

# Bishop MacDonald Emphasizes Need Of Apostolic Enthusiasm In Addressing SDU Graduates

Following is a partial text of the address delivered to the graduates at the commencement exercises of St. Dunstan's University yesterday by the Most Rev. J. R. MacDonald, Bishop of Antigonish:

"Your first duty on this Commencement Day is to thank God. Thank God for your life and talents, for your home and parents, for your Christian education, for your God, too, for the privilege of entering into the major arena of life at this particular time. The problems of this particular time are a ringing challenge to young people such as you. Your designation today as Graduates of St. Dunstan's is a call to you to have the Christian character and apostolic outlook necessary to meet this challenge. With Pope Pius XI you can say: 'Let us thank God that He makes us to live in the midst of the present problems.'"

ulating duty, you have to be men and women of faith. Dr. Charles Malik, Lebanese representative in the United Nations Assembly, is one educated thinking layman, a Christian though not a Catholic—who points accurately to the courses of the world's troubles and indicates the fundamental remedies. He finds that the Western world, in the main, has lost its Faith. Having lost its Faith, it no longer has the fiery enthusiasm of devotedness to a cause. 'A man,' he says, 'no matter how weak or poor, becomes strong and rich if he has a Faith for which he can die, and therefore for which he can live. Grant men,' he says, 'a certain vision of the truth and they will rise to pinnacles of heroism utterly unobtainable by those who live and die only to preserve themselves. . . Grant them a fighting faith whereby they are sure that the values they believe in are supreme and they will move mountains.'"

### A Faith To Live By

"For this, as you surely know, is no ordinary time. We are involved in one of the great turning points in history. This is becoming more obvious to us as we move after move fails to bring to the world any stability or peace. It was obvious as early as 1939 to Pope Pius XI, who, in a letter to the Cardinal-Archbishop of Paris, said: 'The crisis we are experiencing is unique in history. It is a new world which must burst out of a crucible in which so many different energies are boiling.'"

"The Archbishop of Paris, Cardinal Suhard, put the same conclusion in his book, 'The Church Today—Growth or Decline?'. 'The suffering,' he wrote, 'which affects the whole world, the dangers which threaten its future, the strong currents which sweep over it, are less the consequences of a catastrophe than the warning signs of an imminent new birth.'"

"It is not necessary for me to tell you graduates what you believe and what you stand for. You are not counted among those who have no Faith. On the contrary, you have a Faith for which you can die, and therefore for which you can live. It is sufficient for my purpose to stress your belief that, not only individual life, but human society in all its aspects, should be permeated by the principles and ideals given to the world by Christ; that not only should individuals strive to be Christian and Christians, but also that Christian Justice and Charity should regulate all human relationships. That is what you believe. You are members of the Church Militant. You are Soldiers of Christ. It is for each of you to say whether your Faith is the kind of fighting faith which Dr. Malik says, and which we know, can alone save Western civilization. 'The future belongs to believers, not to skeptics and doubters.'"

### Tumult and Suffering

"Amidst tumult and suffering, the world is emerging from an era—for the most part, not a pleasant era; an era that has become unhappy with disorder and disunity; an era of materialism and immorality rampant; and with what one able writer calls the 'widespread malady of purposelessness' afflicting many people in the Western world. These are the unwholesome fruits of a philosophy of selfishness and secularism, ignoring and even rejecting supernatural truth and love, and God himself; glorifying self and sin; and selling their spiritual heritage for a mess of material potage, men have organized the weakness and tendencies of fallen human nature into a sterile and unholy system of living.

"Our present Holy Father, convinced, as was his predecessor, that the world is going through changes greater than those that took place at the fall of the ancient Roman Empire, marking the end of an old civilization and the birth of a new Christian era, says: 'It is an entire world that has to be rebuilt from its foundations; transformed,' as he says, 'from savage to human, from human to divine, that is to say, according to the heart of God.'"

"Obviously, this strong sense of mission cannot exist in those who live for self alone. If the ambition of any one of you now is to get more than to give, he has failed already, unless that outlook changes, his failure will increase with the years, no matter how much money he makes, or how much prominence he attains in his work. I hope that every one of you is setting out on life's great adventure in this critical yet exciting period with a far greater desire to give than to get. The men and women who will chart the course of a new and better world are those who are ready to give themselves, their energy and their abilities, with the zeal of apostles, to this eminently worth-while and urgent task, not counting the cost.

"Each of you has chosen, or is about to choose, the type of work for which you judge yourself best fitted. Your choice, if wise, is the conclusion you have come to after much prayer, and a serious effort to know God's will and plan for you. Father Cavanagh, President of Notre Dame University, says his definition of an educated man is: 'One who knows what God wants him to do and has the discipline to do it.' Doubtless, some of you have found that God wants you in the priesthood or in the Religious life. For others, the choice is a particular line of work which is not a vocation in the strict sense of the word, but which should be chosen with a sense of vocation. A vocation or daily work is a necessary factor in a lay vocation and should be entered into and pursued with a dedication and with an awareness of its place and value in Christian living.

"I believe I am correct in saying that in deciding your particular field of work, it is not just a job you're after. It is not twelve dollars a day or ten thousand dollars a year, or any monetary consideration, that attracts you, even though income is not to be excluded from consid-

eration. Adequate income is necessary. But, as Dr. Robert Hutchins, now with the Ford Foundation, and formerly President of the University of Chicago, says, the privileges of Universities are not justified by their capacity to take the sons of the rich and render them harmless to Society, or to take the sons of the poor and teach them how to make money."

### Work That One Loves

"What the world needs and calls for today, what Canada and the Maritime Provinces need and call for, are men and women possessed of an apostolic spirit and fired with the ambition to build a new world according to the heart of God. This will seem like a happy-eyed idealism to materialistic minds. It is, however, the practical idealism of Christianity which measures the value of life's work, not in terms of jobs or money or security, but according to the Commandments 'Thou shalt love the Lord Thy God' and 'Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.' Individual and organized selfishness has characterized the dying era; individual and organized Christian altruism will be, if enough people will to make it so, the characteristic of a new and happier era for all mankind. It is the opinion of Jacques Maritain, the eminent Catholic philosopher, that what he calls 'the sanctification of the profane', which is nothing other than the Christianization of daily life, 'will constitute one of the main features of the new age of Christendom into which', as he says, 'we are now entering amidst ruin and agony.'"

"Therefore, my dear Graduates, launch out into life with Christian courage and enthusiasm with a sense of a great mission to fulfill. Be not awayed by views and customs in the world which you will find contrary to your own Christian standards. Be not dismayed if you find among your fellow-Christians a lethargy of spirit, a weakness of will, and coldness of heart—which the Holy Father lists as constituting the root of modern evils and their baneful consequences. Be convinced that the world needs changing and that you can help to change it. Let the hand be put to the plow', says the Holy Father in calling for a crusade of action; 'May God, who desires it so much, move you; may the nobility of the undertaking attract you; may its urgency stimulate you; may the justifiable fear of the terrible future, which would result from a culpable indolence, impel you to every exertion and determine every will.'"

"Graduates of 1952, the Church and Society have confidence in you. It is your duty to justify this confidence. Live a complete Christian life. Give yourself completely to your mission. God be with you and God bless you always."

### The Common Good

"Granted that you have a fighting faith and that you have unity in your own life, you cannot but wish to see human society animated by faith and unified in its life. You will therefore want to see truth prevail rather than error and falsehood, principle instead of expediency, harmony instead of disorder; you will want to have cooperation and partnership preferred to rivalry; the common good the dominant goal rather than selfish interest, the primacy of the spiritual over the material always recognized, the possession and use of everything material held as a trusteeship on behalf of the only absolute owner of all things, and all human activities energized by motives that are rooted in a Christian conscience. To use again the expression of Pope Pius XII, you will want to help transform the world 'from savage to human, from human to divine, that is to say, according to the heart of God.'"

### Canada's Place

"All this does not necessarily mean that any one of you is going to exert influence directly on a world-wide scale. The world is only a composite of nations and communities. Your contribution will be, I hope, in Canada, and these Maritime Provinces of Canada, or, more specifically, in that Maritime community that you will call home. Canada today holds a leading place among the nations. In the future, its influence will be greater still. In that influence Maritime Canada will share. You should have an important part in shaping the future, not immediately on a national scale, but in your local communities, and in your native province, which have a first claim on your loyalty and your service.

"The more directly your life-work deals with others, the more you will contribute to the general welfare. Indeed, the more closely your career is bound up with the welfare of others, the more it partakes of the nobility of a vocation. These are the careers that offer the highest degree of adventure and challenge. Recently a writer in The Ensign said such careers are going begging, and he adds: 'We cannot expect youth to venture if we have forgotten why the venture is worth while.' The writer based his article on a discussion among Catholic University students, to which he was an interested lis-

ener. The discussion was on the question of why they were at the University, and the agreed answer was to get better jobs. A better job meant more security. These students overlooked the fact that a University and a Trade School are different types of institutions. One educates for complete living; the other trains for jobs.

### Practical Idealism

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### Lorne Valley and Vicinity

"Mr. Harry MacLeod, who has been employed in Nova Scotia for several months, is spending a week visiting his wife and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm MacLeod were visitors to Montague on Wednesday, May 14th, guests of their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Alex MacDougall.

Mr. Heath MacGrath and Mr. Tom MacKay, Salt Springs, Nova Scotia, motored to the Island on May 13th. There were overnight guests of Mr. and Mrs. Munro MacGrath.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Shaw drove to Montague on Wednesday, May 14th, to visit their daughter, Mrs. Alvin Myers who is a patient in the Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Angus MacLeod, accompanied by his mother, Mrs. James MacLeod, Bonshaw, attended the funeral of the late Nell Nicholson on Wednesday, May 14th.

The funeral of the late Mr. Nell Nicholson was held from Lorne Valley Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, May 14th. The service was conducted by the Rev. F. N. Young, assisted by the Rev. Donald Nicholson. The following hymns were sung: 'The Lord's My Shepherd' and 'Abide With Me'. A solo, 'Beyond The Sunset', was beautifully rendered by Rev. Mr. Nicholson. The pallbearers were Messrs. Edward Lowery, Daniel Shaw, George MacIn-

### Pisquid East Notes

Mr. and Mrs. Sammy Birt were visitors in Charlottetown on Saturday, May 10th.

Mr. and Mrs. Russel Myers were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Woolridge on Sunday, May 11th.

Miss Mabel Jay, Charlottetown, spent the week-end of May 10th at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Levi Jay, Pisquid East.

Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Birt, Parkdale, were visitors in Pisquid East on Sunday, May 11th.

Mrs. Edward E. Jay was a visitor in Parkdale and Charlottetown on Monday, May 12th.

Mr. Gordon MacDonald, Cardigan, was in Pisquid East on business on Tuesday, May 13th.

Miss Evelyn Woolridge went to Charlottetown on Wednesday, May 14th where she has taken a position.

Mr. Harold Jay and Mr. Floyd Jay were in Charlottetown on business on Thursday, May 15th.

Mr. Leith Woolridge, Mount Stewart, spent the week-end of his, Adrian Bradley, Wilfred Bradley and Lynn MacNeill. Interment was in Lorne Valley cemetery.

### IVY RED CROSS

"Thirteen members of the Ivy Red Cross met for their meeting at Whim Road School on Friday afternoon. The president Edith MacDonald presided over the meeting and the business procedure was attended to by the secretary, Lona MacDonald.

Roll call was answered by each member reading an original poem on how the Easter vacation was spent and some proved to be quite comical. Due to the fact that no correspondence had been received during the month there was no new business to attend to.

The roll call at the next meeting will require each member to supply a potted plant for the school. New committees chosen were as follows: Program: Edith MacDonald and Betty MacBeth. Water: Edith MacDonald and Jean Ann Munro. Health: John Clarey and Jean Ann Munro. Tidiness: Donnie Munro and Brian MacBeth.

May 10th at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Woolridge.

"A very enjoyable evening was spent at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Jay on Wednesday, May 7th. The occasion was the 25th wedding anniversary of Mrs. Jay's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Woolridge and over 100 invited guests joined in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Woolridge many more anniversaries. All twelve of their children were present for the evening.

Police, Beverley Ann Moore and Norman Clarey.

A penny auction was held by Norman Clarey and the winner was John Clarey. The amount resulting from roll call was \$3 cents. Betty MacBeth, who was in charge of the program gave a very interesting reading. The meeting concluded with the singing of two Red Cross songs.

Montreal, May 14—(CP)—Quebec Provincial Police, said to be under orders of Premier Duplessis, are reported guarding all bridges leading into Montreal against alleged smuggling of Western beef.

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