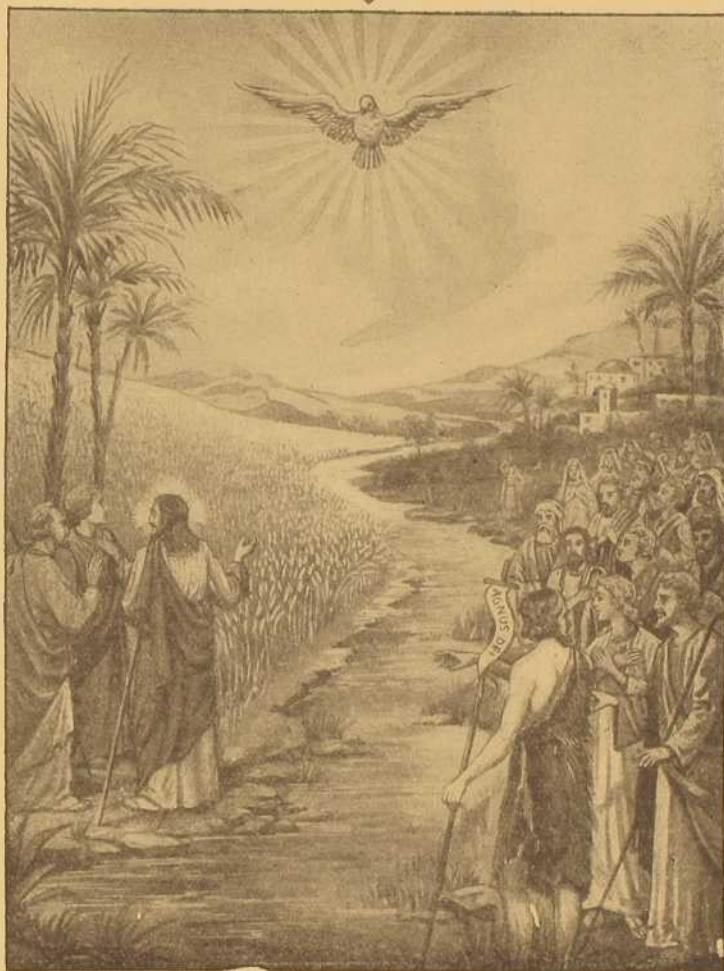


THE PRECURSOR



Vol. IX., 11th Year

MONTREAL, MARCH-APRIL, 1933

No. 2

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)

Diocesan Office of the Holy Childhood. Chinese Works. Workroom for our Missions.

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.

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.

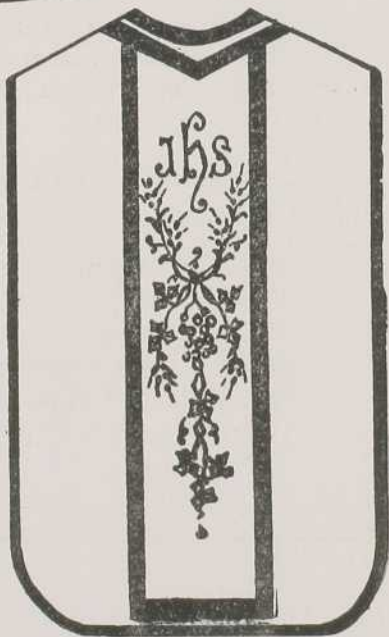
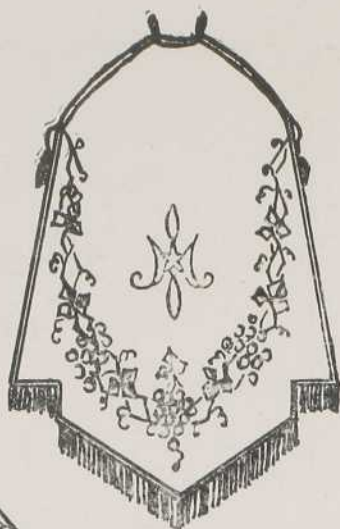
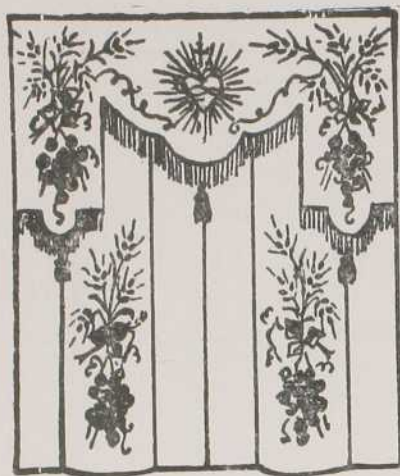
Missionaries must undergo several years' preparation before being able to commence their apostolic labors in foreign fields.

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.

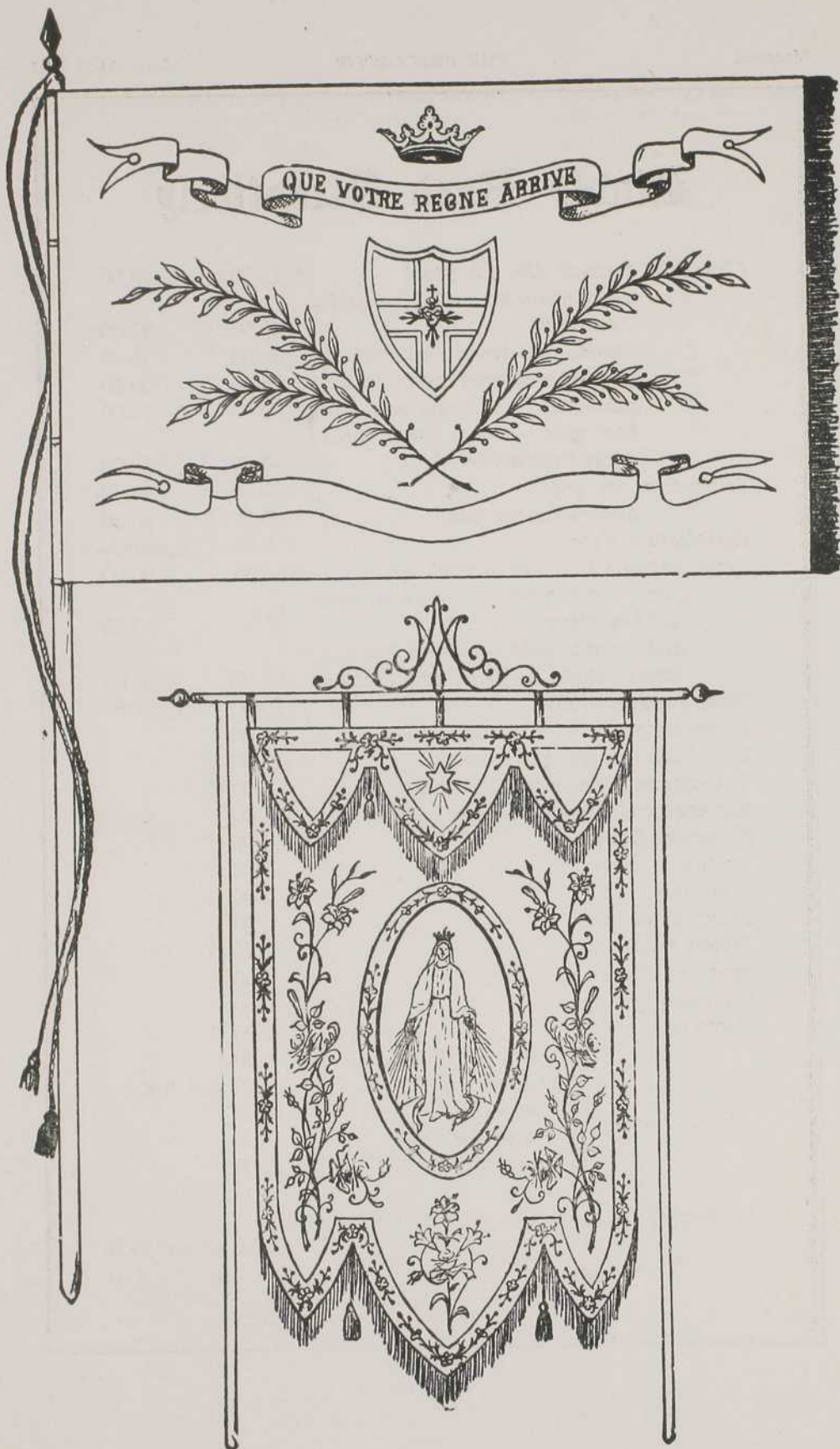
Wax infants for Christmas cribs, are also made in all sizes.

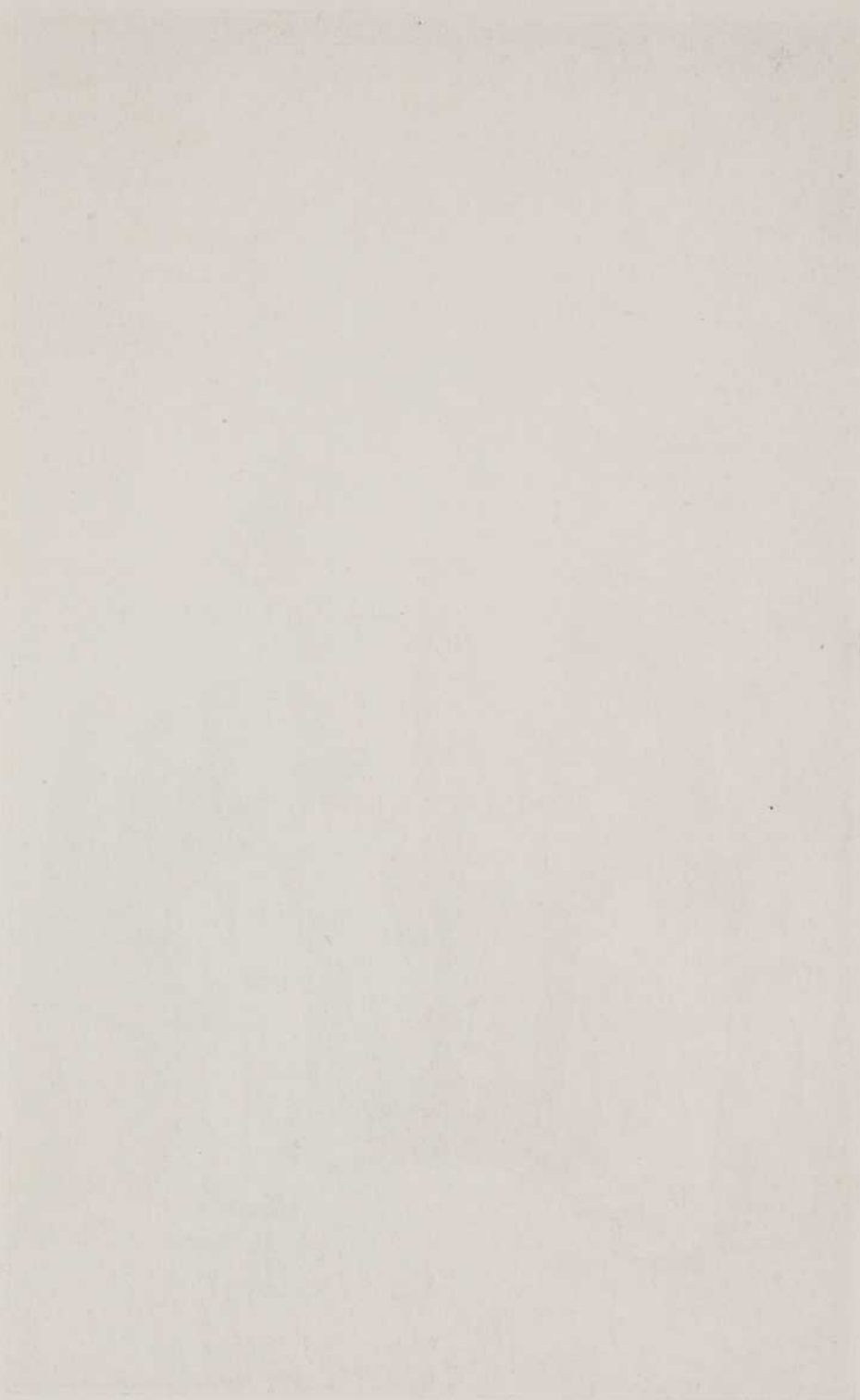
Chinese embroideries and laces are offered for sale. They are made by our Chinese orphans. By encouraging these sales you co-operate in the salvation of many young pagan girls who, while earning their livelihood in Catholic work-shops, receive at the same time the light of Faith.



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





THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS



"O IMMACULATE MOTHER, PROTECT OUR BENEFACTORS!"

THE PRECURSOR

Published by the
Missionary Sisters

of the Immaculate Conception

with the approbation of the Archbishop of Montreal

Vol. VIII, 11th Year

Montreal, March-April, 1933

No. 2

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St. Joseph

*None stood amazed at his wondrous deeds,
Or the miracles he wrought ;
None e'er were enraptured at his words,
Or the lessons that he taught.*

*He had no followers to applaud—
None e'er his footsteps trod ;
Poor and unknown he went on his way,
Unremembered save by God.*

*And He Who alone can read man's heart
Watched over him from on high,
And the angels bent in reverence
As often as they passed by.*

*For ceaselessly to heaven did rise
The sweet incense of his prayer,
And the treasures of the Father's love
Were entrusted to his care.*

*And the Boy Who clasped his toil-worn hand,
And smiled in his patient face,
Saw the beauty of his humble heart—
Knew he was filled with grace.*

*And Mary the maiden undefiled,
With her pure hands prepared
His humble repasts ; and day by day
His joys and sorrows shared.*

*And now exalted all saints above
By the side of heaven's Queen
He reigns a prince for eternity
Who so meek on earth had been.*

*O hidden saint! plead to that dear One
Who still lists to thy behest,
That we from the world may live apart,
In His Presence only rest.*

— M. H.

His Holiness Pope Pius XI Proclaims that 1933 will be a Year of Jubilee

THE commemoration of the nineteenth centenary of the Death and the Resurrection of Our Lord should inspire the world with thoughts of expiation and reform of life.

In the traditional response to the greetings of the Sacred College, Christmas Eve, His Holiness Pope Pius XI, after having, as is the custom, enumerated the joys and sorrows of his pontificate during the year about to end, addressed his good wishes to the entire world and declared that in commemoration of the nineteenth centenary of the Death and the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the year 1933 will be a "Holy Year" or one of jubilee, commencing April 2nd. The Pope expressed the wish that in the course of this Holy Year, all think less of speaking of reparations, debts, armaments and disarmaments and turn their thoughts towards the expiation which is necessary and towards a salutary desire of reform of life.

THE SORROWS OF THE YEAR

His Holiness replied in these terms to Cardinal Pignatelli di Belmonte, Dean of the Sacred College: "We wish first of all to reciprocate the good wishes of the Sacred College which His Excellency has just offered in his own name and in yours. We do it all the more cordially because of and in the same measure as the expressions directed to Us are affectionate and devoted, as the references and allusions are kind and good, as the participation of the Sacred College in our cares, in our sorrows, in our consolations is vital and profound and, as is appreciated by Us, its unceasing aid through its prayers, through its counsels and through its laborious work We know it to be in the government of the Church of God.

We have listed our sorrows and We cannot do less than mention those whose duration and gravity have made and still make more painful the most sad and iniquitous conditions for the Holy Religion, for its faithful, its hierarchy in Spain, in Mexico and in Russia.

No less dolorous is the sorrow caused Us by the continuation of so many difficulties and so much distrust, of so many divisions and conflicts among peoples and states, not excepting the horrors of war and of civil war and consequent continuance if not worsening of a universal financial and economic crisis without precedent in history and in which what is most deeply felt and most painful is the suffering of the poor classes and of the workers, because they are the most needful and most worthy of the aid of social justice and Christian charity.

NUMEROUS CONSOLATIONS

We have also spoken of Our consolations; and so many and so great are they, granted Us by the good God, that no word of Ours would suffice



Our Holy Father, His Holiness Pope Pius XI
who will inaugurate on April 2, 1933
the great Jubilee of the Redemption.

to express our gratitude to the divine goodness and to all those who have been made its able and generous instruments.

Mentioning merely the most important points, we shall speak only of the triumphal Eucharistic Congress of Dublin, the admirable development of the missions and of the missionary work in spite of the unheard-of world difficulties, the not less admirable extension to all countries of Europe and of the world of that aid to the apostolic hierarchy constituted by the Catholic Action, and we ought to add, admiring it and signaling it for the admiration of all, the examples of heroic faithfulness and constancy, often of real martyrdom by bishops and priests, monks and nuns, and also by the simple faithful in the countries previously named, splendid pages that the Church of God already is inserting among the most glorious and edifying ones of its history.

We ought to add as a last-hour consolation the obtaining, for however brief a time, of a Christmas truce to hostilities between two Christian peoples, Paraguay and Bolivia.

GREETINGS TO THE ENTIRE WORLD

We have exchanged with the Sacred College felicitations which the holy festival and New Year inspire; we joyfully profit by the admirable apparatus of Marconi, which is at our disposition, to send directly and orally to all our venerable episcopal brothers, to all priests, to all monks and nuns, to those who continue in the missions the apostolic work of evangelization, to all the faithful, to the neophytes, to the catechumens, to the good catechists, to all and singular our paternal felicitations: and may they be felicitations of every grace and spiritual consolation in the Holy Ghost: joyous felicitations for perseverance in the holy service, for every aid and useful co-operation in difficult work, for ever more copious fruits of the glory of God and the salvation of souls, for the merit of sanctification, as we pray for and will always pray for to God.

And to the peoples let all our felicitations go out, and for the peoples all our incessant prayer to God: wishes and prayer for peace and tranquillity in the order of mutual confidence, for friendly resistance where the need is greater, for sufficient remunerative work, for less troubled and less uncertain general conditions of life.

THE WORK OF REDEMPTION

But it is not only to transmit these greetings that we wished to make use of the microphone. We have remaining quite another message for all our dear sons in Christ, indeed, to all humanity, for all of whom Jesus Christ has paid the price of redemption and opened the fountains of grace so that all might there slake their thirst and find life and the abundance of life.

And we call to the attention of all the redeemed peoples the ineffable work of human redemption accomplished by Jesus Christ.

Even more than a work and accumulation of divine works it is most wonderful to consider it in its central culminating phase. Let us reflect

an instant on the Last Supper, the institution of the Eucharist, the first Communion, the initiation of the Apostles into the priesthood, the Passion, Crucifixion and Death of Jesus, Mary at the foot of the Cross made the mother of men, the Resurrection of Christ confirmed to the Apostles, the remission of sins, the primacy conferred on Peter, the Ascension of Jesus into Heaven, the coming of the Holy Ghost, the triumphant beginning of the apostolic preaching.

1933 IS THE MOST PROBABLE YEAR

Of all these wonderful deeds, from which began the true renaissance of the world, this life and this Christian civilization, of which we are enjoying the mature fruits, the coming year 1933 is that which the common opinion of the faithful identifies unhesitatingly as the year 33 of the present era, with the year of the death of Jesus Christ, and maintains as We have had testimony from diverse directions that the coming year is the nineteenth centenary.

Science does not believe itself able to assert the contrary categorically, but even according to science (We have restudied to our best ability this difficult problem, We have interrogated authoritative specialists), the year 33 and year 34 are those upon which argument of greater probability if not of absolute certainty is fastened. Only a very weak probability remains for the year 34, however much supported by the great names of Bellarmine, saint and doctor of the church, and of the great Baronio, father of ecclesiastical history. To men, to the redeemed, living today, there remains only the coming year, 1933, to celebrate authentically the centenary of the death of the Lord and of His above-mentioned cycle of divine deeds which crown it.

A DIRECT INVITATION

And to this observance We invite from to-day, from this moment on, all men redeemed in the Blood of Jesus Christ, Blood which the Catholic Church and she alone, preserves uncorruptible and uncorrupted with all the fruits of grace and of supernatural life which germinate and mature in it even from her first days and throughout the centuries down to our time and with the divine promise of eternal fruitfulness. What centenary more grandiose?

What benefits greater than those which it brings? What centenary celebration more dutiful? It is particularly dutiful for us and our generation, since to celebrate centenaries has become almost a fashion, and for this reason necessarily embraces subjects and events of very questionable dignity and grandeur. Is our observance less dutiful owing to the uncertainty of the year? But the uncertainty of the year does not take away the certainty and infinite greatness of the benefits received by all of us. If the men of 2033 shall have arrived through new discoveries and calculations at a certainty as to one of the years in question they will have known how to do their duty; we must satisfy ours.

RECALL TO THE LIFE AND INTERESTS OF SOULS

For this reason a dutiful and beneficent observance is desired by very many men, and it will be no slight benefit that the world should not hear any longer and practically not talk about conflicts, antagonisms, lack of confidence, armaments and disarmaments, damages and reparations, debts, and payments, moratoriums and insolvencies, economic and financial interests, individual miseries and social miseries, that it should not only not hear these notes but, instead, those of high spirituality and of a strong recall to the life and interests of souls, of the dignities and preciousness of these souls in the Blood and Grace of Christ, of the fraternity of all men divinely united in the same Blood, of the saving mission of the Church toward humanity, of all other holy thoughts and holy elevations which cannot disassociate themselves from the divine deeds which will be the object of this centenary, however little attention the spirit pays them.

A CELEBRATION LASTING A YEAR

And in order that our celebration may not consist in fleeting acts and that all souls, even the busiest, find time and manner for profiting from it to the necessary extent, we dispose that the celebration itself take place during an entire year, a year which from now on We proclaim a Holy Jubilee, so the celebration may gain the greatest possible value in prayer, expiation, propitiation, holy indulgences and reform of life.

Of all this, our days have such particular need in the midst of so many tribulations, in so much forgetfulness of the eternal, in so much paganism which pervades life, in so much pursuit of pleasure, of worldly things and of money which is abused in one way or another.

To take into account on one hand the probabilities, however slight, with reference to the year 34; and on the other, to give the necessary time to the Episcopacy, to the clergy and to the faithful for the opportune, in fact necessary, preparation, We dispose that the announced Year of Holy Jubilee run from April 2, 1933, Passion Sunday, until April 2, 1934, the second Feast of Easter.

INSTRUCTIONS TO BE PUBLISHED SHORTLY

We shall direct our attention, with the beginning of the New Year, to the publication of the documents and instructions to be used.

May the good God bless Our holy intentions and those of all the sons of the great family entrusted to Us by Him, even as We bless in your name all present and absent, near and far."

The Pope then uttered the Latin ritual for his blessing: "*Sit Nomen Domini benedictum. Adjutorium nostrum in Nomine Domini. Benedicat vos omnipotens Deus, Pater et Filius et Spiritus Sanctus.*"



To His Eminence Cardinal Rodrigue Villeneuve, O. M. I.
ARCHBISHOP OF QUEBEC

*newly elevated by the Holy See to the Roman purple,
the humble Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception
take the liberty of offering, through the medium of the PRECURSOR,
with their profound veneration,
their wishes for a long and fruitful apostolate.*

Mary, Mother of Mercy

EDWARD III, King of England besieged the city of Calais. The citizens of this place held out for a long time but not having received any victuals during the year, they found themselves in the most desperate straits. What was to be done when things were at such a pass? Come to terms or starve to death. John of Vienna, the governor, endeavoured by persuasion to save the city. Kneeling above the ramparts, he begged the enemy to take pity on the people of Calais who were starving to death. But for already too long a time had the place resisted the king's troops, and Edward III, provoked at such a stubborn struggle, informed the governor that he was determined to spare no one. Nevertheless, he grew less stern, and his conditions were as follows: "The king agrees to spare Calais, provided six of the most influential citizens come to the camp, in their bare heads and bare feet, carrying in their hands the keys of the city, ready to place themselves at the disposal of the king who will treat them as he likes." This last sentence left no one in doubt as to the fate of the hostages. In spite of this terrifying prospect, six courageous men presented themselves, and, ready to give up their lives for their fellow citizens, they came to the camp to place themselves at the king's mercy. Edward, with an angry glance, received them with harshness, and immediately commanded that they be executed. A knight ventured to ask for forgiveness: the king was unrelenting. Everything seemed to have come to an end; the poor victims felt the chill of death in their veins; in another instant the monarch's vengeance was to be satisfied. Suddenly, in the midst of this frightful scene, a woman made her way among the armed men and cast herself at the king's feet: it was the queen herself who, moved to pity, had rushed forward in order to save the unfortunate citizens from an impending death. "Ah! noble sire," she said to her royal spouse, "ever since I was in great peril while crossing the sea, I have not asked you for anything; therefore, I humbly beg you, for the love of Mary's Son and for love of me, to take pity on these men." Disarmed by this touching intervention, Edward III abandoned the six citizens to the queen, saying to her: "Do what you like with them!"

This magnificent scene of mercy is, at every instant, being renewed in heaven. At each moment, Mary is pleading for all unfortunates; at each moment, like Esther before Assuerus, she obtains them forgiveness and a multitude of graces. She intercedes for all miserable creatures, for sinners and culprits, and Jesus, the true Solomon, addresses her thus: "Ask, O my Mother, ask with assurance; it is impossible for me to lend thee a deaf ear and to refuse thy maternal entreaties! In My kingdom I demand justice, but thou, mercy!" *Salve, Regina, mater misericordiæ!*

Extract from *La Reine du Paradis*, by Rev. Chas. Rolland.



St. Patrick

Bishop and Confessor. -- Feast Day: March 17th

O God, Who didst vouchsafe to send blessed Patrick, confessor and bishop, to preach Thy glory to the gentiles, grant, through his merits and intercession, that what Thou commandest us to do, we may be enabled to accomplish by Thy mercy.

— Rom. Missal.

St. Patrick

ST. Patrick, who lived from the latter part of the Fourth to the latter part of the Fifth Century, is claimed by many lands as a native of their climes. England, Scotland, Belgium and France argue for the honour, and Scotland seems to be entitled to it. His father's name was Calphurnius, a Roman resident of Britain, and his mother is called Conchessa, and she was a relative of St. Martin of Tours of France. St. Patrick is buried in Downpatrick, Ireland.

He was a boy in his teens when he was forcibly taken from his native land by a piratical pagan band who sold him into slavery in Ireland to a man named Milchu. The latter put him to work as a shepherd over his flocks. He was a captive in Ireland for six years or so, during which time he learned the Irish language and closely observed the paganism of that people. He escaped from Ireland through the aid of Heaven and later entered the Monastery of St. Martin of Tours, his relative. His great perseverance in prayer in Ireland was now rewarded by his preparation for the priesthood, and guided by St. Germain and later consecrated Bishop by St. Maximus, he was commissioned by Pope Celestine I, for the Irish Apostolate.

This he undertook with aids, and success crowned his efforts with the winning of the entire Irish nation to Christ. St. Patrick lit the Easter fire of Faith on the top of the Hill of Tara and its flame and his fame have never been extinguished. He picked a little three leaf shamrock from the fields and held it up before the gaze of the people while he was preaching; it was a symbol of the Blessed Trinity in whom he would have them believe. Through his preaching and teaching and working of miracles the Irish bowed their heads in Holy Baptism and they were made Christians, children of God and heirs of Heaven. King, prince and chieftain, Bard, Brehon and Druid as well as craftsman and peasant were converted.

He was as eloquent in his pleading of prayer and practice of penance as he was in preaching. At the summit of Croagh, Patrick spent an entire Lenten season asking Heaven for the preservation of the faith of the Irish. A heavenly vision appeared to him above the mountain height and he gave a great blessing to the Land and its people, one lovely Easter morn. Though the advance of St. Patrick through Ireland was not entirely free from opposition and not totally without persecution, the race was practically christianized without the shedding of blood or the martyrdom that has so often accompanied the apostolic labours of saints.

St. Patrick preached Christ crucified so sweetly and courageously and so generally and thoroughly that Heaven with its graces of light and warmth and the dews of its saving waters and the sanctifying breath of the Holy Spirit gave the hundredfold harvest that has spiritually fed the Celtic soul.

New Bishop of Gravelbourg

*On November 29, 1932, the Holy See raised to the episcopal dignity
Mgr. Arthur Melancon, Vicar General of the Diocese of Chatham, N.B.,
and Pastor of Campbellton. Appointed Bishop of Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan,
Mgr. Melancon succeeds His Excellency Mgr. J. M. R. Villeneuve,
promoted on December 15, 1931
to the Archiepiscopal See of Quebec.*

*The Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception offer to the new Bishop-elect
their humble homages and their congratulations.*

The Devotion of the First Saturday

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

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

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

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

To comply, although in a modest measure, with the intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff, on the first Saturday of every month, from 8 A. M. to 6 P. M. a special Guard of Honor is made before the altar of the Blessed Virgin, in the chapel of the Mother House of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont, Montreal.

Persons desirous of taking part in this chorus of love, gratitude, reparation and supplication will be most welcome. The only condition necessary is to choose an hour at one's convenience and to come and spend it at the feet of the Immaculate Virgin, whose hands, filled with graces, are ever ready to shower favours upon her devoted servants.

If, at times, it be impossible to perform this pious practice one may be replaced by another.

Letter from His Excellency Mgr. J. F. A. Papierre

Vicar Apostolic of Szepingkai, Manchuria, China,
to His Excellency Mgr. G. Gauthier, Coadjutor Archbishop of Montreal.

Catholic Mission, Szepingkai, December 1st, 1932.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

Since the 4th of August last, I have further reason to make known to you the results obtained this year at the Mission of Szepingkai. I shall but relate to you briefly the most notable events which occurred during the year, and shall add a short sketch of the projects that are contemplated.

In spite of the troubles and pirating which were almost general, our Mission, not only has been enlarged, but has progressed as well, and new posts have been founded. If, in some places, there have been a few losses, and if Mission work has had to suffer, altogether there have been consoling developments. The greater part of the old districts have seen, this year, the number of their Christians increase: the Catholic population of the district of Hwai Te has passed from 720 to 780; that of the district of Fakou, from 509 to 643; that of the district of T'ong Leao, from 493 to 619; that of the district of Chengsintoun, from 575 to 649; that of the district of Leao Yuan, from 309 to 457. Posts such as Pamiencheng and Kang Ping, where the Christian faith was on the wane, have been revived: at Pamiencheng, there have been 23 adult baptisms and the number of Christians has increased to 45; at Kang Ping, there have been 60 adult baptisms and the catechumens are 105 in number. Newly-established districts, where there were only a few Christians, are growing rapidly: Szepingkai counts nearly 300 Christians and 63 adult baptisms; Koung-tchou-ling, founded this year, is becoming a promising post with 250 Catholics and 65 adult baptisms.

Despite the troubles and the enlargement of our territory, two new districts have been established: Koung-tchou-ling and Paichengtze. Koung-tchou-ling is a city with a population of more than 40,000, situated on the South Manchuria, 35 miles to the north of Szepingkai. Five years ago, Father Berichon, then rector of the district of Lichousien, was the first to install a catechist at Koung-tchou-ling, and not without difficulty, he opened a small oratory in a poor Chinese house in which he assembled, on Sundays, the few Christians to be found there. Two years ago, a piece of land on which stood two old Chinese houses was purchased: there were easily a hundred Christians. Last year, Father A. Paradis built a school there, and on Sundays, Father Laroche performed the different offices. This post, now erected into a district-station with resident missionaries will have, in the near future, its schools and its works and will become flourishing. Paichengtze, three years ago, was but a farming village: it was to be organized into a modern city and a railway centre. Two years ago, the construction of the railway which actually runs as far as Wang Ye Mao was begun; it will soon reach the forests of Sodon. This railway will give transportation facilities to a flourishing region where, through immigration, cities and villages spring up as if by magic. Unfortunately, the turmoil and looting paralysed all progress this year. Although the

number of Christians is not considerable, the position and the importance of the City makes it a post of the greatest importance, especially for the groups of Christians living on farms.

This year, we had begun at Koei Liou Heue, 50 miles to the north-west, and at Mananchan, 30 miles to the north, settlements which gave hopes. Peace will be re-established, and then villages composed entirely of Christians will dot here and there this region which is as vast as a large diocese. It is an undertaking which, though just begun, has obtained good results and has been encouraged by the former Prefect of Propaganda of regretted memory. Our schools, also, have progressed: each district, to-day, has some, the number of pupils is steadily increasing and the studies have been successful. I would not like to compare them to the organized schools of other countries; much remains to be done. But one must not forget that they have just recently been established and that it is not an easy task, here, to find competent Catholic professors. However, we strive to follow the official course of studies, adding thereto the teaching of Catechism. At the present time, there is even a fair number of pupils who are in the Senior Elementary Course (Intermediate). Our schools are not only attended by Catholic pupils, but also by pagans. If the latter are not obliged to study Catechism, they have to remain in the classrooms when the professor or the missionary explains the Catechism lessons. As a matter of fact, most of them learn the text from memory as well as the Catholics. The missionaries entertain high hopes in their schools and everyone wishes to improve them: it is by means of them that faith will spread with more fruitful results and through them a more extensive and a more exact knowledge of our religion will penetrate into the hearts of the people. Actually, on account of the troubles and turmoil which exist, the establishment of schools is an easy matter, and pupils attend in large numbers. If we took advantage of the actual state of affairs to establish good schools, it would be possible later on to keep them, to improve them, and by this means, to increase our influence and acquire footholds. Doubtlessly, such a programme would entail the construction of new buildings, and an upkeep more and more expensive, but the missionary leaves everything in the hands of Divine Providence, which never fails him.

The work of the schools has not caused us to neglect that of the dispensaries; some are operating in nearly all the districts. Sometimes it is the missionary who is the doctor: at Kang Ping, Father V. Forcier has acquired the reputation of a skilful physician. But the dispensaries that bring the most consoling results are those which are directed by the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception: those of Taonan, Szepingkai, Pamiencheng, Leao Yuan and Fakou. Moreover, once every week, the Sisters of Taonan go to Paichengtze to treat the sick; those of Szepingkai go to Koung-tchouling and Peiko. More than 160,000 sick have been treated, and over 2,500 visits made to the homes. The results are consoling: nearly 3,000 baptisms of dying babies and more than 400 baptisms of adults at the point of death. Moreover, the districts where they operate dispensaries have seen the number of their catechumens increase: the reason for this is that in

these dispensaries there is a catechist who teaches the Catholic doctrine to the pagan throngs who come for treatment. It is seed which does not fail to produce successful results. Have we not seen, at different times, pagans come to the Catholic Mission, requesting the Sisters to go to such and such a family to administer Baptism to a dying child. They had learned at the dispensary that children who had been baptized went to heaven. It is certain that, sooner or later, the Heart of Jesus will repay these pagans for their kind deed. The principal aim of our Society in the conversion of pagans is to establish, in pagan lands, the Church on such a basis that it may, with time, be sufficient unto itself. This implies the formation of native clergy and the organization of religious life. We are pursuing this aim: we have the Lesser Seminary of St. Francis Xavier at Pamiencheng; 18 pupils are attending. Let us hope that its Patron Saint will shower Heaven's blessings upon it so that it may give the Church in Manchuria apostles imbued with a great faith and an ardent zeal, so that, by their efforts, superstition may be done away with, and the practice of Christian virtues introduced.

For the organization of religious life, we have the Convent of Our Lady of the Rosary. It counts 22 aspirants, of which 13 are novices. They receive their religious training under the direction of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception and continue their studies of the Chinese characters and religious doctrine. Are they not called upon to play a part similar to that of the teaching congregations at home? May our Blessed Mother grant that they become apt to instil into the heart of the young Christian girl such principles as may enable her later on to be a Christian mother capable of organizing her home and of giving her children a Christian education. This work of our missionaries already begun in the Apostolic Vicariate of Szepingkai has thus been pursued, this year, with notable results in spite of the troubles which were almost continual.

Since September 18, 1931, the date of the "Japanese coup at Mukden", Manchuria has been severely tried, and has known but misery and distress. It is quite true that, previously, the condition of the population was not reassuring; whoever possessed even the most modest of fortunes was constantly exposed to fall into the hands of brigands; forced to pay a ransom, he was in some way obliged to give all he owned. But, nevertheless, the population enjoyed a relative peace. But since then, desolation reigns. Is it the result of a state of mind which sees itself reduced to change the regime and does not wish to accept its regulations? or is it the work of agitators enrolled by the chiefs of the central provinces who, seeing themselves dispossessed of a vast territory, wish to show their ill-will towards their conquerors by sowing the seed of discord everywhere? There must be something of both. Whatever may be the cause, conditions prevailing in Manchuria are of the most wretched. The three months preceding my departure, in December last, corresponded rather to a state of war, but it was not war itself. The soldiers of the new regime had dispersed in the country-places, where they ransacked and even threatened cities. After having piled up ruin upon ruin, they were finally dispersed or massacred.

and peace seemed to dawn again. It lasted until summer. But when the *sorgho* had grown, self-styled volunteers appeared, with a fair quantity of arms, and their number increased daily. They succeeded in penetrating everywhere, invading country-places and threatening cities; the regions which are crossed by railways were about the only sections which the bandits left untouched, and even so, many trains were wrecked. How much looting there was, and how many houses burned, harvests destroyed, people massacred, tortured, is difficult to say. The distress was so great that, according to what old missionaries say, it was more cruel than the Boxer Persecution which did not last as long. The Vicariate of Szepingkai was not spared, if it did not suffer as much as the vicariates of Mukden and of Kirin. But it was the scene of exciting events. If Szepingkai, Pamiencheng, Leao Yuan, Taonan, had, so to say, nothing to fear, as much cannot be said of Fakou, Toung Leao, Kang Ping and Tuchuan. For one entire month, these "volunteers" surrounded the city of Fakou, no one could either come in or go out; the population was even threatened with famine. Aggressors and defenders battled in trenches which were so near each other that they could hear each other's conversation. What these volunteer aggressors proposed to do in the City was but a repetition of what they had just done in the neighboring villages, pillaging and slaughtering. Fortunately, their attempt was unsuccessful and they, screaming out coarse words and threatening revenge, were forced to take their leave. Our missionaries, Father A. Barbeau and Father A. Cossette, and four Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception lived anguished-filled days. During the whole siege, the Mission Compound overflowed with pagan as well as Christian refugees. God in His Providence has assuredly watched over His own and has heard the prayers of His children who, night and day, entreated Him not to let them fall victims to these wrong-doers. During the days which followed the dispersal of the "volunteers", some poor farmers came to be treated at the Dispensary, many had been so cruelly beaten that their bodies were all bruised and covered with wounds, others had been horribly burned with candles. Their great fault was that they did not have any money for Messrs. Brigands.

Tung Leao had had its alarm last year. Father A. Quenneville had to put up with the regime of the brigands for a period of three months. This summer, Father Bouchard had to put up, not only with the dangerous neighbourhood of the bandits, but also with the cholera epidemic which carried off more than 6,000 persons. The volunteers had sworn that they would capture the City; they almost succeeded. From the church belfry, the missionaries were able, at different times, to see the soldiers engaged in mortal combats with the volunteers. This state of affairs lasted for several weeks. The missionary was often obliged to make as many as twenty visits to cholera-stricken people in one day, although he knew fully well that he was constantly exposed to become the victim of the brigands. An occurrence which did not fail to attract the attention of the pagans was that the Catholics suffered much less seriously from the epidemic than they, the latter fell like flies, and not more than three or four Catholics were

victims of the pest. Assuredly Divine Providence watches over the missionaries: Father Bouchard escaped the contagion as well as the brigands.

We were greatly alarmed over the fate of Tuchuan and Chengsintoun. Situated 75 miles west of Taonan, they are very much isolated. The great Mongolian steppes, which separate them, make secure hiding-places for the brigands in time of danger. Last year, Tuchuan was not molested in any way, nor this summer either. But in September, the month in which the volunteers performed their exploits, it was otherwise: the City was captured, pillaged, burned, and many persons were slaughtered, it was desolation itself. Everyone sought refuge at the Mission and went there with whatever valuables he possessed. Would the Mission itself be pillaged, burned? It was to be feared. The chief of the brigands promised his protection to Father J. B. Michaud; he remained true to his word, and this in spite of an insubordination of his soldiers who had decided to attack the Mission. The Mission was alluring, all the treasures of the City were hoarded therein. An incident which shows how Divine Providence protected the Mission is that of an old pagan woman with her casket containing nearly \$2,000.00 Mex. Having taken refuge at the Mission with this casket, she feared, one evening, that the brigands would come during the night to pillage the Mission; they had threatened to do so. She decided to return to the city with her treasure. Early the following morning she rapped at the door of the Mission: she did not have her casket any longer, and the brigands had cruelly beaten her. She must have been sorry for having left.

Chengsintoun, separated from Tuchuan by a hill only, had its fate attached to that of Tuchuan: Father Guilbault had his eyes fixed on Tuchuan: Tuchuan was spared, Chengsintoun also.

A noteworthy feature was the courage or rather the heroism of Fathers Michaud, Guilbault and Roch who shared the dangers of the population and constituted themselves protectors and defenders. When the natives, greatly frightened, were fleeing they knew not where, it was near these poor feeble missionaries that they sought refuge and begged for help; and there, all were sheltered, nourished and protected until all danger had disappeared. Is not this a marvel of the all-powerful bounty of God? I am unable to give any news of the annexed territory; the mails do not function between Jehol and Manchuria.

We owe prayers of thanksgiving for the heavenly favours which have been bestowed on us throughout the year, for the protection granted and the courage given to our missionaries: not one feared the danger, and all remained at their posts, even when their lives were imperilled.

Deign Your Excellency, as representative of the episcopacy of the Province, on the occasion of the New Year bestow your blessing upon our missionaries and our works and recommend them to the prayers and charity of your faithful and of your religious congregations.

Your devoted, affectionate and grateful son,

† J. L. A. LAPIERRE

Vic. Apost. of Szepingkai.

In Memory of His Excellency Mgr. Jean Marie Merel

ARCHBISHOP OF CRAINA AND FORMER BISHOP OF CANTON, CHINA

who died at Singapore on October 13, 1932

The death of His Excellency Mgr. J. M. Merel was a cause of great sorrow to the Community of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception. It was His Excellency who, in 1908, when he passed through Canada, asked these missionary religious, whose Institute had been founded just six years before, to send their first contingent to China, and to give to the Canton Mission the first fruits of their apostolate.

It was also at a second call from Mgr. Merel, in favour of these outcasts of humanity who are known as lepers, that the Missionary Sisters went, in 1913, to commence their devoted task at the Shek Lung Lazaretto, near Canton.

His Excellency has always taken the greatest interest in his Canadian helpers, manifesting towards them the most paternal devotedness. His kindness in their regard will ever perpetuate his memory in the entire Institute.

Mgr. Jean Marie Merel was born at Vay, in France, on April 18, 1854. Ordained to the priesthood at Nantes on June 29, 1879, he entered, the following year, the Foreign Mission Seminary at Paris, and in 1881 he left for the Mission of Kouang Tong. On June 6, 1901, he was consecrated Bishop of Orcisto in the Cathedral of Canton. In 1914, Mgr. Merel left this mission to retire to the Mission of Malacca, where for eighteen years he gave, to the people in the different posts who had the happiness of having him as pastor,



HIS EXCELLENCY MGR. JEAN MARIE MEREL.

the example of the most sublime virtues and of an untiring zeal for God's glory and the salvation of souls. In 1921, the Holy See, wishing to show in what esteem it held the venerable Bishop who had continued, as a simple missionary, his work in the vineyard of the Lord, raised him to the archiepiscopal dignity with the title of Archbishop of Craina.

The hour of rest has at last arrived for this valiant apostle, he has gone to receive up above the reward of his long and laborious career. From the heavenly heights, may he contribute, by his intercession, to the ever-increasing diffusion of the Gospel in the vast Chinese Empire.

THE OPENING OF THE PORTA SANTA

On April 1st next, Saturday *Silientes*, at eleven o'clock in the morning, the Holy Father will solemnly open the *Porta Santa* of the Patriarchal Vatican Basilica for the inauguration of the extraordinary Holy Year and of the great universal Jubilee.

At the same time, the Holy Door in the Patriarchal Basilica of St. Paul, of St. John and of St. Mary Major will be opened by the Most Eminent Cardinals delegated for that purpose by the august Pontiff.

—Extract from the *Osservatore Romano*.

League of Prayer and Sacrifice

**For the extinction
of anti-religious societies**

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

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

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

And impose upon themselves a daily sacrifice.

The Associates should also wear the Miraculous Medal.

PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

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

Amen.

Seen and approved March 12, 1924.

(Indulgence of 100 days)

† L. N. Card. BEGIN, Arch. of Quebec.



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.



With my renewal subscription, please accept this donation towards the Little Flower Burse, in thanksgiving for favours received. Please pray for my intentions. If I receive the favours I am asking within two months, I will send another offering. Mrs. G. B., **Penn. N. D.** — Please accept the enclosed offering for a favour obtained through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Mrs. J. L., **Indian Orchard, Mass.** — I am sending you this donation which I promised for the favour I received from the

Little Flower. Mrs. F. T., **Amherstburg, Ont.** — Please find enclosed a small donation which I promised the Little Flower for a favour granted me. I promise to send you another offering if my husband finds a position. Please pray for us. Mrs. J. E., **West Warwick, R. I.** — My offering for a light in honour of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus to testify my gratitude for a favour obtained. Mrs. E. B.,

Montreal. — Grateful thanks to St. Therese for a favour received through her intercession. Mrs. A. S., **St. Casimir.** — Gratitude to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a favour obtained. Mrs. P. L., **Granby.** — Kindly accept my offering, which is in fulfilment of a promise to St. Therese for the success of a difficult sale. J. A. C. — Lively gratitude to the Patroness

of Missionaries for a favour obtained. J. B. G. — Offering for the Missions in thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a cure obtained through her intercession. A. F., **Joliette.** — Herein enclosed is an offering for the Little Flower Burse, a token of gratitude for a favour received. Miss E. B., **Yamachiche.** — My most grateful thanks to the Little Flower for a favour obtained. Anonymous. — Offering in honour of St. Therese, in thanksgiving

for favours received: the deliverance of a person from temptations, and restoration to health. Anonymous. — Herein enclosed an alms for the Little Flower Burse in thanksgiving for favours received. M. J. P. — Herewith a Postal Note, a token of gratitude to the dear "Scatterer of Roses". I am asking other favours. One who has faith in St. Therese. — A thousand thanks to the little saint of Lisieux for the cure she has obtained me. Mrs. P. M., **Mistassini.** — My offering for the

ransom of poor little pagan children, in thanksgiving to the loving St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for the favour she has granted me. Miss A. G. — My sincere thanks to St. Therese for protecting our trade during the past year. Mrs. A. C., **Ville Emard.** — Grateful thanks to St. Therese. Mrs. P. C., **Montreal.** — The enclosed offering is in thanksgiving for a favour obtained through the intercession of the Little Flower of Jesus. R. L., **Indian Orchard, Mass.** — Offering for a High Mass in honour of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, in thanksgiving for the cure of my little girl from a contagious disease which threatened to carry her off. I will renew this offering every year, in order that the Patroness of Missionaries may continue her powerful protection. Mrs. E. R., **Shawinigan Falls.** — Alms for the Missionaries who have most need of it, as promised St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. P. O., **Montreal.** — Gratitude to the Little Flower for the favours I have received through her intercession. Mrs. L. S., **Berthierville.** — Herein enclosed an offering for your missions, in fulfilment of a promise made St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a position obtained. J. E. D., **Montreal.** — With my whole heart I thank the loving Patroness of Missionaries for the favour she has obtained me and solicit her protection anew. M. H. T., **Bas de l'Anse.** — Offering for the Missions, in fulfilment of a promise made St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Mrs. A. L., **Lachine.** — Herein enclosed a Postal Note in thanksgiving to St. Therese for a favour received. Miss P., **Montreal.** — I am fulfilling my promise by forwarding you this offering for your missions, and I will renew this donation if the powerful Patroness of Missionaries continues to favour us in our trade. Mrs. J. P. L., **Pointe Claire.** — Offering for the support of a missionary, in thanksgiving for a favour obtained through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. A thousand times do I thank this dear Saint. Mrs. J. L., **Granby.** — Sincere thanks to the Little Flower

and St. Francis Xavier for a favour received through their intercession. J. B. V., **Montreal**. — Herein enclosed the price of the ransom of a dying Chinese baby and an offering for a novena of lights, in thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a position obtained. Mrs. N. L., **Quebec**. — My husband always has work and loses very little time. I feel that this favour is due to the protection of St. Therese to whom I made a promise three years ago. Gladly am I fulfilling my promise to-day, while thanking with my whole heart the dear "Scatterer of Roses". Mrs. D. B., **Grand Mere**. — Kindly accept my offering, in thanksgiving to the Patroness of Missionaries. May she be praised for her constant protection. A. C., **Lachine**. — Offering for the Little Flower Burse, in thanksgiving for a favour received and that I may be granted others. A Subscriber. — In fulfilment of a promise made St. Teresa of the Child Jesus I am sending you an offering for your missions. I will gladly send you the same alms again, if the powerful Patroness of Missionaries continues to help us in our trade. A Subscriber, **Pointe Claire**. — Lively gratitude to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a favour obtained after promising publication in THE PRECURSOR. G. G., **Montreal**. — An offering for a light in honour of St. Therese, in thanksgiving for favours obtained and to obtain some others. A Subscriber to THE PRECURSOR, **St. Laurent**. — My subscription to THE PRECURSOR in thanksgiving for a position obtained through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Mrs. E. B., **Central Falls**. — I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR and am adding thereto an offering for lights, in thanksgiving to the Patroness of Missionaries for a favour received after promising publication. Mrs. E. B., **Montreal**. — Lively gratitude to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for the favour she has obtained me. Mrs. N. L., **Pawtucket**. — Herewith an offering for the Missions in honour of St. Therese that I may be enlightened regarding my vocation. L. M., **Bronxville**.

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

A **Burse** is a sum of money, the interest of which forms a perpetual income for the support of a Missionary. **Burses** are founded in honor of a Saint whose name they bear. The religious whose support is thus assured becomes the Missionary of the donor and takes his place near the poor infidels. The Founders of 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
In January-February	1933	77.00

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.



HIS EXCELLENCY MGR. DESWASIERES, FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE SHEK LUNG LAZARETTO, CHINA,
WHO PRESIDED AT THE JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS OF NOVEMBER 21ST, 1932. HIS EXCELLENCY IS SURROUNDED
BY THE MOST DISTINGUISHED GUESTS AND THE HOSPITALLERS AT THE LAZARETTO, THE MISSIONARIES OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

Echoes from our Missions

SHEK LUNG LAZARETTO

*Fragment of a letter from Sister Marie du Saint Sacrement, Missionary
of the Immaculate Conception, on a visit to the Shek Lung Lazaretto*

December 1st, 1932

BELOVED MOTHER,

On the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Shek Lung Lazaretto, November 21st, I had the happiness of spending a few days on the Island and of assisting at the festivities which were very touching. There was a Pontifical High Mass celebrated by His Excellency Mgr. Deswazieres, former director of the Lazaretto, and Solemn Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament; eighteen French and Chinese priests were present, as well as two Maryknoll Sisters, two of St. Paul de Chartres, and several of our Sisters from Hong Kong and from Canton. Mgr. Deswazieres, by his presence, caused great rejoicing among our dear lepers who have not forgotten the devotedness which His Excellency lavished upon them for fifteen years.

The Communions were numerous. The evening before, four Fathers had heard confessions.

At four o'clock, a modest banquet was served to our poor patients. As the weather was ideal, long tables, prepared for the occasion with trestles and bed planks, were installed in the open air, along the riverbank, and the lepers, this time at least, satisfied their hunger, thanks to the generous gifts and especially to yours, dear Mother. Just think, they were served

seven pigs, a hundred and twenty pounds of chicken and I do not know how many pounds of duck, in all eight different dishes.

What a touching scene!...

It was enough to make one shed tears of emotion to see these "outcasts of humanity" dressed in festal garments and seated at a copiously served table, they whose sufferings are increased each day by their meagre repasts.



MISSIONARIES OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, SISTER
INFIRMARIANS AT THE LAZARETTO OF SHEK LUNG, CHINA.



THE POOR LEPERS OF SHEK LUNG, CHINA, SEATED AT THE MODEST BANQUET WHICH WAS SERVED THEM
BY THEIR HOSPITALLERS, THE MISSIONARIES OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION,
ON THE OCCASION OF THE SILVER JUBILEE OF THE LAZARETTO, NOVEMBER 21ST, 1932.

The preceding day, the young leprous girls executed with rare ability the play *Joan of Arc*. The decorations and singing were a great success. It is true that our Sister Hospitallers went to a great deal of trouble in order to exercise them. The next day, it was the men's turn; they gave a Chinese representation, after which they were served a cup of cocoa, at a table with a cloth on it, to the great astonishment of the numerous Chinese from the neighbouring villages, who exclaimed: "One would never have thought that the Sisters treat the lepers so well."

Among these poor patients there are some who are as simple as children and who are filled with good-will. Our dear Hospitallers have won their confidence and their affection, they themselves have become greatly attached to all the members of this great family. It is here that it is easy to realize what religion and devotedness are able to do. Happiness seems to have made its home on this Isle of suffering. It is beautiful to see blossoming thereon charity in all its forms. Among the musicians, there was one poor unfortunate who has scarcely any fingers and who is unable to walk. A companion carried him on his back to his post, for, for all the world he would not have wished to have missed performing his part, which was beat to upon a piece of wood with two little sticks.

At the sight of such numerous, and so consoling and touching scenes, we say to ourselves: Ah! if our dear Mother were in our midst, how she would rejoice on witnessing the happiness we are sharing to-day with the most unfortunate of her children! For, we know, beloved Mother, that these poor lepers whom you have confided to your daughters occupy a large place in your heart...

Your grateful daughter,

Sr. Marie du Saint Sacrement. (1)

* * *

SZEPINGKAI, CHINA

Extract from a letter from the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception of Szepingkai, Manchuria, to their Superior General

Szepingkai, November 30, 1932.

BELOVED MOTHER,

As we told you in our last letter, the troubles it has pleased God to have the inhabitants of Manchuria go through, hinder the progress of the works in our different posts, and especially the work of our dispensaries; but we are confident that after this time of trial, we shall have the happiness of seeing our harvest more precious and more abundant than ever.

The reports of our Mission for the month of October 1932 are as follows :

Dispensary of Szepingkai:			
Baptisms.....	12	Patients.....	661
Treatments.....	563	Dressings.....	258
		Homes visited.....	18

1. Anna Bourbeau, of St Hyacinthe.

Dispensary of Koungtchouling open a day each week:

Baptisms.....	19	Patients.....	263
Treatments.....	315	Dressings.....	172
Homes visited.....	1		

Dispensary of Peiko open a half day each week:

Baptisms.....	9	Treatments.....	110
Dressings.....	9	Patients.....	95

It was on October 31st that our dear companions: Sr. Marie des Cinq Plaies⁽¹⁾, Sr. St. Denis⁽²⁾, Sr. Marie Emmanuel⁽³⁾, and Sr. St. Ulric⁽⁴⁾, left us to go to Tung Leao, a new post situated north-west of Szeping kai, about 240 *li* (90 miles) from Leao Yuan Sien. During the preceding days, we packed up the articles which were needed for the opening of the mission and medicine for the dispensary of which our Sisters will take charge on arriving. It is not without a little heart-pang that we saw our four Sisters take their leave, two of them having arrived here from Canada scarcely a month ago; but the thought that it was for God and souls soon caused us to find joy in the sacrifice we had to make.

We often reserve for our newly-arrived Sisters the happiness of pouring the Sacred Waters on the brows of dying babies. It is thus that Sr. St. Paul de la Croix⁽⁵⁾, successively opened heaven to three privileged children. When our Sister infirmarian received four very sick babies at the Dispensary, she invited this Sister to come to share her happiness, leaving her, however, the "lion's share". Sr. St. Angele de Merici, who has come to Szeping kai⁽⁶⁾ for a rest, has already had this happiness several times. She also sometimes has the occasion of speaking Japanese. She was quite amused the other day when, going to purchase something at a Japanese drug store, she spoke a few words to the druggist's little girl; the child was so surprised to hear a stranger speaking her mother tongue that she remained dumfounded, and did not know what to answer.

Our new companions are becoming acquainted with the language and customs of their country of adoption. Lately they were able to see how the *soan tsai* (fermented cabbage) which is a real treat for the Chinese, is prepared. Our native novices have laid in a supply for themselves. Here is how one proceeds: the most beautiful heads of cabbage are chosen and the roots and withered leaves cut from them. They are thrown into boiling water and after being left to boil five or six minutes, are placed in cold water until they are quite cold. Then they are piled up in an enormous earthen barrel. In order to put in more, the Chinese press them down, that is, after placing a row in the barrel, they spread a piece of cotton over them and a person tramples on this cloth. After three days, cold water is added and the cabbage left to ferment. After a month of fer-

1. Blanche DION, of Montreal

2. Anne Marie DUBE, of Saint Denis, Kamouraska Co.

3. Berthe CREVIER, of St. Anne de Bellevue

4. Lea GENDRON, of St. Ulric, Matane.

5. Marie Anne CYR, of St. Michel de Squatteck.

6. Marie Jeanne L'HEUREUX, of Loretteville.

mentation, the *soan tsai* is ready to be eaten, it is served without being boiled anew, or cooked with meat.

On November 13th, His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre came to give a conference at the Native Novitiate and had eight postulants who entered a year or over a year ago, try their canonical examination. Six were admitted to don the Holy Habit, the two others not having the required age. On November 17th, the entire personnel of the Novitiate, commenced a retreat; Mgr. Lapierre, despite his numerous occupations, readily consented to preach it. The 21st, the Feast of the Presentation of Mary, was the day chosen for the clothing ceremony of the privileged novices. This ceremony, at which His Excellency presided, took place in our little chapel, at nine o'clock. Reverend Father Jasmin delivered a sermon, after which the postulants advanced to the foot of the altar and requested His Excellency to accept them into the Society of Our Lady of the Rosary. Mgr. blessed the veils, emblems of their mystical betrothal, and gave one to each. While they were putting them on, their elder sisters sang in Chinese: "Lord, my God, I give Thee my life, etc." The new betrothed of the Lord then received His Excellency's blessing, which was followed by an apostolic blessing given to all present. Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament brought to a close the pious ceremony, after which, His Excellency kindly repaired to the Novitiate to address a few words to the novices and to give them a holiday, which they joyfully spent, their hearts filled with gratitude.

On November 22nd, we had the happiness of offering to the sweet Virgin of the Temple nine little lilies, seven of which were culled at the Dispensary of Szepingkai and two at Koungtchouling.

On these days also, we gave treatment to Reverend Fathers Lecompte and Desrochers, both of whom had typhoid fever. The latter especially caused us great anxiety. Two of our Sisters also attended to the Fathers at the Mission of Hwaite Sien who were sick also, but now, thank God, all are out of danger. The city of Hwaite, situated 40 miles from Koungtchouling, is built on a hill, it possesses a pretty church dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary. There are quite a few Christians there.

Reports for the month of November 1932:

Baptisms.....	30	Patients.....	866
Treatments.....	947	Dressings.....	237
		Homes visited.....	146

Dispensary of Koungtchouling:

Baptisms.....	7	Patients.....	112
Treatments.....	120	Dressings.....	28

Dispensary of Peiko:

Baptisms.....	12	Patients.....	89
Treatments.....	118	Dressings.....	13
		Homes visited.....	6

YOUR HAPPY CHILDREN OF SZEPINGKAI.



GROUP OF CHRISTIANS OF LEAO YUAN SIEN, AS
TO GREET HIS EXCELLENCY MGR. J. L. A. LAPIERRE, VIC
To the left: WHO RETURNED RECENTLY

THE CONVENT OF THE MISSIONARIES OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.



ASSEMBLED IN FRONT OF THE MISSION CHAPEL
VICAR APOSTOLIC OF SZEPINGKAI, MANCHURIA, CHINA,
RECENTLY FROM CANADA.

To the right:

THE PRESBYTERY OF THE REVEREND FATHERS OF THE CANADIAN FOREIGN MISSION SEMINARY.

LEAO YUAN SIEN, CHINA

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

Friday, September 30, 1932

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

Baptisms.....	72		
Patients.....	2,329	Treatments.....	2,646
Teeth extracted..	14	Homes visited....	141
		Consultations.....	232

Saturday, October 1

Sister Marie Mediatrix⁽¹⁾ is happy to offer to God this evening, two little souls, the first fruits of her apostolate. The privileged children receive the names of Marie Delia in remembrance of our beloved Mother, and of Joseph Elzear, the name of the father of our dear Sister who administers Baptism.

Thursday, October 6

A poor workman, a victim of the brigands, presents himself at our dispensary. Being employed in a neighbouring city, he stayed at an inn with twenty-six companions. One evening, a band of brigands found their way into their abode, robbed them of their money, placed some gunpowder in the house, and set fire to it. Thirteen of the unfortunate men perished in the flames. The other fourteen managed to make their escape, not without meeting with a few accidents. Our patient's face and arms were wounded. For a few weeks he was given treatment by a Japanese doctor; penniless, he was compelled to discontinue this treatment and to seek shelter with his mother living in Leao Yuan Sien. It was while with her that he heard of the Catholic Mission.

Thursday, October 13

A Christian brings us a little ten-year-old girl whom he found crying on the street. She was betrothed, four years ago, to a boy of sixteen and since then she has suffered greatly on account of the ill-treatment she received from her mother-in-law who always found fault with her, owing to her lack of aptness for the work she was given to do. As she was treated more and more harshly, she ran away during the night, and escaped, wandering through the streets. Divine Providence brought her to us. A person from the Mission paid a visit to the child's mother-in-law, in order to inform her of what had occurred and to ask her to give her future daughter-in-law to the Orphanage of the Catholic Mission. Without hesitating in the least, she agreed to do so, so happy was she to get off so easily. The child's

1. Aline MALOUIN, of Charny.

disappearance had caused her great worry; she feared to be pursued by the law for the harsh way in which she had treated the little deserter, who, she thought, would inevitably fall into the hands of the police to whom she would reveal everything.

Tuesday, October 18

We are honoured by a visit from Mgr. Gaspais, Bishop of Kirin. His Excellency is accompanied by Reverend Father Charest.

At four o'clock in the afternoon, there is Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament in the church. Present in the sanctuary are Mgr. Lapierre and Mgr. Gaspais.

Wednesday, October 19

At nine o'clock, Pontifical High Mass is celebrated in the church by His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre. His Excellency Mgr. Gaspais preaches the sermon.

Towards two o'clock, we receive a portion of the big dinner served in honour of His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre. Shortly after, the two distinguished visitors come to our Convent.

Tuesday, October 25

In the course of the day, nine dying babies are baptized. When these poor little ones arrive it is always a privilege to be the one chosen to receive them. Although Baptism is administered to children at the Dispensary every day, it is always with the same enthusiasm and the same happiness that we accomplish this sublime act of our religion.

Thursday, October 27

We are organizing among ourselves, a crusade of prayers for the conversion of one of our patients, an old man of seventy-four, whom we visit regularly, and to whom we gave a medal of the Blessed Virgin. At each visit, we speak to him a little about religion. Yesterday, on asking him if he believed in God, he showed us his medal, saying: "Look, do I not believe in Him, I am wearing His Mother's image." We hope to baptize him before long.

Monday, October 31

The hearts of everyone in our little family overflow with gladness: our Sisters en route to the new mission of Tung Leao, come to spend with us the three hours that they must wait for the train. This short visit of our dear companions has been longed for and looked forward to for a month. To receive them, we make use of all the treasures of our poverty.

After a visit to the Divine Guest in the Tabernacle and the singing of the pious hymn: "Mother of God, bless us...", our four travelling Sisters visit the different buildings of the Mission, and then it is time for dinner.

Only too soon does the clock strike the hour for their departure. It is with sorrow that we separate, but we shall ever keep in our hearts the happy remembrance of these sweet hours of family rejoicing.

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

Baptisms.....			58
Patients.....	2,038	Treatments.....	2,724
		Dressings.....	992
Teeth extracted..	14	Homes visited....	105
		Consultations.....	148

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PA MIEN TCHENG, MANCHURIA

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

Saturday, September 24, 1932

We have the happiness, which is ever new, of baptizing two little dying children at our Dispensary this afternoon.

Just lately, the catechist, hearing that a baby five month old had just been thrown out not far from here, went immediately to the spot indicated. Ascertaining that the poor little creature was still alive, he baptized it, giving it the name of Philip. Why can we not glean all the little souls which are thus being lost every day and sometimes so near to us. What superb sheaves would we form for heaven!

Friday, September 30

What joy! a new companion, Sr. Joseph Arthur, who recently arrived from Canada, joins us to-day. She has come to lend us a helping hand. What pleasant moments we shall spend listening to her speaking of our beloved Mother, of our dear Sister Assistant and of all our Sisters of Ouatremont!

Report of the Dispensary of Pa Mien Tcheng for the month of September, 1932:

Baptisms.....	37	Patients.....	2,430	Treatments.....	4,140
Dressings.....	254	Teeth extracted...	42	Homes visited....	1

Monday, October 3

We leave our new companion the happiness of baptizing two little dying babies. For the first time in her life, she pours the Sacred Waters... Her happiness is indeed great, she gives her little proteges the names of Marie Delia and Lezinska. This dear Sister, the day after her arrival, having placed herself under the protection of the Queen of the Rosary, began to study the language of the country. She has a little difficulty in pronouncing certain words, but our professor encourages her by telling her that *man man ti* (little by little, she will learn)...

Tuesday, October 4

Our little orphans put on their padded clothes to-day; it is amusing to see them, they can hardly keep on their feet and are as broad as they are high. The smallest of them, Fou Ling, two years of age, who is not yet very steady on her legs, is still less so with her *mien k'ou* (padded bloomers). She takes a step, falls, picks herself up, trips anew, but does not become discouraged; by evening she has learned the way and, to-morrow, we are sure that she will be quite at ease in her "dainty garments".

Sunday, October 9

We go to spend the evening recreation with our little orphans, who prove their affection for us in a thousand ways. In order to amuse Sr. Joseph Arthur, they improvise a kind of pantomime, one arriving dressed as an inhabitant of Koan Li, another as a Cantonese, a third feigning to be a beggar woman, a fourth a weeper, etc., etc. It is really amusing. There is only one who is not pleased and that is Loudia, a child three and a half years of age. She wears the characteristic head-dress of the women of Southern China, her own country, and she notices that she is being laughed at. This does not amuse her in the least and she pouts at us. This little one is not proud!!!

Monday, October 10

We baptize three dying babies at the Dispensary and visit two homes.

Thursday, October 13

There is much joy in the Mission of Pa Mien Tchong, for His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre is expected to arrive on the noon train; it is the first official visit paid us by His Excellency since he returned from Canada. This morning, everyone is busy putting the finishing touches to the preparations, the chapel is almost completely hidden by flags, streamers, natural and artificial flowers; the papal and national colours blend prettily. The ideal weather adds to the beauty of the festivity: an autumn sun, which is still hot and bright, sheds its beneficent rays upon us.

Towards noon, a delegation of Chinese civic authorities, headed by the chief of police and his escort, the men, the seminarians and the school boys, marching to the sound of the drum, start for the station; meanwhile, the women and the school girls wait, lined up in the public square. As soon as His Excellency's vehicule appears in view, the little bell of the Mission peals forth, its silvery notes being wafted heavenwards; the explosion of fireworks goes on without interruption, and it is in the midst of this "nice racket" that Mgr. gets out and enters the chapel.

His Excellency makes a short visit to the Divine Prisoner, after which the Christians offer him their homages and bid him welcome. Then takes place the Chinese banquet offered to His Excellency by the Chinese themselves and which is attended by the entire personnel of the Mission. Mgr. then visits the buildings of the Mission. On leaving the Orphanage, His

Excellency kindly comes to speak to us for nearly an hour of his trip to Rome, to the Holy Land, and to Canada; he speaks to us of our dear Mother House, of the Novitiate, and of our beloved parents whom he has visited.

Friday, October 14

Mgr. celebrates Holy Mass, at the close of which takes place the confirmation ceremony. Twenty-nine of the faithful, men, women and children, receive the Sacrament which makes one a perfect Christian. After breakfast, the procession forms in the same order as the evening before and accompanies His Excellency to the station. Numerous pagans join in with the Catholics and they do not conceal their admiration for a religion which inspires its members with such respect and veneration for their pastor.

The train which Mgr. Lapierre takes to go to Taonan brings us from Szepingkai our dear Sister Superior, Sr. Julienne du Saint Sacrement⁽¹⁾, who is accompanied by Sr. Marie des Cinq Plaies⁽²⁾. Both are laden down with packages and boxes filled with wholesome and sweet things sent us from Canada by our beloved Mother and our good parents. It is almost like New Year's Day; each one opens the packages addressed to her, exclamations and laughter follow; pleasant memories are recalled and all are deeply touched on recognizing that, in the dainties sent, our dear parents have not forgotten our preferences of former years.

Saturday, October 15

Sister Superior, accompanied by a virgin catechist, goes to the city to do some shopping. We are now well known in Pa Mien Tchong, and no unkind remark ever reaches our ears. At the store she stops at, she is first offered a cigarette. It must not be forgotten that, in China, the women smoke as much and often more than the men, and it is a mark of consideration and politeness to offer a smoke to one's guest. Her shopping over, our dear Sister is offered a cup of tea; needless to say, she refuses this fresh courtesy the same as the one before. The store-keeper accompanies her to the door, bowing a great many times; as she congratulates him on having such pretty flowers to adorn the front of his house, he offers to save her some lily plants for next year; she is careful not to refuse them.

Sunday, October 16

Since two or three Sundays, the faithful answer all together the priest who celebrates Mass; it is an excellent means of helping all present to assist at the different parts of the Holy Sacrifice well.

Wednesday, October 19

Grateful thanks to our great protector St. Joseph for the three baptisms registered at the Dispensary this morning.

1. Beatrice LAREAU, of Chambly Bassin.

2. Blanche DION, of Montreal.

FAKOU, MANCHURIA

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

Wednesday, September 21, 1932

Once again we have experienced that rarely does St. Joseph let the day which is dedicated to him go by without giving us the occasion of administering a few baptisms. Thus, unexpectedly, we again have to-day, a soul to baptize, that of a two-year-old child.

As the city is actually protected by untrained soldiers, it is not surprising that the brigands are in no hurry to leave. Here, whoever wants to be a soldier is one... and the aspirant to the title of "defender of the country" does not receive a very complicated training: he is given a military uniform, not always complete, for sometimes he has but a soldier's cap, and a gun which he does not always know how to use. In these times of stress, many become soldiers in order to assure themselves a living. What was our surprise just lately on seeing one of our former patients of the Dispensary who is half lame, wearing a soldier's uniform!...

The behaviour of the Christians, since the invasion of the brigands, proves that, for them also, tribulation is a school of wisdom. The attendance at the different devotions is higher, confessions and Communions are more numerous. As for the catechumens, their number increases from day to day; a few of them, doubtlessly, were first attracted by the quite natural desire of finding a place of shelter and protection at the Catholic Mission, but little by little they are won over by divine allurements... God is seemingly making use of the actual disturbances for the spreading of His kingdom and for the good of souls.

Monday, September 26

Mr. Jou, one of the leading Christian gentlemen of Fakou and the father of one of our good Chinese helpers, is seriously ill. At noon, Reverend Father A. Barbeau anoints him. The whole day long, we treat him as best we can.

Tuesday, September 27

As the postal service has been reorganized after being interrupted for more than twenty days, we are inclined to believe that the condition of the city is beginning to improve. To-day's mail brings us two letters from Szeping-kai, one of which informs us of our new Manchurian companions. What a feast, after our long fast!... This evening, even though the cannons roar we shall not hear them, so great is our happiness.

Wednesday, September 28

Mr. Jou died last night in the embrace of Holy Mother Church of which he has always been a devoted son. Being a Christian convinced of the truth

and faithful to practise what he believed, he distinguished himself by his great devotion to the Blessed Virgin; it was very edifying to see him every morning, while waiting for Mass to begin, walking through the Mission gardens piously saying his beads. We feel sure that, from the heavenly heights, he will continue to take an interest in the Christianity of Fakou over which he exercised during his life an uplifting influence, by his zeal in seconding the apostolate of the missionary priest and by the protection he accorded his brothers in the faith.



BEFORE MR. JOU, A FERVENT CHRISTIAN OF FAKOU, WAS BROUGHT TO THE CEMETERY. HIS NEAR RELATIVES ARE DRESSED IN WHITE, AND HIS FRIENDS WEAR A WHITE ROSE AS A SIGN OF MOURNING.

Tuesday, September 29

Without anything foretelling their departure, the brigands, after taking their revenge upon the citizens by dropping a few bombs on two important buildings of the city, raised the siege. Would it not be the great St. Michael who put them to rout... ?

Friday, September 30

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

Baptisms.....	16	Patients.....	1,666	Treatments.....	2,194
Dressings.....	257	Teeth extracted..	21	Homes visited.....	15

Saturday, October 1

The city has begun to present its usual aspect. Itinerant dealers who, for nearly a month were obliged to store away their cakes and trinkets, go through the streets to-day announcing their wares. In the nearby country-places, busy farmers are to be seen reaping their grain, which is already too ripe.

Sunday, October 2

After placing ourselves under the protection of Our Lady of the Rosary and our holy Guardian Angels, we attend the exercises of the monthly retreat.

After the anxiety and turmoil of the past month, we find it good to rest close to God and the Immaculate Virgin, our Mother.

Monday, October 3

The Feast of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, the Patroness of Missionaries and guardian of the Mission of Fakou. The Reverend Pastor sings, in honour of the little Saint, a High Mass in thanksgiving for her protection over us during the disturbances which have just occurred.

Tuesday, October 4

We hear of a new society of visionaries professing hatred for every foreigner, for the Japanese especially, and which already counts many followers. These sectarians, at the time of their initiation, swallow a paper on which is written a certain character which is supposed to render them incapable of being wounded by firearms. They also receive a big knife with which they pretend to be able to chase the Japanese out of China, whence their name of *ta tao hoei* (a society of big knives). A few days ago, at a post close beside K'ang Ping, eight men of this sect entered the Mission Compound and, taking Reverend Father Pelletier for a Japanese, pursued him, even following him inside the house where he had a hard time getting rid of them.

Wednesday, October 5

A hundred brigands have asked to be enrolled in the army and have been received with honour... Those who were brigands yesterday are, to-day, defenders of the country. What a "surprise box" is the Chinese administration!...

Saturday, October 8

The Fathers have just learned that one of the posts served by them has been cruelly tried by the brigands. Of the seventy houses which the village counted, those of the Catholic Mission, visibly protected by divine Providence, are the only ones left standing.

The Christians of different villages come in turn to seek refuge at the Mission. Many of them have lost everything, even their clothes.

Monday, October 10

After being in the city prison for a few days, the members of a Christian family are set free, thanks to the intervention of the Reverend Pastor. Here are the details of how these poor people were cast into prison: the mandarin's soldiers having asked them for some blankets met with a refusal. In order to take their revenge, the soldiers took from the *k'ang* a pack of cards belonging to the family and accused these honest Christians, before the mandarin, of gambling. They succeeded in having them condemned to prison. The prisoners were able to send the news to the Reverend Pastor, who hastened to write to the mandarin asking for their freedom. The latter then called together his counsellors and sent for the supposed criminals

to whom he addressed the following words: "You are gamblers, I know, and you deserve to spend six months in prison, but on account of *my friend the priest* who has asked that you be set free, I forgive you."

Tuesday, October 11

A poor cripple, hunch-backed, dropsical and compelled to use her hands in order to help herself along, asks to be admitted to the catechumenate. She is too sick to be left with the other catechumens, and the Mission does not yet possess a home for the poor. Are we to send this poor woman away?.. We cannot make up our minds to do so. With the Reverend Pastor's consent, we extend her hospitality in a house near the Mission. Every day, we visit our poor patient, and while treating her miserable body, we try to teach her to know and love Jesus so bountiful and compassionate who, during the course of His mortal life, preferred the sick, the crippled and the most disinherited creatures.

Thursday, October 13

The governor of the city who, before the period of strife, sought refuge in Mukden, has returned now that the crisis is over.

Peace seems to be re-established. The eastern and western gates of the city which it was deemed prudent to keep closed until now have at last been opened to traffic.

Saturday, October 15

At the Dispensary, a little soul is regenerated in the Sacred Waters of Baptism.

Tuesday, October 18

We go through Fakou for the first time since the beginning of September. The double iron doors and windows make the houses and stores of the main street appear as so many jails, causing the city to present a dismal aspect.

It is a very cold autumn, the hard winter which it announces foretells utter distress for the numerous families which have been ruined by the brigands. Oh! if we could but bring the consolations of our holy religion to all these unfortunate people.

Sunday, October 23

According to the custom followed by the wealthy class, Mr. Jou, who died on September 28th has not been buried yet. To-day, begins a festal triduum of *jee nao* (noise) and tears; after which all mourning will cease and the dead man will be taken to his last resting-place.

Monday, October 24

An aged ex-guardian of a pagoda who has been coming to the Dispensary for several months, enters the Catechumenate. A Protestant also asks to study the Catholic doctrine.

TAONAN, CHINA

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

Wednesday, September 28, 1932

While visiting a pagan home, we are glad to see again a young woman, seriously ill, who often came to our dispensary a few months ago. She is overjoyed on recognizing us. We speak to her of God whom she remembers having been told about at the Dispensary. She wishes to be a Christian, but is very anxious to live. She shows us those dearest to her in this world: her husband and a thirteen-year-old child. We give her a miraculous medal and exhort her to confide herself to the Mother of God. "Oh!" she says, "when I am better, I shall go to see you so as to learn to know the true God." Poor woman, we hope, at our next visit, to be able to prepare her for the great voyage, for it is easy to see that her illness is mortal.

Thursday, September 29

This morning, one of our big pupils, a catechumen, leaves us quite broken-hearted. Her father, who has objected to her being baptized, has decided to go with his family to make his home in K'ai Tong, a city situated 150 li south of Taonan. The young girl, who is attached to us and who ardently desires Baptism, knows that in that city there is no Catholic Mission and she is greatly worried concerning her future. She fears especially that her father will sell her to a pagan. Ever since she has known us, she has longed to become a virgin catechist in order to help us spread our religion. We beg the Immaculate Virgin to take under her motherly protection this soul which is very dear to us.

Report of the Dispensary of Taonan for the month of September 1932:
 Baptisms..... 87 Patients.....2,188 Treatments.....2,711
 Dressings.....558 Teeth extracted... 11 Homes visited.... 87

Sunday, October 2

A messenger brings us a letter from Reverend Father Michaud, of Tou Tsiuen. The situation is not very reassuring there. There are still three hundred refugees at the Catholic Mission. Fuel and food will soon be lacking and there is no way of leaving the Mission, for it would be immediately plundered. We entreat Our Lady of Protection to continue to watch over them.

Monday, October 3

We assist at a High Mass celebrated at the church by Reverend Father Berger, in honour of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. May the powerful Patroness of Missionaries help us to reap, in the land of Manchuria, an abundant harvest of souls.

A
TAONAN
MANDCHOURIE
CHINE
15 OCT.
1932



LORS DE LA
VISITE
DE SON
EXCELLENCE
MONSIEUR
LAPIERRE



AT TAONAN, MANCHURIA, CHINA, OCTOBER 15, 1932, WHEN HIS EXCELLENCY MGR. LAPIERRE VISITED THE GIRLS' AND BOYS' SCHOOL.

Friday, October 7

The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary coinciding with the First Friday of the month, at 4.30 P.M. there was Holy Hour. Even before three o'clock, some good old women of the neighbourhood make their way to the church. Fervent pagans, formerly, they have been convinced of the falseness of their religion by their granddaughters who, themselves, have received Catechism instructions at the Mission school. A few step along smartly, while others advance with great difficulty, leaning on their walking-stick, but all have a smile for us and bow gracefully when we go to meet them. How consoling it is to see these veterans of life, who have been wandering for so long in the darkness of paganism, at last approaching their God with good will and great fervour.

Some time ago, a group of old women were admitted to the Catechumenate; they put their whole heart into learning their prayers and the principal truths of our religion, which is not an easy task for them on account of their advanced age. "I am very happy, I shall be baptized soon!" says one. "I do not know my Catechism well enough, my memory is failing... it is not easy at my age", another replies. These good old grandmothers are very fervent and wish to practise all that is taught them. To-day, one of them, on returning home, finds a dollar. At first she is very glad, money is so scarce this year, but her newly-converted husband says to her: "You cannot keep this money which does not belong to you. You want to be baptized soon... You must expose the case to the professor of doctrine..." At this, she comes to the Mission and explains all to the virgin catechist. The latter has recourse to the priest who quickly puts an end to the worries of our good old woman.

Saturday, October 8

To-day is a legal holiday in New Manchuria: Mandchoue Kouo. For this occasion, the Japanese invite the children of every school to join in a parade in the city. Our Pastor, informed just in time, immediately sends the pupils of the Mission to put on their uniforms, then headed by the flag and the band, they leave in fine order, keeping time with the music. All the other classes were already in the rallying place, when a band proudly playing one of its most beautiful tunes, was heard coming. It was a surprise, and everyone's surprise soon turned to admiration; the soldiers themselves could not conceal their astonishment on seeing these little men playing so melodiously and especially keeping time so well. Moreover, our pupils have the honour of being placed immediately after the soldiers in the long procession. We hope that our brave little pupils will continue to be an honour to their school, still more by their exemplary conduct than by their good military deportment.

Wednesday, October 12

Escorted by four soldiers, all former brigands, Reverend Father Roch to-day arrives from Tou Ts'uen in an open carriage; he is quite tired after

travelling for two days and a half. We have the consolation of hearing that that city is now relatively quiet. Reverend Father Guibault has even returned to his post at Cheng Sin Toun. This evening we recite the *Magnificat* to thank God and the Blessed Virgin for the very special protection granted this Mission.

Thursday, October 13

We are called to a home to attend to a woman sixty-nine years of age to whom we have already given treatment. We are told that our medicine has done her good, but that she has just taken a turn for the worse. We go immediately to see our patient whom we find to be very low. After a Catechism lesson, complying with her desire, we pour on her brow the Sacred Waters which make her a member of the great Christian family.

Friday, October 14

His Excellency Mgr. J. L. A. Lapierre arrives in Taonan accompanied by Reverend Father Crevier, C. S. V., and two new missionaries, Fathers Asselin and Brulotte.

After Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Mgr. comes to give us his blessing and to bring us news from Canada. We find that the time goes by too quickly, that only too soon does the darkness interrupt the interesting talk given us by our devoted pastor. This good Father brought us two heavy trunks filled with good things sent us by our beloved Mother and our dear parents.

Saturday, October 15

After assisting at the three Masses in our humble chapel, we go to the church to be present at the one celebrated by Mgr. Lapierre. At nine o'clock takes place the school children's reception: gymnastic drills, playing of the band, singing, speeches, everything is a success. Mgr. then comes to visit our dispensary, and it is then the catechumens' turn to pay their respects to His Excellency. It is touching to see the veneration and respect which the Christians manifest towards their pastor. God will not fail to repay them by showering abundant blessings upon the city of Taonan.

Sunday, October 16

His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre officiates pontifically at High Mass at eight o'clock. The church is filled with Christians, catechumens and pagans. After Mass, General Tchang Hai Pong comes to bid His Excellency welcome; all the pupils, boys and girls, lined up on either side of the school grounds greet him while the band plays, and, waving flags of many colours, they give him a real ovation.

At three o'clock, Mgr. administers the Sacrament of Confirmation to thirty-three Christians. How imposing are the ceremonies of Holy Mother Church! How beautiful we find them, especially in a pagan land!... It is with the greatest fervour possible that we implore the Holy Ghost to shower His graces, to lavish His gifts upon all the Christians who invoke Him to-day.

TUNG LEAO, CHINA

*Extract from a Letter from the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception,
of Tung Leao to their Superior General*

Tung Leao, December 1st, 1932.

BELOVED MOTHER,

Having left Szepingkai on the morning of October 31st, we arrived in our new Mission towards evening. The good pastor, Father Bouchard, and Father Schetagne, received us with great kindness. Before taking us to our Convent, they gave us our supper; the virgins of the Mission waited on us.

The following day, the Feast of All Saints, we went to assist at Mass at the church. Being as yet but little acquainted with Chinese customs, we had a few distractions on seeing a good old woman make, first of all, a genuflection on entering, and then turn immediately towards us, bowing very respectfully to each one of us. At the fifth bow, laughter, quite indeliberate on our part, nearly caused us to be disrespectful in the House of God...

The following days were spent in furnishing our little convent, which is really comfortable, and in installing the dispensary. On November 5th, patients began to arrive, and as a happy omen, this same day we had the happiness of baptizing a dying child. "Go, little Joseph," we tell him, "fly quickly to the Throne of God and intercede for your young brothers of Tung Leao. May a great number of them go to join you in your blissful home."

On the 6th, His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre, who arrived the evening before, came to visit us in company with Reverend Fathers Roberge, Barbeau, Charest and Roch. They went through the different parts of the house, prolonging their stay at the chapel especially, where the Divine Master has not yet taken up His abode and where everything is lacking to receive Him... When we shall have this divine Guest, the best Friend of all, in our midst, our happiness will know no bounds!...



PUPILS OF TUNG LEAO, MANCHURIA, PARADING ON THE OCCASION
OF THE OPENING OF THE DISPENSARY.



Groupe de chrétiens et de païens

*Mission
fondée
en
1932*



Dispensaire de Tong Leao

*Maison
des Sœurs
Missionnaires
de l'Immaculée
Conception
à Tong Leao
Mandchourie
Chine*



A group of Christians and Pagans. Dispensary of the Mission of Tung Leao, founded in 1932. Convent of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, at Tong Leao, Manchuria, China.

The next day, we received another visit from His Excellency, the Reverend Fathers and nine of the most important Japanese and Chinese men of the city. These gentlemen showed themselves to be quite in favour of our work. Here, again, we were made many profound bows to which we tried to respond as gracefully as possible. In the course of the afternoon, Mgr. blessed our convent and our dispensary. His Excellency left Tung Leao on the 8th.

On November 13th, we responded to the invitation extended us by the virgins, by going to pay them a visit. They received us very kindly, and according to Chinese politeness, offered us each a cushion. Cushions are useful everywhere, they are even brought to the church by our good Chinese, who make use of them to kneel and to sit upon.

On the 15th, another child was baptized. Sr. Marie Emmanuel⁽¹⁾ gave her protegee the name of Joseph Emmanuel Basil. This same day a poor patient, seriously ill, to whom we have been giving treatment, related to us that eighteen years ago he went to live in a distant village where, little by little, he forgot all about the practice of his religion. Last year, he was captured by the brigands, thrown onto a miserable horse and taken as a hostage. The jolting of the nag caused him to receive a few severe bruises: one on the neck, two on the breast and another on the leg. When the sum exacted for his ransom was paid, he sought refuge at Tung Leao. His wounds turned worse, becoming real tubercular osteomyelitis. "If you had been a good Catholic, praying to God, He would have protected you," our helper at the Dispensary tells him. "The Christians, in this period of strife, were visibly protected. Did not three shells fall on the premises here? Well! they did not even explode. How is that, if it is not that God protects His Christians, all who pray to Him, and place their trust in His all-powerful protection." The patient listened and seemed to be making up his mind to be converted. We are confident that the holy Shepherdess, to whom we entrust this stray sheep, will lead him back to the Fold.

On November 30th, the Feast of St. Andrew and a day consecrated to thanksgiving in our dear Institute, we had the unspeakable happiness of having Mass for the first time in our chapel and, in the course of the afternoon, Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. What a favour it is to have one more Tabernacle set up on China's soil!... and it is to us four humble little missionaries, that this great gift is offered. Oh! if we could but express our love and gratitude!... Before our loving Jesus, we prayed fervently for all the needs of the Community.

On this last day of the month, it was with great consolation that we made out the report of the first fruits of our modest works in Tung Leao:

Report of the Dispensary of Tung Leao opened since November 9th, 1932:

Baptisms.....	17	Patients.....	450
Treatments.....	610	Dressings.....	156
		Homes visited.....	12

YOUR HAPPY CHILDREN OF TUNG LEAO.

1. Berthe CREVIER, of St. Anne de Bellevue.

KORIYAMA, JAPAN

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

Thursday, September 29, 1932

Saint Michael, whose feast we are celebrating to-day, is one of the principal protectors of the Japanese Church; he is invoked in all the missions and all the Christians recognize his power over the spirit of darkness. We ardently beg this powerful Archangel to inflame us with zeal for the interests of God and to cause the Christian banner to triumph in these pagan lands.

Wednesday, October 5

A greatly appreciated happiness, a real missionary happiness, beams, to-night, on all faces. The cause of this joy is that, through the intervention of one of our pupils of the English class, Our Lady of the Rosary welcomed into heaven this afternoon, a little Japanese soul of Koriyama, a little Mary who took her flight immediately after having been regenerated in the Sacred Waters of Baptism.

Miss Watanabe told us this morning that her neighbour had a baby girl scarcely two months old who was dying. Three doctors had given up the case and the poor mother, whose heart was filled with anguish, was awaiting the death of her child. The thought immediately comes to our mind that this would be a flower to offer Our Lady of the Rosary, but how are we to pluck it? The members of this family are strangers to us, and moreover, they profess Buddhism. After consulting Father Reid, we attempt to become acquainted with them. We send Miss Watanabe to tell the mother that we would like to go to see the dying child if she will permit us to do so. To our great joy, we receive a kind invitation which is immediately accepted; we repair to the house after having provided ourselves with a bottle of holy water. We are cordially received, the baby appears to be dangerously ill, but how can we proceed to pour the holy water when the relatives and neighbours, surrounding the child, are closely watching our every movement?... Trusting that the dying child will pass the day, we take our leave without having had the consolation of accomplishing the great act, but we earnestly entreat the Blessed Virgin not to let this little one die without being baptized. Towards noon, we send medicine to the child's home by the young girl, in order to give the latter the occasion of pouring the Saving Waters if possible, but she returns without having succeeded in doing so. In the course of the afternoon, Miss Watanabe goes back to the neighbour's home, bringing again the little bottle of holy water; this time, she returns joyfully announcing to us that she has been successful. "I have baptized the child," does she tell us, "it died immediately after." The happy catechumen sheds tears of happiness. "When I arrived," she goes on to say, "it was just breathing its last, I told its mother that the Sisters had given me some medicine which would relieve the

pain in its head and then took the baby in my arms and baptized it. The mother who was watching me pour the water, said to me: 'It is a cross you are making?' I answered simply that it was, and the little one expired." We immediately go to offer our sympathy to the family who receive us with deference. The poor mother whom we strive to console, heartily thanks us for what we have done for her child. Oh! how we would like to make known to her the inestimable favour which her little Mary has received and the happiness which she now enjoys up above! But the time has not yet come... May the privileged little child obtain for her family which is entirely pagan, the grace of conversion, may she also intercede in favour of the one who was instrumental in procuring her the happiness which is now hers, Miss Watanabe, that the parents of the latter may finally consent to her becoming a Catholic. This young girl possesses undaunted courage, she has to suffer, every day, real persecutions on the part of her relatives who find her too young to consider such a serious question as that of religion, but if they immediately found for their daughter a suitor to their taste, they would not hesitate for one moment to have her marry. What inconsequent reasoning!

Saturday, October 8

An aged man from the country, who has come to sell us grapes, asks to be permitted to visit the children's classroom. As he seems to be interested in seeing a house of the Canadian type, we offer to take him to the chapel; this pleases him greatly. On entering, he makes a respectful bow before the Blessed Sacrament and then attentively examines everything around him. The Stations of the Cross especially attract his attention, he scans each one in turn and does not seem to grow tired of looking at them. On taking his leave, he expresses his satisfaction and adds that he once read a Catholic book, but that he had not understood it very much. We confide this good old man and his family to Our Lady of the Rosary and, while awaiting the hour of grace, we intend to keep on friendly terms with them.

The forty-three children who actually attend our Kindergarten really seem to form a little family, they love one another like brothers and sisters. There are, it is true, little misunderstandings from time to time, but peace is quickly re-established, the one in fault apologizes to the little companion whom he has hurt and immediately they continue to play and to love one another as before. Since the beginning of September, we have them say a short prayer before and after their meals; it is most touching to see all these little pagans, in a recollected mood, their eyes tightly closed and their hands joined, begging God to bless their meal and saying their Thanks afterwards. Must He not smile lovingly upon them?... Their parents do not seem to object to this little detail of our rules, and this is for us a sweet consolation. Ere long, we shall perhaps be able to add a short Catechism lesson.

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.

Tuesday, November 29, 1932

While we are assembled in the Novitiate room, this evening, our Mistress exhorts us to return thanks to God and relates to us the origin of the feast we are about to celebrate to-morrow and which in our Institute, is known as the "Feast of Gratitude".

Twenty-eight years ago, in the humble dwelling at No. 27 St. Catherine Road, our venerable Mother Foundress began, together with our lamented Mother Assistant, her collaborator, and a few pupils, the novena preparatory to the Feast of December 8th. The little nucleus had not then the title of the Institute of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, but only that of Apostolic School.

At the same time, Mgr. Bruchesi, who had gone to Rome for the jubilee celebrations of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, presented to our Holy Father Pope Pius X the project of foundation which our dear Mother had formed. The venerable Pontiff retired within himself, and then replied: "Found, found: all the blessings of heaven will descend upon the new Institute... You will name them the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception..." On hearing these august words, Mgr. Bruchesi added: "It will be a festal bouquet for the Blessed Virgin."

The specific aim of our Institute being to give souls to God in a spirit of gratitude for the favours which unceasingly flow forth upon the entire world, it necessarily follows that we should, every day of our life, thank God and the Immaculate Virgin for this initial grace showered upon our dear religious family. As our beloved Mother deemed it necessary to fix a date on which all her children would waft heavenward their filial gratitude for the countless and priceless favours which have been especially bestowed upon them as a religious body, November 30th was the day selected... Oh! how we appreciate the choice: at the opening of the novena preparatory to our patronal feast, how good it is to kneel before the statue of the spotless Virgin to ponder over in our hearts the motives of our boundless joy!...

Saturday, December 3

To sing the praises of the Lord and to bless Him and in order that He may be praised and blessed by a multitude of pagans, we beg the ardent Patron of Missionaries, St. Francis Xavier, to obtain us a burning zeal for God's glory and the salvation of souls.

Our dear Mistress and our good Sister Bursar are not with us for the beautiful traditional holiday: yesterday, they received from our beloved

Mother the invitation to be present at a conference given by Mgr. Marin, S.J., concerning his mission in Suchow, China, and to assist at the Mass which, this morning, Monsignor celebrated in the chapel of our Mother House. Thus, we have the advantage, this evening, of taking an interesting trip to China, for our Mistress shares with us, on her return, the delicious manna which has just been served at our home in Outremont. We thank St. Francis Xavier for the thoughtful kindness he has reserved us on this his beautiful Feast Day. He knows that nothing pleases us as much or so greatly stimulates our zeal as an excursion to the land of our dreams.

Wednesday, December 7

What heavenly joy we experienced during the three days of profound recollection which preceded the great Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

As not only the recreations, but also the classes and music lessons were interrupted, we were able to ponder over at leisure the incomparable grandeur of this word: Immaculate! What charm! what sweetness! what purity is enclosed therein!!...

Some beautiful spiritual reading favoured still more our meditations on the virtues of the Blessed Virgin, and while we plied the needle or set to different little manual tasks, pious hymns and countless prayers or invocations mounted towards our all-pure, all-beautiful and all-powerful Mother. We prayed to her for the entire world...

And in order to thank her for the choicest of graces bestowed upon our Institute and upon each one of us in particular, we endeavoured, following the advice of our Mistress, to transform all our actions into as many beautiful lilies which our Guardian Angel should, in our name, present to our Immaculate Mother on her blessed Feast Day.

Thursday, December 8, Feast of the Immaculate Conception

How charming it is to take even one peep at our modest sanctuary this morning. The abundance of white lilies which adorn the altar are symbols of the mystical bouquets which we strove to prepare as a present for our Immaculate Mother. Pale blue lights project their azure reflections on the decorations, reminding us of the celestial courts where, we imagine, everything must be blue and white also for the celebration of the most beautiful of all the feasts of the Queen of Heaven.

All faces beam with happiness; with the entire Church we whole-heartedly sing Mary's praises: "Thou art all-beautiful... and there is no stain in thee!..."

The whole day long we go in groups more or less numerous to kneel before the Blessed Sacrament exposed, to offer our humble praises to God for having created a masterpiece such as Mary Immaculate, and to thank Him for calling us to be the privileged children and the missionaries of the Immaculate Conception. How joyfully, O Mother so beautiful and pure, shall we also go, when called by obedience, to proclaim thy privileges and splendour and repeat thy bounties on the most distant shores of the two continents. Oh! may we, by our zeal, hasten the arrival of the day when

thou wilt be known from Pole to Pole, for then, the infernal serpent will no longer raise its hideous head, and Jesus thy Son will be the King of all nations and of all hearts.

Following a pious custom at the Novitiate, we devote our evening to a little play, all to the honour of Mary. In the humble home of Nazareth the Blessed Virgin is busy spinning when Mary Cleophas comes to visit her. Both speak about Jesus. Mary Cleophas wonders if this wonderful Child is not indeed the Messiah. After the departure of her visitor, the Blessed Virgin goes on with her work while pondering over the sombre prophecies concerning her dear Jesus. Just at this moment, the divine Child appears clothed in pink, with a golden halo above His head. Noticing the cloud of sadness which overshadows the features of His tender Mother, He asks her the cause of her sorrow and strives to console her. All of a sudden, He stops, raises His eyes towards heaven, prays for a few moments, and then goes to get a beautiful bouquet of lilies which He presents to the holy Virgin. The latter smiles sweetly while the heavenly Child expresses His joy on having succeeded in consoling His Mother.

Two hymns to our Immaculate Lady, a recitation, some violin and piano selections frame in the little scene described above. The evening leaves us filled with a more tender love for our incomparable Mother and Patroness.

Friday, December 16

Mgr. Marin, S. J., comes to pay a second visit to the Novitiate, which procures us the favour of receiving his blessing anew.

Monsignor asks us to remember him during Midnight Mass, for, he adds, "I am going back to China that very evening; pray for me again on New Year's Day: I shall spend it quite alone on the boat..."

We promise that we shall do so, and we shall strive to address very fervent entreaties to the Divine Child in favour of the missionary who is about to cross the seas, where he will be far from his native land, from his people, and from his Congregation, on these days dedicated by such sweet traditions, to intimate rejoicing. But God and souls are worthy of such sacrifices.

Saturday, December 24

After we have recited our thousand *Aves* and completed, with the last action of the day, the preparation in our hearts of a pretty cradle for the Divine Child, we go up to our cells.

Towards 11.30, to the sound of "concerts of the angels", we awaken, and smiling at the gracious invitation, we hasten to descend towards Bethlehem whence the "pious shepherds" guide us, singing the while.

Solemn High Mass is celebrated, the Eucharistic Banquet served, and it is then especially that the sweet Emmanuel imparts to us that peace which He brings to willing souls. Then follow the Mass of daybreak and that of the morning, during which vibrate all the old Christmas carols which remain ever as new to us as when we heard them for the first time at the age of four or five.

Several of the young postulants and novices had dreaded the arrival of this hour... Nevertheless, on this night, their faces beam with happiness: impossible it is to discern thereon the least sorrow.... The reason is that they never believed that Christmas Night could be so joyous and beautiful in the Convent!...

Christmas Day, a little encroached upon by a late rising, very rapidly passes away from us: our visits to the Crib, the reading of the letters from our dear parents, the merry chatter around the Christmas tree, the preparations for a little play organized in honour of our dear Sister Bursar, whose patronal feast it is, Vespers, our spiritual exercises, and, lastly, the pleasant and impressive evening, quite fill up for us the page of "December 25, 1932", and, on folding it, we seem to feel that the dear Infant Jesus has smilingly affixed thereto His blessing, for it is indeed beneath His divine gaze that we have filled it.

Wednesday, December 28, Feast of the Holy Innocents

This morning, we prayed very fervently to these dear little martyrs, and, following the example set us by St. Therese, we entreated them to obtain us the spirit of childhood which is so pleasing to Our Lord; then, we asked each of them for a second gift, a little pagan soul to baptize, in order to present it to the Divine Little King. We have been told that there are legions of little Innocents in the heavenly abode... what a beautiful bouquet of souls will they cull if they answer all our prayers!...

Saturday, December 31

Reparation and thanksgiving are necessary to the soul on this last day of the year; therefore we give full vent to these sentiments before the solemn hour of the New Year strikes.

As is our custom, from 11.30 P.M. till 12.30 P.M., we kneel in a group before the Tabernacle to offer to the Master of time the year which is ending, and to implore His blessings on the one which is beginning.

Sunday, January 1, 1933

New Year's Day!... What a magic word this was in bygone days for our childish imaginations, and what a charm does it not still hold for the souls of all the novices!... Everything is so new to us at our dear Dovecot...

Sunday, January 8

We undertake, this afternoon, the most magnificent trip that anyone could possibly wish for. We all embark on the *Empress of Pont Viau* and speedily sail away towards the different parts of China, Japan and the Philippine Islands. And it is you, dear Sisters scattered over different parts of the world who have procured us our excursion tickets by writing us such interesting letters. Accept our sisterly gratitude and write to us again: you could not believe what great and holy desires you have caused to spring up in the hearts of your young sisters.

Sunday, January 22

Before returning to Manchuria after being in Canada for a few months, Reverend Father Larochelle, of the Foreign Mission Society, kindly spends with us a few moments of the last hours he is to remain in his native land, for the time of his departure is near at hand. "I am leaving to-morrow," he tells us at the beginning of his interesting conversation, "I am about to return to my mission." He does not conceal from us that this new departure is perhaps more painful than the first, for he is leaving an aged and sick mother, whom he will probably never again see here below. This however does not hinder him from being very glad to return to Manchuria, where souls are awaiting him.

While telling us of the manners and customs of the Chinese, Father adds a few words of advice which we wish to profit by. He enumerates the virtues which are the most indispensable to a missionary, giving the first place to obedience, for in the Missions, more than anywhere else, disobedient religious cause disasters...

We are sorry that this talk is not a little longer, but we understand that the good Father has other engagements. After giving us his blessing, he bids us farewell "until we meet again in Manchuria".

Saturday, February 11

After an imposing retreat made by two hundred of our Professed Sisters, novices and postulants, we greet the beautiful dawn of the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes.

The heavenly smile of the Immaculate Queen who, seventy-five years ago to-day, ravished humble little Bernadette at the grotto of Massabielle, continues to attract and win souls. Thus it is that on this day, sixty-five young girls, after kneeling to beg this spotless Virgin to smile upon them every day of their life, solicited the favour to be lead by Her to the Divine Spouse. Twenty-nine received the white livery of the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception; twenty-four exchanged the white veil of the betrothed for a more austere one, that of the Spouse of Christ, and twelve others sealed by a final engagement, their perpetual and mystical union with the Spouse of Virgins, receiving in return the ring of fidelity.

The names of the happy privileged Sisters are as follows:

For the clothing: Miss Lucienne Brais, of Ahuntsic (Sr. Gilberte de Jesus); Miss Germaine Beauchemin, of Ahuntsic (Sr. Claire du St. Sacrement); Miss Margaret Savard, of Three Rivers (Sr. Marguerite d'Ecosse); Miss Emilienne Marchand, of Tetreaultville (Sr. Ste. Emilienne); Miss Geraldine Vaillancourt, of Quebec (Sr. St. Jean du Cenacle); Miss Marcelle Mainguy, of Quebec (Sr. St. Alberic); Miss Marguerite Mulaire, of St. Pierre Joly's, Man. (Sr. St. Hilaire); Miss Rogatienne Ferland, of Normandin, Roberval (Sr. St. Cyrille); Miss Madona Laliberte, of Leamington, Ont. (Sr. St. Pierre d'Alcantara); Miss Jeanne Marois, of St. Augustin (Sr. St. Pierre de Rome); Miss Marie Louise Morisset, of Luceville, Rimouski (Sr. St. Hyacinthe); Miss Marguerite Jacques, of St. Joseph de Beauce

(Sr. St. Felix de Valois); Miss Emilienne Doyon, of Beauceville Est (Sr. Jeanne de Lorraine); Miss Marguerite Maltais, of Chicoutimi (Sr. Marguerite des Anges); Miss Marguerite Routhier, of Ste. Foy, Quebec (Sr. Marie Georges); Miss Almeria Ricard, of Three Rivers (Sr. Marie Lydia); Miss Ursule Boulanger, of St. Honore, Co. Beauce (Sr. Ste. Dorothee); Miss Marie Louise Guimond, of St. Francois Xavier des Hauteurs (Sr. Marie de Bethleem); Miss Therese Cayer, of Quebec (Sr. St. Rodolphe); Miss Marie Reine Trudeau, of Ste. Julie de Vercheres (Sr. Marie Reine); Miss Germaine Morissette, of Joliette (Sr. St. Adelard); Miss Armande Gilbert, of Beauceville Est (Sr. St. Guy); Miss Olivette Tellier, of Montreal (Sr. Marie Alberta); Miss Marie Jeanne Nantais, of Montreal (Sr. Jean Baptiste du Sauveur); Miss Rollande Girard, of Ste. Perpetue, Nicolet (Sr. Ste. Vitaline); Miss Lucile Comeau, of Maddington Falls (Sr. Rose de Marie); Miss Juliette Rivard, of Montreal (Sr. St. Jean de la Lande); Miss Lucienne Gadoury, of Ste. Elizabeth, Joliette (Sr. Marie Theodore); Miss Gabrielle Brousseau, of Quebec (Sr. Ste. Colombe).

For First Vows: Sr. Ste. Lucile (Adrienne De Grandpre, of Pawtucket, R. I.); Sr. Marie Jeanne (Jeanne Laramee, of Outremont); Sr. Marie du Perpetuel Secours (Florine Morin, of Montreal); Sr. St. Vincent Ferrier (Isabelle Ethier, of Montreal); Sr. Marie de la Sainte Famille (Marie Rose St. Pierre, of Boucherville); Sr. Marie Arthur (Angele Lemay, of Ste. Emelie de Lotbiniere); Sr. Ste. Suzanne (Suzanne Tremblay, of Lachute Mills); Sr. Marie Lucie (Marguerite Gagnon, of Quebec); Sr. St. Placide (Marie Jeanne Doyon, of Bromptonville); Sr. Madeleine du Sacre Cœur (Madeleine Payette, of Montreal); Sr. Joseph Hermann (Marie Josephe Ouellet of St. Fabien); Sr. Ste. Adeline (Juliette Villeneuve, of Quebec); Sr. St. Amable (Isabelle Legris, of Montreal); Sr. Ste. Elisabeth de Hongrie (Marie Anna Letourneau, of St. Roch des Aulnaies, l'Islet); Sr. Marie Marthe (Marie Alice Vezina, of St. Joseph, Beauce); Sr. Ste. Angele de Foligno (Angela Benoit, of Three Rivers); Sr. Marie du Crucifix (Eva Tessier, of St. Bonaventure, Yamaska); Sr. Ste. Alice (Jeanne Bastien, of Montreal); Sr. Ste. Beatrice (Beatrice Berube, of St. Octave des Metis, Matane); Sr. St. Gaetan (Germaine Menard, of St. Isidore de Prescott, Ont.); Sr. St. Germain d'Auxerre (Germaine Lefrancois, of Longueuil); Sr. St. Aime (Annette Allard, of Ste. Elizabeth, Joliette); Sr. Ste. Clotilde (Germaine Beauchemin, of Ste. Clotilde de Horton); Sr. St. Paul de Rome (Rhea Bigras, of Ste. Dorothee).

For Final Vows: Sr. Ste. Agathe (Lucile Dubois, of Ste. Croix, Co. Lotbiniere); Sr. Ste. Rose de Lima (Rose Berube, of St. Damase, Matane); Sr. Marthe de Bethanie (Berthe Pothier, of Three Rivers); Sr. Ste. Ida (Alice Gagne, of East Broughton); Sr. St. Sebastien (Alice Goulet, of St. Gervais de Bellechasse); Sr. St. Jean de la Croix (Stella Desrosiers, of Fall River, Mass.); Sr. St. Zotique (Simone Kirouac, of Montreal); Sr. Leon Joseph, (Simone Sabourin, of St. Isidore de Prescott, Ont.); Sr. St. Adele (Josephine Charron, of l'Isle Verte, Temiscouata); Sr. Marie de Liesse (Georgine Beneteau, of Amherstburg, Ont.); Sr. St. Roch (Marie Jeanne Bedard, of Quebec); Sr. Ste. Cecile (Marie Louise Labonte, of Gentilly).

In the distant missions, on this same day, eight of our Sisters also bind themselves forever to Our Lord. They are: At Tung Leao, Manchuria: Sr. St. Denis (Anne Marie Dube, of St. Denis, Kamouraska); at Sze-ping kai, Manchuria: Sr. St. Dominique (Marguerite Dunn, of L'Acadie); Sr. Marie Esther (Alice Buteau, of St. Evariste); at Pamien Tchong, Manchuria: Sr. St. Jean d'Ephese (Laurette Moran, of St. Boniface, Man.); Sr. Ste. Rosalie (Ursule Charette, of Three Rivers); at Fakou, Manchuria: Sr. Catherine d'Alexandrie (Catherine Lebel, of St. Epiphane, Rimouski); at Leao Yuan Sien, Manchuria: Sr. Gabrielle de Marie (Gabrielle Filion, of Lachute); at Tsung Ming, China: Sr. Camille de Lellis (Yvonne Jolicœur, of Joliette).

The ceremony is very solemn and impressive, for His Excellency Mgr. Deschamps, Auxiliary of the Archdiocese of Montreal, greatly honours us by presiding at it. His Excellency first blesses our new chapel, which is well filled by a pious and recollected throng. After a touching sermon delivered by Reverend Father Coutu, S. J., our retreat-master, follow the usual ceremonies of the days of Profession and the taking of the Holy Habit.

His Excellency is assisted by Very Reverend Canon J. A. Roch, Superior General of the Foreign Mission Seminary and by Reverend Father Perrier, of Joliette.

Present in the sanctuary are: Very Reverend Canon Rodolphe Mercure, Pastor of St. Jovite; Reverend Father G. D. Chaumont, Assistant General of the Foreign Mission Seminary; the Reverend Fathers A. Derome, of Pont Viau; Albert Benoit, of St. Nicolas, Montreal; Leonce Vezina, of St. Ludger, Riviere du Loup; Albert Lafrance, of Ste. Julie; Georges E. Boileau, of Christ Roi, Charles Chaput, S. J., of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Montreal; Alexandre Paradis, of the Foreign Mission Seminary; L. Durand, C. S. V., of Berthierville; Laurent Lapalme, C. S. V., St. Joseph's Shrine; I. Dube, C. SS. R., of St. Alphonse, Montreal; E. Deguire, C. S. C., Holy Cross Scholastic; George Robitaille, S. J.; Lucien Comeau, S. J., Pierre Laramee, S. J.; L. Whelan, Chancellor; Wilfrid Labrosse, of the University of Montreal; L. Borrel, chaplain of Mont Lasalle; J. A. Ethier, chaplain of St. Luke's Hospital; Emile Lorrain, chaplain of the Refuge Notre Dame de la Merci; Joseph Gariepy, chaplain of the Novitiate of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception; J. O. Berube, of Rimouski; Rosario Lefebvre, of the Seminary of Quebec; Victor Dupuis, of the Seminary of Quebec; the Reverend Brothers Andre Lemay, S. S. S.; Paul Andre, S. S. S.; P. Lefebvre, C. S. V.; Leopold Lussier, C. S. V.; Hildouard, F. C.; Zephirin, S. C. C.; Benoit Joseph, S. S. S., and others.

Before leaving our convent, His Excellency has the kindness to repair to the parlour where the parents of the happy privileged Sisters are assembled; he addresses them a few words of congratulation and gives them his blessing.



"I took for my patron the glorious St. Joseph and recommended myself earnestly to him. He rendered me greater service than I knew how to ask for..."

St. Teresa.

Thanksgivings to the Blessed Virgin for favors obtained



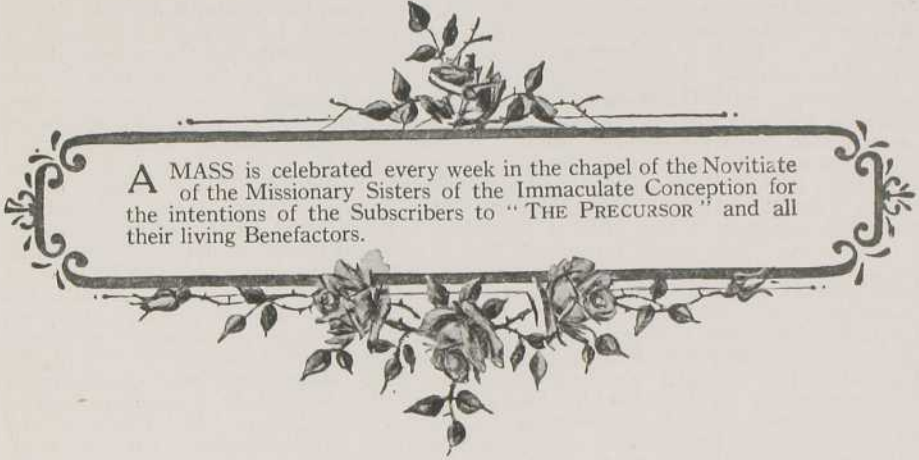
"O MARY, the entire universe would perish before you refuse your assistance to those who, with all their heart, implore your help and protection."

BL. HENRY SUZO.

Please find enclosed an offering for four little Chinese souls and one for the poor, for favour granted. Mrs. C. J. T., Windsor, Ont. — I am sending you a small offering as promised. I thank God for His kindness in our behalf. Please continue to pray for us. Mrs. A. L., Ottawa, Ont. — Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Perpetual Help for the great favour granted on the last day of novena. Masses promised for the Holy Souls and for other good works. M. M., Montreal. — Find enclosed a thank-offering for a favour received. Miss D. V., Newport, Vt. — Enclosed you will find a small donation which I promised to send for a favour granted. Would you still pray for the conversion of my son, the cure of my daughter, also that we may all keep our positions. Mrs. J. W., Montreal. — I thank our Blessed Mother from the bottom of my heart for the favours she has granted me. I am sending you an offering for the ransom of eight dying babies. Please pray that I may obtain the favours of which I stand in need and that I may have a happy death. Mrs. L., Windsor, Ont. — Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving to Our Immaculate Mother for a favour granted. I would ask you to kindly remember all our intentions in your novenas and daily prayers. J. A. K. — I promised that I would send you a thank-offering if I rented my house. It was rented in less than a week after I made this promise. Please pray for my husband, myself, and little one. Mrs. J. M., Providence, R. I. — On the third day of a novena to the Immaculate Conception and the Little Flower my prayers were answered. I am enclosing a small offering in thanksgiving and shall be ever mindful of the blessings received through Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and the Little Flower. M. J. Q., Westmount, P. Q. — You may use the enclosed for your Chinese Missions in thanksgiving for favours received. A Friend, North Bay, Ont. — Enclosed you will find an offering for lights to be burned at Our Lady's Altar, in thanksgiving for two special favours received. I hope you will pray for me. M. T., Montreal. — Please accept my small donation, in thanksgiving for a great favour obtained through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. Would you kindly pray to the Blessed Virgin and St. Teresa that I may obtain four more favours. For each favour that is granted me I will send an offering. A Friend. — Please find enclosed an offering for the ransom of two Chinese babies likely to live, in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for favours received. Mrs. A., Montreal. — I am enclosing an offering for a Chinese baby, in thanksgiving for a favour received. L. S., Marlboro, Mass. — Please pray for employment for my son and that I may meet with success so as to be able to pay my debts. A Friend, North Bay, Ont. — I am sending you an alms in thanksgiving for favours received. Mrs. A. V., Windsor, Ont. — Miss M., Montreal, begs to inclose cheque in payment for a novena of lights and a small offering for the missionary work. — Enclosed please find \$1.00 in thanksgiving for a favour received. Kindly remember me in your prayers. M. B., Windsor, Ont. — Gratitude to the Blessed Virgin for a diploma obtained. Miss E. R., Ste. Flore. — Favour obtained through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. I am enclosing the price of the ransom of some Chinese children in thanksgiving. Miss C. P., — Thanksgiving for favour obtained. Mrs. H., Granby. — In thanksgiving to our good heavenly Mother, I am paying for the ransom of a pagan child. A Subscriber, St. Joseph de Sorel. — Favour obtained after promising to publish and to give an alms in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin. Miss B. H., Montreal. — An alms in thanksgiving for favour obtained. Mr. F. V., St. Joseph de Mekinac. — In fulfilment of a promise, I am enclosing my alms in thanksgiving for a favour obtained and wish it to go for the relief of the poor lepers. Anonymous, Montreal. — Thanks to our good heavenly Mother for the cure of my eldest daughter; in thanksgiving, I will renew my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. W. C., St. Casimir. — I am paying for the ransom of a pagan child likely to live, in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for a position obtained for my son. Mrs. E. M., St. Ludger. — A thousand thanks to God and the Blessed Virgin who granted the cure of my daughter suffering from nervous trouble and insomnia for several years. I am making an offering in thanksgiving. Anonymous, Marieville. — Herewith enclosed an alms in thanksgiving to fulfil a promise made if I obtained a sum due for rent; I beg other prayers for the location of a store. A Subscriber. — I am enclosing a mite in thanksgiving for favours obtained. Mrs. B., St. Evariste. — A thousand thanks to the Most Blessed Virgin for a great favour obtained after promising a yearly alms for the Missions, in thanksgiving, and a subscription to THE PRECURSOR all my life. Anonymous, Rimouski. — I am sending this alms for the Missions as a token of my gratitude for a favour obtained. A Subscriber, St. Felicien. — I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR to thank the

Blessed Virgin for a favour obtained. Mrs. A. B., **St. Felicien**. — I am making this gift to the Missions to testify my gratitude for a favour obtained. Mrs. Z., **Ste Genevieve**. — I experienced relief in an illness and I desire to prove my gratitude by giving a little alms. Miss A. G., **St. Telephone**. — Gratitude to the Blessed Virgin for a favour obtained after promising a subscription to THE PRECURSOR. A Subscriber, **Outremont**. — I am paying my subscription to THE PRECURSOR in thanksgiving for a great favour obtained. Mr. A. M., **Woonsocket**. — Offering in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin. Mrs. J. B., **St. Felicien**. — Favour obtained; as a token of my gratitude, I am enclosing an offering for the Missions. Mr. A. C., **Clair, N. B.** — A great favour obtained after promising to have my thanksgiving published. M. J. J., **Charlesbourg**. — I am enclosing an alms as a token of my gratitude for favours obtained. Anonymous, **St. Valentin**. — In fulfilment of a promise for a favour obtained, I am enclosing an alms. Mrs. A. H., **Sacre Coeur**. — Gratitude to the Blessed Virgin for a favour obtained after promising to have it published in THE PRECURSOR. A Subscriber. — I thank the Blessed Virgin who has obtained the cure of my husband. I am making an offering in thanksgiving. A Subscriber. — Two great favours have been granted me and in gratitude for these kindnesses, I am making an offering which I will renew every month until my promise is fulfilled. I beg for prayers that my husband may keep his position and for health for a poor mother of a family. Mrs. A. S., **Lachine**. — After I made the promise to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for ten years, I obtained the cure of my little girl who has been sick for five years. Lively gratitude to the Blessed Virgin. Mrs. L. B., **St. Raphael**. — Favour obtained after promising to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR and to have my thanksgiving published. I also enclose an alms for your poorest mission, as a token of my lively gratitude. Mrs. P. L., **Makamik**. — A favour has been granted me; I am enclosing an offering to testify my gratitude to our heavenly Mother. Mrs. L. L., **St. Felicien**. — A great favour obtained. Mrs. R. P., **Montreal**. — A thousand thanks to the Immaculate Virgin for a cure obtained. G. T., **Chicoutimi**. — I am making an offering in thanksgiving for a cure obtained. E. P. — Gratitude to the Blessed Virgin for a favour received. I am enclosing an alms. Mrs. H. H., **St. Felicien**. — I am sending an alms in honour of the Blessed Virgin. It is my thank-offering for a favour received. Mr. E. G., **St. Prime**. — In thanksgiving for my cure, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin, I am paying my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. F. C. — Besides my subscription to THE PRECURSOR, I am giving a little alms in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. Mrs. T. D., **Springfield**. — To thank the Blessed Virgin for a favour which she has granted me, I enclose an alms for the most needy of your works. A Subscriber, **Montreal**. — Lively gratitude for the favours granted me during the year that has just ended. I recommend our family to your prayers that peace may reign therein and that we may obtain several favours of which we stand in need. Miss C. J., **Carquet, N. B.** — Lively gratitude to our good heavenly Mother for a favour obtained. I enclose stipends for a Low Mass in her honour. Mrs. H. M., **Yamachiche**. — Herewith an alms in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. Mrs. L. B., **Ile Maligne**. — I am sending my alms for the ransom of infidel children in thanksgiving for all the favours received through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin in the course of the year 1932. I ask her for her protection during this year. Mrs. O. R., **Montreal**. — To express my gratitude to the Most Blessed Virgin for two favours she has obtained me, I am paying for two lights in her honour. Mrs. P. L., **Brandon**. — I am enclosing an offering as well as my subscription to THE PRECURSOR, in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. Mrs. J. D., **St. Honore**. — This mite is in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for a favour obtained. M. A. B., **Yamachiche**. — I am paying for the ransom of a Chinese child to prove my gratitude to our heavenly Mother for a favour obtained. Mrs. M. C., **Ottawa**. — I thank the Blessed Virgin with all my heart for having deigned to cure me of a head-ache from which I suffered after an accident; I solicit anew her powerful intercession that I may obtain the cure of rheumatism in my limbs and that my husband may be cured of deafness with which he is afflicted. Mrs. F. L. — I am enclosing an offering for the ransom of Chinese children to testify my gratitude to the Blessed Virgin for a favour obtained. Mrs. A. D., **Pawtucket**. — Our good heavenly Mother has come to our aid. I desire to have a novena of lights burned in her honour, as a token of gratitude. Mrs. X., **St. Bruno Guigue**. — I am making an offering for your works in thanksgiving for favours obtained. M. R. R. — Some great spiritual favours have been granted my family. Most grateful thanks to our merciful heavenly Mother. Mrs. G. L., **Stamford, Conn.** — Gratitude to the Blessed Virgin for favour obtained. Mrs. P. C., **Montreal**. — I enclose an offering for the ransom of infidel children to thank our Immaculate Mother for a great favour and to ask her to continue her maternal protection over us. Mrs. V. G., **St. Ephrem**. — I enclose an offering in fulfilment of a promise for a favour obtained, and solicit another favour. M. D. G., **Lac Brule**. — I enclose my cheque in thanksgiving for a favour received. M. U. C., **Parisville**. — Herewith my subscription to THE PRECURSOR in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. Mrs. H. V., **St. Nazaire**. — Grateful thanks to our good heavenly Mother for the so visible protection which she unceasingly grants us. Mrs. A. S., **Lachine**. — Favour obtained after promising to give an alms for the Missions in thanksgiving. Mrs. J. D., **Lachine**. — Herein enclosed my offering as a proof of my gratitude for the cure of my brother. Mrs. P. L., **Oakland, R. I.** — Kindly publish my lively gratitude to Our Lady of Seven Dolours who has obtained me the cure of my arm which was broken in three places. No one has ever invoked this good Mother in vain. Mrs. H. V., **Lowell**. — Praised be the Blessed Virgin for the constant protection which she grants us. Miss A. C.,

Lachine. — Thanks to the Immaculate Virgin through whose intercession we have been kept working. I enclose an alms as a proof of my gratitude. **Mrs. J. N. B., Montreal.** — I have obtained a precious favour through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. I am making an offering in thanksgiving. **A Child of Mary.** — Herewith enclosed a Postal Note in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. **I. S., Montreal.** — Favour obtained after promising to subscribe to *THE PRECURSOR* and to publish. **Mrs. A. O., St. Honore.** — Enclosed is a little offering in honour of Mary Immaculate for a favour granted. Would you kindly pray for a very sick person who has neglected her religious duties for some years. **Mrs. K., Stratford, Ont.** — Enclosed please find an offering for a Mass of Thanksgiving in honour of St. Anthony for favours received. Please pray for a special intention. If my request is granted, I shall send you a donation for your missions. **M. A., Montreal.**



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."

Work for my father, brother and myself and other favours. **B. P., Montreal.** — Please pray that my husband may get steady work and also for his return to the Church. **Mrs. F. B., Pawtucket, R. I.** — A position for my husband. **Mrs. M. E. W., Montreal.** — God's graces and blessings; a conversion; peace of mind; a cure of epilepsy and other intentions. A Subscriber, **J. A. K., Montreal.** — I promise to send you \$5.00 for Masses if my mother who is suffering from cancer obtains relief. **Mrs. E. L. J., Providence, R. I.** — I am enclosing the price of a novena of lights and solicit a position for my husband. **Mrs. L., Verdun.** — A position for my husband and another special favour. **Mrs. E. McD., Shawinigan Falls, P. Q.** — I promise to subscribe to *THE PRECURSOR* again if I obtain a special favour. **F. C. C., Outremont.** — Please pray for my husband and myself, for we are both sick. **Mrs. J. L., Disraeli, P. Q.** — Two special intentions. **Mrs. Carroll.** — Will you please make a novena for my intentions. If I receive three special favours I will send you an offering for the ransom of three dying Chinese babies and subscribe to *THE PRECURSOR*. **Mrs. J. K. F., Montreal.** — Material help for my sister and her husband and a position for myself. **Mrs. N. F., Verdun.** — I beg you to pray for a very special intention. **Anonymous, Verdun.** — A position for my husband. **Mrs. E. L., Windsor, Ont.** — I will send you a donation as a token of my gratitude if the favour I am asking is granted. A Subscriber. — I beg you to pray that my husband may find work. **Mrs. G. C., Timmins, Ont.** — Will you please pray for a friend and myself who are in trouble. **M. F., Pawtucket, R. I.** — The speedy recovery of my daughter who has been ill for two months. **Mrs. M. M.** — I beg prayers that a great favour may be granted very soon. A Subscriber. — My husband's success in his work and another special intention. **Mrs. A. K., Sudbury, Ont.** — I am subscribing to *THE PRECURSOR* and am sending you an offering for a novena of lights in honour of Mary Immaculate and St. Therese of the Child Jesus that I may obtain a position and two spiritual favours, also for the sale of property, if it be the Will of God. **B. P., Montreal.** — I beg your prayers for my intentions. **M. E. H., St. Hilaire, P. Q.** — If my brother finds employment and my husband secures the position that he has in view, I promise to be a life-long subscriber to *THE PRECURSOR*. A Friend. —

A special favour. E. L., **West Danville, Vt.** — I beg you to pray for three very special favours. Miss P. K., **New Carlisle, P. Q.** — A position is solicited. A new reader of THE PRECURSOR, M. H. B., **Wolcott, Vt.** — I am subscribing to THE PRECURSOR with the hope of obtaining some money of which we are in great need at present. I promise, if our request is granted, to continue the yearly subscription. Mrs. H. C., — A position and the means of saving our home. Mrs. W. E. W., **Parmer, Ohio.** — Several special intentions. Miss A. K., **Island Pond, Vt.** — Please pray for my intentions and for those of my family. Mrs. J. C., **Watford, Ont.** — A special intention. Miss T. M. F., **Montreal.** — I beg your prayers that I may obtain a cure. Mrs. G., **Stratford, Ont.** — If I obtain the favour I am asking, I will send you an offering in thanksgiving. G. B., **Montreal.** — Health for my husband and myself and work for my boys. Mrs. C. McK., **Wauregan, Conn.** — Will you please pray for a very special intention. If granted I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR again. Mrs. A. D., **Sarnia, Ont.** — Work for my brothers and my fiancé. A. S. C., **East Providence, R. I.** — Would you kindly pray for two special intentions. Mrs. T. S., **Harris, R. I.** — A position and another special favour. E. A. R., **Montreal.** — I am enclosing an offering for the ransom of two dying Chinese babies. Please have a novena said in honour of the Blessed Virgin for two special favours. F. G. H., **Montreal.** — Would you be kind enough to pray for my intentions. If either of them are granted I promise to send you an offering to help along your missionary work and each year I will give as much as I am able. A Devout Member. — If my husband secures a position he will send you an offering each month for a year. Mrs. B. F. N., **East Providence, R. I.** — Enclosed please find an offering for the Little Flower Bursar. Please pray for a special intention. I. G., **Windsor, Ont.** — May I ask your prayers that God will grant me a very great favour. Mrs. J. Shanahan. — Kindly pray for me and my sister that we may obtain a very special favour and that as a second favour my husband may obtain steady work. If I obtain the first favour mentioned I promise to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for life and also to have a Mass said in honour of our beloved Mother for the relief of the Souls in Purgatory. R. B. S., **Vermont.** — Work for my son and daughter and other intentions. Mrs. C. C., **Rosemont.** — I promise to spread our dear Mother's devotion and to have a Mass said for the poor Souls in Purgatory if I secure the position I have in view. E. A. R., **Montreal.** — The successful sale of our farm. Mrs. L. D., **Belle River, Ont.** — I am writing to ask you to pray for the cure of my little girl's left eye. Mrs. M. E. G., **London, Ont.** — The cure of nervousness and the obtaining of another favour. I am enclosing a small offering and if these requests are granted I shall try to send you a further donation. Anonymous. — Please accept this small offering for your missions. I wish you would make a novena to the Little Flower that I may soon find a position. I promise to renew this offering if my request is granted. C. O. R., **Providence, R. I.** — Prayers are requested for several special intentions. Mrs. T. C., **Point St. Charles.** — May I ask you to pray for three special favours. M. P., **Newport, R. I.** — I promise to send you an alms each month for a year, if my husband is successful in finding work of some kind. Mrs. A. F., **Montreal.** — Enclosed you will find a small offering. Please make a novena to the Little Flower for a special favour. R. B., **Ville Lasalle, P. Q.** — Please find enclosed an offering for the ransom of four dying Chinese babies. Kindly pray for my intentions. A Friend. — A conversion and other favours. Mrs. M. E. W., **Montreal.** — If we succeed in selling our two houses, we will send you an offering to help you in your wonderful work. Mr. and Mrs. G., **La Salle, Ont.** — Please accept this small offering. Will you kindly pray for a very special intention. Mr. and Mrs. B., **Montreal.** — I would like to ask the prayers of your Community through the intercession of Our Lady of Perpetual Help for success in renting my house, also for the sale of property. If granted, I will make an offering. A Subscriber of THE PRECURSOR. — Will you please pray for two special intentions and that I may have steady employment. I am enclosing an offering for your missions and will send another if my requests are granted. J. P. McC., **London, Ont.** — Enclosed please find a donation towards the Little Flower Bursar. I beg you to pray that I may be completely cured. I will send another offering if I get help. Mrs. M. D., **Montreal.** — Enclosed is an offering for the Missions. Please remember us in your prayers. L. V., **Ottawa, Ont.** — The successful sale of my farm. I promise a donation if this favour is granted. Mrs. S. A., **New London, Conn.** — Please find enclosed a small offering. Will you kindly make a novena to the Blessed Virgin and one to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for my intentions. Please pray for my family also. I promise to send another donation if I obtain my favours. A Subscriber, W. S. F., **St. Paul, P. Q.** — I am sending a small offering for your missionary work. I am asking for my cure and am confident that my prayers will be heard. Mrs. C., **Nashua.** — Please accept the enclosed alms. May I ask your prayers that my husband may be able to hold his position. If my petition is answered I shall forward you another offering. Mrs. J. McC., **Windsor, Ont.** — I am deaf; I ardently desire to obtain my cure if it is the Will of God. Anonymous. — The cure of a head-ache and sore ears. A Friend of the little Chinese. — Success in an important enterprise. A Friend, **Primeauville.** — Success in the studies of my son and a position. Anonymous. — The settling of an important piece of business. I promise an offering in thanksgiving, if heard. D. D., **Montreal.** — If I obtain my health and a position for my husband, and if we fulfil all our obligations, I promise to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR all my life and to give an offering in thanksgiving. Mrs. J. C., **Montreal.** — The checking of a serious illness which is commencing in our family and work for my husband. I am making different promises which I will fulfil if my prayers are

heard. Mrs. D. M., **Quebec**. — A position for myself and for a person dear to me. I promise an alms and a subscription to THE PRECURSOR in thanksgiving. G. T., **Chicoutimi**. — The obtaining of a position as soon as possible. I promise to give an alms for the Missions in thanksgiving. A Subscriber, Mrs. P. C., **Quebec**. — Conversions; peace in a household; the cure of three persons; the recovery of a sum of money which is due us; the prompt and advantageous sale of property; success in our undertakings and other intentions. I am making different promises which I will accomplish in thanksgiving when these favours are granted me. A Subscriber who has confidence. — Position for a person who is dear to me; I promise to pay a five-year subscription to THE PRECURSOR as a token of gratitude, if this favour is granted within a short time. Miss L. P., **Montreal**. — If I obtain the position I desire, I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR all my life. Mrs. M. H., **Chicoutimi**. — I am subscribing to THE PRECURSOR in order to obtain the cure of my eyes. A Subscriber. — I promise to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR if I obtain my cure. Mrs. A. P., **Broughton Station**. — My children's future. Mrs. A. A., **West Warwick, R. I.** — In my trials, I recommend myself to your prayers. Mrs. R. P. — I solicit the conversion of a person dear to me and work for her. Anonymous, **St. Stanislas**. — An important favour. A. R., **Valleyfield**. — A happy death for my mother; patience and resignation in trials; peace in the family; the spirit of prayer; a special favour. A Subscriber. — The sale of a piece of land. I promise a substantial donation in thanksgiving if this favour is granted. Miss C. F., **Montreal**. — The success of a very important undertaking. Marie F. L., **L'Assomption**. — If I obtain a special favour I will give an offering in thanksgiving. Enclosed herein is my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. L. G., **St. Gilbert**. — I promise to give an alms for the Chinese missions if I am cured of hay-fever. M. E. C. — A very special favour. Mrs. J. C., **Montreal**. — I promise an alms if I obtain two favours. Miss M. V., **Montreal**. — A great favour is asked for. Anonymous. — With confidence I beg for prayers that I may obtain a great favour. A Repentant Sinner, **Montreal**. — The cure of a person dear to me; I will fulfil different promises if my prayers are heard. Miss C. B., **Montreal**. — I promise to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR and to make a substantial donation in favour of the Missions in thanksgiving to God, if I obtain the sum necessary to pay my debts. Mrs. X., **Lac aux Sables**. — A special favour. A Subscriber, **Rimouski**. — I promise to give a generous alms for the Missions, in thanksgiving, if I meet with full success in a contest. One who wears the Miraculous Medal. — An important favour. Miss X., **Beauharnois**. — If my husband obtains the position he desires within a short time, I will give an offering for the Missions and will find a new subscriber to THE PRECURSOR in token of my gratitude. Miss R. M., **Montreal**. — I promise a generous offering for the Missions if our heavenly Mother comes to our aid. A Subscriber, **Quebec**. — A change of circumstances, I promise to help the Missions in thanksgiving. Mrs. G., **Three Rivers**. — Along with my subscription to THE PRECURSOR, I am making a sacrifice by sending you a small offering and ask for prayers for the recovery of a sum of money. Mrs. L. J., **Montreal**. — I promise a generous offering as a token of gratitude if I obtain my cure. Mrs. E. B., **Central Falls**. — A position for my husband and his conversion. Mrs. A. B., **Montreal**. — I solicit my cure. Mrs. N. M., **Montreal**. — The conversion of my husband. Mrs. H. L., **Montreal**. — The obtaining of a special favour. Miss P. B., **Montreal**. — If the Blessed Virgin and St. Therese of the Child Jesus obtain the favour I am asking them, I will give a few offerings in their honour. Mrs. O. P., **St. Hermas**. — The settling of very important business. A Subscriber, **Ste. Rose**. — I am soliciting some favours which are very necessary to us and promise to remain a subscriber to THE PRECURSOR the rest of my life and moreover to give an alms in thanksgiving. Mrs. S. J. B., **Pawtucket, R. I.** — I solicit with confidence the cure of my father who suffers much from his throat. A. V., **Montreal**. — A position for my husband. A Subscriber, **Montreal**. — A special intention through the intercession of our good heavenly Mother. Mrs. D. S., **Montreal**. — I am paying my subscription to THE PRECURSOR and at the same time ask for prayers that all the members of my family may enjoy good health. Mrs. J. E. L., **St. Philippe**. — We solicit a cure. Mrs. S. G., **Henrysburg**. — I am paying my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. I am making this sacrifice in order that I may obtain a pension which is due me. Mrs. A. P. — I solicit several favours from our Immaculate Mother and promise a subscription to THE PRECURSOR in thanksgiving. Miss L., **St. Placide**. — While renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR, I beg you to pray that I may be cured. Mrs. P., **South Hadley Falls, Mass.** — I am subscribing again to THE PRECURSOR that I may obtain the conversion of a person neglectful of his religious duties, the cure of rheumatism, if it is God's Will, and the grace of a happy death. A. G., **St. Telephore**. — I recommend to your prayers the vocation of one of my sons. Mrs. G., **St. Elie Caxton**. — I am subscribing to THE PRECURSOR and ask for prayers that we may obtain work. If we find ourselves in a position to do so, we will give an offering in thanksgiving. Mrs. S. F., **Taschereau**. — I solicit the grace to know my vocation this year. Miss A. C., **Ottawa**. — May I ask you to pray that my health may improve if such be God's Will. R. T., **Nicolet**. — Several special intentions. Miss H. R., **St. Alexis**. — I recommend to your prayers an important undertaking and will make an offering in thanksgiving if granted. Mrs. S., **Lachine**. — I solicit in all confidence the grace of having peace in our home. Mrs. R. P., **Chateauguay**. — Enlightenment concerning my vocation; I promise an alms in thanksgiving. Miss F. G., **St. Charles**. — Health for my husband and myself and success for my children in their studies. Mrs. A. M., **Burlington**. — While renewing my subscription to

THE PRECURSOR, I beg you to pray that a special favour may be granted myself and family. Mrs. N. P., **Montreal**. — A special favour is ardently desired. I promise, if I obtain it, to send stipends for two Low Masses, in thanksgiving. Miss J. S., **North Troy, Vt.** — I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR and ardently solicit the cure of my husband if it is God's Will. Mrs. A. O., **Essex Junction, Vt.** — Success of a trade. M. D. L. G., **Greenfield, Mass.** — The return of my son to college and success in his studies. Mrs. X., **Ste. Therese**. — I ardently desire to obtain a great favour. M. C. J., **Ste. Rose**. — I am enclosing the price of a novena of lights, and solicit the conversion of a brother who is being led astray by bad companions. Mrs. A. G., **Rosemont**. — I promise to make a donation, in thanksgiving, if God grants the cure of my husband. L. A., **Verdun**. — I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR and ask for the following favours: health; God's protection; the conversion of a few persons dear to me. Mrs. A. C., **Saints Anges**. — The cure of my nerves and of my stomach from which I suffer greatly. Mrs. O. A., **St. Cesaire**. — I am gladly giving a little alms while begging prayers for my cure. M. L. D., **Ste. Agnes**. — I am making a sacrifice by subscribing to THE PRECURSOR and solicit with confidence a position for my husband and the preservation of our health. Mrs. F. G., **St. Timothee**. — A position for my son. Mrs. N. L., **Quebec**. — The perseverance of my two children in the religious life. Anonymous, **Keegan**.



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

Miss Imelda DESROSIERS, Fall River, Mass., sister of our Sister St. Jean de la Croix; Mrs. LEGRIS, Montreal, mother of our Sr. St. Amable, novice and of a postulant; Mrs. Mary McGUINNESS, Montreal; Mrs. Catherine O'MARA, Providence; Mrs. J. TYRRELL, Montreal; Mrs. Mary MARKEY, Auburn; Mrs. QUINLAN, Westmount; Mr. and Mrs. James GIRR, Newport; Mr. J. P. McDONALD, Montreal; Mrs. Catherine MAHER, Mapleville; Mr. DUGGAN, Westmount; Mrs. Susan DEVLIN, Omagh, Ireland; Mrs. W. P. McVEY, Montreal; Mr. and Mrs. J. MULLONEY, Newport; Mrs. Bridget LEONARD, Blackstone; Mrs. E. ROBINSON, Montreal; Mr. A. BOUCHARD, Montreal; Mrs. John DENEHEY, Fall River; Miss C. CATALINI, Newport; Mr. and Mrs. Andrew RAMSEY, Philadelphia; Mrs. Elizabeth O'DONNELL, Montreal; Mr. M. HARRINGTON, Newport; Mr. Fred LABOISSONNIERE, Centredale; Mr. Thos. McGRAIL, Montreal; Miss Mary MILNER, Newport; Mr. Frank J. McCANN, Providence; Miss Catherine DOYLE, Providence; Mrs. Rose Anna BURNS, Pawtucket; Mrs. Agnes BOODEY, New York; Mrs. J. DONNELLY, Montreal; Mrs. Mary TIERNAN, Providence; Mrs. Charlotte GOULD, Newport; Mrs. Mary A. KEOUGH, Providence; Mrs. Elizabeth AFFLECK, Pawtucket; Mr. John J. O'LOUGHLIN, Newport; Mrs. Anna J. TOHER, Providence; Mrs. Sarah HEANEY, Montreal; Mrs. Josephine MONTMINY, Pawtucket; Mrs. Hermine GAUDREAU, Attleboro; Mrs. Lilian DOWDING, Providence; Mr. John McMANUS, Montreal; Mr. John McNAMARA, Central Falls; Mrs. Leona CAUETTE, Central Falls; Mrs. F. T. SWEANOR, North Hatley, P. Q.; Mrs. Margaret O'BRIEN, Montreal.

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of the

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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.

Privileges Accorded to Benefactors

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

Besides, Benefactors are entitled to the following spiritual advantages:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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