

††† *Jesus Mary Joseph* ††† **Humor for today** ††† *Jesus Mary Joseph* †††

As part of the admission procedure in the hospital where I work, I ask the patients if they are allergic to anything. If they are, I print it on an allergy band and place it on the patient's wrists.

Once, when I asked an elderly woman if she had any allergies, she said she couldn't eat bananas.

Imagine my surprise when, several hours later, an outraged son came out to the nurse station demanding, "Who's responsible for labeling my mother 'bananas'?"

††† *Jesus Mary Joseph* †††

The inventor of autocorrect died. The funnel will be held tomato.

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Robert was in trouble. He forgot his wedding anniversary. His wife was furious. She told him, "Tomorrow morning, I expect to find a gift in the driveway that goes from 0 to 200 in 6 seconds, AND IT BETTER BE THERE!" The following day, Robert got up early and left for work. When his wife woke up, she looked out the window, and sure enough, there was a box gift-wrapped in the middle of the driveway. Confused, the wife brought the box into the house. She opened it and found a brand-new bathroom scale. Robert has been missing since Friday.

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Q: What starts with E, ends with E, and has only one letter in it? A: Envelope.

††† *Jesus Mary Joseph* †††

Q: What type of sandals do frogs wear? A: Open-toad!

†††JMJ††† **This is Serious** †††JMJ†††

He who has arrived at a perfect love of God feels neither glory nor disgrace; he has only contempt for temptations and sufferings. He loses taste for everything but God. Finding no strength, no consolation, no repose in anything but God, he seeks only his Beloved. Whether he works or eats, whether he sleeps or wakes, where he converses or is silent, all his thoughts, all his ambition is to find Him Whom he loves. God is his treasure, in Him is his heart. In a word, he may be compared to a man violently enamored, who can only live near the creature who is the object of his passion. (*St. John Chrysostom*)

The perfect love of God does not consist in those sentiments of devotion which we sometimes so much desire, but in a strong determination to avoid the least sin, and to take every means for this, with an ardent desire to please God in all things and to procure his glory. (*Saint Teresa*)

Temptations are beneficial to you if you resist them from the commencement, if you have recourse to God with much confidence and humility. (*Saint Jerome*)

He who does not combat the temptation is already half vanquished, if not entirely, said Saint Jerome. It is with a temptation as with a spark of fire: if it falls upon the clothing, it is easy to extinguish it, to prevent it from doing much harm; but if one does not immediately take means to arrest its progress, what disastrous consequences will follow!

In temptation we must have recourse to God, throwing ourselves into His arms, upon His breast, acting as a man would who, being under a great tree, sees coming towards him several wild beasts; he mounts the tree to place himself in a secure place. We must reflect upon what the Scriptures says, that God is always at our side to help us. We must consider, that Our Lord sees us, and watches the manner in which we fight.

My God, when I am tempted, I will throw myself with confidence into Thy arms. I will say with love, My tender Father, have pity, save me, or I shall perish.

*(November 12, 2023, is the 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, but not the last Sunday after Pentecost. Therefore, we pray the prayers from the fifth Sunday after Epiphany. You are encouraged to read the sermons for this Sunday found at <https://jmjsite.com/Fifth%20Sunday%20after%20Epiphany.html>. Below are some extracts from one of those sermons.)*

### The Impure Tongue

*Of all the wicked tongues, there is none which sows more cockle to the destruction of souls, than the impure, immodest tongue. Therefore every one who wishes to avoid being led into the vice of impurity must be especially on his guard against those enemies of his soul who speak impurely.*

No wicked tongue leads to greater sin than the impure tongue. The impure tongue is not satisfied with bringing eternal damnation on its own soul, but it must also sow in the ears and hearts of those who listen to it the cockle, which it may take them a lifetime to eradicate; for by its impure discourses it leads many innocent souls into the greatest and most dangerous vices.

Nothing is more dangerous and more apt to lead to sin, says St. Paul, than wicked conversation: “Be not seduced; evil communications corrupt good manners” (1 Cor. 15: 33). They are like a consuming canker, as he writes to his disciple Timothy: “Shun profane and vain babblings; for they grow much toward ungodliness, and their speech spreadeth like a canker” (2 Tim. 2: 16, 17)—that is, they creep through the ears into the heart, and keep gnawing at it until they get it to consent to a sinful pleasure. All wicked conversation and even unspiritual and vain talk has that effect. What mischief, then, must not be caused by impure tongues in the human heart, which is already of itself prone to sensual indulgence? It is hardly possible for any one to talk impurely in company without committing a mortal sin, either on account of the scandal given by such discourses, especially when the hearers are still innocent, or on account of the danger of consenting to a bad thought about the impure subject that is spoken of. And what is said of impure conversation is also to be understood of impure songs, which are all the more dangerous than mere conversation, as they are more apt to fill the heart with their poison, to inflame the imagination, and to fix the subject more strongly in the hearer’s memory.

And yet, alas, how common such songs and such conversation are in the world nowadays! It seems that people imagine they can have no pleasure, nor amusement, and cannot carry on an entertaining conversation, without bringing in those filthy topics.

There are even parents to be found who not only use such filthy language in presence of their innocent children, but actually encourage them to sing unchaste songs, whereby the children lose all sense of modesty, even before they understand the meaning of the words they use, and when they grow up they listen without shame to things that would otherwise have brought a blush to their cheeks. ... Oh, wicked tongues, what a fearful account you will have to render, not only for yourselves and for the sins you commit by impure conversations, but also for the souls that you have betrayed into sin! Striking was the example given by our Lord in the public street. He was surrounded by a great crowd of people, when he saw a little child passing by. Christ called the child, took him by the hand, and “set him in the midst of them” (Matt. 18: 2).

The people were surprised, and, expecting to hear something wonderful from him, they were all attention. Then our Lord, pointing to the child, said in earnest tones: "He that shall scandalize one of these little ones that believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone should be hanged about his neck, and that he should be drowned in the depth of the sea." Therefore, "Woe to that man by whom the scandal cometh!" (Matth. 18: 6, 7.) Woe, then, to you, unchaste tongues, that scandalize so many innocent souls!

In truth, if any one is marked for eternal damnation it is the man who is given to impure conversation.

[You are encouraged to read the rest of this sermon and the other sermons.]

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