

# THE PRECURSOR



Vol. VII., 8th Year MONTREAL, SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1930 No. 5

# **Works of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception**

## **IN CANADA**

### **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), Laval Co.**

### **CHINESE WORKS IN MONTREAL, (Founded in 1913)**

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

### **NOMINING, P. Q. (Bethany) (Founded in 1914)**

### **CITY OF RIMOUSKI, P. Q. (Founded in 1918)**

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

### **CITY OF JOLIETTE, P. Q. (Founded in 1919)**

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Diocesan Office of the Holy Childhood. Chinese Works. Work-room for the missions.

### **SILLERY, near Quebec, St. Cyrille St. (Founded in 1928)**

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### **GRANBY, P. Q. (Founded in 1930)**

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### **CHICOUTIMI, P. Q. (Founded in 1930)**

Diocesan Office of the Holy Childhood. Closed Retreats for ladies and young girls.

(Continued on page 3 of the cover)







"O IMMACULATE MOTHER, PROTECT OUR BENEFACTORS!"



# THE PRECURSOR

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of the Immaculate Conception

*with the approbation of the Archbishop of Montreal*

VOL. VII, 8th Year

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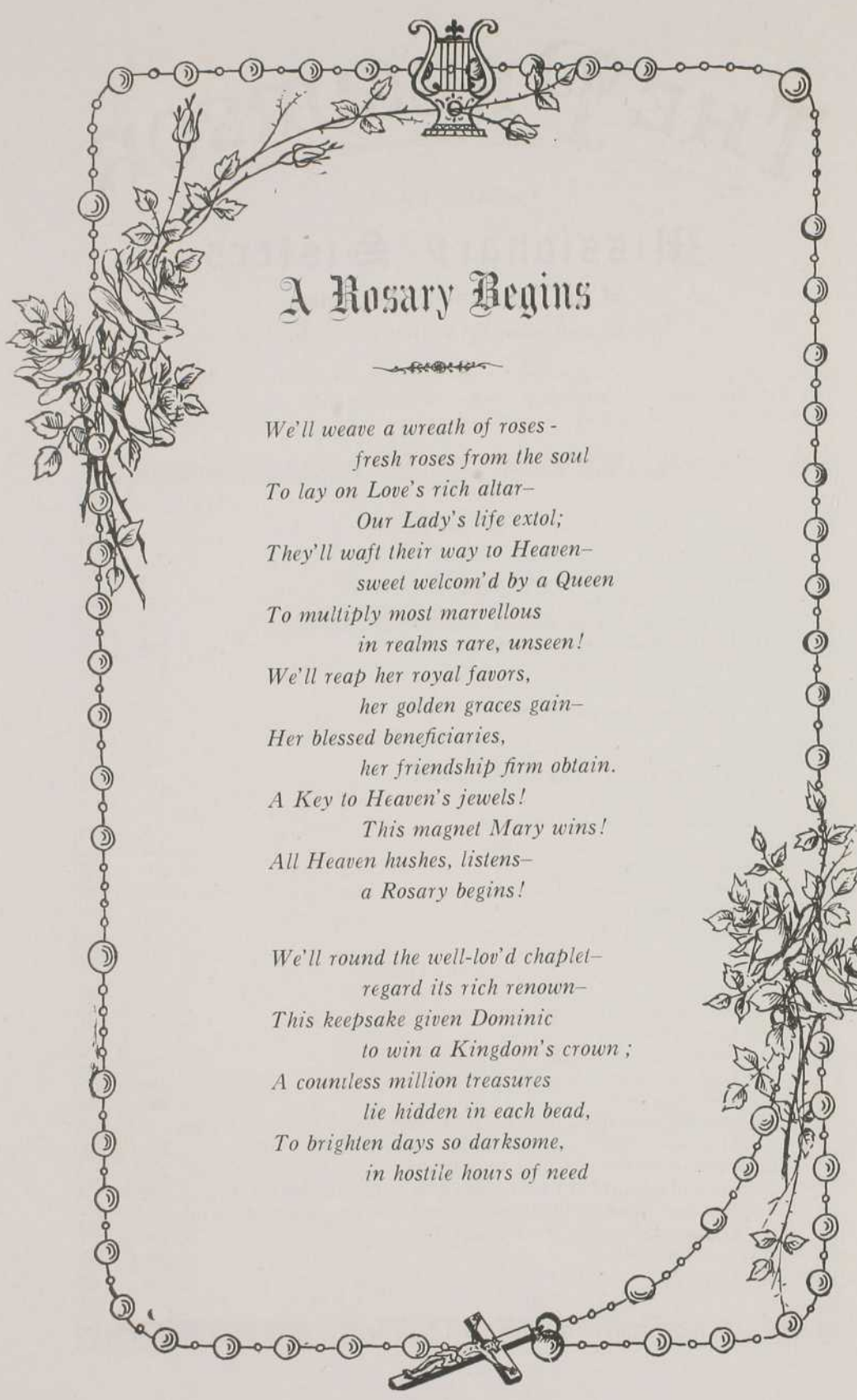
No. 5

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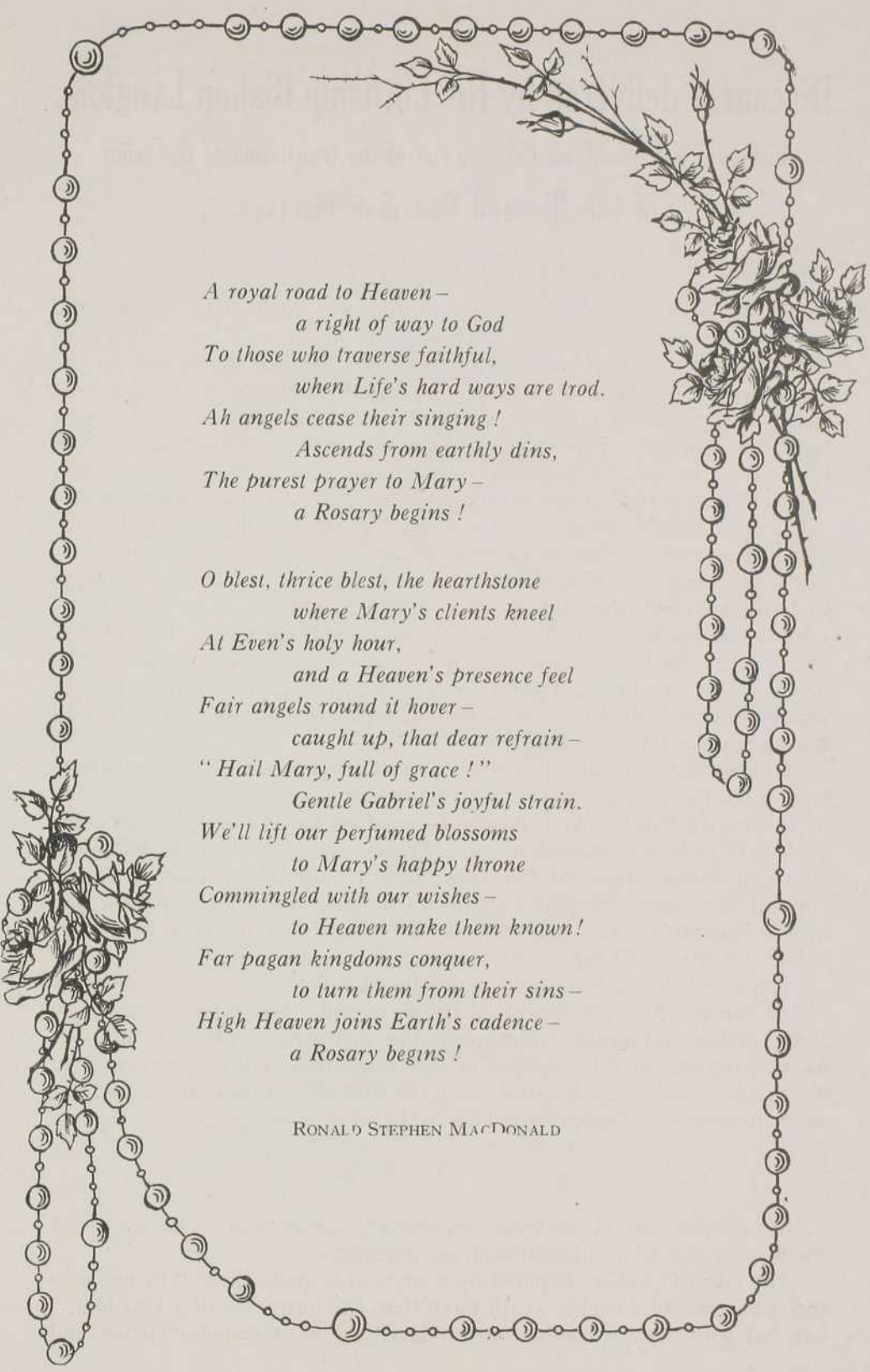
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## A Rosary Begins

*We'll weave a wreath of roses -  
fresh roses from the soul  
To lay on Love's rich altar -  
Our Lady's life extol;  
They'll waft their way to Heaven -  
sweet welcom'd by a Queen  
To multiply most marvellous  
in realms rare, unseen!  
We'll reap her royal favors,  
her golden graces gain -  
Her blessed beneficiaries,  
her friendship firm obtain.  
A Key to Heaven's jewels!  
This magnet Mary wins!  
All Heaven hushes, listens -  
a Rosary begins!*

*We'll round the well-lov'd chaplet -  
regard its rich renown -  
This keepsake given Dominic  
to win a Kingdom's crown ;  
A countless million treasures  
lie hidden in each bead,  
To brighten days so darksome,  
in hostile hours of need*



*A royal road to Heaven –  
a right of way to God  
To those who traverse faithful,  
when Life's hard ways are trod.  
Ah angels cease their singing!  
Ascends from earthly dins,  
The purest prayer to Mary –  
a Rosary begins !*

*O blest, thrice blest, the hearthstone  
where Mary's clients kneel  
At Even's holy hour,  
and a Heaven's presence feel  
Fair angels round it hover –  
caught up, that dear refrain –  
"Hail Mary, full of grace!"  
Gentle Gabriel's joyful strain.  
We'll lift our perfumed blossoms  
to Mary's happy throne  
Commingled with our wishes –  
to Heaven make them known!  
Far pagan kingdoms conquer,  
to turn them from their sins –  
High Heaven joins Earth's cadence –  
a Rosary begins !*

RONALD STEPHEN MACDONALD



# Discourse delivered by His Lordship Bishop Langlois, Bishop of Valleyfield, on the occasion of the translation of the relics of the Blessed Canadian Martyrs.

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BRETHREN,

Hardly two months ago in the afternoon of June 21st, the immense naves of St. Peter's at Rome were suddenly filled with heavenly music. The silver trumpets of the august and royal Basilica announced to the delirious and prayerful multitudes, the solemn entrance of the Supreme Head of the Church. As the latter advanced all heads inclined, every heart was touched. The Sovereign Pontiff in festal array, descended from his portable throne, and kneeling with respect, with burning lips and tear-filled eyes venerated in silence more eloquent than human words, a few particles of human bones recently arrived in Rome still bearing the seal of a glorious martyrdom which occurred already three centuries ago...

It was a moment of heavenly happiness, the glory of the elect seemed to beam unveiled upon the pious assembly; it seemed as if these bones were to take on flesh and live anew as those seen by Ezechial. The emotion had reached its highest pitch when an authorized voice proclaimed the names of: Jean de Brébœuf, Isaac Jogues, Gabriel Lalemant, Antoine Daniel, Charles Garnier, Noel Chabanel, René Goupil and Jean de la Lande... all missionaries and martyrs in Canada.

And we ourselves are about to share the happiness of the Canadians present at Rome since in this sacred reliquary the same relics venerated by the Roman Pontiff solicit the expression of our piety, confidence and love.

Yes, be ye forever praised, heroes of French birth, Canadians by adoption, above all, missionaries and dauntless martyrs, faithful imitators of Christ, your Master, since by your illustrious example, you are our model, and by the honorable place which you to-day occupy, our powerful protectors before the throne of God.

This is not the moment, brethren, to give the details of the sublime deeds of the Blessed Martyrs venerated by us to-day. For three days in this chapel praises and prayers will be offered in their honor. Let it be sufficient for us to greet, on this occasion of the translation of the sacred relics of our martyrs, one of the greatest events of Catholic life in Canada, and the dawn of a new era of supernatural life in the midst of our people.

## I

Our modest country has witnessed marvellous events which have aroused the wonder and admiration of even our enemies.

The city of Quebec, founded by a man who spoke thus: "In my eyes the conversion of a soul is worth more than the formation of a kingdom," has met with many victories and produced the most eminent virtues and

epics which are not to be found elsewhere. On the banks of its river, Quebec has welcomed incomparable men and women destined by God to engender us in the supernatural, and at the same time, national life, distinguished men, famous warriors, remarkable governors, generals mighty in time of strife, broad-minded political men, celebrated bishops, religious and missionaries destined to our Catholic foundations in Quebec and Montreal, but never during three centuries of history has our city greeted a cortege like unto that which has just passed before our eyes. They are not men, they are the Blessed who thus humble themselves to dwell in our midst. We are living in a little corner of heaven on earth.

What a year of rejoicing for us when we consider that by the happy designs of Divine Providence, the third centenary of the arrival of the Jesuits, educators and missionaries, coincides with the apotheosis of their own brethren who were the first to lay down their lives for the faith.

This is, brethren, an event of which we should keep an everlasting remembrance.

The importance of an event consists not so much in the splendor with which it is surrounded and the fleeting impression which accompanies it, it consists especially in the influence it exercises over a generation which is a witness of it and over the future of an entire nation.

Doubtlessly, the incident which we are about to recall is considered by many as one of very little importance.

Eight men, 3,000 miles distant from their country, in the thick of the forests and on the shores of the Great Lakes, having as witnesses, human-faced demons who torture them, and the angels stretching forth palms, generously give up their lives for the conversion of infidels. A writer has related their martyrdom as an everyday occurrence, but a simple story, that is all.

But to those capable of contemplation, their heroic death means much more. Eight men die, 'tis but little, nevertheless the sympathetic Hurons draw therefrom renewed courage to practise a faith which cannot be in vain since it is the cause of such heroism... Eight men die, 'tis but little, yet the blood-thirsty Iroquois, who gnaw out the hearts of their victims, draw from this vermilion blood, shed so generously, the sap of a divine life which will purify their own hearts, modify their morals, obtain forgiveness for the revolting crimes committed by their nation, in turn give them saints, and preserve beneath our eyes the remaining members of this nation, entrusted to the care of the same Jesuits who evangelized them.

Eight men die, but France is saved, for these savages now fear to attack a nation whose sons, unarmed, far from their native land, are able to show such courage.

Eight men die in the obscure distance, but other missionaries are imbued with the perfume of their blood; Bishop Laval, a pupil of the Jesuits, relying on their assistance comes to consolidate their work; in edifying competition the Foreign Mission Seminary sends its children to Canada to seek like palms; the clergy grows in number, virtue and influence; the faith of the nation is assured; the soil of Canada watered with the blood



of these generous victims will produce fruits of virtue like unto that of the first ages.

The Society of Jesus, adorned with the merit of its works, educational, evangelical, ascetic and social, assists not with indifference, but calmly and recollected, at this glorious celebration; it is not moved by the triumph of its children accustomed as it is to holiness and martyrdom. But we cannot refrain from signaling by our presence and words of congratulation this unrivalled event in the history of our country.

## II

This event opens a new era in the life of our nation.

It is our hope that to-day's feast will be followed by a glorious morrow. The merits of our martyrs have been placed before God: *Justorum animæ in manu Dei sunt...* The prayers and hymns offered them while soliciting their assistance, the supernatural light which flows from these precious reliquaries, the enthusiasm which attracted to this chapel so many souls desirous of venerating the relics of these new elect, all this foretells that ere long we shall witness increased ardor in the spiritual life of our pious populations. Let us all be borne onward by this current of fervor and confidence. The thought that we have touched the relics of martyrs will be a stimulant for each and every one of us.

To-day a solemn Triduum will commence in this chapel. You are requested, brethren, to attend the different exercises and to send those of your relatives who desire to be present.

What a lesson for children to whom mothers will relate the captivating and suggestive story of the horrible tortures suffered with such heroism!

What a lesson for the enthusiastic youth, who, at the moment when evil passions cause the blood to boil in his veins, recalls that the blood of martyrs is the leaven of purity for those who, wishing to follow in their footsteps, implore their aid!

What a lesson for those in search of glory! What is human renown which lasts but a day in comparison with the glory which beams on the brow of Bréboeuf, Jogues and their brave companions?

What a lesson for souls thirsting for mortification, for souls tormented by silent and obscure sufferings, if like our martyrs they realize that by their charity these sufferings will be transformed.

What a lesson for parents who henceforth will long to count among their children, missionaries of the Gospel despite the sacrifice of these lives so dear to them.

As an admirer of the Blessed Martyrs remarked, the entire nation will profit by to-day's feast for they will feel more and more the effects of the singular heroism of our holy religious while on earth and the powerful influence which their meritorious life and cruel death won them for heaven.

Therefore let us all exclaim with the greatest confidence: Blessed Canadian Martyrs the glory of the Church and of New France, pray for us!



## Bishop newly appointed

Reverend Father Rodrigue Villeneuve, Superior of the Scholasticate of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate at Ottawa has just been raised to the episcopate by Our Holy Father. He has been appointed bishop of the new diocese of Gravelburg in Western Canada.

The Precursor takes the liberty of offering to His Lordship Bishop Villeneuve its most respectful homages and humble wishes for a long and happy episcopate.

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## Anti-Christian feeling increasing in China, reports indicate

**A**N increasing hostility to Christian institutions, especially schools, on the part of Chinese officials is noted by students of the situation in China. While most cases of anti-Christian feeling are local instances, at least one example of national scope is reported by the "Chong-yang" agency, in reference to education. The agency announces that the Ministry of Public Education, for the purpose of taking greater precaution against religious propaganda in Christian schools, has ordered the provincial and municipal officials to conduct a secret and thorough inquiry in all Christian schools whether recognized by the Government or not. The officials are instructed to determine whether the prescriptions forbidding obligatory religious instruction or religious ceremonies are infringed and if so to what extent. Every abuse is to be immediately repressed "out of respect for education and the conservation of the national character."

Christian educators see in this order an evident prelude to the closing of more Christian schools and stricter regulations for those left functioning. With education at a low ebb in China, such measures promise to be productive of great loss. Protests against government politics which are keeping the youth from education have already been formulated by the "Committee of Modern Youth."

Local instances of anti-Christian feeling continue, though these must be balanced with other instances of justice and extreme cordiality on the part of some local officials. A curious example of the difficulties that can be created by an antagonist is had in Tienchen, in the Vicariate of Tsingtao, Shantung, where the Fathers of the Divine Word bought a small tract of land over 20 years ago for the price of 170 tiao (approximately \$25). Recently the son of the seller demanded the land be returned to him, despite the fact that the missionaries have erected a complete plant on the property, including church, school, and rectory. The local court has declared that the missionaries must return the land for the original price of \$25. Vigorous protests by the missionaries against this ridiculous decision have thus far been futile.

## The Fifteen Promises of the Rosary

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1. To all those who shall recite my Rosary devoutly, I promise my special protection and very great graces.

2. Those who shall persevere in the recitation of my Rosary will receive some signal grace.

3. The Rosary will be a very powerful armor against hell; it will destroy vice, deliver from sin and will dispel heresy.

4. The Rosary will make virtue and good works flourish, and will obtain for souls the most abundant Divine mercies; it will substitute in hearts love of God for love of the world, elevate them to desire heavenly and eternal goods. Oh, that souls would sanctify themselves by this means!

5. Those who trust themselves to me through the Rosary will not perish.

6. Those who shall recite my Rosary piously, considering its mysteries will not be overwhelmed by misfortune, nor die a bad death. The sinner will be converted; the just will grow in grace, and become worthy of eternal life.

7. Those truly devoted to my Rosary shall not die without the consolations of the Church or without grace.

8. Those who shall recite my Rosary will find during their life and at their death the light of God, the fulness of His grace, and will share in the merits of the blessed.

9. I will deliver very promptly from purgatory the souls devoted to my Rosary.

10. The true children of my Rosary will enjoy great glory in heaven.

11. What you shall ask through my Rosary you shall obtain.

12. Those who propagate my Rosary will obtain through me aid in all their necessities.

13. I have obtained from my Son that all the confreres of the Rosary shall have for their brethren in life and death the saints of heaven.

14. Those who recite my Rosary faithfully are all my beloved children, the brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ.

15. Devotion to my Rosary is a special sign of predestination.

*Imprimatur:* † PAUL, Arch. of Montreal.

Montreal, Oct. 23, 1914.



## The Mass and the Rosary

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One day, a great apostle of the Rosary was preaching before the Duke of Brittany surrounded by his court and a large assembly of people.

He assured them, after divine inspiration, that after the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and divine Office, no homage was more pleasing to Jesus and Mary than the fervent recitation of the Rosary. To many of his auditors, this assertion seemed exaggerated. But they were shortly undeceived.

After the sermon, St. Dominic having celebrated the Holy Sacrifice, the following miracle was witnessed by the entire Congregation. At the moment of the Consecration, when Dominic raised the Sacred Host, the Mother of God appeared holding the Infant Jesus whom she pressed to her heart. The assembly contemplates with joy this ravishing spectacle. But behold! at the elevation of the Chalice a second vision succeeds the first: it is Our Lord on the Cross, covered with wounds, bleeding, whom Dominic holds in his hands. Then towards the Communion, a third prodigy crowns the admiration of the faithful: a dazzling light surrounds the altar and in the midst of its splendor the Redeemer rises in the glory of His Resurrection as on the day when, blessing His disciples, He ascended into Heaven.

The Holy Sacrifice terminated, St. Dominic explained the meaning of these apparitions. The Infant Jesus in His mother's arms represented the Joyful mysteries, Jesus crucified, the Sorrowful mysteries, Jesus risen, the Glorious mysteries. God wished to show us that all these mysteries are contained and represented in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, as they are honored in the Rosary. He wished, above all, to give us to understand how much He desires that these mysteries be dear to every Christian soul, and He also thereby manifestly confirmed the preaching of St. Dominic.

The Rosary like the Holy Sacrifice, is the summary of the life of Christ. The Mass gives God to us in reality while the Rosary allows us to contemplate Him. Therefore the Mass surpasses the Rosary just as sacramental communion surpasses spiritual communion. But the same as spiritual communion produces in a fervent soul, excellent effects comparable to the Sacrament so, by the pious recitation of the Rosary, we are intimately united to Our Lord in all His mysteries the merits of which we may offer, and receive for ourselves the most abundant fruits of salvation.

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If you persevere until death in true devotion to Mary, your salvation is certain.

St. Alphonsus





Feast: September 29

## League of Prayer and Sacrifice

For the extinction  
of anti-religious societies

The Association should, each day, recite one Hail Mary.

Three times the invocation "O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee."

The prayer of His Holiness Leo XIII, in honour of Saint Michael the Archangel.

And impose a daily sacrifice.

The Associates should also wear the Miraculous Medal.

### PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St Michael the Archangel, defend us in the battle; be our protection against the malice and snares of the devil. Rebuke him O God, we humbly pray; and do thou, O prince of the heavenly host, by the divine power, thrust into hell Satan and the other evil spirits who roam through the world seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen.

Seen and approved March 12, 1924.

(Indulgence of 100 days)

† L.-N. Card. BEGIN, Arch. of Quebec.

## THE DEVOTION OF THE FIRST SATURDAY

His Holiness Pope Pius X has granted a Plenary Indulgence to be gained the first Saturday of each month.

"In order to increase the devotion of the faithful towards the most glorious and Immaculate Mother of God, and favour the pious desire for atonement which inspires the faithful to offer some reparation for the impious blasphemies which criminal men profer against the most August Name and the high prerogatives of the Blessed Virgin, His Holiness grants a Plenary Indulgence applicable to the souls in purgatory to all who, having gone to Confession and received Holy Communion, will, the first Saturday of each month, in a spirit of reparation make particular exercises of devotion in honor of the Immaculate Virgin and pray for the intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff."

There are henceforth two days for communion, particularly recommended and specially endowed with spiritual favors: the first Friday and Saturday of each month. These two days generally follow each other. The intention of the first Saturday will be to repair the outrages committed against Our Lady.

*Imprimatur:* † PAUL, Arch. of Montreal  
May 1, 1918

## A heroic girl convert

**L**IU-CHIN-CHU, a young married Chinese woman of the parish of Mat'Oan, in Bishop Suen's territory of Ankuo, was converted to the Catholic Church seven years ago. These seven years of Catholic life have been for the poor girl one continuous torment. Though her husband was not opposed to her conversion, his parents were. He and his wife lived with their parents according to the Chinese custom which brings all generations under the same roof. The father or grandfather is absolute master, having more authority over a daughter-in-law than the husband himself.

Liu-chin-chu for seven years has been apparently unaffected by the continued and varied methods of opposition and persecution, a fact which exasperates still more the irate parents of her husband. Recently they lost all control of their anger and threw the girl out of the house. She rented a little room in another section of the village, but her father-in-law upbraided the proprietor of the lodging and had her turned out anew. She then made the rounds of sympathetic relatives, staying one or two nights at each house.

The pastor of the church hearing of her plight, engaged her as a catechism teacher and sent her to a neighboring town. The parents-in-law, enraged to find her snatched from their persecution and especially to find her openly practising the religion of the Christians, sent her husband to fetch her back, promising that all was forgiven and if she returned to the house she could henceforth live in peace. The girl resigned the post and, with great expectations, returned to the husband's home.

Upon her arrival she was immediately imprisoned in a tiny room and will remain there, declare the parents, until she renounces the Catholic faith. The distraught husband, seeing to what he brought her back, begged his parents for her release, but in vain. The girl cannot move, and, if kept in such quarters for any length of time, will soon be dead.

Liu-chin-chu is not weeping, nor gnashing her teeth. She is not even perturbed. Serenely peaceful, she recently refused a well intentioned and perfectly planned opportunity to escape, and calmly told the woman who had arranged it, "Thank you so much, but, really, I would rather die here at their hands than run away. Because, if I flee, they will think me disobedient, and then there will be no hope of converting them. You see I am offering up my sufferings for their conversion, and while there is still one breath of life they cannot stop me from using it to pray that they too may one day have the gift of the Catholic faith."



## The Pater meditated in Mission Land

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*Our Father who art in heaven.*—Yes, O my God, thou art Our Father, not only the Father of a few of us, but of all men without exception; all may say: Our Father who art in heaven.

But, Alas! if all may call Thee their Father, there are many who cannot call themselves Thy children. There are many who know Thee not!... And among those who surround me, how many who have never heard Thy name! It is for these poor unfortunates that I pray to-day, and for this reason, I feel the need of reminding Thee that Thou art their Father, saying, *Our Father who art in heaven.*

*Hallowed be Thy name.*—When I think of the honor due to Thy thrice Holy Name and when I contemplate the universe, what a sad sight presents itself! The greater part of the world is still inhabited by heathens who lavish on false gods, or rather, on the devil himself, adoration that is due to Thee alone. When will the devil cease to hold the rank that Thou, the Master of the world, should hold? 'Tis true that everywhere children of Holy Church are found, but many a time they are few, many a time they are persecuted. Lord, grant that throughout the universe Thy Holy Name be loved and praised!

*Thy kingdom come.*—May it come at last for every soul!... Souls!... what a pity to see them in such numbers going astray and perishing! Souls who are Thy children, the works of Thy hands, even from the despised parish, treated as a beast of burden, to the mighty who persecute the Church of Thy adorable Son. Souls! they are all created to Thine image and likeness, and they show, even through the stain of sin and depravation, the divine seal of the most adorable Trinity. Souls! they are all my sisters; I know not one on earth whom I should not love as such, since Thou art the Father of us all. Souls! all are immortal, all are created for the same Paradise as I, all for the same aim, to contemplate Thee face to face and to love Thee throughout eternity in the sojourn of the elect. Souls! 'tis for all without exception, that thy Divine Son Jesus shed His blood, 'tis for all He said when expiring: *Sitio, I thirst to be loved* (John, xix. 28). And I would remain insensible to the terrible fate of so many souls my own sisters, who fall daily into the everlasting flames!

No, my God! never, without being deeply grieved, will I have the courage to see them perish! I possess the gift of Faith; like Jacob, my head rests on stone and I sleep peacefully; like the Magi, I follow the star that leads to Jesus and to Heaven; at dawn, I am happy at the thought that this day which is beginning will draw me closer to Heaven: at eve, I rejoice in saying that if I do not awaken on earth, I will not tarry, I hope, to awaken in Heaven.



O my God to Thee be eternal thanks! but my brethren, shall I forget them? No, my God, I cannot. 'Tis this very thought that inflamed the Apostles and urged them to the conquest of the world; unable to restrain their zeal they went, at the cost of numberless sacrifices, in search of the lost sheep.

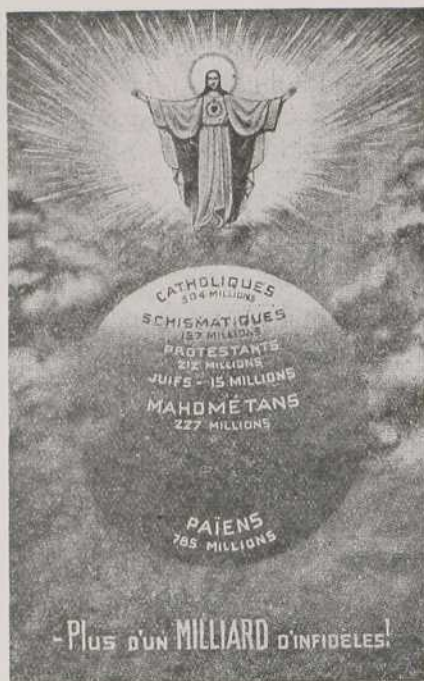
Ah! my God, you see the bottom of my heart and you know that, like the Psalmist, "My zeal hath made me pine away" when I see so many souls perishing. I am here with many others to toil for them, to give them my life: my God wouldst Thou need my blood?...

Yes, O Lord, *Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.* — If it must be that some should perish, I adore Thy impenetrable mysteries. But since it is certain that you *desire*, that you *will* the salvation of all, allow me to unceasingly ask for the salvation of all my infidel brethren, those especially whom you have confided to my care.

And, so that I may be able to work for them, *give us this day our daily bread.* I have left all to come to the help of these poor unfortunates still held by paganism in Satan's grip. In my native land, in my home, I received each day the bread necessary for my subsistence. To-day, far from my dear ones but close to Thee, 'tis from Thy paternal bounty that I beg, for myself and my family of poor unfortunates, the bread that we need each day to keep us alive... Arouse in generous hearts the desire of adopting us to share, between us here, at the other end of the world, the crumbs that fall from their table: But what? I came to this distant country... to save souls! Lord! if it be Thy will that I want for bread, willingly I offer Thee this privation, Aye! even the sacrifice of my life, for the salvation of my children... But give me ever the bread of Thy grace, the bread of Thy adorable Eucharist, of Thy love!

*And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.* I am guilty, Lord, I have often and grievously offended Thee; let not my sins be the cause that Thy grace should tarry in enriching the souls I long to give to Thee. O Jesus, my Redeemer, Mary, Mother dear, speak to God in my favour: may he forget my offences, considering only Thy sacred wounds and Thy voice that are asking pardon for me. And to assure myself of Thy mercy, I shall do as I say: with my whole heart, I forgive all the bitterness that ingratitude, wickedness, or ignorance, could cast over my soul. I forgive and will forgive all! But, Lord, in return, give me souls.

Not content with purifying myself of past faults, *lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil*, especially spiritual evil. I live in the midst of an atmosphere impregnated with idolatry; evil frightens me. Deliver me from it. Deliver also, I beg of Thee, the poor souls whom Satan holds riveted to the earth so as to the more easily drag them into the eternal abyss. Protect us all, keep us pure! and may my prayers and sacrifices be agreeable to Thee and obtain from Thine all-powerful mercy the salvation of all my brethren. Amen.



#### OVER ONE BILLION INFIDELS

Rule over all people and over all hearts,  
O Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

300 day's indulgence every time this prayer is recited with a contrite heart.

Plenary indulgence on the usual conditions for those reciting it once a day.

## Prayer of His Holiness Pius XI for the Missions

*O most amiable Jesus, Our Lord, who at the price of Thy most precious blood, has redeemed the world, turn, we beseech Thee, Thy merciful eyes upon mankind. Many are yet sunk in the darkness of error and in the shadow of death. Cast, we conjure Thee, the light of truth, with all its splendor upon each and every one.*

*Multiply, O Lord, the Apostles of Thy Holy Gospel! Render their zeal more fervent and their fatigues more fruitful, by blessing them with Thy grace, so that by their work, the infidels may know Thee, their Creator and Redeemer.*

*Call back to the one fold the wandering sheep; bring back to Thy one and holy church, those who have forsaken Thee.*

*Hasten, O most amiable Saviour, the coming of Thy kingdom on earth. Draw all mankind to Thy most Sacred heart, so that all may partake of the everlasting benefits of Thy Holy Redemption, in the eternal happiness of heaven. Amen.*

Our Holy Father the Pope, himself, composed this admirable prayer and recommends it to the piety of all the faithful.

It would be a sad thing if the whole effort to spread the Faith depended on the comparatively few missionaries who depart each year for the mission field. It would be even more deplorable if the separation of these few from their own friends was so complete that they seldom received the encouragement of their support.

Unless the faith and charity of our Catholics at home bring us ardently as the zeal and courage of the Missionary, the work of the missions will not reach the success it should.

The path of the missionary to his field should be set with the prayers and financial offerings of the Catholics of America to manifest to the world that the missionary is not alone when he is lonely, not weak when he is weary, not despairing when he is sad, not helpless when he is sick, not overcome when he is dead.

We are all apostles; and combined we assure the continuance of the Church and the cause of Christ.

*Jesuit Missions.*



## Departure for China

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On September 12th, three Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception left the Mother House for the distant Missions. At 6.45 P. M. (Standard Time) they took the train at Windsor Station for Vancouver and on the 18th they boarded the *Empress of Asia*. One of them will go to the Mission of Canton, another to Hong Kong and the third will go to help the Sisters of Tsungming in the Haimen Vicariate.

On November 13th there will also be a departure of ten Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception for the Missions of Manchuria and Tsungming. This new group of missionaries will leave Montreal on November 7th and will set sail the 13th on the *Empress of Russia*.

Prayers are ardently solicited for our Missionaries that they may cross safely and that their apostolate among the poor pagans may be most successful.

The Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception take the liberty of asking for help in order to meet the expenses of these costly departures which will be renewed once or twice each year. All alms will be most gratefully accepted at the Mother House, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont, Montreal.

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## Votive lights in honor of the Blessed Virgin

*In the chapel of the Missionary Sisters  
of the Immaculate Conception*

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To comply with the desire of several pious persons devoted to the Blessed Virgin, we are pleased to quote the prices of lamps 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

# 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*



Enclosed please find \$1.00 in thanksgiving to the Little Flower for favors obtained through her intercession. E. L., **Ludlow, Mass.** — I am sending you \$1.00 in honor of St. Therese of the Child Jesus in token of my gratitude for a favor that I was granted. E. T., **Grand Mere, P. Q.** — Please find enclosed the sum of \$1.00 in honor of the Little Flower for favors received. Mrs. B., **Rosemount.** — Kindly accept this offering for your missions in thanksgiving for favors from the Little Flower. Please pray to her for a special intention. I will send \$2.00 for the missions if received. A friend, **Timmins, Ont.** — I am sending \$1.00 in honor of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus for favors received. Mrs. L. S., **Pawtucket, R. I.** — Please find enclosed a postal note for \$1.00 for the ransom of four dying babies in thanksgiving to St. Therese. Please pray for my intentions. Offering of \$1.00 in thanksgiving to St. Theresa of the Child Jesus for the Burse in her honor. E. L., **Montreal.** — With my subscription to the Precursor I am sending an offering of \$35.00 to support the Sisters at the Shek Lung Lazaretto in gratitude to the Little Flower for a favor granted me. L. D. — I am sending a cheque for \$8.00 in favor of the Chinese missions. This is to fulfil a promise made in honor of St. Therese. M. E. L. — I am indebted to the dear little Saint of Carmel for a special grace she has granted me. Anonymous. — I wish to return thanks to the Little Flower. Never have I implored her intercession in vain. My offering of \$2.00 in her honor. Mrs. H., **Chicopee, Mass.** — Kindly accept my offering of \$10.00 for the Burse of the Little Flower to thank this little Saint for two favors granted me through her intercession. Mrs. H. R., **Montreal.** — I am subscribing to "THE PRECURSOR" to prove my gratitude to St. Therese. Anonymous. — The dear Little Flower has obtained a favor for me from God. To thank her I am enclosing an offering of \$5.00. A Subscriber, **Montreal.** — I am sending \$5.00 in favor of the most needy of your missions in token of my gratitude to the Patroness of Missionaries. Anonymous. — Please accept my offering for a High Mass of thanksgiving in honor of the Little Flower. Mrs. L. A., **Verdun.** — I have obtained a great favor through the intercession of St. Therese. In gratitude I am donating \$10.00 towards your works. Mrs. A. B., **Montreal.** — I have been cured through the Little Flower's intercession. In thanksgiving I am enclosing \$5.00 for the Missions. A subscriber. — My most grateful thanks to St. Therese for a favor accorded me. I beg her to continue to protect us. The enclosed \$5.00 is for the most needy of your missions. Y. D. — I am sending .50 for the Chinese missions in thanksgiving to the Little Flower for a favor obtained asking her to grant me other graces. Miss A. P., **Joliette.** — In token of my gratitude to St. Therese I am enclosing \$2.00 for the Burse in her honor. A. L. — The dear Little Flower has obtained work for my brother and to thank her I am sending you \$4.00. Miss M. A. L., **Ottawa.** — I gladly send you an offering in honor of the Little Flower to thank her for her loving protection. Miss G. C., **Lachine.** — My most grateful thanks to the Patroness of Missionaries for a great favor obtained. Miss R. C., **Woonsocket, R. I.** — I am sending \$3.00 in thanksgiving to the Little Flower for favors received. Mrs. J. D., **Bergerville, P. Q.** — Please find enclosed our offering of \$2.00 in honor of St. Therese for favors granted. R. L. and L. L., **Indian Orchard** — I am enclosing a small offering for your poor missions in thanksgiving to the Little Flower. Please pray that I may obtain two special favors. I promise to do all I can to help the Missions. A Friend, **Timmins, Ont.** — I have been cured thanks to the



Little Flower's powerful intercession. Mrs. F. P. — My gratitude to the Little Flower of Jesus. Please accept my offering of \$2.00 in her honor. Miss H. S., **Terrebonne**. — With the expression of my gratitude please accept my donation of \$2.00 towards the Little Flower Burse. A subscriber. — My offering of \$1.00 in token of my gratitude to St. Therese for a favor obtained. Mrs. C. F., **St. Cuthbert**. — Offering of \$10.00 for the Little Flower Burse in token of my gratitude. M. X. R., **Quebec**. — My grateful thanks to St. Therese for a favor granted me. A subscriber. — I have just received a favor through the intercession of the Little Flower. To fulfil my promise I am sending \$1.30 for the Burse in her honor. A subscriber. — I wish to return thanks to the little Saint of Carmel for a cure obtained through her intercession. Miss E. B. — I am sending an offering of \$5.00 in token of gratitude to St. Therese of the Child Jesus. Anonymous. — My most lively gratitude to the powerful Carmelite of Lisieux. Kindly accept my offering of \$5.00. A subscriber. — Please find enclosed a donation of \$2.00 towards the Little Flower Burse in thanksgiving for a favor granted me. A. L. — By sending you this cheque for \$25.00 I am paying my debt of gratitude to the Little Flower. Mrs. A. L., **Outremont**. — I am enclosing an offering in honor of St. Joseph and St. Therese of the Child Jesus to thank them for a cure considered as miraculous. J. E. L. — In fulfilment of my promise I am sending \$5.00 to thank the dear little Sister of Lisieux for success in an undertaking. Mrs. B. T. — Thanks to St. Therese I obtained a cure and another favor after promising publication. F. L. — A thousand thanks for a cure obtained after promising to give \$5.00 in honor of St. Therese of the Child Jesus. Mrs. H. D. — Please publish my gratitude to St. Therese for a favor received. M. S., **Montreal**. — I am sending you the sum of \$2.00 which you may use for your Works. It is my thank-offering to the Little Flower. I beg her to continue to help me in time of need. J. E. H. — I heartily thank the little Patroness of Missionaries for her loving protection. I am happy to fulfil my promise of publishing and of giving the sum of \$5.00. Mrs. P. B., **Ottawa**. — My most grateful thanks to the Little Flower of Jesus for success in obtaining a position. If I am able to hold the same I shall not forget the missions. J. L., **Montreal**. — Please find enclosed \$2.00 for the missions to thank St. Therese for a favor obtained through her intercession. Mrs. A. L. —

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## 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 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 offerings, even trifling, (thanksgivings 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!

In September-October	1929.....	\$ 54.00
In November-December	" .....	149.25
In January-February	1930.....	310.00
In March-April	" .....	196.00
In May-June	" .....	124.25
In July-August	" .....	61.00

## *Echoes from our Missions*

*Extract from a letter from a Missionary Sister of the Immaculate Conception  
at Kowloon, Hong Kong, to her Superior General.*

*Kowloon, May 29, 1930*

BELOVED MOTHER,

God sends us some Chinese Protestants to instruct. They are brought to us by one of their sect who has been converted recently. They are really willing souls and we hope that with the help of those who already perform such an apostolate their number will be increased. At the present time we have three women and a few children who come here regularly to take lessons.

The beautiful month of May is already drawing to a close. Oh, if it could only last forever! The Blessed Virgin has really been a Mother to us and has blessed our work. I have already told you that we are preparing Protestants for baptism. They act a little in the same manner as the apostles did on finding the Messiah. Those who have found the true religion hasten to tell others of their sect: "I was in the wrong and you are also, but, thank God, I am now on the right path and I shall ever keep to it. You cannot imagine how happy I am. Therefore follow my example, come and see for yourself and you will be assured that I am not deceiving



A CHINESE KITCHEN



you, etc., etc. Come and see the Sisters who are so kind. They will teach you Catechism."

These good people who are so zealous are believed by some and ridiculed by others, but they do not become discouraged so convinced are they of the necessity of saving their soul. Their last acquisition is a good old woman who had already been told of our holy faith by the religious with whom she had spent several days. Over four years ago while visiting in the country she became acquainted with a Protestant sect whose religion she at once embraced. About fifteen days ago one of our converts who happened to meet her hastened to show her where she was in the wrong inviting her to come to our Catechism lessons. At the second lesson explanations were given of Baptism which can be administered to children in danger of death. The old woman said quite surprised, "And little children also can be baptized I never heard of that. Our neighbor's little boy, six months old, is dying. I must go this very evening to see about him. You know," she continued, "the miraculous medal you gave me that my husband might stop smoking opium, well I dipped it in a little water which I gave the baby to drink and it began to move at once and accepted the food given it. It had been unconscious for a whole day." "Very well," I answered, "go to see the parents this evening and try to persuade them to have their child baptized." She did so and was successful. The following evening we had the happiness of offering this little soul to God.

Dear Mother, the soil is fertile here, you could hardly believe what good there is to be done. Yes, there is work for many apostles...

I am also instructing the mother of a young Catholic gentleman. She seems interested in our religion and when she is converted we hope that the other seven or eight members of the family will follow her example. Please say a little prayer for this intention.

The fifty pupils of our school, "Tak Sun", are always very well disposed. The Catholic Doctrine little by little enters their little heads and all study their catechism with the greatest ardor. It is Sister Assistant who teaches them. She is also instructing a family composed of the father, mother and five children. Every Sunday eight or nine catechumens come to the convent...

Your very and affectionate and grateful child,

Sister ST-ETIENNE (1)

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1. Anne PLOUFFE, Montreal

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## MANCHURIA, CHINA

*Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Leao Yuan Sien*

### Sunday, April 20, 1930

Easter this year is particularly pious and solemn. At Mass-time the church is filled with people. Every pew is occupied and the aisles are crowded.

After Mass an orphan comes to tell us that a poor child who is in convulsions is dying on the roadside. With the help of two little boys who are standing closeby we carry our little patient to a bed in the dispensary. The poor little one who is suffering from meningitis never regained consciousness. Her unfortunate companions told us their sad story. The three little ones, nine, eleven and thirteen years of age left their parents late in the winter to come to the city in search of food. "At home," they told us, "we had nothing to eat for a long time so our mother told us to go and beg." The three poor children made their way to Leao Yuan Sien going through the streets singing and playing musical instruments. They succeeded in collecting a few Chinese dollars and took refuge in an inn but the youngest contracted the measles. The innkeeper ordered them to leave as he did not wish to have any sick people with him. "We then took up our little bundles," they sadly told us, "and set out, but our little brother was too sick to sleep outside and eat our *chou-mi*. Very tired we made our way to the Catholic mission where we heard that poor unfortunates were given shelter, but he fell on the way..."

The poor child was baptized that very day and was named Joseph Armand. The next day his beautiful soul regenerated by the baptismal waters took its flight to heaven.

### Wednesday, April 30

Number of wounds dressed and divers treatments during the month of April: 500, Homes visited: 78; Baptisms of dying children and adults: 75.

### Saturday, May 3

On this first Saturday in May a crown of fifteen lovely lilies is presented to Our Immaculate Mother. These little souls will not remain long upon earth. From their home in heaven may they intercede for all the poor pagans who surround us.

### Tuesday, May 6

The Fathers have a pagan servant, fifteen years of age, who is very naive. He asks questions which make us laugh sometimes. Noticing that since Friday Sister Superior goes to the garden alone during recreation the poor child quite puzzled asks Sister St. Gerard why Sister Superior is in such bad humor. "She has been sulking for the last two days," he tells us. Sister explains to him that Sister Superior is making her retreat and will not speak for eight days. "Ah!" he replied, "I understand now!... I am not a Catholic and that is why I could not understand!..."

### Saturday, May 10

This evening the names of two newcomers are inscribed in the baptismal register. Sister St. Anne has just baptized a young woman suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis.



**Tuesday, May 13**

Sister Superior leaves this morning to visit a little girl, fourteen years of age, who is suffering from a tubercular abscess. She had already come with her mother to our dispensary but noticing that she was growing weaker she asked her mother to bring her home to die. Her request was granted but we were deeply grieved for she is still a pagan. To-day, one of her aunts with whom we are well acquainted offers to come with us to see her. Sister Superior immediately accepts the invitation and leaves at nine o'clock with a Chinese virgin. She returns by the three o'clock train after having baptized the little girl who was overjoyed on seeing once more the Sister infirmarian who had already cared for her. Five other dying patients were baptized also. What a happy gathering!...

**Saturday, May 17**

Ten dying babies were baptized to-day. We hope to have an abundant harvest of souls during the month of May.

The priests' young servant is quite downhearted because one of the goats is dying. He asks Sister St. Gerard if it will go to heaven. As he has been taking instructions for some time it was not a difficult matter to make him understand why it would never go to heaven...

**Thursday, May 22**

A Chinese minister comes to the dispensary with his little girl. As usual our good professor, Wang Sien Cheng, gives the pagans a lesson in Christian Doctrine. The minister does not hesitate in giving his opinion of it saying that he did not pray to the Blessed Virgin. A young catechumen who arrived at the mission only a week ago suddenly arises and for a whole hour addresses the poor minister who is quite dumbfounded. "Ah! you do not pray to the Blessed Virgin," he says. "You pray to Jesus and you leave His Mother aside. You do not pray to the Mother of God! The Blessed Virgin is our heavenly Mother. In a family if there were no mother the children would be very unhappy. What will you do when the time comes for you to die if you are not assisted by our Blessed Mother."

The minister had the courage to listen until the very end and not venturing to give his opinion again he quickly made his escape.

**Saturday, May 24**

The month of Mary is the month of flowers!... Ten little lilies were culled at the dispensary to-day by the Sister infirmarian. "Leave quickly, dear little souls, to perpetuate your great happiness up above, and from your heavenly home do not forget those who pray upon earth."

**Monday, May 26**

We are called to the bedside of a poor tubercular patient living twenty *lis* from here. His brother drove us thither. Outside the city limits we



MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF LEAO YUAN SIEN, MANCHURIA,  
AND A FEW OF THE ORPHANS CONFIDED TO THEIR CARE.



keep to the road which skirts the railway leading to Mukden. The ground is not all level. In the fields along the way not a fence nor any kind of separation is to be seen. Here and there they are shaded by pretty groves. Our road is bordered by green shrubs which are tossed back and forth by the violent wind. The harvest is most promising. In many of the fields men are at work. We must not expect to find farming instruments such as are to be seen in Canada. To be the owner of a sower these people would imagine that they possessed one of the seven wonders of the world. All the work is done by hand. The farmers thus sow fields containing from thirty to forty acres. Little villages are composed of ten to fifteen or more families of these country folks. (Each family numbers three, four and sometimes even five generations.) The village and all the plantations are surrounded by walls twenty feet high containing many loopholes which give it the appearance of a fortress. These walls protect the inhabitants from being attacked by bandits, who overrun the country.

At half-past nine we reach our destination. A tubercular patient covered with sores is impatiently awaiting his cure which he believes he will obtain before long. As I am not of his opinion I propose to come back a little later to prepare him for the long trip he is about to undertake. The mothers hasten to bring us their babies wrapped in rags while awaiting for the hot days when they will not be obliged to dress them at all. We baptize seven of them which with those baptized at the dispensary makes a total of ten to-day.

### Friday, May 30

This morning we went for the first time to visit our orphan, Agnes, who has been married since last summer. How it pleased us to see how clean and orderly everything was in the modest little house. A crucifix and some holy pictures hang on the wall, the frames and glass of which are spotlessly clean. The little doilies on the table are also very clean. How different from the neighboring houses.

### Saturday May 31

Number of wounds dressed and different treatments given: 2800. Homes visited: 77. Baptisms: 137.

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## PA MIEN TCH'ENG, MANCHURIA

*Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Pa Mien Tch'eng,  
Manchuria, China*

### Monday, February 17

The cold is really Siberian this morning and the ground is covered with snow.

A little five-year-old boy is baptized at the dispensary. The mother

says that she cannot tell the doctor what is wrong with the child as he only says "Ma." Poor little one, he is very sick. Before long he will go to join the angels up above to proclaim with them in a language unknown to mortals the praises of our all-merciful God.

#### **Tuesday, February 18**

Two little girls are baptized this afternoon.

#### **Wednesday, February 19**

This morning St. Joseph sends us a little sick baby six months old. Without delay we make it a child of God.

#### **Thursday, February 20**

The weather is rather springlike, quite different from what it was at the beginning of the week. Many new patients come to the dispensary. This evening we count sixty-three; two little girls receive Holy Baptism. One of them lives ten *lis* away, she arrives at one o'clock this afternoon. According to the regulations we treat the women and children in the forenoon and the men in afternoon. But when outside of this time mothers arrive with their children we never send them away for very often we have the occasion of baptizing many little ones who are dying. To-day a very sick little girl is brought to us but as she does not seem to be in danger we do not baptize her before leaving. A few minutes later her father returns asking us to give his little one some water. Sister Superior gives her some and seizing the opportunity she baptizes the child, for it is certainly the Blessed Virgin who has sent her back to us that we might also give her Water which will make her an heir to the kingdom of heaven.

#### **Friday, February 21**

We have the consolation of registering two baptisms this evening.

#### **Monday, February 24**

A young Christian woman, Mrs. Tcheng, who is a widow comes to the dispensary to-day to help us. We show her how to make a large white apron which completely covers her dress as also a little nurses' cap with the letter M embroidered in blue on the front. This morning she wears them for the first time and is very happy. She pays the greatest attention so as to keep herself clean.

This afternoon we are called to the bedside of a tubercular patient who lives five *lis* from here. On arriving we find the house filled with inquisitive people who have come to see the "strange doctor." Every visit is the same. When it is time for us to leave we have difficulty in finding our way out.

This visit over, we are told that the man next door, who suffers from a cancer, asks to see us. A short time ago a Chinese doctor gave him some



medicine which did not relieve him in the least. We encourage him to bear his sufferings patiently and after giving him some medicine we leave him a Miraculous Medal promising to come back to see him the next day. As the poor man is very sick we entreat Our Mother of Mercy to grant him the grace of embracing our holy faith.

### **Tuesday, February 25**

Early this morning a man comes to the dispensary asking for medicine for the tubercular patient we visited yesterday. We tell him that we prefer going ourselves to see our patient so as to see for ourselves if he has improved or not. "Oh!" he replies, "we do not expect you to come to-day for it is very windy and cold." We assure him that we are not afraid of the cold, that we shall put on warm clothing, he is very glad. We leave towards ten o'clock and it is not long before we reach our destination. After visiting the sick man we ask how his neighbor is to-day. We are told that he is a little better. When we ask to see him we receive this reply: "Oh, it is not worth while disturbing yourselves, he is better." Sister Superior feeling that something has happened says to her companion, "We must see this patient for no doubt his soul is in greater danger than his body, let us go quickly." Seeing that we are about to leave one of the neighbors says: "I shall go in ahead to ask him if he wishes to see you." We make no delay, but direct our steps to the home of this poor man arriving almost at the same time as the neighbor who had started out ahead of us. We find our patient in quite a pensive mood. He receives us politely and answers all the questions we ask concerning his health but when we ask him if he has kept his miraculous medal he says, "Ah! I took it off. Your religion is very beautiful but as the Chinese doctor who came here before you told me all about his I had already begun to practise it. It is true that I am not any better but if I continue perhaps I shall be cured before long while if I give it up probably I shall never get better. I have not much faith in this religion but I do not dare to leave it for fear of drawing misfortune upon myself." Turning to his wife he asks her to give him the medal that he received yesterday. Then presenting it to Sister he says: "Look I still have it." This poor soul is struggling between doubt and the truth. We ask Martha, our interpreter, to explain to him the beauties of the Catholic religion, to tell him that it is the only true one; that he cannot make a mistake in embracing it and while she is doing so we implore our Heavenly Mother's assistance. While she is speaking we see on the patient's face the different impressions which her words make on his heart. He finally asks to be baptized. "I believe all that you tell me," he says. "I wish to become a Christian, I am sorry for my sins. Please baptize me." Sister Superior then pours the Saving Waters on his brow and gives him the name of Joseph Matthias. When we are ready to leave, the poor man, his face beaming with happiness, does not know how to thank us. "I am very poor," he says. "and have no children. As I have been sick for the past year I am not able to earn anything. But can you not come back to see

me just the same even though I cannot pay for your carriage?" We tell him that every time we are sent for the tubercular patient we shall not fail to pay him a visit also. This promise greatly pleases him.

On our return our guide tells us that the wife of one of his working companions, who lives in the village which we see in the distance, has been sick for the past four years. He asks us to visit her also. We tell him that we shall go to-morrow. On arriving in the city we meet her husband who is just driving home. Our guide tells him that we are the "doctors" who are going to-morrow to visit his wife. "But why do they not come to-day, it is only a distance of three *lis*," does the poor man say. We tell him that we intend going to-morrow. But he continues to entreat us to go at once saying that we have not very far to travel, only a little over a *lis*. This discussion attracts people from all sides and our guide does not fail to introduce us to them all. "These are the 'doctors' who visit the patients free of charge, who wash their sores and give them good medicine," etc., etc. To put an end to these compliments we quickly change carriages. On our arrival we find a young woman, twenty-eight years of age, who suffers from tubercular wounds. Her left knee has become so stiff that she is not longer able to walk. Her aged mother who has been blind for a year is seated beside her on the *kang*. We treat our two patients as best we can and then start back home happy to have been able to give a little relief to these poor suffering creatures.

### Wednesday, February 26

To-day we return to see Mrs. Wang, a young tubercular patient. As we had told her husband that we should go this afternoon at four o'clock he comes to the dispensary two or three times during the day and listens to a lesson in Catechism. This strange religion seems to interest him greatly. He tells us how happy he is. We find that his wife has improved. She spent a good night. The entire family is in favor of the Catholic religion.

On our way back we pass by the home of a Christian family, several members of which have already been cared for by us. They ask us to come in but as we cannot accept their invitation as it is very late we promise to come to see them just as soon as we shall be able.

### Thursday, February 27

We again visit Mrs. Wang and find her much better. She asks us if it is alright for her to eat. The Chinese doctor told her not to take much food for according to the medical science of the country food only nourishes the wounds. We tell her not to be afraid that the more she eats the better she will be.

We have had ninety patients during the day two of whom received Holy Baptism. Before baptizing a little girl Sister Superior said to the mother: "I am going to wash your little girl's head and one day she will be happy." The mother gladly consents and when Sister Superior is finished she asks her if she is not going to wash her little one's hands also.



**Saturday, March 1**

Very often we have seen hens, dogs, and even swine in the Chinese houses. To-day on one of our visits we see something new. In a corner of the kitchen we notice two horses!... These are the principal means of livelihood for the family, as our young patient's husband is a teamster. How strange it is to see horses in a house!...

**Monday, March 3**

Sister Ste. Jeanne de Chantal accompanied by Martha goes this morning to visit Mr. Gou who was baptized last Tuesday. On their way, the patient's brother who came for them asks them many questions concerning the Catholic religion. He remembers seeing French priests when at the age of thirteen he attended school in the city. At that time the Catholic Mission was in the western part of the city. Among other questions he asks if Our Lord was French or if he was a Canadian. This question greatly amuses them but these poor people are greatly perplexed. Formerly the missionaries here were French, but now they are Canadian priests who are here. They teach the same religion but they come from a different country. So they wonder to which of these two nationalities the Head of this religion belonged.

May our heavenly Mother enlighten these candid souls and grant them the inestimable gift of faith.

**Tuesday, March 4**

With the greatest fervor we commence the Novena of Grace in honor of St. Francis Xavier and entreat this untiring apostle to enkindle in our hearts his ardent zeal for the salvation of souls. We also beg him to help us to learn the language of the country which is so indispensable if we wish to do a little good.

At the dispensary we receive 101 patients.

**Thursday, March 6**

This morning we had the happiness of baptizing a woman who came to the dispensary for treatment. She does not even know how old she is for when Sister asked her her age she turned to her neighbor, who had come with her, saying: "What is the "doctor" asking me? I do not understand..." The poor woman is like a child. She has certainly never committed the least sin for she has never been intelligent.

**Saturday, March 8**

Sister Superior baptizes a little six-year-old boy who is deaf and dumb and almost blind. The mother is not in the least aware of the happiness she procured her child in bringing it here this morning for this poor disinherited little one will ere long enjoy the eternal bliss of heaven.

**Tuesday, March 11**

One of our patients tells us that she threw out two of her children about a month ago. We tell her not to act in this way in the future but to bring us her children as soon as they fall ill and to tell her neighbors to do likewise. "I would have willingly done so," she says, "but I did not know that there were any "doctors" here."

When a child grows seriously ill, according to the custom of the country, it is carried outside for if it happens to die in the home it will draw misfortune on the whole family. A dreadful superstition! How numerous are its victims in the vast Chinese Empire!

**Wednesday, March 12**

To-day the novena in honor of St. Francis Xavier ends. We baptize a little Francis Xavier and a little "Mary Frances".

A Christian mother brings her baby two months old, to the chapel to be baptized. Our prayers have been heard, for we asked the great Apostle of the Indies to grant us three baptisms to-day and this evening we see our desire realized.

**Thursday, March 13**

We counted three baptisms this morning, two children and a young woman. The latter who is in an advanced stage of tuberculosis arrived towards noon. She was very tired as she had come a distance of fifty *lis*. Sister Superior saw immediately that the poor woman had not much longer to live. We gave her some medicine and Martha spoke a few words to her about the Catholic religion. She gave her a miraculous medal explaining that it was the image of the Mother of God assuring her that she would one day see Our Blessed Lady in heaven if she consented to become a Christian. "Are you afraid to die?" Martha asked. "You are very sick and most probably you will never get better. On hearing this two big tears rolled down the patient's cheeks. "I have a baby only a year old," she said, "and I am only twenty-two." Martha explained to her the principal truths of our holy religion and the happiness awaiting her in heaven. At first the young woman did not know what she meant, but little by little she began to understand and finally asked to be made a child of God. Sister Superior baptized her giving her the name of Mary Elizabeth. After tying the medal on her neck we confided her to the Blessed Virgin. Just before leaving she said, "I am happy now that I am a Christian and no longer do I fear death."

Towards six o'clock this evening a young Christian asks us to visit a baby who is very sick. This young man, a very great friend of the father of the child, persuaded him to send for the Sisters. "If it is possible to cure your little one," he told the parents, "they will do so, if not they will tell you that there is no hope." "We cannot hire a carriage for them. Will they come just the same?" the poor people asked. "Certainly," replied our young Christian. We walk as we have not very far to go.



The young man accompanies us to his friend's home. "You are going to baptize this child, are you not?" he asked. "That is why I was so anxious for you to come." These people are very poor. The house is very small, containing but one room. The child for whom we have been called is a pretty girl little, five days old. Without delay we baptize the little one calling her Mary Ida. May Our Blessed Lady reward the young man who has just procured eternal happiness for a little soul, by showering on him her choicest blessings.

### Tuesday, March 18

This morning we are called to the bedside of one of our patients, Mrs. Liou, who has been sick for the last month. We give her some medicine and Mrs. Tchong who accompanies us tells her a little about God. When we return this afternoon we find that she looks favorably upon our holy religion. We confide her to St. Joseph asking him to obtain for this soul the priceless gift of faith. Our Divine Lord who on earth was submissive to His foster-father cannot refuse Him this favor on his beautiful feast-day.

### Wednesday, March 19

The Feast of St. Joseph, patron of China. As it is a feast of obligation we have High Mass after which our Christians sing pious hymns in their own language.

In the community-room a small light and two little lilies are placed before the statue of our holy Protector and all day long we offer him the homage of our prayers and gratitude asking him to shower numerous graces and blessings upon our beloved Mother and our dear Institute.

We go again this morning to visit Mrs. Liou. As we wish her to be baptized this afternoon we give her a few instructions. The whole family is in favor of our religion and the good old woman is anxious to become a Christian. We return at half-past four and continue to explain to her the principal truths of our holy faith. Upon her request Reverend Father Berichon comes to baptize her. She is very happy and never ceases to thank us.

From all hearts a hymn of gratitude is wafted heavenward to our beloved patron.

### Thursday, March 20

Four little ones are made children of God. One of them, a little four-year-old girl suffers from sores in all parts of her body. Her father tells us that his wife died two years ago leaving three children. The poor man is alone to look after the home and work on his farm. He travelled fifteen *lis* on foot in order to bring his child here for treatment.

We give the little one a good bath, dress her wounds and before sending her away baptize her. Probably she will join the angels before long.

For the second time to-day we go to see Mrs. Liou. On visiting her this morning we found her very low. She sighs continually and is no longer

able to eat. She did not sleep at all during the night. Martha encourages her to offer all her sufferings in atonement for her sins telling her to pray to the Blessed Virgin. "You are very sick," she tells her, "and as you cannot say long prayers, often repeat this little ejaculation: Holy Virgin Mary, assist me. That is enough. You will see that Our Blessed Lady will not forsake you." When we return this evening she is sleeping. We are told that she no longer suffers for she is unconscious. We are glad that she was baptized yesterday.

At eight o'clock this morning we go to Mrs. Liou's home which is not far from the Mission. How surprised we are to see our dying patient dressed in the richest clothing lying on a bed prepared for the occasion. She is expected to die at any moment. As is the custom she was transported from the *kang* to this bed placed just opposite the front door. All the others go about their work, eat and drink without taking the least notice of the poor woman. She will remain thus until she breathes her last. No one is charitable enough to moisten her lips or whisper a consoling word to her! When we consider what indifference reigns among the pagans we understand better than ever how privileged we are to have been brought up in the Catholic religion in which it is so consoling to live and to die.

This evening we are asked to visit a young woman who is unable to come to the dispensary. On our way we have the happiness of baptizing two little girls.

While passing by Mrs. Liou's home we hear many people weeping. We are told that she has just expired. Soon music will accompany the sobbing of the relatives and friends of the dead woman.

### **Saturday, March 22**

To-day one hundred and forty-five patients come to the dispensary. We visit two homes and baptize a dying child.

### **Sunday, March 23**

It rained during the night and this morning the weather is exceedingly dull. Thanks to the rain the grass has begun to spring up all around us. We shall soon begin to plant our garden. Already we are very anxious to have vegetables the seed of which has come from "home". Surely they will be delicious!...

### **Monday, March 24**

This morning we notice that a new catechumen, fourteen years of age assists at Mass. He is one of the first patients to come to the dispensary and has been suffering for eight years from tubercular wounds. Two years ago a Chinese doctor made a lumbar puncture and since then this new wound has never healed. The second or third time he came for treatment we gave him a miraculous medal. Every day while awaiting his turn he listened to a lesson in Catechism. This new doctrine greatly interested him and on his suffering but smiling countenance we could read his ardent desire



of embracing our holy religion. But he must first obtain his parents' consent which he asked several times but always in vain. Finally last week his father said to him: "If you wish to become a Christian you are free to do so." "If I become a Christian," replied the child, "I can neither burn incense in your honor after you are dead, nor offer you the other presents which are always burned as a means of worshipping the ancestors."—"Oh!" the father rejoined, "I have no need of your offerings, you have brothers older than you who will honor me when I am dead, become a Christian if you like." The young boy came here with his mother last Friday to announce the good news to us. He gave his name as a catechumen and the mother assured us that she and her husband permitted their son to take instructions in the Catholic religion.

To-day our new catechumen comes to stay at the Mission in order to study. We hope that he will continue as he has begun and with the help of Our Blessed Lady become a fervent Christian.

### Tuesday, March 25

At the dispensary we baptize a little girl whom we call "Annunciata."

### Saturday, April 5

To-day a father carries his sixteen-year-old daughter to our dispensary. The poor man has come a distance of fifteen *lis* with this heavy burden but he does not seem to notice the fatigue so happy is he to procure his only child a little comfort. She is another victim of tuberculosis. We at once give our little patient treatment and seeing that she has only a few days to live we begin to instruct her, but the poor child is afraid. While we are caring for her she holds her father's hand very tightly. As she refuses to be baptized we confidently implore Our Blessed Lady's assistance. While our *Aves* are wafted heavenward, Martha who is at the dispensary at this moment tries to make her understand that we wish to make her happy for all eternity. Little by little grace does its work in her soul. Becoming more confident she listens attentively to the explanation of the principal truths of our holy religion and in the end consents to be baptized. A hymn of gratitude arises from all hearts towards our all-merciful Mother who has deigned to grant us this new favor.

An aged woman who has been coming here for a long time to have her eyes treated, waits at noon until all the patients are gone to tell us her great desire of becoming a Christian. We encourage her and tell her how glad we are to hear this good news. But the old woman is very uneasy. "I am old," she says, "and can hardly see, how am I going to study?" We tell her that the professor at the dispensary will gladly teach her the prayers and that her children and grandchildren will help her at home. Some of the members of this family desire to embrace our holy religion while the others are quite opposed to it. "I do not care what my people will say when they learn that I wish to be a Christian," the poor woman tells us, "I am old and wish to serve God for the few years I have still to live."

We give her a miraculous medal and guided by the Blessed Virgin our happy patient starts on her way back home.

We baptize a little girl two years of age who, no doubt, will leave very soon for her heavenly home.

### Wednesday, April 7

It has been very windy for over a week, a sure sign that spring is here. More than in any other season of the year clouds of dust are raised almost continually by the wind which is not very convenient when we have clothes to dry.

Two children, brother and sister, are baptized at the dispensary. We entreat Our Blessed Lady to one day enlighten their mother who unawaringly procured them the grace of Baptism. We are confident that when these two little angels are in heaven they will address the same prayer to Jesus who will not refuse to grant them what they ask.

### Saturday, April 12

One hundred and thirty patients come for treatment. We baptize two dying children.

### Sunday, April 13

After the blessing of the palms at the eight o'clock Mass a procession takes place out-of-doors as there is not enough room in the church. Seemingly the liturgical ceremonies which are always so touching are even moreso in a pagan land. This is perhaps due to the fact that we do not very often enjoy the religious consolations of our Catholic countries. For palms we had to content ourselves with willow branches in bud. However, we found it very beautiful to see each one of our Chinese Christians returning with a blessed branch which when hung on the earthen wall of his home will draw God's protection on the family.

\* \* \*

## TSUNGMING, HAIMEN VICARIATE, CHINA

*Tsungming, Easter Week, April 1930*

*To our dear Sisters of the Mother House*

BELOVED SISTERS,

Here Holy Week has been most piously observed by all our personnel in our chapel, and by many Christians in the church. From noon on Good Friday until the Way of the Cross in public at three o'clock everyone keeps perfect silence. The most profound recollection was to be remarked especially among the pupils. After dinner, their visit to the Blessed Sacrament over, they said their beads in the garden and then hastened to finish



their embroidery work and other tasks. They were like a group of novices. This three hours' silence is a custom that the Presentendines have established. The pupils themselves expressed their desire of continuing to observe it. The following is another praiseworthy custom. In the afternoon on Holy Saturday the priest comes to bless the food prepared for the morrow and goes through the house sprinkling Easter Water.

The next morning on seeing so many beaming countenances we realized that it was really the joyful feast of Easter. After Mass breakfast was served to all the personnel: rice, boiled eggs (the latter was a gift from the Community) earth-nuts roasted in oil and dishes of beans. And to see them eating with such appetite we easily judged that they found everything good.

As upon the Reverend Pastor's request we permitted the catechumens to visit the Foundling-Home, the pagans come to solicit the same favor. Our grounds are almost overrun with onlookers, many return several times. When the doors are locked they climb up to the windows to see the *Mo Mo* amusing the children who wear new little dresses and aprons, the little chairs, the cradles, the blankets, the toys, etc. etc. — Oh! these big children!

Dear Sisters, to keep you in touch with our everyday life, I must tell you a little of what has occurred since my last letter to you at the end of December. This is an account of our work since then:

January	—Baptisms at the Foundling-Home.....	64
	“ in private homes .....	39
	“ at the dispensary .....	4
	Wounds dressed .....	78
	Teeth extracted.....	8
February	—Baptisms at the Foundling-Home.....	62
	“ in private homes .....	40
	“ at the dispensary .....	4
	Wounds dressed .....	130
	Teeth extracted.....	8
March	—Baptisms at the Foundling-Home.....	66
	“ in private homes .....	40
	“ at the dispensary .....	2
	Wounds dressed .....	66
	Teeth extracted.....	11

From the 4th to the 13th of February took place our annual retreat preached by Reverend Father Coté, S. J. These were days of special graces and we must profit by them. For these ten days a little oratory was transformed into a chapel in which we assisted at Mass and Benediction and performed our spiritual exercises. During these blessed days we lived our true life which was a delight for us. After this intimate union with God, filled with fresh energy we recommenced our tasks, strenuous it is true but most consoling for our souls so desirous of making God and His Immaculate Mother known and loved.

During this time, seventy women made a private retreat. They assisted at Mass and Benediction in the chapel adjoining the church. As nineteen

of them had come from a distance we gave them hospitality in the school.

I think it will interest you to hear the details of the sudden death of one of our helpers. On leaving the church, a virgin-catechist comes to me in all haste saying: "Quelan (a refugee, thirty years of age) is dead! She died without the Sacraments after not having been to Confession for three weeks." Everyone is deeply touched. Two of our helpers become quite excited, they refused to go to Confession yesterday and now they are afraid that they too will die suddenly. They promise to go as soon as possible. They ask us if Quelan will go to heaven. We try to explain God's infinite mercy to them, however we do not wish to lose the fruits which a like happening produces in souls. We let grace do its work.

Quelan was a poor woman at our mission who worked in the fields and at the weaving for a dollar a month. Her husband is employed by the Parish Priest. Some months ago they adopted one of the children of our orphanage and intended going in the spring to settle on a small farm. During the cold season she suffered so much from chilbains that she was obliged to give up weaving. She asked her mother to come to do her work that she might remain at home to cook the rice and take care of the little one. A week ago she came to the dispensary with the baby. Shortly after we heard that she was very feverish. The virgin who visited her found her very sick. The Chinese doctor had not noticed that she was in danger. The morning of her death the priest was sent for in all haste. He left immediately after Mass but arrived a little too late.

The Christians touched by the poverty and unexpected death of the unfortunate woman paid for her coffin. In the afternoon a virgin offered to bring us to see the dead woman. What a sad sight!... Lying on a bed in a miserable little straw hut containing but two rooms we found the corpse in the same position as at the moment of death. The netting had been drawn back so that it could be better seen. The room was almost dark for there was not even a window. The only light came from the open door in the adjoining room and from a small lamp on the wall which gave such flickering glimmer that it did not even light up the face of the dead woman. There was no floor and the bed which consisted of a wooden box was set up on a kind of platform (several Chinese sleep in a big box in which they have placed their wadded clothing for the summer so as to preserve it from dampness). The mattress consists of some straw covered with a mat. We sprinkled the body with Holy Water and all the people followed our example while reciting prayers. We were almost crushed, it was so dark and the room was so small. After the aspersion and prayers the mother who was seated at the head of the bed caressed the face and hair of her dead daughter while making lamentations like unto those of Jeremiah I believe. Tears flowed from all eyes. Doubtlessly this is part of a pagan custom practised even by the Christians.

We cannot begin to describe all the misery we saw on this occasion. The greatest poverty of Canada does not resemble it in the least.

Quelan's parents asked to have the *Libera* sung here. At eleven in the morning four men carried the dead woman, dressed in her best clothes,



to us on a board. The body was placed in the porch where the Reverend Pastor, accompanied by several Christians, recited the Office for the dead. Then wrapped in a large blue sheet it was placed in a coffin and carried to the family cemetery in another district several *lis* distant.

I must not close my letter without having told you of the most interesting of our flock, our little orphans at the Orphanage. They try their best to talk, prattling from early in the morning until evening. From their corridor we can hear them call *Tai Mo Mo*, *Zaeu Mo Mo*, *Ste. Helene Mo Mo*. On catching sight of us they at once begin to prattle and laugh. What amuses them the most is a watchdog given us by the Police at Shanghai. We call him Fido. Early in the morning the children run to the door of their passage



LITTLE TOTS OF THE FOUNDLING-HOME OF TSUNGMING, CHINA

calling: Fido! Fido! If the dog comes they all run and hide, the most timid cry. It does not even touch them and after it is gone they begin all over again. Little by little we accustom them to pet it. It is amusing to see the little outstretched hands tremble on touching the hair of the quiet hound. They laugh and grow a little bolder but are careful not to go too close to its jaws. Before long Fido will be our little one's greatest friend as he is a faithful watchdog. But as we have very scanty food for the poor animal, only dry yellow rice, an odd bone and a little soup he is very thin. He also must get used to the country.

The little ones who are able to walk and talk are very interesting, as also those who stay all day in their little cage two feet high and about three feet in diameter. They can sit down on a little bench or try to walk. They are nearly always seated in the back. As soon as they see us coming they creep up on the seat, stretch forth their little hands and try to climb out

and they sometimes succeed. Some laugh, some cry and all look for caresses and sweets. When Sister Ste. Helene is with them they all follow her every movement and wait to be petted or to be given a piece of bread or some candy. When she amuses the older children, they very seldom cry, but as soon as they find themselves alone tears flow in abundance. Poor little ones, I am very anxious that they learn to walk so as to be able to leave their little cage, for we have not the time to carry them around, they take up all our time. The very tiny babies in their cradles are nearly all very close to heaven. Their little souls are only awaiting the extinction of their poor little bodies in order to fly to a happy sojourn.

Some of these little ones are given to Christian families until they are able to look after themselves.

### **Saturday, March 10**

To-day a basket containing six children is brought to us from the city of Tsungming. Only three are able to walk. As we have no room for them we are obliged to transform the sewing-room into a dormitory. The Foundling-Home is quite filled up. At the present time it contains 33 very tiny babies and 31 others from one to six years of age. After preparing the rooms this afternoon Sister Ste Helene was quite sure that she had a place for all her little folks but this evening a Chinese helper with a child under each arm quite brusquely says to her: "Where am I going to put these children? There is no more room." All the cradles and cribs are filled even two little wheel-chairs serve as cradles. We suddenly remember seeing two very rusty little beds in the garbage. We have them brought in and put all our remaining blankets on them. The old cupboard which was so well filled last year by the devoted Ladies of our sewing-circles in Canada is now completely empty.

Thanks to the generosity of sympathetic benefactors we were able to procure screens for the doors and windows in the rooms where they are needed the most. The workmen are busy arranging them. What a blessing for our poor babies for they will no longer suffer from sickness caused by bites from the flies and insects which are so numerous during the hot season. Our most grateful thanks to our generous benefactors.

### **Tuesday, May 13**

A woman comes asking to adopt the child which she has been caring for almost a year. As a little boy was born a few days ago and as the family is very poor they must think of procuring a wife for him at once. Their eyes fell on our little orphan for by adopting it now and raising it themselves, it will not cost much and they will be sure of having a wife for their son.

At noon, Sister Marie de Sion passing by the Chinese kitchen witnesses the following scene: one of the cooks had burnt her hand. To cure it her companion after rubbing her tongue with one of the feathers of a rooster rubbed it over the burn, this is the treatment here... But it is not all, ointment also is required. A reed or a feather is dipped in a bottle containing



a mouse roasted in oil which has been kept for many months. This oil is applied to the sore... What do you think of the Chinese treatments?

Dear Sisters, before closing my long letter I beg you to continue to help us by your fervent prayers and be assured of our constant affection.

Your loving Sister,

Sr. MARIE DE L'EPIPHANIE (1)

\* \* \*

## Manila, Philippine Islands

*Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters of the Chinese General Hospital*

### Tuesday, April 11, 1930

A little Filipino, ten years of age has been brought to our Hospital. After an attack of typhoid fever he contracted the "tetanos".

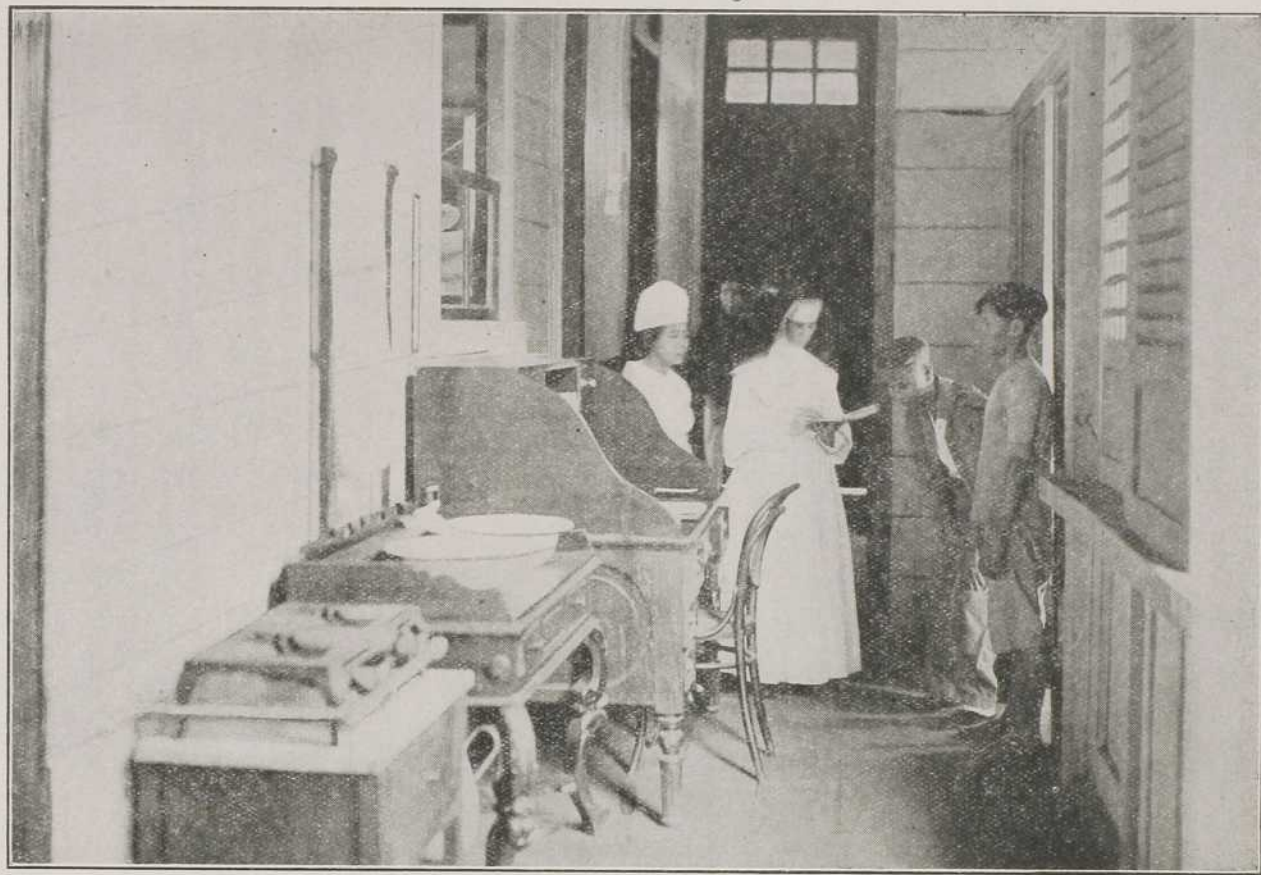
Upon his arrival his mother hung a pair of rosary beads over the head of his bed. "You are a Catholic?" inquired the Sister infirmarian. "Yes, but perhaps it is forbidden to practise this religion here," she timidly replied. "Not only is it permitted," Sister rejoined, "but we are here purposely to help the patients to embrace and practise it." The mother then told us that her little boy had made his First Communion on December 8th last. The following day we asked the priest to pay the child a visit. He went to confession and received Holy Communion with the greatest fervor. A few days later he received Extreme Unction and this evening he left for his heavenly home where, no doubt, he is proclaiming the praises of our Immaculate Mother. "He is the only one in the family that has been educated," the father sobbingly said, "and he was such a bright and gentle child..."

### Wednesday, April 2

Our young Chinese baptized on March 19th, visibly protected by St. Joseph, dies to-day. One of our Sisters had lent him a medal from St. Joseph's Shrine, Mount Royal, which he always wore in a conspicuous manner.

Yesterday, as he had grown worse, the Sister infirmarian immediately prepared him for death. He was quite resigned to die. For a young Chinese more than for anyone else it is a great sacrifice. Towards eleven o'clock when the Sister on night duty passed by his bed he told her not to forget the candles as he desired to receive the *Santo Christo* the next morning, assuring her that even though he should be very thirsty he would not drink during the night. In the morning he received his loving Father and Friend into his heart. If an unbeliever could but see the happiness that beams upon the countenance of these poor people who have just learned to know God, we feel that he at once would be convinced that we really receive God

(1) May Moquin, Eastman



ADMISSION OF A PATIENT AT THE CHINESE GENERAL HOSPITAL, MANILA, P. I.



in Holy Communion, a God who speaks to the heart of His child, who rejoices and consoles in a manner known only by those alone who have already partaken of this divine Banquet.

An hour after "Joseph" grew so weak that he could not speak. Peacefully, without the least agony he passed from time to eternity, as simply as a child falls asleep in its father's arms.

### Thursday, April 3

Just lately two Chinese women arrived with a pale and thin little baby. They asked us if we had a foundling-home here. Upon our negative reply, they told us that they wished to leave us the child but that they did not wish to pay anything to support it... One of them declared that she was the child's mother — but a heartless mother! Sister Superior was deeply touched on seeing this poor little creature whom these women were determined to get rid of. In spite of herself tears came to her eyes. She had, nevertheless, seen many others at Canton but one never becomes accustomed to see these defenceless little ones thus forsaken. She had the woman sign a paper attesting that she was giving up her child. One of the doctors, a Catholic, promised to find a home for it.

The following day, another Chinese woman came to claim the child, protesting that it belonged to her and not to the woman who had given it to us. After making some enquiries we gave her the poor little one but not without having first entrusted it to the Blessed Virgin. Yesterday it was brought back to us so tired and weak that Sister Superior did not hesitate in baptizing the little one calling it Mary. It died a few hours later. These women had probably drugged it with Chinese medicine. Our Immaculate Mother had hearkened to our prayer for its future was now assured..

### Saturday, April 5

A few months ago a Brother of the Society of the Divine Word who arrived in the Philippines only last September was forced to come to the hospital on account of violent hemorrhages. Just lately as he has become very weak, he was anointed and this afternoon Very Reverend Father Provincial permitted him to make his perpetual vows which he pronounced with angelical fervor. One of his brothers and three of our Sisters were present. On his table besides the crucifix and lighted candles we placed bouquets of lilies and roses. The young Brother was overjoyed. How cheerfully does a fervent religious who has always been resigned to God's Holy Will leave this land of exile...

### Tuesday, April 8

Last night when Sister was making her rounds she noticed that the poor old patient No.112 was at the foot of his bed outside of the netting and appeared to be in very bad humor. She made a sign to him that it was the time to be sleeping. "Can't you see that I can hardly breathe," he said in an angry tone. "I'm not doing anybody any harm. If I don't go to

bed it's because I can't sleep..." "No, no, do not get angry," Sister said, "I asked you to go to bed because I thought it would do you good, there are so many mosquitoes... Perhaps you need a little ointment?..." As Sister's words deeply touched him he replied: "*Salamat, Madre, salamat*" (thank you), and quietly crept under his netting. This morning he was baptized and anointed. Poor old man, he really suffered much pain last night. If he was a little vexed it is not because he does not like the Sisters... The other day he said to one of us: "You Sisters are very kind to come so often to visit us, poor as we are, and when you die I'm sure you will go and see the great *Santos*..."

### Monday, April 21

A little fifteen-year-old Filipino suffering from pneumonia as well as heart trouble, was baptized this afternoon. This child belongs to a Catholic family, his brothers and sisters have all been baptized, but at his birth his godparents carried him to an Aglipayan church. The poor mother was desperate, for ignorant as she was she did not know that the child could be baptized after this null baptism. At the Aglipayan church the ministers baptize in the name of Jesus Christ only. Yesterday the priest heard the little boy's confession and baptized him. He died at six o'clock this morning after having spent a very restless night... but what matters a bad night when we know that is to be followed by an eternity of bliss!...

### Sunday, April 27

During the night a young Filipino woman died of heart failure. She had been our patient for the past fifteen days. The Reverend Pastor who came to prepare her for death learned that she had been married outside of the church. Happily her husband was here. The priest blessed their marriage and administered the Sacraments of Penance, Eucharist and Extreme Unction to the dying woman. God has pity on these poor people who live in such a state usually through ignorance.

### Monday, April 28

After trying their examinations last week our nurses-in-training attend their annual retreat preached by Reverend Father McNulty, S. J. A spirit of recollection and prayer reigns throughout the hospital. These are days of blessings... let us hope that our dear pupils will make good use of them... they have such need of divine assistance, especially those who are about to leave us to go as nurses among all kinds of people!...

### Wednesday, April 30

After Mass an aged patient of the Charity Ward receives Solemn Baptism in the chapel. The other day he said to Miss Sy who instructed him: "I never believed in all these idols that are adored by the Chinese... How happy I am to learn that there is a God better than them all... But am I not too old now to be given the great happiness of going to Heaven?..."



After receiving sanctifying grace into his soul he was given the beautiful name of Joseph. He is now peacefully awaiting the salary of the laborers of the eleventh hour...

In the Charity Ward, Manuel Wong, a patient here for more than a month, has just died. He was first admitted to a room for which he paid three pesos, but after being there for three weeks he received a telegram from his father saying that he could no longer pay the hospital fees. It seems that one of his brothers squandered the money that the father had set aside for the sick man. Our poor Manuel was heart-broken to see himself thus forsaken by the other members of the family when he had but a few days more to live... He was transferred to the Charity Ward where we gave him one of the best places that he might not find too great a difference.

He was anointed on March 17th. On leaving him the priest exclaimed: "Oh! but I love these Filipino Chinese..." Since then he received Holy Communion every Sunday and feast-day. On Holy Thursday he went to confession and made his Easter Duty. The following Tuesday he grew worse and catching sight of Sister St. Joseph de Bethleem he asked what she thought of his condition. "You are very weak," Sister told him, "perhaps you will leave for heaven very soon..." Then with a smile the poor patient expressed his desire of seeing Father Roman again. Although we had to pay the fare ourselves, we sent for the priest who came immediately to hear the poor man's confession and give him a few words of fatherly advice. Shortly after Father had left his sufferings increased. "Do give me an injection," he said. "If you only offered your sufferings to Our Lord who loves us so much and has suffered so much for us..." He glanced at a picture hanging near his bed — Our Saviour carrying His Cross — and then smilingly made a sign of resignation. "You will place this picture with my miraculous medal and crucifix in my coffin, will you not?"

Sometimes he asked us to sprinkle him with holy water, to hand him his crucifix that he might kiss it and to teach him to pray... A few moments before his death he seemed to desire something but when the Sister infirmarian drew near his bed he said, "No, no, I willingly accept death..." How we would like to see all our patients die in this manner.

\* \* \*

## KORIYAMA, JAPAN

*Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Koriyama*

### Sunday, April 13, 1930

Several young girls, all pagans, attending High School, come to visit us every day. It is a new group that comes to-day bringing us flowers which we place at the feet of the Immaculate Virgin. As soon as they enter the room which serves as a parlor during the day and a dormitory during the night, they notice the beautiful statue of the Blessed Virgin



THE REVEREND DOMINICAN FATHERS, MISSIONARIES TO JAPAN, HAKODATE DIOCESE, GREETING THEIR VERY REVEREND FATHER PROVINCIAL, J. A. LANGLAIS, AND THE MISSIONARIES OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION WHO ARRIVED IN KORIYAMA MARCH 25



which we have placed in the Tokonoma. (The Tokonoma is the place reserved for the god of the hearth which is to be found in every Japanese home.) What is it that draws these strangers to us?... We are not quite certain, but we notice that while they are speaking, their eyes are constantly fixed upon the statue and many a time we are able to recite several Hail Marys in our heart before they withdraw their gaze from her who seems to enchant them. How many a time, dear Mother, have we not looked with admiration upon the statue which you chose for us! Her noble countenance must certainly make an impression upon the young pagans who find in their gods but hideous and repulsive forms. One of these pupils spent a year in Texas where she learned English and Spanish. Her companions tell us on entering that she is a Christian, which greatly interests us. She appears to be very ladylike, but we have never seen her at church. She shows us a little prayer-book in English which she says she does not understand. It is most probably a souvenir of her First Communion. She was given the name of "Conception" in Baptism. She admits that she does not attend Church but that she would like to. It is with the greatest of confidence that we place this dear child under Our Blessed Lady's protection. We would like to give her private lessons in English for this would be a means of leading her back to God.

#### Saturday, April 19

A young man comes this evening to ask us to lend him a book about the Blessed Virgin. He would have liked to have had one in Japanese, although he would have accepted one in English if we had had one, but I had absolutely nothing in either of these two languages. How sorry we were to miss this opportunity of making our Immaculate Mother known to a poor Japanese. Sister Superior gave him instead a few leaflets explaining some holy pictures.

We have heard that several fallen-away Catholics now wish to return to the fold. We pray in a special manner for their conversion.

#### Easter, April 20

Numerous Christians come to church this morning, for many it is a real resurrection. A young girl receives Baptism before Mass and during the Holy Sacrifice makes her First Communion. Five of her companions who are under instructions were present at the ceremony. A very influential man who had not been to church for a long time also went to Communion. It is with all our hearts that we beg God to give to some of our Japanese the gift of Faith and to others the gift of perseverance.

When we come back from church a letter from our beloved Mother is awaiting us. Dear Mother, what good these few moments spent in your midst do us. At noon Reverend Father Reid, O. P., sends us a beautiful basket of flowers and fruit.

**Tuesday, April 22**

Reverend Father Hutte comes to welcome us to our new mission. He is accompanied by two other priests from the Foreign Missions of Paris. Father Hutte urges us to study the language with courage. Noticing the poverty of our little dwelling, — we are sitting on the floor, for we have chairs only for visitors — he smiles and says that he also experienced the effects of poverty when the first arrived in Japan. During eight months he lived in a miserable hut.

He makes the remark that Japan seems to be on its way to conversion. A few years ago, it seems that the first missionaries thought that one baptism a year was something wonderful, whereas in all the missions to-day conversions are more and more numerous.

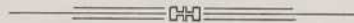
**Thursday, April 24**

Reverend Father Langlais, provincial of the Dominicans, has returned from his visit to the missions. He comes to see us from time to time and by his kind words of advice urges us to abandon ourselves entirely into the hands of Divine Providence. He gives us a beautiful conference to-day on the "Love of God." We imagine ourselves to be at our dear Novitiate listening to one of the sermons of the retreat which are given twice yearly.

**Wednesday, July 2**

How happy we all are this morning! Mass is celebrated for the first time in our convent, and henceforth we shall have the privilege of sheltering Our Divine Lord beneath our roof. The day could not be better chosen since it is the feast of the Visitation.

We are confident that Our Immaculate Mother will grant us all the graces that we shall ask from her to-day for our dear Mother and for the good of the mission which is confided to us, for Our Lady never allows any of her feast-days to go by without according new favors to her children. Our dear Lord is satisfied with very little. The altar is made of two trestles, a plank with the altar-stone and a little tabernacle which good Father Reid had the great kindness to lend us as well as the chalice, ciborium and ciborium cover. We sang our beautiful hymns appropriate to the feast. We could not restrain our tears, but they were tears of joy and gratitude.



O Queen of heaven and earth! Thou art the gate of mercy ever open, never closed. The universe must perish before he who invokes thee from his heart is refused.

Bl. Henri Suso.



# Extracts FROM THE Novitiate Chronicles

*Dedicated to our dear Parents*



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

*St. Bernard.*

**Saturday, June 7, 1930**

To-day, vigil of the Feast of Pentecost, we are given to enjoy a happiness truly apostolical. Towards the end of the noon recreation our sisters of the Montreal Chinese Hospital telephone to the Novitiate asking for prayers: a poor patient wishes to return to China this very afternoon. The doctor declares that this poor unfortunate will certainly die on the way and he is still a pagan... Our Sisters had instructed him in the principal truths of our holy religion and yesterday he consented to be baptized, but to-day he changes his mind and no longer wishes to hear of Baptism!... The devil, no doubt, is busy at work. When the sad news reaches us we at once ardently implore the Blessed Virgin to save this soul. And in order that our prayers may be heard we add little sacrifices to our entreaties. An hour later we learn that the patient has just received the regenerating sacrament with eagerness and joy. What grateful thanks we offer to Our Blessed Lady!... Immediately from all parts of the Novitiate the Magnificat is wafted heavenward. Oh! yes Mary is bountiful and how true it is that she ever hearkens to our supplications!

A quarter of an hour later the happy neophyte left for his native land, distant China! May our loving Mother once more listen to our prayers and ere long welcome her child into his heavenly home while his soul is yet so pure and beautiful.

**Pentecost Sunday, June 8**

The feast of Pentecost as that of the Immaculate Conception is always greeted with the greatest happiness by all the members of our Community. Is it not *par excellence* the feast of apostles, of missionaries? And after having piously made a retreat with Mary in the Cenacle, have we not every reason to hope that the Divine Paraclete will transform our souls which are so eager for immortal conquests. And it is moreover our beloved Mother's feast-day which also tends to gladden our hearts. Three Professed Sisters leave for Outremont conveying the wishes of the "Dovecot" and assist at the celebration which takes place on this occasion.

As for us, after having fulfilled our religious exercises, as solemnly as possible we hasten to the assembly-room where the bell announces the traditional holiday. Our mistress then tells us that in a few days we shall have the privilege of receiving our Mother. Our reception programme has been ready for some time past and we are most eager to carry it out. In the

meantime we shall take a little trip to China: our Mistress reads to us four long letters which she has just received from our different missions. Oh, if you only knew, dear Sisters in the Missions, what pleasure your letters afford us and how they enkindle our zeal! Write to us often, just as often as you have time to do so... However we are very selfish to ask you such a favor when we know that to give us this happiness you deprive yourselves of the little rest you could take, but we read between the lines that you love your little sisters so dearly that to write to them is for you a pastime. To prove our gratitude we shall labor with renewed ardor to acquire the virtues necessary to the apostolical life so as to be able, in a few years, to help you in the distant mission fields.

### Wednesday, June 11

How beautiful the sun rises in the azure blue sky!... Does it also wish to jubilate with us since it is to-day that we are to receive a visit from our beloved Mother? And this year, besides her patronal feast, we celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of her religious profession. As this Jubilee falls on August 8th we know that on this date our Sisters at the Mother House will neither give up their turn nor their rights and for this reason we deemed it wise to celebrate this Jubilee feast beforehand in case that later we should not have the chance of doing so.

As you may well imagine it is with the greatest happiness that we welcome our dear Mother. She is accompanied by our dear Sister Assistant and two other Sisters from the Mother House which adds to our happiness.

For this occasion sky-blue streamers dotted with silver stars adorned the refectory and the reception-room. In the centre of the refectory could be read these words: "Our filial love to the best of Mothers." In the reception-room appeared a large silver star bearing the Jubilee figure. From it floated many streamers joined by pretty bunches of tiny white lilies. On seeing the reflection cast upon the azure blue garlands by the little lights which sparkled at each of the five points of the star we imagined that the blue skies had come closer to us and that we were surrounded by a celestial atmosphere.

Our beloved Mother on entering the room was greeted by gay music. Then a cantata, "The Silver Star" took place followed by a symbolical play which our Mother greatly enjoyed. Pieces were then played on the piano and violin and after a pretty recitation the postulants sang "Silver Bells." We then presented our Mother with the flowers we had made for the chapels of our different missions.

The whole was brought to a close by the offering of our filial wishes and the singing of the *Magnificat*.

### Sunday, June 15

Oh! what pleasant moments there are in life... particularly in the religious life! Such are our thoughts especially when we are given to enjoy the happiness of family celebrations. For three long days we had the privilege



of having our beloved Mother in our midst... To-day we prepare to celebrate the patronal feast of our dear Mistress. Early this morning we had the pleasure, as in former years, of a visit from the devoted members of our three sewing-circles: Our Lady of the Missions, St. Teresa of the Child Jesus and St. John Berchmans. They were forty in number. During Mass which was said at half-past seven hymns were sung in honor of the Blessed Trinity which feast the Church to-day celebrates. After their thanksgiving these young girls recited the Little Office of the Immaculate Conception. They then repaired to the garden to take breakfast during which there was much merry laughter. They paid a little visit to the Foreign Mission Seminary and spent the rest of the forenoon in lively conversation. They left at half-past eleven satisfied with their pious pilgrimage after bidding us "Au revoir" until next year.

We then began to be very anxious to see evening arrive... At half-past six we all assembled in the reception-room to offer our wishes to our dear Mistress. We would have liked to have been more eloquent in the expression of our grateful sentiments. Happily the Immaculate Virgin who is always our honorable president acted as our interpreter revealing all that we could not put into words. We spent a most pleasant evening. The programme was one of joy and piety, characteristics which delighted our Mistress.

### **Monday, June 16**

With gladsome voices we sing the praises of St. John Francis Regis, patron saint of our dear Mistress and at nine o'clock the holiday begins. Needless to say, it is well spent: it comes but once a year!... and for many of us it will never return, for the elder novices realize that at this time next year they will be far from the cradle of their religious childhood... But let us take no note of these thoughts which are of a nature to make us grow sad, rather let us enjoy our present happiness and leave the future to God.

To complete our holiday after the spiritual exercises and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament we have the surprise of taking supper in our little grove: a pleasure which we greatly appreciate!... Then until prayer-time we walk along the bank of the river, the waters of which flow with great rapidity reminding us that life glides away just as swiftly and when it is strewn with joys as pure as those of the little novices of the Immaculate it seems as though its course is even more fleeting, but this does not cause us the least regret for we know that it will bring us to the shores of eternal happiness.

### **Sunday, June 22, Solemnity of Corpus Christi**

From the various belfries in the great city of Montreal harmonious chimes are wafted towards us on the clear morning breeze, to which are mingled those more modest of the little church of St. Christopher. The weather at first is changeable, but the sun soon appears. We are pleased

for it will be a day of triumph for the God of our tabernacles and a day of blessings for our cities and villages.

As in the past we join in the procession through the different streets of Pont Viau. The Foreign Mission Seminary has the honor of erecting a repository for our Eucharistic King. When from its throne of honor the golden monstrance beams upon the prostrated throngs, we feel that torrents of graces flow from the infinitely tender and bountiful Heart of our loving and compassionate Saviour.

Thus favored, the recollected cortege makes its way back to the parish church voicing its gratitude by the eloquent strophes of the *Magnificat*.

### Monday, June 23

Yesterday during the procession a few novices heard a little girl exclaim: Oh! see all those sisters in white, they all look alike... They seem to be "all" the same one..."

Dear little one, do you know that your remark greatly pleased us?... We are proud to be "*but one*" even in appearance, but we know that it is the uniformity of our costume which made you find this resemblance. We should be even happier if this reflection could be made from a moral point of view... Oh yes, how we would like to be all "the same" provided that this "*uniqueness*" be the perfect type of the Missionary of the Immaculate Conception such as our dear Mother desires. Since we all draw from the same source the spirit which should animate us and unceasingly strive to form but one heart and one soul under the maternal protection of her who with such wisdom and kindness guides our bark, why should we not hope to reach the object of our dreams, so worthy of our prayers and efforts?... Let us never cease to seek it.

### Tuesday, June 24

As it is the feast of St. John the Baptist we are given a holiday. To decorate the statue of the holy Precursor of our Lord we stripped the large maples in our grove of their most beautiful leaves which we interweave with pretty daisies. And during the course of the day we often interrupt our conversation to ask him, the greatest of the children of men, to protect our country and to ever preserve therein the precious gift of faith. We beg him to make us true "forerunners" of Christ on pagan shores and to grant that following in his footsteps we may learn to abase ourselves in order to exalt and show forth to the world the God who should reign in all lands and over all hearts.

### Saturday, July 5

His Lordship Bishop Lamarche of Chicoutimi has deigned to admit the humble Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception into his diocese. It is with the greatest happiness that our Sisters leave to-day [to labor for the Apostolical Association of the Holy Childhood and to open a house



wherein closed retreats will be given for ladies and young girls. May the Immaculate Virgin, our Mother and Patroness, deign to bless their every endeavor and help these modest workers to accomplish much good under the fatherly direction of their venerated bishop.

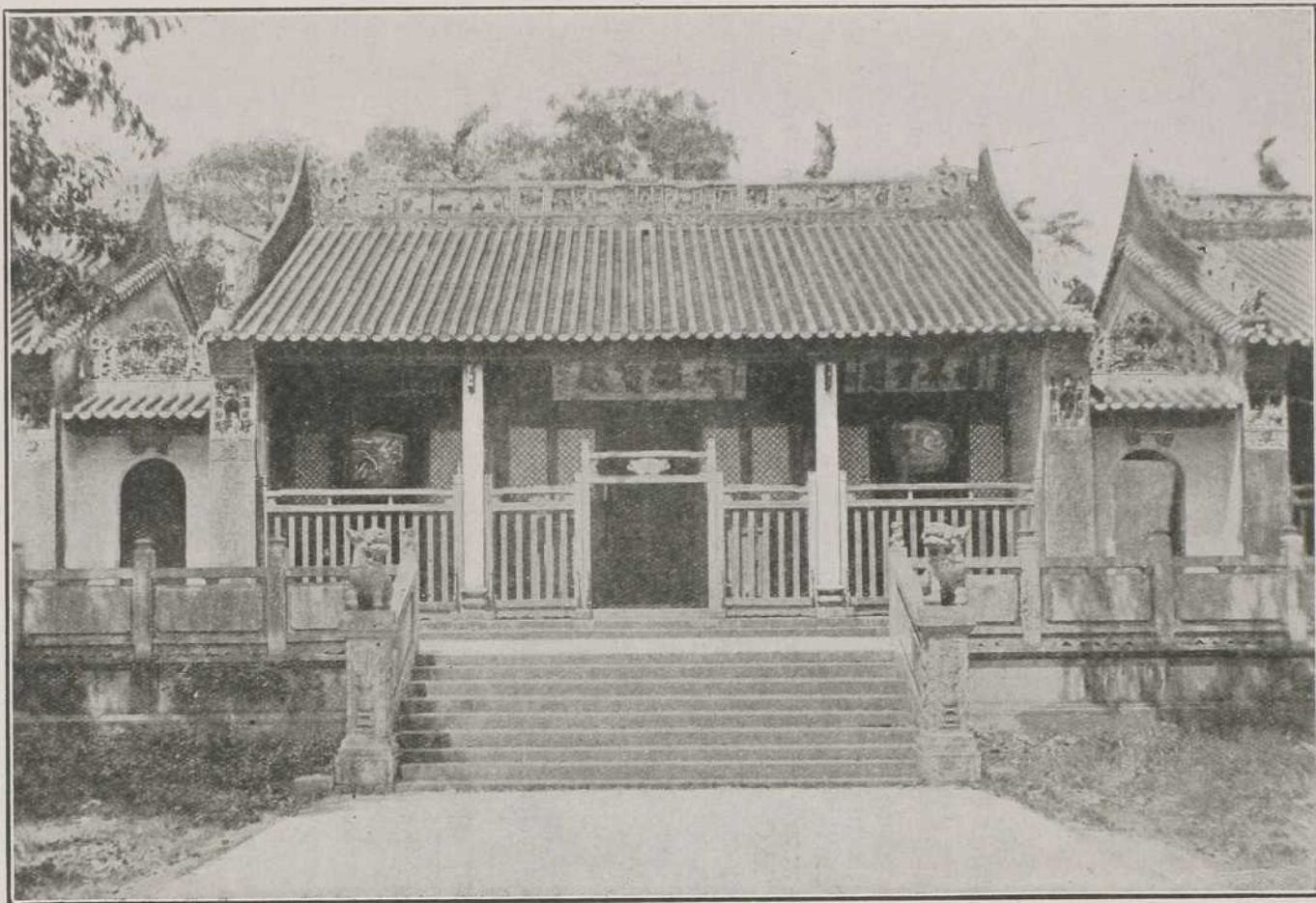
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## *Among the Indians*

When Father Laverlochere started for his second mission in 1843, he began "by offering the August Sacrifice and by placing himself under the protection of Mary Immaculate." This protection is necessary, thinks the missionary, for in passing down a furious rapid, hurled by the impetuous stream, the bark canoe strikes a tree trunk caught there by the rocks, is broken in two, and they, its freight, struggle as they may in the white foaming waters. All get safe, although well wearied and drenched, to shore. As for the Oblates, "Mary Immaculate, their august Mother, watched ceaselessly over their lives." At the last mission, two years before, six hundred and twenty-five savages had forsworn whiskey; at this mission, they find their sorrow, that *one* has *once* broken his pledge.

Here, among the Abbitibbi, in a family of distinguished hunters and braves, only the old mother had remained resolutely pagan. This time she asked for Baptism. All the long interval since the last visit, she had "dreamed," as the Indians call it, and had made her mind to follow her children. "Ah, Father," she said, "I was very wretched untill the Great Spirit took pity upon me. Since the *Black-robe* warned me of the danger of remaining as I was, I have had no rest. Often, while asleep, I seemed to be falling into the gulf. Then when I awoke, I promised the Great Spirit to obey the counsels of the Black-robe; but as often the *Matchi-manitou* (the evil spirit), conquered me. Whenever I looked at the holy *grains of prayer* (Rosary), or at the blessed face of Mary on the medal round my children's necks, I was troubled. But, all last year I have lived with my eldest son, and every day *we counted the holy grains of prayer* together, and it did good to my heart and I yearned for Baptism. Ah, how long the year seemed! "Will the Black-robe never come?" I said. "He might have pity on me." This was all I thought of through the sad winter. And when my son set out for *Kithi Kami* (Hudson Bay), I prayed him to write you. Here is his letter. Now you, my Father, are following him. You will see him at Abbitibbi, and will tell him that his mother is a Christian."

Rev. X. MacLeod



A BONZE'S RESIDENCE



## Chinese Scenes and Lamentations on the Graves in Manchuria

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**T**HE fifteenth day of the eighth moon — to speak the language of this country — or the twenty-third of September as we say at home, I decided to go for a walk and read my Breviary near a creek not far distant from the city of Mukden.

This date, the fifteenth day of the eighth moon, was a great date for the Chinese, the most renowned after the first of the first moon. Everywhere animals had been butchered and everyone junketed.

I had to cross cemeteries to reach the place determined for my stroll. I say cemeteries, for in Mukden there are tombs and graves in every place: at the farther end of fields, in the vicinity of gardens, along the city walls, etc. Here and there could be seen open fields covered with mounds where, two or three feet underground, lies a corpse.

On this occasion, it was in the western cemetery that I saw and heard *lamentations for the dead*.

I was wending my way through those graves strewn with footpaths when I heard a prolonged groan, a kind of sentence broken by heart-rending moans.

I could see no one; I approached as noiselessly as possible. Then I spied a very well dressed young woman, not more than thirty years of age, who was *lamenting over the dead*. She sat on the ground facing the mound and shrieked the most dreary lamentations. Whom did she weep for? I did not know and would not have spoken to her at that moment.

Farther on, I noticed a *pousse*: it was doubtlessly her carriage. Near it stood a man who, I inferred, was her husband.

I kept on walking. After a short distance, I witnessed the same spectacle a woman from Shang Tong, easily recognizable by her small feet, sitting with bent shoulders before a grave. The poor old woman — she was about sixty — did her best to cry; she would emit the most wierd moans!

Neither seemed to notice my presence. I think that they would not have lifted their eyes even if I had remained there.

Women, do I believe, hold this role of weeping over the dead. Only once did I see a man weep over a grave.

And what do these mourners say? Nothing in particular, does it seem. Their moans and cries are extemporized according as they are sung. I

could grasp that one said, "I have nothing to eat! no one to protect me!... Woe to me, I am forsaken!..."

I do not know how long these lamentations last. I have been told that when the mourners are worn out crying and moaning, they rest while smoking their pipes. I have had the proof of it on this occasion for I saw a woman sitting on a grave and looking from side to side as if questioning spirits, while she smoked. She evidently rested in preparation for further moans and cries.

Persons whose role is to console the mourners are often seen at their side near the funeral mounds. I remember having seen, during last winter, an old woman who wept while a little girl of about ten years sat near and tried to console her and dry her tears. It was on a very cold day, 10° below zero, and the mourner stayed at her post, unflinchingly, fulfilling her duty towards the dead.

One day last spring, Fathers Lapierre, Lomme and I had gone for a walk, and on our way home, at dusk, we were surprised on hearing the sound of cries and groans. A woman with four or five children were mourning over a corpse. It was doleful to hear their cries in such a solitude. What a difference between these pagan rites and the hopeful prayers of our holy Religion!

Shortly afterwards, we remarked a young woman weeping over her husband's grave. She was near our residence and we could very easily hear her moans. By her side, his head leaning against a mud wall, stood a very young child who also cried, from seeing his mother, I suppose. The children are accustomed quite young to this office of mourners over graves. It is such a natural thing for them that they pay no attention to it.

The dead are mourned in this manner any day in the year, but there are three special dates: the twenty-third of September is one of them. On this particular day, the mourners come more numerous and are much more fervent in the fulfilment of this duty.

As for us Christians, these spectacles bring before us the happiness we enjoy of true and enduring hope, the facility we have of praying for our departed ones with confidence and not "like unto those that have no more hope."

EUGENE BERICHON, M. E.



The servants of Mary who are in purgatory receive visits and consolations from her.

St. Alphonsus.



# Chinese Superstitions

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My belief is that what gave one the idea of making such representations was the remembrance of the Hindou *Yackshas*, or guardians of the treasures of the god of wealth, Kuvera. Chinese artists must have either drawn this picture after being informed by a few bonzes from India or they must have little by little made a copy of some picture or statue brought from India, arranging it so as to make it look Chinese.

The Chinese look upon the dragon as the emblem of the secret power of the nobility. Its image is to be found on the imperial cloak of the son of heaven, on the emperor's cloak, and quite often gods and goddesses are represented mounting a dragon.

### *3° Devotion to the dragon. — Ceremonies in order to obtain rain.*

At the present time in the dry season, the Chinese are in the habit of praying for rain. Here is how they go about it. They take some clay out of which they mould a dragon, and paint on it a shell and scales, hairs on its face and horns. Eight men march along carrying a stretcher upon which it has been placed. Two men head the procession each carrying a flag upon which is written, on one side: "Every good person" and on the other: "Asks for rain". Crowds follow after them jumping and dancing and waving willow branches and sticks of incense. This ceremony takes place especially in the north.

*Cheng-nong kieou-yu chou* says that in order to obtain rain if it is the day of the *Kia-i*, the blue dragons are invoked and all boys from twelve to sixteen years of age dance in the eastern part of the city. If it is the day of the *Ping-ting* the red dragons are prayed to and all sturdy adults dance in the south. On the day of the *Ou-ki* the Chinese have recourse to the yellow dragons and these same adults are asked to dance in the middle of the city. On the remaining days the old men dance. On the day the *Keng-sing* the white dragons are invoked in the west while in the north the black dragons are invoked on the day of the *Jen-koei*. If it does not rain despite all these ceremonies, the inhabitants close the southern gate of the city and sprinkle water outside. They then open the gate at the northern end and bury one of the bones of a human being.

When the draught continues and the crops are in danger it is customary for the mandarin of the district to issue a proclamation imposing strict abstinence on everybody under his jurisdiction and prohibiting the sale of meat under penalty of being fined. If the rain dragon turns a deaf ear to their entreaties a collection is taken up to have a play acted in his honor. If the dragon is not touched by their prayers, plays and processions, the natives make him all kinds of threats and trample his image underfoot.

But lately in the reign of Kia-K'ing, 1796-1820 A. D., a long draught devastated China. Neither prayers nor marks of respect succeeded in touching the hardened heart of the wicked dragon. A terrible imperial edict was issued condemning the disobedient dragon to be sent as an exile to the banks of the I-li River. The executors of the imperial orders had already dragged their resigned victim across Mongolia, when moved to compassion the high dignitaries of the Supreme Court, fell on their knees before the emperor and persuaded him to repeal the sentence. A messenger was sent in all haste in pursuit of the condemned dragon who regained his former authority. All plays are founded on some superstitious belief and there are very few persons who do not look upon the dragon as being capable of producing rain. When a sudden gust of wind causes a winding trail of dust to arise in the air, everyone exclaims: "Look, look, the dragon is here!"

I one day witnessed a water-spout which occurred on Lake Tchao. Hundreds of boatmen cried in one voice: "The dragon! the dragon!"

This is a short narration of the usual way of asking for rain, *Kieou-Yu*.

### 1° Popular ceremonies

a) A young man carries a picture of the dragon preceded by others carrying flags and asking for rain. The flags are of yellow, green, black or white material bearing inscriptions suited to the occasion. Heading the procession are several persons who beat the *tam-tam*.

A man carrying water dips a dry branch in one of the two buckets with which he sprinkles the streets through which he passes: "Here is the rain!" he exclaims. A more or less numerous throng follows after the dragon, the supplicants carrying incense sticks.

b) If the draught continues, a picture of a venerated *poussah* or of a goddess which inspires confidence is carried in procession.

c) In certain mountainous countries where there is a stream as at Chang-men-tong in the district of Ning-kouo fou, the procession continues on until the stream is reached, and the most venerable old man of the village fills a bottle with water from this stream which he carries on his back as a sign that it will soon rain.

### 2. Ceremonies of the mandarins

The mandarins find themselves obliged to ask personally for rain so as not to irritate the people.

a) Usually they content themselves with going once or twice during the day to offer incense to a divinity in a celebrated pagoda. After making the customary prostrations and drinking tea they return home.

b) A proclamation from the magistrate forbids all butchers to slay, and prescribes abstinence for three days. If the draught continues this interdiction sometimes lasts for a week or more.

c) The mandarin orders one or several of the city gates to be closed, as at the time of a public calamity.



d) If the divinity prayed to turns a deaf ear to all entreaties he is looked upon as a disgraced being, or exposed in the burning sun at the door of the pagoda.

The gloomy superstition of *Fong-choei*, which is the source of such evil in China is based on belief in the dragon. If it is but a question of exploring a mine, of going to a mountain in search of precious stones, of constructing an ordinary brick kiln the inhabitants believe that the dragon will be disturbed in his cave and that misfortune will fall on the country so these works must cease in order to avoid a riot among the people.

### 3. Corollary — *The serpent-dragons*

In speaking of the dragon we may also mention the devotion to the spirit-serpents which are reported to be found occasionally in one country or another and in whose honor temples called *Long-wang miao* are erected wherein these reptiles are worshipped.

During my stay in Ou-ko in the district of Ngan-loei I witnessed the following incident. One day the news spread that a serpent-dragon had been found. It was carried with respect to one of the temples. All civil authorities, headed by Yen-tao, came to offer the homage of their respect to the newcomer. All bowed profoundly before it, offered incense and finally built a large and beautiful temple wherein to give it worship. This is the history of the temple still to be seen beside the Catholic mission church in this city. In several temples these kinds of reptile-dragons are venerated.

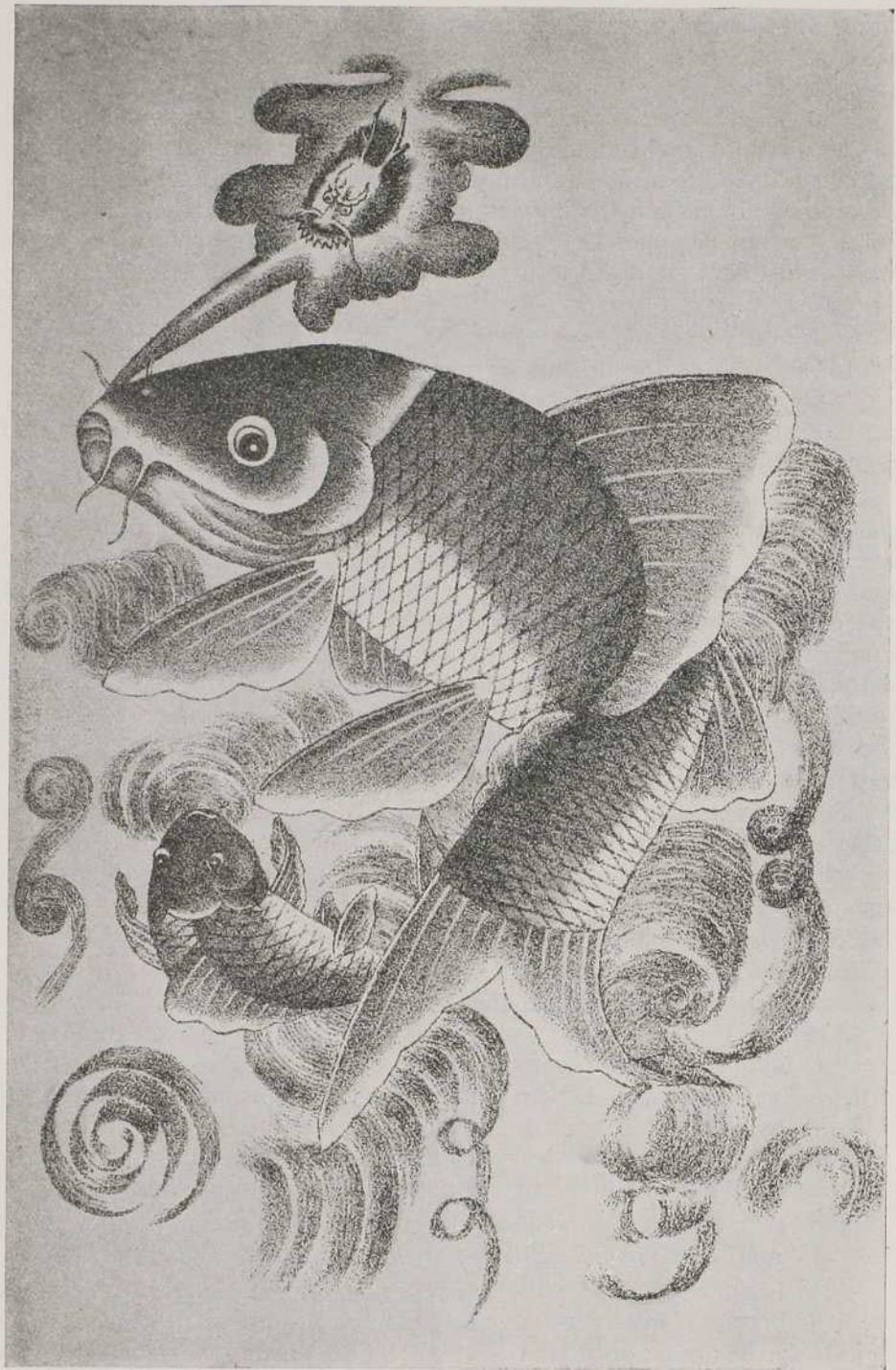
### 4. Chinese authors who were not in favor of this superstition

The learned man Ou Yuen-i, prefect of Ting-tcheou and Tche-li in the reign of Song-Tcheng-tsong, 998-100 A. D., energetically refused to pray to the dragon in order to obtain rain, saying, "The soothsayers deceive the people, the dragons are real animals, what influence have they over heaven? Heartfelt sincerity alone is of any avail."

In 757 A. D., the Emperor T'ang-Soutsong ordered altars to be set up and sacrifices to be offered to the dragons of the swamps. The prefect of Tchao-yn hien, the district extending from Ling-t'ong hien to Chen-si in the following terms expressed his opinion of these animals: "The dragons live in swamps; they are spirits when there is water in these swamps; when there is no water they turn into crickets and die. Already for a long time past the swamps have been dry and as the dragons have no place to live what is the use of honoring them and of repairing their temples?"

To satisfy all curiosity we shall cite a few comical arguments developed in the treatise: *Wong-l'chong-luen-keng-long-hiu-p'ien*.

As it is quite natural for the dragon to dwell in the skies it there raises its little ones and never descends to earth, or if at times it descends it is to care for its young until they have grown big enough to be called up to heaven. Man however is nobler than the dragon, how then does it happen that the nobler of the two cannot mount to the skies when such a low animal is able to do so?... Moreover the dragon is sensitive in appearance and



THE CARP



moves; if it moves it must also eat, but a being that moves and eats cannot be called a spirit.

And is it not often said that the dragon is king of the three hundred species of animals; since it is king of the animal kingdom it must have a body. What kind of a king would it be if it did not have a body?

We shall now tell of a few deeds of a celebrated mandarin, Hou Yng, Hounanese, in the reign of Song Tou-tsong, 1265-1275 A. D., who looked with enmity upon the devotion to the dragon. As he was a most upright man, remarkable for his firm character, his sincerity and learning and an enemy to the pretended eloquency and the supposed miracles wrought by the spirits he destroyed thousands of altars of superstition wherever he went and labored for the reform of morals.

In the city of Heng-tcheou fou in Hou-nan there was a wide-famed temple which was an object of terror for the people. Hou Yng ordered it to be demolished.

At Tchao-tcheou fou, in the province of Koan-tong the bonzes kept a big snake in their temple to frighten the people. All the magistrates of the country worshipped it with the greatest confidence. But as the last one failed to do so the inhabitants were in great distress for the country was threatened by draught and they attributed it to the magistrate's disrespect towards the famous serpent. He was thus compelled to make an offering to the reptile and when he reached the spot the wriggling serpent crawling out of its hole frightened him so much that he grew sick and died.

When Hou Yng arrived in Canton he learned of what had just happened. He ordered the bonzes to bring the serpent to him. It was of a blackish color and had been carefully shut up in a cage.

Hou Yng thus addressed it: "If thou art a spirit, thou must transform thyself within three days. After this time if thou hast not done what I have told thee, it will be evident that thou art not a spirit." Naturally at the end of the three days the reptile had not changed its form. Hou Yng had it killed, ordered the monastery to be destroyed and punished the bonzes.

#### *Appendix. — The carp, "li yu"*

The dragon often wanders over its kingdom in the form of a carp and there are many legends telling how a certain man was rewarded for having extricated one of these fish which was Long Wang under a different form or some member of its family.

Thus Si-heou-ki relates how the father of T'ang Seng was restored to life by Long Wang whose life he had once saved by throwing back into the river a carp which he had caught. To set a carp free is considered by everyone as meritorious for the life to come.

# Thanksgivings to the Blessed Virgin

## for favors obtained



*"O MARY, the entire universe would perish before you refuse your assistance to those who, with all their heart, implore your help and protection."*

BL. HENRY SUZO.

My most grateful thanks to the Sacred Heart and Our Blessed Lady for many favors received. Please make two novenas for myself and sister who is in failing health. **C.G., Cleveland, Ohio.** — I have obtained a favor through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. To prove my gratitude I am sending \$5.00 in her honor. **J. P. G., Worcester, Mass.** — Enclosed please find my cheque for \$1.00 in thanksgiving for past favors. Kindly remember me in your prayers. **I. M., Montreal.** — I am sending \$1.00 for favor received. I will send \$1.00 a month for a year or longer if I obtain another favor. **L. R., Ottawa, Ont.** — Please accept my cheque for \$8.00. \$5.00 in thanksgiving for a favor received and an offering for three Low Masses for my deceased parents. Kindly pray for two other favors. **Mrs. W. R.,** — A short time ago I wrote asking you to make a novena for me. I know that your prayers were heard for God has given me strength and courage. **Miss D. S., North Adams, Mass.** — I am enclosing Five Dollars, one to renew my subscription and the rest in thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Our Blessed Lady, St. Joseph and the Little Flower for having obtained work. Please pray that I may continue to enjoy good health. **Mrs. P., M. Haileybury, Ont.** — I am enclosing a cheque for \$25.00 to fulfil a promise that I made some time ago. **J. L., Pawtucket, R. I.** — Enclosed please find \$1.00 in thanksgiving for a favor received. I am asking for a very special favor regarding a business deal taking place the end of this week and promise to send an offering of \$5.00 if my prayers are heard. **G. J. C., Ottawa, Ont.** — I have obtained a special favor and am sending \$1.00 in thanksgiving. **Mrs. L. F., Pawtucket, R. I.** — I am sending an offering of \$1.00 in thanksgiving for favors granted me. Please pray for my intention. **Mrs. C. M., Windsor, Ont.** — I promised to send you \$15.00 to pay for a light before the Blessed Sacrament if my son passed his examination. I have just received his report saying he did pass. Kindly say a little prayer for my two girls who are trying their matriculation exams. **Mrs. A. H. M., Ingersoll, Ont.** — Enclosed please find cheque for \$1.00 in thanksgiving for favors received. **I. M., Montreal.** — We are sending \$2.00 as promised in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin and the Little Flower for favors granted us. **R. L. and L. L., Indian Orchard, Mass.** — Everlasting gratitude to Our Blessed Lady for a favor granted me through her intercession. **H. M., Verdun.** — Our Heavenly Mother has granted us other favors. I am sending my offering as promised. **G. G., Henrysburg.** — Please find enclosed \$1.00 for the ransom of a little pagan child in thanksgiving for a favor obtained. I ask your prayers for myself and family. **Mrs. L. M., Toronto, Ont.** — I made a promise a while ago to buy three little Chinese and as I have not sent you the money yet I am enclosing \$5.00 with which I wish you to ransom a little Chinese boy in hopes that one day he will be a priest. **Mrs. A. L., Worcester, Mass.** — I am enclosing \$5.00 in token of my gratitude for a very great favor received. **M. D., Montreal.** — Enclosed please find an offering of \$1.00 for a Mass for the Souls in Purgatory in thanksgiving for many favors and for a special intention. Will you please remember us in your prayers. **A. W., Bridgeport, Conn.** — My grateful thanks to the Blessed Virgin for a cure obtained through her intercession. **Mrs. A. F., Montreal,** — I am renewing my



subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" in thanksgiving for a favor I have obtained. Mrs. G. P., **Woonsocket, R. I.** — I am enclosing a cheque for \$5.00 in favor of the Missions. I am making this offering in thanksgiving for favors which have already been granted me asking God for graces for my family and myself. A Friend of the missionaries. — My heartfelt thanks to the Blessed Virgin for a favor obtained. Mrs. L. L., **Rimouski.** — A position has been obtained through Our Blessed Lady's intercession. My offering of \$5.00 for the ransom of a pagan child. W. A. M., **Lachine.** — I am gladly fulfilling my promise by sending you the modest sum of \$2.00 in honor of the Blessed Virgin. Mrs. A. H., **Montebello.** — My little son has been cured. To thank God for this favor I am praying a subscription to "THE PRECURSOR". Mrs. S. L., — I feel indebted to Our Blessed Lady for another favor that has been granted me. To thank her I am sending an offering of \$3.00 asking this good Mother to obtain me the health to raise my ten children. Mrs. A. R., **Dalhousie.** — Offering of \$5.00 for your Works in thanksgiving for graces obtained through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin asking her to grant my children the grace of knowing their vocation and to give me health and the courage to do God's Will. May she also protect some thoughtless young girls who are working far from home. Mrs. B., **New Richmond.** — My heartfelt gratitude to the Blessed Virgin for two favors obtained through her intercession. I am now asking for another. Please accept my offering of \$2.00 for your Missions. A subscriber. — My most grateful thanks to Mary Immaculate for a favor granted me after promising to subscribe to the "PRECURSOR". Mrs. P. L., **Rosemount.** — I promised if I obtained a special favor to give an offering of \$2.00 for your missions. In fulfilling my promise I recommend several intentions to your prayers, particularly the future of my six little boys. A subscriber, **Caraquet, N.B.** — I suffered from a sore throat which the doctors told me was quite serious. I prayed to the Blessed Virgin and this good Mother has deigned to assist me. To fulfil my promise I am sending you an offering for your Works. Mrs. C. G. — Kindly publish my grateful thanks to the Blessed Virgin who has granted me several favors. I am sending an offering for a novena of lights in her honor and \$1.00 for the Missions. Mrs. R. H. — Please find enclosed the sum of \$5.00 which I am sending in honor of Our Blessed Lady to thank her for a favor granted me. Anonymous. — My offering of \$5.00 in thanksgiving for a cure obtained. I am asking the favor that everyone in our family may serve God faithfully. L. H. G., **Springfield, Mass.** — With my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" I am sending \$3.00 for the Missions in honor of the Blessed Virgin for graces obtained through her intercession. A subscriber. — Please accept my offering of \$1.00 in token of gratitude to Our Blessed Lady for a favor obtained. B. A. V., **St. Jerome.** — I have been successful in an important undertaking after promising to publish and to subscribe to "THE PRECURSOR". C. P. C. — I have been cured after being sick for four years. In token of my gratitude I am sending \$1.00 for your Works. Anonymous. — My offering of \$15.00 for the ransom of a Chinese baby in thanksgiving for a favor obtained and for my special intentions. M. C., **Ottawa.** — I am sending .75 for a novena of lights and \$1.00 for your Missions in thanksgiving for a favor received. Mrs. J. S., **Port Alfred.** — Donation of \$10.00 in favor of the missions in thanksgiving for success in the sale of property. Mrs. M. C. M., **Montreal.** — As my little boy was cured through Our Blessed Lady's intercession I promised to become a life-long subscriber to "THE PRECURSOR". I am very anxious to obtain another special favor. Mrs. A. M. — My gratitude to Mary Immaculate for a favor granted me after promising to publish and to subscribe to "THE PRECURSOR". Mrs. C. L., **Ramore, Ont.** — Please publish the following in "THE PRECURSOR": My little girl has been cured, my most grateful thanks to the Sacred Heart of Mary. Mrs. C., **Fitchburg, Mass.** — I am most grateful to the Blessed Virgin for a favor received. Kindly accept my offering of \$1.50 in her honor. A subscriber, **Montreal.** — I am fulfilling my promise by sending you \$1.00 for the ransom of Chinese babies. This offering is in thanksgiving for a cure obtained. Anonymous. — Favors have been obtained through the intercession of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart after promising to publish and to send an offering of \$2.00. Mrs. D. — My offering of \$20.00 in thanksgiving to the Queen of Heaven. I promised to publish. J. A. R., **Cap de la Madeleine.** — Kindly accept the enclosed postal note for \$1.00 which I am sending to your Missions. This offering is in thanksgiving for a

favor obtained. A subscriber. — My offering of \$10.00 to fulfil a promise which I made in order to obtain a special grace. I request you to publish in "THE PRECURSOR" Miss B. P., **Mont Rolland**. — In thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for having granted me health. I am sending an offering of \$1.00 and a subscription to "THE PRECURSOR". Mrs. L. G., **St. Isidore**. — My heartfelt gratitude to the Blessed Virgin for two favors granted me through her intercession. A subscriber.

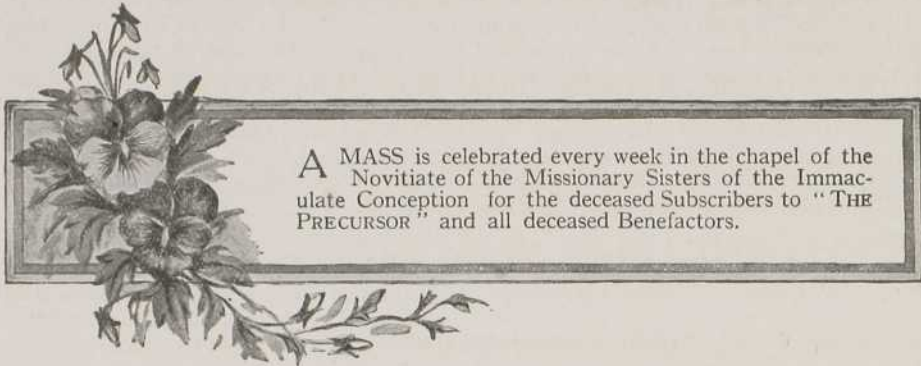


A person in **TORONTO** recommends several important intentions to our prayers. — I am sending you an offering of \$3.00 to help in your work. Please pray for me. Miss E. S., **Southbridge, Mass.** — Please pray that my husband and son may find steady work. If granted this request I shall send \$2.00 towards your work and also subscribe to "THE PRECURSOR" for one year. A. L., **Ludlow, Mass.** — I am enclosing a small offering for your missionary work for my Jubilee and I wish to ask you to make a novena for me. A. R., **Montreal**. — I enclose \$2.00 for Masses, one for my deceased daughter and another in honor of Our Blessed Lady for a special intention. A. H., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find a small offering of \$2.00. Please pray for my special intention. J. S., **Verdun, P. Q.** — With my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" I am sending \$1.00 to help in your good work. Please pray for a special request. If I obtain this favor I shall send an offering of \$1.00. S.H., **Montreal**. — Kindly pray for a sick person. Anonymous. — I am writing to ask you to please remember my intentions in your prayers or make a novena for me. E. O., **Renfrew, Ont.** — Kindly commence a novena to the Little Flower for my intentions. Should I obtain my favor I shall send a donation of \$4.00 towards your works and also subscribe to "THE PRECURSOR" for one year. Mrs. W. J. J., **Goulais Bay, Ont.** — Please pray to the Sacred Heart and the Blessed Virgin that my husband who is very sick may soon get better. If he regains his health I shall send \$1.00 for your good works as soon as I have the money. Mrs. J. V., **Angliers, P. Q.** — I am greatly discouraged. May I ask you to pray for a special intention. If my prayers are heard I shall send an offering. Mrs. P. J. S., **Worcester, Mass.** — As I am a subscriber to "THE PRECURSOR" I thought I would write and ask prayers for several favors. I will renew my subscription soon and hope to be able to give you something for your good work. Mrs. J. A. M., — **Montreal**. Will you please pray that my nephew, father of two children may find permanent work. If your prayers are answered I shall send a donation for your good work. Mrs. M. D., **Williamstown, Mass.** — With the renewal of my subscription please accept my offering of \$1.00. I am asking a special favor and beg your prayers for my intention. I promise to send \$5.00 for the missions if I obtain this favor. Mrs. J. B., **Toronto**, — I am going to ask you to make a novena to the Sacred Heart and the Blessed Virgin for my intention that is that I may make a sale that is pending. I promise to send



\$10.00 and perhaps more if I obtain this favor. M. S., **Amherstburg, Ont.** — Please pray for my return to health. I will send a subscription and \$1.00 in aid of your good work if I am cured. Mrs. D. L., **Matapedia, P. Q.** — Kindly offer prayers for me that I may regain the use of my legs. I am enclosing \$2.00 for the missions and will send a donation of \$25.00 if I obtain this favor. Mrs. T. S., **Whitinsville, Mass.** — Please find enclosed renewal of my subscription and an offering in honor of Our Blessed Mother. Kindly pray for us. M. A. S., **Toronto, Ont.** — I am writing to ask you to pray for health for my husband and sister. If I obtain my request I shall try to renew my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR". Mrs. P. R., **Petrolea, Ont.** — I am sending my renewal subscription and an offering for the baptism of a dying baby to be named Mary. I am making a novena in honor of Our Lady of Victory for a temporal favor. Please remember my intentions in your prayers. If I obtain this favor I shall not forget the missions. Mrs. M. H., **Chatham, Ont.** — I beg your prayers that my brother may regain his position. L. R., **Ottawa, Ont.** — Please pray for my little girl who is suffering from asthma. I promise to send \$1.00 to help in your good work if she is helped. Mrs. H. E. L., **Williamstown, Mass.** — Please offer up your prayers to the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph that I may obtain a good position. I promise \$5.00 for the poor Missions if obtained. T. W., **Montreal.** — Enclosed please find \$1.00 for novena of lights in honor of Our Blessed Lady for a special intention. When I obtain the same I shall forward a good donation towards your missionary work. C. M. S., **Quebec.** — I am sending \$1.00 for lights to be burned in honor of the Little Flower that I may obtain the favor I am asking. Miss M. P., **North Fairhaven, Mass.** — Enclosed find \$1.00 for my renewal to your review and \$1.00 to help along your wonderful work. I ask your prayers for the repose of the soul of my sister, for my daughter's success and that my brother may change his views or obtain an increase of faith. Mrs. F. S., **Toronto, Ont.** — Please pray for my two sons that they may find work I shall at once send an offering of \$5.00 to help your work along and \$5.00 yearly in favor of the Missions if I obtain this favor. Mrs. P. S., **Tecumseh, Ont.** — I am very anxious to have a special favor granted me and if you will have your lepers and Chinese converts pray for this intention of mine and have your Sisters make a special novena to the Blessed Virgin and St. Theresa for me I will send the amount necessary for the screens at the Lazaretto. L. A., **Pembroke, Ont.** — May I ask you to make a novena to Our Lady of Lourdes that I may be granted a special grace. M. M. O., **Montreal.** — I beg your prayers for several intentions. M. J. W., **Stratford, Ont.** — Enclosed find postal note for \$5.00 to help you in your good work. I am offering it as my Jubilee alms. May I beg a remembrance in your prayers. A. H., **Montreal.** — I am enclosing \$2.00 for a novena of lights in honor of Our Blessed Lady and The Little Flower that I we may obtain a desired contract. If successful I shall send \$5.00 for your missionary work. Please say prayers for me. Mrs. J. T. N., **St. Catherines, Ont.** — With my offering of \$1.00 for your works I am also sending an offering for a novena of lights in honor of Our Blessed Lady for a special intention. A. H., **Montreal.** Enclosed please find money order for \$1.00 for lights to be burned in honor of the Blessed Virgin that I may receive a favor that has been partly granted me. If I obtain what I desire I shall send an offering for four Masses. Mrs. L. W., **Spencer, Mass.** — Please pray for a very special intention. G. L. — I beg your prayers that I may find work. A. D. — I am writing to ask you to make a novena for me that I may obtain a special request. E. O., **Renfrew, Ont.** — I enclose \$1.00 for a Mass to be said in honor of the Immaculate Conception that my brother may find a position. Miss E. G. S., **Warren, R.I.** — I am asking a special favor. Please join your prayers with mine that Our Blessed Lady may grant me this request. Mrs. M. M., **Chatham, Ont.** — Kindly pray that I may secure a steady position. I promise to send \$1.00 if I obtain this favor. E. E., **Ottawa, Ont.** — I am sending \$1.00 for a novena of lights in honor of Our Blessed Lady that she will pray for us that we may sell a house that my husband has just built. We shall send \$2.00 later to help your missionary work if our prayers are answered. Mrs. H. M., **Norwich, Conn.** — I am enclosing an offering for a novena of lights to be burned in honor of the Blessed Virgin that this good Mother may restore me to health soon and also help my son to find a suitable position. Mrs. P. T. **Point St. Charles.** — Please pray for me that I may find employment and for another special intention. H. H. R., **Worcester, Mass.** — I am enclosing \$1.00 as a slight contribution towards your missionary work. Please ask the Sisters to make a novena in honor of the Sacred Heart and

St. Ann that my husband may obtain a suitable position. A. A. G., **Montreal**. — Will you please pray to the Blessed Virgin and the Little Flower for three special intentions. I am enclosing an offering of \$3.00 for your good work and shall try to make an offering every month. R. S. W., **Fitchburg, Mass.** — You will find enclosed the sum of \$3.00 to help in your good works. Please say a few prayers for me. Mrs. R. F. **Chambly Canton, P. Q.** — Please pray for a person exposed to temptation. Anonymous. **Toronto**.



A MASS is celebrated every week in the chapel of the Novitiate of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception for the deceased Subscribers to "THE PRECURSOR" and all deceased Benefactors.



## NECROLOGY

His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Vannutelli, Dean of the Sacred College, Protector of the Pontifical Association of the Holy Childhood, who died on July 8, 1930, at the of 93.

Sister MARIE-DU-PERPETUEL-SECOURS, Missionary of the Immaculate Conception and her brother, Mr. Napoleon GAGNON, Sacré-Cœur de Jesus de Beauce; Mrs. SALLIE, Glasgow, Scotland; Mrs. James PEART, Montreal; Miss Kate D. MAC LEAN, BOSTON, MASS.; Mr. Cam. PRIDHAM, Mr. A. E. MILLER, Montreal; Mrs. J. O'BRIEN, Toronto; Mrs. A. J. LALONDE, Montreal; Mrs. E. WARCUP, Mrs. M. CURRAN, Mr. J. CURRAN, London, Ont.; Mr. CROSSLEY, Mrs. John KELLY, Rosemount; Mr. R. W. COYLE, Miss Leonie COYLE, Mr. Archie LANGIS, Miss G. MEEHAN, Mr. Geo. LANGIS, Amherstburg; Mrs. L. LYONS, Roseland; Mr. Joseph Patrick GIBBS, Montreal; Mr. John S. WHITE, Mr. P. TALBOT, Sandwich, Ont.; Mrs. Peter RYAN, Walkerville, Ont.; Mr. Noah BEZAIRE, Rivière au Canard, Ont.; Mrs. H. BURGESS, Lachine; Mrs. Gladys ALDRICH, Mr. Edw. CONNOR, Mr. Alfred TALBOT, Mr. John H. GOULETTE, Mr. Lorne WHITE, Windsor, Ont.; Mr. Vital LEMAY, Mr. U. KNAPP, Mrs. U. KNAPP, Mc Gregor, Ont.; Mrs. Mary CHEVALIER, Riverside, Ont.



## IN CHINA

### CANTON, Holy Childhood Home, P. O. Box 93 (Founded in 1909)

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

### SHEK-LUNG, near Canton (Founded in 1913)

Lazaretto.

### HONG KONG, 6 Austin Road, Amai Villa, Kowloon

Procure and School.

(Founded in 1927)

### TSENG SHING, Kwang-Tung (Founded in 1929)

School. Foundling-Home. Dispensary.

### TSONGMING, Catholic Mission, Pao Chen, Kiangsu

Orphanages and Foundling-Homes.

(Founded in 1928)

### LEAO YUAN SIEN, Catholic Mission, Manchuria

Dispensary.

(Founded in 1927)

### PA MIEN TCHENG, Catholic Mission, Manchuria

Dispensary.

(Founded in 1929)

### FAKOU, Catholic Mission, Manchuria (Founded in 1930)

Dispensary.

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## IN JAPAN

### NAZE, Kotojogakko, Kagoshima Ken (Founded in 1926)

School for young girls.

### KAGOSHIMA, Francisco Shud-in, Yakushicho 30

Kindergarten.

(Founded in 1928)

### KORIYAMA, (Hakodate) (Founded in 1930)

Dispensary. Kindergarten.

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## IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

### MANILA, 286 Blumentritt St. (Founded in 1921)

Chinese General Hospital. Training School for Nurses.

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## IN ITALY

### ROME, 20 Via Acquedotto Paolo, Monte Mario (Agenzia)

Procure for the Missions.

(Founded in 1925)

# Benefactors of the Society

of the

## Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

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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 the 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 \$2.00.

**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.

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## Privileges accorded to Benefactors

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While commending their Benefactors to God, that He himself may reward them according to their generosity, the Missionary Sister 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 member 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 Noviate 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.