

Ordained

to the

Sacred Priesthood

JUNE THE ELEVENTH, 1942

by

The Most Rev. Bernard J. Sheil, D. D.

Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago

John Gerald Masterson Omaha, Nebraska

Louis Victor Nadeau Marquette, Mich.

William Dominic Brady Madison, Wisconsin.

James Michael Dempsey Providence, R. I.

Frederick Eugene Klueg Columbus, Ohio. Joseph George Forquer Columbus, Ohio.

Edward Leonard Curtis Cambridge, Mass.

Edward Joachim Hagen Louisville, Ky.

Francis Stephen Redmond Columbus, Ohio.

Edmund Charles Hayes Waltham, Mass.

OF THE

ORDER OF PREACHERS

OF THE

PROVINCE OF ST. ALBERT THE GREAT

THE PRIEST AS PREACHER

"... as regards the person of the sacred orator, let them (Superiors) take care never to confide so holy a ministry to any one who is not animated by sincere Christian piety and inflamed with fervent love of our Lord Jesus Christ, for without this he would assuredly be nothing else than 'sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal' and could never have true zeal for the glory of God and the salvation of souls, which should be the sole motive and end of preaching. And this piety, so necessary for sacred preachers of the word of God, should also shine in their external conduct which ought not to be in contradiction to what they preach from the pulpit, nor have anything secular or worldly, but ought always to be such, as to mark them out as 'ministers of Christ and dispensers of the mysteries of God'; else, as St. Thomas observes, if the doctrine be good and the preacher wicked, he becomes an occasion of blaspheming the word of God (Comment. in Matt. v.).

"To piety and Christian virtue, learning must also be joined, since it is manifest and proved by constant experience that it is vain to expect truly solid, well-ordered and fruitful preaching from those who have not been formed by good studies, especially in sacred science, and who, relying on a certain natural facility of speech which they possess, ascend the pulpit with little or no preparation. Such preachers ordinarily do nothing but 'beat the air,' and, without perhaps perceiving it, bring contempt and ridicule on the word of God. To them, therefore, are justly applicable the words: 'Because thou has rejected knowledge, I will reject thee, that thou shalt not do the office of the priesthood to Me'.''

> -From an encyclical letter on Preaching issued by the Sacred Congregation of Bishops and Regulars at the command of His Holiness Leo XIII.