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Crusaders...

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Christ
The
DIVINE PREACHER
AND
TEACHER *of* NATIONS

BY

*The Crusaders for more
fruitful preaching and
hearing of the Word of God*



Christ the Divine Preacher and Teacher of Nations

(A HOLY HOUR)

By

THE CRUSADERS FOR MORE FRUITFUL
PREACHING AND HEARING OF
THE WORD OF GOD

ST. CECILIA'S MISSION
223 EAST 105TH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

Spiritual Director

THE VERY REVEREND PAUL JAMES FRANCIS, S.A.

THE PAULIST PRESS
401 WEST 59TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.

WE DEDICATE THESE HUMBLE EFFORTS
TO GLORIFY "CHRIST THE DIVINE
PREACHER AND TEACHER OF NATIONS,"
WITH GREAT FILIAL LOVE TO—

HIS HOLINESS, POPE PIUS XI,

WHO, BY HIS PAULINE ZEAL FOR THE
EXTENSION OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF
CATHOLIC PRINCIPLES, AND BY HIS
GREAT ENCYCLICALS AND COURAGEOUS
PREACHINGS, HAS MADE HIMSELF A
BEACON LIGHT OF DIVINE TRUTH TO
THE NATIONS, AND, IN SUCCESSION TO
BLESSED PETER, THE LIVING EXPONENT
OF THE TEACHING AUTHORITY OF THE
CHURCH.

Nihil Obstat:

ARTHUR J. SCANLAN, S.T.D., *Censor Librorum.*

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Deacidified



APOSTOLIC BLESSING

FATHER PAUL JAMES FRANCIS, S.A.,
Spiritual Director of the Crusade for a
More Fruitful Preaching, begs the Apos-
tolic Blessing on the Crusade and all
Members of the Association, who have
banded themselves together in a Crusade
of Prayer and Catholic Action to pro-
mote a fuller accomplishment of the Sav-
iour's Command: "Go ye into all the
World and Preach the Gospel to every
Creature."

Vatican—9 Nov. 1938.

Signed by JOSEPH MIGONE,
Archbishop Nicomediensis.

From the Ambassador of Christ

By CARDINAL GIBBONS

"I am far from underrating the salutary influence in Christian life and piety that is exerted by parental instruction, by the atmosphere of Christian homes, by the catechism taught in the week-day and Sunday schools under the guidance of devoted men and women, by the circulation of Catholic periodicals, and the diffusion of sound religious books.

"But after giving full credit to these and other valuable auxiliaries, it must be admitted that the waters of grace, flowing through these channels, will generally move sluggishly, and may eventually be dried up, if they are not replenished and quickened by the fountain springing from the pulpit.

"Moreover, in almost every large congregation there is a considerable number of members who never receive any refreshment from these minor sources. They breathe no religious air at home, they read nothing but the daily papers, they are engrossed by the labors and solitudes of daily life. The only opportunity they have of hearing the word of God is at the Sunday Mass, and if they are not nourished on that day by the food of the Gospel, they are doomed to a spiritual famine for the rest of the week. They are worse off than the children of Israel in the desert, who had to fast all day if they did not gather the manna in the morning."

History of the Crusade for a More Fruitful Preaching and Hearing of the Word of God

ORIGIN

In October, 1936, an eminent clergyman recommended that "a moratorium be declared upon preaching." A Catholic priest and a member of the laity answered to this "No! Not 'Stop Preaching but the opposite—a more fervent preaching of the word of God.'"

FIRST STEPS

In January, 1937, a few lay men and women met for the first time with a spiritual director—the Very Rev. Michael Heinlein, O.S.B.

The Crusade was founded on gratitude for the priesthood, co-operating with them and assuring them that the lay people hunger for the word of God. From the beginning it was emphasized at these meetings that the movement is not critical, but helpful and constructive.

In September of the same year, meetings were held in New York City, where the Very Rev. Paul James Francis, S.A., of Graymoor, Garrison, N. Y., gave the "bird a nest" in St. Cecilia's Mission, 223 East 105th Street.

From the very beginning the Rev. James M. Gillis, C.S.P., was an inspiring friend.

The Rev. Adrian Lynch, C.P., associate editor of *The Sign*, suggested that The Crusaders have recourse to prayer as the strongest weapon in their work. A Crusade Prayer was written

and in March, 1937, received the Imprimatur from His Eminence, Patrick Cardinal Hayes. This prayer was sent to all convents in the United States, resulting in requests for 20,000 copies.

In November, 1937, His Eminence, the late Patrick Cardinal Hayes, permitted the Crusaders to organize in his archdiocese of New York.

ENCOURAGEMENTS

In November, 1937, the Crusade was brought to the attention of the Administrative Board of the NCWC. Executive Secretary Monsignor Ready in a letter, praised the zeal of the Crusaders in striving for increased spreading of the word of God, and suggested that they deal directly with the individual bishops.

Encouraging letters were received from Archbishops, bishops, priests and nuns. Delighted with the movement, many of them urged the Crusaders to go on with this most necessary work, realizing that the preaching of the word of God is vitally indispensable, and seriously regretting its loss in so many places. Three archbishops commented very favorably on the Crusade.

His Excellency, Archbishop Rummel, wrote—
“Undoubtedly the movement is very commendable and should find a welcome echo in many quarters among the hierarchy, the clergy and the laity.”

His Excellency, Archbishop Curley of Baltimore, said that the movement is unique and highly recommended it.

His Excellency, Archbishop Murray of St. Paul, wrote—"The Crusade for a More Fruitful Preaching brings a challenge to both the Preaching Church and the Hearing Church, to intensify interest as well as effort in the fulfillment of the commandment of our Blessed Lord: 'Go ye into the whole world and preach the Gospel to every creature; he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not, shall be condemned.' May the Crusade hasten the day when every creature will hear and accept the Divine Word."

Bishop-Abbot Breher, O.S.B., of Manchukuo, wrote that he will do everything to spread the Crusade in the East.

Seeds of the movement have been planted in Spain, France, Switzerland, Germany, England, Italy, Canada, Asia, South America and Africa.

AN ADVISORY BOARD composed of over 90 distinguished priests was created for the Crusade. On the Feast of Pentecost, 1938, Father Paul, S.A., was selected by the Crusaders to be their Spiritual Director.

CRUSADE PLEDGES were printed in December, 1937, and have been signed by over 600 Crusaders. There are no dues. The Financial burden has been borne by a few.

ROME. In July, 1938, the president of the Crusade took two petitions to the Holy Father: (1) For the Crusade; (2) Begging the Proclamation of Christ, as the Divine Preacher and Teacher of Nations, and also the Institution of a Feast to honor our Divine Lord under this new title. These petitions were signed by hun-

dreds of people, members of the hierarchy, clergy, religious and laity. All this was to be presented to the Holy Father, together with a lengthy dogmatic treatise in Latin, asking for the institution of a Feast, written by a famous Professor of Theology, the Reverend Dr. E. Krebs.

A high Church dignitary in Rome in three interviews enthusiastically received the Crusade, lauded its objectives and joyfully exclaimed, "that the Crusade was touching the center and heart of Catholic Action." The movement in its entirety was placed before His Holiness, who recommended that it should be studied seriously.

The Holy Father wishes that the Crusaders at all times be eager to help the priests in their tremendous responsibilities; they should work for the diffusion of the Gospel through the preaching and hearing of the word of God, so that the movement will be a real work of evangelization; they should emphasize the part of the Church hearing and pray that the faithful have a great desire to hear the word of God.

Following the guidance received in Rome, the Crusaders changed the title of the movement, calling it from now on "A Crusade for a More Fruitful Preaching and Hearing of the Word of God."

OBJECTIVES

1. To PRAY and to WORK for increased preaching and hearing of the word of God; it being "the sword of the Spirit" against the anti-Christ; in this way emphasizing the proper dignity, sacredness and far-reaching influence of

the Divine Command of Jesus Christ, "Preach the Gospel to every creature."

2. To PRAY and to WORK to arouse devotion to Christ the Divine Preacher and Teacher of Nations, asking Him to strengthen the Church Teaching as well as the Church Hearing, so that a world living in darkness may see the Light, and turn away from the anti-Christ.

3. To PRAY and to WORK for the Proclamation of this title for our Divine Lord, and for the establishment of such a feast.

SPIRIT

Love for personal sanctification.

Love for the word of God; urging the daily reading of the Bible as the Bread of Life.

Love for souls.

Love for the clergy—and expressing loyalty to the pulpit as the most important channel for the imparting of Divine Truth.

Love for Catholic Action, realizing that knowledge is the base of Catholic Action.

Love for all duly constituted authority in the Holy Roman Catholic Church and the willingness to be guided by Ecclesiastical authority.

If the Church is strengthened from within, why should she then be afraid of the enemy who already so threateningly knocks at the door?

THE HOLY HOUR

Hymn: "Come Holy Ghost"

Offering of the Holy Hour

Most sweet Jesus, Divine Preacher and Teacher of Nations, we wish to console Thee and make fervent reparation for the blasphemous insults preached in public by many modern leaders, who, with so much eloquence have proclaimed their paganistic ideas, attacking not only the teachings of the Holy Catholic Church, Thy Kingdom on earth, but even the most Blessed Trinity.

We wish to atone also for any negligence of our own in obeying Thy Divine Command: "Go ye therefore into the whole world and preach the Gospel to every creature."

In order to rejoice Thy Sacred Heart, we wish to confess publicly true contrition for our sins and the sins of the world against Thee, the Word made Flesh.

We now make a firm resolution to take unto ourselves the Helmet of Salvation and the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, that with renewed enthusiasm we may conquer false doctrines with the teachings of Christ.

We offer Thee in all humility as an act of reparation to Thy Sacred Heart, the sufferings of so many victims of religious persecutions in our day and age. Mindful of their great trials, we beg that these

martyrs may not suffer and die in vain, but that their merits may hasten the day when Thou, O Incarnate Word, may be acclaimed in a Feast, solemnly proclaimed by Thy Vicar, the Sovereign Pontiff, as the Divine Preacher and Teacher of Nations.

St. Joseph, Watchful Defender of Christ, pray for us.

St. Francis de Sales, who by thy gentle preaching of God's love converted thousands of souls, pray for us.

St. Don Bosco, who in thy first Holy Mass asked for the Power of the Spoken Word, pray for us.

St. Ignatius of Loyola, burning to revive religious fervor, pray for us.

Our Father

Hail Mary

Glory Be to the Father

Prayer of a Crusade for a More Fruitful Preaching

O Jesus! Thou hast said: "Knock and it shall be opened to you." We knock at the door of Thy Sacred Heart burning with love for us. We desire nothing but Thee and Thy greater glory.

Jesus, King of all hearts! open the fountains of Thy mercy through the hearts and tongues of Thy representatives

on earth, Thy priests. Thou art the Word, made Flesh. Thou hast given the Divine command, "Preach the Gospel to every creature." It is therefore Thy Holy Will that Thy priests proclaim Thee, who art the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

And Thou, Queen of Apostles! who listened to the heavenly sermons of Thy Divine Son, remove every obstacle, and be our powerful helper.

Take this Crusade, O Holy Ghost! Thou Spirit of Fiery Tongues, in Thine Own hands. Enlighten Thy priests in their holy mission to seek first the Kingdom of God and to preach a well-prepared sermon at every Mass on Sundays and Holydays.

Spirit of Heavenly light! guide all our steps and inflame our hearts with a burning zeal for this, Thy Crusade.

Little Flower of Jesus, Lover of the Priesthood, pray for us!

St. Paul, great Apostle and Missionary, pray for us!

St. John Chrysostom, "golden-mouthed, glory of the Christian pulpit," pray for us!

Nihil Obstat:

ARTHUR J. SCANLAN, S.T.D.,
Censor Librorum.

Imprimatur:

✠ PATRICK CARDINAL HAYES,
Archbishop of New York.

March 22, 1937.

By the Priest:

Reading from the Gospel

(St. Matt. xxviii. 16-20), "Going therefore teach ye all nations." Gospel of Trinity Sunday.

Short Meditation

Prayer to Christ the Divine Preacher and Teacher of Nations

Dear Jesus, "Divine Preacher and Teacher of Nations," we wish to honor Thee under this glorious title and give Thee thanks for having designed to become Man in order to teach us the way to Heaven.

We long to atone for the outrages uttered against Thee and Thy Church by unbelievers and beg Thee to shower Thy blessings on the Church Teaching that they may overcome the false prophets with "the Sword of the Spirit which is the word of God."

Grant Thy faithful the grace to seek every opportunity to hear Thy Divine Word and receive it into fertile hearts, that this Seed may bring forth much fruit in the Harvest of Souls, and increasing our knowledge of Thee, we may love and serve Thee better. Amen.

By the Priest:

Sermon on the Mount

The Eight Beatitudes

1. Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

2. Blessed are the meek for they shall possess the land.

3. Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted.

4. Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after justice for they shall have their fill.

5. Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy.

6. Blessed are the clean of heart for they shall see God.

7. Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God.

8. Blessed are they that suffer persecution for justice' sake for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Prayer to the Blessed Mother

Mother of the Word Incarnate, we beg thee to be merciful to thy children who are hungry for the Word of God which is the Bread of Life.

We remember the words of thy Divine Son who said: "Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word which proceedeth from the mouth of God."

In thy motherly love, provide for thy children, young and old, so that they all may be fed Sunday after Sunday with the Word of God, and share in the rich spiritual treasures of the Church.

Turn also with compassion to thy smallest children, who in our public schools are not fed with Heavenly manna.

Enlighten their teachers to listen to thy Divine Son, the only Teacher of Truth, so that they will teach Him who is the Way, the Truth, and the Light.

Pray for all that they may follow thy example and not only hear the word of God, but also keep it and bear fruits in patience.

O Mother of the Word made Flesh, for the love of Jesus and in the name of Jesus, we implore thee to take this cause in thy hands and obtain for it success.

St. Mary Magdalen, converted and sanctified by His words, pray for us.

St. Clare, who eagerly listened to the teachings of St. Francis, pray for us.

St. Catherine of Siena, fearless teacher, pray for us. Amen.

St. Elizabeth, who spread the Gospel amongst the poor, pray for us.

By the Priest:

Reading from the Gospel

(St. John xviii. 33-38), Jesus before Pilate.

Short Meditation

Prayer to Christ the Preacher in the Blessed Sacrament

O Jesus, who livest day and night on our altars, we know that it is Thy delight to be with the children of man. Thou art the Word made Flesh dwelling amongst us. Thy Heart cannot restrain Its love and mercy and from the abundance of

Thy Sacred Heart, Thy Divine Mouth speaketh.

It would be easy for Thee to work a miracle, step from the altar and speak words of comfort and love to Thy children.

But as a true prisoner of love Thou puttest Thyself into the hands of Thy ambassadors, Thy priests, asking them to be Thy mouth-piece.

Thou hast solemnly said to them: "As My Father sent Me, so I send you." Therefore Thy priests are the divinely appointed heralds of Thy Sacred Truth. Grant them the grace to give always fervent attention and loving preparation to the Spoken Word.

May the faithful waiting for the Light which lifts them out of darkness and strengthens them in their fight against the powers of Hell, eagerly listen to Thy representatives.

Instill in the hearts of all Thy Divine command: "Be ye doers and not hearers only."

St. John the Baptist, who by thy fervent preaching prepared the way of the Lord, pray for us.

All ye Holy Prophets who spoke of God, pray for us.

St. Augustine, converted by the powerful sermons of St. Ambrose, pray for us.

All ye Holy Doctors and Confessors, who by your words defended the teach-

ing authority of the Church, pray for us.
Amen.

By the Priest:

Seven Last Words from the Cross

Prayer of Thanksgiving

O Jesus, we thank Thee for Thy immortal words as found in the Holy Gospel which, after centuries, are still priceless treasures of the Church—nourishing, strengthening and consoling millions of souls.

We thank Thee for the innumerable preachers, who during centuries have expounded Thy Gospel.

We thank Thee for all the priests, missionaries, Sisters and lay people, who, imitating Thy example, and strengthened by the sufferings of the preaching martyrs, go forth with ever new enthusiasm to spread the Gospel in spite of its enemies.

O Holy Ghost, by whose inspiration spoke the prophets and Apostles, inflame missionary souls all over the world, and imbue them with Sacred Eloquence so that they will carry the Gospel torch held high, to convert unbelievers, conquer the world for Christ, and gain immortal souls for Heaven.

St. Curé d'Ars, who preached every day to thy faithful, pray for us.

St. Thomas Aquinas, Great Teacher of the Church, pray for us.

St. Joseph, Protector of the Holy Church, pray for us. Amen.

By the Priest:

Reading from the Gospel

(St. Luke viii. 4-15), The Sower and the Seed;
or (St. Luke ii. 42-52), Jesus teaching
in the temple.

Short Meditation

**For Those Who Sit in Darkness and
Never Hear the Word of God**

O Almighty God, Father in Heaven,
Thou hearest the cry of Thy children, liv-
ing in darkness. They are blind and
cannot find the Light; sick and no one
visits them.

O Divine Preacher and Teacher of Na-
tions, send out thousands of missionaries,
who, inspired by the words of Thy Apos-
tles that "Faith cometh by hearing," may
bring the Catholic truth to these poor pa-
gans.

Most Blessed Trinity, we implore Thee
that the name of the Lord be declared
throughout all the earth and reach the
lowliest and most hidden souls so that
they all may hear the glad tidings of sal-
vation.

St. Francis Xavier, who saved countless
souls through thy fervent preaching, pray
for us.

St. Anthony, Apostolic Preacher, pray
for us.

St. Peter, Prince of the Apostles, zeal-
ous for souls, pray for us. Amen.

By the Priest: **The Angelus.**

Prayer to the Angels

All ye Holy Angels, created to adore and enjoy God in Heaven, we thank you for all the consoling messages which strengthened the Church militant. Again and again you were the divinely appointed heralds, bringing words of comfort and enlightenment to human beings.

We thank thee, St. Gabriel the Archangel, who brought the welcome message of the Incarnation of the Divine Word to the Immaculate Virgin.

And when the Eternal Word was born in a stable in Bethlehem, ye Holy Angels, with unrestrained joy, proclaimed the glad tidings to an expectant world.

We beg all ye Holy Angels and Archangels to pray for the Church, the beloved Spouse of Christ, in this hour of great temptation and heavy trials through which she is now passing.

St. Michael, the Archangel, whose jubilant war cry was: "Who is like God?"—proclaim now more than ever through the re-establishment of this feast, the teaching authority of the Church and her right to educate the people, especially the young. Cast into Hell evil spirits who endeavor by every means to bring young and innocent souls under the poisonous influence of worldly powers and Godless governments. Strengthen us to resist the devils and their evil teachings.

We beg Thee, dear Jesus, to send us Thy Holy Angels, so that they will minister to the good cause for which we are fighting and obtain for us the glorious Feast of Christ the Divine Preacher and Teacher of Nations.

All ye Holy Angels, pray for us.

All ye Holy Guardian Angels, pray for us.

All ye Holy Archangels, pray for us.
Amen.

By the Priest:

Reading from the Epistle

(St. Paul to II Timothy Chap. iv. 1-8).

Prayer to the Holy Ghost for a Feast of Christ the Divine Preacher and Teacher of Nations

O Holy Ghost, who didst accomplish the incarnation of the Divine Word, we beg Thee to grant that the Eternal Word will be glorified in the Feast of Christ the Divine Preacher and Teacher of Nations.

In our times, when the whole world is bewildered and filled with erroneous doctrines; when many false prophets lead even well-meaning souls astray, we turn with hope and confidence to Thee,—the Spirit of Truth, who governest the Church throughout the centuries.

Gift of the Heavenly Father, who fillest the whole world, do not permit that immortal souls, bought with the precious Blood of Jesus Christ, remain in dangerous ignorance.

Strengthen the teaching authority of the Church so that the Catholic principles may be proclaimed to a greater degree from the pulpits, through lay preachers, the radio, the press, movies, the theater, Catholic literature, and especially also through the families, homes and schools.

O Spirit of Burning Love, glorify the Word made Flesh in this Feast, so that the world now living in darkness may see the Light, and, turning away from the anti-Christ, will follow with renewed love and fervor the Divine Preacher and only Teacher of Truth.

St. John the Evangelist, who, inspired by the Holy Ghost, gave us a better understanding of the Word made Flesh, by thy words: "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God," pray for us.

All ye Holy Evangelists, who by the Holy Gospels spread the Word of God, pray for us.

All ye Holy Martyrs, who suffered so courageously while testifying to the truth, pray for us.

All ye Holy Apostles, who preached Christ crucified, pray for us. Amen.

**Litany of Jesus Christ, Divine
Preacher and Teacher of Nations**

Lord, have mercy on us,

Christ, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on us,

Christ, hear us.

Christ, graciously hear us.

God the Father of Heaven, *have mercy
on us.*

God the Son, Redeemer of the world, *have
mercy on us.*

God the Holy Ghost, *have mercy on us.*

Holy Trinity, one God, *have mercy on us.*

Spirit of Truth,

Spirit of Fiery Tongues,

Jesus, Divine Preacher,

Who didst deign to become Man to
teach us the way to Heaven,

Who didst preach to us from Thy
cradle by Thy poverty and hu-
mility,

Who didst preach to us at Nazareth
by Thy obedience and subjection,

Who at twelve years wast found
among the doctors teaching in
the Temple,

Whose words Mary kept, ponder-
ing them in her heart,

Of whom the Father said, "This is
My beloved Son in whom I am
well pleased; hear ye Him,"

Who didst teach "as one having
power, and not as the scribes and
Pharisees,"

Enlighten us.

At whose doctrine the people were
 in admiration,
 Of whom it was said "Never did
 man speak like this Man,"
 Of whom St. Peter said, "To whom
 shall we go? Thou hast the
 words of eternal life,"
 Who didst preach to us even when
 dying on the Cross,
 Who didst remain teaching us forty
 days after Thy resurrection,
 Who didst send the Holy Ghost to
 inspire St. Peter and the Apostles,
 Who preachest to us from Thy
 tabernacle of Thy Kingdom which
 is not of this world,
 Jesus, Teacher of Nations,
 Who didst say, "Be ye witnesses
 of Me . . . even to the uttermost
 part of the earth,"
 Who didst say, "Blest are they who
 hear the Word of God and keep
 it,"
 Who didst say, "He that shall do
 and teach shall be called great
 in the Kingdom of Heaven,"
 Who didst say, "Every one that
 shall confess Me before men, I
 will also confess him before My
 Father who is in Heaven,"
 Who didst say, "My mother and
 My brethren are they who hear
 the word of God and do it" (Luke
 viii. 21),

Enlighten us.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins
of the world, *spare us, O Lord.*

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins
of the world, *graciously hear us, O Lord.*

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins
of the world, *have mercy on us.*

V. And the Word was made Flesh and
dwelt among us.

R. Full of grace and truth.

By the Priest:

Reading from the Epistle

(St. Paul to the Romans, Chap. x. 13-15)

Short Meditation

Prayer for the Institution of a Feast of Christ the Divine Preacher and Teacher of Nations

Divine Word, made Flesh for our salvation, we beg Thee to allow us to honor Thee in a Feast of Christ the Divine Preacher and Teacher of Nations.

We firmly believe that through the proclamation of this feast Thou wilt shower Thy blessings on the Church Teaching as well as on the Church Hearing, and instill in our hearts Thy Divine Command: "Go ye therefore, teach all nations."

Divine Word, who at twelve years wast found among the doctors teaching in the Temple, we wish to offer Thee this Feast as an act of adoration, thanksgiving, reparation and petition.

In proclaiming Thee by a joyful feast as our Divine Preacher and Teacher, we wish to express our gratitude for Thy immortal words: "Heaven and Earth shall pass away but My word shall not pass away."

Holy Ghost, Spirit of Fiery Tongues, glorify the Word made Flesh by this Feast and let it become a part of the Liturgy of the Church.

Mother of the Word Incarnate, pray for us.

St. Michael the Archangel, Heavenly Warrior, pray for us.

St. Dominic, Founder of the great Preaching Order, pray for us.

St. Francis, who sent fervent missionaries to preach the glad tidings, pray for us.

Nihil Obstat:

ARTHUR J. SCANLAN, S.T.D.,
Censor Librorum.

Imprimatur:

✠ STEPHEN J. DONAHUE, D.D.,
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BENEDICTION

O Salutaris Hostia,
Qui coeli pandis ostium.
Bella premunt hostilia;
Da robur, fer auxilium.

Uni trinoque Domino
Sit sempiterna gloria,
Qui vitam sine termina,
Nobis donet in patria. Amen.

TANTUM ERGO

Tantum ergo Sacramentum,
Veneremur cernui;
Et antiquum documentum
Novo cedat ritui;
Praestet fides supplementum,
Sensuum defectui.

Genitori, Genitoque,
Laus et jubilatio;
Salus, honor, virtus quoque
Sit et benedictio;
Procedenti ab utroque
Compar sit laudatio. Amen.

P. Panem de coelo praestitisti eis.
Ch. Omne delectamentum in se habentem.

**HYMN TO JESUS CHRIST, DIVINE
PREACHER AND TEACHER
OF NATIONS**

Christ Jesus, Thou Incarnate Word,
True Teacher of all men,
Inflame our hearts and loose our tongues
To praise Thy Holy Name.

The world in sin and blindness lies
Because it knows Thee not,
For who could fail to love Thee, Lord,
Who knows Thee as Thou art?

But many times Thy precious Words
Fall on unfruitful soil,
O bless all hearts with grace to keep
Thy words in daily toil.

Thou who didst preach at Bethlehem
Of poverty and peace,
Oh teach us lowliness of heart
And heavenly things to seek.

Teacher of Nations, God of Truth,
We long to honor Thee,
And by a joyful Festival
To render thanks to Thee.

Be Thou, O spirit of Fiery Tongues,
Our Guide and Inspiration,
And grant that soon all hearts may praise
The Teacher of Salvation.

Why a Feast of Christ the Divine Preacher and Teacher of Nations?

1. Because there is nothing on earth so *powerful* to direct the tendency of Catholic thought as the *word of the Sovereign Pontiff* with which he would proclaim Christ the Divine Preacher and Teacher, and nothing so calculated to impress an ideal on the minds of the faithful as the celebration of the Feast.

2. Because through this Feast the most Holy Trinity would be greatly honored.

(a) *The Father*. Christ said He preached the words of "Him who sent Me."

(b) *Jesus Christ*. Because He is the "Word made Flesh."

(c) *The Holy Ghost*. Because He is the Spirit of Fiery Tongues. Christ said He would send the Holy Spirit to enlighten men and enable them to understand His words.

3. Because the Blessed Mother would be specially honored in this Feast, as a *real example of the Church Hearing*, of whom the Evangelist said, "Mary kept all these words, pondering them in her heart." (St. Luke, ii, 19.)

4. Because in a time when there are so many "false Christs," it is more vital than ever to *emphasize the teaching authority of the Church*. This feast would foster reverence to the Holy Catholic Church as the custodian of Divine Truth and for her priests who are Christ's witnesses to the uttermost parts of the world.

5. Because a Feast would bring to the attention of all the faithful that the world who is seeking Jesus with sorrow in her heart, as did the Blessed Mother when He was twelve, will find Him again *with the doctors in the Temple revealing the truth.*

6. Because the representation of Christ the Divine Preacher and Teacher of Nations recalls a constant role in the public life of our Lord. He was always speaking to the disciples and people. Many Gospels begin: "At that time Jesus spoke to His disciples." While the redemption was the central fact and act of His life on earth, His *teaching* gave us the *key and understanding* for it. The Gospels are filled with His words.

7. Because it is fitting that this primary duty should be kept before our eyes in the *concrete form of representation of Christ the Preacher and Teacher*; fully explained and sanctioned by the words of the Church, *i. e.*, by the institution of a special feast in honor of Christ the Divine Preacher, in order to stimulate our devotion to His Divine Doctrine and its spread, as well as to make us imitators of Christ's untiring labors "to give testimony to the truth" before all comers, and, that in well-chosen words, stories and vivid examples.

8. Because the Feast would be a *joyful renewal of an old truth*, namely, that only Christ and His Church possess the whole truth. It would prove that the Church never grows old, but remains always young and ready to renew its spiritual sources and adapt them to the needs of the time. This would *captivate the minds* of the *young*, who like new ideals.

9. Because a Feast would be a *loving adoration* of the Divine Teacher not only by individuals, but by the Universal Church. By this Feast we can *thank our Lord* also for His preachings and teachings, and also show our gratitude to all His successors who expounded the immortal words of the Gospel during the centuries. In deep gratitude the Christians look up to the immortal overflowing source of truth,—to Christ whose words are Life.

10. Because in proclaiming this Feast the Catholic world will voice its *protest* against the teaching of Satan, the Father of Lies, and will do much to make *reparation* to our Divine Teacher for the insults uttered against Him and His doctrine by unbelievers.

11. Because through the proclamation of Christ the Preacher *we throw our concern* for the spreading of the Word of God on the *infallible Preacher Himself*, and ask Him to promote more fruitful preaching. We are weak,—He is strong. Therefore we seek help from Him who said, "Heaven and earth shall pass but My words shall not pass" (Matt. xxiv. 35).

12. Because the *keynote of the Feast is Joy*. When the anti-Christ wants to discourage and worry the faithful, the answer of the Church is a joyful and encouraging Feast, putting all its confidence in the Word made Flesh.

13. Because the Crusade can only scratch the surface. This Feast will, on the contrary, have a *wide and lasting influence at all times, and on all nations*. How much is being done to promote false doctrines and how little is done to inculcate the truth! But a Feast would be-

come a *part* of the *liturgy* and as such its ideals will be a fruitful inspiration for the Church and a *constant reminder* to the priests of their obligation to preach the Word of God and to the faithful of their duty to listen to the teachings of Christ and His Church.

14. Because a Feast would make the Church Hearing more conscious of the heavenly voice on Mount Tabor which said. "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased. *Hear ye Him,*" and the words of Christ saying to the Apostles, "*He that heareth you, heareth Me*" (Luke x. 16).

15. Because a Feast would reveal to a world living in darkness, the Gospel of St. John: "*In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. . . . In Him was Life and the Life was the Light of Men*" (St. John i. 1-4).

16. Because this Feast would make us more conscious that the Word of God has *creative power*. Through the Word of God the material world was created and through the Word of God preached under the guidance of the Holy Ghost at Pentecost by the Apostles, spiritual life was created in 3,000 souls.

17. Because the Feast would bring clearly before the minds of the parents their *great obligation* to send their children to *Catholic educators*, the servants of Christ the Preacher, and would give renewed attention to the careful *catechetical instruction of the children* by educators and parents. It would emphasize the *sacred duties of the parents* to be the teachers of God's truth and love in their own homes.

18. Because a Feast would emphasize Christ Teaching on *social justice* as a basis of *Catholic Social Action*. It would clearly show the strong social teaching in the Gospel, the *duties of the rich towards the poor*. It would also draw the attention of the Christian world outside the fold of St. Peter,—would strengthen them to come nearer the Teacher of Truth, and would be a strong tie for a *united Christian front*.

19. Jesus Christ is *Prophet, Priest and King*. *Christ the King* is honored in the Feast of Christ the King. *Christ the Priest* is honored in the Feast of the Sacred Heart because as a priest Christ was a victim for our sins and died of a broken heart. *Christ the Prophet* should be honored in a Feast of Christ the Preacher and Teacher because, since Christ is honored by a special Feast as King and Priest, should He not also be honored in His character as Prophet by a special Feast acclaiming Him to be the Preacher and Teacher of nations?

20. Because God made us not only to love Him and to serve Him, but first to know Him. By the Feast of the Sacred Heart we profess our *love* for Christ, by the Feast of Christ the King we acknowledge His sovereignty, and pledge our *service*, and by the Feast of Christ the Divine Preacher we would draw souls into the *knowledge* of Christ.

These three feasts would represent in a joyful Trilogy, the three reasons for our existence, namely, to know God, to love Him, and to serve Him, so that we will be happy with Him forever in Heaven.

Christ the Divine Preacher

In order to promote a more fruitful preaching and hearing of the Word of God; and to spread devotion to Christ the Divine Preacher and Teacher of Nations, and to pray that the Divine Word made Flesh for our salvation be honored in a special Feast of Christ the Divine Preacher and Teacher of Nations, I will gladly join the Crusaders in their Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament, **on every second Friday of the month,** (or when otherwise feasible), so that the second Friday will be dedicated to Him whose divine mouth speaks out of the abundance of His Sacred Heart.

Name

Name of Religious
Community

Address

The Hour I intend to keep

* * * *

I will implore Christ that the Most Blessed Trinity may accept this movement through the hands of the Mother of the Word Incarnate, as a loving act of adoration, thanksgiving, reparation and petition, so that the teachers of Godless doctrines may be put to shame and lose their power over so many misled souls, and that instead of their false prophets, *the Name of the Lord may be declared throughout the earth.*

**"In the beginning was the
Word and the Word was with
God, and the Word was God."**

—St. John i. 1.



**KNOWLEDGE IS THE BASE OF
CATHOLIC ACTION**

