
Portrait of A Saint.

There is nothing outwardly to distinguish a "Saint" from common persons. A Bishop or an eminent Dissenter will, as a rule, be remarkable for his decorum or his obstreperous indecorum, and for some little insignia of piety, such as the display of a mild desire to promote the good of your soul, or an abstinence from wine and tobacco, jesting, and small-talk; but the Saint has no "fads," and you may live in the same house with him, and never find out that he is not a sinner like yourself, unless you rely on negative proofs, or obtrude lax ideas upon him, and so provoke him to silence.

He may impress you, indeed, by his harmlessness and imperturbable good temper, and probably by some lack of appreciation of modern humour, and ignorance of some things which men are expected to know, and by never seeming to have much use for his time when it can be of any service to you; but, on the whole, he will give you an agreeable impression of general inferiority to yourself. You must not, however, presume upon this inferiority so far as to offer him any affront; for he will be sure to answer you with some quiet and unexpected remark, showing a presence of mind,--arising, I suppose, from the presence of God,--which will make you feel that you have struck rock and only shaken your own shoulder.

If you compel him to speak about religion, he will probably surprise and scandalise you by the childishness and narrowness of his thoughts. He will most likely dwell with reiteration on commonplaces with which you were perfectly well acquainted before you were twelve years old; but you must make allowances for him, and remember that the knowledge which is to you a superficial is to him a solid. If you talk to him on such matters, he will kindly approve your pious expressions, and you will conclude that you had better drop the subject, for you will not find that he has that ardent interest in your spiritual affairs which you thought you had a right to expect, and which you have experienced from persons of far inferior reputation for sanctity.

I have known two or three such persons, and I declare that, but for the peculiar line of psychological research to which I am addicted, and hints from others in some degree akin to these men, I should never have guessed that they were any wiser or better than myself or any other ordinary man of the world with a prudent regard for the common proprieties. I once asked a person, more learned than I am in such matters, to tell me what was the real difference. The reply was that the Saint does everything that any other decent person does, only somewhat better and with a totally different motive.

-- Coventry Patmore,

The Red, the Root, the Flower, p. 160.

For Charity.

The Coffee Stand at the stadium today and the Charity Program at St. Mary's tomorrow give you a chance to help the local poor. Individual offerings since the last report include one gift of ten dollars, another of five, and a number of smaller donations. The total for the poor is now over \$90 (all of it spent); for Fr. Barron, in Korea, the count is now \$10. (The last dollar of this came from a young lady who approved the Bulletin's answer to "Black-eyed Susan.") For the Bengal Mission the two collections have amounted to almost \$300; this year we want to outdo our effort of last year, when the total was well over \$1900. The Bengal Mission has been cut off from its largest source of income, collections in the parishes, and the Mission will be in great need. (But don't forget the Novena for the Poor; prayer is more important than alms in this crisis.)

PRAYERS: A deceased friend of John Finnegan. The High Mass Sunday will be offered for the repose of the soul of the father of Robert and Edward Strob.