FRANCISCAN CAPUCHIN FRIARY,
CHURCH STREET, DUBLIN.

Laudate Dominum Omnes Gentes

2nd Sun. Advent,
1931.

"Praise the Lord, all ye gentiles, and magnify Him, all ye peoples!"

These words, from Psalm 116, are quoted by St. Paul in the portion of his Epistle to the Romans which is read in the Mass this morning.

In the name of the Father, etc.

Just twelve months ago, my dear brethren, the Archbishops and Bishops of Ireland issued from Maynooth a Joint Pastoral announcing to us

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tidings of great joy as did the Angels at Bethlehem to the simple shepherds on the hillside leading us not indeed to the discovery of the new-born King of the Jews but to the re-discovery of the Eucharistic King who at this last supper instituted the Great Sacrament of His eternal love by which He is enabled to walk in all days even to the end of the world.

Their Lordships, like unto Our Lord's precursor Saint John the Baptist, fervently appealed to us to prepare the way of the Lord and make straight His paths.

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They invited us to assemble with them in this grand Catholic city of Dublin in June of next year at a great meeting or Congress at which we all can unite in prayer and sacrifice before the eyes of the people of our nation and before the eyes of the whole world; where we all can praise the Lord and magnify Him in a more worthy manner; where we all can, like the Disciples at Emmaus, learn to know Our Master and learn to know one another in the breaking of bread at the Table of the Blessed Eucharist.

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That Pastoral my dear brethren, was issued one year ago and then the Congress seemed to be far off. But the twelve months have flown quickly by and now we stand on the threshold of our great Eucharistic Year. And I think it well that we should consider for a short time this morning their Lords words, in order to check our obligations, in this act of prayer during our part to make the Congress a success; and generally to examine our attitude towards the Our

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Lord in the Blessed Sacrament,
and to call to mind our forefathers'
devotion to the Mass and to
the Blessed Eucharist and
to see if ~~we be~~ our devotion
and
be as fervent, as loving as
theirs was.

Through the Long winter of
the Penal Days, as our
Venerable Bishops reminded us,
~~in their Joint letter~~, the soul
of Ireland lived exclusively
on the Holy Mass and on the
Rosary. Ireland then had
neither pulpit, church nor
sacred text - they were all
suppressed. But the King

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of glory ~~into~~ came to her
veiled in sacramental
raiment "flowing with delights"
and all her lands, in starvation,
supplied ~~to all~~. her
He was ^ food; ~~in her~~
He made ^ of her cabins regal
~~homeless condition~~ ✓ He made
palaces,
her ~~cabin a palace~~; in
her rags ✓ He was a vesture
of glory; in her tears, He was
and ~~Solace~~ hope;
her consolation ✓ in exile,
her companion; in defeat He
was victory; amidst the sneers
of saints, He was ~~the~~ her
burning fire; when hunted
from her churches ✓ He made
her mountains His temples

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and neither there for adoration as
in the Cleanness of Bethlehem
renewing to us her eyes in
the uplifted hands of the
Christ the memories and
scenes of Calvary which
raised her above all suffering
and mysteries the blessed hope
that her long drawn out night
of agony ~~sacrifice~~ would be
followed by a ~~season~~ day of
joy and glory.

I am afraid short
months time ~~my dear brethren~~
Ireland will ~~shall~~ honour with special
honour the hidden God who
through the days of persecution
was the strength of our
ancestors and who through

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the lonely restless day and
the lonely watches of the
night abide a Prisoner of Love
on our Altars. The doors of
the Tabernacle will be
thrown open and our Hidden
God will be borne in
triumph through the streets
of our City to receive the
homage and adoration
of a faithful people —
to receive the adoration and
homage of representatives
of every colour, tongue and
clime.

IN the east reckoning, my

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dear brethren, a saintly French lady saddened by the irreligious condition of her land France – once the bride of the Catholic world – ~~surrendered to the heretics~~ implored her Bishop to ~~stop~~ in anticipation the first public Eucharistic Congress, in Lille of France in 1881. The good Bishop realised that the only means to open a way to men's heart which infidelity, materialism and heresy had closed against spiritual influences was by cultivating anew a spirit of love and devotion to Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament and he ~~had~~ planned and convened in Lille of France in 1881

and wear the official Eucharistic
Congress badge. (12)

~~We have~~ His Eucharistic Congress will bring blessings to our country and to our people – ~~the~~ blessings that only God alone can bestow – peace and happiness and prosperity and what is more important than wealth and prosperity in this age of degrading materialism and sordid Communistic propaganda – intensified faith and contact with Jesus Christ – the sole principle of true happiness.

My dear brethren, many a gift has Jesus lavished on this Church, but never a gift of faith that can offer

love for Jesus in the
Blessed Eucharist. And thus
we shall be drawn insensibly
nearer that Saviour whom
to possess is to have Heaven
even here below, and,
persevering in our devotion
to Him in the most Blessed
Sacrament, we shall when
His life is ever possess
Him in beatitude for
ever and ever. Amen.

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the first public Eucharistic
Congress. Since that date the
venue of the Eucharistic
Congress has been changed
from place to place.

We who dwell in this
fair island, were compelled
to gaze from afar off at
the wonderful manifestations
of faith and devotion to it in
these great Eucharistic assemblies.
We read the glowing accounts
of gorgeous pageants in
Montréal and in Rome, in
Lourdes and in Vienna, in
Madrid and in Cologne, in
Paris and in Jerusalem, in
Chicago and in Sydney —
and though some of our Bishops,