Mass Thursday of Saint Stanislaus, page 610.
Deceased: Rt. Rev. Monsignor M.H. May, Norwich, Conn.

A Plea For The Disciplines.

President Robert Hutchins of the University of Chicago recently declared in a lecture at Yale that modern universities, in search of "clear and distinct ideas," might do well to revive the medieval schoolmen's trivium of rhetoric, grammar, and logic.

Congratulations to Dr. Hutchins! He would have this "painless," new-fangled brand of pedagogy find its way to an exit, yes? Many extra- or supra-collegiate intellectuals will applaud his perspicacity. Listen to this amusing and highly significant editorial from the New York Sun for Friday, April 24:

"When the president of the University of Chicago uses the word 'degenerate' to describe current methods of teaching English grammar the old-timers among us sit up and take notice... His are words an old-timer may joyously roll over the tongue: 'One must know how to read books. The degeneracy of instruction in English grammar should not blind us to the fact that only through grammatical study can books be understood. Grammar disciplines the mind and develops the logical faculty. It is good in itself and as an aid to reading the classics. For those who are going to learn from books learning the art of reading would seem to be indispensable.'

"The utterance of a Tory, of course. But Dr. Hutchins is even more Toryish than that. He dares to sneer at 'what is called self-expression.' Self-expression as here understood, he says, 'the exact reverse of the discipline which rhetoric in all ages up to the present was used to give.' Fancy anybody nowadays talking as if discipline and logic and hard-headed instruction in grammar and rhetoric were more useful in school than encouraging self-expression among persons who haven't much self to express and not much expression with which to express it anyway! It is enough to make the whole college of pedagogues tremble with rage:

"If the college throws Dr. Hutchins out, however, the guild of educated old fossils will be glad to take him in. Those who know how to parse, how to identify an idiom when they meet it in the road, who walk in comfort in the subjunctive mood, who tread with sure foot the pathway which winds through the sequence of tenses, who know what ought to agree with what in gender, person and number, who can shoot gerundives on the wing and drag the furtive genitive from its lair, will gladly hail him as a man and a brother. Then, too, those are times when all good grammatical Tories should stand together. If they can get formal grammar back into the curriculum, they may even succeed in bringing logic home from its place of exile!"

Logic home from its place of exile—not bad!

New May Booklets.

Father Hoeller of Hartford, Wisconsin, has generously sent you 100 copies of a new booklet containing prayers and devotions for each day of the month of May. You will find a supply of these booklets at the rotto and at the priolibus before the Altar of Exposition in the church. Make use of them in these two places, then leave them for students to follow. If you wish to keep one of the booklets for your own use, call at the Prefect of Religion's office. And, to Father Hoeller, hearty thanks!

PRAYERS: (deceased) Miss Anna Joyce, Brooklyn, N.Y.; third anniversary of mother of Dan Boyle (Icossa), Ill, relative of Sister R. Evangelista; Mrs. C. P. DuSan, Fort Wayne; brother of Father Winnick; George Morris (Bald). Two special intentions.