

WORKS ALREADY EXISTING

of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

MOTHER-HOUSE

314 ST.CATHERINE ROAD, OUTREMONT, NEAR MONTREAL

(Founded in 1902)

Diocesan Office of the Holy Childhood. Procure for the Missions. Work-room of Church Vestments, embroidery, lace and painting for the support of the Mother-House and Novitiate. School for the formation of Chinese catechists. Sewing-circles for ladies and young girls. Diffusion of a Missionary Review: The Precursor. Free missionary library.

NOVITIATE

PONT VIAU, NEAR MONTREAL

HOLY CHILDHOOD HOME

P. O. BOX 93, CANTON, CHINA

(Founded in 1909)

School for catechists. Catechumenate. School for christian and pagan pupils. Orphanage. Foundling-Home. Work-rooms.

SHEK-LUNG LAZARETTO

SHEK-LUNG, NEAR CANTON, CHINA

(Founded in 1913)

CHINESE WORKS IN MONTREAL

74 LAGAUCHETIERE ST. WEST, MONTREAL

(Founded in 1913)

Sunday School and language courses for Chinese adults, every Sunday afternoon, from 2.30 to 4.00.

CHINESE SCHOOL

(Founded in 1916)

Teaching of English, French and Chinese.

CHINESE HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY

76 LAGAUCHETIERE ST. WEST, MONTREAL

(Founded in 1918)

The Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception also visit Chinese patients in Catholic or Protestant Hospitals.

CITY OF RIMOUSKI, P. O. (House dedicated to St. Francis Xavier)

(Founded in 1918)

Apostolic School for aspirants to the missions. Diocesan Office of the Holy Childhood. Closed Retreats for young girls. Work-room of Church Vestments.

(Continued on page 3 of the cover)

Please Help the Missionary Sisters

of the Immaculate Conception

By procuring work for them

THE Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception have a work-room in which are made church-vestments and altar-linens, the profits of which are destined to support their Mother-House and Novitiate.

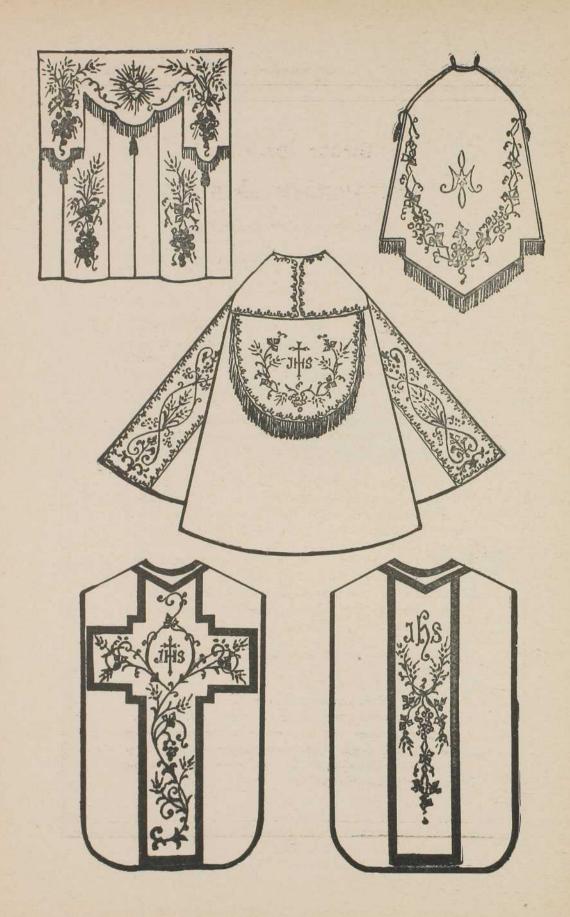
Missionaries must undergo several years' preparation before being able to commence their apostolic labors in foreign fields.

The articles mentioned on the following page may be procured, on reasonable terms, at the work-shop of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont, Montreal.

We paint to order, spiritual bouquets, calendars with pictures of Our Lady, the Holy Family, the Little Flower, and mission scenes. First Communion and Confirmation badges, scapulars, Agnus Dei, cushions, etc.

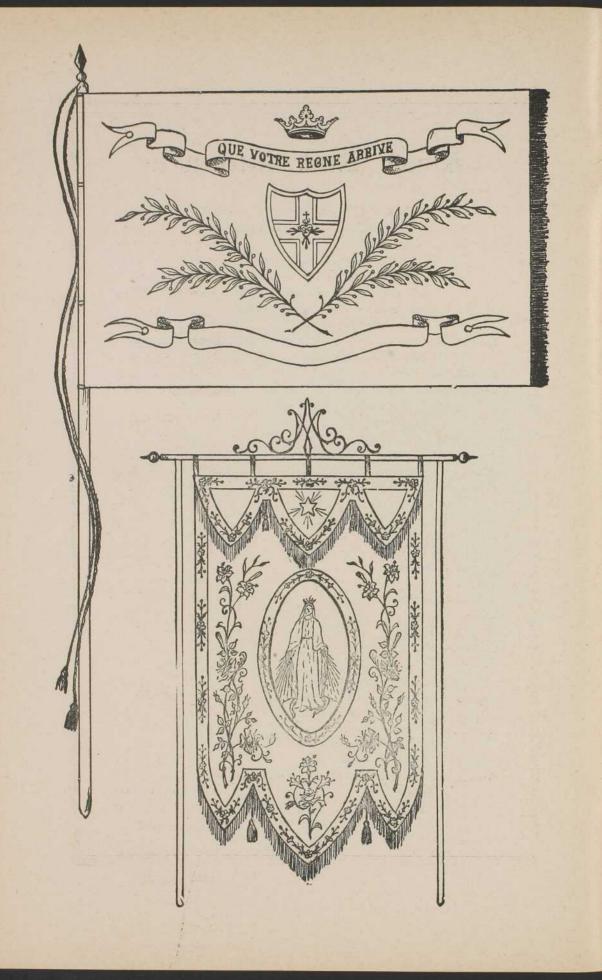
Wax infants for Christmas cribs, are also made in all sizes.

Chinese embroideries and laces are offered for sale. They are made by our Chinese orphans. By encouraging these sales you co-operate in the salvation of many young pagan girls who, while earning their livelihood in Catholic work-shops, receive at the same time the light of Faith.



Kindly Read Attentively

Chasuble, damask	silk, silk braid	8 18.00	and	\$ 28.00		
" moire - antique, with beautiful						
	a	30.00	66	38.00		
" velvet, g	old braid and emblem .	30.00	"	45.00		
" gold-embroidered moire-antique			**	100.00		
	th, gold braid and emb.	50.00	44	75.00		
	d - cloth, very richly					
hand embroidered			66	150.00		
Dalmatics, per pair			66	80.00		
" gold-cloth, per pair			66	150.00		
Benediction Veils			44	upwards		
Cope, damask silk, silk or gold braid			66	50.00		
	oidered moire-antique,					
	m	70.00	6.6	90.00		
" gold-cloth, g	gold - embroidered by					
hand with a beautiful emblem.			***	150.00		
Albs, Antependium	S	10.00	"	upwards		
	onstrance Veils	3.00		"		
	green or red	5.00	44	**		
Tabernacle Veils, Sick Call Burses		5.00	**	1.6		
Reversible Confession Stoles		5.00	6.6	46		
Ciborium Covers			36.6	**		
Preaching Stoles		10.00	.66	**		
Cinctures		2.00		66		
Altar-bread Boxes		2.00	*1	**		
Missal Marks			**	**		
Breviary Marks		1.00	66	**		
Canopies, Flags		30.00	6.	**		
Banners		60.00	6.6			
	Altar Cloths	6.00	4.4	"		
	Amices	12.00	per	doz.		
A14 7:)	Corporals	8.50	66	**		
Altar Linen	Finger-towels	4.50	**	"		
	Purificators	5.00	66	-66		
THE REAL PROPERTY.	Palls	4.00	6.6	- "		
We supply Altar-breads at the following prices:						
Small						
Large 0.37 " 100						



Practical Means

of helping the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

By contributing alms to:

By providing for the:

Annual supply for the upkeep of the sanctuary lamp in our houses of Canada and in mission countries	\$ 20.00
Foundation of a Burse for the support of a missionary	
sister	1,000.00
Annual support of a maiden-catechist	50.00
Annual support and education of an orphan	40.00
Foundation of a crib—in perpetuity	200.00
Annual care of a leper	60.00
Monthly upkeep of a crib	5.00
Ransom of a baby, likely to live	5.00
Ransom of a dying baby	.25
Monthly support of a missionary sister	10.00
Monthly support of a novice preparing for the mis-	
sions	10.00
Annual subscription to The Precursor	1.00

The alms that you will give to the missionaries, the help that you will bring them, will be employed for the greater glory of God, and will be for you the most certain and remuneratory investment, the "hundredfold" promised by Jesus Christ.

恭 恭 権

The missionary must not be alone to sacrifice himself. All Christians must unite and help him in his work by their prayers and alms.

Benefactors of the Society

- 1.-Founders, those who donate \$1,000.00 or more.
- 2.—**Protectors**, those who, by the donation of \$500.00, provide the dowry and trousseau of a poor novice. By combining their alms, a parish, community or family may have right to this title.
- A Founder's or Protector's Diploma is awarded to persons making the above mentioned donations.
 - 3.—Subscribers, those who give an annual offering of \$25.00.
 - 4.—Associates, those who give the sum of \$2.00 per year.

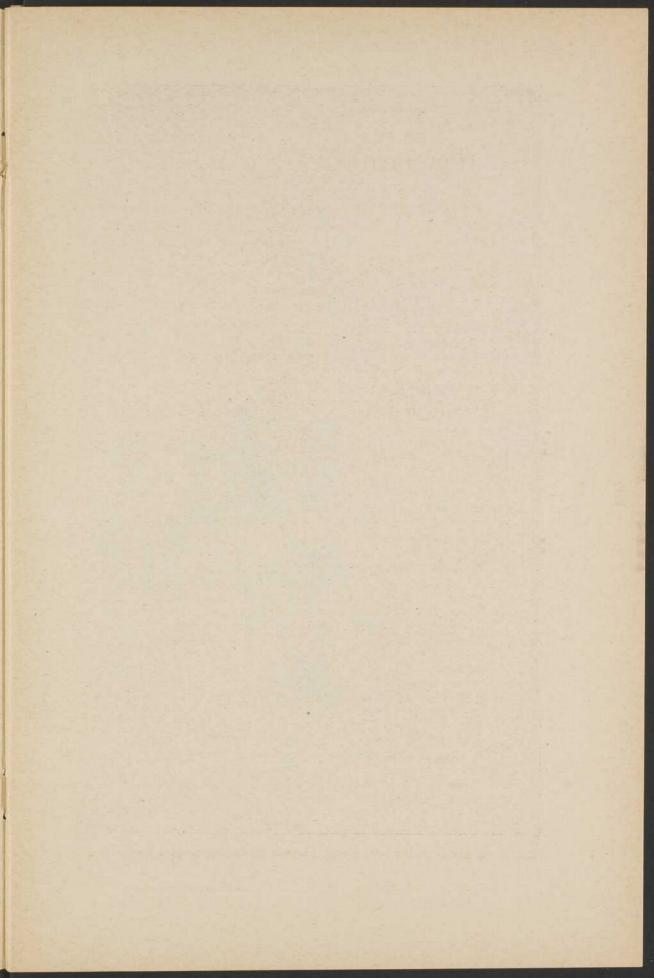
The Society also considers as Benefactors, all persons who contribute to the maintenance of its works any offering whatever, in money or kind.

Privileges Accorded to Benefactors

While commending their Benefactors to God, that He Himself may reward them according to their generosity, the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception assure them as large a share as possible in the merit of their apostolic labors, as also in the prayers and sufferings of all the unfortunates confided to their care.

Besides, Benefactors are entitled to the following spiritual advantages:

- 1.—A special intention in all the Masses heard and Communions received by the Sisters.
 - 2.-A Mass offered every month for their intentions.
- 3.—Every Friday in the year, the Sisters offer, for their Benefactors' intentions, their hours of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament exposed in the chapel of the Mother-House. (The names of Founders and Protectors are deposited on the Altar of Exposition).
- 4.—For the same intentions, the members of the Community make, every day, the Guard of Honor to Mary, which consists in the continual recitation of the Rosary before the altar of the Blessed Virgin. The evening hours of Canada corresponding with the morning hours of China, as the Guard is closing here, it commences at the Lazaretto of Shek-Lung, where the poor lepers, in succeeding groups of fifteen, continue the Perpetual Rosary for the intentions of the Society's Benefactors.
 - 5.—A Requiem High Mass is sung every year for deceased Benefactors.
- 6.—A share in the merits of the Way of the Cross, made daily by the Sisters, is also accorded to deceased Benefactors.
- 7.—In the Novitiate Chapel of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, two Masses are celebrated every week for all Subscribers to "The Precursor" and for all living and deceased Benefactors.





"O IMMACULATE MOTHER, PROTECT OUR BENEFACTORS!



Missionary Sisters

of the Immaculate Conception

with the approbation of the Archbishop of Montreal

Vol. V. 6th Year

MONTREAL, May-June, 1928

No.3

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The Month of Mary

Green are the fields, and sweet the flowers, And rich the hues of May; We see them in the gardens'round And market-panniers gay; And e'en among our streets and lanes, And alleys, we descry, By fitful gleams, the fair sunshine, The blue, transparent sky, O Mother-maid, be thou our aid, Now in the opening year; Lest sights of earth to sin give birth, And bring the tempter near.

Green is the year, but wait awhile, T'will grow, and then will wither; The flowerets, brightly as they smile, Shall perish all together:
The merry sun, you sure would say, It ne'er could set in gloom;
But earth's best joys have all an end, And sin, a heavy doom.
But Mother-maid, thou dost not fade; With stars above thy brow, And the pale moon beneath thy feet, Forever throned art thou.

The green, green years, the glittering grove, The heaven's majestic dome, They image forth a tenderer bower, A more refulgent home; They tell us of that Paradise Of everlasting rest, And that high Tree, all flowers and fruit, The sweetest, yet the best.

O Mary, pure and beautiful, Thou art the Queen of May.
Our garlands wear upon thy hair, And they will ne'er decay.

CARDINAL NEWMAN.

To a Mother's Reeping

The christian who professes a filial devotion towards Mary, loves to contemplate this heavenly Queen under every aspect and under every title that Catholic devotion attributes to her. And among those that tend to develop the more her love and zeal, "Queen of Apostles" is undoubtedly one of the most powerful.

Mary, Queen of Apostles!... This thought carries us back to the first days of the Church, to the Cenacle of Jerusalem, where we picture the Mother of our Saviour presiding over the first councils of the Apostolic College and directing, according to the spirit of her divine Son, the disciples each of whom was soon to take his share in the conversion of the world.

What special breath of divine ardor must have been infused into the souls of these new conquerors whose Chief was the Crucified and whose arms was His Cross!—'Tis Mary who will be the canal of divine graces. 'Tis Mary, their queen who will communicate to the Apostles of Jesus, strength and courage, intrepidity and heroic constancy even unto death.

What Mary has done for the first disciples, she continues to do for every soul invited by a sublime and special grace to the apostolic life.

It is she who presides over the destiny of the Laborers of the Gospel, she who inculcates into them the spirit of her divine Son, the Master of Missionaries. In return, how intense is the apostle's love for Mary! When he sets foot in the land of his dreams, when on pagan shores he traces out his field of action, it is to the Queen of his apostolate that he consecrates the soil in which erelong he will freely sow the seed of the Good Tidings.

And during the long day of his existence, he will lift the eyes of his soul towards the Lady of his spiritual manor, asking her to bless his sufferings, his sorrows, his hopes and his joys. What a treasure of ardent love will fill his soul for the Queen of virginity, of apostolate and of martyrdom! Virgin and apostle, he will be under the guidance of the Virgin of the Cenacle, martyr of charity, martyr in not being a martyr, he will have won the triple halo with which Mary will crown him when she admits him forever into Paradise. Many are the missionaries who often repeat with the poet:

Since long have I tuned the lyre Which my martyrdom will inspire!

But for them this day does not dawn. Still their lyre does not remain mute; if it does not intone the hymn of delivrance it sings the sweet song of hope. Yes, the apostle lives by hope, sowing in the furrows the good seed, happy to contribute, modestly though it be, to the great work of the Almighty. And when the evening shadows gather over his ripening harvest, how confidently will the reaper of the far-distant field offer the fruits of his labors to her who has ever protected his life. He will present himself to Mary, his arms laden with the sheaves which during his sojourn here below he had placed under the vivifying rays of the Divine Sun and he will hear her repeat the words of Jesus: "Come thou, good and faithful servant; come and receive the crown promised to the elect", and throughout eternity the missionary will be what he has been during his mortal life, the privileged child of Mary, the Queen, the sweet and maternal Queen of Apostles.

Christian parents you dream of a future for your children that will respond to the loving care you lavish upon them? Already, while inclining over the frail little angel resting in the family cradle, your heart is touched and you picture him in days to come your pride and your joy. You make noble and beautiful plans, and you do right. Do you wish to attain your aim? Place your child under the ægis of Our Lady. If later, God bestows on you the supreme honor of choosing him for His far-distant missions, rest assured, Mary will not abandon him. She will follow him on pagan shores and will lead him by a path strewn with special blessings to the term of a happy and fruitful apostolate.

Homages

To His Lordship Right Reverend G. Deswazieres

Newly-elected Bishop of Pakhoi, China

BISHOP DESWAZIERES has been, since 1913, Director of the Lazaretto of Shek Lung, near Canton. He has bestowed upon the poor leperstricken victims, with an indefatigable devotedness, spiritual help and the most paternal care.

May Heaven grant to His Lordship many long years of a fecund episcopate!

To His Lordship Right Reverend J. Courchesne

Newly-elected Bishop of Rimouski

The Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception humbly offer with their most respectul homages their wishes for a long and happy episcopate.

A DEPARTURE FOR CHINA



During the month of May next, four religious Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception will leave for China where they are to open a mission in the Vicariate of Haimen, confided to His Lordship Right Reverend Simon Tsu, S. J., one of the six first Chinese bishops consecrated at Rome, in 1926, and who visited Montreal in the month of January 1927.

We beg the assistance of the prayers of our subscribers for the success of the new works which our dear missionaries are about to undertake for the glory of God in another part of China.

Any alms, be it ever so little, to defray the expenses of the voyage and to help in the opening of the mission, will be most gratefully accepted at the Mother-House of the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception,

314 St. Catherine Road,

Outremont, Montreal.

Legislation of the Schools of China

I.—Decree of the Department of Education. Han k'eou February 5th, 1927.

This document will give an idea of the reforms imposed by the national government, and the dangers which threaten religious schools.

"Considering that many foreign schools have not presented their authorisation, that inconceivable inconveniences result from the fact that teaching and discipline are left to every one's caprice, that the foreign schools of Han k'eou are very numerous and that if tolerated will become an obstacle to national civilization, we have decreed the following:

1° Every school, whether directed by religious or not must conform to the present regulations.

2° Every School whether it has made official declarations or not must renew its request, otherwise the school will be closed.

3° Proceedings for this request and the regulation for the closing are the same for private schools.

4° The curriculum and the regulations must comply with those of other schools.

5° Bible instructions, religious prayers, or whatever may aim at apostolical teaching must not be involved.

6° The name of the school will be determined according to the regulations in force and not according to every one's liking.

7° The superior of the schools must be of Chinese nationality. It is strictly forbidden to interfere with his direction and supervision of the classes.

8° Students should constitute scientific "Academies" and take part in current events. Directors must encourage and help them.

9° All authorised schools shall be visited by inspectors appointed by us.

10° The aforesaid regulations shall be in force from the date of their promulgation. Moreover, the instructions of Kovo-min-tang shall be followed and the commemorative assembly of Suen Wen shall be observed weekly.

A grant of (Three Thousand Dollars for Secondary Schools and Five Hundred Dollars for Primary Schools) shall be deposited in a bank designated by us, and it is forbidden to draw the said grant without the permission of the authorities.

Secondary Schools should be supplied with a library valued at One Thousand Dollars, and laboratory equipments to the same value.

The professors must possess diplomas obtained in training schools approved by the ruling party.

The course of study is as follows:

History of social and political revolutions in foreign countries.

The present economical and political conditions of China.

Problems of arbritary treaties.

Organization of the Kouo-min-tangs, their politics and education.

Psychology of the masses.

Movement of youth, its meaning and method.

The economical idea of Suen-Wen, the theory of the state, summary of the nation's construction.

History of the Chinese Revolution.

Rules for public assemblies and theories of lecture.

II. - Demands of the Schools.

They will be found in full in a general petition from all the students of Shanghai (April 3rd, 1927).

1° The students' delegates may (and must) take part in the organization and the management of the school, (hence a Soviet).

2° The students must have unrestricted liberty to hold assemblies, make lectures, advertise and go on strike.

3° The budget for the department of education must be specified.

4° The students' board must be diminished.

5° The students will take an active part in the affairs of the schools. Their delegates will be members of the committee composed of the best qualified members of the staff (directors, teachers, etc.) and will have decisive vote in deliberations.

6° Unify the curriculum (aim: uniform schools).

7° Give a public account of the school's report, assets and liabilities, this being done every month or every second month.

8° Liberty is left to the students to elect their professors.

9° Increase and ameliorate installations of the schools, infirmary, grounds, libraries, laboratory, resting-rooms, etc.

 10° The libraries, grounds and gardens should be open to the public, and be up-to-date.

11° Efforts should be made to open free Primary and Secondary Schools.

12° Religious and private schools should be registered by the government.

13° Religious schools are forbidden to force students to study prayers, and to attend services of devotion.

14° Liberty is given to students in regard to correspondence, their relations with outsiders and their betrothals.

15° Control on educational system shall be regained.

16° Simplify the management of sports. The sportive association shall be controlled by the students' administration.

17° Abolition of weekly and monthly tests. They will be replaced by the average of the current notes.

18° — Boys and girls will not be separated in Primary and High Schools.

19° - Soldiers should not quarter in schools."

III.—Result of an Investigation made by the Protestants concerning the Situation of Schools.

1° In the North and South, same desire to regain control over the system of Education. (compulsory attendance and encroachment in the management of the schools).

2° The regulations imposed vary; the provincial and local authorities may aggravate those of the central government and modify them according to the political conditions. The new Minister of Education, appointed by Han K'eou in March, is preparing a new statute.

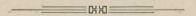
3° There is an evident danger for the *liberty of Education*, on account of the intervention of Unions, of the local authorities, of the students themselves; on account of the financial restrictions (required funds, rates of salaries, board, etc.) on account of the obligation of teaching according to the idea of the ruling party.

4° There is an evident danger for religious liberty. Christianity is confounded with Imperialism. All religious instructions and all religious exercices must be suppressed. Teaching according to the idea of the ruling party is imposed, and thus a new religion is being created and the said new religion is obligatory.

Note: The weekly meeting in honor of Suen Wen, before his picture, is regarded by many Protestants, as an act of religion."

IV. - Declaration of Tch'en Yeou (Eugene Chen.)

"We appreciate what the christian schools have done in China. They were the pioneers. We are trying to establish a new form of government, accordingly, we accept the assistance of all the schools who wish to conform to this law. It will take considerable time to organize the system of education; it would be absurd to dismiss the institutions that can help us. The government will keep under control the different types of schools. We wish to centralize this control. We are in favor of the liberty of every religious belief, but are against the obligatory teaching of dogmas, etc. Politically we are not opposed to Christianity, understood as religion but are against Christianity understood as a party of imperialism, *i. e.* the regime of international control... When imperialism will be discarded, every movement (anti-christian) will cease unless the Catholic Church sets Christianity in conflict with the aim of the nationalists."



[&]quot;Come to us and help us, you who are rich in the thousandfold blessings of Christianity, hasten to save us," is the pitiful cry of millions of poor souls in the heathen countries wandering in the cheerless darkness of idolatry and sin.

Extract from "La Semaine Religieuse" of Montreal,

January 26, 1928

Our Missionaries in China

Doubtlessly the following passages extracted from a letter addressed by Reverend Father Lapierre of the Foreign Missions of Pont Viau to His Grace Archbishop Gauthier, on the occasion of the New Year, will not fail to interest our readers.

"Although we cannot credit ourselves with great and numerous conversions as are sometimes reported by the annals of ancient missionary congregations, nevertheless, we have not been inactive.

"We have a few baptisms of adults to register, several families of catechumens, and the return to the Faith of a few former Christians who had totally abandoned all religious practices. The number of the latter is quite considerable in these vast new regions, hundreds of Christians and perhaps thousands have been isolated and, as it were, lost in the midst of the pagans. To find them, to attract them, to recall them to their christian duties will be beneficial work, but rather difficult and slow. We have succeeded in discovering some, but if several consent to return to the Church, how many others are restricted through shame and dare not declare themselves Catholics.

"One of the most important works is that of catechism classes for the children of Christian families. These alas, being only too few in number, steps are being taken for their organization. All our Christians are dispersed which is unfortunately a great disadvantage. A school in like circumstances is a difficult and costly problem. It is hardly possible to have other than district schools where children belonging to Christian families will be grouped. If the majority of the parents consent to confide them to us, there are some who find reasons for keeping them at home. But for those who come we must provide food and shelter. To ask a compensation at the outset, would be to expose ourselves to a refusal. And yet, without a long sojourn in a catechism class these children, for the most part being constantly in contact with a pagan population and belonging to families whose knowledge of faith is very limited, would be greatly exposed to remain ignorant of religious truths, and their life would be rather that of baptized pagans than that of real Christians. What is needed especially in pagan countries, are well-instructed, firmly-convinced Christians: they have not as support, the faith and example of others; on the contrary they must struggle against the nefarious temptations of pagan practices which influence all laws and customs.

"We may, unfortunately, see for ourselves how disadvantageous and pernicious it is for the Christians to be dispersed and as if lost in the midst of pagans. A district is as vast as a diocese; and for the greater part of the time, there are, here and there, one, two, three christian families living twenty, thirty, forty miles from the church. Under such conditions the Christians seldom see a missionary, and too rarely hear the word of God. They suffer in their religious practices and are greatly exposed to preserve but imperfectly the little knowledge they have acquired requisite for Baptism. We can admit in theory that these Christians may help the cause of Christ by their conversations and examples, but in practice, we must acknowledge that only too often the contrary is the case. To obviate these inconveniences the idea of forming settlements of christians in certain places has been accepted. The results have been so satisfactory that we have been advised to attempt it. We have actually prepared the way for a first settlement by the acquisition of a considerable piece of land north of T'aonan, at Tchem Pei; next spring many Christian families, former farmers, will settle there. Only Christians will be admitted, pagans being accepted only after their conversion. May the great and powerful St. Joseph take this enterprise under his protection and grant us to bring it to a happy ending for the glory of Him of whom he was foster-father here below.

"From a material point of view, we have not been inactive either: we have begun to build and repair. At T'aonan we have constructed a dwelling spacious enough for a regional residence of the northern part of our future territory. They who have seen it are well satisfied; they who inhabit it are even more so. (Unfortunately I have no suitable photograph to send you; it will be for later on.) We have also built a school for girls. This district is well provided for, as there already exists a chapel and a school for boys.

"At some seventy-five miles west of T'aonan, at Toutsuen, are found more than twenty christian families with no school and not even convenient quarters wherein to assemble. We have built, lately, a *koung souo* in which there is a room for the visiting missionary, a hall where Christians can hold meetings on Sundays and which the children can use as a catechism class. The latter is in charge of a catechist and is attended by many pupils.

"At Liao Yuan Sien, where our headquarters are actually situated, we have had to make many repairs and spend much time in furnishing the house properly. Buildings were not lacking, but the majority of them were in such a dilapidated condition that repairs and alterations were necessary. The number of rooms is sufficient for the present. Although upon the arrival of the new missionaries we were not able to have each our private room still everyone was quite comfortable. There is, moreover, a suitable home for the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, schools for boys and girls, a small dispensary and a small orphanage in

charge of native maidens. These will hardly suffice for any length of time, but in the meanwhile we are in a better position to judge existing conditions and study our future requirements.

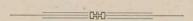
"I cannot refrain from speaking of the happiness which we experienced on the arrival of the Sisters at *Liao Yuan Sien*. The Christians of that district manifested their joy by a cordial and magnificent reception. Actually they are just beginning to study the Chinese language. The apostolate of woman in heathen lands holds its importance: one must live among pagans, and become acquainted with their customs to know how prejudicial and oppressive is the condition of woman who has not yet been liberated by Our Lord. May they by their prayers, their sacrifices and the exercises of charity, hasten the amelioration of her sad fate and obtain from Heaven, that with the acceptation of the Gospel, she make retake the proper place which God has given her and that she may fulfil the mission confided her by Divine Providence.

"In terminating, permit me, Your Grace, to render homage to the zeal and devotedness of my confreres. They are at the age of activity and generosity; accordingly they are eager to devote themselves to an arduous task, and are ready to surmount every obstacle in the quest for souls. They are willing to bear all the difficulties and hardships of a laborious apostolate: they are ready to sacrifice their very life and to devote the meagre resources they possess to gain souls to Jesus Christ. The sight of their generosity and abnegation offer a striking contrast to what is usually met with in the souls of pagans, and even in neophytes. May the Sacred Heart be consoled and touched by their sacrifices and grant to these multitudes of infidels the grace of understanding the charms and sublime truths of our holy Faith, of renouncing their superstitions, and of becoming the children of the true Father of Light.

"As an assurance of such a favor we all implore Your Grace's paternal blessing.

"With my respectful homages and filial attachment,

Yours very devotely in the Sacred Heart J. L. A. LAPIERRE, P. M. E.



God cannot be indifferent to the needs of those souls wandering in the darkness of paganism. He has chosen enough laborers to carry out His divine plans. He invites them to labor with Him in His vineyard, and happy indeed are the souls who generously respond to the call, for Jesus has said; "Amen, I say to you, you that have left all and followed me, you shall receive a hundred-fold and shall possess life everlasting."

First Missionary Exposition in Canada

AT JOLIETTE, P. Q., FROM THE 4TH TO 10TH OF JULY, Under the distinguished Patronage of His Lordship Bishop Forbes

(Continued)

Conference in the Academic Hall of the Seminary, by Very Reverend T. Pintal, Provincial of the Redemptorists.

(Summary)

"How beautiful are thy pavilions, O Jacob! How beautiful thy tents O Israel!" exclaimed the prophet of Madian at the sight of Israel from the desert. More powerful, more majestic than Israel, the Canadian Church, in spite of the greatest obstacles, has pursued her divine mission, and to-day her apostolate has crossed the Canadian frontiers and carried the glorious name of Jesus Christ to the pagan nations of Africa, Asia, and Oceania. To-night I wish to entertain you on our missions of the Extreme Orient. I hope you will permit me to summarize this vast topic. Already from the preceding conferences, you have admired the apostolical works of the Franciscans in China and Japan, of the Religious of Holy Cross in India, of the Sacred Heart in the Islands of Oceania; the devotedness of our Fathers of the Foreign Missions in Mandchuria and in a few minutes, Reverend Father Marin will speak to you about his Chinese Missions. We have also admired the heroic zeal of our Canadian Sisters: the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary, the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception the Adorers of the Precious Blood, the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary and the Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of the Angels. All exercise in the Extreme Orient an apostolate admirably fruitful and have a right to the esteem and the gratitude of the Canadian Church for whom they procure incomparable glory.

"Let us visit a country very dear to me in Indo China that deserves to be known by my auditors, for there too the Canadian Missionary is laboriously toiling. This country, a French possession, is situated between India and China. The inhabitants belong to the Chinese race and their features readily betray their origin. It was in 1596 that the christian Faith penetrated into this country. To-day the Indo Chinese Church comprises eleven apostolic vicariates. Sixteen of them belong to the Priests of the Foreign Missions of Paris, three others to the Dominican Fathers of Spain and the last one to the Dominican Fathers of Lyons. This church numbers three hundred and sixty European clergy, regular and secular, nine hundred priests, two hundred and sixty-five European religious, and two thousand nine hundred native Sisters, most of whom belong to the Congregation of "Les Amantes de la Croix" founded in Indo China two and a half centuries ago by Mgr. Pallu, one of the

founders of the Foreign Mission Society of Paris.

"In 1923, according to the report of the Apostolic Visit made in the name of the Holy See to the missions of Indo-China by Mgr. Lecroait, Vicar Apostolic in China, the Sacred Congregation of Propaganda resolved to send Missionaries to these christendoms to renew and strengthen faith and piety by the preaching of parochial missions and ecclesiastical and religious retreats. This Congregation entrusted its Prefect, his Eminence Cardinal Van Rossum, to invite the Religious of his Order, Redemptorists, whose experience in this eminent and apostolical ministry is universally known and appreciated.

"His Eminence in the name of the Congregation of the Propaganda made an official appeal to which he added a personal autographic letter which closed with these words: 'If I am not mistaken it would be a glorious undertaking for the Canadian Province of Saint Anne de

Beaupre which desires a Mission among infidels.

"These words written by the eminent Prefect of the Propaganda deserve to be written

in letters of gold in the annals of our Province.

"This mission was immediately accepted. On receiving the news, the Sovereign Pontiff poured blessings on this new mission and on those who would be sent thither. On Nov. 19 of the same year, 1924, the important decision was communicated to me. That day I cabled our Superior General in Rome, announcing to him that for our part, our Province joyfully accepted this grand mission, so conformable to the appropriate and distinctive aim of the Institute.

"In Oct. 1925, two Fathers and a Brother left for Hue, capital of Anam to lay the foundation of our first mission. Last October I had the consolation of making a personal visit to these christendoms and to bring with me three colleagues. The warm and paternal sympathy extended me by the Vicars Apostolic and the heroic Missionaries proved that this newly inaugurated mission promised success. I was deeply touched when I received, before my departure from the mission, the benediction of His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate of Indo-China, Mgr. Acutti, and when I heard from his own lips these words: 'My dear Father, know that before I left Rome for Indo-China, His Eminence Cardinal Van Rossum had enjoined me to take great care of his Canadian Colleagues who would come to devote themselves to the Indo-Chinese Missions.'

"The speaker closed by these truly apostolical wishes: 'May this important mission of Indo-China, may all the Canadian Missions amongst infidels gradually develop by the number, and by the virtue of their apostles. And since Saint Paul has said that there is no redemption if there be no shedding of blood, and taking for granted that this missionary manifestation has so enflamed our hearts with apostolical virtues that I may add as a final and supreme wish of this memorable congress that the Canadian Church which glorifies herself in the number and ardor of her Missionaries may glorify herself one day in the blood of her martyrs.

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I am a child of the Catholic Church and as such I must bring glory to my Mother. I will go out to bring souls into the true fold, I will show my love and thanksgiving by listening to the voice in my heart which bids me look deep down into my own soul, and find out what God wants me to do.

Little Missionary

Think of the thousands of little pagans, who suffer without knowing that God is their Father and loves them dearly. And since they do not know Him, they cannot hope to enter Heaven after their death, But if you pray for them and give alms in their behalf, God may yet give them the grace of Baptism and they will bear you a grateful remembrance through all eternity.

Little Missionary

Work for the missions by praying for the missions, pray for the missions by working for the missions. Work, work for the missions, but pray, pray also. God is waiting for your prayers. The missionaries are in sore need of help, but they want your prayers first.

Little Missionary

A Few Roses Scattered

By the Little Sister of Missionaries ...

"When I shall be in Heaven, Jesus, Thou wilt fill my hands with roses and I shall shower them upon earth."

ST. THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS



Please accept my humble donation for your missions in gratitude for a favor obtained through the intercession of the Little Flower. Mrs. F. G., St. Marcel. — A thousand thanks to the Little Flower for the protection she has given me during a serious operation. M. A. C., Terrebonne. — Thanks to the powerful Patroness of Missionaries for favors obtained. A subscriber, Montreal. — Please find enclosed Ten Dollars for the Burse of St. Therese of the Child Jesus as an expression of lively gratitude. D. D., Montreal. — Please find enclosed Two Dollars for your missionary works in thanksgiving to the Little Flower for a favor obtained through her intercession. R. L., Ansonville. — Please accept my humble offering of One Dollar

She has visibly protected me and I again solicit two favors for the Little Flower Burse. from her, one temporal and the other spiritual. Mrs. L. M., Amos. - Please find enclosed Six Dollars for your Chinese Missions, to express my gratitude to the little saint who is so keenly interested in your works. A.P., Montreal. - I again realize that the Little Flower's mission in heaven is to shower roses on earth. I was favored with her kindness and in thanksgiving I enclose Five Dollars for your missionary works. J. E. P., Montreal. - Favors received through the intercession of the Little Flower after promising publication and to help your missionary works. Mrs. J., St. Jerome. - Please help me to thank the little Patroness of Missionaries for a favor she has granted me. Miss L. C., Montreal. - My heartfelt thanks to St. Therese of the Child Jesus for favors she has granted me in the past year. M. D. D. — In gratitude for favors obtained, my husband sends Five Dollars to be added to the Burse that he has started in honor of St. Therese. Mrs. J. D., Montreal. — Thanks to the kind and powerful Patroness of Missionaries, who has granted my request. Mrs. H. C., Alfred, Ont. - Please find enclosed One Dollar for a Mass of Thanksgiving in honor of St. Therese of the Child Jesus. L. C., Montreal. — I enclose One Dollar for your Missions in thanksgiving for favors received through the intercession of the Little Flower. Miss B., Montreal. — Please find enclosed Three Dollars for the Little Flower Burse. To her my everlasting gratitude. A Friend of your Missions Montreal. - Persons who have been granted favors through the intercession of the Little Flower of Jesus. Mrs. P. L., Fitchburg, Mass.; Miss I. St. L., Ottawa; Mrs. A. D., Montreal; Mrs. G. H. B., Montreal. — My heartfelt thanks to St. Joseph and the Little Flower in whose honor I enclose Five Dollars for your missions. Mrs. A. L., Worcester, Mass. - Thanks to St. Therese of the Child Jesus for a cure obtained. Anonymous, Rimouski. - Please accept One Dollar in thanksgiving for a favor received through the intercession of the Little Sister of Missionaries. A subscriber, - Please publish in your bulletin two important personal favors and a position obtained through the intercession of the Little Flower on promising to renew my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR". Mrs. O. B., Pont Rouge. — Here enclosed One Dollar, my contribution towards the Little Flower Burse for the upkeep of missionaries in token of my gratitude. Mrs. J. V., Montreal. - My most profound gratitude towards the powerful Patroness of Missionaries who has visibly protected me during an operation and has obtained me another particular favor. M. J. S., St. Alexis. - My profound thanks to St. Therese for a position obtained after promising publication to the glory of this powerful little Saint. A grateful mother, Roxton Falls. - With my whole heart do I thank St. Therese of the Child Jesus who

has obtained the cure of my two little daughters very ill with pneumonia after nine weeks of whooping-cough. For three nights past we have watched by the bedside of one of them expecting her death any moment. With all my heart I invoked the Little Flower and promised if she cured my dear little children to make publication in the "PRECURSOR". Shortly after, a change took place and the following day the oppression had disappeared. There was no trace of the whooping-cough nor of pneumonia. Mrs. G. B. B. - I am sending a Postal Note for Five Dollars for the Little Flower Burse as a thanksgiving offering for a favor obtained after promising publication in your bulletin. May this dear little Saint again obtain for me from Our Immaculate Mother the grace to know and to follow my vocation. B. L., Montreal. - For your missions I am sending this offering of Five Dollars as a proof of my gratitude for favor obtained through the intercession of St. Therese of the Child Jesus. Mrs. O. R., Willimansett, Mass. — A particular grace attributed to the protection of the Little Sister of Missionaries. Mrs. A. L. H., St. Didace. - My offering of One Dollar for the Little Flower Burse in token of gratitude for a cure obtained through her intercession. Mrs. R. B., Gentilly. — The enclosed offering of Ten Dollars is for the ransom of infidel babies as a thank offering to St. Therese of the Child Jesus who has obtained a particular favor for me. May this little Saint deign to continue her protection in obtaining the cure of my husband and better health for my child and for myself. Mrs. D. L., Alfred, Ont.

I long to accomplish the most heroic deeds. I feel within me the courage of a crusader. I would die on the battlefield in defense of the Church!

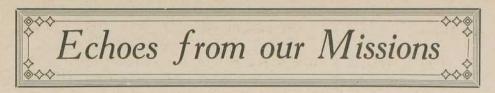
Hist. d'une Ame, Ch. XI.

Burse of St. Therese of the Child Jesus for the adoption of a missionary.

A Burse is a sum of money the interest of which forms a perpetual income for the support of a Missionary. Burses are founded in honor of a Saint whose name they bear. The religious whose support is thus assured becomes for life the missionary of the donor and takes his place near the poor infidels. The Founders of Burses participate in all the spiritual advantages of the Community. The sum of \$1,000.00 given in one or several payments by one or many persons forms a complete Burse.

We shall then receive with gratitude, any offering, even trifling, (thanksgiving for favors obtained or requests for new ones) for the complete formation of the Burse in honor of St. Therese of the Child Jesus. May the Little Sister of Missionaries inspire generous souls with the thought of adopting a Missionary and let fall on them a shower of roses!

	1927\$ 84	
July	"	3.95
September	"	1.00
November	"	3.75
January	1928 155	5.90
March	"	3.75



CANTON, CHINA

Extract from a letter of Sister Marie-de L'Epibhanie, Superior of Canton, to her Superior General

Canton, December 5, 1927



BELOVED MOTHER,

Our tiny orphans are most amiable and cunning. Dear Mother, you would enjoy seeing them with their little hands joined and heads inclined, kneeling on their bamboo chairs before a picture of the Blessed Virgin, saying their evening prayers. These terminated, everyone rises, says in our language "Good-night, Sister," and puts away her stool. Sister Saint Paul having received some tea biscuits, about the size of a fifty cent piece, and some mixed candy, gave them to me that I might distribute them to our little orphans during the course of the morning and afternoon. At ten o'clock and at

three, I make my appearance among them, carrying the dainties. How happy I was to distribute to everyone, three small biscuits and a piece of candy! How their little eyes twinkle with glee as they heartily thank me! A few nibble their biscuits, while the others eat them in all haste. Many times do they pass their little tongues on the candy before swallowing it. I saw two little tots sampling each others candy in turn... Thus their joy was two-fold. With so little we are able to create such happiness! How I wished that those bags of biscuits and candies would never be emptied, or else that "New Year's would occur many times in the year."

To-day as I was distributing the collation, from ten to twenty persons stood in the half-open doorway examining everything, which they found so strange. Not a movement of the little girls escaped them and they found that the little beds looked very cosy. Just think, each one with her own bed. It is something very unusual for one who is accustomed to sleep on boards or on the bare ground. The place alloted to each one is restricted. The little houses of the gardeners who live in the neighborhood look more like sheds, or second-hand stores. The hens and even the swine are housed with the people themselves. I do not find our orphan girls so very particular, but the Chinese do; 'tis because they are naturally untidy. Last week a woman who was bringing us some wood that a company had given us, said to Sister Saint Joseph du Sacre Cœur: "Give me one

of your little orphans, I will give you in return two baskets full of wood. Our little orphans would not have consented to the proposal. They are afraid of strangers. When they see anyone coming, they hide and only peep out when they are at a safe distance from them. Every day, Sister Marie de la Misericorde accompanied by one of the cldest orphans visits two pagan foundling-homes where she baptizes two, three, four, and sometimes even eight babies. On the feast of St. Francis Xavier, I gave myself the happiness of accompanying her, and we baptized five, four for my part. On November 21, I had the joy of opening heaven, for the first time to a dear little soul by pouring the regenerating waters on its brow. I named her Marie Delia and on the same day she bore to the Queen of Heaven, the homages and petitions of "Cantai ma Me" (My Mother of Canada). How my heart throbbed and how my hand trembled while I accomplished that solemn act. I was not less touched on the 3rd of December last. Every night when I go to bed, I say to myself, "Well, if we do not appear to have done very much to human eyes to-day, we have at least given to a few souls their passports for heaven." The salvation of one soul is more than sufficient to console us, but we would be so happy to reap an abundant harvest.

SISTER MARIE DE L'EPIPHANIE, M.I.C. (1)

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Letter of Sister Marie de l'Esperance, missionary to Canton, to her Superior General

> Holy Childhood Home, Canton, January 23

VERY DEAR MOTHER,

"To-day is the first day of the Chinese New Year. We are entering into the seventeenth year of the Republic. Great rejoicing: fireworks, etc. manifest their happy sentiments. Everywhere the people greet one another, and of their wishes the most ardent is for the continuation of the reign of peace. Scarcely five weeks have passed since the communists terrorized the Canton population and would have made an entire raid on them, had they not been mercilessly crushed by the regular troops. To-day, although peace is not yet assured, the Cantonese rejoice according to their ancient traditions... in order to forget and to hope.

"I am here alone with Sister Saint Etienne and a few orphans. Our other Sisters will return from Hong Kong to-morrow. The British Consul thinks that we may count on a few weeks of safety. We are seizing this opportunity to get ahead with our work. How happy we would be if these weeks were changed into months, into years! With the actual state of affairs no one can augur the future. Lately several commanders have succeeded each other, and the one who is actually holding the reins of the government lacks the subsidies to support his army. He must needs make a loan; but

⁽¹⁾ May Moquin of Eastman

will the Canton merchants be willing to lend him the required funds? They have already lent money to other governors and these have fled with the treasure. Such happenings have occurred during the last uprisings; the Canton merchants are losing courage and confidence.

"At the present time we are living separated, some at Hong Kong and the others, here. It is not yet safe to bring back the orphans. A few, for whom it would be easy to secure a place of safety in case of danger, are with us.

"You can imagine what a life your daughters are living. Humanly speaking it is a trying one, but following in the steps of our good Master and close to Him we do naught else but rejoice. 'Tis the sowing, 'tis an assurance for the future! Babies are often brought to us to be baptized and former pupils come to beg to be readmitted. Yesterday, a young Chinese girl came. Her father wants to send her to a Protestant school, but the child refuses: "I do not want to lose the good principles that I have received while I stayed with you," she said. This young girl is still a pagan, but the lessons that she has formerly received here, are still vivid to her and I feel that the day is not far distant when she will become a Catholic.

"During the last month, our visits to the two pagan foundling-homes of the city have won us one hundred and eighteen baptisms of dying infants.

"Yesterday I assisted at the ordination in the cathedral of three Chinese priests. One of them, Reverend P. Tsan has two of his relatives at our orphanage. The ceremony was very pious and very imposing. The congregation, among whom were many pagans, filled the nave. His Lordship Bishop Fourquet consecrated the new priests.



OUR LITTLE ORPHANS OF CANTON, CHINA

"During the ceremony I could not help thinking of the immense ocean of paganism wherein the apostolic laborers, like a few stray threads of limpid water, are found... How few are they who have the happiness of knowing, loving, and adoring our Divine Saviour, and fewer still are the apostles of the one true God!!! It is so true. Scarcely a few hours after this religious ceremony so consoling to our Lord, satan, on the occasion of New Year's, receives special homage in this city as well as in all pagan China. Since a few days past and to-night especially buddhas receive special worship. Incense and gifts of different kinds are presented to them and the adorations they receive, recognize them as the supreme Being, and implore their protection and assistance. The last days of the old year are consecrated to the god of the kitchen in whose honor numerous fireworks are sent off. The closing night of the year is favorable to parents. The children who remain up all night obtain for their parents a prolongation of ten years of life... The doors are sealed with large red papers covered with Chinese characters. This morning as I was coming home from Mass I saw a pagan who had just broken the seal and was hurriedly preparing the incense to offer to the god of the hearth; through the open door of his neighbor, a good Christian, I could see a vigil light burning before an image of the Sacred Heart. This somewhat consoled me. Oh! Divine Master, Oh! Mary, my good Mother, how little art thou known! More than ever would I like to be heard by all young boys and girls. I would say to them: 'You who are dreaming of honor, wealth and happiness, come! Leave all that is dear to you and come thither. You will win honor by working for the King of kings in His abundant vineyard. Come! you will be rich in merits by winning souls for heaven. Come! you will be happy, but of a happiness that you could never dream of! Come!

"I now close, I imagine my letter says nothing. My heart overflows with a sorrow mingled with joy. Of sadness, on looking at the ravages wrought by satan. Of joy at the thought that with the help of the Queen of Heaven, this spotless Virgin, I, also, can crush the vile and infernal serpent's head and give to God a luxuriant harvest.

SISTER MARIE DE L' ESPERANCE.

* *

From the same to the Sisters of the Mother-House

Canton, January 23, 1928

"It was the first day of the year. Arrived at Kowloon two days before I was with my sisters, refuged at Saint Joseph's Hermitage owing to the troubles at Canton. Sister Superior knowing that she would greatly please me, asked that I go to Mass with our little orphans at the Chinese church in the neighborhood.

"We leave at 6.20 A. M.: twenty-two children old enough to observe the precept and two Sisters. A dense fog follows the night rain which has just ceased and happily remains suspended on the mountain peaks. In the wet sand our little ones trod along, piously reciting their prayers. Our three blind orphans are led by their faithful guides, and gradually the distance which separates us from the little sanctuary diminishes.

"The little church cannot be seen from afar; a simple cross alone distinguishes it from the neighboring houses. A narrow path leading thereto branches off the main road winding its way through well-cultivated gardens and between little Chinese houses, but once the interior grounds are reached everything bespeaks the holiness of the spot. The exterior of the church is of oriental style. The roof is of tile and curved at the extremities, and the openings are framed with bamboo beams, etc... The interior of the little temple is very neat. The statue of St. Francis Xavier dominates the altar, and on each side two pictures of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary adorn the walls of the sanctuary. Though it be the Christmas season there is no manger. Accustomed from my infancy to the charms of the cribs of the Infant Jesus in our beautiful churches of Montreal, I must admit my disappointment in not finding Joseph and Mary tenderly gazing on the Divine Emmanuel. I seized the occasion to embellish the more. by interior acts of love, praise, and devotedness, the little Christmas grotto of my heart into which I had invited Jesus long before Midnight Mass. Mass

begins; each one piously follows the different ceremonies of Holy Liturgy. As for me who, for the first time in my life assist at Mass in a real Chinese church, I cannot refrain from being impressed by several things which are shunned as distractions but which tend to increase my knowledge of Chinese life. I notice their way of praying: the school teacher, a distinguished personage, leads, and the congregation continues. in chorus, the prayers of Mass. He also recites the Litanies and ejaculations which are answered by the attendants. Lastly, men and women, separated into two distinct groups alternatively recite the Rosary.

"Another kind of distraction: after the Gospel the priest delivers a sermon



A fresh little pagan flower culled for the Foundling-Home of Canton, and for Heaven!



on the Holy Name of Jesus. Right in the midst of it a merchant is heard advertising his salted fish. One of the most attentive listeners immediately leaves his pew, makes his genuflexion, and goes to buy some fish!... However, he returns shortly, scarcely having lost three sentences of the sermon! His attentive and respectful demeanor which he keeps to the end of the Mass shows that the purchase of salted fish, is already a thing of the past.

"At the Communion, I offer to Our Lord, my wishes for the dawning year and these wishes you already guess them: that this good Master and His Immaculate Mother reign in all hearts! And while the Holy Sacrifice continues indentical to that offered throughout

the Catholic universe and while I make my thanksgiving, from my heart rises fervent supplications, vivified by the thought that the few faithful here present are as but a tiny filament in an immense granite, crushing mass of idolators.

"Mass terminated, the little chapel is soon deserted. The sun has not appeared and the mist that covers the lofty mountains has become heavier. Thinking of the deep impenetrable fog that envelops souls, I renew my New Year wishes to our loving Lord and I return to the hermitage.

SISTER MARIE DE L'ESPERANCE.

Letter from Sr. St François d'Assise, Missionary of the Immaculate Conception, Hospitaller at Shek-Lung Lazaretto, to her Superior General.

BELOVED MOTHER

"We were just preparing a fishing pond to amuse our poor patients on the Chinese New Year, (this year it falls on January 23) when we received the precious alms you destined for the purchase of a good dinner for our poor sufferers. Words cannot express what joy you gave them 'Sister', they said, 'thank heartily "Tai ma Me", who thinks of us always. Tell her that we shall offer fervent prayers for her'.

"All went to Holy Communion on that day, and one of our leperous women left for heaven. She was well prepared.

"The menu that they had, thanks to you, dear Mother, was quite varied: dog flesh (their favorite dish) pork, fish, salted vegetables, fresh Chinese cabbage... All our poor invalids could satisfy their appetite. No wonder they were so happy. Moreover, we had enough money left to buy them a few useful articles: towels, combs, cords for their hair, soap, etc... and

we organized a raffle which greatly amused them.

"We found a few broken dolls that were repaired and given to our four youngest orphans, but unfortunately we had not enough to satisfy everyone... A fifty-year old woman asked for one: 'Give me one, Sister', she said 'I shall put it on my bed, and when I am in pain it will distract me'. also enjoyed themselves playing parchesi. The other day, one of the infirmarians said to me 'Sister, I do not see how the outsiders can be happier than I on feast days, when the chapel is prettily decorated, when the Sisters and the Father are with us and we do not dread their leaving us...

No. I do not think anyone can be happier in this world...

"The Chinese priest asked that I make caps for the men. I was happy to acquiese and thus procure to those poor unfortunates, some relief. I made one hundred and fifteen. It is freezing cold to-day. While I was dressing the patient's wounds, a poor old woman entered. She was late, and when I asked the reason, she answered thus: 'Sister you cannot imagine how hard is is for me to wash my feet in cold weather. The water is so icy that I cannot stop the blood from running.' - 'Why do you not gather dry leaves during the day to heat your water', I added. 'Sister, the leaves are scarce and those whose feet are not sore gather them more quickly than I. 'Poor woman! I cannot tell you, Mother, how much their sufferings affect us... We can give hot water only to those who are confined to the infirmary, but still those that are in the public wards often endure great pain. To procure water, these poor people have to walk a distance of over two hundred feet, then climb a staircase of about ten steps... For those that have sore feet it is very painful; and it is impossible for us to give them any further relief. Here is the quantity of food we give them daily: for eight persons: eight lbs. of rice, eight oz. of salted fish, one-half lb. of vegetables and two oz. of oil. Actually, we can give five lbs. of sweet potatoes to each person. Times are hard; they cannot satisfy their hunger. The other day, a leperous woman said, 'An hour after we eat sweet potatoes we are as hungry as we were before. With rice it is different! Still it is better to have sweet potatoes than nothing and we must thank God for it. '

"Dear Mother, I thank you for the beautiful pictures you have sent us. If you could have heard the exclamations of joy of Sister Marie Bernadette on receiving that of her Patron Saint, Blessed Bernadette. We were very much pleased, but we have not yet received the miraculous medals you spoke about. Maybe they were lost in the mail."

Your loving daughter,

SISTER SAINT FRANCOIS D'ASSISE, (1)

Hospitaller of the lepers.

⁽¹⁾ Clara Hébert, of Napierville.

Manila, Philippine Islands

Gleanings from the diary of our Sisters of the Chinese General Hospital.

Wednesday, December 18, 1927

"We learn through the "Bulletin of Manila" that His Grace Archbishop Rouleau of Quebec has been appointed Cardinal by His Holiness Pope Pius XI. We congratulate the city of Laval, of Taschereau, of Begin, and with her we rejoice in the honor which has been discerned her, being the most ancient city of our beautiful country. Let us also honor this spiritual son of St. Dominic, Cardinal and Father of the Church in Canada. We humbly offer him our homages of filial respect and profound veneration.

Friday, December 23

"Three baptisms "in articulo mortis" and an Extreme Unction have been added to our register. The divine Gleaner does her work quietly but surely.

Sunday, December 25

"How impressing Christmas is on Mission!!! The most exact description is powerless to reveal its solemnity. On the eve, more profoundly recollected than usual, we see to the preparations of the feast. Our good children: students, nurses, and house-boys hasten to put order in the different apartments. In the afternoon each window is decorated with a lantern of different colors: red, pink and yellow. Octagon lanterns of transparent metal adorn the parlors of the patients and of the hospital. The doctors' and the pupils' refectory also wear their festal garb.

"Midnight!... Bells ring out loud and clear! At the altar the priest is already reciting the *Introibo*, whilst at the organ a pupil intones the hymn "Holy Night" etc... During the three consecutive Masses there is general Communion, and Christmas hymns are sung in English, then in French. At the end of the third Mass the priest carries, successively, our Eucharistic Lord to the six improvised altars erected in different sections of the house for the Communion of the sick; so besides Midnight Mass we also have procession of the Blessed Sacrament. After his thanksgiving, good Father Roman gladly accepts our invitation of blessing the doctors' and pupils' tables, wishing all a very Merry Christmas. After the revel all take their rest with hearts overflowing with the pure and hely joys ever occasioned by this glad festival.

"On Christmas Day our happiness consists in making others happy. Our patients and grown-up children are in turn the object of our solicitude. In the afternoon the house-boys receive their presents, and in the evening a beautiful Christmas tree is despoiled to the benefit of the nurses under the presidency of the Director and his family. The hall where this traditional family scene takes place resounds with gay peals of laughter and merry entertainments. Then everyone retires with hearts filled with souvenirs of the day which is already engulfed in the past.

Sunday, January 1, 1928

"At 5.30 A. M. New Year's Day, Mass is followed by the deposition of the Blessed Sacrament. 'Tis a day of rejoicing for all, but especially for the one hundred and fifty poor penniless of the clinic who at 3. P.M. assemble at the entrance to the hospital and in the garden paths. Santa Claus playing the flute and followed by the band (composed of our house-boys) has quickly assembled that infantine troop into an intangible mass. We need almost a guard-house to hinder the candies and toys from disappearing in a flash and before each one had received his share. The children from one to ten or twelve years enter by one door and leave by another bringing their precious gifts including a holy picture. The larger ones are given to the mothers and young girls who accompany the little ones. And would you think that after the distribution of such an abundant provision, about fifty little tots in rags and tatters have received nothing. We make a careful search in the pantry and luckily find four or five pounds of candy to fill these little outstretched hands. On all sides we hear: 'I Sister, I... I have nothing yet...' Would that we had a thousand "pesos" instead of twenty-five to relieve these poor little ones. We would begin by clothing them as the greater number, especially those from one to seven or eight years wear but a little frock that covers their shoulders and part of their back. It is pitiful to see them!... and their souls!... We would be heart-broken to discover that perhaps only a few have been baptized, and that not one has made his First Communion... and yet such is the case with these poor children and many others throughout this country! May thy kingdom come, O my God, in these young hearts!... The year 1928 fortells an abundant harvest, for our register already numbers three baptisms in "articulo mortis, "



A WARD IN THE CHINESE GENERAL HOSPITAL, MANILA, P. I.

Thursday, January 5

"A few days previous to Christmas, our students, accepting the kind invitation of Father Coronas, S.J. attended a concert at San Jose's College. His Excellency Mgr. Piani, Apostolic Delegate is present. Seeing our students (they are easily recognized, for when they go out in a body they wear a white uniform with blue collar, cuffs and belt), like a good father he assembles his children of the Chinese Hospital, gives them a special blessing and says, 'If you want presents, you must come for them. With hearts overflowing with joy, they take good care not to forget the invitation. On Christmas eve, seeing that the nurses on duty had not attended the reception, he was kind enough to invite them to come some afternoon in two different groups. 'They may come any day that I am at home, 'said he, ' or better still, telephone to Father Morrow (his Secretary) he will appoint the day and the hour'. So it was an understood thing. A few days later we telephone and the Reverend Secretary answers that our students will be welcome on the 5th and 6th of January between 4 and 5 P.M. Mgr. Piani inquires how many there are in each group. With a real fatherly kindness he serves them chocolate ice-cream. He guessed their weak point for ice-cream is one of their favorite dishes. Moreover, he gives each one a large-sized picture. Our children return home delighted with the warm reception extended them by His Excellency... Mgr. Piani has a marked preference for the humblest of his flock. We are convinced of it, for many a time has he made it manifest. May this blessing bear its fruit in the hearts of our students.

Sunday, January 15

"Sister Marie des Victoires on night duty is delighted with her conquest. He was a dying tubercular patient to whom she had given a few catechism lessons. After having offered him a miraculous medal which he gladly accepted, she sees grace gradually illuminating this soul which expands 'neath the vivifying rays of Faith and asks to be purified in the regenerating waters of Baptism.

"The radiant face of the dying man betrayed no greater happiness than that which overflowed from the heart of our Sister. To open heaven to poor pagans, to give to God if it were but one soul, is it not a happiness worthy of envy, and this is our lot, as missionaries, who have been chosen by a gratuitous predilection to be the instruments in the salvation of these souls who will eternally glorify the Author of all good. How sublime! how beautiful is our calling!

Saturday, January 21

"From our parterre the divine Gleaner culls a newly blossomed flower, object of her predilection, to adorn the beautiful gardens of Paradise. At noon a baby is brought to the Hospital, apparently for the sole purpose of being purified from the original stain. Despite the most attentive care

it expires at about 3 o'clock bringing with it the key of heaven that it has so easily found.

"Besides the fresh buds, we find in our garden, rustic plants and even wild ones that need to be trimmed, watered, and vivified by the divine rays of the eternal Sunlight. To-night at about nine o'clock while I was visiting the patients to make sure that all were comfortable, I was called to Ward 14, to the bedside of our good American. This patient, operated on last Monday, nearly suffocated during and after the anaesthesia. For a whole day his life hung by a thread. Not knowing what religion he professed we were uneasy with regard to his spiritual welfare. 'How are you, tonight,' I said, 'better than yesterday and the previous days, are you not? — Yes Sister, but still I am not well. — And do you know that you were on the point of death? — The doctor told me that not only did I come near death, but that I died. — Were you not afraid? For our part, we were very uneasy about the salvation of your soul. We are caring for your body, but as for your soul we are almost powerless. What would have become of it? - Well! it would have gone to God. He is too good to refuse me a reception when I shall go to Him ... - Certainly you will go, but on one condition: firstly you must become a child of God by baptism and by the practice of our Holy Faith... — Not necessarily, I am not baptized... — Then you are not a Catholic?... No. — You are a Protestant... — Still less... - Then what are you? I am a free-thinker. God knows me and watches carefully over me, and He has given proof of it by rendering me my life when I was on the point of losing it. - True, God is good, since he has preserved your life but why not prove your gratitude to Him by becoming his true child?... - Ah! I am God's child and when I die, He will receive me. - Certainly, you are the child of God who has created all men, but if you desire Him to acknowledge you as such, you must bear His image in your soul which has been disfigured by original sin, but which can and should be purified by holy Baptism... All that is not necessary, they are beliefs but not truths. All this affair about religion is orthodoxy... I believe in God who is good to me. Little do I care about the rest ... - I am not of your opinion, I am afraid we shall not be in the same heaven, if we meet up above, we shall find out which one of us was right. - Alright, Sister, it Wishing the poor patient good-night, I asked him to is understood.' think our conversation over. The Blessed Virgin alone can enlighten this soul which is so deeply sunk in false beliefs.

Sunday, January 22

"Sister St. Jean de l'Eucharistie has the great honor of baptizing two little girls, under the names of Mary Josephine in honor of our regretted Mother Assistant General who passed away on January 23, 1917. The angels must be jealous of the happiness awaiting this "little thief of heaven." Born of pagan parents, she would never in all probability have been baptized, now she is heiress to the heavenly kingdom. We spare no pains to save her life but from our hearts we beseech the Blessed Virgin to soon come for her.

Our conduct is not in harmony with our desires. Let us hope that God will reward the purity of our intentions.

"Nearby, in a little cot, two Chinese twins eight days old, are performing gymnastics, not only with their hands and feet but especially with their lungs and voices. For them there is no need of artificial respiration. They perhaps, will not have, like our lily of a day, the immaculate whiteness that it drew from the baptismal font. For these latter, less fortunate, we beg the Blessed Virgin to grant that one day the regenerating waters will make them also, children of God.

Monday, January 23

"What an abundant harvest... Since yesterday we have registered seven baptisms: four babies and three adults. Two of the latter are still struggling with death. The others already possess eternal happiness. We feel that it was our beloved Mother Assistant, of cherished memory, who has invited the Blessed Virgin to reap in our fields those frail sheaves that have matured in so short a time. We thank her with heart and lips by the praise we address to the Blessed Virgin whom she so tenderly loved, begging her to help us to conquer all these pagan souls to God.

Tuesday, January 24

"The painters having to work in the Chinese pharmacy, the picture of the buddha whom they call "Santiago" must be removed. Incense is burning on an altar at his feet. Flowers and fruit are also offered. The druggist, an averred pagan, energetically opposes. This image is sacred, it must not be touched! Our manager, also a Chinese, but with modern ideas, is called upon, and the permission is obtained after many arguments and with the promise of preserving it from deterioration. Our carpenter is then called upon to carefully withdraw the nails which fixed it to the wall; the work is done without any accident. Care must now be taken so as not to disfigure the design on the ceiling. In the centre a horrible dragon seems to preside. It also must not be touched. The painters then may set to work, but what scrutinizing eyes follow them; never has a precious treasure been better guarded. A remarkable detail: a picture of the Immaculate holds the place of honor above the buddha and the Santos, and it is the Chinese druggist who has thus placed it. We trust that our admirable Mother will one day crush with her virginal heel, the head of the infernal dragon who holds all these souls captive in the darkness of the most absurd paganism.

Wednesday, January 25

"Our freethinker of whom I have spoken before, refuses to take his medicine. The nurse on duty says that Sister will come and give it to him. But when the latter arrives the portion is already swallowed. 'You do not like this medicine?' she asked him... 'That is not the reason, I do not believe it can do me any good'... Ah! then you admit that faith

is essential in the physical as well as in the moral order? It is a free gift of inestimable price... I see it now, he said... Then the infirmarian leaving the patient to his own thoughts, retires.

Monday, January 30

"Yesterday, Sunday, while visiting the Hospital in a wheel-chair, our freethinker asks to see the chapel. His visit is not a hurried one. He appears absorbed in profound reflections. He has reason to reflect for while recuperating he has read "The Faith of our Fathers" by Cardinal Gibbons, and the conversion of two freemasons, American captains. The incident of one of the Catholic missions of Baguo, a summer resort, is capable of touching the coldest hearts... His very silence with regard to these readings gives us hope. He only says that this doctrine had been taught him when he was young, but later, after studying and reading and also by fascination, he chose the faith he thought to be the best. Let us hope that the Blessed Virgin, this Mother of Mercy, whose miraculous medal he wears, slipped, unaware to him, under the band of his hat, as he had refused it not believing in the Mother of God, will obtain him from her divine Son the precious light of our holy Faith.

Tuesday, January 31

"During the month of January we have the consolation to read on our register: two Extreme Unctions, sixteen baptisms and about sixty communions among our patients. May the divine Reaper gather from the field that kind Providence has left to our care, numerous and precious sheaves.

NAZE, JAPAN

Letter from Sister de l'Enfant Jesus, Missionary to Japan, to the Assistant General

DEAR SISTER ASSISTANT,

"Oh! the lovely surprise we have to-day. Mail from Canada... and I assure you it is worth while... It brings us precious gifts from our beloved Mother. Words fail to express our joy. The lovely calendar of the Little Flower will increase our love for the dear Patroness of our Mission of Naze. And the precious volumes! 'Tis our souls that will profit by them; they are already delighting in the spiritual nourishment. We appreciate none the less the other valuable things enclosed, especially the calendar illustrating the Novitiate... When mail like that of to-day comes from Canada, it is a big holiday in Naze. We are sure that you approve of it. When our dear Mother visits us in Japan, 'tis a day for rejoicing. We spent a beau-

tiful Christmas. In going to Midnight Mass, Mrs. Inori and a few friends accompanied us, carrying pretty lighted lanterns. Several others preceded us in similar fashion. On passing the little thatched-roof houses and gazing at the beautiful mountains, which hem in the town, we imagine ourselves to be the happy shepherds of Bethlehem. At midnight, as at the Mother-House, we sing our favorite hymn. The church is filled to capacity. The calm recollected attitude of the congregation renders more pious the already solemn night. The Divine Child Jesus lies in the manger. (It is a wax Infant which had been broken on its way from Canada and which Sister Marie des Archanges had repaired and dressed: its golden locks were none other than her own.) The decorations are of a new type and are magnificent. They consist of banana trees which bear long leaves and bright red flowers. (Those that bear blossoms do not produce fruit.) — Eight of these plants suffice for the decoration. The pupils sing to the best of their ability and the "Leatabundus" especially, is a success.

"The day after New Year's, Reverend Father Urbain Marie (brother of our dear Sister Marie du Bon Conseil) who arrived from an apostolical visit to Tokonoshima and Okinama comes to see us. Needless to say that we listen attentively to every word of our kind visitor... Permit me to give you here, a brief summary. It will be an imperfect one for I shall relate it according as I recall it to my memory, and I must admit that it is

not always very faithful.

"Last year Fathers Maurice and Urbain visited these southern islands for the first time. They had not time to visit the schools owing to the heavy rains. Twenty-four years previous, missionaries had gone thither

baptizing a few pagans.

"About the middle of November Father Urbain sailed alone intending to join on his way, a catechist of one of the missions of the island, but providentially not finding the latter, he arrived alone at Tokonoshima. Owing to the rough sea, the filthy condition of the vessel and the stagnant air, he became quite ill and was obliged to remain in bed the whole day unable to take any nourishment. A Protestant minister, a very charitable man, whom Father Urbain had known in Naze, was on the same boat. 'As you also are destined for Tokonoshima,' said he, 'come with me'. Arrived in the city he conducted him to a good hotel. On the same day, the most prominent citizens held a meeting and on the invitation of the minister, Father Urbain attended it. After the deliberations, the president invited him to address the assembly, but he, explaining that he had come to visit the christians of the island, deferred the honor to his companion, who readily accepted. And what was the subject of his speech? It was the Catholic religion. Seeing that he was so well introduced, without having said anything, he also agreed to address a few words to the assembly. The next day, a second meeting concerning schools was held and he again attended, accompanied by the minister.

"This time, 'said he, 'I readily accepted to speak.' Then came the minister's turn. He related the history of the Martyrs of Nagasaki, and as his previous lecture, it was all to the praise of Catholicity. Three days

later, the expected catechist joined him and together they visited the few Catholic families scattered throughout the country. All were waiting for them. 'How happy they were,' Father said. 'They had prepared everything for the reception and did not know how to express their joy.'These poor unfortunate christians had not seen a priest for years. During this lapse of time many had died, and to condescend to the desire of the pagans, who had helped them on these occasions, they had consented to place the ancestral tablets in their homes and to offer sacrifices to them. Father Urbain, made them understand that this was not suitable for a Catholic family and they immediately burned everything. It was impressing to see them prepare for confession. They repeated together the Confiteor and the act of Contrition. Those who had remembered them best, taught them to the others.

"On that island travellers go on foot. Horses are seldom seen. The few mountains there are not as high as the one which surrounds us, but the country is very hilly. The inhabitants do but little cultivation, a small garden here, a rice-field there; little do they trouble themselves about the tilling of the soil. A narrow path across the mountains, wide enough

for one person to pass, joins one village to the other.

"The Protestant minister lives in one of these villages, but he has followers all over. When he visits them he lodges in a hermitage, "a real hut" remarked Father Urbain, 'his life of self-sacrifice is worthy of a better cause and he deserves praise.' There is not a mission in Oshima as miserable, and your hen-coop, he added, is more comfortable than these homes. While they were together this good Protestant spoke about religion. He is a Japanese Methodist. He studied with the Russian schismatics and later returned to the Methodist faith. Thus he learned with the Russians much of the Catholic doctrine and this is what he said, 'Catholicity is the only true religion. ' He does not find in the Protestant religion, a doctrine to teach. What he teaches to his followers is taken from the Catholic doctrine, thus his adherents do not see the difference between Catholicity and Protestantism. He is a strange kind of a Protestant. Will he ever be converted? It is to be hoped, but we often meet such causes. They say to others, 'Become Catholic, it is the only true religion'. But they, not having the courage to manifest their convictions, defer their conversion.

"After an eight days' travel in the country, Reverend Father returned to the starting point to take the boat for Okinawa, but the sea was so rough that the vessel kept straight ahead. He was obliged to wait eight days longer for the next boat. In the meantime there was a meeting held in the city with regard to the tilling of the soil. The minister, who had been invited, again praised Catholicity. In the hall, was a tableau of the Angelus by Millet. 'Do you know,' said he to his auditors, 'what these two persons are doing? While toiling laboriously in the fields, they do not forget the God who sustains them and they pray and ask Him to bless their work.' The Father who was also present spoke about colonization in Canada. A few days later he received an invitation from a circle of young girls, and

willingly accepted as this is something that never yet occurred among pagans. They were very interested and bid him come again as they would always be ready listeners.

"In that same city at the same epoch there was a bull fight. Father Urbain did not witness the scene, but he learnt the details from a young man. Two bulls are led into a park by their guides. The spectators crowd around the fence yelling at the top of their voices, which tends to enrage the fury of the two animals which spring one upon the other. Blood gushes, the beasts worry one another, they become enraged, roar furiously, 'tis horrible, 'tis barbarous! They are separated after one has been conquered. This contest is still carried on in many places.

"The long expected boat arrived at last and the missionaries set sail for Okinawa. This island, the farthest south, numbers two large cities and many villages scattered over the country. They went through that entire territory, visiting the schools, giving three or four lectures daily and often not taking the time for meals. One day, said he, while awaiting the conveyance that was to take me farther on, I thought I would have time to take my dinner but I was invited by a school teacher to speak to his pupils. I really thought I would not have the strength, but he insisted and so I acquiesced. The pupils immediately assembled in the grounds and there under a scorching sun, standing on a box that had been placed in front of the attendance, I spoke about our religion. The little black eyes of the pupils were fixed on me and not a word was lost of the narration, so new to them.



A LESSON IN EMBROIDERY AND CROCHET AT THE SCHOOL OF NAZE, JAPAN

"In another school where a Catholic professor was teaching, Father Urbain was invited by the Director himself to speak. He had brought with him a magic lantern displaying various projections on Sacred History. The Director announced the meeting of his own accord. In all the streets posters appeared reading thus: 'Come, do not hesitate. Entrance, free of charge.' Here the school houses are very simple: just a large roof supported by pillars. At night sliding doors are drawn together. The roof is very wide and the rain must be very heavy before it can penetrate into the interior. Early on the appointed night the people assembled, the children sitting in front on the bare ground, the parents behind on benches and throngs of spectators surrounding the house; in all, they numbered more than two thousand five hundred persons. All listened with the keenest interest and did their utmost to express their entire satisfaction. Two weeks after their arrival on this island, the missionaries returned to Naze in a little gasoline yacht. Imagine a like conveyance to cross a rough sea! Is it then any wonder that Father Urbain spent three hours lying in the bottom of the boat and as a sick as ever anyone could be? He arrived in Naze in the evening and left the following day for Chinaze a short distance from here where he was expected for Christmas Day. He was so exhausted after this long vovage on land and sea, that he was obliged to remain in bed for two days. In Chinaze there is no church, it is just a simple Japanese house. Everything was to be organized for the feast: decorations to be arranged, a crib to be made, and singing to be rehearsed. At the time for Mass everything was ready as everyone had lent a helping hand. While offering the Holy Sacrifice, the good priest naturally was unable to help the choristers, who tried to get along as best they could. A good old man had in his young days learned the "Adeste Fideles" and wanted to sing it at all costs, so he practised it a little and the moment being come, he takes his place in the middle of the room and begins... It seems it was not very melodious. What matter? He sings every solo and the choir responds on the same tone... The priest began an Oremus four times but was finally obliged to give up and patiently wait until the end of the singing to continue Mass. The Christians, wishing to terminate as joyously as possible this beautiful feast, the most solemn they had ever seen, assembled in the hall, there to sing, and the children to perform the Oshima dances. One little girl sang, "In the country of Jesus and Mary" composed by a Christian woman and a young man improvised a song in honor of the martyrs of Nagasaki. The next day Reverend Father returned to Naze after an absence of a month and a half of Japanese life. 'If conversions are not more numerous,' said Father Urbain, after having related his voyage, 'it is owing to the dearth of missionaries.'

"Dear Sister Assistant, would that I could give to my poor summary the ardor and zeal that Father Urbain gave to his recital. I imagine Saint Francis Xavier must have been of a similar nature. He contemplates the good to be done and is grieved in seeing the scarcity of missionaries to respond to so many needs, so few reapers to gather in such an abundant harvest. And we also wish by our prayers, our sacrifices, by every means in our power to glean beautiful sheaves for our Heavenly Father's granary. There is one very precious soul that we hope by our prayers to win before long. It is our professor of Japanese, Fremoto, who edifies us by her reasonings, more religious than pagan. In the explanations that she gives us, she generally finds religious examples of the Blessed Virgin, of the Saints... To-day, trying to make us understand what the word "daiku" (carpenter) meant, she said 'Saint Joseph was a carpenter', and she added 'I know very little about religion, but I will learn'. What happiness did these words afford us. Needless to say that we redouble our prayers to the Little Flower imploring her to win her to our Holy Faith.

"Au revoir", dear Sister Assistant. I shall return to you soon again as I am sure that you are interested in all that concerns your little missionaries."

Your very grateful child,

SISTER DE L'ENFANT JESUS.

MANCHURIA, CHINA

Gleanings from the diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Mandchuria

Sunday, January 1, 1928

"Immediately after Holy Mass, Reverend Fathers Lapierre and Lomme come to give us their blessing and to wish us a happy New Year.

"After breakfast a real holiday begins. At 9 o'clock, we have the happiness of assisting at High Mass. At the elevation, the Christians set off fireworks. It is very thoughtful of them to thus celebrate the "Kouo-Nien" of the missionaries. Their New Year's Day will not be until January 23rd.

"At half past eleven the Fathers come to offer us their wishes. They are six in number and we have but six chairs; they are offered to them and we take, one, a little bench, another, the machine-top and the other a little trunk. It is real poverty and we are happy to sometimes feel its effects. A few Christians call to see us. The maidens and the children offer their wishes and make three deep bows, even the little two-year old tot who smiles at us; she speaks a little and then says "Hao-Kouo-Nien' (Happy New Year).

"The day is spent most joyfully. We occasionally make a short visit to the Mother-House; truly there are no happier people on earth than we!

Tuesday, January 3

"We now have three hours a day for the study of the Chinese language. An hour alone, another with a maiden, and an hour of conversation in e evening, also with the maiden.

Wednesday, January 4

"A little orphan had her two heels frozen and suffers greatly. We are caring for her for some time past and her wounds are healing by degrees. Three others have had their feet more or less frozen. It is not surprising for they wear only yellow or blue tight-fitting cotton stockings and the thermometer registers seventeen degrees below zero.

"This evening during cur conversation we speak about the ceremonies of holy habit, of profession and of the vows, etc... The virgin explains their ceremonies to us and we, ours; it is most interesting and above all, a good means of learning new words.

"Sister Julienne is becoming Chinese little by little. She is beginning to forget how to express herself in her own language... instead of saying "next week", she says, as do the Chinese, "after this week".

Friday, January 6

"How sadly the day ends! After benediction Sister Julienne goes to see the little patient whom we are nursing. What a spectacle on our arrival! All the orphans are sobbing, the maidens are quite upset. One of the little girls, Anna, fifteen years of age, is obliged to leave; her mother has come for her. For some time past there has been question of this, but we are at a loss to know how it is that her mother has still right to her daughter since she herself had given her to the Holy Childhood when the child was quite small. The virgin tells us that the missionaries can do absolutely nothing to change matters. What is to become of the poor child? Of this we are not aware. It was heart-breaking to see her at the time of her departure. We gave her a rosary, bidding her to pray always to the Blessed Virgin. The Chinese maiden repeats twice to her our words of advice! Oh! dear Mother, it is pitiful! The poor child continues to bid us good-bye until we are lost in the distance. They are the only words of our language that she knows. To console the other orphans, we send them a little candy.

"This occurrence gave us food for reflection. How privileged we have been and how we thank God for having been born in Canada of good christian parents.

"Reverend Father Lomme is greatly enthused by the happiness he has just experienced. This afternoon, he baptized two of the school children. He tells us that before long three adults will receive Baptism: two women and a man. We have seen the latter in the chapel Sunday. He still wears the long Chinese queue... Father tells us that these conversions are well worth while.

Sunday, January 15

"After High Mass, Reverend Father Berichon, here on a visit, comes to offer us his wishes. He greatly interests us in speaking about his christians. This fall he was not able to visit his stations on account of brigands. One day he travelled forty *lis* in a chariot (about three lis make a mile) and only five remained before he would reach his destination, but owing

to brigands therein, he was obliged to return to his starting point. Generally these brigands do not seek the life of the persons they attack. They usually strip them of their clothing leaving them only in shirt and trousers, and imagine this in such bitter cold weather!... or else they take them into captivity in order to obtain a ransom.

"Reverend Father Berichon tells us that at Christmas his Christians were quite numerous. Several travelled fitfy and sixty lis to assist at Holy Mass Two young men came eighty lis on foot fasting, since the vigil was a fast-day and these poor boys were simply exhausted when they reached the mission. Last week Father received a sick-call from a village eighty lis distant, but unfortunately the poor woman had expired just half an hour before he had reached his destination. He says that it was the most trying voyage he had ever undertaken. First of all, when there was a question of calling the priest, the telephone wires had just been cut by the brigands, and a young man was obliged to come that distance on foot. The priest left immediatley and managed to have a car for the first forty lis, but for the rest of the way he had difficulty in procuring a conveyance, as none wished to expose themselves to the mercy of the brigands; however, he finally succeeded in hiring one at the price of thirty-six dollars. Thus it is not surprising that he arrived too late. He nevertheless administered Extreme Unction. The Christians who assisted the poor dying woman said that she had repeated until her last breath: 'I shall not die before I have seen the priest.'

"At 5 o'clock another of our little orphans leaves us. It is her future father-in-law who comes for her. He had bought her when a mere child to be the wife of his son, and instead of keeping her with him he had placed her with us. She will celebrate her fifteenth birthday in February and will be married immediately after. We were aware of such occurrences before coming here, from the narrations of our Sisters, but we are now seeing them in reality. 'Tis heart-rending!

Friday, January 20

"In returning from the orphanage I brought little Martha back with me. So as to win her the more, we gave her a biscuit, for which she thanked us, bowing gracefully. She is a pretty child. Her skin is white and her little black eyes are quite brilliant. She no longer wished to return home; an orphan came for her, but she cried and wanted to come back with us. I think that in the summer she will often cross the yard to pay us a visit. It is Father Berger who bought and baptized this little one.

Saturday, January 21

"This morning we receive "Le Precurseur". No need of saying with what avidity we scan its every page. Since our arrival in Manchuria we have begun the fifteen Saturdays in honor of the Blessed Virgin and to-day we are terminating them. How joyously do we offer them to Our Lady as a first bouquet for the intentions of our dear Mother!

Sunday, February 5

"This afternoon, a poor old woman of sixty-four arrived at the orphanage. She is a homeless pagan. Her children had abandoned her and thus she was obliged to beg in the city. One day she came as far as here and one of the maidens who received her most kindly invited her to come again. With Father Lapierre's permission we admitted her to the orphanage. She is our first aged person and already we feel for her. She tells us that she is happy here and will never leave us. A little miraculous medal is given her. Not knowing what it is, for she had never seen one before, the virgin explains that it is a talisman which the Sisters give and that we call it "cheung pai" (blessed medal.) The poor old soul thanks us and says that she will wear it... We ardently hope that she will soon ask to be baptized. She has a kind face; her feet are very small, hardly four inches in length.

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, February 8, 9, 10

"We are making a triduum preparatory to the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. Every afternoon, Reverend Father Lapierre gives us a short instruction: the first day he speaks to us of the desire of perfection and the means we should employ to acquire it; the second, of sanctifying grace and of mental prayer; the third, the devotion we should have towards Our Immaculate Mother, St Joseph, and the Holy Angels. He recommends us to invoke in a special manner our dear departed Sisters. They have loved us dearly while on earth and will not fail to help us if we pray to them. He also exhorts us to imitate their virtues.

"In addressing you these pages of our diary, permit me to tell you, dear Mother, how I find my new life. I am most happy, despite the fact that I am still lonesome, though not as much as during the first months. When evening comes, I always expect some one from the Mother-House. I read your letters over and over again if not to say that I meditate on them. How ardently I desire to remain ever attached to our dear home, to my dear Community, by every fibre of my being. Never do I wish that one of them be detached. The day has been spent in prayer. I had so much to say and to ask from Our Divine Lord. I have placed all your intentions in the hands of the Immaculate Virgin; for myself I have asked of her the grace to accomplish in all things and as perfectly as possible the Holy Will of God. We faithfully observe our Rule and I hope it will be our safeguard.

VANCOUVER

Extract from a letter of Sister Saint Ann, Missionary of the Immaculate Conception, to her Superior General.

Oriental Hospital, Vancouver, Jan. 12, 1928.

DEAR MOTHER,

"One of our Catholic patients who had abandoned his religion reconciled himself with God just before his death. How uneasy we were about him!

But we had prayed so earnestly to the Blessed Virgin that she could not fail to obtain mercy for him. We succeeded in making our moribund recite three invocations to Our Lady which were his last words; he had lost his speech and could only approve by signs the aspirations we made. It was not until the priest's third visit that he consented to go to confession. Ah! dear Mother it is in like circumstances that we forget our fatigues; our only anxiety is to discover means of saving these poor souls who are perishing and who are on the verge of falling into the eternal abyss!..... Doubtlessly God wishes to try us by tribulations that we may realize the more the price of souls and to make us experience greater happiness in saving them. During these trying moments, we multiply our *Aves* and invocations to Our Heavenly Mother, knowing well that our Divine Lord cannot resist the prayers of His Mother. We also make frequent use of holy water to drive away the evil spirits who have sworn the loss of souls, especially those of the dying.

"We notice that we have much less difficulty in converting the poor, the disinherited of wordly goods, than the rich, the well-to-do. The poor adapt themselves more quickly to prayer; hence conversion follows.

"Since New Years, we have baptized three pagans at our Hospital. Two of these neophytes have taken their flight to Heaven, and the third will soon join them. How good God is to these poor unfortunates, and to your privileged children who enjoy such happiness in giving back to Him the souls he has entrusted to their care!

"Words fail, dear Mother, to express how greatly I esteem my missionary vocation and my duties as nurse, so much so that I fear that I give myself up to it in a too natural way. We are so happy in the service of God and of souls. I beseech the Blessed Virgin to watch over me lest I lose some of the merits that are at my disposal.

Your humble and grateful child.

SISTER SAINT ANN, M. I. C. (1)

(1) Marie-Louise Gosselin, St. Sophie of Halifax.

Votive lights in honor of the Blessed Virgin

In the Chapel of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception.

To comply with the desire of several pious persons devoted to the Blessed Virgin, we are pleased to quote the prices of lampe and candles that may be burned at Mary's shrine in our modest chapel, in thanksgiving or to obtain some favor from this tender Mother.

A lamp or candle { 10 cents each. 75 cents for a novena. \$20.00 for one year.

Extracts FROM Novitiate Chronicles



To love Mary, what consolation here below, to make her loved, what assurance for the hour of Cath.

Sunday, January 8, 1928

Holy Church honors to-day the holy Family of Nazareth. We recall to mind the silent, obscure, hidden life of Jesus, Mary, Joseph and meditate on their hard labor, their constant prayer... and then the beautiful motto of the Venerable Mother Rivier: "Be prayerful, laborious and silent"—motto which our dear Mother has made ours and which she would like to see impregnated in our lives,—renders more profound the contemplation of our divine models.

Saturday, January 14

Our beloved Mother makes us the present of a most eloquent calendar for New Year's... (Oh! yes we can say that our calendar speaks...) Each one of its leaflets reveals something of the grandeur, mercy and beauty of our Immaculate Mother. And the illustration which decorates it!... really we have never see anything so pretty. It represents St. Ann seated, and her little child on a stool at her feet. The venerable Mother holds in one hand an open manuscript and with the other appears to dwell, by an expressive gesture, on the teachings of the law of Jehovah which she seemingly is explaining to her admirable child. This little one, her hands joined, her candid face reflecting heavenly innocence, her large bright eyes raised towards her Mother seems to grasp eagerly her every word. is she in her childish simplicity that one would readily spend hours contemplating her. 'Tis most likely what good St. Joachim is doing, standing a little in the background, apparently ravished at the sight of this little child, for his attitude bespeaks the most profound respect for this frail little creature, his own daughter, whom he knows to be so great in God's sight. Ofttimes during the day one or the other of us may be seen gazing at the captivating representation to draw at this school of virtue and of holiness the precious lessons given us by the docile and amiable little Patroness, Mary, and may we say without presumption, so dearly loved by her humble missionaries.

Monday, January 16

A young girl, who for a few days past has been here on retreat, doubtlessly urged by divine grace, asks for and obtains her admission to the Novitiate. As upon the arrival of new little Sisters, we welcome her with much joy and affection. The dear child did not expect such an enthusiastic reception,

for she had formed a very sombre idea of a Novitiate!... She is quite touched and tears of emotion stream from her eyes; but the lively conversation of all soon cheers her and before long, one would have thought her to be a postulant of several months... Supper time arrives... we go down to the refectory, but at the same time the electricity fails and we find ourselves in utter darkness. A little lamp is brought in and placed on the desk of the lecturess. Our spacious refectory assumes a most austere aspect which causes certain prejudices, many a time repeated in the world, to surge in the mind of our new postulant. Now here is a first trial... we are made to eat in the dark!... But immediately consoling herself: she says "Happily in the morning and at noon the meals have to be taken in daylight..." and she continues her supper... The recreation bell rings and we are still in the dark. We group ourselves in a triple circle around our dear Mistress, gaily conversing in awaiting to go to bed early if... the face of the world does not change. But suddenly the lights flash on so brilliantly that we become quite dazzled. Our dear baby Sister perceiving that the event was quite in opposition with our will naively reveals to us all that had gone through her mind. The acknowledgment of her sombre ideas greativ amuses us. How numerous are they in the world, the persons who are prejudiced against Communities and especially against Novitiates... If we were to believe certain persons on this subject, one would think that we are simply nourished on trials, each one more ridiculous than the other!.. Novices and postulants then relate what they had heard before entering... 'tis quite amusing... Our final conclusion is that all our trials together give us to enjoy much interior peace, more than any person in the world could even think of tasting, and it is this conviction that caused St. Madeleine of Pazzi to exclaim: "If the people of the world knew of the happiness that is experienced in the convent, the world would soon be deserted and there would not be enough monasteries to receive those who would wish to live therein."

Thursday, January 10

Just a year ago to-day our dear Sister Pauline Marie, Superior of our House at Quebec, left this earth to go, do we hope, to join her dear predecessors in the eternal sojourn. This morning, in our little chapel, we recall the memory of our beloved Sister by a Requiem High Mass. During this anniversary day we often think of our dear departed one, confidently asking her to obtain for us the virtues of which, during her short religious life, she gave us such beautiful examples, especially her spirit of obedience and her profound and inviolable attachment to her superiors and to her religious family.

Monday, January 23

The Reverend Pastor of St Christopher's Parish honors us by celebrating Mass in our chapel. We were anxiously awaiting him, because on the occasion of his New Year visit he had given us a holiday and above all had

promised to open it himself, but his many occupations had prevented him until now from carrying out his desire, and ours. His presence among us this morning gives us great pleasure. Our singing during Holy Mass is of joy and gratitude. Must we not offer to God the first fruits of this happy day?...

After breakfast we assemble in the recreation hall where our good Pastor joins us shortly after. He occupies the place of honor, 'tis the Good Shepherd surrounded by his little flock. He speaks to us about God and the salvation of souls, of our sublime vocation and the qualities that every religious missionary should possess. He then relates his experiences during his long ministry and even the "capers" of his young days... which interests us greatly... We would willingly spend the whole day listening to him, but we understand that to recreate the "little novices" is not the only duty of our parish priest. He takes his leave towards ten o'clock after wishing us a cheerful day.

Not long after his departure a messenger with a load of big parcels knocks at our door. They contain oranges, toffy and chocolates... The Sister in charge of the housekeeping at first refuses the parcels thinking that the messenger has the wrong address for she is certain that she has ordered nothing of the kind. But he assures her that he is not mistaken. She telephones to the store where she is told that the order has been given by our kind Pastor. We are deeply touched by this paternal thoughtfulness... We accept without further invitation, and our *sweetened* holiday is joyfully spent while rendering thanks to God and our devoted Pastor.

Tuesday, February 7

This evening the sad news reaches us of the death of one of our devoted benefactors, good Doctor Aubry. He was seventy-eight years of age and had practised his medical profession for fifty-five years. He must have been well received in Heaven by our Divine Lord to whom he had so often given charity in the person of the poor. If even a glass of cold water given in God's name does not remain without its recompense, what throne of glory must not have been discerned him who had given during his entire professional career, not only from his superfluity but from his science, his time, his fatigues, his life even... To speak only of our humble Community, gratituously did it receive during twenty-five years his most devoted, most ardent, most paternal services. Moreover, and it is there the most cherished right that good Doctor Aubry has to our immortal gratitude, he has, by his devotedness and solicitude, snatched our venerated Mother from death's door at the moment of the foundation of our dear Institute, at the moment, consequently, when hell must have redoubled its rage against her, who was preparing to lay the foundations of a work which should contribute efficaciously to the destruction of the reign of Satan on pagan shores. When our dear Mother's health was despaired of, he hoped against all hope, redoubling his efforts, care, vigilance, and well may we conjecture. his prayers also, since his great spirit of faith is not unknown to us... He realized that he was accomplishing God's work in striving by all possible means to save a life so precious... and he spared nothing. Our gratitude towards him will be everlasting... All the generations of the humble family of the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception will forever cherish his memory and above, we do not doubt, his reward is a magnificent one.

Saturday, February, 11

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. 'Tis the day of holy joy. After a reposing retreat preached by Reverend Father Laferrière, Dominican, in which we have tasted the sweetness of Thabor, we assemble this morning at the foot of the illuminated grotto of Massabielle, contemplating the Immaculate who smiles on us as formerly upon little Bernadette... Doubtlessly the spotless Virgin tenderly and lovingly inclines towards her privileged children, toward those especially who are preparing, despite their unwothiness, to respond to the "Veni" of the King of Virgins and to thus receive the noblest titles which may be desired; those of Spouse of the Most High and of Missionary of the Immaculate Conception. The guests of these divine nuptials number thirty-one. They receive the white attire and the azure blue girdle of the Virgin of Lourdes, and a new name. They are: Misses Laurette Moran (St-Boniface, Man.) now Sister St. Jean d'Ephèse; Graziella Poitras (Quebec), Sister Thérèse du St-Sacrement; Ursule Charette (Trois-Rivières) Sister Ste-Rosalie; Catherine Lebel (St-Epiphane) Sister Ste-Catherine d'Alexandrie; Olynda Rouleau (Précieux Sang, Nicolet), Sister Marie Hermann; Aurore Léger (St-Stanislas-de-Kotska), Sister Ste-Claire-d'Assise; Ethel Camden (Sisseton, Dakota), Sister Marie-de-l'Eucharistie; Alice Buteau (St-Evariste, Beauce), Sister Marie-Esther; Lina Nadeau (Arctic, R. I.), Sister Louis-de-Montfort; Anita Martin (St-Alexis, Montcalm), Sister St-Alexis; Bernadette De Champlain (Luceville, Rimouski), Sister St-Joachim; Simonne Bégin (Montreal), Sister St-Simon; Maie-Anne Richard (Sacré-Cœur de Crabtree), Sister Marie-du-Divin-Cœur; Laura Poirier (St-Léonard d'Aston), Sister St-Adolphe; Simonne Sabourin (St-Isidore-de-Prescott), Sister Léon-Joseph; Antoinette Alary (St-Janvier), Sister St-Janvier; Eliane Laramée (Chicopee Falls, Mass.), Sister Marie-des-Oliviers; Alice Hamelin (St-Didace), Sister St-Didace; Noella Picard (St-Ubald, Co. Portneuf) Sister Ste-Blanche de Castille; Joséphine Charron (Isle Verte, Témiscouata) Sister Ste-Adèle; Alice Lalonde (Montreal) Sister St-Albert; Georgine Bénéteau (Amherstburg, Ont.) Sister Marie-de-Liesse; Marie-Jeanne Lafond (Montreal) Sister Ste-Brigide; Gabrielle Filion (Lachute) Sister Gabriel-de-Marie; Marie-Jeanne Bédard (Quebec) Sister St-Roch; Cécile Bouthilier (St-Valérien), Sister Ste-Perpétue; Marie-Louise Labonté (Gentilly), Sister Ste-Cécile; Blandine Archambault St-Paul l'Ermite), Sister St-Félix-de-Valois; Yvonne Jolicœur (Joliette) Sister St-Camille-de-Lellis; Rita Drouin (St-Norbert), Sister Ste-Rita; Rose-Alma Pelletier (Lévis), Sister Rose-de-Marie.

Fifteen others, still happier than these, after having experienced during two years how much "the Lord's yoke is sweet and His burden light" unite themselves by their first yows, to their chaste Spouse and receive as symbols of their separation from the world, of their donation to our Divine Crucified Lord, and of their appurtenance to the Oueen of Virgins, a black veil, a silver cross and a rosary, austere jewels which so eloquently speak to their souls and which they would not wish to exchange for all the treasures of the world. These privileged ones are: Sister Ste-Rose-de-Lima (Rose Bérubé de St-Damase, Matapédia); Sister Madeleine-de-Béthanie (Madeleine Pigeon, Quebec); Sister Marie de-la-Charité (Corinne Bourassa, St-Barnabé); Sister Saint-Lazare (Juliette Rainville, Beauport); Sister Marie-de-la-Protection (Cécile Roberge, Quebec); Sister Saint-Julie (Béatrice Tessier, St-Jérôme); Sister Thérèse-de-St-Augustin (Béatrice Cornellier, Collinsville, Mass.); Sister Marie-du-Précieux-Sang (Aurore Racette, Rivière Rouge, Michigan); Sister Mecthilde-du-Saint-Sacrement (Alphéma St-Guillaume d'Upton); Sister St-Philippe de Néri (Délia Vanasse. Philippe, Ste-Cécile de Mashan); Sister Marie-de-la-Réparation (Marie-Ange Provost, Sherrington); Sister Marie-de-Gethsémani (Cécile Sansoucy, Montreal); Sister Ste-Justine (Cléona Robitaille, Glenada) Sister Ste-Monique (Monique Parrot, Montreal); Sister Marguerite-du-St-Sacrement (Charlotte Bissonnette, Cartierville).

But the happiest of all are those who unite themselves "forever" to the thrice Holy God and receive as pledge of their mystical nuptials, "the ring of fidelity." They are: Sister Marie-des-Cinq-Plaies (Blanche Dion, Montreal); Sister Marie-des-Vertus (Yvonne Carrier, St-Ludger, Frontenac) Sister Marie-Auxiliatrice (Marie-Ange Lavallée, Ste-Claire, Dorchester); Sister Marie-de-la-Résurrection (Marguerite Ouellet, Beauport).

Oh! these, especially, are the "queens" of the day! This evening they will be crowned with lilies whilst the virgins, their sisters, will sing with enthusiasm and emotion "Veni sponsa Christi... accipe coronam..." and we believe that God's little angels will incline towards our modest dwelling to glimpse at these humble creatures on whom their Sovereign deigns to shower such honors.

This afternoon the religious ceremony is most solemn. His Lordship Bishop O. Plante, auxiliary of Quebec, honors us by presiding at it. Three of his former children are among the number of to-day's elect. Needless to mention their joy and gratitude, as also that of the whole Community for the paternal marks of interest which His Lordship deigns to bestow on us. Reverend Father Chaput delivers the sermon for the occasion and numerous members of the clergy honor us by their presence. In the sanctuary are: Very Rev. Canon J. A. Roch, Superior of the Foreign Mission Seminary: Very Rev. Canon Bissonnette, Pastor of St. Stanislas de Kotska; Reverend Father Derome, Pastor of St. Christopher's Parish; Reverend Father Alary, Pastor of St. Berchman's Parish; Reverend Father Gélinas, Pastor of Prouxville; Reverend Father Yelle, Pastor of Ste Cécile de Mashan; The Reverend Fathers Parrot, Redemptorist, Perreault, Redemptorist; L. Bégin, S.J.; Hamelin, C. S. V.; Théoret, C. S. V., Desrosiers, C. S. V.; Koenig, S.V; Bouter, Eudiste; Bourassa, S. J.; Déry, Sec. to Mgr. Plante; Chaumont, M. E.; Geoffroy, M. E.; Rondeau, M. E; Fafard, M. E.; Roberge, M. E; Parrot, Ranger, Forcier, Bérubé, Garant, Lalime; the Reverend Brothers Biron, C. S. V.; Anatole, of S. C.

At our Procure at Rome, Sister Marie des Lis (Irene Pinsonnault of St Michel de Napierville also pronounces "forever" her holy engagements.

Thursday, March 1

How charming it is to see a flock of pure white doves! But is it not true that a cloud of "little crows" is also most interesting?... 'Tis what we realize to-day... Since the 11th of February last, our eyes have rested only on white, all our little black birdlings of the summer were metamorphosed on this date — and we found the aspect a most rejoicing one; nevertheless, this evening, the shadows cast here and there on the tableau by the arrival of thirty postulants, whom we generally term as "little black crows" do not at all grate upon the scene... and already we love them so, these little sisters, whom Providence has brought to us and who come, as we, to offer their whole beings, their whole lives, for the great work of the salvation of souls. Oh! may the Immaculate Virgin, our ever loving Mother, bless and prepare them herself for their sublime apostolate! 'Tis the most ardent wish of welcome that springs from our fraternal hearts.

Monday, March 12

At that time there was a marriage feast... a mystical one at the Novitiate of the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception... and Jesus was the Spouse who invited to the divine and perpetual alliance two of His humble creatures: Sister Marie-de-St-Luc (Maria Bourdeau of St-Luc,); Sister Marie d'Ephèse (Jeannette Luneau, of Princeville)

And Mary, Mother of Jesus and Mother of the happy Spouses was also invited, — and with what filial confidence! — to prepare herself the nuptial attire for her daughters, and to guard for them, for eternal life, the white robe of their "second baptism". "To thee, Immaculata," do they repeat after having received the gold ring, pledge of their indissoluble alliance with their God "to thee, Immaculata, I confide my promise: guard thou my eyes, guard thou my lips, guard thou my heart, take me for thine own! I am the handmaid of the Lord!...

The ceremony was presided by Reverend Father Derome, Pastor of St. Christopher's Parish, who also deigned to deliver the sermon for the circumstance.

Present in the sanctuary were Reverend Father Robichaud, S.J., Pastor of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Reverend Father Rondeau, M.E., Chaplain of the Mother-House, and Reverend Father Fafard, M.E., Chaplain of the Novitiate.

The same day at our Mission of Hong Kong, China, Sister St. Patrick (Nora Reid, Montreal) and at our Mission of Naze, Japan, Sister du Saint Cœur de Marie (Agnès Lavallée Winnipeg, Man.) also had the happiness making their perpetual oblation.

Pauline Marie Jaricot

Foundress of the Association of the Propagation of the Faith.

THE TRIAL

(Continued)

In a letter dated April 21st, 1839, what confidence does the Cardinal of Bonald show her...

"I am leaving for Rome on the 11th of May. I hope to have the honor of seeing you while I am at Lyons. If your travelling arrangements coincide with mine I shall be grateful to Divine Providence for it.

Even if I am an angel of the Church of France according to the Apocalvose, I need none the less the prayers of the faithful who often are in God's eyes, far greater than these angels of Churches. Even their rank should render them the object of the compassion and fervent prayers of the faithful. He who is elevated let him fear lest he fall. Fallen angels are alas, only too numerous in the church. As you see, Miss Jaricot, I greatly need your prayers and desire to make the journey in your company!

Later, people tried to circumvent the cardinal against the unfortunate Pauline, but he ever held her in the highest esteem.

"I sincerely share in all your tribulations, Miss Jaricot," did he write to her. "They are all the more undeserved since you have never sought your own interests, but those of God and your neighbor."

"I wish it were in my power to alleviate your sufferings and to be capable of proving my esteem for you. I sincerely hope that you will derive some advantages from your travels and find everywhere the sympathy due to your misfortunes. I feel confident that God who wishes to try you, will come to your assistance and grant you still a few days of tranquillity and peace. But, may God's will be done in all things..."

In one of the trying moments when the sufferings of the present and the difficulties of the future weighed heavily upon her heart, Pauline received a letter which had been delayed by a thousand obstacles.

On glancing at the well-known writing she felt the greatest interior joy and retired to her little cell that she might read in peace 'neath the gaze of Our Lord alone, these pages which were verily a heavenly comfort for her desolate heart. This letter had been written by a martyred Bishop, Mgr. Pierre Andre Retord of holy and illustrious memory.

The mission of Tonkin was entrusted to this valiant prelate of the diocese of Lyons, Bishop of Acanthe and successor to Bishop Borie, martyr.

Bishop Retord soon enjoyed an immense popularity in the missions of Asia, his name was known all over the Extreme Orient without distinction of nationality or worship. In him was revered the highest expression of zeal and courage as of capacity and virtue. He had won to a superb degree, the devotedness of his clergy stimulated by his example and ever ready for martyrdom; the confidence of his neophytes, who thought that they had nothing to fear while in his presence, the friendship of the most powerful mandarins whom he had the secret of interesting in his christian works, and lastly the admiration of the pagans who hailed in him the great King of Religion.

In their superstitions the savege tribes imagine that they saw the wild beasts leaving their forests and bowing down before him as he passed, to render homage to his piety.

Europe itself felt the influence of his apostolate. From the extremities of Asia he edified it by that correspondence seemingly written with the blood of martyrs and which has so powerfully aided the cause of the Annamite Church, in exciting universal interest for its heroism and hardships. (Messager du Sacré Cœur, November 1881.)

From Occidental Tonkin, Sept. 8, 1848.

MY BELOVED AUNT AND DEAR SISTER,

"You will no doubt wonder at the double title I have just addressed you. But I shall explain the mystery!

"Why do I call you Aunt. Here is the reason:

"The day that I left Paris for Bordeaux (whence I was to sail) I and another missionary dined at Mrs Perrin's, your good sister. I was young then, and she, she was no longer so... This excellent lady therefore took me in such affection, that she wished to call me her son and asked that henceforth I should call her my mother; to which I willingly agreed.

"Since that time I wrote to her as a son to his mother and she answered in the manner of a mother to her child.

"At this moment, looking down from heaven, she is listening to me relating this story of *mother and son* and which I have never told anyone. I am sure she is not displeased.

"If then Mrs. Perrin is my mother and if you are her sister, you are also my aunt and I must call you such.

"But how can you at the same time be my sister. The explanation of this title is not very long.

"I know that you are living high up under the wing of Our Lady of Fourvière, as a birdling 'neath its mother's wing and that Mary is your mother in a special manner. You are ever one of her most cherished children. Well, on the day of my departure from Lyons, I went to say my last Mass at the altar of Our Lady of Fourvière to throw myself entirely into the arms of this tender Mother. I begged her to receive me among her most cherished children, and this in every circumstance of my life as well as in every place where I should go.

"If then, Mary has received me as her son and if you are her daughter it is evident that we are *brothers* and that I may call you my *sister*. Mary has received me in a special manner as her son for she has even proved it by the marked protection that she unceasingly bestowed upon me, especially since I am missionary.

"Ah certainly if I were to enumerate all of them I should compose a voluminous book. Oh! how good is Mary! How kind! how powerful! how consoling to take refuge 'neath her maternal mantle!

"You are well aware of all this: then my good aunt and dear sister continue to remember me in your prayers to Jesus and Mary... I may add: my dear daughter go often to Calvary and ask our agonizing Saviour the virtues of patience and of fortitude necessary for your father, to valiantly fight the battles of the Lord in the plains of Asia.

"But no, I do not wish to call you my *daughter* for that would be assuming an air of episcopal authority which I do not wish to exercise over you who are superior to me in age and in virtue. It only becomes me to be your *nephew* and your *brother*. If you are able to write to me, which would certainly afford me great pleasure, I would ask you to kindly use no other title.

"And so will our lives glide by... Yours peacefully on the summit of Fourvière and mine in the midst of the rocks and thorns of tribulations until the happy eternity where I hope to meet you and Mrs. Perrin, my foster-mother. There we shall be forever reunited in presence of Mary our great and common Mother.

"Accept kind aunt and dear sister the sentiments of affection which I bear for you at the foot of the Cross in the hearts of Jesus and Mary. Your dear nephew, brother and devoted servant.

PIERRE ANDRE RETORD

Bishop of Acanthe
Vicar Apostolic of Tonkin

But these consolations were only short halts granted by Providence, so as to give stength to the victim along the way to Calvary.

The sorrows of the latter increased in proportion to the evils threatening her neighbor and her powerlessness to assuage them. This same powerlessness sapped her very life.

Certain of the affection and devotedness of the great family of the Rosary, she sent to it, May 1, 1849, a first call of distress, the beauty of which touched all hearts. She asked, as help, the meagre subscription of 10 cents per month for five years. This proposition was gladly agreed to by all the counsellors of the Work. While waiting for ecclesiastical permission to organize and extend this subscription, particular alms proved to the Mendicant of Christ, the sympathy which her misfortune excited.

This assistance, as well some others, permitted her once again, to keep Loretto and Our Lady of Angels safe from the dreaded expropriation.

But at last the great departure had to be decided upon. Hand-work became necessary to provide for the daily needs of the little colony of Loretto, already much lessened and which Pauline wished to secure from the many vexations brought on during her first absence... After having settled affairs, not as she would have desired, overcoming her grief and repugnance, she who had shed countless favors on others, set out to solicit help for herself.

She went firstly to Moulins, where the Count d'Orsay placed himself at her disposal in order to labor in favor of the regenerating Work. *This time* virtue and honor were allied with words...

At Tours she met Mr. Dupont who had been warmly received at Loretto during the time when she there dispensed a noble and christian hospitality: he had seen her lavish fortune and self entirely to whomsoever was oppressed by adversity: so he shared in a truly brotherly way the profound affliction of this predestined soul. He admired her beautiful plan for the Preservation of the Faith and particularly the branch of the Association for Laborers for which he resolved to organize on a large scale the desired subscription. A noble project which was alas, fettered like so many others...

From Tours, Pauline went to Paris where we joined her.

It was in June 1849. The cholera epidemic and uprising gave to the

great city a mournful aspect. Everywhere coffins, hideous faces, armed soldiers, were to be seen.

We received hospitality at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, rue de Varennes, where Madam Barat, Foundress and Superior treated Pauline as we may treat a *saintly* friend, that is to say with a tenderness mingled with a profound respect.

Paris is but a vast desert when one goes through it weeping. Pauline felt this impression from the first to the last day of her sojourn. She had come thither to claim the intervention of influential persons who would be capable of smoothing out many a difficulty. She wished especially to confide to the representative of Pope Pius IX., her designs, her distress and repugnances, to follow the advice given by Mgr. Villecourt of claiming her rights, so long given up to others.

Mgr. Raphael Fornari welcomed her as all Roman Pontiffs do, that is to say in such a truly simple and fatherly manner, that the exile freely opened her poor heart to him......

The Nuncio approved the advice given by Mgr. Villecourt, and highly praised the project conceived in favor of the working-class. Moreover, His Excellency showed himself extremely kind to Pauline, and promised a constant protection to her whose present misfortunes were not to make one forget her glorious past.

However fatherly this reception had been, and it was in profound sadness that Pauline took her leave. The step to be taken was all the more painful since for the last thirty years she had abandoned to every competitor her title of Foundress, and had authorized by her diligence a sort of proscription against herself. Therefore to claim *such* an honor in *such* circumstances was for this soul an untold trial.

She went nevertheless to the President of the Council and was received with marks of the highest esteem.

Then, a little confident, she exposed her misfortunes and the painful necessity in which she found herself to publish her rights to the title of Foundress of the Propagation of the Faith in order to implore the charity of the faithful in favor of a Work in peril, and of which she briefly exposed the elements, aim, and obstacles.

When she had finished, the *friend* had disappeared, the *president* alone remained. He replied in a cold and embarrassed manner that the council would examine if it were befitting to accept or to reject her request and that he would give an answer the following week.

On the appointed day we went for that answer which was alas! icy! "The council refused to ostensibly give to Miss Jaricot a title which she had never claimed until then. Moreover, in the present circumstances to which the latter was reduced, to claim the charity of the faithful would be harmful to the Propagation of the Faith etc. etc." And these cruel words were added: "Why have you exposed yourself to the necessity of asking public charity, too often imposed upon!"

This refusal and remark wounded Pauline to the very heart. How much she could have said to justify herself! Still she kept silent: but as we were near St. Sulpice she said: "Let us go and see Our Lord... What I have just heard is most painful to me... But all things come from God: let us remember this and repeat: Fiat!"

Having retired to this devotional chapel she remained there until a perfect calm was restored to her soul.

Notwithstanding the fact of the ruthlessness of the Council of the Propagation of the Faith, Pauline was certain that her dear family of the Living Rosary was everywhere ready to accept the subscription of two cents per month in favor of laborers. For this, ecclesiastical authorization alone was needed and it was supposed that it would be easily obtained.

But all these proceedings required time and some creditors in Lyons did not want to wait... Every day, numerous letters came to Pauline who never opened them without terror and after having murmured: "O God, give me the courage to accept all without offending Thee." In truth she had sincerely asked to be immolated for her brethren: but her excessively noble and delicate nature could not accept without struggle the *kind of immolation* which God reserved for her.

We once saw her courage firm though it were, brought to the extreme in one of those terrible moments when heaven and earth seem to withdraw, leaving man to his own weakness....

In the morning she had received threatening letters from her enemies. 'Twas little: persons dear to Our Lord and consequently revered by His humble servant had reproached her *cupidity*, her *pride* and her *ambition* etc.

Before these unmerited reproaches a feeling of rebellion arose within her soul and she sought refuge in the chapel and murmured: "My Saviour, art Thou also condemning me... Thou knowest however, my gentle Master, why I have exposed myself to such abandonment... I no longer have the strength to suffer... Deign to assist me if Thou dost not want me to succumb!

Thou art my sole protector, O, do not leave me!"

Tears streamed from her eyes falling on the papers she held in her hands. Soon strengthened in humility by the Friend of the Tabernacle she answered to her creditors that she *instantly begged* them to forgive her involuntary delay: and to her accusers that, if in the undertakings of Our Lady of Angels she never had had the intentions that the world supposed, she deserved many other reproaches being only a poor creature capable of every fault.

The entire afternoon was given to wearisome visits postponed until then.

God blessed this generous expiation of the faltering of a moment by allowing that in the evening of that very day, Mary's poor child had the consolation of forwarding a portion of the sum, so harshly demanded.

It was pitiful to see her accept without the least complaint the incessant fatigue rendered exceedingly painful by the swelling, and the wounds upon her lower limbs. When her sufferings hindered her from going farther she would say: "Let us rest a little... here is a nice milestone, a nice doorstep, I shall sit upon it as in an arm-chair and afterwards you will see me alert and spright...!"

In fact after a few mcments she would take my arm or Maria's and resume her walk to make *her beautiful visits* as she called them, that is, to solicit help from the rich of this world.

As we were asking her: "What are your thoughts as you go from one hotel to another?..." — The Stations of the Cross, she would sadly reply.

When her feeble body could no longer bear this necessary walking she would take the omnibus which she would mount with extreme difficulty. Surrounded by the splendors of the capital she saw only God, all her thoughts were given to Him alone, and she was often heard to repeat: "Glory be to the Father, to the Son and to the Holy Ghost!" This was her war-cry.

Meanwhile, weeks and months passed by without bringing the expected succor and the Work of Our Lady of Angels was more than ever exposed to lose all its organizing elements. Absorbed by political cares or frightened at seeing the social edifice tremble on its base, serious-minded people sought, in human resources the means of re-establishing the equilibrium, and nearly everyone remained deaf to the voice signalling a means of salvation in the regeneration of the working-class.

Besides, the veil of mourning which enveloped Paris became more sombre as time went on. The cholera continued to ruthlessly reap human lives, the Revolution spoke openly of putting the young girls of religious establishments on the barricades and the ignoble population roaming about the suburbs and wharves looked as if they sprung from hell! *The clap of thunder* was greatly dreaded.

But thousands of pure souls had prayed... Also on the very evening when the Revolutionists seemed about to triumph, the most terrible among them were on the road to exile, and there were only rare cases of cholera.

As soon as the tempest had calmed the diligent bee resumed her search to see if on the spared flowers she might not find something to increase her honey-comb. Likewise after the political storm was appeased, she who so often called herself the *bee of Calvary* again sought to gather for her bee-hive of Our Lady of Angels, proper elements for the formation of the divine honey which she wished to give others to taste.

A committee was organized to save the *Cause of Working-men*. Three ecclesiastics were appointed by the Nuncio himself to be placed at the head of the committee.

Father Martin de Noirlieu, pastor of Saint Louis d'Antin; Father Hanicle, Pastor of Saint Severin; and the venerable Father Dufriche Desgenettes. The latter in the maturity of life and looked upon with the veneration inspired by sanctity wished to give Pauline a public proof of veneration and gratitude.

In this aim he published Sept. 18, 1849, a letter addressed to all charitable souls and of which we cite the first lines;

"The name of Miss Pauline Marie Jaricot is pronounced with God's praises throughout the entire universe and everywhere in spite of the extreme modesty

of this virtuous person, this name recalls the two prodigious organizations which Divine Bounty has given her to establish and found; The Propagation of the Faith and the Living Rosary."

The servant of Mary then exalts the excellence of this regenerating Work for the success of which he makes appeal to Catholic charity.

A great number of episcopal recommendations were also published in this aim and Mgr. Villecourt did not fail to unite his voice to those of his brethren in order to praise both the Work and she who had conceived the idea.

We have read elsewhere many of these beautiful testimonies. Obliged by the committee to publish the letters, the humble maiden felt what she termed the *confusion of nothingness...* and obeyed nevertheless, but gazing at the page that received this new cry of distress, she wiped away her tears, and sighs escaped her lips as she murmured: "How trying and painful this is."

The difficulties of the work had become *such* that to save it, a general co-operation was needed.

This co-operation consisted, as we have already seen, in a *slight alms given during five years only* by the members of the Propagation of the Faith and of the Living Rosary, but under the pretext of putting these two Works *into peri!*, countless impediments beset this general subscription which might have saved everything.

Pauline suffered greatly from this refusal which, however did not alter her courage. She continued her life of prayer and sacrifice whilst the situation became more and more critical, and that anguishes and threats were daily multiplied: Our Lady of Angels and Loretto were to be sold within a short time by judiciary intervention...etc.

These threats and many other griefs were the habitual subject of her intercourse with Our Lord. This adorable Master who freely disposes of the treasures of earth as of the splendors of heaven, was doubtlessly pleased to see His generous spouse struggling lovingly against her poverty, the malice of men, and the desolations of her own heart, for He lent her no assistance.

However, in this same Paris where she had reaped so many humiliations, she was consoled in meeting Mgr. Emmanuel Verrolles, who bore on his exhausted frame the traces of cruel sufferings accepted for the love and glory of Christ He had just arrived in Paris after having crossed six thousand leagues: to beg alms in God's name for his people in distress.

Attracted by the irresistible influence of holiness, the throngs followed in the footsteps of the missionary bishop, and filled the churches where his extremely simple words stirred enthusiasm in that immense throng, well accustomed to the eloquence of a Ravignan and a Lacordiere.

Pauline had several interviews with the martyr during which, raising their hearts and thoughts above the miseries of this world, each seemed

to enjoy the bitterness of suffering of which they bore the glorious stigmatas. Faithful disciples of Jesus Crucified they encouraged one another to cross "the great tribulation." If their crosses differed, their souls understood one another and remained equally invulnerable in hope and charity.

The saintly Bishop whose profound humility charmed all who knew

"When I see at my feet that woman so admirable for her works and merits, I need to recall inwardly my episcopal character: otherwise, I should be tempted to ask her blessing rather than to give her mine."

(To be continued)

Thanksgivings to the Blessed Virgin for favors obtained



" O MARY, the entire universe would perish before you

Please find enclosed One Dollar towards the support of the missionary I have adopted in gratitude for a favor obtained. M.B.C., St. Catherines, Ont. — I am enclosing One Dollar in grateful thanks to St. Therese for a favor received. Mrs. T. L., Sturgeon Falls, Ont. — Kindly accept this dollar which I promised if a favor were granted me by Our Blessed Lady. M. G., New Bedford, Mass. — I am sending an offering of Five Dollars, for the ransom of a Chinese baby in thanksgiving for a favor I have received through the Little Flower of Jesus. Mrs. N. R., Renfrew, Ont. — Glory and thanks to the Blessed Virgin and to the Little Flower for favors obtained. I again recommend my intentions to my great Patroness. Miss C. C. — Please find enclosed One Dollar in gratitude for favors received. Anonymous. — Enclosed my offering for your Chinese Missions. Please find enclosed One Dollar towards the support ymous. — Enclosed my offering for your Chinese Missions, in thanksgiving to the Immaculate Virgin for the favors she has granted me during the year. I again ask your prayers

refuse your assistance to those who, with all their heart, implore your help and protection.

BL. HENRY SUZO.

Thanks to our divine Mother of Mercy for the recovery of my daughter's health. Chs. J. S., Quebec. — My little daughter, six months old, had such violent headaches that I thought she was affected with meningitis. I bathed her head in Lourdes water and promised to publish her recovery if it were granted. At once the child who had not slept for days and nights fell asleep. She was cured. Since then her health has been perfect. Please find enclosed my humble donation, a feeble tribute of my gratitude. Mrs. L. F., Delisle. — Please find enclosed Two Dollars in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for a cure obtained. In gratitude find enclosed Five Dollars for the ransom of a Chinese baby. Mrs. J. H. — In thanksgiving to the Immaculate Virgin for a cure obtained, please find enclosed One Dollar for your Chinese Missions.

O. S., Montreal. — In gratitude to the Blessed Virgin for a great favor received please find enclosed Five Dollars for the ransom of a Chinese baby. Mrs. H. M. L., Abitibi. — Five Dollars in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for favor received. J. N. G., Montreal. — After promising publication in the Precursor, I obtained a great favor from the Immaculate Chinese Dollars and meduring it Lebteries. After promising publication in the Precursor, I obtained a great favor from the Immaculate Virgin. In thanksgiving I enclose One Dollar and promise a second donation if I obtain a desired vocation. Miss A. L., Quebec. — Please find enclosed seventy-five cents for a novena of lights in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for favors obtained. I solicit from her new graces. Mrs. A. E., Granby. — I am happy to send you fifty cents for the ransom of

two dying babies. In gratitude to the Blessed Virgin for favors obtained. Mrs. M. Montreal. — Thanks to our heavenly Mother for a favor granted. In gratitude and to obtain ne w graces you will find enclosed One Dollar for lights in honor of this Blessed Lady. A subscriber., Manville, R. I. — To fulfil my promise of publishing a favor obtained through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin, please find enclosed Five Dollars and my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR". D. C., Bushnell, Ont.

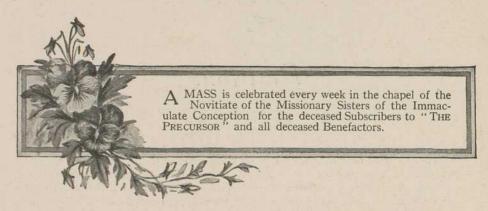


Petitions

"O Mary conceived without sin pray for us who have recourse to Thee".

This offering, Two Dollars, is for the Missionaries and the poor lepers, that I may have the help of their prayers for a favor that I am asking. L.E., Drummondville P.Q. - I am enclosing One Dollar as a subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" and hope to be able to send something towards your needy missions when I obtain employment. Please make a novena for my intentions. F. A. K., Toronto. - Enclosed you will please find an offering for a Mass that my husband may find a position that will enable us to keep our home. If my favor be granted I promise to send Five Dollars for your needy missions and will try to procure two new subscribers to "THE PRECURSOR". Mrs. J. L., Cleveland, Ohio. - This postal note for Three Dollars is for a Mass and a novena of lights in honor of our Blessed Lady and the Little Flower. I am asking relief from a painful and weakening malady. Should I receive this great favor, I shall in thanksgiving give Ten Dollars for your missionary works. Mrs. H. B., **Toronto.** — I am enclosing One Dollar. Please pray for my intentions. Miss A. M., **Montreal.** — My renewal subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" and One Dollar to help the little Chinese, in fulfilment of a promise to the Little Flower. Mrs. B. L., St. Jerome, P. Q .- Enclosed you will please find Two Dollars, my renewal subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" and a donation towards your missionary work. I am offering it for a special favor that I am asking from the Blessed Virgin. If granted I shall send another contribution in thanksgiving. C. W., Verdun. P. Q. - Please pray for my son. Mrs. P. M., Montreal. - I recommend myself to your prayers that my husband who is addicted to drink may act better towards me. Mrs. M. M. — One Dollar for a novena of lights for a special intention. J. A. F., Outremont. — I ask the help of your prayers that my daughter who has left home may return if it be God's Holy Will, also pray please for my little boy. Mrs. P. C., Sudbury, Ont. - I am enclosing Two Dollars for my renewal subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" and for a novena of lights in honor of our Blessed Lady that I may obtain the sale of property. I promise a donation to the Chinese Missions if this favor be granted. Mrs. M. McK. Montreal. - Please pray for me and my children. M. A. C., Worcester, Mass. - Enclosed

please find One Dollar for a novena of lights for our intentions, that my two sons may find employment and for success in the sale of my property. Mrs. J. P. M., Montreal. - I am sending Two Dollars for lights to be burned in honor of our Blessed Lady that my son may obtain steady work and that my two daughters may come back to the Church. Mrs. M. H., Cleveland, Ohio. - I am sending One Dollar for your missions, asking once more a share in your prayers. Mrs. V. G., Worcester, Mass. - Please find the enclosed offering for lights to be burned in honor of Our Blessed Lady for my intentions. Montreal. - I humbly ask your prayers that my husband may retain his present position. If this request be granted I shall send a donation for your Missions, renew my subscription to "THE PRE-CURSOR" and have a Mass said frequently for the Holy Souls. Mrs. G. C., Ottawa. -Kindly accept the enclosed offering, One Dollar, for a novena of lights in honor of Our Lady and the Little Flower for the conversion of my son and two daughters who are in need of prayers. I also ask that my son obtain steady work. If my prayer be heard I promise to do all in my power to help the Missions. Mrs. A. E. P., New Bedford. - I am threatened with a terrible affliction and ask God to spare me to my little ones until they are older. The enclosed offering is for your mission needs. Mrs. J. R., Cleveland, Ohio. - Please find enclosed Five Dollars for lights to be burned in honor of St. Therese of the Child Jesus. I beg your prayers that I may obtain a great favor. I promise if my request be granted to send a complete burse in honor of the Little Flower. B. P., Rice Lake Wis. -





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