Thanksgiving Day is for thanksgiving—don't forget.

My Madonna.

I hailed me a woman from the street,
Shameless, but, oh, so fair!
I bade her sit in the model's seat
And I painted her sitting there,
I hid all trace of her heart unclean;
I painted a babe at her breast;
I painted her as she might have been
If the Worst had been the Best.
She laughed at my picture and went away.
Then came, with a knowing nod,
A connoisseur, and I heard him say;
"Tis Mary, the Mother od God."
So I painted a hallow around her hair,
And I sold her and took my fee,
And she hangs in the church of Saint Hillaire,
Where you and all may see. (Anon)

How Catholics Must Marry.

A Catholic who marries before a Judge, Justice of Peace or a non-Catholic minister is not truly married. In the eyes of the civil authorities the union is valid, provided no State impediment exists. But in the eyes of God there is no marriage and the Catholic is living in a state of sin.

It seems that a number of Catholics believe that a civil marriage entered into by a Catholic is valid. So it is worthwhile to restate the Catholic teaching.

A Catholic who marries a Catholic or a non-Catholic must appear before a pastor, or another priest delegated by him. This is the ordinary procedure for marriage, which has been determined by the Church to whom Christ gave jurisdiction over such matters. The law or the Church must be followed under penalty of mortal sin and an invalid marriage.

A "Blessed" Marriage.

People very often say about an invalid marriage that has been "Fixed up" that "The marriage was blessed by the priest." This expression leaves the idea that marriage of a Catholic before a civil authority was really a marriage, and that the Church does nothing more than sort of put Her stamp on approval on it by some prayer. This is far from the truth. What the priest does is to marry the couple for the first time.

A catholic who marries outside the Church needs correction. Some bishops have placed heavy censures on those who attempt marriage before a civil judge or minister. In case of those who marry before a non-Catholic minister, the church has placed an excommunication, because there are far more implications regarding the action, an implicit denial of the Faith being only one of them. This excommunication will be removed if the Catholic is truly repentent and determined to fulfill the penance given by the bishop. Guilty parties will be helped by any confessor who will make the moves required for lifting the excommunication.

DONT FORGET THE TIME OF THANKSGIVING DAY MASSE IN DILLON: 7:20, 8:00 and 9:00.
HOLY COMMUNION WILL BE DISTRIBUTED ALL MORNING IN DILLON.