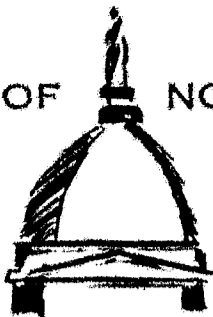


RELIGIOUS BULLETINVOL. XLIV, NO. 11
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1964REV. LLOYD W. TESKE, C.S.C.,
UNIVERSITY CHAPLAIN - EDITORONE CHURCH -- TRIUMPHANT, SUFFERING, MILITANT

Throughout the year, the Church celebrates the memory, and more than the memory, of this good man and that fine woman whom she lists in her calendar of saints. On the first day of November, the Church holds festival for the entire army of saints: all whom she has not saluted individually, all whom she does not even know by name, whose heroic virtue is known only to God.

This liturgical observance cannot but raise questions in a sincerely ecumenical age. All Hallows (as the day used to be called) involves the doctrine of the intercession of the saints. The intercession of the saints involves the doctrine of the communion of saints. The communion of saints involves the doctrine of purgatory. On more than one count, consequently, All Hallows points up an ecumenical problem.....

The notion of purification is one of those profound and persuasive intuitions that are to be found in every religious systems worthy of the name. Man and God are not peers. If man is really to know God, if, above all, man is ever to possess God, man must be geared or shaped or conditioned for a situation, a state of being, that is flatly beyond his natural capacity. In a word, man must be purified for his final, personal encounter and union with God. The Catholic doctrine of purgatory means simply that the process of purification, if not completed in this life, can and will be continued after death.

What is called the communion of saints embodies the idea, demonstrably present in the recorded teaching of Christ, that the Church is one. The Church, as everyone keeps repeating nowadays, is both a present and an eschatological reality. Its true dimensions extend beyond the space and time and state of this world. Yet there is but one Church; one Church comprised of three branches or stages of growth.

All those members of Christ who are now finally with God make up the Church Triumphant. Those who, having completed their mortal lives, are yet completing their purification are the Church Suffering. Those of us who still draw breath and who labor daily toward the promised

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VISITS FOR THE POOR SOULS -- From Sunday noon until midnight Monday a visit to a church or chapel will gain for the Poor Souls a plenary indulgence under the usual conditions: the state of grace, confession and reception of Communion within eight days before or after All Souls' Day, six Our Father's, Hail Mary's, and Glory be to the Father's for the intentions of the Holy Father at each visit.

In the Liturgical Spirit.....

ONE PART OF THE PRESENT GREAT RENEWAL

When your parish priest begins the Introit in clear, audible English on some Sunday in the future, this will be one of the first-fruits of the new age of the Vatican Council. But the vernacular is only one feature of the updating. Although it will be dramatic, it should not obscure what is really going on.

In the new liturgy, the Church demonstrates for us several vital truths:

1. Because the Mass is "an action of Christ the Priest and His Body which is the Church", it surpasses all other sacred activity. Because the Sacraments and sacramentals give "access to the stream of divine grace", they can sanctify almost every event of our lives. Because the Divine Office is the very prayer of Christ Himself, priests, religious and laity are sharing "in the greatest honor of Christ's spouse, the Church."
2. The liturgy is the public action of the whole Christian community, God's "holy people," each sharing his own assignment -- laymen, religious, priests, bishops.

What then becomes of preaching and instruction? Of good works and penitence? Of personal meditation on the spiritual life? Of private, non-liturgical devotions? These are all seriously considered. In the new law each is seen in its proper perspective. The Church will continue to announce the good news of salvation, preach the need of faith and penance, teach observance of the law and invite men to the works of charity, piety and the apostolate -- but all in the light of the liturgy which is both the Summit of her activity and the Fount of her power. Alongside public prayer with our brothers, we are called by Our Lord to pray also in secret, and this (as Saint Paul says) "without ceasing." The liturgy simply gives our private prayer tone and direction.

Moreover, popular devotions like novenas, etc., have their place but they must harmonize with the liturgy. Indeed these devotions should be derived from it, and lead people to it. For the liturgy, according to the new law, "far surpasses any of them."

With the Constitution on Liturgy now effective, the Council Fathers move to other vital areas. For the Council was called to give more vigor to Christian life; to adapt the Church to the needs of our times, to foster the unity of "all who believe in Christ"; and to help all men into the household of the Church. It is impossible now to predict all the steps to be taken to realize these aims. But, after two sessions, it is fairly clear some of the action that may be taken:

- a) Within the structure of the Church, two relationships to be defined more precisely: that of Pope and Bishop in government; that of Clergy

and Laity in Collaboration.

- b. In her approach to the baptized not in communion with the Church, certain ecumenical guide-lines to be formed; the present "openness" to be insured.
- c. In bridging the gulf to modern society, the Christian concept of religious liberty to be properly defined and proclaimed.

To these vital steps, we might add reforms in organization and discipline; new insights in the missionary program; and an updating of seminary formation. Running through them all we can expect a central place to be given to scriptural study and understanding, and the pastoral role of the Church in the twentieth century.

Liturgy leads the way, and gives meaning to it all. Pope Paul has said, "Let there be no other light than Christ." Each move of the great renewal, like the liturgy, is being made in that divine reflection.

--by Archbishop Paul J. Hallinan
--from How to Understand Changes in the Liturgy

Remembrance of Poor Souls

Novena -- November 5 - 13

I Wish to Have These Departed Relatives and Friends Remembered:

Drop list in envelope on your hall Bulletin Board.

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ONE CHURCH -- THREE BRANCHES

(continued from page one)

end constitute the Church Militant. Since the Church is one, would it not seem fitting that the Church Militant, with the means at its disposal, should be able to help the Church Suffering, and that the Church Triumphant, from its place of advantage, should succor the Church Militant? Why must the incident of death terminate the loving assistance that the members of Christ's Body, by prayer and sacrifice, most certainly lend one another in this life?

We will, of course, dutifully repeat the truism that anything, however, good and sound, can become distorted or exaggerated with the passage of time -- especially on the popular level. The cult of the saints has indeed been exaggerated, invariably with a view to miraculous powers of intercession, and often enough to the detriment of the most essential Catholic practices. The supposed torments of the souls in pur-

gatory have indeed provided many a hearty preacher with an emotional and durable theme. Too bad. But on the first two days of each November, Mother Church will continue to recall and celebrate not fable but fact, not rhetoric but reality.

--Vincent P. McCorry, S.J.
--in America (Oct. 31, 1964)

For Freshmen Only.....

"AFTER MIDNIGHT WHEN THE GIRLS TALK ABOUT THE BOYS"

Thrown into a chair, exhausted, with toes swollen from hours of twisting in stocking feet, the pretty made-up pictures are faded and worn but the sound-tracks are still in good shape. With the night's impressions still fresh in the their minds the gals size up their dates.

"What a bore that lunk-head was. I know I'm no ravishing beauty like Sandra Dee or Tuesday Weld, but did you see how he spent the whole night? I got about as much attention as a piece of furniture. I began to wonder if I had two heads, or measles or something. He's no prize package either. His vocabulary is developed about as much as a parrot's. His interests are as varied as a snail's. That fella has about as much finesse with a girl as a baby bull-dozer. I guess some of these oafs just don't know what makes an evening enjoyable for a girl. We're supposed to be a pretty decoration, a status symbol capable of giving them a little "lovin", but without any sense or feeling."

"You said a mouth full. The one I was with had a head the size of a water tower. When he's not staring in the mirror he must be reading his press clippings. Somebody made a big mistake once and told him he was a "Lady Killer". He's sick. He thinks he's some sort of atomic Don Juan. You know the type -- the bone-crusher on the dance floor. The smothering type in the car. The only way he should be let out is on a very short leash. I tried to get the idea across that I wasn't the "Mothering Type". When he didn't get the message I just put one of my spike heels through his shins."

"Well, live and learn, that's my motto. Someday I will get a date with my dream-man -- good looking, considerate, an enjoyable personality and self controlled."

"Do you think they're making that type anymore?"

"I don't know. But wouldn't it be great to meet one who wasn't either an egotist or a wolf? There must be someone in between - some sort of Gentleman, maybe....."

--Father Baker, C.S.C.

P.S. What does it profit a fellow to snicker at a gal's hair-do, if he is outwitted by the brain underneath?

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Monday, November 2, is All Souls' Day. On that day each priest has the privilege of offering three Masses. Since the Mass is an act of communal worship, there ought to be a community present at each Mass. Plan to attend at least one more Mass than you usually do on a week day.