**March 15, 1936**

Dear fellow countrymen and countrywomen, I greet you with the words: Praised be Jesus Christ!

The times we live in are curious. People are curious; relationships are curious. The environment is curious. Viewpoints, outlooks, and learning are outright curious. The twentieth century is saturated with materialism accompanied with a neo-paganism. In other words, people believe only in flesh and material things, and throw away not only God but even the thought about God, and not only do they not believe in the love of neighbor, but are averse to neighbor. From all of this flows not only a stream but a river of carelessness, or perhaps better, a neglect of religiosity. That thought alone is frightening. Because on the waves of carelessness, there come more and more sacrificial offerings. More sad is the fact that amidst these sacrificed lives are young generations. The concept and the views and beliefs of the youth not only dim, but simply equated with unbelief and faith is not worthy of the name. It is no wonder that today the preoccupation is with the philosophy of Luther, Henry VIII, Mohammed, Mahatma Ghandi, Nietzschi, Tolstoi and Bernard ShAw, but preoccupation with Christ - nothing. The teachings of Christ is laughed at with a cold cynicism or politicking and nothing more. We cannot and should not in this matter wonder about the atheists, because it is a natural outcome of the philosophies. However it is curious that Catholics, born and raised in their faith are beginning to go the way of the disbelieving youth who are born and raised in families and schools in which the dollar is favored. Where the rule is" "Everything is permissible, until they catch you." and "You only live once, so get everything you can out of it." These are repeated by the learned and the smart. When we are dealing when it comes the carelessness in religious matters, it generally comes to the concept of marriage. It is too sad of a statistic when it comes to mixed marriages, among German and Irish Catholics to deal with it here. Both the German and Irish-Catholics are ashamed of these statistics. It is enough to say that mixed marriages provided more than anything else a greater abandonment of the Catholic Church. Therefore surprised me immensely, that despite the pressure and insistence of certain people, even among our own, that the only salvation of the Catholic faith here in America, is the anglicizing of all comers to the Catholic Church. That's naive and outright foolish. In England, Catholics used the English language and despite that the English king hanged Catholics.

In France, Catholics used the French language and thousands died on the gullotine. In Spain Catholics prayed only in Spanish and what happened? Oneness in a strong faith is the factor in our country. But enough of those examples. On to our topic:

HOW MIXED MARRIAGES HARM US

All church laws seem to be harsh and even unjust. But that's only at first glance. In reality they are formed with goodness, love, caring and justice. The term "mother church" is given to it because cares about its children and protects it from danger and bad fortune. The church does not wait until its child is in difficult...no. From the beginnings of life is stands on guard; before- hand it openly and seriously points out the traps, and warns, and says: "do not believe the world or the worldly; my teaching is two thousand years old. I have the conviction. I have seen thrones fall, and borders of countries changed. I looked upon changes in civilizations; changes in knowledge and teaching; in views and philosophies. You live and will live for a generation, I live from the time of Christ and will live until the end of the world. That was established by my Organizer. I am among people one and the same and will be today and tomorrow. My teaching was is and will be one and the same and unchanging. It is for this reason that the movers of this world were angry at me and persecuted, beat and crucified me. This does not frustrate my purpose. It will go well with whoever listens to me; whoever does not follow my teaching, will pay for it and regret it" - It is no wonder that the church has always warned about the holiness of marriage? That not an iota of the teaching of Christ would change, when it came to the unity and indissolubility of family which is the foundation of societies and nations of the whole world. Despite the teaching of various philosophers and social critics, the Church quotes the words of the Creator "It is not good for man to live alone, we create a similar one to help him." And "What is bone of my bone". And "This is why a man will leave his mother and father, and take on her and they both will be as one flesh." And "What God has joined together let no one take apart." And "Grow and multiply and fill the earth." The Church teaches that marriage is not only a contract but a great sacrament in the Church' This is all known; despite this more than one of you, are averse to the Church's teaching on mixed marriage. What then does the Church legislate in terms of a mixed marriage? Nothing more than the fact that the bond between the Catholic side and a non-Catholic side of whatever persuasion. What this pertains to is not nationality but religion. A Catholic with a Lutheran, a Catholic with an Episcopalian and so forth. I repeat once more, it does not pertain to a difference in race or nationality, because those are temporal things, lasting temporarily but the difference of belief because that pertains to the soul and eternity. This is particularly an important factor for our nationality, because mixed marriages there is a twofold problem, a two-fold grave: belief and language. I'll comment on that later. Canon 1060 of Church law teaches us that: " The Church seriously dictates against baptized persons in which one person belongs to the Catholic religion and the other to a heretical or schismatic sect to marry. That kind of marriage is forbidden if the non-Catholic party creates a future danger for the children. From this one understands that although the Church in rare cases permits the bond under certain conditions, it regards it something that may be harmful. It is not a law which is conditioned to factors of contemporary life. Already in the sixteenth century, Pope Urban VII wrote: "We know that the marriage of Catholics with non-Catholics should be avoided, because the Church always looks askance on it.? Pius Vii in 1800: "If the Popes permitted such marriages in the past they did so for exceptionally rare cases and unwillingly." Leo XIII in 1880 wrote: "It is obvious that such marriages ought to be avoided." In 1930, Pius XI said with no conditions that such marriages are replete with dangers and those who do so, are fraught with dangers and the motherly judgment of the Church wants to prevent her children to enter into them. Church teaching basis its view on mixed marriage on St. Paul, the Apostle of the Nations when in Corinthians he says, "Do not take on the yoke with unbelievers. For what participation of righteousness with unrighteousness? or "What agreement between God and Mammon? Or what an honor between a believer and non-believer?" When the Church permits mixed marriages it does so under certain circumstances, and demands certain guarantees as that the children be brought up in the Catholic faith; that the Catholic party must promise to try to persuade the non-Catholic to adopt the true faith and will not accept the persuasions to change faiths. These promises are made and often broken and forgotten. Christian marriage in order to succeed must be mutually agreeable. Without agreement there is no happiness. Is compatibility possible unless there is no unity between the parties? - Here is an example: A Polish Catholic woman wishes to marry an Anglican, who does not know whether he is baptized or not. Besides he doesn't care about that. Even maybe he takes part in some sectarian team, because in his eyes, all beliefs are equal. All except Catholic. It's just an accretion of Medium-eternal ignorance, a superstition. It holds people in the darkness, it spurns the democratic and constructs classes among people. The Catholic woman believes that God created her, he believes in evolution, and once, millions of years ago, he was merely an ape. The Catholic believes that man has a soul, he maintains that man is just an animal and that all ends with death; she believes in prayer, he doesn't even know what that means; perhaps in the beginning he listens with interest in everything, but later he laughs at her beliefs and make fun of them, and later gets angry when his wife kneels for prayer, that she wishes to fast on Fridays and go to Mass on Sunday; arguments start, misunderstanding, anger and hatred. He goes to court, asks for a divorce, and a few days later, marries again. Today, that's easy enough. And she? a Catholic...cries, complains, is committed, happiness lost, despairs, suffers in mind. Husband and Wife ought to mutually cheer each other, support each other, and help. In a mixed marriage they mutually offend, get in each other's way and create an atmosphere of anger. Both have a bad experience. The following letter explains a lot: I am without a husband for three years now. I married a German non-catholic. Before the wedding he was an angel to me, after we were married, he turned into Satan. We were married at the rectory and he made the required promises to me. He didn't want me to go to church. He laughed at my kneeling to say prayers. On Fridays, I had to prepare meats for dinner. He held me in disregard. After the first child it got worse. I was in the hospital four times because of him. When my parents were alive, I would gladly go to them. However, they died. I don't have a soul on earth. I lost my faith and my health. I constantly cry and cannot sleep." - If our youth would only understand that the Catholic Church has reason to spurn mixed marriages because there would be less crying and unhappiness, and more happiness and peace. What happens to children of mixed marriages? They are forced to choose between their mother and father. And again there are two camps. They need to go with the father or the mother. And again there is separation, misunderstanding and war. Again, consider this example: ""After sixteen years of marriage and suffering it, my husband received a divorce because he falsified when getting marriage. We married in front of priest. We had four children. I had to have them baptized in secret, because my husband did not want to cooperate with that. He was well-paid but did not share it with me and gave me little. He always bought things for the children and complained about me to the children. I remained alone. I was losing my mind and even considering suicide. He gave the children to an orphanage and is going out with a married woman who does not live with her husband. The now each other for several years. I have no one to help me." - In mixed marriages the Catholic party and the children are always wronged as well as the Catholic Church. St. Ambrose reminded the faithful in the fourth century: "be careful of marriages where one of the couples has a different faith." Statistics show that in Germany in the course of the last one hundred years, the church lost over a million souls, through mixed marriages and currently more than 60 percent of children from mixed marriages are of the Protestant persuasion." - A couple of years ago and principal of a Catholic academy wrote that "60 percent of the graduates marry believers of a different faith and the heirs are lost to the faith." In 1917 one of the Bishops complained: "From the beginning, I told the pastors to warn people of mixed marriages. In the chancery there were recorded 450 such marriages; of these 400 the Catholic party lost faith and 29 percent of the children were lost to the Church." Another noted writer wrote: "In mixed marriages, 66 percent lose the faith and are lost to God. Court statistics show that 99 from 120 children are sent to Good Shepherd. Pope Pius XII points out all the pitfalls to mixed marriages: "It is difficult in such a marriage to protect the Catholic side. Often the children of these mixed marriages leave religion, or in a short time begin to abandon the practices of it and become indifferent to it and often become Godless. It become difficult to teach the souls which ought to become aware of the meaning of their faith through education. It becomes easy to abandon that unity of souls which is a mark or Christ's Church and a sign of a faithful marriage. The bond of unity is broken and the truths and religious joys are not there. this leads to a lack of love between the couple after which followed disagreement and destruction of happiness which should exist in the hearts of a married couple. From time immemorial the Roman law marriage was "the union of a man and a woman in unity of life and the use of a common God and human law." - Even Protestants agree on the fact that mixed marriages destroy happiness in the family. The Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America maintains: "Marital unhappiness from the start can be the only result of a mixed marriage wherein the Protestant party guarantees to rear the prospective children as Catholics."

It is approp999riate then that Canon Law in 1064 says: "Let the Bishop and other Pastors as much as they are able to dissuade the faithful from mixed marriages." -The consequence of all these problems is to avoid them like fire. How empty is the assertion of certain Catholics, modernists, whose aim was to convert the entire United States to mixed marriages. They claimed this openly and publically. Instead of sowing the teaching of Christ and his Church, they sowed the seed of "Americanism". Did the Church benefit from this in any way? Did faith benefit? The state of marriage was lowered - agreement, unity, and family unity was shattered and the result was unbelieving children. What is apparent is shallow and short lived. Holy Scripture has a few sentences from the lips of Archangel Gabriel who in this manner taught Tobias: "Listen, son, I will show you, which they are, and which the devil can win. Those who in go this way into marriage that they throw God away from their hearts and follow their own way like a horse or mule who has no reason; over these the devil has sway." So it is true in mixed marriages. Getting rid of God and your faith, this is the new Peter's way, but the modern Judas' way. An you remember how he ended up.

I will dedicate a couple more minutes in talking about mixed marriages of a different ilk. I am thinking of mixed marriages as regards different nationalities. America is proud of thinking itself like a melting pot. "Tygiel" is an utensil from clay or sand or clay and graphite, serving to melt metals. The Norse and the Saxons, holding on to their separateness, not only in religion but also in nationality, publically are proud of their Englishness on which is the mark "made in England. But the American melting pot is for all others. America up to this time was the guardian angel of the weary and the persecuted without family name or nationality, is supposed to be the melting pot wherein some kind of a arch-human is about to emerge. And they want to fix God's creation. Once more they create an arch-crazy work, because from such a city of man, not even a dog, profits. I emphasize that from the Church's point of view there is no problem if both spouses are Catholic. In America there are sages who currently have been born in America, nationality makes no difference. Nature cannot be destroyed or erased. It is of blood and bone. It speaks through the generations and for hundreds of years. Human behavior is not the breeding of cattle. From the crossing of beasts you get many newer freaks. Here's the situation to be heeded. Moses, in the name of God, forbid the Jews to marry other nationalities. Why? Not only to preserve the faith but the preserve the nationality. Just as religious unity is the foundation of happiness in the family, so too unity of nationality, or language an tradition are the fluff and moss through which make up the family nest and make the daily life pleasant between husband wife and children. Mixed marriage between different nationalities generally here in America do not bode well. I do not condemn any nationality but maintain only that there is no happiness and satisfaction where there is a marriage between and Englishman, German, Frenchman or Italian with a Polish wife. A mixing of nordic , teutonic or Italian with the blood of Slavic blood only results in disorder. Two years ago, I took a couple weeks vacation. I went fishing. I lived with Germans away from civilization. They knew that I was a priest, but didn't know that I was Polish. Living with them also was their son, whose wife was Polish, and came from Niagara Falls. They were a good example of a mixed marriage. Arguing and disagreement and name calling from early morning to late evening. They said to themselves: A Dutchman and a Pollack. They had one son who stuttered. It was a typical American marriage. On more than one occasion the young wife told me: "More than once he would tell me that he would leave. I don't care. I will give the child away to an orphanage and go to work. I can take care of myself. - How many times I have heard the complaint that our young ladies choose men of other nationalities, since our men are a bunch of lazy men and drunkards. I ask myself, "Why make such generalizations?" After all they are our brothers. Do you praise the foreigner and know not your own? Is it true that between foreigners to we have the same derogatory claims about their men? Not so. They just are different. Is the concern about money, externals conducive to short lived union? Do you fall for false praise. Are you deceived and then have problems in marriage. - "My son do not act without consultation, and you will not be sorry after the act" it was said by the book of wisdom. How many consult their parents or their spiritual advisor. That is my business, said the daughter, let my mother and father leave me alone as to my choice of mate! And to the priest counselor: "Keep out of my business, for I am the one getting married not the priest. Why this kind of reaction? Because youth has this wrong view of unity in marriage as to its holiness and continued living because everything in America is for freedom. If the marriage doesn't work out, I will go before a judge and end it. If he is not good to me, I will get rid of him, go home and so forth without end. Marriage was and will be a weighty responsibility before God as well as society. It becomes a crucifixion in mixed marriages, and a long lasting death. I end with the word of a poet:

"All pay attention, entering eternal ties,

Is not heart with heart contrary?

Short the frenzy but long the sorrow!