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Notes: Reformation Homily, 1967

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DATE 10/31/67 OCCASION _____

THEME Reformation Homily

1. It is entirely possible that all these services and celebrations arranged to mark the 450th Anniversary of the lonely walk of the Augustinian monks to the Castle Church at Wittenberg - all the essays and sermons of praise, all the singing and chanting ^{and} may finally ^{and} as an exhausted whining whisper - "So what? All right - so the obedient ^{rebel} Wittenberg did something four and a half centuries ago - he stood for something which we have largely lost - he spoke to a world so bitterly different from our - and therefore "so what" - what shall we do now? -
2. The Imperative of the Reformation - this is what finally counts - what happens after the last procession - the last hymn - the last homily?.
3. First - recognize the fact that the message of the mass is a dangerous, very dangerous doctrine - the justification by grace ^{misunderstood} can easily lead to the idea that everything has been done for our salvation - nothing remains to be done. Consequence - It is finished