















LIFE AND LABORS

Rt. Rev. FREDERIC BARAGA,

First Bishop of Marquette, Mich. By P. CHRYSOSTOMUS VERWYST. O. F. M. of Los Angeles, Cal.

"2. Another great duty of a Christian toward his God is the duty of Adoration. As soon as we believe in God and believe in His revealed word, we will easily understand how great our duty is to adore Him and Him alone.

"The duty of praying is a great and holy duty. We are expressly commanded to pray continually and never to cease.

"Never neglect your prayers beloved children. A Christian without prayer is like a soldier without arms; exposed to every attack of his enemies, and easily overcome.

"Although we have always to pray and never to cease, still there are some periods of time in which we are more strictly obliged to pray.

"Dearly beloved children, be faithful in the fulfilling of this holy duty; and never say, 'I have no time to pray.'

"Be especially faithful in fulfilling the duty of praying on the day of Our Lord, on Sunday, which is set apart by God Almighty for His special service.

"Consider this, dearly beloved children, and reflect seriously how often you have

this world. He certainly will in the next. It is a melancholy fact (but, nevertheless, very true, and it came a thousand times within my experience) that many Christians living in remote places neglect more their duty of praying and commit more sins on Sunday than on any other day in the week.

"To be obedient means, to fulfill the will of a superior. To be obedient to God means, then, to fulfill His holy will.

"He respects the presence of a man, and does not respect the awful presence of his God! And transgresses horribly the sacred duty of respect toward God.

"Consider this, dearly beloved children, and reflect seriously how often you have

transgressed this sacred duty toward God; how often you have spoken words and committed action in the presence of God which you never would do in the presence of a clergyman or other respectable person.

"IV. The fourth principal duty of a Christian toward his God is, the duty of obedience. We have strict duties of obedience even to certain persons in this world.

"To be obedient means, to fulfill the will of a superior. To be obedient to God means, then, to fulfill His holy will.

"Dearly beloved children, in order to be obedient to God, your heavenly Father and Supreme Master, be faithful in the fulfilling of the precepts and instructions of your good pastors and confessors.

"Remember what an awful responsibility awaits you on the day of judgment if you do not profit by such means of salvation.

"V. The fifth principal duty we have toward God, is the duty of love; that we ought to love God above all. This is a most holy duty of every Christian; but, unfortunately, much neglected, and very rarely fulfilled as it ought to be.

"It is not natural, they say, 'to the heart of a Christian, who is a child of God, to love his heavenly Father above all?'

"The first mark of the true love of God is, that we love Him with our whole heart; that is, that we do not divide our heart between God and the world, between the Creator and the creature.

ful responsibility awaits you on the day of judgment if you do not profit by such means of salvation.

"Consider often, beloved children, these four marks of the true love of God, and examine yourselves whether your love has these marks.

"The first mark of the true love of God is, that we love Him with our whole heart; that is, that we do not divide our heart between God and the world, between the Creator and the creature.

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(To be continued)

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