

The Propagation of the Faith

HEROIC and contemplative faith is characterized not only by firmness in adherence, but by promptness in rejecting error. It not only immediately spurns the false maxims of the world that cloak themselves in deceiving formulas, but it quickly perceives errors that are small in appearance, but that may become the cause of a great deviation; a slight deviation at the summit of an angle becomes great when its sides are prolonged.

Thus, for example, when Jansenism was

leading some theologians astray, St. Vincent de Paul, through his great spirit of faith, immediately grasped the error of this doctrine, so opposed to the divine mercy, which kept the faithful away from Holy Communion. He denounced this error to Rome through love for the word of God, which it altered, and for souls, which it was leading astray.

Promptness in rejecting every source of deviation is

shown in the practical order by the way a person makes his confession, that is, without routine, with a clear view of his sins, and perfect sincerity that avoids every attenuation, as if he were reading in the book of life, which will be open to his gaze after death.

Promptness of faith in rejecting error causes the servants of God great suffering when they see souls being

lost. After disciplining himself for those to whom he was to preach, St. Dominic used often to say in

his nocturnal prayers: "O my God, what will become of sinners?"

Thence is born great zeal for the propagation of the faith in the missions and in countries where faith was once alive but now is lamentably declining. This zeal is ardent but not bitter or harsh; it manifests itself chiefly by fervent and almost continual prayer, which should be the soul of the apostolate.



*Commentary from The Three Ages of the Interior Life
by Fr. Reginald Garrigou-Lagrange, O.P. (1877-1964).*

Proper Prayers of the Mass in the Extraordinary Form

ADDENDUM: FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH



SECOND COLLECT

DEUS, qui omnes hómines vis salvos fieri et ad agnitíonem veritátis venire: mitte, quæsumus, operários in messem tuam, et da eis cum omni fidúcia loqui verbum tuum; ut sermo tuus currat et clarificétur, et omnes gentes cognóscant te solum Deum verum et quem misísti Jesum Christum Fílium tuum, Dóminum nostrum: Qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

O GOD, who willest that all men should be saved and should come to the knowledge of the truth: we beseech Thee, send forth laborers into thy harvest, and grant them grace to speak Thy word with all boldness, so that Thy word may spread swiftly and be glorified, and all nations may know Thee, the only God, and Him whom Thou has sent: even Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord: who with Thee liveth and reigneth in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end.

SECOND SECRET

PROTÉCTOR noster, áspice, Deus, et réspice in fáciem Christi tui, qui dedit redemptíonem semet-ípsam pro ómnibus: et fac, ut ab ortu solis usque ad occásu magnificétur nomen tuum in géntibus, ac in omni loco sacrificétur et offerátur nómini tuo oblátio munda. Per eúndem Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti Deus: per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

BEHOLD, O God, our Protector, and look upon the face of Thine Anointed, who gave Himself a redemption for us all, and grant that from the rising of the sun even to its going down, Thy name may be great among the Gentiles, and that in every place there may be sacrifice and a pure oblation offered to Thy name. Through the same, our Lord Jesus Christ, who with Thee liveth and reigneth in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end.

SECOND POSTCOMMUNION

REDEMPTÍONIS nostræ múnere vegetáti: quæsumus, Domine; ut, hoc perpétuæ salutis auxilio, fides semper vera proficiat. Per Dóminum nostrum ...

QUICKENED by the redemptive gift, O Lord, we pray: that by this aid to eternal salvation the true faith may ever advance. Through our Lord ...

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