

July Conference Sermons Summary

These are sermons you can give that you can lead others to Christ. You can see that some are more "at home" and others are more of a public nature that you can choose from. You are not limited to the subject however it is to bring awareness of the Christ way. You can read scripture and find what is the topic you will preach upon. Jesus and Magda will be there to help you as well as others. You can say a prayer before you begin your studies. **MALACHI**

Presences: Training for the Priesthood.

- But the dean never let us forget the primitive Yahweh: "It is not easy to cuddle up to a volcano," he would say.
- Each seminarian was encouraged to take a summer of clinical training. I was near my family's place. Once we lived in luxury at home, but during the day I entered a terrifying world.
- He was a strange person in many ways: he had thought his way into the Episcopal Church from Roman Catholicism and found the open Catholic tradition of our Church to his liking. He was always rethinking doctrine so that it would make sense to modern minds.
- I had just been made bishop. I entered his messy hotel room, and the old man immediately knelt down and asked for my blessing. As I placed my shaking hands on that embattled head, I could hardly speak for the tears. He inscribed a book of his sermons to me as follows: My thankfulness tonight is deeply due to having your hands laid on my white head. From 1947 until today, you've been the lamp which has relit my life.

Guided by God: Church Arrives in the Philippines

- Religion played a miniscule role in identity and community formation and most likely little if any role in legitimating whatever proto-governmental structure would have existed in the pre-Spanish era.

Guided by God: The American Era

- The centuries-old conflict between the Christian majority and the Muslim minority in the south was also very much alive during this time. Unlike the Spanish, the Americans had little difficulty in subduing the *moros*. They were, through superior arms, more than a match for the fighters of the *moros*; who were equipped with antiquated firearms and a *keris*. The Muslims ultimately accepted American rule with the signing of the Carpenter Agreement in 1915 between Sultan Jamalul Kiram and Frank Carpenter. They did this hoping that they would be granted a modicum of autonomy and not be forced to submit to the authority of the Christian Filipinos, whose power was centered in Manila.

Ideas Have Consequences: The Unsentimental Sentiment

- Man is in the world to suffer his passion; but wisdom comes to his relief with an offer of conventions, which shape and elevate that passion. The task of the

creators of culture is to furnish the molds and the frames to resist that "sinking in upon the moral being" which comes of accepting experience. Without the transcendental truth of metaphysics, that task is impossible.

Ideas Have Consequences: The Power of the Word.

- Semantics, which I shall treat as an extreme outgrowth of nominalism, seems inspired by two things: a feeling that language does not take into account the infinite particularity of the world and a phobia in the face of the autonomous power of words. The semanticists are impressed with the world as process, and, feeling with Heraclitus that no man can step in the same river twice, they question how the fixities of language can represent a changeful reality.

Nails in the Wall: The Establishment of Convents.

- The orders gave a variety of reasons for their misgivings. They claimed that they could not financially support so many women. The friars also worried that the time spent on pastoral care for women would necessarily infringe on their other duties. Another common argument focused on the nuns' supposedly detrimental psychological impact on religious men. With a clear understanding of its responsibilities for the women, in 1269 the order finally and formally incorporated religious women into its legal structure as the Second Order of Preacheresses.

The House Where...Happened: After the First Church.

- My mother had taken a job as a waitress. It was the best job she could find in our small town serving dinner in a fancy place. My mother was friendly. The tips were good. But when the word spread to The First Church of God, there was trouble. The problem was my mother was serving alcohol though she didn't drink herself.

The House Where...Happened: Door of A Barn.

- I went to a state college nearby and studied English. A restlessness had formed in me for all the new worlds and ideas I was starting to see beyond the comforting acres of our farm. I wanted to be a part of everything that was new to me. I was ready. But not completely.

The House Where...Happened: Returning.

- As if it were a simple thing—this knowing how to choose to live. Whether you spent your days in New Hampshire or in Greece. There is no such a thing as one best way. I look up to regard the tangled vines of bittersweet wound at the base of each altar candle, at the open tabernacle, and the cross. I take in all of the richness of color and warm wine, of candles flickering in the mixture of the altar's shadows and morning light, of voices lifted beyond us toward Him. It is only a moment, but it is enough. I feel my knees stiffen on the lumpy and hard mats where I kneel, receive, and ponder. Then I must step away to let another come for that moment unlike any other. I push myself up from the rail, fold my hands together, and walk back, changed, toward the world where I live.

Birth of A Church: A Parish is Born.

- I arrived in Peru. I had driven around And left written announcements about the inaugural Mass in most of the few dozen homes that comprised the new parish, so that about thirty or forty people showed up at the appointed hour. In typically Peruvian style they were very cordial, and of course they were curious about the new parish and its priest. That first Mass was pre-Vatican II in every sense.

Birth of A Church: The Early Years.

- Building the infrastructure.

Preaching: The Gospel in Black and White.

- The sermon chosen was with the theme and goal of having to do with a clarity of a translation that it is intended to promote.

Who Comes in the Name of the Lord?: Life Goes On.

- Life goes on...of this city where life goes on never looking the other way.
- Since the Great Depression, mainline Protestant denominations have been experiencing more of their life at the edge of society as the government expanded its social functions to include areas deemed the church's unique domain. In a comprehensive study of American religion since World War II, Wuthnow argues that with this expanding role of government the environment of American religion changed; moreover, as educational levels rose in society and various church groups shared more of a common culture, the significance of denominationalism declined. Although conflicts between denominations have lessened and religious resources are mobilized inter-denominationally, the mainline churches' marginality is accentuated by these new cultural conditions.

The Thomas Merton Encyclopedia: Entering the Silence.

- Entering the Silence. Becoming a Monk and Writer.

The Thomas Merton Encyclopedia: Hidden Ground of Love.

- Hidden Ground of Love. The Letters of Thomas Merton on Religious Experience and Social Concerns.

John Keble in Context: Introduction.

- But an alternative reading of Keble's life would cast him in quite a different light, point to his almost legendary status as a young graduate in Oxford: his reconception of the pastoral role of an Oxford tutor which was to have significant impact on the drive to reform Oxford throughout the century, his influence over a group, including Thomas Arnold, Edward Pusey, Hurrell Froude, Robert Wilberforce and John Newman, who were between them to have an immense effect on the Anglican Church and on society as a whole, and his constant and decisive involvement in debates which were shaking the foundations of Church and State.

John Keble in Context: Oxford Movement.

- The Oxford Movement was the beginnings of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The Calling: The Faith of My Father.

- My parents believed they had a calling to raise a big family of good Catholic children. For that, they sacrificed any personal dreams. In particular, my father had to set aside his art. Each of the children received art lessons from him. Our family life revolved around the church, and of course my parents held the hope that they would be giving at least two of their children to God—one to the priesthood and one to the convent. It seemed that I was the daughter anointed to be the nun. Although I had a clearly rebellious streak and wasn't entirely the "type" most sought after.

Crisis and Reform: Crisis in the Christian East.

- The concept of Holy War guided much of the Ottoman policy. Conquest of the infidel was a central tenet of the ideology of the Ottoman state. Ottoman expansion into Europe was stopped at the outskirts of Vienna in 1529. The empire did not score any lasting advances against European Christian states.