

# THE PRECURSOR



Vol. IX., 11th Year    MONTREAL, JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1933    No. 1

# **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. Workroom 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 HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY, 112 Lagauchetiere St. West, Montreal, (Founded in 1918)**

Teaching of Catechism to the Chinese.  
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., St. Germain St. (Founded in 1918)**

Apostolic School for Aspirants to the Missions. Diocesan Office of the Holy Childhood. Closed Retreats for ladies and young girls. Workroom of Church Vestments. Workroom for our Missions.

### **CITY OF JOLIETTE, P. Q., 100 St. Louis St. (Founded in 1919)**

Diocesan Office of the Holy Childhood. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Closed Retreats for ladies and young girls. Workroom of Church Vestments. Workroom for our Missions.

### **CITY OF QUEBEC, 4 Simard St. (Founded in 1919)**

Diocesan Office of the Holy Childhood. Closed Retreats for young girls. Workroom for our Missions. Private lessons in Painting.

### **CITY OF VANCOUVER, 236 Campbell Ave. (Founded in 1921)**

Oriental Hospital. Refuge and Dispensary for the Chinese. Private courses in Language and Catechism for Chinese children and adults. Visiting of Chinese families.

### **CITY OF THREE RIVERS, 466 Bonaventure St. (Founded in 1926)**

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### **QUEBEC, 651 St. Cyrille St. (Founded in 1928)**

Closed Retreats for ladies and young girls. Workroom for our Missions. Private lessons in Painting.

### **GRANBY, P. Q., 66 Ottawa St. (Founded in 1930)**

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

### **CHICOUTIMI, P. Q., 138 Rivière du Moulin (Founded in 1930)**

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

### **GRANBY, P. Q., 285 Main St. (Founded in 1931)**

Hostel "The Immaculate Conception" for young girls.

### **STE. MARIE, CO. BEAUCE (Founded in 1932)**

Apostolic School.

(Continued on page 3 of the cover)



## Please Help the Missionary Sisters

of the Immaculate Conception

*By procuring work for them.*

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

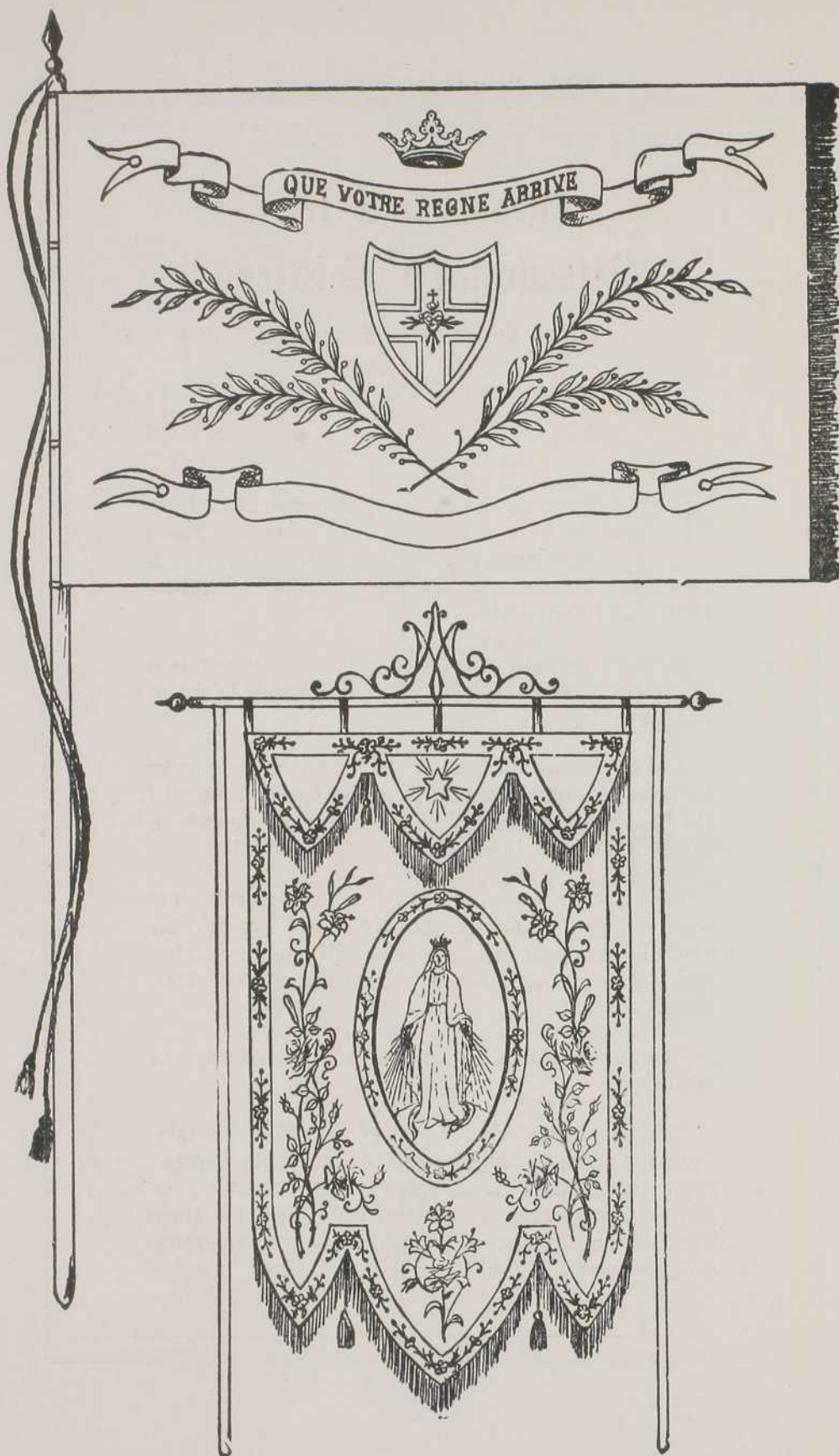
Missionaries must undergo several years' preparation before being able to commence their apostolic labors in foreign fields.

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

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

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

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





## Kindly Read Attentively

Chasuble, damask silk, silk braid .....	\$ 18.00 and \$ 28.00		
"    moire - antique, with beautiful emblem.....	30.00	"	38.00
"    velvet, gold braid and emblem ..	30.00	"	45.00
"    gold-embroidered moire-antique ..	75.00	"	100.00
"    gold-cloth, gold braid and emb.	50.00	"	75.00
"    fine gold - cloth, very richly hand embroidered .....	90.00	"	150.00
Dalmatics, per pair .....	50.00	"	80.00
"    gold-cloth, per pair.....	100.00	"	150.00
Benediction Veils .....	7.00	"	upwards
Cope, damask silk, silk or gold braid.....	30.00	"	50.00
"    gold - embroidered moire-antique, gold emblem .....	70.00	"	90.00
"    gold-cloth, gold - embroidered by hand with a beautiful emblem.	90.00	"	150.00
Albs, Antependiums .....	10.00	"	upwards
Linen Surplices, Monstrance Veils.....	3.00	"	"
Felt Altar-Covers, green or red.....	5.00	"	"
Tabernacle Veils, Sick Call Burses.....	5.00	"	"
Reversible Confession Stoles .....	5.00	"	"
Ciborium Covers.....	4.00	"	"
Preaching Stoles .....	10.00	"	"
Cinctures .....	2.00	"	"
Altar-bread Boxes .....	2.00	"	"
Missal Marks .....	1.75	"	"
Breviary Marks.....	1.00	"	"
Canopies, Flags .....	30.00	"	"
Banners .....	60.00	"	"
<i>Altar Linen</i>	{ Altar Cloths .....	6.00	" "
	{ Amices .....	12.00	per doz.
	{ Corporals .....	8.50	" "
	{ Finger-towels .....	4.50	" "
	{ Purificators .....	5.00	" "
	{ Palls .....	4.00	" "

We supply Altar-breads at the following prices:

Small .....	\$1.20 per 1000
Large .....	0.40 " 100

## Practical Means

### of helping the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

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#### *By contributing alms to:*

The erection of the Novitiate Chapel dedicated to  
Our Lady of the Missions .....  
The erection of Chapels in mission countries.....

#### *By providing for the:*

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

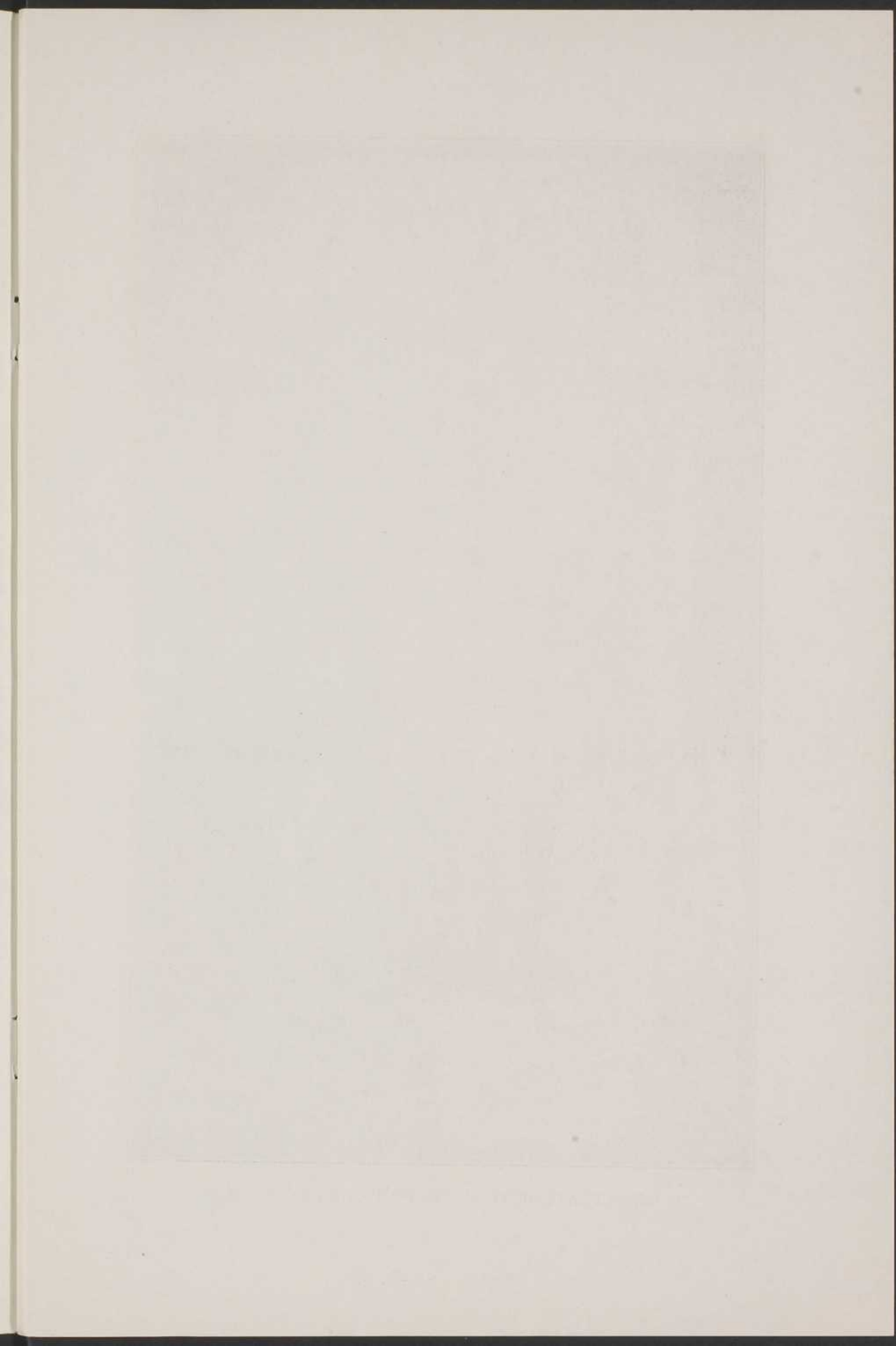
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The alms that you will give to the missionaries, the help that you will bring them, will be employed for the greater glory of God, and will be for you the most certain and remuneratory investment, the "hundredfold" promised by Jesus Christ.

\* \* \*

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







"O IMMACULATE MOTHER, PROTECT OUR BENEFACTORS!"



# THE PRECURSOR

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## CONTENTS

The Holy Family.....	6
Another Departure of Missionaries.....	7
Incense.....	7
Bernadette Soubirous' Visions of Our Lady..... <i>Richard F. Clarke, S. J.</i>	9
A Generous Gift Offered by Mr. G. Theberge, N. P.....	18
A Few Roses Scattered by the Little Sister of Missionaries.....	19
All Glory to the Little Flower of Jesus..... <i>Miss R. M.</i>	21
The Indulgences Granted for Visits to the Blessed Sacrament have been Increased by Pope Pius XI.....	21
Two New Ex-votos for the Blessed Virgin's Altar.....	21
Echoes from our Missions.....	23
Extracts from the Novitiate Chronicles.....	53
Life of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament..... <i>Father Faber</i>	56
Thanksgivings — Petitions — Necrology.....	58

## ILLUSTRATIONS

Chinese Children Praying for their Benefactors.....	4
The Holy Family.....	4
Two Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception who left for Japan on November 14th, 1932.....	6
Our Lady of Lourdes.....	8
Blessed Bernadette.....	17
A Group of Leprous Women and Children and a Sister Infirmarian, Sister St. Raphael, Missionary Sister of the Immaculate Conception.....	22
Reverend Father L. Conrardy, Founder of the Shek Lung Settlement and a Few Lepers.....	24
A Chinese Mother with her Children.....	26
At the Orphanage of Pa Mien Tchong, Manchuria, China.....	30
Group of Pupils of the Girls' School, Fakou, Manchuria, China.....	37
Chapel of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception in Taonan, Manchuria, China.....	42
A Chinese and a Russian Girl, who were baptized at the Mission of Taonan, on August 13th, 1932.....	44
Works of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception at Koriy- ama, Japan.....	50



*THE HOLY FAMILY! What joy to think that those three admirable persons are all devoted to our interests. They exist solely for God and for us, for God whom they wish to glorify, and for us whom they wish to save at all costs.*

*— Father Lecourtois, C. J. M.*



## The Holy Family

---

*O highest hope of mortals,  
Blest light of saints above,  
O Jesu! on whose boyhood  
Home smiled with kindly love;*

*And thou whose bosom nursed Him,  
O Mary, highly graced,  
Whose breast gave milk to Jesus,  
Whose arms thy God embraced;*

*And thou of all men chosen  
To guard the Virgin's fame,  
To whom God's Son refused not  
A father's gracious name;*

*Born for the nation's healing,  
Of Jesse's lineage high,  
Behold the suplicants kneeling,  
O hear the sinner's cry!*

*Thy home was as a garden  
Made glad with fairest flowers;  
May life thus blossom sweetly  
In every home of ours.*

*Jesus, to thee be glory,  
The Maiden-Mother's Son,  
With Father and with Spirit  
While endless ages run.*

— Breviary Hymn.

## Another Departure of Missionaries

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On Monday November 14th, two Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception left Montreal for Vancouver. On the 19th of the same month, they set sail on the "Empress of Japan," destined for the Orient.

The two missionaries were: Sister St. Francois de Sales (Georgine Latour, of Montreal) who is going to the Mission of Kagoshima, Japan, and Sister St. Eugène (Diana Chaine, of St. Paul de Chester) whose destination is Naze, Japan.

May the sweet "Star of the Sea", after having safely guided our two dear Sisters to their respective posts, render fruitful their labours in their land of adoption.



TWO MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION WHO LEFT FOR JAPAN ON NOVEMBER 14TH, 1932.

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My mission is to make others love the good God as I love Him, to teach souls my little way of trust and self-surrender.

*St. Teresa of the Child Jesus.*

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## Votive lights in honor of the Blessed Virgin

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

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

Lamp or candle	{	10 cents each
	{	75 cents for a novena
	{	\$20.00 for one year





## Incense

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Everything speaks to us in its own way. What is more pleasing to the ear than the dashing of the waves, the sighing of the wind, the babbling of the waters of a pretty stream? And in our churches, where our dear Lord remains night and day, how many things there are which speak to us of this loving Prisoner. But the most eloquent of them all is incense, the perfume of which mounts heavenward as a token of gratitude. Ah! if we were but to let ourselves be consumed by the Fire of Divine Love, our supplications would be like waves of incense offered before the Throne of God.

### THE PAGAN USE OF INCENSE

In infidel lands, much incense is offered to the different deities. Many are the ceremonies celebrated by the unfortunate people who are still sitting in the shadows of death. It is a common thing to see sticks of incense burning before the numerous idols in the pagodas and before the ancestral tablet, which is believed to contain the spirits of the ancestors.

How powerful is Satan in the countries to which the light of Faith has not yet been carried! The war-cry of St. Michael, the prince of all the heavenly hosts: "Who is like to God?" thrust this infernal spirit into hell, but it did not lessen his pride.

### THE USE CATHOLICS MAKE OF INCENSE

Incense was offered at the manger in which our Infant Saviour was born. The Gospel tells us that the Three Wise Men brought to the little new-born King, gold, frankincense and myrrh. And we may well believe that incense was placed in the Holy Sepulchre before our Crucified Redeemer was laid therein. In our own day, Holy Mother Church offers this symbolical fruit of the earth to our Eucharistic Lord, as a token of gratitude and love. Why do we not enter into the spirit of the Church and, while rendering thanks to God, atone for the crimes which our pagan brothers commit while worshipping their numerous idols.

Let us learn to appreciate the beauty of our numerous Catholic ceremonies, which serve to remind us of the heavenly courts, where the angels constantly sing canticles of love and swing their golden censers before the Throne of the Almighty.



OUR LADY OF LOURDES  
FEAST: FEBRUARY 11TH



## Bernadette Soubirous' Visions of Our Lady

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**B**ERNADETTE was the child of two pious peasants who lived near the Grotto of Lourdes, very poor, but very honest and simple. She was rather below the average in intelligence, but largely endowed with that candor and innocence of soul that God loves.

On February 11, 1858, when Bernadette was fourteen years old, she was sent with her sister, Marie, and another companion, to pick up for firing pieces of wood that had floated down the stream, and that were wont to drift into the shore just under the Grotto of Massabielle. To reach the spot, it was necessary to cross the bed of the mill-stream, which flowed into the Gave, and which was then almost empty of water, because of the repairs going on at the mill. Her two companions had doffed their wooden clogs and crossed the little stream. Bernadette, who was rather delicate, and wore stockings, waited behind to take them off. She was leaning up against a rock to do so, when she heard a sound as of a rushing wind. She looked up at the trees, but to her surprise their branches were not moved by it. She then turned towards the Grotto, and noticed that a magnificent wild rose-tree or briar, which was rooted in a niche in the rock, and the branches of which hung down to the ground, was being gently shaken. All of a sudden, around the niche, an oval ring of brilliant golden light appeared, and within the niche she saw standing a Lady of unspeakable beauty, with her feet, which were covered by two large roses, resting lightly on the wild rose-tree. She was dressed in pure white, with a light blue girdle; a white veil covered her head, and on her arm was hanging a rosary with a cross of gold. The Lady, as if to encourage Bernadette, made a big sign of the Cross with the cross at the end of the rosary, and began to pass the beads through her fingers. The child, half frightened, yet conscious of the presence of something supernatural and divine, fell on her knees, and instinctively took the rosary she had with her, made the sign of the Cross, as did her celestial visitor, and said her beads. When she had finished, the vision was gone.

She arose, and ran after her companions. "Have you seen anything?" she asked. — "No," they had seen nothing. "And you?" — Bernadette knew not what to answer, but after they had made up their little bundle of sticks, and were on their way home, they noticed something strange about her, and she told them the story in all simplicity. Arrived at home, they told her mother, who scolded her for talking nonsense, and ordered the children not to go to the Grotto to pick up their wood.

From the moment that the vision had disappeared, Bernadette had been longing to see it again, but she obeyed her mother, and kept away from the place. But her sister and some of their little neighbors, moved by curiosity, persuaded their mother to withdraw her prohibition, and allow them to go there on the next Saturday. The children, who knew that evil spirits sometimes appear and deceive men, agreed that they would take with

them some holy water. Thus armed, they went to the Grotto, knelt down, and began their rosary. They had scarcely commenced it, when Bernadette's countenance was suddenly transformed, her features seemed to be lit up with a light from Heaven: there was an expression in her face of unspeakable joy and happiness. In general she was a very ordinary sort of child, but now there was something extraordinary and supernatural in her expression. She saw the same beautiful Lady, with her feet resting on the rock, in the same niche as on the previous occasion, dressed in just the same manner, and surrounded by the same circle of golden light. Beaming with joy, she exclaimed to her companions, "There she is!" But the other children, whose eyes were not opened as were Bernadette's, saw nothing but the bare rock and the wild rose-tree. But yet they did not doubt about the apparition to Bernadette, and one of them placed in her hands the bottle of holy water. The child took it, advanced a step, and throwing some holy water towards the Grotto, cried out, "If you come from God, come nearer!" At these words, the Lady smiled, and advanced to the very edge of the rock, as if to meet Bernadette, who thereupon, reassured by her advance and by the gracious expression of her face, fell on her knees as before, and said the rosary as before. When it was over, the vision disappeared at once.

The report of this second apparition soon spread throughout the town, and people came to the house of the Soubirous and cross-questioned Bernadette. Her precise and unhesitating answers astonished them. It was enough to see and hear her to be convinced of her good faith.

On the following Thursday, the 18th of February, two good women of the neighborhood, anxious to convince themselves of the truth of her story, offered to accompany her to the Grotto. "Ask the Lady," they said, "who she is and what she wants; let her explain it to you, or better still, as you may not understand very well what she means, ask her to write it down for you." On the road to the Grotto the child, in her eagerness, got ahead of her companions, arrived at the Grotto, knelt down in front of it with her eyes upon the niche, and began to say her beads. She was thus employed when her companions arrived. All at once a cry of joy escapes her lips: "There she is!" she exclaims. The expression of her features changes: her face lights up with the same heavenly brightness as before: no one can doubt that she is in the presence of something mysterious, unseen by others, and that she is experiencing an extraordinary joy and happiness. The two women kneel down by her side and light a blessed candle that they have brought, then they produce their pen and ink: "Go up to the Lady," they say, "and ask her to write down who she is and what she wants."

Bernadette, not a bit afraid, went right up to the wild rose-tree in which Our Lady was standing, held up her paper and ink bottle, and stood there looking up at the niche. Our Lady smiled. "*It is not necessary to write down what I have to say to you. Do me the kindness to come here every day for a fortnight.*" "Yes, I will," said Bernadette. Then Our Lady added: "*And on my part, I promise to make you happy, not in this world but in the next.*"



Strange promise, that no girl of fourteen would have invented! Promise, too, strangely fulfilled. As we shall see, Bernadette's life was not what we should call a happy one. All her life long she was the victim of continual ill-health. Her chest was weak; she had a chronic asthma, which often caused her most intense suffering, and as she grew up, a large tumor formed on her knee, and her bones were attacked by caries. She had also all sorts of external crosses and persecutions to endure, and, moreover, in her own soul there was, to the end, little of joy and internal consolation. Hers was a dull, monotonous, struggling existence till the very day of her death; matter of fact from first to last, with none of that excitement or enthusiasm, such as is wont to accompany fancied visions and celestial visitations, sprung of an overwrought imagination.

"Ask her," said one of Bernadette's companions, "if she minds our coming with you." "No," was the reply, "*they may come if they like.*" Then the vision disappeared. When the child returned to the town she told her parents that the Lady had made her promise to come to the rock every day for a fortnight. The next day her mother went with her, and a number of other women accompanied her. They all noticed the same wonderful expression that came over the child's features as soon as Our Lady appeared to her.

During the next few days the number of spectators increased. The story spread from mouth to mouth. No one would think that the child was trying to deceive them. She might be under an illusion, the victim of a highly-wrought imagination, but she was no impostor. It was wonderful to see her as she knelt day by day amid the crowd, with a taper in one hand and her rosary in the other, while a religious silence prevailed. Some mysterious influence secured and held all present spell-bound. After a few days there was a crowd of some thousands present at the scene long before sunrise. All the best points of observation were occupied by spectators, in spite of the piercing cold. What strange attraction could there be in watching a poor peasant girl kneeling and saying her beads?

Each morning was the same: an increasing crowd, praying, chattering, waiting, struggling for a good place. Then all at once there was a movement in the crowd. "Here she comes!" and Bernadette walks through the midst of them. They make a way for that poor, humble, insignificant peasant girl, with marks of the greatest respect, the men uncovering their heads as she passes. After her the crowd closes up and follows her, noisy and struggling, till she reaches the Grotto, where she kneels down on a flat piece of rock surrounded by sand, which is always left free, however great the throng, as "Bernadette's place". She begins her rosary as if there were no one there. All at once she raises her hands: her appearance changes: the indescribable expression creeps over her face, and a murmur breaks from the crowd, "now she sees her!" Meanwhile she continues her rosary, while those present gaze on her entranced. Her eyes are fixed on the niche in the rock: a sweet smile spreads itself over her countenance, on which love, admiration, joy, respect mingle together, and testify to the presence of one who to the kneeling throng around is invisible. From



time to time tears like great drops of dew roll down her cheeks, tears of intense joy, bearing witness to a new, indescribable, and delicious happiness.

What did she see? First of all a soft light illuminating the niche and the rock, then an increasing brightness, then, over the wild rose-tree, appeared the Lady. A Lady of wondrous beauty, with all the freshness of early youth combined with the tenderness of a mother, of unspeakable benevolence in her looks, and a majesty which cannot be described. "Was the Lady as beautiful as certain ladies of remarkable beauty who had come to see her?" The child looked at them with a sort of disdain: "Ever so much more beautiful than they! The Lady, moreover, was surrounded with a circle of light." "What sort of light? Was it like the light of a large fire, or of the stars, or of the moon, or of the sun dazzling us in its mid-day glory?" "No, there was no light on earth resembling it; it was quite different from these and far more beautiful."

During the time of her ecstasy Bernadette saw nothing and heard nothing of what went on around her. If the crowd grew noisy, and impatient she was not conscious of it. During that hour of Our Lady's presence she was deaf and blind to all save the vision of the Queen of Heaven.

One day the wind threatened to put out Bernadette's candle; instinctively she put up her hand to shelter the flame. All of a sudden a sweeping gust turned it towards her open hand and the flame passed between her fingers.

"She'll be burnt, poor child!" said the by-standers in pity. But there was not a sign of pain on her face or any shrinking movement of her hand. The fire left no trace: it had not harmed her.

In her ordinary state, Bernadette did not seem to be much preoccupied with this daily favor granted by God to her. She said but little about it, and her parents did not ask her many questions. But when the hour of the apparition drew near, she seemed to be in the possession of a power superior to her own, and the attraction to the Grotto became irresistible. Go to the Grotto she must. When her parents, urged by the police, asked her not to go, she told them she could not help going. At last they positively forbade her visits to the Grotto, and on the 22nd she reluctantly obeyed. In the morning she attended the parish school as usual, but in the afternoon she could not resist the secret influence of within that called her, and she went down to the Grotto. As usual she knelt down and said her rosary, but the Lady visited her not.

After this, in reply to threats and prohibitions, she calmly answered, "I can't promise you not to return to the Grotto; something tells me I ought to go; it drives me thither. I must follow the impulse within me." Her parents, recognizing in the influence that urged her one to which they were bound to submit, made no further opposition. Henceforward her mother generally accompanied her to the Grotto.

The next day (Tuesday, the 23rd of February), the crowd came down as usual to the banks of the Gave. Bernadette appeared in due time, knelt down with a lighted taper in her hand, and began to say her beads. On

this day, Our Lady had two communications to make to her — one was a secret message concerning herself which she was told never to reveal, the other was a command which was to be obeyed in a way that even Bernadette never expected. "Go," said Our Lady, "*to the priests, and tell them that it is my wish that they should build me a chapel here, and that they ought to come here in procession.*"

Who that gazes at the magnificent basilica that now adorns the rock of Massabielle, and watches the thousands of pious pilgrims streaming along the road to the Grotto in solemn procession, can fail to recognize the power of Mary's word? Her *fiat*, now as ever, echoes in Heaven and is obeyed on earth.

One of the following mornings witnessed a new feature in the apparitions. As Bernadette knelt in her ecstasy amid the assembled crowd, all at once she was seen to kiss the ground and then drag herself along on her knees towards the niche, touching the earth from time to time with her lips. She dragged herself up the steep ascent in front of the Grotto, entered it, and remained for a short time immovable, looking up in the direction of the niche. Then she turned to the crowd, drew herself up to her full height, and with wonderful authority and energy cried out:

"You, too, are to kiss the ground!"

Then she knelt down again, and herself set the example. What had Our Lady said to her? She had heard these words, "*You will pray God for sinners; you will kiss the earth for the conversion of sinners.*"

On several subsequent mornings the same command was given to Bernadette. On these occasions, she described Our Lady's countenance as veiled in an expression of infinite sadness, which, however, did not mar her look of perfect happiness and joy. Once the child kept murmuring, "Penance, penance, penance!" but in general she remained silent throughout her ecstasy.

Thursday, the 25th of February, was one of the most notable days in the history of the Grotto. All of a sudden, in the midst of her ecstasy, she moved as if summoned somewhere, and rising turned her steps towards the corner of the Grotto. Our Lady had said to her: "*Go and drink in the spring and wash yourself there, and eat some of the little plant growing there.*"

The child had seen no spring, and thought it was meant that she should go to the Gave. But with her eyes and her outstretched arm Our Lady pointed to the corner of the Grotto. Bernadette accordingly began to move thither, while the crowd made way for her. A mass of sand and rock blocked up the entrance, and sloped upwards until the level within was six feet above the level of the earth without. She mounted the slope and looked for the spring. But spring there was none, not even a drop of water — only the moist ground with some herbs growing in it. She looked up at Our Lady, and at a sign from her began to scrape with her fingers in the earth. As she scraped, the hole she made began to fill with muddy water. She looked up again at the vision, and then took some of the water in her



hollow hand and tried to drink it. Three times her courage failed her, so dirty was the water; but after another look towards the niche she succeeded in overcoming her repugnance, and swallowed it. Then she stooped down again, and again filling her hand with the dirty water, which was now bubbling up in abundance, she dashed it over her face, and then rose up.

A movement of surprise ran through the crowd. "Look at her! how dirty she is making herself, poor child!"

Bernadette meantime picked some leaves of a sort of cress that was growing in the wet ground, and ate them.

"What is she doing? is she mad?" asked the spectators of each other as they watched her. No, not mad, but humbling herself before the world, doing what was repugnant to nature, and so earning blessings innumerable for all the sinners and sick who were to wash in that wondrous fountain. For this was the miraculous water of Lourdes, now famous throughout the Catholic world. God regarded the humility of His handmaiden, and the flowing water began to stream forth where that poor child's fingers had, in obedience to Our Lady's word, scraped away the earth and sand. Already it had overflowed the little basin she had made, and a little stream began gently to run down the slope from the summit of which it had bubbled up.

The next day the crowd came and Bernadette came, but Our Lady did not appear — a clear sign, if any were wanting, that hers was no imposture or effect of imagination.

During all the remainder of the fourteen days the vision appeared each day at the accustomed hour. Each day the crowd increased, and each day the little stream of water became larger than before. Was there a spring of water there before Bernadette's fingers had scraped at the soil? No one had ever suspected one. Even supposing there had been one (which was very unlikely) was it not a miracle that the poor, ignorant peasant girl should light upon it in so strange a way? Was it not also a miracle that a large, ever-increasing body of water should pour forth from so unexpected a place? People began to say, "There will be some extraordinary virtue in that water."

So thought a good stone-cutter of Lourdes, named Louis Barriette, the sight of one of whose eyes had been entirely destroyed by an explosion in a mine. One day he very sensibly said to himself: "If it is Our Lady who comes to the Grotto, I think she will cure me by means of that water that Bernadette discovered." So he sent his little daughter to get a jug of it, said some prayers, and bathed with the water the eye of which the sight was gone. All of a sudden he utters a loud cry. He can see as well with this eye as with the one that had never been injured!

He goes out of his house and in the town meets the doctor of Lourdes. "Doctor," he cries, "I am cured!"

"Impossible!" answered Dr. Dojous, "your eye has an organic injury which renders it incurable;" and with these words he takes out his pocket-book and writes down a sentence, which he holds before Barriette's damaged eye, carefully covering the other with his hand.



People began to gather round while the workman with his blind eye reads out loud these words: "Barriette has an incurable amaurosis. He will never recover his sight."

Dr. Dojous was simply stupefied. "Well, that is a real miracle. It upsets all my theories, and I can only confess the presence of a higher power."

The town soon resounds with the story. A miracle has been worked, and it is Our Lady who has worked it, for the sick man was healed by invoking her holy name. Other wonders follow, which space forbids our telling in detail. A woman whose hand had been paralyzed for ten years plunged it into the water and was instantly cured. A little child of two years old was at the point of death. The deadly pallor on its little face showed that all hope was gone. "It is dead," said its father, "it has already ceased to breathe." The agonized mother, taking it from its cradle, carries it to the newly flowing spring and plunges it into the cold water. "Holy Mother of God, I shall hold my baby here till you cure it." After a short time the child shows signs of life. The happy mother carries it back, rejoicing, but still trembling. But, see! the death pallor is gone, and the tints of health return.

But now the fortnight during which Our Lady has asked for Bernadette's presence at the Grotto is almost over. It is the last morning, and there is an enormous crowd — soldiers, police, government officials, men of science, unbelievers, priests, and pious women without end, all assembled to watch a poor little peasant girl kneeling and saying her beads. Let us hear the testimony of one of the Government officials:—

"I got there," he says, "disposed to laugh heartily at what I regarded as a lot of rubbish. An immense multitude had assembled around the Grotto. I was in the front row when Bernadette arrived. I was close to her, and noticed on her childish features that stamp of sweetness, innocence, and profound repose that had already struck me when she was questioned before the Inspector of Police. She knelt down naturally, without any fuss, just as if she had been alone. She took out her beads and began to pray. Soon her look seemed to receive and reflect an unknown brightness, and became fixed, and fastened itself, radiant with happiness and full of wonder and delight, on the niche in the rock. I looked there also, and saw nothing but the branches of the wild briar. Yet, in the presence of the transformation of that child, all my previous prejudices, philosophical



*Holy Mother offer me to Jesus.  
Take my heart and place it deep in  
the Heart of Jesus.*

Blessed BERNADETTE.

difficulties, preconceived objections fell to the ground at once and gave place to a sentiment that took possession of me in spite of myself. I felt a certitude, I had a sort of intuition that I could not withstand, that some mysterious being was present there. My eyes saw it not, but my intellect, and that of the countless spectators present there, saw it by the interior light of the evidence before us. Yes, I must declare my conviction that the Blessed Virgin was there. Bernadette was suddenly and completely transfigured. She was no longer Bernadette. She was an angel from Heaven, plunged in an ecstasy that words cannot describe. Her face was no longer the same. She opened wide her eyes, insatiate of what they saw; she smiled to one we saw not, and her whole appearance gave a clear notion of ecstatic and intense happiness."

At last the fourteen days during which Our Lady had asked Bernadette to present herself at the Grotto were over. On the last morning (the 4th of March) an enormous crowd had collected long before daybreak. There was great excitement among the people. "Something will happen to that child," said the wiseacres of Lourdes; "she will be carried away by Our Lady, or fall dead on the spot." Her parents were quite frightened; still they determined that she should go all the same. So Bernadette, as usual, heard Mass, and came down to the Grotto. Police officers, gendarmes, soldiers, were there to keep order in the assembled multitude. A gendarme was waiting for Bernadette, with a drawn sword, to make way for her through the dense mass that had assembled. She knelt down as usual, and soon the vision appeared to her. She drank at the fountain, kissed the ground as usual. Our Lady smiled her farewell, and the vision disappeared. Bernadette got up and went home, and the crowd gradually dispersed.

The next day Bernadette came as usual, and the spectators came too. She knelt and said her beads, but no apparition. The same thing on the next day, and the next. No voice within her summoned her to the Grotto: her visions were apparently at an end. But on the 25th of March (Lady Day) she felt once more the internal impulse. Joyous she hastened to the Grotto, knelt down, and had scarce begun her Rosary when a sudden start and the transformation of her features announced that the Lady had reappeared. As soon as she saw her, in obedience to the instruction given her by the parish priest, she asked her to tell her her name. The answer was a smile. "Madam," asked Bernadette again, "will you tell me who you are?" Our Lady raised her hands and eyes to Heaven, and answered, "*I am the Immaculate Conception*" and then instantly disappeared. The ignorant child did not know what the words meant, but on her way back to the town she repeated them continually, lest she should forget them. Instead of going home she went straight to the presbytery, and learned from the priest that the words she had heard were those that proclaim the singular privilege that has raised Mary above all the saints and angels on earth and in Heaven. Radiant with joy, she carries home the news that the Lady who has appeared to her is indeed without doubt, the Holy Mother of God.



The next twelve days were a blank for Bernadette, as far as any vision was concerned; but on the 7th of April (Wednesday in Easter week) the inner voice once more informed her that Our Lady was going to visit her that day. Arrived at the Grotto, she was not disappointed; she had no sooner commenced her Rosary than Our Lady appeared. On this occasion there was a fresh wonder.

During the ecstasy she had a lighted candle in her hand, which she was resting on the rock in front of her, and, absorbed in what she saw, she gradually raised the hand that was holding the candle and lightly joined her two hands immediately above the flame. The flame passed through her fingers, its summit appearing above them, but she moved not, and gave no sign of pain. A cry ran through the crowd: "She is burning herself!" Still Bernadette moved not.

A doctor was standing close by. He took out his watch to see how long the wonder would last. For more than a quarter of an hour the flame continued to burn on, and her hands remained in the midst of it. No sign of pain — the same sweet smile playing on her lips. A thousand eyes watched the scene, and distinctly saw the flame passing through her fingers.

At length her hands opened. The doctor took hold of them, and examined them. *They were quite white, neither scorched nor blackened by the flame.*

Then softly through the crowd went the whisper, "A miracle, a miracle!"

A few moments after Bernadette came out of her ecstasy, and the doctor, taking hold of her hand, quietly held it over the candle.

"You're hurting me! you're burning me!" she cried, pulling her hand away.

From the 5th of April till the 16th of July, Bernadette had visited the scene of the apparitions nearly every day, but she had never felt the interior impulse which was the precursor of a visit from Our Lady, and had simply knelt and said her beads among the other pilgrims. But on the 16th of July, the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, the mysterious attraction once more called her to the Grotto. It was closed at the time by the police, and Bernadette even more than others would be promptly sent back. So she crossed the Gave, and went down through the meadows on the other side to the bank of the river exactly opposite the Grotto, and there knelt down with two women who accompanied her, to say her Rosary. Presently she made a movement which made her companions suspect that she saw the vision once again. It was getting dark, so one of them lighted a candle they had brought with them, and they saw the same indications of her ecstasy that had been often observed before — the kindling brightness of her eye, the supernatural beauty of expression, the radiant transparency of her countenance. They watched her in silence for a quarter of an hour, while the child was drinking of that delicious draught of heavenly sweetness of which the Wise Man tells in the Canticle of Canticles: "Drink, O my friends, and be inebriated, my dearly beloved". Never, said Bernadette, had Our Lady appeared so glorious as then, the light around her never so dazzling, her face never so beautiful and majestic. The moment the first

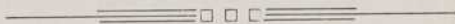


ray of this heavenly light fell upon her, all was forgotten — the river, the Grotto, the barrier, all around her simply disappeared. She was absorbed in the contemplation of the celestial vision; for her there existed nothing else on earth save the apparition that stood before her.

But it was the last time. Never again, until she beheld her in the Paradise of God, was Bernadette to be favored with another sight of the Queen of Heaven.

*Extract from "Lourdes, its Pilgrims and Miracles"*

*by Richard F. Clarke, S. J.*



"The Roman Pontiff's greatest solicitude must evidently be for the eternal salvation of souls by the spreading of the kingdom of Jesus Christ throughout the world in accordance with the command given to His Apostles by the Divine Founder of the Church: 'Going, therefore, teach ye all nations... Preach the Gospel to every creature.'"

Pope Pius XI.



## **A Generous Gift Offered by Mr. G. Theberge, N. P.**

of Ste. Marie, Co. Beauce

TO THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Mr. G. Theberge, N. P., of Ste. Marie, Co. Beauce, has had built on his property, at his own expense, a convent for the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception. For a long time past, he had been wishing to accomplish this good work.

On September 29th, the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, with the kind approbation of His Excellency Mgr. R. Villeneuve, Archbishop of Quebec, and the permission of Mgr. J. E. Feuiltault, Pastor of the Parish, four Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception: Sr. Marie de l'Ascension, Superior, Sr. Marie du Bon Pasteur, Sr. St. Andre de la Croix and Sr. St. Monique, took possession of the new Convent, which has been placed under the protection of Our Lady of the Rosary.

On October 4th, Monsignor B. P. Garneau, Vicar General of Quebec, consecrated the altar of the devotional chapel and celebrated for the first time the Holy Sacrifice thereon.

The Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception are most grateful to Mr. Theberge and to his partner, Mr. Larue, N. P., who partly furnished the new building. They also wish to express their gratitude to Mr. Edward Lacroix, of Ste. Marie, to the members of his family and to all those who have helped them in any way.

# 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. Teresa of the Child Jesus.



Enclosed is my check for two dollars — one is in thanksgiving for a great favour from St. Teresa, the Little Flower, which favour I would like to have you publish in THE PRECURSOR. Rev. James H. Maloney, **Grand Rapids, Mich.** — Please find enclosed a Postal Note for three dollars, two dollars for the ransom of eight dying babies, in thanksgiving to "The Little Flower" for favour received. One dollar is for the ransom of four dying babies to obtain a request. M. W., **Toronto, Ont.** —

I am most grateful to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a favour granted me after promising to publish my thanksgiving. A Subscriber. — Enclosed please find an offering of \$10.00 in thanksgiving to the Little Flower for a special favour granted me through her intercession. M. P., **Montreal.** — Please find enclosed a donation of \$1.00 towards the Little Flower Burse for two favours granted me. Mrs. R. — I have obtained the favour I have been

asking for. Please find enclosed my renewal subscription and a small offering in honour of the Little Flower. Mrs. W., **Quebec.** — Please accept my offering of \$1.00 in honour of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus in thanksgiving for a favour obtained through her intercession. L. L., **Indian Orchard, Mass.** — Please publish my thanksgiving to the Little Flower of Jesus for a favour received after promising to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR.

M. C. **Montreal.** — Please find enclosed the sum of \$1.00 in honour of the Little Patroness of Missionaries. If I obtain the favour I am asking, I will send another offering. M. B. — Please find enclosed a contribution of \$1.00 that I wish to go towards the Little Flower Burse, in thanksgiving for a favour asked and granted. Please remember us all in your prayers. Mrs. J. L., **Montreal.** — I am most grateful to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for another great favour that has just been granted me through her intercession. Please accept this little thank-offering. Mrs. G. — Enclosed please find Money Order for \$3.00 to be placed towards the Burse of St. Therese The Little Flower of Jesus. I hope to send my mite from time to time if I get employment and make good in

my work. You are all doing such good work, I want to help. P. M. D., **New York City.** — My most grateful thanks to the Little Flower for two favours granted me. A Subscriber. — St. Teresa of the Child Jesus has obtained me a favour. To thank her I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. N., **Montreal.** — I am enclosing the sum of \$10.00 for the ransom of forty dying pagan babies, in thanksgiving to the little Patroness of Missionaries, who has deigned to answer my prayers. I hope this dear little Saint will grant me some other very special favours. Miss M. — Please find enclosed a small offering in thanksgiving to the Little Flower of Jesus for favour received. Mrs. S. — Some time ago, I promised \$1.00 in honour of the Little Flower of Jesus if she preserved us from all contagious diseases. I am now fulfilling my promise. I hope you will continue to pray for us. Mrs. M. L., **Ottawa, Ont.** — The enclosed sum of \$5.00 is for the ransom of Chinese babies in thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a favour granted me through her intercession. M. C., **Montreal.** — I wish to return thanks to the Little Flower of Jesus for two favours received. A Subscriber. — I am herewith enclosing a cheque for \$3.00 in thanksgiving to the dear Patroness of Missionaries for a favour granted me through her intercession. Mrs. C. — Please accept the enclosed sum of \$5.00 in honour of the Little Flower, through whose intercession I have obtained a very great favour. Mrs. F., **Montreal.** — Enclosed please find a donation of \$2.00 towards the Little Flower Burse. I beg you to pray that I may be completely cured. E. B., **Douglas-town.** — I am most grateful to the little Patroness of Missionaries for a favour granted me after promising to forward you \$10.00 for the Missions. Mrs. B., **Montreal.** — I wish to return thanks to the Little Flower of Jesus for three great favours granted me through her intercession. Mrs. K., **Notre Dame de Grace.** — Please find enclosed \$1.00 in thanksgiving to St. Teresa



of the Child Jesus for a favour received. Mrs. A. — I am enclosing an offering of \$1.25 in thanksgiving for a favour received through the intercession of the Little Flower. Mrs. J. L., **Indian Orchard, Mass.** — I am sending \$1.00 for a Mass in honour of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, trusting that she will obtain for me several spiritual and temporal favours. M. A., **Montreal.** — May I ask you to publish my thanksgiving for a great favour we received after making a novena to the Little Flower of Jesus. My only sister who had fallen away from the Church has just returned to the Sacraments. Mrs. F. C., **Grand Rapids, Mich.** — Enclosed please find an offering of \$10.00 in thanksgiving to the Little Flower for a favour received. Mrs. M., **Montreal.** — Find enclosed an offering of \$2.00 towards the Little Flower Burse, in thanksgiving for several favours granted me. M. C.

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I wish to suffer for love, and even to rejoice for love. So I shall strew my way with flowers. I shall not pluck a single one without scattering its leaves for Thee, O my Jesus... and then I shall keep singing always, even if I have to pick my roses amid thorns. And my song shall be the sweeter the more prickly the thorns and the longer.

*St. Teresa of the Child Jesus.*

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## Burse of St. Therese of the Child Jesus for the Adoption of a Missionary

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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 the **Burse** 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**.

### OFFERINGS FOR THE "LITTLE FLOWER" BURSE.

We shall then receive with gratitude, any offerings, (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 May-June	1932.....	\$98.50
In July-August	" .....	12.25
In September-October	" .....	85.00
In November-December	" .....	38.40

We beg Almighty God to bless all those who, by their alms, help to complete the Little Flower Burse. May He reward them in heaven for having assisted His missionaries.



## All Glory to the Little Flower of Jesus

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Rivière du Loup, October 27, 1932.— In the winter months of the year 1929, five of the eight members of our family were in bed with the influenza. One of my brothers lost the complete use of his hearing, and my mother was at death's door. It was just when she seemed to be improving a little that she took a relapse. As I was one of the victims of this terrible disease, I felt that my mother would be dead before I would be well enough to leave my room. But, in our distress, the Little Flower came to our assistance. After curing my mother, she cured every one of us. The following year, I was afraid that my mother would have another attack, but this dear little Saint again protected her. I promised to publish my thanksgiving and to give an offering of \$1.00. As I have neglected doing so until now, I am enclosing twenty-five cents extra.

Whoever does not know what saint to have recourse to, should turn to the Little Flower of Jesus. During the short time she spent upon earth, she took delight in living a hidden life. Now, God, wishing her to be known and loved, permits her to let fall a shower of roses upon earth.

Miss R. M.

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## The Indulgences granted for Visits to the Blessed Sacrament have been increased by Pope Pius XI.

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His Holiness Pope Pius XI has just increased the indulgences which Pope Pius IX granted on September 16, 1876, to all the faithful who visit the Blessed Sacrament. The decree reads as follows:

"All the faithful who are at least contrite of heart, may gain an Indulgence of ten years every time they pay a visit to the Blessed Sacrament and recite the *Our Father*, *Hail Mary*, and *Glory be to the Father* for the intention of the Holy Father. Furthermore, a Plenary Indulgence can be gained once a week by those who are truly penitent and have received the Sacraments of Confession and Communion and have visited the Blessed Sacrament daily throughout the week and said the prayers mentioned."

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## Two New Ex-votos for the Blessed Virgin's Altar

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During the month of October, two marble slabs, with an inscription written in golden letters, were presented to the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception for the humble chapel of their Mother House.

These tokens of gratitude must certainly be pleasing to our Immaculate Mother and will surely draw blessings upon the charitable donors.



A GROUP OF LEPROUS WOMEN AND CHILDREN AND A SISTER INFIRMARIAN, SISTER ST. RAPHAEL,  
MISSIONARY SISTER OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.



# *Echoes from our Missions*

*Letter from the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception  
of the Shek Lung Lazaretto, to their Superior General.*

*Shek Lung Lazaretto, September 7, 1932.*

BELOVED MOTHER,

We wish to tell you a little more about our dear lepers. We know how dearly you must love them, since they are so unfortunate.

Numerous are the deaths among our poor charges, but what consolations we experience every time an immortal soul flies heavenward from this island!... Oh! it is not in vain that we dress the wounds of these forsaken creatures and tell them of the eternal bliss of heaven!... They love to hear about the saving truths of our holy religion, and it is with hearts filled with gladness that they ask to be made children of God.

On June 1st, one poor man, realizing that he had but a few hours longer to live, asked to receive the Last Sacraments. When his aged mother came to see him, he reminded her that she must not fail to live up to her religion, adding that he was glad to die and that she need not worry about him.

On June 17th, a new patient arrived. As we noticed that he looked very sad, we asked him what was the matter. He told us that he was heart-broken because his little boy and girl had been taken away from him to be sold. How these poor lepers excite our pity!... Before their arrival at Shek Lung, the greater number of them underwent, with the rebuffs of the family, relatives and friends, the hardest privations and the most cruel treatment.

On July 8th, we received forty-six new patients, eight of whom are women. This same day, two of our poor charges contracted the fever and died. Five days later, a little boy, who for some time past had been a great help to us, also left this land of exile. This poor child had a great devotion to our Blessed Lady. One day when he was very sick, he promised this tender Mother that he would become a Christian if she deigned to cure him. The Virgin so bountiful deigned to hear his prayer. He, for his own part, was always faithful to his promises, for never have we had to reproach him with anything. His conduct was exemplary.

On July 16th, a good old Christian woman, after bearing all her sufferings with the greatest patience, left this land of exile. Her parents, who live in Singapore, are very well-to-do people.

On July 31st, our island was flooded for the second time this summer. We were obliged to make room on the verandah for the hens and rabbits. As the water in the garden rose to a height of two feet, all our vegetables were spoiled. As soon as the soil was dry again, we set to work to sow a second crop.

It was with the greatest fervour that our patients prepared for the Feast of the Assumption. As early as half-past four on the morning of this beautiful



REVEREND FATHER L. CONRARDY,  
FOUNDER OF THE SHEK LUNG LEPER SETTLEMENT AND A FEW LEPEERS.

day, they were in the chapel saying their beads. During Holy Mass, a sermon was preached by a Jesuit who had come to the island on a visit.

This same day, one of our poor leprous women surrendered her soul to God. What happiness she must have experienced on hearing all the inhabitants of heaven proclaiming the praises of their Queen!...

Our lepers found the pork we succeeded in procuring them quite a treat.

On August 21st, we received the two hundred ducks which we purchased with the money you sent us, dear Mother. We shall keep them until November 21st, which is the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Lazaretto by Reverend Father Conrardy, who died in Hong Kong on August 24th, 1914. All our dear charges are looking forward to this great day, when they will partake of the banquet provided them by you, beloved Mother.

On August 31st, there was a real downpour of rain, and, this time, our verandah was really crowded, for we had to provide a shelter for our two hundred ducks as well as for our different domestic animals. One of the dikes broke, in spite of the hard work that the men imposed upon themselves to reinforce it. Inside of an hour, the rice which had just been planted, and all our vegetables, which were just beginning to sprout, were washed out of the ground. It was a big loss, but we feel that we must be thankful to God for all that it pleases Him to send us.

YOUR LOVING DAUGHTERS OF THE LAZARETTO.



## SZEPINGKAI, CHINA

*Extract from a Letter written by the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception of Szepingkai, Manchuria, to their Superior General.*

*Szepingkai, October 1, 1932*

BELOVED MOTHER,

We are always so busy that the time really seems to fly very rapidly. We would like to hold it back sometimes, but it continues to go on its way, causing the evening shadows to gather far more quickly than we expect and carrying away from us the summer months, which seem to have just appeared. However, we are very happy to think that our whole life is devoted to the salvation of the pagan souls surrounding us.

On August 2nd, our Sister infirmarians had the happiness of baptizing twenty babies at the Dispensary of Koung-tchou-ling.

The same day, *Lou Malya*, a novice, contracted typhoid fever. Despite all the precautions we took in order to keep the disease from spreading, *Han Martha* and a number of other postulants were down sick five days later. We began at once a novena to the Blessed Virgin, asking her to preserve us from the plague.

On August 4th, we endeavoured to prove our gratitude to God for deigning to favour our prefecture by raising to the episcopate Mgr. J. L. A. Lapierre. During the entire day, the Blessed Sacrament was exposed in our little chapel. With the greatest fervour, we implored our Eucharistic King to grant the new bishop many years of fruitful service in the prefecture apostolic of Szepingkai.

On August 8th, we prayed fervently for your intentions, dear Mother. On this blessed anniversary of your religious profession, we did not fail to thank God and His Blessed Mother for the many graces showered upon our Institute since you became our Mother. It was with hearts overflowing with gratitude that we offered on this happy day eight pure little souls to our heavenly Father.

A few days after, we learned that our Chinese teacher, Miss Wang, and the teacher at the Native Novitiate had just embraced the Faith. May our Immaculate Mother watch over their souls.

On August 16th, Han Martha was anointed. She was resigned to the Holy Will of God, but He did not see fit to take her to Himself. She and her five companions are now in good health.

During the month, only a few patients came to our Dispensary at Peiko, as the brigands are again overrunning the country.

*Reports for the month of August 1932:*

Dispensary of Szeping kai:			
	Baptisms.....	44	
Patients.....	664	Treatments.....	940
Dressings.....	234	Homes visited.....	136
Dispensary of Koung-tchou-ling, open one day each week:			
	Baptisms.....	63	
Patients.....	800	Treatments.....	1,124
Dressings.....	724	Homes visited.....	1
Dispensary of Peiko, open a half day each week:			
	Baptisms.....	12	
Patients.....	150	Treatments.....	220
Dressings.....	10	Homes visited.....	5

On September 5th, our Sister infirmarians received but ninety-six patients at the Dispensary of Koung-tchou-ling. Many poor sick people did not venture to leave their homes as the brigands are hiding in the neighbourhood.

Our dear Sisters do not return however with empty hands, they gleaned ten little flowers for the beautiful Paradise.

At Szeping kai, we have not been troubled by the brigands. We were very anxious about our dear Sisters of Taonan and Fakou when we heard that the rebels were planning to attack these two cities. Fortunately, troops of Chinese and Japanese soldiers arrived and prevented them from advancing.

On September 27th, His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre and the group of missionaries arrived at the Mission. Several Christians went to the station to meet their new bishop. Despite the fact that there was a number of pagan onlookers, they all hastened to kneel to kiss his ring.

After breakfast, our six new companions assisted at the Masses celebrated in our humble chapel by two of the newly-arrived missionary priests and recited in common an Act of Consecration to the Blessed Virgin. At recreation time, our dear Sisters gave us news of our beloved Mother, of all our Sisters, and of our dear native land.

In the afternoon, Mgr. Lapierre paid us a visit. Accompanied by a few priests of the Mission, he also visited the Native Novitiate.



A CHINESE MOTHER WITH HER CHILDREN



Many a time during the day, we expressed our gratitude to Mary, Star of the Sea, who so tenderly watched over our Sisters during their long journey.

The following day, the new-comers received their Chinese names. According to the custom of the country, there is nothing more polite than to ask the person one meets for the first time: *Ni kou sing?* (Your noble family name?) — My vile name is...one must reply. As it was difficult to translate their names in religion, they were each given a Chinese character representing the sound of their family name. Thus it is that Sr. Marie des Cinq Plaies is now called *Tsi cou nai*, Sr. Joseph Arthur, *Teue*, Sr. Marie Mediatrix, *Louo*, Sr. Marie Emmanuel, *Kang*, Sr. St. Paul de la Croix, *Sin*, and Sr. Ste. Denise, *Man*.

In the course of the forenoon, they visited the novices and postulants. They found it quite interesting to see them at work. A few were embroidering, others making shoes, while several were busy washing and cooking.

During the evening recreation, our dear Sister Superior spoke of our beloved Mother and of her desire of seeing us ever closely united by the bonds of charity. Oh! yes, we wish to live closely united to our dear Mother House.

On the 30th, Sr. Marie Mediatrix<sup>(1)</sup> left for Leao Yuan Sien, while Sr. Joseph Arthur<sup>(2)</sup> made her way to Pa Mien Tcheng. This separation caused us a little heart-pang, for although our dwelling is not a spacious one, we were quite happy to have six new companions with us... But when we thought of the souls that were about to be saved, our hearts gladdened.

*Reports for the month of September 1932 :*

Dispensary of Szeping kai:

Baptisms.....	20		
Dressings.....	334	Treatments.....	745
Patients.....	630	Homes visited.....	92

Dispensary of Koung-tchou-ling:

Baptisms.....	18		
Patients.....	223	Treatments.....	420
Dressings.....	123	Homes visited.....	2

Dispensary of Peiko:

Baptisms.....	2		
Patients.....	180	Treatments.....	200
Dressings.....	20	Homes visited.....	3

Within the last month, we have lost a number of our patients. We hope that after this period of strife, we shall be more successful in getting the sick to come to our Dispensary...

YOUR LOVING DAUGHTERS OF SZEPINGKAI.

1. Aline Malouin, of Charny, P. Q.

2. Laura Thérien, of St. Leonard d'Acton, P. Q.

## LEAO YUAN SIEN, CHINA

*Gleaning from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries  
to Leao Yuan Sien, Manchuria, China.*

### Friday, August 5, 1932

Yesterday, our Sister infirmarian made once again the renown of the Dispensary. She extracted the tooth of a personage... Before residing at Leao Yuan, this gentleman filled the office of first judge at the Palace of Justice of Koan Li. He suffered from toothache for three years, but never ventured to be treated by Chinese dentists, he did not find them competent enough. The extraction was made "without pain" by our Sister infirmarian. To-day, this functionary sends his wife, his mother-in-law and his daughter to be treated at our Dispensary.

### Tuesday, August 9

A young lady comes asking us to visit her mother-in-law, who is seriously ill. She tells us that the sick woman was baptized while very young and that she remained faithful to her religion until the age of twelve, when she was sold to a pagan family.

On reaching our patient, we immediately speak to her about God. It is with the greatest interest that she listens to everything we tell her.

### Thursday, August 18

To-day, in one of the pagan homes we visit, we meet a poor woman whose daughter-in-law died but a short time ago. She tells us that she has just killed her two little grandchildren, in order that they might not have to endure the hardships of life. Oh! how little life is appreciated by those who know not God.

### Saturday, August 20

In giving a miraculous medal to a septuagenarian, we advise her to hang it on her neck by a string: "No need of a string," she replies, "I put it here, my medal." And, pulling out the most beautiful pin from her little grey toque, she fixes it in her hair. We leave her alone: may not everyone honour the Blessed Virgin in his own way?...

### Wednesday, August 31

Report of the Dispensary of Leao Yuan Sien for the month of August 1932:

Baptisms.....	126		
Patients.....	2,980	Homes visited.....	138
Dressings.....	1,245	Treatments.....	3,593
Consultations.....	337	Teeth extracted.....	20



**Thursday, September 1**

Five babies wing their flight to heaven to-day.

**Friday, September 9**

We have not gone to visit our patients for three or four days, as it is impossible to hire any kind of a vehicle. The Chinese soldiers who have been here for some time past, hold up every driver they meet and compel him to take them through the city.

**Wednesday, September 21**

The brigands have succeeded in entering the city. Before making their way to the barracks situated quite near the Mission, they visit a few families to tell them that they need not be afraid as their sole aim is to drive the Japanese out of Leao Yuan Sien.

Commenced towards two o'clock in the night, the struggle lasts until seven o'clock in the morning. The reports of fire-arms do not cease to resound, we feel ourselves surrounded on all sides. A moment, we hesitate in getting up, fearing that the stray bullets may reach us; from our beds, we commence to fling *Aves* and invocations to Our Lady of Protection, then, full of confidence, we dress ourselves in haste and we slip into the sacristy where we shall be safer, for there are fewer windows. Opening the door having access to the chapel, we group ourselves at the foot of the Blessed Sacrament and there, safe from all danger, we do not cease to recite our Rosary, alternating at each decade with the invocations: "Our Lady of Protection, protect us, protect this Mission, protect this city." Towards morning, Reverend Father Charest comes to tell us to repair to the church for Mass: Mass of thanksgiving, the Mission has been preserved from the invasion. The Father tells us that the brigands surrounded the Mission all night. Driven back by the Japanese, they were obliged to leave the city. Thanks to Our Lady of Protection, whom we do not cease to invoke every evening before going to sleep.

Later on we are informed that the invaders have set three thousand prisoners free.

**Saturday, September 24**

For a few days past, all the stores have been closed on account of the bandits.

**Monday, September 26**

The city is no longer in danger, for the Japanese are doing all in their power to keep the rebels from advancing.

We venture to visit the homes of our patients. The stores are still closed, and everyone we meet looks at us in surprise.

## PA MIEN T'CHENG, MANCHURIA

*Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters,  
Missionaries to Pa Mien Tcheng, Manchuria, China.*

### Wednesday, June 15, 1932

One of the first patients to visit our Dispensary, a girl of eighteen, asked the priest to baptize her some time ago, but the day the ceremony was supposed to take place, she was too ill to come to the Mission. This morning, a virgin catechist comes to see the poor sufferer, and as she notices that she is very weak, she hastens to pour the cleansing waters of Baptism on her brow.



AT THE ORPHANAGE OF PA MIEN TCHENG,  
MANCHURIA, CHINA

We hope that once this pious young lady reaches her heavenly home, she will intercede for her pagan parents,

that they too may decide to embrace our holy Faith.

### Thursday, June 16

Feast of St. John Francis Regis. What sweet souvenirs this beautiful day recalls to us. To follow our beautiful vocation of missionaries, we were obliged to leave the comfortable nest of the Novitiate, but we unite at least with the happy doves of the Dovecot to supplicate our celestial Mother to bestow her most maternal blessings upon her who was our beloved Mistress and of whom it is to-day the patronal feast.

### Tuesday, June 21

Five white lilies, gleanings of our day at the Dispensary for the celestial courts.

Our strawberry plants, planted last spring, supply us with strawberries in abundance. The vegetables of the garden have a very beautiful appearance. It is with joy that we have seen sprouting the beautiful seed come from Canada and already we have the illusion of possessing a little corner of our native land.

### Friday, June 24

To-day is the feast of St. John the Baptist. We do not fail to ask him to obtain from our divine Lord, of whom he was the holy Forerunner, many missionary vocations.

At the Dispensary, we register seven baptisms.



**Saturday, June 25**

Often, very amusing incidents happen at the Dispensary. This morning, a woman who comes to have her eyes treated approaches the Sister infirmarian and tells her in a loud voice that her eyes are sore. When Sister has finished treating her, she hastens to express her gratitude by screeching: "Thank you, thank you!" When one of our helpers tells her that we are not deaf and that she has no need of yelling at the top of her voice, the poor patient is quite ashamed of herself and tells us that she thought that we could not hear very well, as our ears are so well covered.

**Monday, June 27**

A very old woman brings us her granddaughter, a frail little creature whose death will certainly occur before long. This afternoon, we baptize the little new-comer and give her the name of *Louasa* (Rose).

**Tuesday, June 28**

We continue to make ample gleanings for the celestial parterres. Thus this evening, we count five other baptisms. Thanks to the Sacred Heart and the sweet Virgin for this ineffable joy which we experience each time that we have the privilege of pouring the Sacred Waters.

**Thursday, June 30**

Report of the Dispensary of Pa Mien Tcheng for the month of June 1932:

Baptisms.....	60	
Patients.....	3,098	Dressings..... 370
Treatments.....	4,466	Teeth extracted..... 36
Homes visited.....	3	Children vaccinated..... 49

**Tuesday, July 5**

For a few days past, we have been treating a poor woman who is very anxious to be cured. She tells us that she has given much money to Chinese doctors, who have done nothing for her. While dressing her wounds, we try our best to console her and do not fail to tell her a little about our beautiful religion.

**Wednesday, July 6**

To-day at the Dispensary, seven children are baptized, all of whom will soon be little angels in heaven.

**Saturday, July 9**

Just lately, one of our helpers went home for a few days. Before returning to the Dispensary, she learned that the child of one of her relatives was seriously ill. Without a moment's hesitation, she baptized the little

one, who died shortly after. This young lady entered the Church on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Her aged mother has destroyed all the idols she formerly worshipped and is anxious to become a Christian. Her pagan father also seems religiously inclined, for he did not object in the least when her mother threw the tablet of the ancestors into the fire. Doubtlessly, the Blessed Virgin will watch over this good old man and obtain him the priceless gift of Faith.

### Monday, July 11

Just as we are about to lock up the Dispensary at noon, a poor woman arrives, asking us to treat her sick baby. We lose no time in making the little one a child of God. Probably it will die on its way home and be thrown into a ditch to be torn to pieces by dogs.

### Tuesday, July 12

To-day, we baptize eight babies, a few more than usual.

### Friday, July 15

At supper time, we receive a fine baby but two hours old. Its mother is dying and the father, seeing himself on the point of becoming a widower, accuses the poor little one as being the cause of his misfortune. He wants to get rid of it by beating it to death. The brother of the patient, a labourer who worked at the Mission last summer, dissuades him and he himself brings the baby to our orphanage. After a summary toilet, for the little one does not appear to wish to remain upon this earth, Holy Baptism is administered to it.

Many of the Chinese here are busy extracting juice from poppies with which to make opium. On account of the great evil caused by the abuse of opium by the Chinese, Catholics are strictly forbidden, under pain of excommunication, to grow poppies.

### Sunday, July 17

The baby that was brought to us the day before yesterday has grown a little stronger. After going to a little trouble, we succeeded in getting someone to adopt it. Its poor pagan mother died soon after the child was taken away from her.

### Wednesday, July 20

Loudia and Mee Kouï, orphans of three and two years, ask Sister Superior to give them each a pair of shoes. The virgin who helps us at the Orphanage had prepared them the phrase it was necessary to say, which ended thus: "*Ta kou nai kee ouo i tch'oang, sing pou sing*, Sister Superior, give me a pair of shoes, does that suit you or not." Loudia, who is afraid of being refused, stops as soon as she says the first word "*sing*" (suit you). This little one has not always been petted. When she was but two months old, her grand-



mother attempted to poison her; her mother, fortunately, noticed it in time and snatched the poison from the mouth of her little child. At the age of six months, her father sold her along with her mother, to satisfy his craving for opium. Since she has been placed in our Orphanage she has often been sick, but all summer she has been quite well. We hope that the Blessed Virgin will continue to protect this dear orphan and make a good Christian out of her.

### **Monday, July 25**

As it has been very hot and damp this summer, we have had a wonderful crop of vegetables. We have just sown a second supply of carrot and beet seeds.

At the Dispensary, we treat nearly seventy patients and baptize two dying babies.

### **Tuesday, July 26**

We are sorry that we have such bad weather, for instead of baptizing only two dying babies to-day, we would have liked to have baptized a number in honour of St. Ann.

### **Wednesday, July 27**

We have, just now, for cook at the Orphanage a brave pagan woman sixty-eight years of age, alert, quick, always in good humour, loving the children greatly and knowing how to make herself loved by them. She was greatly interested the other day on hearing the Sister in charge of the children teaching them how to say their Grace before their meal. At noon, as Sister was unable to be with her little charges, she approaches Loudia and gravely attempts to have her say her prayer, but as she does not know the words, she has recourse to Liou Theresa, the biggest of our orphans, and, with her aid, succeeds in having them recite their Grace. She herself never sits down to eat before making the Sign of the Cross. We hope that this soul, who is so well disposed, will one day embrace the truth. We told her that if she wished it, she could assist at Mass on Sunday and even during the week; to this proposition, she did not answer a word, but the day after, she was at Church. May our all-kind Mother keep her in those excellent dispositions.

### **Thursday, July 28**

During the day, we visit three homes and administer seven baptisms.

### **Sunday, July 31**

Report of the Dispensary of Pa Mien Tcheng for the month of July 1932:

Baptisms.....	61	Dressings.....	256
Patients.....	1,895	Teeth extracted.....	39
Treatments.....	2,733	Homes visited.....	4

## FAKOU, MANCHURIA

*Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries  
to Fakou, Manchuria, China*

### Thursday, June 30, 1932

Report of the Dispensary of Fakou for the month of June 1932:

Baptisms.....	26		
Patients.....	3,030	Teeth extracted.....	19
Treatments.....	4,175	Homes visited.....	117
Dressings.....	518	Children vaccinated.....	5

### Friday, July 1

We attend the funeral of a Christian woman, Mrs. Tchang, who died yesterday. She had been our patient for some time past. Up until the very last, she was joyful and often made acts of love. One day when she was in great pain, we gave her a crucifix. Looking lovingly at the image of our Crucified Saviour, she exclaimed: "Jesus has suffered more than I have!..." The day before her death, she tried to comfort her little girl who was crying by her bedside. She was so happy to think that she would soon be enjoying heavenly bliss, that she promised Father Barbeau, who came to hear her confession, that she would remember everyone who had been kind to her during her life... How fortunate we are to have been chosen to carry the light of Faith into a pagan land!

### Saturday, July 9

Yesterday, we visited a young consumptive. After explaining to her the principal truths of our holy religion, we gave her a medal of the Blessed Virgin. This morning our patient smiles when we approach her and proudly shows us her little medal. We seize the opportunity to tell her more about our holy Faith, informing her that Holy Baptism will make her an heir to the kingdom of heaven... She is pleased to hear this and asks us to baptize her at once.

### Sunday, July 10

Despite the fact that the Dispensary is closed to-day, we are asked to treat two children. As both of them are seriously ill, we hasten to baptize them.

### Monday, July 11

\* One of the five little ones baptized this morning, dies in its mother's arms a few moments after being made a child of God.

Two mothers ask us, in speaking of their child: "Is it good to feed to the dogs?..." Others often say to us, not, "My child is dead", but, "I threw out my child"... Although revolting, these popular Chinese ex-



pressions depict only too well the reality of the facts. A child for whom one conserves no hope of a cure is, in fact, thrown in a common drain, where it becomes the prey of dogs.

### **Saturday, July 16**

As we are leaving the church this evening, a little twelve-year-old girl, a catechumen, asks us to pray for her, as the priest has promised to baptize her on the Feast of the Assumption... The dear child feels the need of God's grace in order to fittingly prepare for the reception of the Sacrament of Baptism.

### **Friday, July 22**

At the Dispensary, a Mohammedan woman refuses to take her potion. "It is for me a day of great fasting, I shall take it at meal-time". Poor people! why is it not granted us to make known to everyone of them, the doctrine all of sweetness and love of God.

### **Tuesday, July 26**

A little three-year-old girl wings her flight to heaven to-day. She is now with the numerous other children we have had the happiness of baptizing. We hope that all these happy little ones will intercede for their pagan brothers and sisters.

### **Sunday, July 31**

Report of the Dispensary of Fakou for the month of July 1932:

Baptisms.....	35	Dressings.....	410
Patients.....	3,029	Teeth extracted.....	13
Treatments.....	4,093	Homes visited.....	54

### **Thursday, August 11**

A poor apostate for whom we have been praying, is ill. Complying with the request of a good Christian woman, he consents to have us treat him. We are overjoyed to think that most probably we shall have the privilege of leading him back to God.

### **Friday, August 12**

We pay Mr. Lee another visit. His family tells us that they believe that he is possessed by the devil. We leave the poor unfortunate man a miraculous medal, exhorting him to do away with his numerous idols and to have recourse to our Blessed Lady.

### **Saturday, August 13**

When we visit our patient this morning we find him wearing a crucifix and the medal we gave him yesterday. The miraculous image of our

Immaculate Mother has put the demon to flight. All the idols and pagan deities have been destroyed. Realizing that the heart of our poor patient has been touched by the rays of divine grace, we ask him if he wishes to see a priest. As he has no objection, we hasten to notify our Reverend Pastor, who loses no time in going to hear his confession.

### **Monday, August 15**

In China, the Assumption of Our Lady, besides being a holy day of obligation, is one of the greatest festivals of the year. On this happy Feast, more than a hundred and thirty Christians approach the Holy Table.

The Sisters at the Dispensary are kept busy all day long, for many Christians who live some distance from the Mission ask to be given treatment before returning home.

We have just received a letter from the Novitiate. Oh! how it has gladdened our hearts!

### **Tuesday, August 16**

A young woman twenty years of age, whom we baptized a few hours ago, has just breathed her last.

### **Saturday, August 20**

As the *kao leang* has reached a considerable height, hardly anyone ventures to leave the city, for fear of being attacked by brigands hiding in the fields. Reverend Father Barbeau, who left for K'ang ping a few days ago, was held up by eight of these bandits, who, before allowing him to continue on his way, robbed him of all his money. He was obliged to have a squad of soldiers accompany him to his destination.

### **Monday, August 29**

At the Dispensary, an old woman greets us this morning with these words: "When will you be ready to baptize me?..." The instructions received at the Dispensary have convinced her of the necessity of baptism which, in her simplicity, she believes to be able to receive immediately. We explain to her that she must first study the doctrine in order to know what she engages herself to, for after baptism, she will be obliged to observe the precepts of Christianity. Although the perspective of becoming a pupil at her age does not please her, upon the assurance which we give her that, for old people, we are not too exacting regarding knowledge, the good old woman promises to make her entrance to the catechumenate in a few days.

### **Wednesday, August 31**

Report of the Dispensary of Fakou for the month of August :

Baptisms.....	38	Dressings .....	446
Patients.....	3,723	Teeth extracted.....	19
Treatments.....	5,218	Homes visited.....	63



**Sunday, September 4**

Reverend Father A. Barbeau sends us the detailed account of the imposing celebrations which took place in our native land, on the occasion of the consecration of His Excellency Mgr. J. L. A. Lapierre. We are touched by the honours rendered by the Church of Canada on him whom Our Holy Father the Pope has chosen for the head and father of the Canadian missionaries of Manchuria, and we are anxious to greet the day when it will also be given us to render our respectful homages to our venerated Pastor.

**Tuesday, September 6**

The different merchants of the city have decided not to open their stores for a while, as an army of Chinese soldiers has just entered the city. Only the patients who live near at hand venture to come for treatment. This evening, it is reported that the brigands are but a few *lis* away from the city. A few days ago, some armed men were sent to drive back the advancing foe, but instead of carrying out their project, they joined the throng of rebels.

Towards six o'clock, our Pastor is visited by a military mandarin who was formerly leader of a band of bandits in the district of Taonan. He promises Father that he will protect the Catholic Mission. As we cannot depend on him, we have recourse to our Immaculate Mother, who is ever ready to protect her children.

**Wednesday, September 7**

Some three thousand brigands are preparing to attack the city. Towards five o'clock, two Japanese aviators drop several bombs, which, however, do no harm to the brigands hiding among the *kao leang*.

**Thursday, September 8**

It is amid the noise of cannonading that we inaugurate this year the beautiful feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin. As we were able to foresee yesterday evening, soldiers and brigands fought each other all night. The Catholic Mission, situated at the extremity of the city, was within a short distance of the place of combat; also, many projectiles are found this morning in the yard. At daybreak, the calm returns only to be interrupted, occasionally, by a light discharge. In spite of the anxieties of the



GROUP OF PUPILS OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL,  
FAKOU, MANCHURIA, CHINA.

moment, placing our confidence in Her who, according to the expression of the liturgy of this feast, brought into the world the King who ruleth heaven and earth, we spend as joyously as possible the traditional holiday which the solemnity of this day brings us.

#### **Friday, September 9**

The night has been relatively good. The situation remains the same. The Chinese soldiers have been reinforced by a detachment of Mongolian soldiers, but it is said that the army of brigands has also received the reinforcement of many isolated groups. During this time, our work at the dispensary is nearly paralysed; only a few patients of the neighbourhood come to be treated, and it is not allowable for us to make visits. Sometimes, however, God reserves us unforeseen occasions of opening heaven to a few souls. Wednesday, it was a young moribund of seventeen years who, at nightfall, was transported to the Dispensary. We did not have any trouble in ascertaining that the sickness was incurable. The catechist who was called, exhorted him to receive holy baptism which he accepted with joy. The next morning, we learned that our patient already contemplated the splendours of the eternal beyond. To-day, a Christian brings us a very small child found on his way. Baptized by the Reverend Father Pastor, it takes its flight towards the celestial courts, two hours after having received the regenerating Sacrament.

#### **Saturday, September 10**

Several brigands have gathered together on a little hill just outside the walls of the city, where they will remain until they are put to flight by the soldiers.

#### **Sunday, September 11**

The bandits have been doing their best all day long to destroy the electric plant of the city. If they meet with success, it will be an easy matter for them to carry out their numerous plans.

#### **Tuesday, September 13**

Yesterday, at the Dispensary, we baptized a little girl, to whom we gave the name of Mary. As the fighting has ceased, as many as sixty patients come to be treated.

#### **Wednesday, September 14**

Despite the fact that the brigands are still lying in wait in the outlying districts, everything is going on as before. We beg our Immaculate Mother to grant that these lawless men may be chased far from the city.

#### **Thursday, September 15**

No *yue ping* this year at the *kouo tsie*... The *yue ping*, excellent little cakes, are the traditional food on which the Chinese feast the fifteenth day



of the eighth lunar month which is a day of great celebration. The numerous soldiers whom, since more than a week, the city must provide for, have consumed all the provision of flour; nothing, on the other hand, being able to enter, the people of Fakou were forced to make the sacrifice of their *yue ping*... What will become of it if the brigands continue the siege?... Ten days have sufficed to exhaust the provisions of flour, rice, etc., provided that the *chou mi* does not run short... It would be truly disquieting, if we could not rely on Divine Providence.

### Saturday, September 17

We are asked to go to see a little six-year-old boy, who is dangerously ill. As the child lives but a short distance from the Mission, our Pastor allows us to pay him a visit. When we reach our destination, we find our little patient in a dying condition. Without a moment's delay, we pour the Sacred Waters on his brow.

### Sunday, September 18

To spare our little provision of flour, we try to eat some *chou mi*. It is quite eatable... Truly, if we get out of this inextricable difficulty without other disagreeableness, we shall not have too much to complain of.

In awaiting the propitious moment to enter the city, the brigands put everything to fire and sword in the neighbouring villages... The farmers not being able to go to reap their fields, without exposing their life, see perishing, at the moment of the harvest, the fruit of a year of work, a large number of houses are burned, while many proprietors, suspected of having hidden their fortune, are horribly tortured. We treat to-day one of these victims. Last Saturday, the brigands entered his home and asked him for his money. "I have none", he replied. Then these madmen, after having tied him, burnt him and lashed him with a savage barbarity, to have him confess his pretended hiding-place. This body covered with wounds reminds us of the refinements of cruelty employed by pagan Rome against the Christians of the primitive Church. But, alas! while the latter died blessing their executioners, the victims of pagan China suffer without merit, with rage in their hearts and while premeditating their vengeance. Why is it not given us to hasten the day when the unfortunate Chinese may find in their love of God and in the hope of the eternal beatitude a derivative and a compensation for their sufferings?...

\*  
\* \*

The only-begotten Son of God ever paid to His Most Holy Mother indubitable marks of honor. During His private life on earth He associated her with Himself in each of His first two miracles: the miracle of grace, when, at the salutation of Mary, the infant leaped in the womb of St. Elizabeth; the miracle of nature, when He turned water into wine at the marriage feast of Cana.

Pope Leo XIII.

## TAONAN, CHINA

*Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Taonan,  
Manchuria, China*

### Monday, June 13, 1932

As it is a beautiful day, many patients come for treatment. Towards noon, we are asked to pay a visit to a very sick lady, who is anxious to be baptized. Before being confined to bed, she came frequently to the Dispensary, where she learned to know and love God. How happy we are to pour the Regenerating Waters on her brow!

This young lady had been sold to a very cruel-hearted man, who, in turn, gave her to one of his creditors. The latter took pity on her, and since then, he has met with great success. Let us hope that God will grant him, as well as all the members of his family, the grace of embracing our holy religion.

### Thursday, June 23

Mr. Su has just returned from his home, where he went to assist his father. This young man is a fervent Christian. On seeing him arrive, his father, who has been sick for a few months and feels that his death is near at hand, utters a sigh of relief: "Now that I see you, my heart is glad!" The moribund lived far from God for some time, but he was always loyal and good, helping as much as was in his power the cause of the Catholic Church. If a few difficulties presented themselves, Mr. Su exerted all his influence and invariably, he succeeded in making the good cause triumph. Moreover, God granted him extraordinary graces of mercy in his last moments. A picture of the Blessed Virgin was hung above his bed, he loved to contemplate it. One day, his son, coming into his room, found him smiling. He asked him the cause of his joy, and the moribund related to him the beautiful promenade he had just made, through the alleys of Paradise in company with the Blessed Virgin. "She had me visit everything, how beautiful it was!" he said. He bade his son, who unceasingly watched by his side, not to permit pagans to enter his room: "When they come, the thought of business affairs comes back to me. It is a temptation that you should spare me; the time to prepare for eternity is limited. Too late, I have served God." Every hour, he recited aloud his act of contrition. If he happened to say some improper words, his son reminded him that he must not say that, that it was displeasing God; immediately, he was very sorry for them and asked for a priest to hear his confession. He died two hours after confessing again with great sentiments of piety.

This death is a sorrow for the Mission of Taonan which loses in Mr. Su one of its most powerful protectors, but we have confidence that up above, he will continue to assist it.



### Sunday, June 26

"Father, will you baptize me? Father will you baptize me?" repeat in chorus a group of thirteen young girls, who, since a few months only, frequent the classes of the Mission. Their prayer becomes supplicating. Nothing is more impressive than the assault they make to assure the success of their request. And nevertheless, Father does not look as though he wants to grant it. It is because it is necessary to proceed with prudence, for several among them have veritable persecutions to endure at home, since they wish to embrace the faith. "Let us see," says the missionary, "if you know your catechism..." The answers do not have to be waited for. Without hesitating, they recite not only the catechism word for word, but besides give all the explanations; their prayers, even those of the Way of the Cross, have been learned by heart... Every Sunday and holy day, they do not fail to assist at Mass; several even assist every morning... Impossible to delay any longer and, there and then, it is decided that a few will be baptized on the feast of the Assumption and the others at Christmas. Quickly they run to the calendar and the calculation of the days commences.

### Monday, June 27

Monday always brings us many patients to the Dispensary. This evening, we have the consolation of enregistering thirteen baptisms, thirteen little souls of children who will not delay in uniting with the angelical choirs to sing the praises of the Divine Heart of Jesus.

### Thursday, June 30

Report of the Dispensary of Taonan for the month of June 1932 :

Baptisms.....	114	Dressings.....	938
Patients.....	1,570	Teeth extracted.....	9
Treatments.....	3,353	Homes visited.....	39

### Sunday, July 3

This morning, Mass is celebrated for the first time in our little chapel by Reverend Father Berger. Truly, God is good to deign to come to dwell with us, His humble missionaries!... *Sanctus! Sanctus! Sanctus!* with what sweetness do these words reach our ears! Oh! with what grateful hearts shall we repeat, each morning, the canticle of the three young men in the fiery furnace : "All ye works of the Lord, bless the Lord : praise and exalt Him above all for ever."

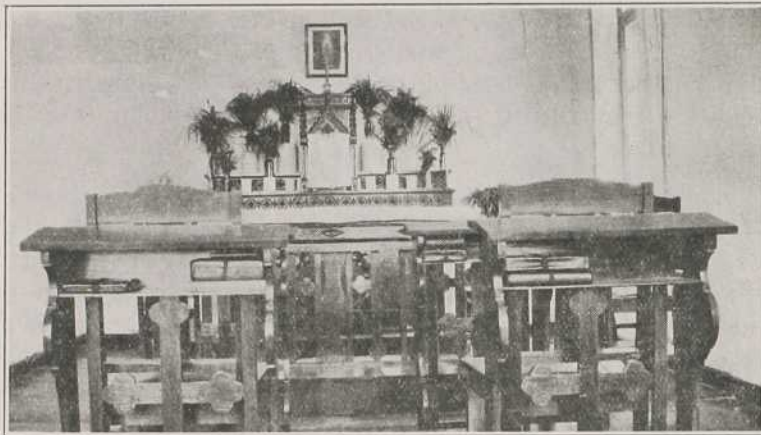
### Tuesday, July 12

The 8th of July, we opened a new dispensary at Pai Tch'eng Tze and, to-day, we have the happiness of administering the first baptism there: a little Elizabeth will ere long exchange the miseries of the land of Pai

Tch'eng Tze for the delights of heaven. May she from up above draw all the little souls of the country who are preparing to leave this exile. Thirty patients presented themselves. For a second visit, it is a figure which augurs well for the future.

### Wednesday, July 13

We are asked to bring remedies for a sick child whose parents live at a distance of two lis, and who, it is said, is very sick; its feet are already cold. No one ventured to bring it, for fear that it would die on the way. There is no time to lose, it is a soul to be saved! Our Sister infirmarian leaves immediately. This little angel is now called Anaclet, in honour of our Sister of whom it is the patronal feast.



CHAPEL OF THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
IN TAONAN, MANCHURIA, CHINA.

### Sunday, July 31

Report of the Dispensary of Taonan for the month of July 1932:

Baptisms.....	122	Dressings.....	722
Patients.....	2,073	Teeth extracted.....	10
Treatments.....	2,637	Homes visited.....	28

Report of the Dispensary of Pai Tch'eng, opened on July 8, 1932:

Baptisms.....	5		
Patients.....	165	Dressings.....	12
Treatments.....	200	Teeth extracted.....	1

### Friday, August 12

Just lately, we have been treating a few patients suffering from cholera. An average of sixty persons die daily of this dread disease. We are very sorry to think that these poor unfortunate people have never heard tell of



their Creator... The Japanese of this city are doing all in their power to prevent the disease from spreading.

### **Saturday, August 13**

Our Chinese teacher, Miss Liou, has been successful in her Catechism examination; she will be baptized this afternoon along with a seventeen-year-old Russian girl, the adopted child of a wealthy Chinese lady. The two happy neophytes make their way to the church, where Reverend Father Masse baptizes them. After the ceremony, we give each of them a little souvenir. It is not possible to describe the joy of these young girls. "I never experienced so much happiness," they repeat in unison. We also rejoice in their happiness and spend, in their company, happy moments which recall to us the beautiful family celebrations which follow our ceremonies of Holy Habit or of religious profession. How good God is to reserve such sweet joys for the heart of His missionaries.

### **Sunday, August 14**

The two young ladies who were baptized yesterday, make their First Holy Communion this morning. Several of their companions, who are still catechumens, are anxiously awaiting the day when they too, will be allowed to approach the Holy Table.

### **Monday, August 15**

As the Feast of the Assumption is a holy day of obligation in China, we have the privilege of assisting at three Masses. At High Mass, Reverend Father Bonin preaches a sermon. The altar in our little chapel is decorated with zenias and verdant foliage. As we have no vases, we are obliged to place our bouquets in bottles. After Mass, Reverend Father Masse takes pictures of our chapel and of the two happy First Communicants. Many times during the day, these two privileged maidens repair to the chapel to thank our Blessed Lady for the numerous favours that have been bestowed on them.

While visiting a few of our patients, we have the happiness of baptizing seven dying children.

### **Tuesday, August 16**

Opening of the schools of the Mission for the girls, the boys and the catechumens. There is more activity on the Mission compound than ever before. The new schools will contain so many pupils with difficulty. And nevertheless, with the recent additions, we had counted on having ample space for this year. It is once again the case of saying that the harvest is abundant. The hour of grace, of divine mercy seems to have arrived for Taonan; the parents have all confidence in the works of the Catholic Church, since they come so numerous to confide us their children. Father Berger taxes his ingenuity to find a place for all these little people.



A CHINESE AND A RUSSIAN GIRL, WHO WERE  
BAPTIZED AT THE MISSION OF TAONAN,  
ON AUGUST 13TH, 1932.

Here, they will hear our holy religion spoken of every day, and the good seed will produce in their soul, we have the sweet confidence, abundant fruits of salvation.

The number of pupils is fixed at one hundred and twenty at the girls' school and as many at the boys' school. If we judge from the results of last year, these two schools will do much good and will form at the same time, educated people as well as good Christians. The young girls of the school, principally the twenty of the first class, are fervent catechumens and exercise a most favourable influence over their young companions. Every Sunday and holy day, they assist at Mass and recite their prayers.

Fewer patients at the Dispensary, but by way of retaliation, more homes visited; it is because the epidemic of cholera continues its ravages. Whole families are passing away. The people are suddenly stricken down.

### Monday, August 22

To-day, ten children receive Holy Baptism. One of them, a boy of ten, is a victim of the dreaded cholera.

### Thursday, August 25

We are called to a sick woman attacked by cholera. We find her in a state of cyanosis, the extremities cold like those of a corpse; we do not notice any more the radial artery; nevertheless, the moribund is still fully conscious. There is not a minute to be lost. While we are preparing a few remedies, the virgin Su Madeleine who accompanies us, explains to her the principal truths of the faith. The task is easy, for the patient has often heard religion spoken of at the Dispensary... She accepts Baptism which we give her without delay with the name of Marie Madeleine. All the family is in a stupor, we reassure them as best we can and leave these poor people after having indicated to them the precautions to be taken to preserve the other members of the family from contagion. We have scarcely taken a few steps, when we notice a dying man stretched on the side of the road. At the noise of the carriage, he opens his eyes. We ask the driver to wait, and get cut to assure ourselves if the sick man is still conscious. He understands everything, asks who we are, where we come from, and, all confident, consents to take a few remedies. Alas! it is the only relief



that we are able to procure this poor abandoned man; we would like to bring him with us, but here one cannot do that without running the risk of being accused of killing him, if he happened to die at our place. We must therefore become resigned to leaving him there. We speak to him of our holy religion; when he hears that for him also there is possibility of an eternal happiness, he consents to receive baptism which will efface all his sins and put him ere long in possession of this joy without end. During this pause, there formed around us a group of nearly two hundred persons, but no one offered to help the unfortunate man; how he excites our pity!... Assuredly, death will not delay in delivering him from the sad prison of his body.

### **Friday, August 26**

A young woman to whom we sent a Miraculous Medal yesterday comes to thank us for our kindness. She tells us that as soon as she put Our Lady's blessed image on her neck the devil ceased to torment her. She is very anxious to embrace the Faith.

### **Tuesday, August 30**

Report of the Dispensary of Taonan for the month of August 1932 :

Baptisms.....		195	
Patients.....	3,042	Homes visited.....	105
Dressings.....	869	Injections.....	325
Treatments.....	3,968	Teeth extracted.....	7

### **Thursday, September 1**

The soldiers are, at the present time, pursuing the brigands and malefactors.

To-day, on returning from a visit to a home, we are stopped at the corner of a street by a crowd which presses together to see passing a man condemned to death. Armed soldiers, on horseback, precede and escort the cart of the unfortunate man, while playing tunes on their flute appropriate to the circumstance. This sight saddens our hearts! We shudder, on thinking of this soul who ere long will enter into his eternity, and in what a state!...

### **Saturday, September 3**

We learn that the city of Tou Ts'iuén (distant 300 *lis* from Taonan) has been seized by the brigands. Communications by telephone or telegraph being interrupted, we are unable to have any news regarding Fathers Michaud, Guilbault and Roch who serve this post, as well as the village of the Sacred Heart which is 8 *lis* distant therefrom.

### **Monday, September 5**

This morning, a messenger brings us a letter from the missionaries in Tou Ts'iuén. In order to conceal this letter from the brigands, he hid it in a little bunch of hay which he carried with him in order to chase away the flies. This good Christian left Tou Ts'iuén on Saturday, just when

four thousand brigands, after attacking the city, were about to break into the Mission Compound. Everything was put to fire and sword, the principal merchants were killed. At a first attack, the Mission resisted a day and a night. The leader of the first band of brigands had promised not to enter the Mission, but behold a new band arrived; these brutes, seeing that the first band had stolen everything and that nothing remained for them, wanted at all costs to invade the Mission. A few volunteers from a little neighbouring village joined the Christians taking refuge at the Mission so as to defend it. They were one hundred and forty able to defend themselves, counting the women and the children. They had only a few muskets, the others were armed with sickles, pickaxes, etc., but all were determined to defend until death the Fathers and their church. But what has been going on during the last two days? Impossible to have more recent news. Our hearts are in anguish, but remain confident in the power of the Most High and the maternal protection of the Queen of Heaven.

### Wednesday, September 7

Towards evening we receive a few good news from Tou Ts'iuén, but we do not know if the Fathers have been spared. While preparing the decoration of the chapel for the beautiful feast of the Nativity, we ask the Blessed Virgin to obtain us as a festal bouquet, the preservation of the missionaries. We also think of Taonan... Nearly two thousand soldiers left here to meet the brigands, for it is said that after having pillaged the other cities of the North, they will direct themselves towards Taonan.

### Thursday, September 8

On the beautiful feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin, we have Mass in our little chapel adorned as best we could. We think of our dear Sisters who, to-day, will take the Holy Habit or pronounce their vows and we share their happiness.

Towards eight o'clock, this morning, a person comes to announce to us that a messenger coming from Tou Ts'iuén reports that the Catholic Mission has been spared. Nearly three hundred people were sheltered there. On either side, a parliamentarian was sent, they came to an agreement, the brigands consented to retire after having asked for a gun... It is said that the soldiers of Taonan, who left yesterday with the Japanese, have killed seven hundred brigands. We hope that this will save the city of Taonan from the invasion. We are very quiet; Father Berger was on the point of sending us to Szepingkai to protect us, but the railroad of the South not being safe, we remain at our post, confident in the powerful protection of our Immaculate Mother. This evening, we sing the *Magnificat*, in thanksgiving for the good news received to-day from Tou Ts'iuén.

### Monday, September 12

We learn that the train that we should have taken in order to take refuge at Szepingkai, if Father Berger had decided to have us leave, was



wrecked (work of the brigands). A few Japanese were killed and all the passengers ransacked. Once again, we waft heavenward the sentiments of gratitude of which our hearts are filled towards God who watches with so much solicitude over those who confide themselves in Him.

### Wednesday, September 14

At noon, we visit two persons stricken with cholera. Since a week's time, we had not heard anyone speaking of the epidemic, but now it is appearing anew in a section of the City. We pass in front of a house where one of its victims expired after an illness of but a day and a half. Just at this moment, the funeral procession is leaving the house for the pagoda and there, two immense bulls made of *Chou kai* and of paper, will be burned. The son of the deceased lady, dressed in white, carrying in his hands yellow paper bands, is being pulled by two men. Those dressed in mourning outfits sob bitterly and lament in a loud tone while musicians, hired for the circumstance, utter piercing cries. Poor pagans! how they are to be pitied with their ridiculous superstitions. How we would like to make known to all, the consoling truths of Faith!

### Thursday, September 15

Some merchants from Tou Ts'iu'en, rich proprietors, victims of the brigands, now totally ruined, reduced to extreme poverty, come to visit the Fathers. "It is a strong and powerful God, the true God who protected the Catholic Mission of Tou Ts'iu'en", do they unceasingly repeat. "We had much better means of defence than the Mission and we also tried to come to an agreement with the brigands, but it was of no avail; we had to submit to their rapacity". Although they are pagans, the action of Divine Providence did not escape their attention. It is a movement, a new impulse for the extension of the faith in our Missions.



YOUNG CATECHUMENS OF TAONAN.

**Saturday, September 17**

The plenipotentiary of a major of an army, a friend of Reverend Father Pastor, comes to visit him. He announces to Father that he has come to discuss with the governor Tchang Hai P'ong and the Japanese as to the advisability of having two thousand ex-brigands entered in the regular army of Taonan. These brigands have become honest soldiers, now that they have enriched themselves with the spoils of the inhabitants of Tou Ts'ien... The number of refugees at the Mission of Tou Ts'ien increases from day to day, it rises to nearly a thousand persons. All are plunged in the most profound misery and seek shelter near the Fathers, while waiting for the exterior calm to be established. Fortunately, Father Berger had a reserve of grain; he will not have much of it left after the troubles, but it is to be hoped that the catechumenate will be filled with fervent catechumens who have themselves been witnesses of the power of our God and the charity of the Catholic religion.

**Monday, September 19**

We visit the homes of six patients to-day and administer four baptisms, two of which are of children and two of adults at the point of death. Three others are baptized at the dispensary. One of the adults, forty-eight years of age, was stricken with cholera. Yesterday, she was in perfect health, to-day, she is at death's door.

**Tuesday, September 20**

Reverend Father Bonin, who has just returned from Pai Tch'eng Tze, tells us of the hardships to be endured in his mission station. The soldiers there, receiving no pay, decided to become brigands and obtain the money owed them, by ransacking the city. At the first alarm, mandarins and officers fled, leaving everything at the mercy of the robbers. Everything was ransacked; in a few hours, there was nothing left, neither furniture nor bank notes hoarded up in chests. When the soldiers arrived, nothing remained. Nevertheless, they engaged in a real battle. The shooting lasted two hours, after which they hoisted the Chinese flag, declaring themselves masters of the City. A couple of hours later, the Japanese arrived with their machine guns and cannons and the bombardment began. Reverend Father and the seventy refugees or so, at the Mission, were forced to remain indoors, for bullets were being hurled in all directions; no one dared look through the windows to see where the projectiles came from, for fear of being struck. Towards evening, the firing ceased. For two days and two nights, the city gates have remained unlocked. So far, everyone at the Mission has been safe from all harm, for our Blessed Lady has protected them. As the brigands are planning another attack, all the stores, as well as several private houses, have been barricaded. It will be a very hard winter for the poor inhabitants, as nearly all the crops have been destroyed by the rebels.



Two days ago, some brigands attacked the father of one of our Chinese helpers, threatening to kill him if he did not agree to become a brigand like themselves. After a short discussion, a young man of nineteen offered to join the gang in his father's stead. Thus it was that the life of this good Christian was spared. Fearing to be assailed a second time, the poor broken-hearted man comes to Taonan to-day with his family.

A young woman has also taken refuge at the Mission with her three children. Her husband was seized, bound and martyred. She escaped by fleeing through a field of grain with her four children, the oldest six years of age. Soon, she heard the brigands who were coming towards her. One of them having caught sight of her, called to his comrades. At that, she fled quickly, carrying three of her children in her arms; being unable to carry the four... she was obliged to leave her little three-year-old daughter, who was sickly. Half dead from fatigue and from fright, she arrived at the Mission yesterday. The poor woman sobs bitterly each time she thinks of the little one she was forced to abandon. Hardships such as those are inconceivable.

#### **Thursday, September 22**

There is no way of getting any news from Tou Ts'uen, communications by telephone are again interrupted. No one, not for any amount of money, will consent to take Reverend Father Berger to this Mission, although he would like to go thither before leaving for Szepingkai to meet His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre and for the annual retreat. Groups of brigands are disseminated wherever there are unprotected people to be robbed. The farmers and inhabitants of small villages are those to be pitied the most. More than ever do we feel that we are in the hands of God. He is infinitely good and powerful. Not one hair of our head will fall without His permission. We abandon ourselves to Divine Providence, while adoring His mysterious designs which will perhaps prepare, by these troubles, the way to the salvation of many souls. Experience is there to prove that it is much easier to direct souls towards God when they are visited by trials.

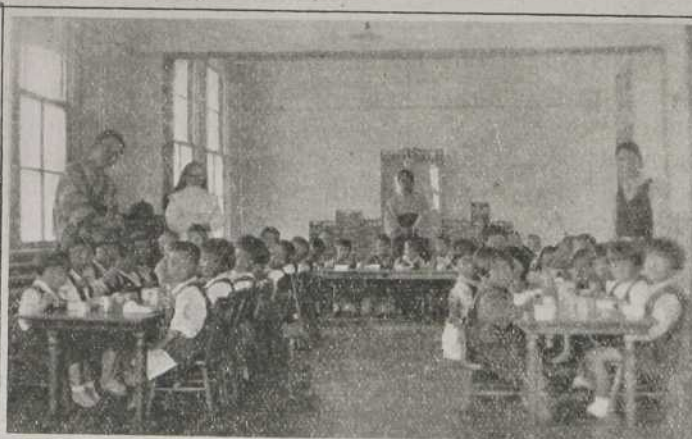
#### **Sunday, September 25**

Yesterday, seven new Christians were received into the Church, two of whom are pupils attending our girls' school. The father of one of the latter and the grandfather of the other are baptized also. This morning, the seven make their First Communion. The ceremony is very simple, exterior demonstrations are almost impossible in this poor country but the faith and the fervour of the neophytes is one of the sweetest consolations.

\*  
\* \*

Jesus and Mary, you are my sweetest delights. May I suffer for you, may I live for you, may I be all yours; not at all, never, my own!

*St. Alphonsus Rodriguez.*



KORIYAMA  
JAPON  
76

Élèves de l'École maternelle  
des Missionnaires de l'Immaculée Conception

DAMES  
JAPONAISES  
DU  
COURS  
DE  
CUISSINE



Pupils of the Kindergarten in charge of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception,  
Koriyama, Japan, and a Group of Japanese Women who are taking Lessons in Cooking.



## KORIYAMA, JAPAN

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

### Tuesday, August 23, 1932

We receive, this morning, from the Prefecture of Fukushima, the definitive approbation for the erection of our Kindergarten. Being recognized by the State, our little Kindergarten, we hope, will see the number of its young pupils increase.

### Friday, August 26

Yesterday, Reverend Father Reid, O. P., informed us of the conversion of a poor dying woman. It was her daughter who thought of sending for a priest. Complying with Father's request, we pay her a visit this morning. We find our patient in a miserable condition. In her foul-smelling hut, the only piece of furniture to be seen is a small cupboard in which have been placed a few tin cans containing a little rice. The poor woman appears to be happy in spite of her sufferings. She hastens to tell us that the priest brought her Holy Communion early in the morning, and that she is quite willing to suffer as long as God sees fit. When we ask her if the doctor has been to see her, she answers that he has, but only a few times, as she was too poor to pay for the medicine he brought her. Before taking our leave, we promise the poor sufferer that we will send her what she needs. Her husband, who is pleased with our visit, asks us to come back again. On our way home, we are told that the pagan physician who has been treating the woman we have just been to see is one of the head doctors at the hospital which was opened for the poor just lately. On reaching home, we sent the sick woman a small picture of the Blessed Virgin, a little medicine, some food, for she has nothing to eat, and the family meal which we begged from a fish dealer. This kind man, although a pagan, did not hesitate to give us a generous supply of fish and this he did whole-heartedly.

### Saturday, August 27

To-day, we bring our patient a few articles of clothing sent us from Canada. She seems to be in great pain. The little picture we sent her has been placed close to the *futon*, Japanese mattress, on which she is lying. We promise her that we will come to see her from time to time and treat her as best we can.

### Thursday, September 8

This morning in our little chapel, which is decked with pretty white and yellow flowers, Sr. Agnes d'Assise<sup>(1)</sup> renews her Holy Vows. Imme-

1. Lucienne Renaud, of Montreal.

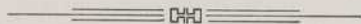
diately after the celebration of Holy Mass, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed. In the afternoon at half-past two, Sr. Joseph de la Ste. Famille<sup>(1)</sup> and Sr. Marie de Fourvieres<sup>(2)</sup> pronounce their Final Vows. Reverend Father Reid, O. P., who preached our retreat, presides at the ceremony and delivers a sermon. We feel certain that on this occasion our beloved Mother, our dear Sister Assistant, all the members of our Community, and the parents of our two privileged Sisters are with us in spirit. A lady and two young girls accept the invitation we extend them to assist at the ceremony. Just before supper our two happy Sisters are crowned with a wreath of white lilies while the hymn *Veni Sponsa Christi* is being sung. To-morrow evening, they will place these wreaths at the foot of the statue of our Immaculate Mother.

### **Friday, September 23**

To-day is a civic holiday, for the emperor is being offered some of this year's crop of rice. As all the schools and public buildings are closed, our pupils remain at home.

### **Tuesday, September 27**

For a few days past, preparations for a great celebration are being made in the city. Certain streets are adorned with flags, large Shintoist doors, decorated with lanterns and bamboos, are erected on all the roads which lead to the temple of Hachiman San, the god of arms. To-day, commence the great demonstrations, the adorations and the offerings; people hasten from all sides towards the temple which overflows with visitors and which will be, for three days, the scene of public amusements: circus, moving-pictures, music, games of all kinds. The vast court of the temple and all the streets of the neighbourhood are as many places where little itinerant dealers display, with great pomp, rice cakes and biscuits, games, fruit, vegetables, etc., etc., so that one would believe himself rather in the middle of a market than near a temple, but nobody takes offence at it, provided the heads bow down before the tablet wherein the spirit of the warrior god is supposed to reside. Little it matters, afterwards, if one gets intoxicated, if one resorts to all kinds of excess. In the evening, there is a procession with lanterns, the bonzes keep time and the throng follows while making a great noise. What a pity it is to see so many thousands of people in the service of the demon, while God counts so few true and faithful adorers.



Let the name of Mary be ever on your lips, let it be indelibly engraven on your heart. If you are under her protection, you have nothing to fear; if she is propitious, you will arrive at the port of salvation.

*St. Bernard.*

1. Jeannette Delisle, of Worcester.

2. Lucia Paradis, of Tingwick.



# 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.*

Sunday, September 25, 1932

At the beginning of recreation, this evening, we are assigned our missionary work, for, though we are only novices, we must nevertheless devote ourselves for the Missions.

After having asked Our Immaculate Mother to indicate to us herself our field of apostolate, we place ourselves in a circle around the room, and amid a religious silence, our Mistress presents to each one a basket filled with little slips of paper on which are written the names of all the houses of our Institute. Without choosing, each one takes that which the Blessed Virgin happens to place beneath her fingers, and although we are anxious to read at once what is written thereon, we wait till everyone is served before unfolding it. It is the first sacrifice which we offer for the Mission, still unknown to us, which we wish to help by our prayers and humble merits.

When all the slips have been given out, each in turn makes known the name of the mission post confided to her zeal and, without leaving our dear Novitiate, and simply by going on with our recreation interrupted by this little ceremony, we all settle down to help on the workers of our respective Missions.

Our task is, it is true, altogether spiritual and hidden, but we know that it is none the less effective, and we beg the Queen of Apostles to bless it.

Saturday, October 1

Our dear Mother, who is with us for the opening of the beautiful month dedicated to the Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, does not fail to stimulate our zeal so that we may obtain many favours during these blessed days. "Pray much," says she, "for the Church, the missionaries, our Community, our families, for sinners and for all unfortunates. Ask fervently, for each member of our religious family, holiness and health, so that we may do much good. Oh! does she add, let us renounce all things of the earth, let us strive not to be esteemed, nor rich, nor appreciated, but to be fervent, and on that point, our ambition should be to be surpassed by no one. Let us entreat the Blessed Virgin to grant us this favour, not only entreat her, but *importune* her as we used to *importune* our mothers when we were young and wished to obtain something. And moreover, let us avoid the smallest voluntary offence... My dear children, often ask Almighty God not to permit that even one sin be committed in our Convent. Oh! how sad it would be to think that in this house, our kind heavenly Father were gravely offended..."

It will thus be with a long list of petitions that we shall daily present ourselves before Thy throne, oh! Queen of the Rosary. While receiving our filial *Ave*, Thou wilt hear the confident prayer that will contain all the wishes expressed to-day by our venerated Mother.

### Monday, October 3

This morning, we assist at a High Mass in honour of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, whose Feast the Church celebrates to-day.

Reverend Father Rondeau, in his conference to-day, speaks to us of this loving little Saint, and exhorts us to imitate her admirable virtues. "Devotion to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus," he tells us, "has not sprung up because of the miracles obtained through her intercession, but is the result of her little way of trust and self-surrender."

### Sunday, October 16

The Feast of the Propagation of the Faith, which we celebrate to-day, evokes countless reflections in our minds; some are sad, and others consoling. Across the seas, in infidel lands, in the immense field of souls, missionaries are toiling: they labour, they struggle and they suffer; they see the harvest ripening and the very small number of arms to gather in the sheaves which are going to waste with such profusion. Entire nations, which are the price of the Blood shed by God's only Son, bow down before horrible idols and adore Satan himself. With what distress does not Holy Mother Church consider the loss of so many souls! 'Tis to express her deep mourning that she asks that her priests, on this day, wear purple vestments for the celebration of the sacred mysteries and that the *Gloria* be suppressed.

But this feast also presents many consoling thoughts, for it embraces, in a common prayer, the Catholics of the whole world beseeching Our Heavenly Father to send forth numerous apostles to carry the light of faith to all pagan lands. Who can tell how many missionaries will respond to their sublime missionary calling, thanks to the prayers of this day?... How many others would have broken down under the weight of their labours, and who now will toil unceasingly in the noble conquest of souls?... How many pagans, how many poor little dying children will receive the gift of faith or the Sacred Waters of baptism because to-day the faithful of the universe will have, with boundless charity, presented to the Eternal Father the ransom of those poor unfortunate brothers which Satan held as captives. Oh! yes, this solemnity, in spite of its tinge of sadness, is truly most consoling.

And we who have been chosen to be apostolical workers, we who have been called 'neath the Immaculate Virgin's white banner, to go and labour at the harvest, feel unable to express sufficiently our gratitude to Our Lord for having given us our noble missionary calling.

### Tuesday, November 1, All Saints' Day

Yesterday evening, according to our usual custom at this date, we had asked the Blessed Virgin to choose herself among the saints in heaven, one who would be our special patron saint for the year.



As this tender Mother deigned to answer our prayers, we hasten during recreation to name our heavenly protectors. This year, the venerable patriarchs Abraham and Noah will protect two of the novices, while a candid postulant will be protected by the Holy Innocents.

Our Lord's beloved disciple, St. John, is our dear Sister Superior's Patron Saint for the year, and St. Zita, that of our devoted Sister Bursar. In nearly all the dormitories the Little Flower deigned to scatter rose petals. The deceased parents of several of the novices have claimed the right to watch over their dear missionary daughters.

At half-past three, after the recitation of the beads, accompanied by a hymn in honour of each mystery, we assist at Vespers. Then, until late in the evening, we make numerous visits to the chapel in order to gain as many indulgences as possible for the poor Suffering Souls.

### Tuesday, November 8

Mgr. Marin, S. J., Administrator Apostolic of the Prefecture of Suchow, China, comes to pay us a visit. After speaking to us of the labours, sacrifices and consolations of the missionaries labouring in far-off China, he relates to us the story of how a poor pagan woman who had only succeeded in learning how to make the Sign of the Cross and to recite the Act of Contrition, was allowed to be baptized. When asked a question concerning one of the principal truths of our holy religion, she told the priest that she did not know the answer, but that she believed all that he himself believed. As soon as she visited the church after being baptized, she bowed three times before the Tabernacle saying: "Dear God, I thank Thee."

Before leaving, Monsignor advises us to prepare ourselves well for our future apostolate and to provide ourselves especially "with a good bag of patience and a large dose of charity" if we wish to accomplish much good in foreign lands.

### Sunday, November 20

To entertain the doves of her dovecot, the Immaculate Virgin inspires, each year, to the so kind Mothers to whom she has confided their keeping, a touching programme and at the same time full of animation and sound gaiety.

This evening, after a day of mysterious preparations, we see the execution of it.

To the sound of a piano duet, the white cortege of novices makes its entrance to the large room. But where are the postulants who usually precede them?... Hush! that is the surprise. Looking towards the draperies which form the screens where the stage is set, we could perceive sometimes a panel of a black dress, but all eyes are attracted towards the other extremity of the room where, upon tiers, is erected the throne of the little Virgin of the Temple, our amiable patroness. It is she who is the heroine of the feast, and she has been surrounded by flowers and lights. And, in order to

indicate better the resemblance which should exist between ourselves with the virtues which embellished her soul, she appears to us dressed in our costume. How much we love her thus, pious and modest as we would like to become. Our eyes never grow tired of contemplating her!

But the concert commences. In a cantata is sung the life and ideals of the doves of Mary. Then, we find ourselves transported to Galilee where unfolds before our eyes the scene of the rich young man called to the perfect life: the bounty of the Saviour looking at him with so much love, the mean refusal of this opulent man who prefers his riches to the privilege of following Jesus Christ and of having a treasure in heaven. After a recitation and a violin solo, we see a striking antithesis of this sad scene. It is little Therese Martin, the future St. Therese of the Child Jesus, who, enjoying with her whole heart the delights of family life, dreams of sacrificing all to Him who is her only love and who, already apostle, reveals the doctrine of her little way of confidence to depressed souls whom she meets. When the programme is ended, we follow our good Mistress who advances towards the statue of the Virgin and takes a pretty box which the ferns concealed from our eyes. It contains, with the wishes of our dear Mother, a gift which we greatly enjoy. A wish accompanies it: "Serve the Lord in joy and gladness." Then, took place the distribution of the offices at Mary's court, all the virtues having their titularies. May we, with the help of our Queen and Mistress, excel in those which are assigned us. When the bell rings for night prayer, it is with a heart filled with gratitude that we mount to the chapel where we do not fail to give expression to this sweet sentiment. We pray the divine Master Himself to repay the debt of our gratitude towards our dear Mistress and the organizers of this beautiful entertainment.



## Life of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament

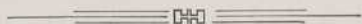
**S**O near us, so always with us, so full of love towards us, so many widowed, orphaned, tempted, tried, weary, sinworn, and broken hearts pouring their griefs into His ear, and yet He speaks not; though He knows one word would make a heaven in the most aching heart, and be a spell of peace and power such as the world did not give and cannot take away. He is called down from heaven; and He comes when He is called. But He comes in silence, obeys in silence, is broken in silence, remains in silence, and in silence is consumed. Nay, even in miraculous manifestations, He has spoken many times by pictures, images, and crucifixes; but hardly ever, or very rarely, has the Voice been heard from the Host, and when it is, it is not His own voice we hear. So deeply does He love His characteristic silence, that we can think of



nothing more silent than the Blessed Sacrament. Neither do we know of anything more hidden. It is the very deepest of His hiding-places. His Divinity was hidden in Judea; His Humanity also is hidden in the tabernacle.

The method of His sacramental life itself is hidden, and the doctrine of it hidden, and even the very truth of it hidden from multitudes of men. He was not so hidden at Nazareth, as He is in the secrecy of His predilection. In the days of His Three and Thirty years He was sweetness itself to all who came near Him. The darker were the poor penitent's sins, the more sweet was the welcome and the mercy of his Redeemer. Yet, where or when was He so sweet as He is now in His Sacrament of love? Sweetness of the very word which theology sets apart to express the effect of that mystery on the soul; and we look for it is so naturally in communion that we are disappointed when our own unworthiness has hindered its delightful plenitude. If we picture to ourselves our Lord abiding week after week in the dishonourable tabernacle of some lonely unfrequented Church, or in the rude hands of an insolent multitude, we shall see that the patience of the garden, the prætorium and the way of the cross, has so charmed the Heart of Jesus glorified, that He has continued to make it a part of this new artifice of love, His sacramental life. As to his humility, He has united in the Blessed Sacrament all His preceding humiliations, with circumstances of abasement peculiar to itself, and in themselves so tremendous that they have sometimes been a stumbling-block to the proud intellect of man. Yet, notwithstanding all His silence and hiddenness, He is so attractive in the Blessed Sacrament, that it is difficult to account for it upon any natural principles. Nothing draws the faithful to churches, feasts, functions, and services, so surely as this most venerable Sacrament. He said while He was on earth, referring to His Crucifixion, when I am lifted up, I will draw all men unto Me. This is especially true of Him now in the Blessed Sacrament when He is raised on His throne for Exposition or Benediction. And think of Him in His life of glory, worshiped in celestial amazement by the hierarchies of spirits and souls, and then think of Him in the little pyx, why He is there, and how, and under what laws of mysterious abjection, and what must the Blessed Sacrament seem but the very crown of all His inexhaustible unselfishness. In a word the character of the Blessed Sacrament, as the Blessed Sacrament, is precisely the same with the character of the Teacher of Judea and Sufferer of Jerusalem, — silent, hidden, sweet, humble attractive, and unselfish.

FATHER FABER.



"The love of God reveals itself in the very simplest soul who resists His grace in nothing, as well as in the most enlightened."

*St. Teresa of the Child Jesus.*

# 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.

for a special favour received. I would ask your prayers for my recovery to health. I promise a generous donation if I obtain this favour. A Subscriber.—Some time ago I sent you my subscription. I promised three or four dollars according as my intentions were answered. I feel I can spare a dollar now better than before. May I ask you to make a special novena for my lady friend and her husband that their health may improve and that they may get a good tenant for their house that is soon to be vacated. Will you please make a novena for my children and myself some time after you make theirs. Mrs. A. M., **London, Ont.**—Enclosed you will find \$2.00 from my husband's first pay envelope. If you remember I asked you to pray for him that he might regain his position. Thank God, he is again working, though the salary is very small. However, I will send you another two or three dollars next pay. You can use the money for Masses or as you think best. It is in thanksgiving to the dear Mother of God. I wish you would pray for some very special intentions. Mrs. K., **New Carlisle, P. Q.**—In thanksgiving for favours received I am sending you my renewal subscription to THE PRECURSOR as well as a small donation. A Subscriber.—I promised to have a Mass said in honour of our beloved Mother Mary for the relief of the Souls in Purgatory if I arrived home safely. Please have this Mass said for me. May I ask you to make a special novena for me that I may secure a good position and that my friends may find the means of paying the interest on their home. I promise to send you \$5.00 for the Missions and to make another offering in honour of the Blessed Virgin if these petitions are granted. P. L., **Valley Falls, R. I.**—I wrote to you a month ago asking you to make a novena for me that I might obtain work. I promised to send you my first week's salary, which please accept in this letter. I want you to make another novena for me, that I may be successful in obtaining a better position with higher wages. I will again send you a week's salary if I secure such a position within a month. Also please pray that my faith may continue to grow stronger. Mrs. L., **Cornwall, Ont.**—I send the enclosed as a thank-offering for two favours which I received just lately. A Subscriber.—Enclosed please find a small donation, which I promised in thanksgiving for a special favor received. I wish you would please remember my requests in your prayers. Mrs. C. S., **Montreal.**—You will find enclosed \$1.00 for a novena of lights in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for a favour received, through her intercession. Miss L.—Am enclosing \$1.00 in thanksgiving for temporary employment. I will send more as promised if permanent work is obtained. E. C., **Sarnia, Ont.**—Enclosed find \$1.00 for a year's subscription to THE PRECURSOR in thanksgiving for a great favour received. Anonymous.—I have received a wonderful favour through the intercession of our Blessed Lady. Enclosed find a small offering in thanksgiving. A Subscriber, **Montreal.**—I am enclosing an offering of \$10.00 in fulfilment of a promise made to the Blessed Virgin should I receive the favour I asked for. Anonymous.—Please find enclosed \$1.00 for the ransom of four


Will you kindly find enclosed cheque for \$5.00. I wrote to you before, asking you to pray that my husband would get work. I am happy to say he has. I will send you \$5.00 monthly while he is employed. Will you kindly pray for my son that he may find steady employment, also for all the graces we need. Mrs. J. C., **Montreal.**—Enclosed please find Money Order for two dollars. One dollar is for the renewal of my subscription to THE PRECURSOR and the other is a thank-offering. J. S., **Willimantic, Conn.**—I am enclosing \$1.00 for the ransom of four babies in honour of the Blessed Virgin for a favour granted me and for a favour I hope to obtain. I would be grateful to you if you would start a novena to the Blessed Virgin and St. Teresa for my intention. E. D., **Ottawa, Ont.**—Enclosed please find a small offering in thanksgiving for a favour received. Please pray that my husband may stop drinking and for another very special intention. Anonymous, **Montreal.**—I am enclosing \$1.00 for a Mass in thanksgiving to our Blessed Lady for her protection over me. Will you kindly make a novena to our Lady of Victory for me. I wish to get back my former position. I shall be most grateful to you if I receive this favour. Anonymous, **Paisley, Scotland.**—

I want you to publish a thanksgiving to Our Lady of Victory

Next month I shall send you \$1.00 for your good works. I



dying Chinese children, in thanksgiving for a favour granted me. I have been in poor health for some time past. Please pray for me. If I obtain another special favour through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin I shall send you an offering of \$5.00 for the ransom of a Chinese baby likely to live. Please pray that my husband and son may have steady work. Also kindly remember in your prayers my dear mother, my daughter and myself. Mrs. E. L., **Windsor, Ont.** — I am enclosing \$1.00 in thanksgiving for a favour received. I asked you some time ago to pray that my son might get his position back. The position he has now is only a temporary one. I would like you to pray that he may secure steady employment. I will send you \$1.00 a year if he meets with success. Please pray also that the rest of my children may get steady work and that God may bless us all. Mrs. A. B., **Montreal.** — For some time I have been asking our Blessed Lady to cure me. My prayers have been answered and I am enclosing a small offering in grateful thanksgiving. Mrs. C. — Please accept my offering of \$1.00 in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for a favour received. L. W. L., **Indian Orchard, Mass.** — I am enclosing herewith \$2.00 for the ransom of a few dying Chinese babies. It is my thank-offering to our Immaculate Mother for a favour received. M. P., **Montreal.** — Enclosed you will find a small offering which I promised to send for a favour I received. Would you please pray for the conversion of my son and that he may stop drinking. Mrs. J. W., **Montreal.** — Please accept the enclosed offering in thanksgiving for a favour I received not long ago. May I ask you to pray for a very special intention. Mrs. D. — A short time ago I asked the Blessed Virgin to cure my husband who was seriously ill. He is now much better, thanks to this good Mother's watchful care. Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving. Mrs. S., **Ottawa.** — Please find enclosed \$1.00 for a special favour received. I desire to obtain another great favour. Please pray for me. If I obtain what I am asking for I will send another donation. A Subscriber, **Leamington, Ont.** — I wish to return most grateful thanks to our Blessed Lady, who has indeed been very good to me. Mrs. M. — I promised to send you some money if my wish was granted. I am enclosing the sum of \$1.00, as my prayers have been answered. Mrs. M., **Pawtucket, R. I.** — Please find enclosed my renewal subscription and an offering of \$5.00 in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for some very great favours granted me through her intercession. Mrs. L. — Ten months ago, I promised to send you \$5.00 for your missionary work. Please pray that I may find employment. M. A., **Timmins, Ont.** — After having had recourse to Our Lady, my husband succeeded in holding his position. I am enclosing an offering of \$2.00 in thanksgiving. Mrs. J. C. — Enclosed please find an offering for a Mass of Thanksgiving in honour of the Blessed Virgin. Mrs. J. A., **Montreal.** — I am enclosing \$5.00 for the ransom of a Chinese baby, in thanksgiving to our Blessed Lady for several favours granted me through her intercession. M. M. — I am enclosing \$2.00 to help you in your good works and in thanksgiving for favours which I have received. I wish you would pray for me to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary that I may not lose my position, that my wages may not be reduced, and that I may be granted some other special favours. Miss P. K., **New Carlisle, P. Q.** — I am most grateful to our Blessed Lady, for I have received a great favour through her powerful intercession. I beg this tender Mother to restore me to health. Mrs. S., **Montreal.** — Please find enclosed a small offering in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for a favour granted me. Miss C. — I am enclosing \$1.00 for your Missions. I really think I owe this as a former promise for favours obtained from the Blessed Virgin and St. Therese. Please have a novena said for the Holy Souls for my intentions. Miss M. F., **Quyon, P. Q.** — Enclosed you will find \$1.00 in honour of St. Pauline for a favour obtained. Please say a prayer that my little son may keep on gaining in health. Mrs. A. B., **North Adams, Mass.**



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

# Petitions

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

Please have prayers said for three very special intentions. If my favors are granted, I will send offerings for the ransom of four dying babies and for a baby likely to live. I will also subscribe to THE PRECURSOR. M. O'S., **Sarnia, Ont.** — I am sending a Money Order for \$2.00, an offering for your wonderful work and your many needs. I ask your prayers to Our Lady for special help. Mrs. H. M. S., **Norwich, Conn.** — I would like very much to ask the prayers of your Community for a very special favour that I wish granted through the intercession of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. A Seminarian. — Will you kindly make a novena for me that my husband may get work. If I obtain this favour, I will send you \$5.00 monthly as long as my husband is employed. Mrs. J. C., **Town of Mount Royal.** — Would you please make a novena to our dear Mother for the conversion of a soul. Mrs. K., **Westmount.** — Find enclosed two dollars, one for the renewal of my subscription and one that you will pray to the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph for a cure for my sore ankle and also pray that my nephew may get work. I promise to send you \$2.00 every month if my requests are granted. Miss C. McC., **Montreal.** — I wish to ask some great favors through your good prayers. If I succeed in selling my farm, I will send a donation for the Missions, and if we can meet our debts without sale of farm I will be a life-long subscriber to THE PRECURSOR. A Subscriber. — Would you please make a novena for my daughter and myself that we may both regain our health. If these favours are granted, I will send a donation. Mrs. A. V., **Windsor, Ont.** — I am asking for two very special favours. If I receive them both before very long, I will renew my subscription to THE PRECURSOR and send you \$1.00 for the ransom of four dying babies. Anonymous. — I am writing to ask you if you would pray to Our Lady of Perpetual Help for me. Ask her to please ask our dear Lord for my complete restoration to health and strength to be able to do my work. I promise to continue my subscription to THE PRECURSOR, to have five Masses said for the Holy Souls, and also to help your missions. M. A., **Montreal.** — I am enclosing \$2.00 for the ransom of some pagan babies. Please pray that my father and brother may both secure positions. Miss B. — I beg you to pray that I may regain my health and obtain another special favour. A Subscriber. — If I am successful in a very important undertaking, I will send you an offering for your Works. Miss L., **Montreal.** — Will you please pray that my sister and I may secure steady employment by the end of the month. I promise to send \$2.00 to help your cause if our requests are granted. M. McA., **Outremont.** — I am enclosing the sum of \$1.00. I hope you will still pray for my husband that he may be called back to work soon. Mrs. O. B., **Montreal.** — Please find enclosed \$1.00 for a year's subscription to THE PRECURSOR. I wish you would pray for my husband that he may lead a better life. Anonymous. — I promise to send you an offering of \$2.00 if my little boy regains his health. Mrs. P. — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription to THE PRECURSOR. I would ask you to pray for a very special intention. Mrs. L., **Verdun.** — Kindly accept the enclosed offering of \$5.00 for your missionary work. Please pray that I may obtain the favours I am asking. M. B. — I was operated on two months ago and have been very nervous ever since. Please make a novena for me. If I regain my health, I will send you \$1.00 a month for a year. E. D., **Zurich, Ont.** — I have been out of work for a long time and am in great trouble. Will you please pray for me. I am a widow and alone, and need work very very much. If I am successful in obtaining a good position within a month, I will send you all of my first week's pay. Please pray, too, that my faith may not fail, but that it may grow stronger from now on. Mrs. L., **Montreal.** — I am enclosing an offering for the ransom of a dying baby and 10c to have a light burned. Please pray hard for me. B. P. — I promise to be a life-long subscriber to THE PRECURSOR if I am restored to health. A Subscriber. — I am enclosing herewith an offering for a High Mass for the Souls in Purgatory. Please make a novena for me. Anonymous, **Montreal.** — I would ask you to pray for me, as my health has been very poor lately. Mrs. D. — Being a subscriber to THE PRECURSOR, I feel I can ask you to pray and make a novena to our Blessed Mother to change the wicked ways of my erring husband. If my petition is heard, I will send you \$5.00 for your wonderful missionary work. A Subscriber. — Would you kindly make a novena to our Blessed Mother and the Little Flower for my intention. I am enclosing an offering for a Mass for the Souls in Purgatory. If my request for financial aid is granted this month, I will send a donation for your Missions. Miss H. McD., **Montreal.** — I am asking for some very special favours. Enclosed you will find a Postal Note for 25c. I will send some more money as soon as I am able. Will you kindly send me six Miraculous Medals. Mrs. A. W., **Angliers, P. Q.** — I promise to send you a donation of \$5.00 if I obtain a very special favour. Mrs. J., **Montreal.** — I am writing to ask you if you will begin a novena to the Little Flower for two very special favours I would like to obtain through her intercession. I have just finished a novena in her honour and I want to begin another right away. She has helped so many others in their troubles, I feel sure she will help me too, as I need help badly. If I obtain an answer to my prayers, I shall send a donation towards the Little Flower Burse.



Miss A. A., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find \$1.00 for a novena that I may have a speedy recovery from a severe illness. R. B. — I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR, trusting that by so doing I shall get back my former position. Anonymous. — I am enclosing herewith \$1.00 for the Missions. I have great faith in the Blessed Virgin and feel sure that through her intercession I shall obtain some very special favours. Miss D. — Enclosed please find \$1.00 for THE PRECURSOR. Please pray for me. Mrs. D. — Please find enclosed \$1.00 for my renewal subscription to THE PRECURSOR. I am asking two special favours. Please pray to the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph for me. I promise to send you the sum of \$2.00 for your Works if I am granted my requests. Mrs. A. L., **St. Andrews East**. — Please find enclosed \$1.00 for a subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Will you kindly pray that my husband and my little girl may have better health. Mrs. M. — Please pray that I may obtain three very special favours. I promise to send you a small offering if I receive even one of them. Mrs. C., **Montreal**. — I wish you would pray that I may obtain a very great favour. If my request is granted, I will continue to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR. Anonymous. — Please find enclosed an offering for a novena of lights to be burned for my intentions. M. D. — Would you please help another one of your many friends, with your kind prayers. I would love to be able to send a donation, but I am not able at present, being out of work like so many others. If my prayers are answered, I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for five years, forward you a donation of \$10.00 as soon as possible, and also send as many small donations as possible. Mrs. L. B., **East Windsor, Ont.** — Enclosed please find \$1.00 for the renewal of my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. I will send you an offering if I obtain a very great favour. Mrs. T. — Please find enclosed an offering of \$2.00 for your Works. I beg you to pray that I may have better health. Mrs. J., **Montreal**. — Please pray that my children may find employment and that a friend of mine may live up to her religion. Mrs. P. — Will you please make a special novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Joseph that I may secure a position. I have been out of work for some time. I would like to make this novena with you. If I obtain a position within three weeks, I will send a sum of money every month. Mr. E. F., **Notre Dame de Grace, Montreal**. — Please pray that my husband may secure a position, as we have a number of little ones to provide for. Mrs. L. — I am writing to ask you if you will kindly pray for one of my relatives who has been neglecting his religion. You will find enclosed \$1.00 for a subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Anonymous. — Please find enclosed an offering of \$5.00 for the ransom of a Chinese baby. I would ask your prayers for a very special intention. M. L., **Ottawa**. — I beg you to pray that I may have better health, if such be the Holy Will of God. Mrs. H. — A young woman begs you to send her a miraculous medal and to start a novena for her that she may be restored to health and that she may not lose her position. Miss B. P., **Montreal**. — I am sending you \$1.00 to renew my subscription. I wish you would continue to pray for us. Mrs. W. S., **Merlin, Ont.** — I am asking our Blessed Lady to help me to find a good position before long. Miss L. — Will you please make a novena to the Little Flower of Jesus that my husband may be kept working steady and that I may be granted another favour. I promise a donation to help your missions if I obtain these two favours. Mrs. K., **Point St. Charles**. — Enclosed please find the sum of \$1.00 to help you a little in your missionary work. I promise to send you another offering if I obtain the favour I am asking. Miss B. — I am writing to ask you to pray for a special request. If things turn out right, I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for five years and send \$5.00 to help the missionary work. Miss L. L., **Stony Point, Ont.** — I am enclosing \$1.00 for my renewal subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Please pray for my two boys. Mrs. T. — Would you be so kind as to make a novena to the Blessed Virgin that my boys may find work. I am a widow and I dread the cold winter months. If I obtain my favour, I will send you some money for your good work. A Subscriber, **Montreal**. — You will find enclosed \$1.00 for a year's subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Please pray for me. Mrs. J. — Please pray to the Immaculate Heart of Mary that I may be granted a very special favour. If I receive my favour, I will publish my thanksgiving and will also send you an offering for the Missions. Mrs. W. P., **St. Laurent, P. Q.** — Will you please ask the Sisters to pray for a very very special intention. Kindly accept this little gift I am enclosing for the Missions. Mrs. C. D., **Montreal**. — Please find enclosed a small offering for your Works. I will send you a substantial donation if my husband secures a better position. Mrs. D. — I desire to obtain a great favour. If my prayers are answered, I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for a year. M. P. — I am going to ask you to make a novena with me for a very special intention. I promise, if this request is granted, to send some money to help your missionary work and to continue my subscription to THE PRECURSOR for ten years. Mrs. H., **Montreal**. — I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR and beg you to pray for one of my children who has been ailing for some time past. Mrs. L. — Will you please make a novena for me to the Sacred Heart, St. Anthony and the Little Flower. If I obtain the favour I am asking within three months, I will send \$5.00 towards your good work. Mrs. M. E., **St. Mary's Ont.** — With my subscription to THE PRECURSOR I am enclosing an offering for your Works. I wish you would pray that I may be granted several spiritual favours. M. D. — I am writing to ask you to pray to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, our Blessed Lady and the Little Flower, that I may be cured. I promise to send \$1.00 for your good works if I get better. Please pray also for my little girls. Mrs. D., **Windsor, Ont.** — May I ask you to pray for my intentions. The enclosed offering is to help along

your missionary work. Miss F., **Montreal**. — You will find enclosed the sum of \$1.00. Please pray for a very special intention. Mrs. R. — I wish you would pray for a very special intention. I have been asking for a favour for some time, but as yet I have received no answer to my prayers. If my petition is granted, I will send a donation. Miss G. S., **Sandwich, Ont.** — Enclosed please find 75c for a novena of lights in honour of Our Lady that I may receive two great favours. Mrs. D., **Montreal**. — I am writing to ask you for your kind and generous help, which I am sure you will give. Please make a novena to the Blessed Virgin Mary for me, as I wish to obtain two very special favours. In return, I promise to help you in your mission work. Miss G. W., **Montreal**. — Please pray that my husband may pass an examination and that he may not lose his position. I promise to send a donation if he is successful. Mrs. X., **Amherstburg, Ont.** — I am sending you \$1.00 for the Missions. I wish you would pray that my husband may find a position. Mrs. D.

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

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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 a right to this title.

A Founder's or Protector's Diploma is awarded to persons making the above-mentioned donations.

3. — **Subscribers**, those who give an annual offering of \$25.00

4. — **Associates**, those who give the sum of \$2.00 per year.

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

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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 Sisters of the Immaculate Conception assure them as large a share as possible in the merit of their apostolic labors, as also in the prayers and sufferings of all the unfortunates confided to their care.

Besides, Benefactors are entitled to the following spiritual advantages:

1. — A special intention in all the Masses heard and Communions received by the Sisters.

2. — A Mass offered every month for their intentions.

3. — Every Friday in the year, the Sisters offer, for their Benefactors' intentions, their hours of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament exposed in the chapel of the Mother House. (The names of Founders and Protectors are deposited on the Altar of Exposition).

4. — For the same intentions, the members of the Community make, every day, the Guard of Honor to Mary, which consists in the continual recitation of the Rosary before the altar of the Blessed Virgin. The evening hours of Canada corresponding with the morning hours of China, as the Guard is closing here, it commences at the Lazaretto of Shek Lung, where the poor lepers, in succeeding groups of fifteen, continue the Perpetual Rosary for the intentions of the Society's Benefactors.

5. — A Requiem High Mass is sung every year for deceased Benefactors.

6. — A share in the merits of the Way of the Cross, made daily by the Sisters, is also accorded to deceased Benefactors.

7. — In the Novitiate Chapel of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, two Masses are celebrated every week for all Subscribers to "The Precursor" and for all living and deceased Benefactors.