Father Weisbecker, Chaplain of the Alexian Brothers Hospital in Elizabeth, New Jersey, relates that

An officer who had many good qualities possessed the one bad habit of swearing. Once when he was seriously ill he had a Sister of Charity to nurse him. She was appalled to hear how constantly he made use of oaths, and she begged him to refrain from the practice.

The patient declared, however, that it was such a confirmed habit with him to swear that he couldn't break himself of it. But the sister told him he could, if he wanted to. She knew the means and she would tell him of it only on one condition, that he promise as an officer and as a gentleman to act upon her suggestion.

After a few minutes' reflection he gave her his hand, saying, "Well, then, upon my word of honor..."

"The means I want you to make use of," the sister explained, "is this: give twenty-five cents to the sick poor in the hospital every time you utter an oath."

The officer made a wry face and declined because that system, he said, would soon reduce him to beggary.

"So such thing!" she came back, reminding him of his promise. "Refrain from swearing and you will have nothing to pay!"

The first time her patient let slip an oath she collected a quarter. Later that day he yielded up five more quarters. The next day he was fined only three, and on the third day, but one. From that time forth an oath was never heard to escape from his lips.

And Father Weisbecker wisely adds: "How salutary are severe penances, especially those that involve pecuniary loss! If sinners were punished by fines a great many would soon become reformed characters."

**At His Finger Tips.**

A very interesting story is told of a New York lawyer who stated: "I have a tiny Rosary which fits nicely in my hand, and it is my practice to hold the hustle and bustle of the 'base' of world. Every morning, on my way to the office or to the court, I say my beads, and among the thousands that brush elbows with me not one knows that I am talking to my Heavenly Mother. I have won more cases by saying a rosary a day than all the knowledge gleaned from my library of law books could have gained for me."

The virtue of this man certainly shows us that success in life is not entirely resting on our own shoulders. If Marshal Poch, while holding in his hand the door or delivering thousands of men, could slip away to say a rosary, certainly no man, however busy he may be, can claim exemption from this holy practice.

(—New Freeman.)

**MICHAEL KNOWLTON.**—Loyalty is characteristic of the strong. Show loyalty to your bishop by participating in his prayer.

**PRAY: ST. TIL, TD Dunn; Charley nightingale; Jim Bookwalter; Paul Schremko; Joe Thompson, One Thanksgiving. Right special intentions.**