Answers:

1a; 2b; 3d; 4b; 5d



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