

Religious Bulletin

January 17, 1931

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The Third Sunday's Three Privileges.

1. A plenary Indulgence for professors and students, if they receive the Sacraments and pray for the intentions of the Holy Father;
2. A Mass of Exposition, which provides an opportunity for an hour of adoration during the High Mass;
3. A chance to contribute materially to the work of the missionaries in Bengal.

Church Unity Octave.

It covers the eight days from the feast of St. Peter's Chair in Rome to the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul. It begins tomorrow. The prayer for the Octave you will find at the pamphlet rack. Names of those for whom you wish the grace of faith may be left at the rack or in the rear of the basement chapel.

Novena For Exams.

This Novena should begin not later than Monday. If you want the St. Jude booklet for it, you will find a new supply at the pamphlet rack.

The Uncompromising Catholic Church.

There is a certain novelty for people who can remember back a generation or two in the tributes paid to the Catholic Church by Protestant ministers. They are becoming increasingly common, however, and are a welcome sign. The latest one to come to our attention is reported by a Johnstown (Pa.) paper, which credits Dr. Virgil W. Wallace, an evangelist of that city, with the following tribute:

"It is a credit to the Roman Catholic Church that it has never compromised. Say what you will about her doctrine, call her religion idolatry, as some do, but I say to you that the Roman Catholic Church has retained the respect of the world and has challenged it -- not because it has tried to please its members, but because it has stood for something."

The reason why the Catholic Church is uncompromising should interest one who notes this fact. He will find it in the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians, i:8,9: "Though we, or an angel from heaven, preach a Gospel to you besides that which we have preached to you, let him be anathema. As we said before, so now I say again: If any one preach to you a Gospel besides that which you have received, let him be anathema."

The Rev. Eliot White, of Grace Protestant Episcopal Church, New York City, also observes that the Catholic Church is uncompromising, this time on birth control, and he rejoices that "the encyclical divides humanity, so that to the banner of the Pope will rally all who regard sex as inherently evil." We rejoice with him, not that humanity is divided, but that the issue is clear-cut between God and the devil; but we reject his false interpretation of the encyclical. The heresy that "sex is inherently evil" has been condemned by the Church so many times that it has ceased to be funny. It was an error of the Gnostics, of the first century, of the Manicheans, of the second, third and fourth, of the Pelagians, in the fourth and fifth, and of Luther and most of the Protestants, of the sixteenth and succeeding centuries. (Read the fourth paragraph of your calendar to see what is evil in sex.)

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PRAYERS: Leo Conlon's mother is quite ill. A brother of Drew Shiebler is ill. Wm. and John Carney ask prayers for an uncle who died in an auto accident. Five special intentions.