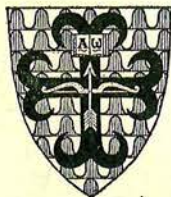


FROM THE HOUSETOPS



PUBLISHED BY

ST. BENEDICT CENTER

CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER

23 ARROW STREET, CAMBRIDGE 38, MASS.

Vol. I, No. 4

June, 1947

FROM THE HOUSETOPS

VOL. I, No. 4

JUNE, 1947

CONTENTS

	PAGE
IS FAITH A GIFT? Leonard Feeney	3
VARIATIONS ON FOUR THEMES Theodore Chanler	5
POESIS PERENNIS Daniel Sargent	8
FELIX CULPA Daniel J. Honan	9
HUMILITY Edmund Czernin	10
DISASTERS IN EDUCATION Catherine G. Clarke	11
OUTLINE OF ART Avery Dulles	16
GRATITUDE Theodora Downs	21
NOT TO KNOW THIS Thomas Butler Feeney	22
OUT OF THE DARKNESS Jean McDougall	23
THE BIRTH OF PHILOSOPHY Fakhri Maluf	23
SINCE GABRIEL'S FLIGHT Daniel Sargent	28
A MEDICAL STUDENT LOOKS AT HIS PROFESSION W. Brewster Wolfe	29
PRAYER AT PENTECOST Sister Maris Stella	33
A MODERN MASQUE Howard Cannon and John Vickers	35
ACHIEVEMENT Grace Guiney	41
THE LION-LAMB Fakhri Maluf	46
AND YOU SHALL RECEIVE Temple Morgan	46
THE REAL LARGENESS OF CHESTERTON Muriel Mary Vincent	48
SENTIMENT AND EMOTION Leonard Feeney	54
MEDITATION ON PSALM 52 Charles Rich	60

FROM THE HOUSETOPS is a Catholic quarterly published by St. Benedict Center. The price is fifty cents a copy, \$1.75 per year.

IS FAITH A GIFT?

LEONARD FEENEY

WHEN Our Lord was asked: "Master, which is the great commandment in the law?" He replied: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart, and with thy whole soul, and with thy whole mind."

The triumphant answer which Our Lord gave to the question concerning the great commandment, clearly indicates that He is prepared to supply through revelation truths equal to supporting such a whole-sale love. Our Lord's statement is an open promise that He is in the act of teaching a gospel intense enough in content to arouse such an all-embracing outlook on salvation.

And when Our Lord went on to add: "This is the greatest and first commandment. And the second is like to this: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself," obviously He meant to say: "And if thy neighbor should come to thee and ask: What is the great commandment for me?, you must tell him what I have told you; and you must realize that the overwhelming overture I offer you in the first commandment is meant as much for your neighbor as it is for you. In this way, you will clearly show that you love your neighbor as you do yourself, by sharing with him your best gift: your faith."

How this codicil to the great commandment: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself" has been taken from the context in which Our Lord put it, anyone knows who has had to go through the torture of listening to liberal Catholics explaining to self-interested Protestants how they can get into heaven without joining the Catholic Church. Nothing of the sustained challenge of Our Lord is left after the liberal Catholics have finished with it. "We must," they say by clear inference, "love God with our whole heart, our whole soul, and our whole mind. You — dear heretics — may not be equal to such a thorough performance. Even so, do not worry. We shall love you almost more than if you were. For the second commandment of Christ interests us much more than the first does, and we are determined to love our neighbor as ourselves, even when we do not see the slightest reason for doing so."