



# Adsum

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## LETTER FROM THE RECTOR

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Dear Friends and Benefactors,

When we consider the major apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we clearly notice a consistent pattern to the souls blessed to see her—they were always the humble and simple ones of this world. Think of the heavenly visit of Our Lady of Guadalupe to the Indian peasant Juan Diego; Our Lady of Fatima to the shepherd children Lucia, Jacinta and Francisco; and during this month of February, Our Lady of Lourdes to St. Bernadette. In all these cases, our Heavenly Mother chose those who we read of in Sacred Scripture are “the weak and the foolish in the eyes of the world.”

And this pattern is not only seen in Our Lady’s apparitions, but more especially in Our Lord’s choice of His Apostles—simple fishermen from the Sea of Galilee. Why did Our Savior choose these men who were so unqualified in the eyes of the men? It was to



*The incorrupt body of St. Bernadette*



*Basilica of Our Lady of Lourdes*

show the whole world to the end of time that His Church was not the work of mere men but the work of God. Christ had foretold that His Church would be like the grain of mustard seed, indeed the smallest of all the seeds, but when it grows it is the greatest.

His command to these simple fishermen “Go teach all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded,” had been fulfilled and the true Faith spread throughout the world. And Christ’s promise to be with his Church “all days even to the consummation of the world” is amazingly witnessed even in our own times. Despite the coming of the Great Apostasy as foretold by St. Paul in his epistle to the Thessalonians, the true Faith

is still present in the world with the true Mass and Sacraments.

This is truly unique when we consider how the enemies of the Church, with diabolical cunning, infiltrated the Church to destroy it from within.

How can we explain that even after Satan cleverly orchestrated this Apostasy through the false council of Vatican II (by spreading the poisonous errors of religious indifferentism and false ecumenism), Christ's Church continues in the world today? The answer is that our Divine Lord promised to be with His Church all days and that the gates of hell would not prevail against it. Furthermore, Almighty God had foretold that He would put enmities between Satan and "the Woman" (Mary) and that "she will crush his head." (Genesis 3:15)

Our Lady said at Fatima, "In the end my Immaculate

Heart will triumph." Indeed her triumph is realized as the true Church of Christ continues today, despite Satan's cleverest deceptions!

How important it is for our perseverance in these times, when Satan has deceived "even the elect," that we remain humble and simple in our relationship with God and in our devotion to the Mother of God. The Church truly undergoes a spiritual crucifixion and her enemies do all they can to discredit her and scandalize the faithful. During the time of Our Lord's crucifixion on Calvary, it was His beloved Apostle St. John who remained faithful to Him at the foot of the Cross even though all His other Apostles and disciples had abandoned Him. Whence did St. John have this spiritual courage and strength? He remained in the company of Mary, the Mother of God!

With our prayers and blessings,

Most Rev. Mark A. Pivarunas, CMRI



*Seminarians, religious, and students join in candlelight rosary in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes*



*As the Bishop cuts off the hair of the novice Sister, he recites the following form which is repeated by her:*

**Regnum mundi, et omnem ornatum saeculi, contempso propter amorem Domini nostri Jesu Christi, quem vidi, quem amavi, in quem credidi, quem dilexi.**

The empire of the world, and all the grandeur of this earth, I have despised for love of our Lord Jesus Christ, whom I have seen, whom I have loved, in whom I have believed, and towards whom my heart inclineth.



*Our novice Sisters cook for the seminary, convent, and boarding school*



*Solemn High Mass for the feast of the Purification*

# *Father Connell Answers Moral Questions*

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

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## **PAYMENT OF CORRECT PRICE**

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**Question:** A librarian sometimes receives bills which contain errors. When he is overcharged, he protests, and the error is promptly corrected. However, it sometimes happens that the error is the other way—that the price charged for a book is certainly less than the seller intended. Is the librarian bound in such a case to call attention of the dealer to this mistake? If so, on what principle?

**Answer:** When a buyer is sure that the bill sent by the dealer mistakenly calls for a lower price than that intended by the latter, he is bound to make known the fact so that the bill may be corrected and the full price charged. This is called for by the principle that in ordering an article from a dealer a person implicitly agrees to pay the price which the dealer has set; consequently, he is bound to pay this price once he has accepted the article, even though the bill erroneously contains a lower price. Hence, the librarian spoken of by the questioner is bound in justice to transmit to the dealer the price which he certainly meant to charge for the book. We emphasize the fact that it must be certain that this is the price intended by the seller before the buyer is bound to question the amount demanded for the bill; for if there is solid probability that the dealer in this instance knowingly reduced the price, the buyer can satisfy his obligations by paying the reduced amount, without asking any questions.

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## **RESTITUTION TO AN INSURANCE COMPANY**

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**Question:** Many years ago Martha defrauded an insurance company to the extent of \$2000. Since that time the company has gone out of existence, but its assets and liabilities have been taken over by another company. She now wishes to make restitution, but realizes that it would be almost impossible to find all the owners of the first company. Should she make restitution to the second company or to the poor?

**Answer:** The owners of the second company would seem to have no right to the restitution money, since they purchased the assets of the first company according to their value at the time of the purchase, and that did not include the money which Martha unjustly retained. Hence, the owners of the first company are the persons who have the right to the restitution. But, since they cannot be found—at least without grave difficulty—Martha should give the amount of her unjust transaction to the poor.

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