



Adsum

Adsum is published by the seminarians of **Mater Dei Seminary** for the enjoyment of our families, friends, and benefactors.

LETTER FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Friends and Benefactors,

This year marks the 100th anniversary of Our Lady's apparitions at Fatima, Portugal. On the 13th day of each month, from May to October, we conduct an outdoor Rosary procession in her honor, and during this month of August all of our priests will consecrate their parishes to the Immaculate Heart of Mary using the Act of Consecration composed by Pope Pius XII. Even though Our Lady appeared 100 years ago, her message at Fatima is more relevant today than ever before. She appeared as a concerned Mother to warn her children to amend their lives, to cease offending God already so much offended, to pray and sacrifice for poor sinners, to lament that more souls go to Hell for sins of the flesh than for any other reason, to pray the Rosary every day, and finally to have recourse to



*Frater Augustine Walz, CMRI
& Frater Philip Davis, CMRI take their perpetual vows*



*Our bi-annual priests' meeting
at the end of July*

her Immaculate Heart as a safe refuge in these difficult times. This Act of Consecration has been listed on the second page for those of you who wish to join with our priests and consecrate your families and yourselves to Our Heavenly Mother.

This past July has been, as it always is, a marathon. It began with the girls' camp at our convent in Iowa with 117 girls in attendance and was followed by our boys' camp in Omaha with 41 boys in attendance; only to be followed by our bi-annual priests' meeting.

During this recent priests' meeting, two of our religious seminarians—Frater Augustine Walz, CMRI (Wisconsin) and Frater Philip Davis, CMRI (Colorado) took their final vows as religious in the Congregation of Mary Immaculate Queen (CMRI).

As always, Mater Dei Seminary prays for all of you our benefactors and are most appreciative of your prayers in return.

With my prayers and blessing,
Most Rev. Mark A. Pivarunas, CMRI

Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

(composed by Pope Pius XII)

Queen of the most holy Rosary, help of Christians, refuge of the human race, victorious in all the battles of God, we prostrate ourselves in supplication before thy throne, in the sure hope of obtaining mercy and of receiving grace and timely aid in our present calamities, not through any merits of our own on which we do not rely, but only through the immense goodness of thy Mother's Heart.

In thee and in thy Immaculate Heart, at this grave hour of human history, do we put our trust; to thee we consecrate ourselves, not only with all of Holy Church, which is the Mystical Body of thy Son Jesus, and which is suffering in so many of her members, being subjected to manifold tribulations and persecutions, but also with the whole world, torn by discords, agitated with hatred, the victim of its own iniquities.

Be thou moved by the sight of such material and moral degradation, such sorrows, such anguish, so many tormented souls in danger of eternal loss! Do thou, O Mother of mercy, obtain for us from God a Christ-like reconciliation of the nations, as well as those graces which can convert the souls of men in an instant, those graces which prepare the way and make certain the long-desired coming of peace on earth.

O Queen of Peace, pray for us, and grant peace unto the world in the truth, the justice, and the charity of Christ. Above all, give us peace in our hearts, so that the kingdom of God may spread its borders in the tranquility of order.

Accord thy protection to unbelievers and to all those who lie within the shadow of death; cause the Sun of Truth to rise upon them; may they be enabled to join with us in repeating before the Savior of the world: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men of good will."

Give peace to the nations that are separated from us by error or discord, and in a special manner to those peoples who profess a singular devotion toward thee; bring them back to Christ's one fold, under the one true Shepherd.

Obtain full freedom for the holy Church of God; defend her from her enemies; check the ever-increasing torrent of immorality; arouse in the faithful a love of purity, a practicing Christian life, and an apostolic zeal, so that the multitude of those who serve God may increase in merit and in number.

Finally, even as the Church and all mankind were once consecrated to the Heart of thy Son Jesus, because He was for all those who put their hope in Him

an inexhaustible source of victory and salvation, so in like manner do we consecrate ourselves forever to thee also and to thy Immaculate Heart, O Mother of us and Queen of the world; may thy love and patronage hasten the day when the kingdom of God shall be victorious and all the nations, at peace with God and with one another, shall call thee blessed and intone with thee, from the rising of the sun to its going down, the everlasting "*Magnificat*" of glory, of love, of gratitude to the Heart of Jesus, in which alone we can find truth, life, and peace. Amen.





Milites Christi Boys' Camp (41 boys in attendance)



Mary Immaculate Catholic Church Girls' Camp (117 girls in attendance!)

Outlines of Moral Theology

by Very Rev. Francis J. Connell, C.S.S.R., S.T.D., LL.D., L.H.D.

BUYING AND SELLING

This contract, so common in present-day life, is made when a commodity is transferred for money. It differs, therefore, from barter (commodity for commodity) and exchange (money for money).

There are three species of price—legal, common, and conventional. The legal price is that which is set by civil law. *Per se*, this must be observed; however, if a merchant would have to sustain a great loss unless he demanded more for his goods, he would be justified in demanding more. Similarly, if a person could not obtain the ordinary goods of life unless he paid more than the “ceiling” price, he could do this in conscience. But to conduct a “black market” business just because of the profits it brings is surely a violation of legal justice.

The common price is that which is set by the common estimate of men. This admits usually of a variation. For example, the common price of eggs in a certain locality might vary from 60 to 75 cents a dozen. The general principle is that it is lawful to buy and sell within these limits, when there is no legal price. Hence, if a buyer charged more than the highest common price, he must restore. There can be at times reason for going above or below—for example, the fact that cash is paid immediately, or the fact that the buyer is buying really out of charity for the seller, will justify a cutting down of the price below the lowest common price; the fact that the seller is allowing credit until the end of the month will justify a raising of the prices above the maximum. But the fact that the buyer is in great need of a commodity at present does not justify a great increase in price. For example, the fact that the country storekeeper knows that the village painter is hired to begin painting a house tomorrow and can get a paint brush only from his store does not justify him in raising the price of the brush from \$2 to \$20.

The seller is bound to reveal the substantial hidden defects of his product, if they are not perceived by the buyer, and also to tell any accidental defects he is asked about. Thus, to sell an auto with a defective engine (at least when the car is supposed to be in good condition) is a violation of justice, if the buyer is unaware of it. In certain sales, such as auction sales and horse-trading, it is understood that the seller will reveal nothing, and the buyer must judge for himself, according to the adage *Caveat emptor* (“Let the buyer beware”). But even then positive deception on the part of the seller is wrong.

The buyer is bound to give a fair price, even though the seller is ignorant of the true value of the object. For example, if a man familiar with books offered \$5 to an ignorant countryman for a first edition of Shakespeare which the latter found in his garret, he would be guilty of injustice, and the contract would be null and void because of a substantial error. But in buying at auction sales or secondhand bookshops or pawn shops or antique shops, the buyer need not reveal the true value of the object which he can get at a very low price.

Salesmen may praise their wares and it is expected that in advertising, etc., there is some exaggeration. But downright falsehoods, such as we find in many ads today, are utterly unjust. For example, to claim for a patent medicine (which is only water and a few herbs) that it will cure all diseases, so that simple people buy it in great numbers, is undoubtedly a grave sin of injustice. The radio ads of the present day are sometimes as deceptive as such crude methods.

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MATER DEI SEMINARY
7745 Military Avenue
Omaha NE 68134-3356
www.materdeiseminary.org