

# INTERESTING

THE OFFICIAL CATHOLIC DIRECTORY ADDS A FEW MORE EVERY YEAR TO THE CATHOLIC POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES. LAST YEAR IT WAS 20,236,391; NOW IT IS 20,268,408, A GAIN OF 32,012. THE PEOPLE ARE MAINTAINING 18,260 CHURCHES AND 29,782 members of the clergy. CONVERTS ARE REPORTED TO THE NUMBER OF 41,226. THE CATHOLIC POPULATION OF NEW YORK IS GIVEN AS 1,273,291, OR ABOUT ONE TO FOUR. THIS AGREES WITH THE RECKONING OF A CATHOLIC CLERGYMAN A WHILE AGO THAT WHILE CATHOLICS SUPPLIED 65% OF NEW YORK'S CRIMINALS AND DELINQUENTS, THEY WERE ONLY 25% OF ITS POPULATION. THE CHURCH CANNOT FEEL VERY PROUD OF ITS HORDE OF FOLLOWERS. CATHOLICS ARE COUNTED AS "OF THE FAITH" AT THE VERY EARLY AGE OF 8 YEARS, WHICH IS PROBABLY WHY THERE APPEAR TO BE MORE CATHOLICS THAN METHODISTS.

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One would naturally think that in view of the fact that the Pope is the direct regent and ambassador of Almighty God, partaking of all His power etc, the followers of that system of religion would certainly be so close to God that there would not be any criminals or delinquents in the organization.

Figures dont lie though, and while not of course questioning the "Holy Church" and its "divine" claims, still, being from Missouri, we sometimes wonder why it is that the above FACTS exist. If there is any "divinity" of any kind in either the Catholic or the Protestant church, it will not have a very hard time to manifest that "divinity" and instead of providing delinquents and criminals, it will reform them. Thank Heaven though the people are getting wise to both Catholic and Protestant "churches", and are searching for, and by the way finding God, outside of the realm or the influence of any church.\* THE GREATEST STUMBLING BLOCK IN THE PATH OF SPIRITUAL ENLIGHTENMENT, IS NOW, AND ALWAYS HAS BEEN----THE CHURCH.