

# *It profits me nothing . . .*

In the Catechism, one of the very first questions asked is this: "Why did God make you? Answer: God made me to know Him, to love Him, and to serve Him in this world, and to be happy with Him forever in the next." Please note, this question speaks only of the "WHY" of our purpose here on this earth. Somehow it is left up to us to become familiar with the "HOW" we are to fulfill this purpose. The accomplishment of our salvation must be taught us, and can only be taught us by those individuals who have themselves been taught by experienced, wise and prudent teachers. This goes all the way back to our Blessed Saviour. Our Lord had to SHOW us how to accomplish our salvation, otherwise His mission here on earth would have been fruitless. We had to be shown HOW to take advantage of Our Lord's supreme act of redemption. Our pulpit orators today seem to shy away from this responsibility of teaching, probably because their youthfulness has not yet permitted them the value of experience. Nevertheless, all must become acquainted with the way to achieve salvation — one way or another!

Our purpose in life is expressed with simplicity and clarity in the words our Blessed Lord spoke to the rich young man who asked Him what he would have to do in order to have life everlasting: "If thou wilt be perfect, go sell what thou hast and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow Me." The young man's first question concerned the way, the HOW, one would gain life everlasting. Our Lord told him to keep the Commandments. He asked which of the many Commandments were meant, and Jesus told him the Ten Commandments. The man said that he had kept the Ten Commandments from his youth. What more was lacking? And then came the reply: "If thou wilt be perfect . . ."

God calls every person to be perfect. Every person whether he be one living the lay life in the world, or one who lives within the hallowed walls of a holy convent or monastery. Each is called to perfection — each in the way proper to his state in life — each to make use of whatever means his particular state of life presents. To strive after perfection, one should wish always to give God more glory than a bare minimum; one should wish to live the life of grace in order to be more effective in doing good for the souls of others. There is one virtue, the practice of which is the most perfect response to the invitation ". . . come follow me". The virtue is Charity, or the love of God and our neighbor.

## *Easter*

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**ON THE COVER:** Frater Francis, O.S.B. raises his voice for the first time as a sub-deacon. He is shown reading the Epistle of the Mass of Ordination.