

THE PRECURSOR



Vol. IX., 12th Year

MONTREAL, March-April 1934

No. 8

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 Lagachetiere 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 when requested to do so.

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CITY OF RIMOUSKI, P. Q., St. Germain St. (Founded in 1918)

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Hostel "The Immaculate Conception" for young girls.

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

Apostolic School.

CITY OF RIMOUSKI, St. Jean Baptiste St.

Closed Retreats for ladies and young girls.

(Founded in 1932)

(Continued on page 3 of the cover)

Please Help the
Missionary Sisters
of the Immaculate Conception

By procuring work for them.

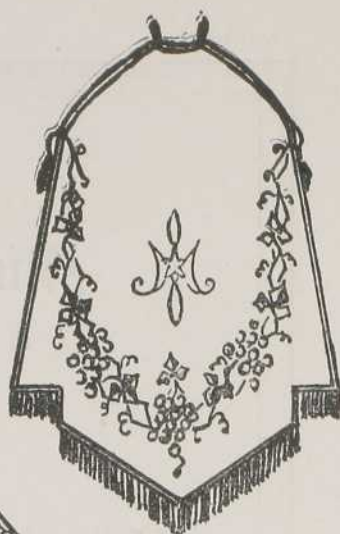
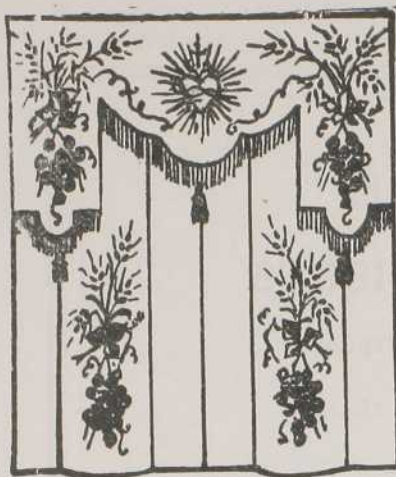
THE Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception have a work-room in which are made church-vestments and altar-linens, the profits of which are destined to support their Mother House and Novitiate.

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.

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.	\$ 16.00 and \$ 25.00		
“ moire-antique, with beautiful emblem	25.00	“	35.00
“ moire-antique, very richly embroidered in gold	75.00	“	100.00
“ velvet, gold braid and emblem ..	30.00	“	38.00
“ fine gold cloth, with or without very rich hand-embroidery ..	50.00	“	90.00
Benediction Veil	7.00	“	upwards
Cope, damask silk, silk or gold braid	30.00	“	50.00
“ moire-antique, very richly embroidered in gold	70.00	“	90.00
“ gold cloth, with beautiful emblem and raised hand-embroidery in gold	100.00	“	150.00
Alb, with guipure lace	8.00	“	upwards
Linen surplices with or without lace	3.00	“	“
Felt Altar Covers, green or red	5.00	“	“
Tabernacle Veil	5.00	“	“
Ciborium Cover	4.00	“	“
Breviary Marks, hand-painted	1.00	“	“
Collar for “ Sacred Heart League ”	8.00	“	“

A large variety of banners and canopies made in our work-room.

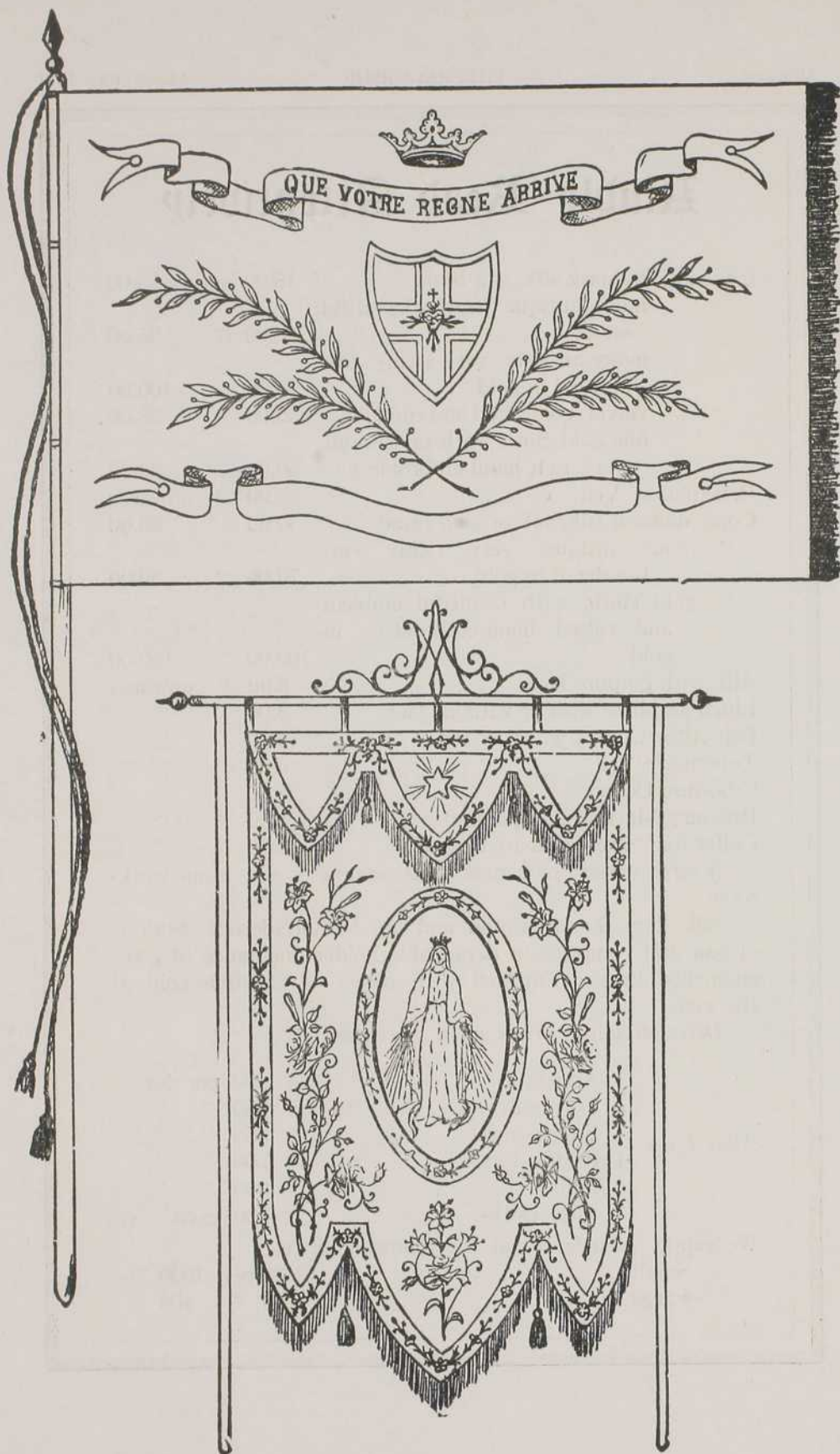
Silk flags, hand-painted and hand-embroidered. Staff is of oak and comprises a detachable holder and lance of gold-enamelled brass. Finished with fringe of half-fine gold at the end.

Description and prices given on request.

Altar Linen	{	Amices	\$12.00	per doz.
		Corporals	8.50	“ “
		Finger-towels	4.50	“ “
		Purificators	5.00	“ “
		Palls	4.00	“ “
		Altar cloths	6.00	each

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. IX, 12th Year

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Remember, O most pure Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, glorious St. Joseph, that thou wast the first to bear our Saviour Jesus to a heathen land. Do thou obtain us from that sacred Heart which so often rested on thine own, a burning zeal for souls.



St. Joseph's Rod



*Lowly and meek at the Temple gates
Mary, the chosen of Heaven, waits.
And many a weary mile is trod
By men of Judah, with staff and rod,
When Zacharias, the great high priest,
Bids them come to the holy feast.*


*To only the pure in heart is given
To love, to cherish, the Bride of Heaven;
And at Mary's feet the suitors all
In reverent admiration fall,
When, lo! on one rod a dove snow-white
Pauses a moment in its flight.*

*'Tis the rod of Joseph, and now on his head
The white dove rests, but the high priest said:
"Before the altar let each man leave
His rod all night, and thus receive,
By a second sign, the will of Heaven
To whom the Virgin's hand be given."*

*And so through the long, dark hours he kept
A vigil there, while the whole world slept;
And, behold, on Joseph's rod that night
A lily opened its petals white,—
A spotless lily of heavenly birth,
With never a root in the sordid earth!*

*And Joseph, the carpenter, bowed his head
In lowly awe when the high priest said:
"By the snow-white dove, and this lily bell
That springs from thy rod, I know full well
That to thy pure soul the boon is given
Henceforward to cherish the Bride of Heaven."*

— E. E. Brown.



The Novena of Grace

in honor of

St. Francis Xavier

From the 4th to the 12th of March
the Anniversary of his Canonization

"Oh! what a kind and faithful friend he is! How powerfully he assists all those in need or distress!"

(Words of Father Mastrilli.)

The origin of the Novena of Grace is due to St. Francis Xavier himself who appeared in 1663 to Father Marcello Mastrilli, S. J., and even in our own day, countless are the favours obtained by all who make this Novena.

In December 1663, the Viceroy of Naples ordered that a church in which he desired to have the Feast of the Immaculate Conception celebrated with the greatest pomp be magnificently decorated. As Father Mastrilli was seeing to the preparations, he was mortally wounded in the head by a blow from an iron hammer, weighing two pounds, which fell one hundred feet out of a workman's hand. There was no hope of recovery. The prayers for the dying were being said for the sufferer, who had received the Last Sacraments, when suddenly a peaceful expression appeared on his features, he opened his eyes

and began to converse in a low voice with someone apparently standing by his bedside. After a while he was seen to apply a relic of the true Cross to his wound; then, turning to the spectators, who had felt that a miracle was being worked, he exclaimed: "I am cured, and it is St. Francis Xavier who has cured me." At these words, all were filled with admiration and recited the *Te Deum* in thanksgiving. Father Mastrilli rose and dressed himself and, kneeling before the image of his heavenly protector, spent a long time in prayer. He afterwards related to his Superior all that had happened. The following details concerning the Novena have been extracted:

St. Francis Xavier, to whom Father Mastrilli had a tender devotion, had appeared to him radiant with heavenly light, and had told the sufferer to place a relic of the true Cross on his wound. The Saint bade him go to Japan as he had previously vowed to do. He predicted to him that he should shed his blood for the Faith in that heathen land, and further assured him that all who should make a novena commencing March 4th and ending on the 12th, go to confession and receive Holy Communion, would obtain any request that was for the glory of God and the good of their souls. The first part of the prediction soon came to pass. Father Mastrilli was martyred shortly after his arrival in Japan; the second part continues to be realized even in our own day. Wherever this Novena is made by large crowds, countless favours are recorded. It is this striking fact that has won for it the title of the Novena of Grace. Needless to say, the efficacy of this Novena is not necessarily restricted to the dates mentioned.

PRAYER TO ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

O most lovable and loving Saint, in union with thee I adore the Divine Majesty. The remembrance of the favours with which God blessed thee during life, and of the glory after death, fills me with joy; and I unite with thee in offering to Him my humble tribute of thanksgiving and of praise. I implore thee to secure for me, through thy powerful intercession, the inestimable blessing of living and dying in the state of grace. I also beseech thee to obtain the favour I ask in this Novena. (*Make your petitions.*) But if what I ask is not for the glory of God, or for the good of my soul, do thou obtain for me what is most conducive to both. Amen.

Add three *PATERS* and *AVES* in memory of St. Francis Xavier's devotion to the Most Holy Trinity, and ten times the *GLORIA PATRI* in thanksgiving for the graces received during his ten years of apostleship.

LET US PRAY

O God, who didst vouchsafe by the preaching and miracles of St. Francis Xavier, to join unto Thy Church the nations of the Indies, grant, we beseech Thee, that we who reverence his glorious merits, may also imitate his example, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, PATRON OF
MISSIONARIES.

The Boy Jesus



THE BOY JESUS.

What kind of a life did Jesus lead at Nazareth? The same as that of His parents; He laboured with St. Joseph, His foster father. When, at the beginning of His public life, He returned to Nazareth to speak of the kingdom of God, the townsmen appeared to be greatly surprised. "How came this man by all these things," they asked, "and what wisdom is this that is given to Him, and such mighty works as are wrought by His hands? Is not this the carpenter's son, the son of Joseph?" When Our Lord taught in the Temple, the people of Jerusalem also wondered, saying: "How doth this man know letters, having never learned?" (St. Mark, VI.2, 3; St. John, VII. 15).

The Latin word *faber*, which, in the Gospel, is applied to Jesus and to Joseph, signifies a workman. That these two holy labourers were carpenters is quite possible, but nothing proves that they were. St. Justin who lived almost at the same time as the Apostles, in conversing with the Israelite Triphon, speaks of ploughs, scales and yokes which were made by our divine Lord; Tertullian speaks in much the same way, and St. Jerome informs us that in several churches of the Orient, there are wooden objects which are said to have been made in the workshop in Nazareth. This gives one the idea that Joseph and Jesus laboured in a workshop, where they perhaps sold what they made. At all events, the people of the early centuries spoke of them as being carpenters.

Joseph had taught his trade to Jesus. When we read in the Scriptures that the Child was submissive to His father, we must not think that He obeyed him only in the ordinary things of life, but that He also learned from him how to work. Thus it was that the Creator of the universe deigned to learn from a man how to fashion beams! And yet, the divine Apprentice knew a thousand times as much as His master. If He had so wished, He could have made other ploughs far more modern than those which Joseph showed Him how to make, but such was not His desire. What, then, did He learn from His father? The art of doing things less perfectly than He knew how to do them. He conformed Himself strictly to the times in which He lived. His only aim in working was to obey. What did it matter to Him if He made such and such a thing in such and such a way? He considered Joseph as His master and He obeyed him in the same way as a labourer obeys the one who has charge of the workshop in which he labours.

And He was no less obedient to His mother than to His foster-father. A child, especially an only child, as he grows up is a great help to poor people. There was not much fire in the home of the Holy Family but,



THE CREATOR OF THE UNIVERSE DEIGNING TO LEARN FROM A MAN HOW TO FASHION BEAMS.

Father PERDRAU.

for the little there was, wood was needed; Jesus was always ready to carry it in. The water was some distance away, it had to be drawn from the stream at the far end of the town; Jesus was always ready to fetch it. Being a very attentive son, He thought of different ways of relieving His mother.

Thus, in the interior of Joseph's home, we find a family of artisans, who earn their bread by the sweat of their brow. Mary is a workwoman and is spoken of as such in the most ancient writings. It was she who attended to all the household duties. She was obliged to prepare food for the two workers and to make clothes for them: tradition tells us that it was Mary who wove the seamless garment which Jesus wore all His life, which grew with Him and for which, on the Mount of Calvary, the soldiers cast lots. So trivial are the details concerning Mary's life, that they almost escape one's attention.

By shutting Himself up in a workshop so as to labour until He was thirty years of age, Jesus accomplished a work of momentous import. He peacefully brought about, simply by His all-powerful will, the most radical change in history.

What was an artisan before the coming of Christ? One despised by those of the upper class. Among the Romans, most of the trades were followed by slaves. The labourer was despised and rejected. Our Lord Jesus Christ comes upon earth; He becomes an artisan Himself and consecrates almost His entire life to manual labour. Old ideas are done away with; the example is set; a new order of things springs up. Manual work is reinstated; the workman is no longer despised, but becomes the equal of other men. It is no longer a dishonour to lack the necessities of life; it is no longer shameful to earn one's bread. To work means that a man has courage, that he cheerfully carries his burden and that he depends only upon God and upon himself for his livelihood and that of his family. It is sloth and the vices it breeds that dishonour mankind. It is a shame to eat bread that we have not earned or that does not belong to us. To work does not hinder one from being honest, conscientious and just. On the contrary, a labourer may easily practise virtue, be an honest man, and merit the esteem of his fellowmen. These maxims seem to be almost trivial to-day, so often are they repeated; at the time of Christ no one even had the least notion of them. It was He who made them popular. And in what way? By the example He gave at Nazareth and by the sermons given along the roads of Galilee. It is written in the Acts of the Apostles that Jesus did and taught all things. The labour He accomplished in the workshop gave rise to the Sermon on the Mount; the workman preceded the doctor and it is this uniformity that makes Christ's work appear so forceful. That is what should never be forgotten by those who continually speak of the labourer and of his rights. Jesus has done more for him than all the democrats: he has uplifted the condition of the artisan by teaching him to become a Christian workman.

— *Vie de la Ste Vierge*, by Rev. Father PERDRAU.

Let Us Have a Lively Faith and Let Us Strive to Pass it On.

Oh! how wonderful is the Gift of Faith! What a precious treasure is possessed by him who hath received it! Happy is the one who, with unwavering faith, is able to say daily, from the bottom of his heart: "O God, I believe in Thee, in Thy infinite attributes, in Thy everlasting rewards... I believe in Thy sacred mysteries... I believe all that the Catholic Church believes and teaches. O God, I believe in Thee, I adore Thee, I love Thee..." Oh, happy, indeed, is he who, speaking thus, lives according to faith and accomplishes works of faith, for is not faith without good works dead?... How can one who has received such a treasure lead a bad life? Ah! it is because he has let this gift from God, that ray which enlightens the mind and the heart of man and which leads to everlasting life, grow weak within himself or has let it completely fade away. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved," does our divine Lord teach us, "but he that believeth not, shall be condemned."

But how are we to preserve and profit by this priceless jewel which has been entrusted to such frail creatures as we? "Lord, increase our faith", such was the entreaty of the Apostles. It is by confidently repeating this humble prayer, by often making acts of faith, by thanking God for the signal gift he has bestowed upon us, by zealously propagating the Faith, that we shall be worthy to be numbered among those of whom our Saviour said: "Blessed are they that have not seen, and hath believed."

We all are able to spread the Faith, by word and example, by teaching children and ignorant people the sublime truths which one must believe in order to be saved, by contributing in a thousand ways to have our neighbour preserve and increase this virtue, by faithfully accomplishing all that it teaches us; also by helping the missionaries, the propagators of the Faith, to bear the Light of the Gospel to idolatrous peoples still groping in the shadows of paganism and error.

Let us have a lively faith, let us propagate the faith and we shall, at the same time, possess hope and charity, and, after our short stay upon earth, we shall be found worthy of the bliss promised to those who have believed.



In Memory of Reverend Father Lelandais, P. S. S.

On November 18, 1933, Reverend F. Lelandais, Sulpician, passed away at the Hotel Dieu Hospital, Montreal, at the age of eighty. This saintly priest who was a native of France, spent fifty years in Canada. From 1883 to 1889, he taught at the Grand Seminary of Montreal, of which he became Superior in 1903. This charge he held until 1918.

Reverend Father Lelandais was also a zealous promoter of the Holy Childhood Association, having been for many years, Director of the Work in the Archdiocese of Montreal. In 1916, being unable on account of his ever-increasing occupations, to take as active an interest as he would have liked in the dear Association, His Excellency Mgr. Bruchesi discharged him from this office, and confided the work to the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception. Reverend Father Lelandais, however, always manifested the greatest interest in the development of this admirable Association in our country.



St. Bernadette Soubirous

(IN RELIGION SISTER MARIE BERNARD)

FAVOURED AT LOURDES, FROM FEBRUARY 11TH TO JULY 16TH, 1858, WITH EIGHTEEN
APPARITIONS OF THE MOST BLESSED VIRGIN.

A Glorious Page

is added to the Annals of the Church during the Holy Year of the Redemption
and the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the Apparitions at Lourdes.

Et exaltavit humiles... If ever these words of the *Magnificat* have been realized, was it not on December 8, 1933, in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome? What a striking contrast! and all this happened within seventy-five years. Let us go back to the winter of 1858. An unknown little shepherdess sees Our Lady in the niche of the rock of Massabielle, near Lourdes. It is an answer to the infallible decree of the Roman Pontiff who had proclaimed, four years before, the dogma of the Immaculate Conception. But Bernadette is no doctor of theology. The only prayer she knows is the Rosary,

which comprises, after all, the whole of our doctrine concerning Mary. She speaks the colloquial French peculiar to the peasants in the district of the Pyrenees. The Blessed Virgin, conforms her dialect to that of the child and answers: *Que soy era Immaculada Counceptiou*. The little girl, whose visions were responsible for the world-famous Grotto of Lourdes which has become so splendid a throne of the mercy of Mary and such a powerful center of attraction to all the Christian family, enters a Convent at Nevers and there, leads a life of obscurity.

And now, let us consider what took place just a few weeks ago, on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, during the Holy Year of the Redemption. The whole Catholic world is astir, from the humblest and most remote pilgrim to the Sovereign Pontiff himself. Bernadette Soubirous, a humble little peasant girl, receives, only eight years from the time she was declared Blessed, the highest honour that can be conferred by the Roman Catholic Church.

The ceremony of Canonization, one of the most imposing in all the Papal liturgy, was held in St. Peter's in the presence of a score of cardinals and some fifty thousand pilgrims. The pontifical procession left at a quarter past eight and filed past for more than an hour, preceding the standard of the new Saint. Bernadette, dressed as a religious of Nevers, was represented in a magnificent *gloria* with a halo around her head, ascending on a luminous cloud surrounded by angels, while the figure of Our Lady of Lourdes was to be seen in the background.

It was towards half-past nine that the silver trumpets announced that the Holy Father had entered the Basilica. All the way up the great church, blessing as he went, he was greeted with that intense, fervent homage which, like the sound of many waters, rose and fell as he passed. At the same time, the immense sanctuary was magnificently illuminated. Lustres hanging from the red damask-covered pilasters reflected the myriad lights which shone like stars in the golden dome of the Basilica. Two long banners were suspended from the *loggia* of the cupola, telling of the miracles accredited to the intercession of St. Bernadette and approved in the cause for her Canonization.

As soon as the Sovereign Pontiff had dismounted from the portable throne and had taken his seat on the fixed papal throne, the ceremony of Canonization began. The Consistorial Advocate, Mons. Milani, kneeling before the Pope, entreatingly asked that Bernadette's name be inscribed in the catalogue of the saints. Mons. Bacci, Secretary for the Briefs to Princes, replied in Latin that such was the Pontiff's great desire, but that before doing so, Divine assistance must again be implored. All knelt down and the Litany of the Saints was chanted. Pope Pius again took his place on the throne and the request was repeated a second time by the Consistorial Advocate; His Holiness asked that prayers be again recited and himself intoned the *Veni Creator*. Mons. Milani, for the third time, made his request: *instante, instantius, instantissime*. Pope Pius XI, in his official capacity as Sovereign Pontiff, from the infallible Chair of Peter then pronounced the solemn formula of Canonization, in a firm voice: *To the honour*

of the Holy and Undivided Trinity and each of the three Divine Persons, for the exaltation of the Catholic Faith and the advancement of the Christian religion by the authority of Jesus Christ, of the blessed Apostles Peter and Paul, and Our own, after mature deliberation, and having frequently implored the Divine assistance, after having taken counsel with our venerable brethren the cardinals of the Holy Roman Church, patriarchs, archbishops and bishops present in this city, We declare Blessed Marie Bernard Soubirous to be a saint, and, defining her as such, We inscribe her in the Catalogue of the Saints and decree that her memory be celebrated with pious devotion, in the Universal Church each year on April 16th, the date of her entrance into heaven. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

A tremendous cheer burst forth from those gathered outside the Basilica when, following the proclamation of Canonization, at five minutes to ten, His Holiness Pope Pius XI intoned the hymn of thanksgiving *Te Deum Laudamus*, which was chanted by the cathedral choir joined by the faithful within the church. Simultaneously, six silver trumpets were sounded by Swiss Guards in a balcony high over the main door of the edifice. The Basilica took up the paean of rejoicing and spread it to the bells of Rome's more than four hundred churches.

It was towards two o'clock in the afternoon when the Papal Mass, which had begun at about eleven o'clock, was over, and it was surprising to note with what vigour His Holiness bore the great fatigue occasioned by the lengthy ceremonies. It could easily be seen that our beloved Pontiff drew much consolation from the fact that he was able to proceed, during the Holy Year and on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, with the canonization of the humble little shepherdess, who later became a religious, being known as Sister Marie Bernard. How great must have been the rejoicing in heaven since, on earth, the Church of Christ was celebrating the exaltation of God's servant with such pomp! And what a glorious victory had not Pius XI just won over the combined forces of evil, of impurity and of hatred to which he had opposed the sovereign antidote of the Immaculate Conception and of St. Bernadette. This holiness is doubtlessly more highly prized by Divine Justice than all the political achievements and human measures. God grant that it impart to them a more efficacious virtue and conclusively direct them towards peace and morality.

The disciples, from the moment of their call to follow Jesus, learned to know, reverence, and love His Mother. She was the Mother of their Master — of Him who had spoken to them as never had any man spoken before. His words penetrated and fascinated their hearts with a thrill of awe and love such as no human voice had ever caused till then. He had manifested in their presence alone an honor to His Mother such as He showed to no other.

Cardinal Manning.

Our Holy Father the Pope Rejoices at Canonization of Bernadette

Immediately after responding to the first postulation made by the Consistorial Advocate, Mons. Bacci, Secretary of Briefs to Princes, had spoken of the inward joy which the Pope felt, "for it happens that in this majestic basilica of St. Peter's, where his predecessor of holy memory, Pius IX, applauded by the Sacred College, the Bishops, all the clergy and the whole Christian family, defined and sanctioned the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, the actual Pontiff is preparing to inscribe in the catalogue of the Saints, the name of Blessed Bernadette Soubirous, whose extraordinary visions at the Rock of Massabielle have served to throw more light upon this particular point of the Catholic doctrine..."

His Holiness himself developed the motives of this joy, in the customary ritual homily which he pronounced after the Gospel during the Pontifical Mass which followed the ceremony of Canonization: "This year, in which is commemorated in a special way the Nineteenth Centenary of the Divine Redemption, witnesses the close of the seventy-fifth year since the Blessed Virgin, Mother of God, immaculate from the first moment of her conception, manifested herself to this innocent child: it seems as if, in the circumstances

which have brought about this Canonization, the hand of God must be recognized, for the glorification of Bernadette Soubirous tends to shed additional lustre on the Immaculate Virgin..."

The Holy Father then went on to analyse the conduct of the Virgin Mary, so similar to that of God Himself. "Wishing to confirm in the most striking way the definition by which our predecessor of holy memory, has sanctioned, amidst the applause of the whole universe, the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, Our Saviour's Mother did not choose the most learned of men, but simply an ignorant child who possessed nothing save her candid heart. It is to this child that she said: 'I am the Immaculate Conception.'"

The Sovereign Pontiff explained that Mary, in order to revivify the Faith and to renew Christian morals,



THE GROTTA OF LOURDES.



OUR LADY OF LOURDES BASILICA.

had chosen a humble little girl to whom the words of the Gospel may well be applied: *Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven; Blessed are the clean of heart: for they shall see God;* and Pius XI pointed out how abundant were the fruits resulting from the message of Our Lady conveyed by Bernadette to mankind, the triple Basilica erected on the Rock of Massabielle, the throngs of pilgrims who continually visit this spot, the conversions which are constantly being made, the countless numbers of vocations to the perfect life which are decided upon, the miraculous cures which are obtained in that place sacred to Mary.

He desires, on this glorious day when the humble child of Lourdes is exalted, to go in spirit to the Grotto of the Immaculate Conception, and, together with his audience, implore help from God's

Blessed Mother, in order to imitate the virtues of Bernadette, her humility, her faith and her ardent charity. "We desire, finally, that fervent prayers be addressed to the Immaculate Mother of God and to her beloved servant, for the whole Catholic universe, so that, during this Holy Year of Jubilee, all may share in the benefits of the Redemption and obtain that peace which the world cannot give and which is founded on that concord resulting from true order and from the strict observance of Christian principles."



Special Guard of Honor to the Blessed Virgin

On the first Saturday of every month, from 3 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, for the people of the world, of whatever rank or condition.

Persons desirous of taking part in this chorus of love, gratitude, reparation and supplication will be most welcome.

For further information, apply to: The Mother House of the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont.

Another Departure of Missionaries



Four Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception will leave their Mother House in Outremont, on March 26th, and will set sail from Vancouver on April 5th, for China and Japan. They are: Sister St. John of Calvary (Doris Hague, of Montreal,) who is destined for Kagoshima, Japan; Sister St. Victor, (Germaine Tanguay, of Nashua, N. H.) and Sister Mary Xavier (Berthe Paradis, of Tingwick) who have been named for the new mission of Suchow, China. Sister Mary of the Presentation (Berthe Surprenant, of Swanton, Vt.) will remain at the Chinese Hospital of Vancouver.

May Our Lady, Queen of the Apostles, safely guide these new bearers of the Faith to the different posts which have been assigned them and grant that their apostolate among the heathens be a most fruitful one!

The donations which anyone will, out of charity, offer us to help in defraying the expenses caused by this new departure will be received with heartfelt gratitude by the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception at the following address: 314, St. Catherine Road, Outremont, Que.

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 therefore 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 March-April	1933.... 18.25
In July-August	" 12.25	In May-June	" 30.75
In September-October	" 85.00	In July-August	" 58.15
In November-December	" 38.40	In September-October	" 41.60
In January-February	1933.... 77.00	In November-December	" 60.75
In January-February 1934.....\$38.75			

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.



My most grateful thanks to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for favours received. F. G. C., **Ottawa, Ont.**—Please find enclosed a Postal Note which I wish to go towards the Little Flower Burse for a favour asked and granted. Please remember me in your prayers Mr. J. L., **Montreal.**—Please accept the enclosed offering which I am sending in honour of the Little Flower of Jesus, who has granted me a favour. R. E. L., **Indian Orchard, Mass.**—We are pleased to send this offering

in favour of the missions confided to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, to thank her for watching over us. Mrs. J. B. R., **Sandy Falls.**—To fulfil my promise I am enclosing an offering in thanksgiving for a favour received. Anonymous.—Please publish my thanksgiving for a special favour which the dear Patroness of Missionaries has obtained my brother. A. C.—Find enclosed a Money Order as a token of gratitude to St. Therese. Mrs.

A. L., **Montreal.**—It is to thank St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a favour granted me that I am sending this offering in her honour. Mrs. J. R. P., **St. Vincent de Paul.**—Thanks to the Little Flower of Jesus, my son has obtained a position. I am enclosing an offering as a token of gratitude. Mrs. X.

G., **St. Stanislas.**—Please accept the price of the ransom of some dying Chinese children, in thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a special favour granted me through her intercession. Anonymous, **St. Therese.**—We have never invoked the Little Flower of Jesus without being answered. I enclose herewith an alms for the ransom of some Chinese children as a token of my gratitude. Mrs. H. R., **St. Eustache.**—I am sending

you a donation in favour of your missions, in thanksgiving to the dear Patroness of Missionaries for a favour granted me through her intercession. I am asking her to continue to assist us. Mrs. H. P., **Montreal.**—As a token of gratitude to St. Therese who has granted us a favour, we are forwarding you a Money Order for the ransom of two Chinese children likely to live. I am asking this dear Saint to continue to watch over us. Mrs. L., **Cote St. Pierre.**—I am enclosing an

alms to thank St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for all the spiritual and temporal favours she showers upon us. Miss L. P.—I return heartfelt thanks to St. Therese for having assisted me. I am asking for some other favours. Mrs. A. S.—I am enclosing an alms for the Missions as a token of my lively gratitude to the dear Scatterer of Roses for several favours granted me. A. C., **Lachine.**—My most grateful thanks for the favours received through the intercession of the Little Flower of Jesus. I am asking her to cure a sick child. Mrs. D. B.—I am sending you this offering for the Burse in honour of St. Teresa in thanksgiving for a favour received. Anonymous.—You will find enclosed an alms in favour of your Works in thanksgiving for a cure obtained through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. I now wish to obtain some other favours. Mrs. A. M., **Hull.**—I am sending this offering for your missions in thanksgiving for a very great favour obtained through the intercession of the Patroness of Missionaries. Mrs. J. O. B., **Chicopee Falls, Mass.**—Enclosed find an offering in thanksgiving to St. Therese for a favour received. Mrs. G.—The Little Flower of Jesus has hearkened to my prayers and I to-day wish to return her heartfelt thanks for the favour granted me. Mrs. J. R. M., **Montreal.**—Kindly accept this offering for your missions in thanksgiving for a favour received through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. W. R. B.—You will find enclosed an alms in thanksgiving to St. Therese for a cure obtained. Mrs. L. D., **Shawinigan Falls.**—I am enclosing an offering for the Missions. It is my thank-offering to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a favour granted me. Anonymous, **Dakota.**



Echoes from our Missions

SHEK LUNG LAZARETTO

*Fragments of letters written by the Missionary Sisters
of the Immaculate Conception of the Shek Lung Lazaretto, China,
to their Superior General.*

Shek Lung, November 7, 1933.

BELOVED MOTHER,

.....
For already a month I have been living in the Eden of Shek Lung and I am still rubbing my eyes, fearing that I have only been dreaming. How I wish that you could take a trip to our Lazaretto, dear Mother, and share our happiness!

When Sister Superior told me that you had proposed that I go to exercise my zeal among these poor unfortunates, she at once added: "Our Mother says it is only if you desire to go, she does not oblige you to do so." "I shall go," I answered, "first of all, because our Mother has deigned to think of appointing me for this work and, in the second place, because



A CHINESE BARK ARRIVING AT THE ISLAND OF SHEK LUNG.

I love that mission but, even though I did not love it, I would go just the same, for what our Mother wishes is for me a command." I shed and am still shedding tears, so touched am I to think how kind you were to choose me for this work. My most grateful thanks for this great favour, beloved Mother.

The moment I arrived, I set to work. For already more than two months, I had left Canton every Saturday to go to Shek Lung in order to give the lepers an injection of chaulmoogra oil. I began with forty patients, but I have now as many as seventy men to treat and about thirty women. We are obliged to give less injections on account of the difficulty we have in procuring the necessary oil. Up to now, Divine Providence has supplied us with it, but the depression which has become world-wide has reached our island and the kind people who used to supply us free of charge, have informed us that they are sorry that they will have to have us pay for it from now on.

In company with Sr. St. Raphael⁽¹⁾ I go twice a week to our *hospital*: the home of the lamented Father Conrardy⁽²⁾. Our installation is a very primitive one: a table which does not belong to us, a wretched little Chinese stove which serves to sterilize our surgical instruments. It is not at all convenient, but I am pleased with our installation, for our poverty reminds us of that of Bethlehem and it also carries me back to the year 1912, when the very same hardships had to be endured.

Before we were given charge of the lepers, Father Conrardy who, doubtlessly, had been planning to have us share his labours, invited our Sisters of Canton to assist at a Confirmation ceremony at the Lazaretto. Never shall I forget that day. I imagine I see the saintly Monsignor Merel in the sanctuary, beaming with happiness to think that he is among his lepers whom he so dearly loves, and beside him, Father Conrardy, who could be severe at the proper time. When a leper happened to laugh in the church, so much the worse for him, for the good priest at once upbraided him. He never allowed anyone to be disrespectful before the Blessed Sacrament. But I wonder, dear Mother, what has made me speak to you of these bygone days. The reason is that I am overjoyed to think that I am labouring in the same house which sheltered a saint. I regard this old building as a relic. But a few steps away, behind the church, lie the mortal remains of the Good Samaritan, as everyone loved to call him. When I find time to do so, I stop to say a little prayer for him and his two companions: the devoted Father Tsow, and a young French priest who was drowned accidentally just opposite the Lazaretto, a few years ago.

It will please you, dear Mother, to learn that our heavenly Mother whom you so dearly love will have something *good to eat*: A leper woman who, as yet, knows little about our holy religion, just lately gave a dollar to Sr. St. Raphael for this purpose.

I am as happy as I can be and I shall do all I can to share my happiness with my three Sisters whom I love dearly.

1. Malvina BIRON, of Coteau Landing.

2. He founded the Shek Lung Lazaretto, in 1907, and died at Hong Kong on August 24th, 1914.

May our dear Lord grant you the best of health this year so that you may labour still many years yet for His glory and the happiness of all your Daughters, and especially for

Your ever-loving child,

SR. CLAIRE DE JESUS, M. I. C. (1)

*
* *

Shek Lung, November 20, 1933.

DEAREST SISTER ASSISTANT,

Your letter which I read over again to-day recalled to me the most pleasant memories, particularly the happy hours spent with you at the Mother House, before my departure for the Isle of Shek Lung, twenty-one years ago.

I am only too glad to respond to the invitation you extended me, that of speaking about our dear leper women. I shall first take you to the chapel where it is really touching to see them, some piously saying their beads and others kneeling in adoration before the Tabernacle where our



A FEW OF THE MANY LEPERS OF SHEK LUNG AMONG WHOM THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION HAVE BEEN LABOURING FOR THE PAST TWENTY-ONE YEARS.

divine Lord continually resides. The great Lord of heaven and earth, our all-powerful God, does not refuse to dwell under the same roof as these outcasts of humanity in order to be their consolation and support. What great kindness does He not show to these unfortunate women! But the decaying flesh of these poor creatures sometimes conceals the purest souls and the most loving hearts which, there is no doubt about it, give joy to the divine Prisoner of the Tabernacle.

1. Exilda COTE, of Montreal.

Now, let us visit the infirmary, the home of suffering, 'tis the best place to go to meditate on the folly of seeking the vain things of this world, on the attachment to the pleasures of life, as well as on the trials and tribulations of this earth and of the hopes beyond the grave. On gazing upon the poor sufferers, one notices that their bodies are a mass of sores, that their hands and feet are gone and that their faces are completely deformed; one of them is losing her sight and, consequently, will no longer be able to help herself in the least... Another is on the point of leaving this earth to receive the crown which her long sufferings patiently borne for the love of our divine Lord have merited her. Every countenance is beaming with joy, the result of entire resignation to the Holy Will of God.

Along with a few Chinese maidens, we dress the wounds of all these poor leper women. I cannot begin to tell you of the happiness of our devoted helpers on receiving from our Mother the material for a dress for each one of them. How carefully they made their new dresses out of this material sent them by *Tai Ma Me!* It will be a long time before they forget this fresh gift from our beloved Mother. The least thing cheers up for a long time the wretched creatures of our island.

I shall now, dear Sister Assistant, have you visit the room where silk and cotton are woven by those of our leper women who are not too sick. In the adjoining room is distributed the food for each day and there is also a little store where the patients may buy sugar or biscuits with the money they earn in the workroom or elsewhere in the Lazaretto.

To-day, I am only telling you about our leprous women. I could also tell you much concerning our apostolate among the men, but I shall leave that for some other time, for I am afraid my letter will be too long.

On All-Saints' Day, some sixty leper women were confirmed. Although Mass was not celebrated until seven o'clock, they were all in the chapel saying their beads as early as half-past four. It greatly consoles us to see how fervent our dear patients are and we find that we are amply repaid for the sacrifices we have imposed upon ourselves by consecrating our lives to their service.

We are now getting ready for the beautiful Feast of Christmas and are preparing our hearts for the coming of the Divine Child. We are also organizing for that day a concert for our patients. These little family celebrations put sunshine into their poor lives and lessen the sorrow they experience in being so far from home and from all those dear to them.

I shall now leave you, dear Sister Assistant, wishing you a happy New Year and asking the Infant Jesus to shower His choicest blessings upon you.

Lovingly,

SR. ST. FRANCOIS D'ASSISE (1)

If I am a devoted servant of Mary, I am sure of reaching Paradise.

St. Liguori.

1. Clara HEBERT, of Montreal.

SZEPINGKAI, CHINA

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

Wednesday, October 4, 1933

A telegram received from our Mother House, in the course of the forenoon, informs us that our beloved Mother is seriously ill. Deeply grieved on hearing this sad news, we turn to Our Lady of the Rosary and place all our trust in her; unceasingly do we waft heavenwards our *Aves* that our beloved Mother may be left to us. Without the least delay, letters are sent to our different missions throughout Manchuria, all containing the sad message, but inspiring everyone with the hope that all our prayers together, united with those of the Sisters of the Mother House and of our other missions, will surely be heard.

Saturday, October 7

In another telegram, we learn that our dear Mother is a little better. What a relief! "Dear Lord, we thank Thee! do we exclaim," "and we also thank our Immaculate Mother!" At this moment when we could have received news that she had been snatched from us by death, it was more keenly than ever before that we felt how tenderly we loved this good Mother, the beloved Foundress of our Institute.

This comforting message also relieved the native novices, who share in our happiness and sorrows just as we share in their sufferings or in their inmost joys.

Wednesday, October 11

Shortly before five o'clock this morning, our dear Sisters from Canada, whom we have been so eagerly awaiting, reached their destination. It was with great joy that we welcomed these ten new companions. After greeting one another, we repaired to the chapel to assist at Holy Mass.

After paying homage to our Eucharistic King, we spent the day receiving visitors and talking about our dear home in Outremont. His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre, accompanied by the new missionary priests and by several others, came to bid our travellers welcome. Their visit to the Native Novitiate, the Apostolic School, the cathedral, the catechumenate and the dispensary, did not fail to interest our dear Sisters. Reverend Father Berichon, after inviting them to come to the new presbytery, which is but a few steps away from the Cathedral, inflamed their zeal by telling them about his cherished Mission. At present, he, along with twenty-four catechists, is instructing fifteen hundred catechumens. The oldest man in the catechumenate is eighty years of age and the oldest woman is ninety-three... There is much to be done, but numerous are the consolations experienced by those who devote their lives to this work.

Here, as in the time of the Apostles, the missionaries often meet with persons possessed by the devil, who has made them his unfortunate victims. Just lately, the Reverend Pastor exorcised a young woman. The demon within her declared himself to be the spirit of her father-in-law; the poor victim who was usually of a very peaceful disposition would, when attacked by the Evil Spirit, foam with rage and utter the most horrible blasphemies. The power of God was manifested by this expulsion of the devil and was soon spoken of throughout the country; since then more than a hundred persons have been guided to the Catholic Mission by the grateful members of the family of this poor woman.

Before the spiritual exercises in the afternoon, our new companions solemnly renewed their consecration to the Blessed Virgin. A new life is beginning for them, an apostolic life in the mission fields, and we hope that it may be a long and fruitful one.

Thursday, October 12

While paying a short visit to the Dispensary, Sister St. Jacques le Majeur⁽¹⁾ has, for the first time, the happiness of pouring the Sacred Waters. She gives the little five-year-old girl whom she baptizes the name of Marie Henrietta. Our dear Sister enthusiastically tells us of her impressions on noticing how greatly the patients are suffering both physically and morally, adding that one must experience great happiness in dressing their wounds, thus giving them relief.

Monday, October 16

We have the happiness of baptizing a little girl who, if Divine Providence had not intervened, would very likely have died without her passport for the eternal abode. The virgin catechist at the catechumenate, while on an errand, meets a mother carrying a dying child; after inviting her to come to the Dispensary, where her little one would be carefully attended to, she offers to accompany her to the Mission. Our Sister infirmarians at once notice that the baby is suffering from diphtheria in an advanced stage and they hasten to baptize it while returning God thanks for this new little soul they have saved.

Thursday, October 19

Sister Marie du Precieux Sang⁽²⁾

1. Emma LABRECHE, of St. Jacques de l'Achigan.
2. Aurore RACETTE, of Limoges, Ont.



A CHINESE SERVANT SMOKING HER PIPE
WHILE GETTING READY TO DO
THE WASHING.

very gladly accepts the invitation to go to the Dispensary to baptize a sick child, to whom she gives the name of Joseph Xavier, making it the godchild of the entire personnel of our dear Novitiate of Pont Viau. The first Baptism administered on the Missions is a very important event in the life of a missionary Sister, and with what hope does it not inspire her!... Nor does it fail to arouse the liveliest emotion; oh! what a sublime act it is for time and eternity to give, in the name of the three Divine Persons, supernatural life to a soul hitherto a slave of the devil!

If our dear Sister had been able to speak Chinese, she would first of all have given the patients a lesson in hygiene. Sister Marie Esther⁽¹⁾ who was amused to see how surprised she was, told her not to forget that she was now in China...



MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION LEAVING
SZEPINGKAI FOR THE MISSION OF PAITCHENGITZE,
MANCHURIA.

Friday, October 20

This morning the new missionaries were named for our different convents in Manchuria and in the course of the day, each one got ready to leave, happy to go to labour in the field of apostolate to which obedience called her.

The sick child baptized a few days ago by Sister St. Jacques le Majeur, winged its flight to heaven shortly after our Sister infirmarian visited it to-day. Noticing how well disposed the members of this family were, our catechist told them that the little one had been baptized one day at the Dispensary, that it was now enjoying everlasting bliss, and that they must not throw it out as it is the custom in China, but have it put in a coffin which would be given them by the Catholic Mission. Reverend Father Jasmin, while going to bless the grave, is happy to hear that all in the family are anxious to belong to the Catholic Church and that they intend, before long, to come to the Mission in order to learn all about a

2. Alice BUTEAU, of St. Evariste, P. Q.

religion which is so consoling in time of trial and so reassuring for the other life. How admirable are the merciful and bountiful designs of Divine Providence!

Sister St. Paule⁽¹⁾ also takes her turn in pouring the Sacred Waters on the brow of a sick baby, which she names Marie Delia Josephine.

Saturday, October 21

After placing themselves under the protection of Our Immaculate Mother, several of our new companions left to-day for their respective missions. It was still dark when they arrived in Szeping kai a few days ago, and as they were brought to the Convent in an autobus they had neither the pleasure of riding in a Chinese cart nor of observing the customs of the country. But, to-day, the many vehicles that were awaiting them outside the Bishop's House, the little Manchurian horses, so much baggage and the uproar that was being made by the drivers, all reminded them that they were really in China, and that they were not setting out on a trip in Canada. All of them appeared to enjoy this new experience, but we could easily tell that they were wondering how two of them could get into the same vehicle, so narrow are the seats... We told them that they would see many other strange things and, as they left for the station, we bade them good-bye over and over again and wished them success and a very fruitful apostolate.

Monday, October 23

In the course of the afternoon, His Excellency informs us of the arrival of six new pupils for the Apostolic School; these children have come from the far-off Mission of Tou Tsuan. They spent a day and a half at Taonan with our Sisters; they had never before seen any nuns. They found it quite an event also to ride in a train. One of them is the niece of the Chinese bishop, Bishop Jao.

Monday, October 30

Reverend Father Champagne has again been anointed, there seems to be no hopes for his recovery. He was supposed to leave for Canada on Thursday, but instead, his one desire will evidently be realized: that of dying while on the missions.

Thursday, November 2

We are filled with gratitude and experience great happiness, this evening, on opening the box containing the beautiful wax Infant sent us, in memory of our dear Sister St. Dominique, by one of her former teachers, a Sister in St. Ann's Convent, l'Acadie, P. Q., and her pupils. Ah! if our dear Sister was with us now, how happy she would be to receive this precious gift, but we are certain that in heaven she rejoices with us, and that she asks God to shower His choicest blessings upon our charitable benefactress

1. Jeanne NADEAU, of St. Sophie d'Halifax, P. Q.



1. THE FIRST FOUR PROFESSED SISTERS OF THE SOCIETY OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY, SZEPINGKAI MANCHURIA.
2. NATIVE NOVICES OF THE SOCIETY OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY. 3. PUPILS OF THE APOSTOLIC SCHOOL.

and upon her good pupils. This dear little wax Infant reached us undamaged; we are very anxious for Christmas to arrive, in order to place it in the Crib. Oh, what pleasure will be ours!...

Saturday, November 4

Sister Marie Esther recently witnessed a scene which impressed her greatly: upon the request of Reverend Father Berichon, she made her way to the catechumenate to visit a person who was believed to be sick, but who was soon found to be possessed by the devil. This maiden, a catechumen, had made a vow to her father, who died just lately. This vow expired to-day. The devil, foreseeing that he would no longer be worshipped by her, took possession of her body, saying that he was the spirit of her father. This person who was naturally calm and gentle, suddenly became furious and, foaming with rage, uttered injurious words when holy water was sprinkled in the room. Without her knowledge, a picture representing Christ on the Cross was hung on the wall; a few moments later, noticing this sign of our Redemption, with a devilish gesture, she pointed to it saying: "He is the one whom I despise!" When she was asked to make Acts of Love, she made them as if she were obliged to do so, but always added immediately after: "No, I don't love God."

The Reverend Pastor was afraid that she was, at that moment, about to apostatize, but after a while, she grew as calm as she had been before becoming possessed by the devil, and when the Sister infirmarian offered her some medicine, she smilingly said to her: "It's a long time since I've taken any." Our Sister had given her some just a few minutes before, but she was not at all herself when in such distress and so she did not remember anything that had happened.

Ah! what the devil forced this poor maiden to say was only too true, he must bear great hatred against our loving Saviour and His Cross which robs him of so many slaves!

Wednesday, November 8

For two days past, we noticed that Reverend Father Champagne was sinking fast and, at half-past four this afternoon, he left for the eternal abode just when his companions had assembled to pray by his bedside. He had a most peaceful death and we are inclined to believe that it was St. Joseph whom he loved so dearly and in whose honour he celebrated his last novena of Masses, who came to take him to heaven on the last day of the octave of All-Saints' Day. This was the day he was to sail for Canada but, according to his desire and in answer to his prayers, he died on the field of apostolate. He will long be remembered by all in the mission stations where he had gone to labour through obedience.

Saturday, November 11

The funeral of Reverend Father Champagne took place at eight o'clock this morning. His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre officiated and several of his companions were present.

The year 1933 is a never-to-be-forgotten one for the entire personnel of the Mission, for it has witnessed the departure for the other life of two of its members. We feel assured that these Missionaries will be, for us, new intercessors before the Throne of God.

Tuesday, November 21

At half-past eight this morning, in the chapel of the Novitiate which had been prettily decorated, four Native Virgins pronounced their First Holy Vows, while nine postulants received the novice's veil. His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre, assisted by Reverend Fathers Masse and Jasmin, presided at the ceremony and delivered a sermon fitting to the occasion. Several other priests of the Mission, some Chinese professors and the relatives of the chosen maidens, were also present. The four about to make Profession, after having read their formula of vows, asking Almighty God and the Virgin Mary to accept their offering and to help them to be always faithful to their holy promises, received a silver cross which they will wear on their neck.

After the touching ceremony, which was brought to a close by the giving of Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, His Excellency made his way to the Novitiate to partake of the happiness of the dear children of his adopted country. The pupils of the Apostolic School also rejoiced with their elder companions and obtained permission to spend the day with them.

Wednesday, November 22

Mrs. Si, our Chinese teacher, is overjoyed to-day. Yesterday, she and her little one were baptized by Reverend Father Roch and she made her First Communion this morning. "I am experiencing," she says, "interior happiness which I cannot describe." We understand by experience how it is that this soul on being visited by God for the first time enjoys the greatest happiness hitherto unknown to her, 'tis because she has received the Author of all joy, He whom heaven and earth cannot contain.

Friday, November 24

Two dying children are baptized at the Dispensary. Dear little privileged creatures, fly quickly to heaven to ask the angels to lead to us all your little sick brothers; we shall hasten to make them children of God and, along with you, they will forever praise their Creator for His merciful bounty.

Monday, November 27

After going twenty-five *li* in the biting cold, Sister Superior once again pours the Sacred Waters of Baptism on the brow of a patient fifty-five years of age, who will not delay in going to enjoy everlasting bliss. Our dear Sister feels that she is amply repaid for her fatigue. How strange are God's ways! This dying woman, living away back in the mountains,

is made an heir to the Kingdom of Heaven, while others right in our midst, are dying without realizing that the life they are leaving leads to an everlasting one.

Thursday, November 30

Report of the Dispensary of Szepingkai, for the months of October and November 1933:

	Baptisms.....	20		
Patients.....	3,240	Treatments.....	6,187	Dressings.....800
Teeth extracted..	5	Homes visited....	85	Injections.....115

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CANTON, CHINA

*Gleanings from the Diary of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception
Canton, China*

Thursday, January 26, 1933

The Chinese New Year begins to-day. On that account, all the pupils of our school left yesterday for their holidays and will only come back on February 8th. The celebrations in connection with the New Year are more extensive and more boisterous than ever. There is an entire code of rules to be observed each day in order to draw down favours from the spirits which, at this season, are supposed to be ruling over the Chinese world. Offerings are made to the god of the kitchen on the last day of the year; during the early hours of the following day, all the doors must be sealed with long red paper bands covered with gold or black characters, arranged either in the form of prose or poetry, and all bearing good wishes. We must not fail to mention the firecrackers, which the gods will doubtlessly be delighted to hear...

The civil authorities greatly desire that this holiday be done away with, but it will be a difficult matter to bring about this change, for the Chinese people are extremely attached to their age-old practices. Following the customs of bygone days, all do their annual house-cleaning to-day, even the poorest of the inhabitants; needless to say, this practice is worthy of approval. The little boy who helps us in our garden receives from his mother, who is herself the poorest of paupers, a little money with which to buy soap and hot water (here, hot water is sold on the street, a few coins being paid for a bottle of it) with which to wash himself and to launder his clothes: he must be very clean if he wishes the gods to be propitious to him when they make their inspection...

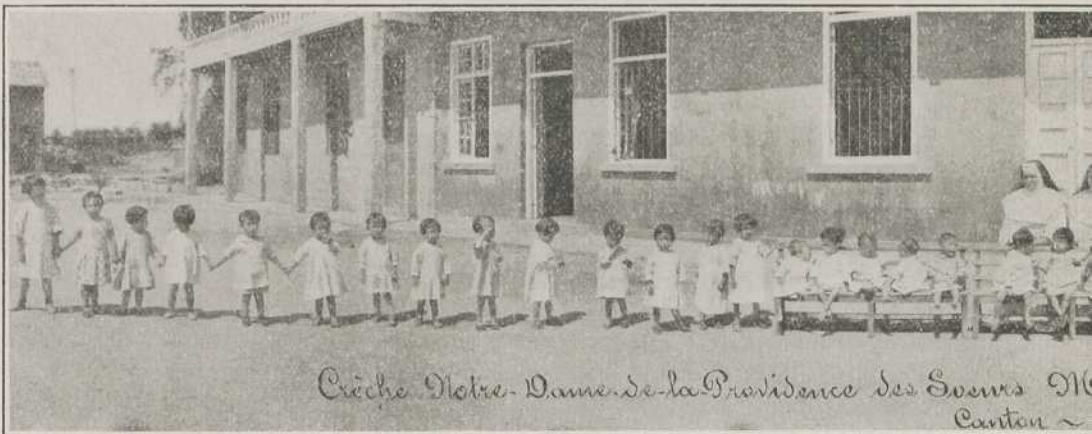
Thursday, February 2

On the beautiful feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin, our new foundling-home dedicated to Our Lady of Providence and situated but

a short distance from our convent of Canton, is blessed by Reverend Father Lin, Pastor of the Mission known as "The Cemetery". This foundling-home, built on a hill which we call "The Knoll", where the air is purer, will be the spot where the poor little darlings forsaken by their mothers will nestle while being nursed back to health or while awaiting to wing their flight to heaven.

Saturday, February 11

The little ones at Our Lady of Providence Foundling-Home are all in perfect health. The fresh air and spacious grounds are just what they need



OUR LADY OF PROVIDENCE FOUNDLING-HOME IN CHARGE OF THE MISSION

and they flit about, in their large yard, as so many birds. Their cries of joy remind one of the merry warbling of the linnets. However, the Home is far from being big enough, different repairs must be made, the water supply is inadequate. Labourers from Tientsien have been hired to do all the work required. They do not speak the Cantonese language and their mode of living differs from that of their countrymen dwelling in the South. Instead of rice they eat pancakes, these they roll and eat with their hands. The women of their caste do not do heavy work such as the women of Kwang Tung are called upon to do. This explains why the labourers are quite surprised and seem almost annoyed on seeing the women bringing in loads of stones and sand just like the men. We may add that the Cantonese, on the other hand, look upon them as strangers. The work goes on satisfactorily: these men who are stronger than the Cantonese have been purposely chosen to do the strenuous work.

Those of our dear orphans who have been taken from the Orphanage of Canton to that of "Our Lady of Providence" often ask Sister Superior why they have no house of the Blessed Virgin on their grounds like the one they have seen at the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes in the garden of our convent at Canton. Ah! what happiness it would be for these dear children

who have not known their earthly mothers, to have near their home a little oratory where they could often invoke their heavenly Mother. The pious desire of our little ones may only be realized through the kindness of a charitable benefactor who would give a donation for this purpose, for our own slender means which are barely sufficient for the upkeep of our orphans, do not allow us to go to any extra expense.

Every afternoon, at half-past five, the youngest orphans of our convent in Canton, directed by the eldest who is but five years old, all repair to the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes to recite their prayers. You would be deeply impressed if you could hear them and, especially, if you could see how recollected they are: their eyes tightly closed, their hands joined



MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, CANTON, CHINA, 1933.

still more tightly, their mouths wide open in order to pronounce all their words well. Our benefactors would certainly enjoy seeing their little proteges praying so fervently, for it is in their behalf that they thus daily entreat Our Lady.

Sometimes the five-year-old children form into Red Cross bands. They all march up to the Sister who presides and tell her that it is time to give medicine to A Yun, to A Kwai and to the others. They are then given a small cup and very engagingly do they present the contents to the patient. It is really charming to see them.

As it is Sister Superior's desire to have the little orphans attend the Kindergarten Class as soon as they leave the Foundling Home, she is training one of the Chinese Sisters to teach school; the latter is also learning to play the organ, so as to be able to teach them singing.

The following is but another proof of the wretched results of paganism. A little dying girl was brought to Sister St. Joseph du Sacre Cœur⁽¹⁾ at Our Lady of Providence Foundling Home. As the child seemed to be suffering from the plague, it was impossible for us to receive her into the already crowded quarters where the little ones are, so our Sister, after

¹ 1. Marie Louise CHEVRETTE, of St. Majorique de Grantham.

baptizing the little one, asked the father to take her to our Foundling-Home in Canton. "It isn't necessary", he replied, "the child will soon be dead." We learned afterwards that he had buried the baby while still alive, in a neighbouring field.

Tuesday, March 28

On coming back from the chapel, after one of our spiritual exercises we find a miserable-looking orphan standing by the staircase, holding in her hand a small box. What does the box contain? One could never guess... three tiny mice. The child had carefully wrapped them up in cotton batting, and had placed them among her clothes. A penance was imposed upon her. One may add, by way of explanation, that the Chinese do not find anything repulsive about a mouse. It seems that the child intended to eat her "captives" when they would have been eight days old.



NEWLY-BAPTIZED CHILDREN OF THE CONVENT OF CANTON, CHINA, AFTER THE CEREMONIES OF BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION AND FIRST COMMUNION, WHICH TOOK PLACE AT THE CATHEDRAL, ON WHITSUNDAY, 1933.

Saturday, April 8

Since Wednesday, the Chinese have been holding celebrations known as the "Tsing Ming", in honour of their dead. The men all go to their native villages and bring back with them baskets filled with sugar-cane, candles, bread, incense and counterfeit paper money. They repair to the tombs of their ancestors and there, a ceremony takes place. Each one places cakes on the tombs, lights some candles and burns some incense as well as the paper money; all the pilgrims, from the oldest to the youngest, then make three deep bows, after which all wend their way to the ancestors' temple; which is supported by the family, there is a caretaker in each temple who acts as sacristan. In this temple, a large quantity of sugar-cane, bread and roast pork has been prepared; the master or caretaker of the temple distributes these eatables to the members of the family after having offered them to the spirits of their ances-



ANOTHER GROUP OF NEWLY-BAPTIZED CHILDREN WITH THEIR GODMOTHERS.
THESE LITTLE ONES RECEIVED HOLY BAPTISM AND MADE THEIR FIRST COMMUNION
ON WHITSUNDAY, 1933, IN THE CHAPEL OF THE MISSIONARY
SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, CANTON, CHINA.

tors. The Chinese believe that the doors of hell are opened during the celebrations of the Tsing Ming and that the ancestors being freed, they may, perhaps, come to visit their descendants and partake of the food which has been placed on their tombs. As these celebrations take place on the mountain where our new foundling-home is built, our Sisters are able to witness the different ceremonies. They have noticed that the old folks seem to be more respectful towards their dead than the young people.

Sunday, May 28

To-day, the fifth day of the Chinese month, is the feast of the dragon. Processions are held everywhere, the streets are filled with curious onlookers. In the houses, on the streets, publicly or privately, rice wrapped in banana leaves, is eaten either sweetened or salted, according to one's taste. Similar little parcels are thrown into the river to feed a great Chinaman who was drowned therein centuries ago. The rice is wrapped in banana leaves so that the fish may not get at it before the dead man.

Sunday, June 4

To-day, Whitsunday, we are happy to offer our beloved Mother, whose feast day it is, a gift, the richest of gifts, and that which she appreciates the most. Canton possesses many such gifts... souls! The souls of twelve children and young girls are to-day presented to the Church in our dear Mother's name. Some of the baptisms are administered in our chapel and some in the Cathedral. The seven children who are baptized at the foot of our altar, are cripples who are unable to walk to the church, and little ones who do not walk yet. Our virgin catechists have each solemnly taken charge of one of these children, it is most touching to see a blind virgin acting as godmother to a little one who is also blind. The ceremonies take place immediately after Mass. The chapel has been prettily decorated with flowers and palms, and it is before the Tabernacle where Jesus resides that our seven orphans receive the Regenerating Waters. The five others will, in a few hours, share the same happiness.

At last, the time has come. The catechumens are standing at the door of the church; one of the native priests, Reverend Father Lin, asks the usual questions and exorcises them, and the white-garbed group enters the sacred temple, a symbol of Holy Mother Church who receives them as her members.

During the Holy Sacrifice, those of the catechumens who are old enough receive for the first time the Bread of Life and are afterwards confirmed by His Excellency Bishop Fourquet. Our orphans return to the Convent immediately after the ceremony to spend together the happy hours of this blessed day. During the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament which takes place during the day, they again offer their hearts to God and consecrate themselves to the Blessed Virgin, asking her to be their Mother and to keep their souls ever as pure as on this, the day of their Baptism.

Monday, July 31

This afternoon, Sister Claire de Jesus⁽¹⁾ leaves for the Shek Lung Lazaretto, in order to commence a very noble task: that of giving intramuscular injections to the patients. These poor lepers wish to try the chaulmoogra oil treatment which is so highly praised by everyone. Our Sisters, despite their great poverty, will do their utmost to procure this oil which is extracted from a plant grown in the Indies. Our Hospitallers have

1. Exilda COTE, of Montreal.

already begun to give the treatment, Sister Claire de Jesus will, as infirmarian, assist them in this work. The patients have improved since being given this new treatment; they even expect to be cured.

Tuesday, August 29

Recently, while we were seeing to the repairs which we were obliged to make at our school, interesting discoveries were made. Sister Marie Celina⁽¹⁾ who was supervising the cleaning of the walls in one of the classrooms noticed some bright colours showing through the whitewash which one of the workmen was removing. Quite perplexed, she sent for us and as the whitewash was removed, a very large painting, representing the Blessed Virgin with her Divine Son standing before her, gradually appeared. The Virgin wears a blue mantle and a pink robe, her arms are stretched out. The arm of the Infant is raised as if to bestow a blessing, while His left one points to His Heart which is exposed to view. The two figures are represented on a terrestrial globe.

On another wall, we afterwards discovered the "Worship of the Magi"; a partition hides the principal personages. We greeted the discovery of these ancient masterpieces by singing one of our favourite hymns to our Immaculate Mother.

How does it happen that these paintings are here? By whom were they brought?... The Superior of the Native Sisters who has been living here for a number of years, is sent for; she comes with a companion who has also been here for a long time. They both admire the paintings but are unable to give any information as to their origin. As soon as they learn of the discovery that has been made, the pupils and the orphans hasten to the spot; they stand in raptures before the representations; an orphan, who is dumb, explains to us by means of signs that she thinks the angels must have come down to paint these pictures. Some of the women, who lived here long before we took charge of the convent, are questioned, none remember having seen paintings on any of the walls. When these good old grandmothers were admitted here, the room served as a foundling-home, the chapel was on the second floor, there were no paintings of any kind in the house. Many suppositions are made: these tableaux were painted before 1893, but how long before that time?... Was it during a period of persecution that they were whitewashed?... The convent was built sixty-nine years ago, as appears by the figure 1864 engraved on the front of the building which, together with the Gothic Cathedral of Canton, was built by Bishop Guillemin, the first bishop of that city. These pictures were, in all probability, painted at the same time as the primitive chapel of the convent, the same design around the painting of the Blessed Virgin appears on the doors of the sanctuary: a small Gothic bell on either side, with graceful roses as a decoration. Whatever the origin of these works may be, they are really beautiful and have been produced by a European artist, no Asiatic brush has touched them. This discovery augurs well, do we think, and

1. Gratia BLANCHET, of Drummondville.

is a tangible proof that our heavenly Mother is watching over us; does she not seem to say to us: "I am present and am watching over you with my Divine Son."

Good results are obtained at the Holy Ghost School at Canton. The Consuls of England and France and the members of the English and French municipalities, after visiting our school at Shameen, told us that they were well satisfied with the work which has been accomplished therein.

Please remember us in your prayers, dear Sisters, that God may render fruitful our work and that the aim we have in view in educating our pupils, that is, the saving of their souls, may be realized.

Wednesday, August 30

His Excellency Bishop B. Yeung, Auxiliary Bishop of Canton, returns, this morning, to our city after his trip to Rome and to France. At half-past six, the Cathedral chimes ring out merrily and an explosion of fireworks on the Mission Compound announces the arrival of the eminent traveller. His Excellency celebrates Pontifical Mass, after which a reception is given at the Seminary, where he resides. This building is decorated with flags and banners of all kinds.

Thursday, August 31

Bishop Yeung comes to visit us to-day. His Excellency cannot find terms to describe in a fitting way the beautiful things he has seen in Rome, in Lourdes, in Paris and in Algiers, where he took part in the Eucharistic Congress.

Our distinguished visitor had a twenty-five minute audience with Our Holy Father, who received him with the most paternal solicitude; His Holiness did not permit the Bishop to kiss his sandal, but took him in his arms and embraced him. At frequent intervals, His Excellency would exclaim: "I cannot express what I feel; how beautiful it is! how beautiful! The convent chapels are like cathedrals." He took part in the Corpus Christi procession at St. Peter's in Rome. The ostensorium was borne aloft by the Pope, who knelt on a platform carried by some Noble Guards. In speaking of the demonstrations in honour of the Sovereign Pontiff, His Excellency added: "How touching is the cry 'Long live the Pope!' when uttered by throngs of people, numbering hundreds of thousands; an intense and fervent homage which rises and falls as the Pope advances. Last of all, there is an ovation which, although entirely peaceful, is a tremendous one..."

And the singing of the *Ave Maria* at Lourdes, and the torch-light procession... His Excellency keeps repeating: "*Cum ka sai!* How beautiful it is! how beautiful!"

He also tells us of a visit he paid to St. Andrew's Benedictine Monastery, Belgium, where a former Court minister of China is preparing for the priesthood. In the parlour of his convent may be seen the decorations which he received from the Emperor during his diplomatic career. The religious

speaks the Mandarin language and thus His Excellency had the privilege of engaging in a long conversation with him: he is a credit to his country. He was ordained sub-deacon by another countryman, Bishop Wang, Vicar Apostolic of Wan Shien, in Se-tchuen, and one of the new bishops consecrated by His Holiness Pope Pius XI, during Bishop Yeung's trip to Europe.

Monday, November 27

There are more babies than usual brought to us; as there are not enough beds for each one of these abandoned waifs, two are often put in the same crib. All have been privileged, but some more than the others. Only recently, a man brought in a baby wrapped in an old sack, this was its only clothing. He told us that he had found the baby exposed on a public highway. We received the little newcomer and were very glad to give it hospitality. Shortly after, a woman came to the Foundling-Home and claimed the baby as her own. She explained that it was very sick and that as she was carrying it to the pagoda to ask that prayers be said for its recovery, it began to take convulsions. It was then that she had left it exposed on the roadside in order that it might receive the "dew from heaven" which, according to her, should give it happiness... It was, in fact, very fortunate for the child, to have been thus exposed, for, in this way, it received the most beneficial of dews: the saving Waters of Baptism. As it will soon die, it was given back to its mother.

Each day, the angel choirs sing hymns of joy as scores of pagan waifs are made children of God, by far the greater number of them leave this earth to people heaven a few hours, or at the most, a few days after having been baptized. Ah! what a wide scope Canton offers to the workers of the Holy Childhood! In one day, some fifteen little ones receive the Regenerating Waters, on the following day, as many as twenty; and again, on another day, even a larger number are brought to our chapel in order to be baptized by the priest or, to the Foundling-Home, where the Sisters in charge of the little ones immediately pour the Sacred Waters on their brow.

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LEAO YUAN SIEN, CHINA

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

Monday, October 16, 1933

At the Dispensary, five other little children receive their passports for heaven and while we are visiting a pagan home, we baptize a dying girl ten years of age. May the Blessed Virgin soon come to take to heaven the spotless soul of this dear child who will, up above, help to form the mystical Rosary which we are offering her this month.

Tuesday, October 24

It is in a cart drawn by a little donkey that we to-day set out to visit one of our patients. Naturally, the poor beast has a hard time pulling us and we are obliged to walk half of the way. Little it matters the trouble we go to, let us merrily continue on our way since it means the saving of a soul!...

In this pagan dwelling, we treat two patients. The Chinese professor who accompanies us gives all in the family a good Catechism lesson, the result of which is that they express the desire of joining the Church.

Friday, November 17

God to-day permits us to save a soul: that of a young man who has heart disease. Not being able to come any longer to the Dispensary for treatment, he asks us to pay him a visit. Despite the fact that he takes good medicine regularly, he grows worse from day to day; we decide to baptize him as soon as possible. This patient, who had often been told about our holy religion by his uncle, a catechumen, expresses his desire of becoming a Christian as soon as the Dispensary catechist begins to explain the Catholic doctrine to him.

The Sacrament which makes him a child of God is at once administered and he is given St. Peter as patron saint.

It is a great consolation to us to know that all the members of this poor family are really well disposed towards the Catholic religion.

Thursday, November 23

For a few days past, we have been treating at the Dispensary an aged Mongolian who is very faithful to his religion. He has a horrible carbuncle on his neck. While his sore is being dressed, he suffers great pain and he keeps appealing to his god, saying over and over again: "*A nie touo fou*". We explain to him that the god he is invoking is not able to help him in the least and that only the true God adored by the Christians is capable of relieving him. He listens attentively to us and tells us that he will come to the catechumenate to study his catechism as soon as he is better. May he be true to his promise! Usually, it is hard to convince a Mongolian; nevertheless, we trust that, with the help of our all-powerful God, we shall succeed in converting this one.

Thursday, November 30

Report of the Dispensary of Leao Yuan Sien for the months of August, September, October and November 1933:

Baptisms.....	255	Patients...	8,743
Treatments.....	12,765	Dressings.....	2,975
Consultations...	670	Teeth extracted....	78
		Homes visited....	225
		Injectons.....	55

PA MIEN TCHENG, CHINA

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

Tuesday, August 29 1933

The western part of our orphanage being unoccupied, we yesterday converted it into a home for homeless and penniless old men. A few have already settled themselves therein and seem to be quite satisfied with their new abode. They also have at their disposal a little piece of land surrounded by a wall made of *chou kai* (dried stalks of sorgho). This morning, we visit them for the first time and the most sprightly of these poor old men presents to us his six companions. He tells us the name of each one as well as his age, where he was born, etc.; when all is over, we introduce ourselves by answering the different questions asked us. We hope to be able to give a little happiness to these good people for whom life has been more or less cheerful.

We hang a picture of the Blessed Virgin on the wall of the room in which the old men have taken up their abode. Immediately, one of our aged charges climbs down from the *k'ang* and, standing before the holy picture, fervently recites all the prayers he knows: the Sign of the Cross and the Hail Mary. How touching it is to witness the simplicity of these grown-up children!

Wednesday, August 30

To-day, an old man seventy-four years of age, is baptized in our chapel. This new child of Holy Mother Church will certainly not live very much longer; he is brought to the Home immediately after receiving Holy Baptism. Mr. Yao, as he is called, has no relatives to look after him and if we had not been able to receive him at the Catholic Mission, he would have died on the road, forsaken by everyone.

Friday, September 1

At four o'clock this afternoon, we are told that there are some people who have come from afar, at the Dispensary, and that they wish to see the *tai fou* (doctor). We find awaiting us a pagan woman and her two little girls: one, four years of age, is dying, so we hasten to baptize her; the other, a child of five, is not quite so ill, we dress her wound and ask the mother to come back to-morrow.

Saturday, September 24

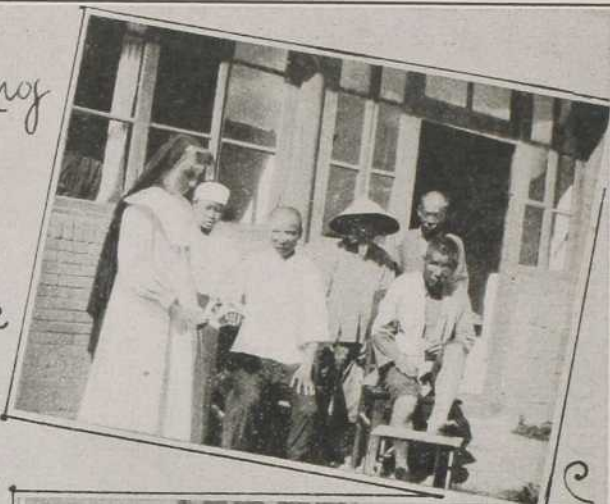
We receive a visit from a young girl who, for a long time, helped us at the Dispensary. She had obtained her father's permission to attend the Apostolic School, recently opened in Szepingkai, but was unable to leave at the appointed time, as the brigands were lying in wait along the



Pa mien Tch'eng

*Patients
du
Dispensaire*

~ 1933 ~



*Groupes
de
Vieillards
du
Catechuménat
et du
Refuge*



1. PATIENTS OF THE DISPENSARY OF PA MIEN TCHENG, 1933.

2. GROUP OF AGED MEN AND WOMEN OF THE CATECHUMENATE AND HOME.

roads. Now that there is peace in the district, she hastens to join her companions, who left fifteen days ago.

Wednesday, September 27

We sometimes see some very sad things at the Dispensary. This afternoon, we receive a young man nineteen years of age who, being sick and unable to work, is no longer wanted by his parents. We are moved to compassion on seeing how sick he looks and how ragged his clothes are. Big tears flow down his cheeks as he is speaking to us. Poor pagans, how sad is their lot!... Not having yet received the Light of the Gospel, they are far from practising Christian charity, which lightens so much sorrow. It is in circumstances of the kind that all missionaries would like to have at their disposal the immense sums which are daily spent frivolously throughout the world, in order to bring relief to all the poor unfortunates and to bear the torch of Faith to every pagan land.

Monday, October 2

Wednesday will be the *kou t'sie* or the fifteenth day of the eighth lunar month. We to-day receive for this coming feast of the moon, different gifts among which is a cake composed of biscuits placed one on top of the other. This cake is more than a foot high. It will be a treat for our little orphans. The Chinese find these *yue ping* (moon cakes) quite delicious.

Sunday, October 15

On visiting the old men in the home, we notice one who sings almost like a lark. When we ask him why he is so happy, he says, "I am singing my prayers so as not to forget them. And I am so glad to be here that I feel like singing." This good old man is blind, but is always happy. He is always satisfied with what is given him. Some time ago, when it was beginning to get cold, the Reverend Pastor bought some wadded clothing for him and the first time we visited the Home, the good old man hastened to show us his new clothes, telling us that he was deeply touched on seeing how generous the priest was to him.

Tuesday, October 17

A very sick baby to whom we have been giving treatment, is brought to us this morning. The little one's hair has been clipped and there is just a small patch on the back of its head, which is an ugly sight to behold. When we ask the poor mother the reason for this, she tells us that she cut the hair of her child in this way in order to frighten the devil away, so that he might not take hold of it and make it die.

Thursday, October 26

We receive a case filled with children's clothing: what a joy it is for us to take from it the pretty little dresses, stockings and underwear which our charitable friends in Canada have sent us for the children of our Or-

phanage. Thanks to the generosity of those in our native land, our little ones will be warmly clad during the winter, which is already setting in.

This wonderful case also contains something else which is very precious: a statue of the Blessed Virgin presenting to us her divine Son Jesus. Oh! what pleasant memories are awakened within us as we gaze upon this statue which greatly resembles the one which adorned the corridor of the Novitiate at the time we entered. Each time we look at it, we think of the happy bygone days. Oh! how thankful we are to our beloved Mother for this fresh token of her love for her children in far-away Manchuria.

Tuesday, November 7

Sister St. Lazare⁽¹⁾ and Sister St. Pierre de la Croix⁽²⁾, accompanied by a virgin, do some shopping. As it is the first time that Sister St. Pierre de la Croix goes through a Chinese city, she sees many things which are new to her, but what especially attracts her attention is to see some people making pancakes in the middle of the street while a strong wind is blowing and the dust is flying in all directions. We tell our Sister that the dust does not annoy the Chinese, who bother very little about hygiene.

Saturday, November 11

A poor old man who came to the Home about a month ago and who was baptized last Wednesday, has left this land of exile. He is the third one to die since the establishment of the Home scarcely two months ago. The three received Holy Baptism before dying. We hope that the number of our charges will daily increase, so that many more may be made heirs to the Kingdom of Heaven.

Monday, November 27

What a *jee nao* (racket) is going on on the Mission Compound to-day! It is because Mr. Tchang, the eldest brother of the hired man at the *T'ien Tchou T'ang* (Catholic Mission) was married this morning. The flutists delight in playing different tunes; accompanied by the bridegroom, who, on this occasion, wears a large red scarf, they make their way to the church where, after playing their liveliest airs, they make a *k'o l'oo* (solemn bow) to God; then they all visit the other houses, in which the same thing goes on. Last of all, there is a banquet; the bride refrains from appearing at these celebrations. Not until to-morrow will she go to her new home and it will be only after she has made a *k'o l'oo* before a crucifix or a holy picture (the pagans bow down before the ancestral tablet) that she will be received by her husband's family.

Thursday, November 30

Report of the Dispensary of Pa Mien Tcheng, for the months of August, September, October and November 1933:

	Baptisms.....	47		
Patients.....	4,413	Treatments.....	5,307	Dressings.....1,449
Teeth extracted...	68	Homes visited....	52	Consultations.... 260

1. Juliette RAINVILLE, of Beauport

2. Sidonia ROUSSEL, of Montreal.

TUNG LEO, CHINA

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

Monday, August 7, 1933

Many patients come to the Dispensary for treatment. Towards ten o'clock, a six-year-old child who fell on a live wire is brought to us. On falling, it had received a horrible wound on its neck and appeared to be dead. It had already been buried, when its mother begged her neighbours to take it to the Dispensary. The poor little one, which is brought to us in a basket has been unconscious ever since the accident and has but a short time to live. We baptize it, giving it the name of Mary. Being convinced that there is no cure for her child, the poor mother thanks us and returns home. She is far from thinking that we have procured her little daughter great happiness. We are confident that this new child of God, after reaching the heavenly abode, will pray for the conversion of the entire family.

Tuesday, August 15

As the beautiful Feast of the Assumption is a holy day of obligation in Manchuria and one of the greatest festivals of the year, the church is filled with Christians this morning. A few pagans are also present, all of whom sing the praises of the Queen of Heaven along with the Christians. A beautiful inscription consisting of yellow characters on an azure-blue background, serves to remind everyone that the Blessed Virgin was taken up to heaven *Cheng mo cheng tien*. The singing during Holy Mass is beautifully rendered by Reverend Father Schetagne, the teachers of the school and a few pupils.

In order to place our classes under the protection of the Immaculate Virgin, we arranged to have school re-open to-day. Throngs of children are to be seen on the Mission Compound. Several of them are accompanied by their parents who, while visiting the school, look curiously into the church.

On this great feast, the Blessed Virgin sends us a two-year-old child which is so sick that we deem it prudent to baptize it at once. In order to thank this good Mother, we name the little one "Assumption". May it now draw near to the throne of our Blessed Lady, in order to sing her praises.

Wednesday, August 16

The pupils come back to school to-day. They are so numerous that we must plan how to make room for them all. Despite the fact that the school was enlarged recently, we are again cramped for space. At the tables arranged for two pupils, four or even five now sit. We trust that the explanation of the Catholic doctrine and the instructions given daily to these children will produce abundant fruit.

Wednesday, August 23

We go back to see a paralytic whom we visited just lately and who is growing more and more anxious to be cured. The first time we speak of religion to him, he says: "When I'm cured, I'll become a Catholic." We leave him a catechism, advising him to ask his numerous friends to read it to him. If he were poor, it would no doubt be much easier to convert him, but he has much money and many friends, he is able to live in luxury and comfort. The words of the Gospel which teach us that it is very hard for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of heaven may well be applied to him.



A MISSIONARY SISTER OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
OF TUNG LEAO, ACCOMPANIED BY A CHINESE VIRGIN, LEAVING
TO VISIT SOME PATIENTS.

Sunday, September 10

This morning, thirteen adults received Baptism and made their First Communion. Among them were the professor at the boys' school, Mr. Tchren, two teachers from the girls' school, Mrs. Han and Miss Liou and the professor from Siao Kai Ki, Mrs. Tchar.

In the course of the forenoon, all the newly-baptized women come to see us; their hearts are filled with supernatural joy. We congratulate them and exhort them never to forget the beautiful day on which they embraced the Faith. We hope that some of their fervour will be communicated to the numerous pupils under their care.

Wednesday, September 13

All the inhabitants of the city are afraid of the plague. Some of them even relate that during the night they saw the red spirit of the epidemic with a big knife in its hand, passing through the streets, calling out the while; it is believed that those who answer this spirit die immediately. And that is why nobody ventures to sleep during the night; all sleep during the day and stay up the whole night long so as not to expose themselves to

answer while still asleep, if this spirit happened to call them. Several have recourse to a thousand and one ridiculous superstitious practices to keep this spirit from approaching them. For instance, in order to frighten it away, they draw pictures of cats or of some hideous animals on their doors. But nobody thinks of the stagnant and muddy water of the swamps which infects the air. Nor does anyone ever think of our all-powerful God, who alone rules over their lives. Poor pagans! May they soon be brought to the light of the true Faith!

Monday, September 18

This morning, we are asked to pay a visit to a poor man who is very sick. The room is filled with flies, which seemingly wish to hasten his death. We have no time to lose; we must do all we can to save his soul! While giving our patient some medicine, we speak to him about our holy religion and ask Fou, our virgin catechist, to remain with him in order to finish instructing him. Simple and willing souls are easily brought to the light of the true Faith. Towards ten o'clock, our patient is well enough instructed and our Reverend Pastor administers Holy Baptism to him. Extremely happy to think that he will soon be enjoying a better life, the new Christian gently breathes his last towards eleven o'clock in the evening.

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TSUNG MING, HAIMEN VICARIATE, CHINA

*Letter from a Missionary Sister of the Immaculate Conception
of Tsung Ming, China, to her Superior General.*

Tsung Ming, November 27, 1933.

DEAREST MOTHER,

Here I am at last in Tsung Ming! *Deo Gratias!* When I last wrote to you, I was still on the Empress on which I sailed from Manila. As this large steamer does not stop at Shanghai, we were obliged to embark in a little boat which took us there. While still a distance from the shore, I went out on the deck to see if I could distinguish the white guimps of our Sisters who were awaiting us in the harbour and, all of a sudden, I caught sight of dear Sister Marie de l'Epiphanie⁽¹⁾ who had come to meet me. There was a struggle or rather a real battle over our trunks, never before had I seen such an army of coolies, they ran up to us and insisted on taking our baggage from us. All of them were strangers to us and they all looked alike... Finally, after a good half-hour, I found myself settled in a rickshaw (cart drawn by a man), my valises were placed on another, Sister Superior got into one of these carts herself and we were on our way at last. It was the first time that I had ever rode in a vehicle of the kind and I could not

1. May MOQUIN, of Eastman.

help from exclaiming: "Poor men, how they are to be pitied!" But I was soon told that these good people were fortunate in having this task, however strenuous it may be, to accomplish, for they are able thereby to earn a few cents. We asked to be taken to the Convent of the Helpers of the Holy Souls, where our Sisters are in the habit of staying when they go to Shanghai; these good Sisters gave us a very kind reception, but were unable to extend us hospitality on account of the annual retreat which was being held in their Convent for their entire personnel and the Sisters from their convents in the surrounding districts. We then made our way to the Convent of the Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul, on Bail St., where we were made welcome. Everything therein reminded us of the Miraculous Virgin



A FEW LITTLE TOTS OF THE ORPHANAGE OF TSUNG MING, CHINA.

and of her apparitions to Catherine Laboure. The chairs, prie-dieus and doors are stamped as is the Miraculous Medal, that is, with the letter M surmounted by two hearts.

We had to wait two days at Shanghai, for the boat to Tsung Ming only runs every second day. During this time, I accompanied Sister Superior, who was obliged to go on a few errands. I was surprised to see how polite and respectful the Chinese are to the Sisters. The Communities of the city do a great deal for them and they prove their gratitude to the Sisters by being thoughtful and kind to all those they meet. We left Shanghai at half-past nine in the morning, on a little sail-boat, and arrived in Tsung Ming towards two o'clock in the afternoon. How everything proves that Tsung Ming is our home town! On our way there, the words *Mama momo* (Good-day, Sister) were often addressed to us. The little ones were yelling the whole time and although I did not understand their language, I could easily make out that they were saying: "Come quickly to see the Sisters who are going by..." What a striking contrast there is between these warmly-clad and healthy-looking people and the inhabitants of Manila,

all of whom are dressed in the lightest clothes possible and are thin and pale. Great happiness was in store for me when I was half way home. At our little dispensary of Paochen, to which our Sisters pay a visit three times a week, a poor little one was waiting for us in order to receive its passport for heaven. Its little face had grown quite blue and as it looked at us it seemed to ask us to make haste... I had the consolation and the happiness of baptizing it, and it was in your name, dear Mother, that I did so. The dear child, to whom I gave the name of Marie Delia, was placed in my rickshaw, in a basket.

At four o'clock, we reached the Convent. Nearly everyone at the Mission was waiting to receive us: our dear Sisters, the Teresians (Native Sisters), the orphans, etc. They all welcomed us with the greatest affection and showed us through the different rooms. To me, everything was just as beautiful as I had pictured it to be in a real mission.

The next day, I was again taken through the house. How interesting I found everything! How dearly are the Sisters loved by everyone! I went in to see the little folks, who all ran to meet me, one took me by the hand, another hung on to my dress, while a third took hold of my veil. All hastened to show me their treasures: the toys given them by His Excellency, the lovely dresses sent them from Canada and which had, no doubt, been made by the ladies and young girls of our Workrooms, the nice warm blankets which had also come from our dear native land, etc., etc. Suddenly I saw the biggest orphans picking out the gaudiest one after consulting one another. Very gracefully they offered it to me, telling me that they were giving me the prettiest one of all.

At the boarding-school, I was given a pleasant surprise: I found the reception room tastefully decorated. I had noticed that the carpet and all the chairs had been taken from the chapel and brought into the room adjoining it (a proof that there are none too many), but I was far from thinking that a celebration was being prepared for me. The Teresians, Professed Sisters and Novices, played a few pieces on the piano and read some addresses, not a word of which I could understand, but which, it appears, contained the expression of their deepest affection for Sister Superior and a few words of welcome for me.

Yesterday, I had the happiness of pouring the Sacred Waters on the brows of three dying children. How sad it is to see the terrible state these children are in when brought to us! We now realize that what the Missionaries told us, when we were but young pupils, about the sufferings and misery of the unfortunate children received by the great and beautiful Association of the Holy Childhood, was all very true. How happy I am to-day to be among those who administer Holy Baptism in the distant mission fields.

As you see, dear Mother, there are many roses in Tsung Ming, but under their lovely petals, I have discovered a thorn: the Chinese language. All our Sisters speak this language well now, but how patient they had to be and how many hours of study they had to spend in order to master such a

difficult dialect! I shall begin to study to-morrow. I wish to put my whole heart into my studies so as to be of some help before long, for I shall not be able to do much until I have learned the language of the country.

As yesterday was His Excellency's feast day, all at the Native Novitiate were given a holiday. I was invited to go for a walk with the novices. We made our way to a church dedicated to my holy patron saint: St. John the Evangelist. I was really edified to see how clean and orderly it was. It is one of the six churches served by Reverend Father Cote, S. J., who celebrates Sunday Mass in one or the other of them. The Blessed Sacrament was in this particular church, which was decorated with different hangings, draperies and Chinese lanterns; everything therein was so tastefully arranged that we naturally felt like praying. On our way, we met crowds of people. I wondered where all of them lived, for there are very few houses and those we noticed seemed to be so small. Never would I have thought that so many persons could make their home in such huts. I have seldom seen so many people in such good humour. One was planting wheat, another, peanuts, while a third was busy ploughing, but all were singing and appeared to be as gay as larks.

It is already Sunday. I assisted at Mass in the church and all that I saw there was so interesting and so new to me that I would like to tell you about it, but I must bring my letter to a close, else it will be too long. Oh! dear Mother, if you could only see our Mission, how pleased you would be and how much this consolation would add to the happiness which you must experience in having responded to the designs of Almighty God in founding our dear little Institute!... How you would be thanked everywhere!.....

Your grateful little daughter who loves you with her whole heart,

SR. ST. JEAN DE L'EUCARISTIE, M. I. C. (1)

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KORIYAMA, JAPAN

*Letter from a Missionary Sister of the Immaculate Conception,
Koriyama, Japan, to her Superior General.*

Koriyama, October 28, 1933.

BELOVED MOTHER,

It was very interesting to listen to the little pupils of our Kindergarten Class who returned to school on September 4th, artlessly telling, each in turn, of the good time they had during the holidays.

The elementary schools of the city which opened on September 1st, remind one of so many ant-hills, so numerous are the children attending them. The one in this end of the city counts 2,000 children, all between

1. Jeanne MOQUIN, of Eastman.

seven and thirteen years of age. Two others more centrally located are just as full and a fifth, opened two years ago, is attended by eight hundred little ones. If we also take into account the few schools in the outlying districts, we shall find that as many as 8,000 children are attending the elementary schools supported by the government. Education in Koriyama is obligatory and is given free of charge; the children have only to buy their books, which are not expensive.

While observing the rules set down by the school commission, we cast into the hearts of the children confided to us, seeds which will bear fruit for all eternity. It is true that we must be very discreet in labouring among the Japanese if we wish our efforts to be crowned with success, but Christian principles instilled into the minds of children bring about favourable results. More than once, we have had the occasion of finding this out for ourselves. The large crucifix which occupies the place of honour in the classroom, causes our little pupils to ask a thousand questions. "I'd like to have a cross," a five-year-old pupil said to us one day. "But what would you do with it?" we asked. "I'd hang it on my neck like the Sisters do and, at home, I'd hold it in my hands while saying my prayers, for there's no God in our house." The pious little Jun Chan won the day and received from us a small cross.

After frequenting the Kindergarten Class for a year or two, our pupils leave us to attend an elementary school and we greatly fear that they will imbibe the spirit of the pagans with whom they will associate during their primary course, which lasts six years. We hope that in the near future, God in His Providence will procure us the means necessary to give an elementary course to children from seven to twelve years of age.

When the mothers of our little pupils have the occasion of speaking to us, they, as true Japanese ladies, do not fail to beg pardon over and over again for their children's impoliteness in the classroom. The little ones four and five years of age wear a pink bow and those six years of age, a blue one.

Just lately, a little Christian girl nine years of age told our Japanese teacher of her great plans for the future: she intends to be a Sister. "Do you think I had better ask to be admitted right away?" she asked. This little girl is the first child we had the happiness of preparing for First Communion after arriving in Koriyama, two and a half years ago.

On the 8th of September last, our little chapel adorned with lilies, and with artificial asters and all the modest decorations of the great festivals of the year, was the scene of a ceremony which is always very touching, that of religious profession. Our dear Sister Agnes d'Assise⁽¹⁾ was the one who had the happiness of pronouncing her Holy Vows for ever. Reverend Father Laporte, O. P., Pastor of the parish, presided at the ceremony and kindly preached the sermon for the occasion. Some fifteen Christians represented the members of the family of our dear Sister, all of whom would have been so pleased to share her happiness. While the hymn *Veni Sponsa*

1. Lucienne RENAUD, of Montreal.



MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION, KORIYAMA, JAPAN.

Christi was being sung just before supper, our Sister received, as it is the custom in our Community, the symbolical wreath of lilies worn by the Sisters on the day of their Final Profession.

That same evening, Reverend Father Reid, O. P., who had just come back from Tokyo, paid us a pleasant and unexpected visit.

The following day, we all took a lovely holiday and experienced once again how good it is for Sisters to live together in unity. We were able to prepare a little programme consisting of songs, recitations, etc., learned long ago, which we executed in the evening in honour of our dear Sister. At prayer-time, she placed her ephemeral wreath at the foot of the statue of the Blessed Virgin in hopes that each flower in it will be an immortal one when it is given back to her up above by Our Lady.

On October 4th, celebrations in honour of the moon took place throughout Japan. As this date corresponds to the 16th of the lunar

month, it is just the time that the Queen of the Night is to be seen in all her beauty. On every verandah, there was a little table laden with rice cakes, fruit, chestnuts and "susuki", a sort of gramineous plant, the light clusters of which resemble little ostrich feathers. After supper, the lights in all the houses were extinguished and in the gardens commenced all kinds of gay performances in honour of the moon; the people sang and played bamboo flutes. This plaintive music, which has something sweet about it, is greatly appreciated by the Japanese. It is said that formerly the poets throughout the Empire took pride in composing poems in the moonlight on this particular night, and that the Emperor rewarded those who had been the most successful. As there is always feasting on every holiday, especially in Japan, everyone, while amusing himself, helps himself to rice cakes and fruit.

We, on regarding the moon think of the bounty and the beauty of our Creator, but the Japanese have a thousand different ideas concerning it. For instance, the very thought that on this same evening all their relatives and friends, whatever distance they are from them, are, like themselves, admiring this planet, consoles them. "I think of you every time I see the moon", a Japanese gentleman said to a missionary priest one day... The pleasure he experienced while gazing at the moon was similar to that

which he felt each time he saw this particular missionary whom he must have greatly esteemed.

In a few days, throughout the Empire, will be celebrated with great solemnity the feast of a former Emperor, Meidi by name, one of the ancestors of the present Emperor. All, even those living in hovels, will do their utmost to make this celebration a splendid success.

How we long for the day when the proud natives of Japan will finally render to their Creator the homage which is due to Him, and show Him the respect which they are so faithful to show to the frail creatures which have been made by Him!

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Your affectionate child,

SISTER DE L'ENFANT JESUS, M. I. C. (1)

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VANCOUVER

*Letter from a Missionary of the Immaculate Conception
of St. Joseph's Oriental Hospital, Vancouver.*

*St. Joseph's Oriental Hospital,
Vancouver, December 3, 1933.*

BELOVED MOTHER,

We are as happy as we can be! During the novena preparatory to the beautiful Feast of the Presentation, Mr. Takeshita, the obstinate Japanese patient who so often had refused to listen to us when we mentioned religion to him, was baptized and anointed and he also made his First Communion. I am unable to describe the change that came over this poor man. It is almost a mystery. Friday evening, towards half-past seven, he said to me: "I am so weak that I can hardly see." Heaving a sigh, I said to myself: "This poor unfortunate is dying and he has not been baptized!..." I was afraid of speaking of Holy Baptism to him again, for he had so often refused to be told anything about it. Just the same, I was confident that the Blessed Virgin was not going to let him die in such a state, for he had accepted a Miraculous Medal a few days before. I notified the Sister in charge, of the danger this patient was in. "Suggest Baptism to him", she said, "and if he is willing, baptize him, he is well enough instructed in our holy religion." While I was on my way back to the dying man, our dear Sisters recited a number of Hail Marys. How glad and surprised I was to see Mr. Takeshita complying with my request. Fearing that he had misunderstood me, I repeated my question while tracing a little cross on his forehead. With a pleasant smile such as I had never before seen on his features, he said: "I want to be baptized." "This very even-

1. Florentine DANSEREAU, of Verchères.

ing?" I asked. "Any time at all," was his answer, "this evening, if it is not too late."

I hastened to convey the good news to Sister Superior, who was overjoyed. She had worried so much over this patient! Shortly after, she came to see him, telling him that Father Benedict would be with him in a few minutes. Mr. Takeshita was beaming with happiness. It is almost a year since he was admitted to the Hospital and I think it was the first time that Sister Superior had seen him smile. At half-past eight, Reverend Father Benedict, who attends to the spiritual needs of the Japanese of the Mission, administered to him the Sacraments of Holy Baptism and Extreme Unction. During this time, our happy patient kept his eyes cast down and his hands folded, while a look of happiness appeared on his features. The most profound silence reigned throughout the ward. Mr. Shikaze and Mr. Horii, both new converts, assisted at the ceremony with great piety. As for us, we had a hard time keeping back our tears, tears of joy which made us forget all the trouble we had had snatching this soul from the clutches of Satan.

The following day, which was Saturday, our neophyte asked to be allowed to make his First Communion. On Sunday, the 19th, this fresh favour was granted him. O dear Mother, every time there are conversions of this kind at our Hospital, my happiness is as great as that which I experienced the day I took my Final Vows.

Just a word or two about our old men in the Home. Basil who has been nicknamed "Grandpa", is of a teasing disposition. As he had not been polite to Sister Superior, I said to him: "You are a very bad man." Looking at me, he said: "You *savez* me very bad man? — Yes, I *savez* you are a very bad man." Then, with a smile, he said: "You *savez* me very bad man. Me, I *savez* you very very good Sister. First class good Sister." These grown-up children sometimes make us laugh in spite of ourselves.

We are preparing as best we can for the beautiful Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Last year, I was with you, beloved Mother. If it had not been for the love of souls, we never would have had the courage to leave you. We feel that we are very far from you, especially when we know that you are sick. Every day, we entreat Our Lady of Lourdes to completely restore you to health.

I thank you, dear Mother, for sending me to this mission. I am always very happy to work among the sick.

Your child who loves you with her whole heart, who thanks you and recommends herself to your prayers.

On the 19th of December last, we received into our hospital five men and ten women (12 Japanese and 3 Chinese), all of whom had come from a Protestant hospital. One of the women died on Christmas Eve after having received Holy Baptism. On the last day of the year, a Japanese patient who suddenly had a hemorrhage was, in a few minutes, at death's door, he also asked for and received the Regenerating Sacrament. A

Chinese, just as happy as those we have already spoken of, left for heaven at eleven o'clock on Christmas Day. He was so anxious to go to see God! On Christmas morning, nine Chinese and eight Japanese received Holy Communion and, on the Feast of the Epiphany, a Japanese patient who was baptized two months ago, received Extreme Unction and Holy Viaticum with dispositions which must have been admired even by the angels. On witnessing these conversions, we repeat unceasingly: How good God is! how magnificent are His gifts and how beautiful is our holy vocation!

Sister MARIE DE BETHANIE, M. I. C. (1)

Report of the Chinese Hospital of Montreal for the year 1933

Baptisms.....	22	X-Ray Examinations.....	31
Deaths.....	81	Operations.....	25
Patients deceased.....	14	Injections.....	1,500
Electrical treatments.....	331	Prescriptions filled.....	1,050
Dressings.....	1,200	Consultations.....	776

Votive lights in honor of the Blessed Virgin

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

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

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



At the time of going to press we are requested to recommend to the prayers of our kind readers the soul of Miss Celina Montmarquet, of Montreal, who died on March 9th.

1. Berthe PICHE, of Quebec.

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 21,

Feast of the Presentation

All eyes are sparkling with happiness and all hearts are filled with joy, for is it not the novices' special feast day? All the Sisters strive to make the day a most pleasant one for us and, once again, prove how thoughtful they are in our behalf.

Yesterday evening was a pious and recreative one: the postulants played the different parts given them with great success, but they were far from thinking that the words which had been purposely placed on their lips and which they very innocently uttered, contained a discreet lesson for

their older Sisters who gladly profited by it, being determined never to forget them.

Alas! here below everything comes to an end... Only too soon, we had to think of retiring. But before filing into the chapel to recite our night prayers, we, each in turn, approached our Mistress to learn from her to roles we were to fill in Mary's service. Each novice received a pretty little angel on whose wings had been written the name of the virtue which she was to practise during the year.

On arising this morning, we thought of the pleasant day ahead of us. And, this evening, we can truly say that our happiness, which was even greater than we had expected, was the purest that could ever be experienced.

Saturday, November 25

Without waiting for an invitation, we slip into the postulants' recreation room to assist at a celebration which they have prepared in honour of their six "old maids". Needless to say, the performance is more comical than tragical... and the little unexpected play, while causing us to laugh heartily, makes us appreciate the more how pleasant it is to live together in unity.

Wednesday, November 29

What a striking coincidence! On the very day of the commencing of the solemn novena requested by the Sovereign Pontiff in preparation for the feast celebrated on December 8th, Mgr. Dubuc, Pastor of St. John the Baptist's Church, Montreal, again gives us a proof of his kindness by donating to us a painting of the Immaculate Conception. The Virgin crowned with twelve stars is standing on a globe, crushing with her virginal heel the head of the infernal dragon. This picture is a reproduction of

the one chosen by His Holiness Pope Pius X during the Jubilee of 1904, when we received from the lips of the Pope himself our beautiful title of Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception. Is there any need of mentioning how touched we were on receiving this gift on the very first day of our novena...

The painting is immediately hung up in one of our parlours and we sincerely thank the generous donor, who has also furnished our Novitiate with a handsome little clock for our conference room and with a valuable reproduction of "The Flight into Egypt", for another parlour.

Our prayers, more than our words, will prove our gratitude to him.

Thursday, November 30

Although the traditions in our dear religious family are not very ancient ones, they are, nevertheless, looked upon with respect and love. As in former years, we make this day one of special thanksgiving, for is not gratitude one of the aims of our Institute? May we always and in everything we do praise God for His ineffable bounty and strive as much as is within our power to make Him loved from one continent to the other!

Friday, December 8, Feast of the Immaculate Conception

To-day, we unite with the angels and with all the citizens of heaven in praising their Queen and in exalting the most beautiful of her prerogatives, the most cherished of her privileges.

Our hymns of joy are mingled with the jubilant canticles of Holy Mother Church who, this year, seems to wish to add fresh lustre to this already beautiful feast, by the canonization of Mary's favoured child, humble little Bernadette.

As is our custom, we prepared for this happy day by three days of prayer and silence, during which everything helped us to become more and more closely united to the Blessed Virgin. The different meditations, the pious hymns and the spiritual reading while we are at work and during our meals, all speak of this bountiful Mother, of her love and of her endless favours. And, naturally, we are proud and happy to be her privileged children, and to bear the title of the daughters of her Immaculate Conception.

While experiencing such heavenly sweetness, we find that the hours glide by rapidly. When the longed-for day arrives, everything inspires us with the purest joy: our chapel with its white and azure blue decorations appears to us as a little corner of heaven where it is so good to come to pray, and often do we repair thither during the day to make some little friendly visits. Mary's favoured child has not been forgotten: a tiny statue of Bernadette has been placed at the foot of that of Our Lady of Lourdes, and the privileged little girl appears to be lost in contemplation before the Immaculate Virgin whom she so dearly loved and whose vision, during her ecstasies, had filled her with such pure happiness. Before reciting the rosary, we sing a sweet hymn to our little heavenly sister.

We ended up this beautiful day by spending a pleasant evening in Mary's honour. At seven o'clock, we are invited to the assembly room which, to our great joy, has been arranged for a little play: the curtain goes up and we find ourselves at Lourdes. The play commences: we see Bernadette kneeling before the grotto and assist at the different apparitions, which almost seem to be real, so well are they represented; in a second act, a poor little blind girl who has come to Lourdes on a pilgrimage, obtains her cure after Bernadette has prayed for her. The whole is very impressive. The hymns and the recitations all express our praise to our Immaculate Queen and to St. Bernadette.

And this lovely feast, so long looked forward to, gradually draws to a close.

Tuesday, December 19

We have tried our December examinations and, during recreation, each novice feeling somewhat uneasy on recalling her mistakes, admits how anxious she is to learn of the results.

This reminds us of our beautiful school days, the happy days of long ago. And in living them over again, we experience a little of the happiness of our childhood, for instance, the joy that was ours when, just before the year closed, we ardently strove to come first in our class so as to offer to our dear parents the excellent results of our efforts, results which, along with our little letter containing our best wishes, were always regarded as one of the best tokens of our filial love.

If we have grown older and if our divine Lord has asked us to leave our home and all dear to us in order to labour for the salvation of souls, our hearts have not changed. Oh! no, we even feel that after coming into contact with that which is divine and supernatural, they have become more loving, more grateful and more desirous of procuring happiness for those to whom we owe so much. And if on account of the distance we are from home and the duties imposed upon us by our vocation, we cannot manifest our filial love as much as we would like, all the more fervent are the prayers we waft heavenwards in their behalf to implore from God the most abundant and precious blessings. May this bountiful Father and our loving Queen hearken to all our entreaties!

Sunday, December 24

This afternoon, we go outside to begin to recite the thousand Hail Marys. In order to be as attentive and fervent as possible, we meditate on the ineffable mystery which we are about to commemorate, and as we can picture but imperfectly to ourselves such a wonderful event, we entreat our guardian angels to relate everything to us in detail.

And while walking up and down, we love to imagine that we are accompanying the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph to Bethlehem. By continually repeating our Aves, we implore the aid of our Blessed Mother and offer her our praises.

O Virgin so bountiful and pure, prepare our hearts for the great feast which we shall celebrate to-morrow, transform them into cozy cradles

wherein thou wilt place thy dear Son Jesus, and do not fail to stay with Him, that He may be happy and that He may feel that He is loved.

Monday, December 25

As on the blessed night of which we are celebrating the anniversary, suddenly in the midst of the darkness, the notes of pious hymns are to be heard. 'Tis Christmas! With hearts overflowing with happiness, we hasten to follow our Sisters who, echoing the glad refrain of the angels, invite us to go to the Crib of our Infant King.

The High Mass celebrated at midnight is followed by two Low Masses, during which we sing the touching Christmas hymns which we love so much.

After the traditional midnight repast, we return to our cells with happy hearts, touched by the simple beauty of a Christmas Night spent in the abode of our Immaculate Mother.

The bell which always rings at the appointed time, but which joy has perhaps silenced, does not ring as usual this morning and we continue our sleep until our Sisters again awaken us by a joyous hymn.

On going into the assembly room just after the bell has rung for the day's recreation, we catch sight of a beautiful Christmas tree which, through the generosity of the mothers of two of our Sisters, has been laden with pretty bright-coloured paper cones. There are some for each member of our big family, but we decide to wait for a while before taking them off, for they appear so pretty on the tree.

Sister Superior then distributes the many letters piled up during Advent, and has us admire the precious gift sent by our beloved Mother: a white stole and burse, both handsomely painted.

After supper, in honour of our dear Sister Marie Eugenie, whose feast day it is, we have a little entertainment which brings to a close this happy day which will not soon be forgotten.

Monday, January 1, 1934

After having made out our spiritual budget yesterday during our retreat, and having taken generous resolutions for the year about to dawn, we kneel before the One who governs heaven and earth to express to Him our sorrow and to offer Him our hopes and acts of thanksgiving.

Ah, how impressive is the holy hour we spend in the middle of the last night of the old year!... It is in silence that we await the solemn moment when the clock will strike twelve. After the last stroke, Sister Superior, in the name of all present, raises her voice, imploring Our Heavenly Father's blessing upon all the members of the great human family. Then, with reverence, she offers our wishes to our omnipotent God, by commenting upon the words of the Our Father, and presents our filial homages to our Immaculate Mother in the same way, using the words of the Hail Mary. A pious hymn to implore God's blessings upon our relatives and friends is also sung and we then retire for a few hours' sleep. On awaking in the morning, we again offer all our actions of this first day of the New Year

to God and then there is family rejoicing. The season's greetings are exchanged while we embrace one another, the mail is distributed, some of us play various games while others engage in friendly conversation. In the afternoon, we receive visits from our dear parents and from a few priests who give us their blessing. And, very soon, we find that the evening shadows are gathering, the New Year is already a day old! May each hour of it be meritorious for eternity!

Tuesday, January 2

His Excellency Mgr. Desmarais, Auxiliary Bishop of St. Hyacinthe, honours us with his visit and celebrates Holy Mass in our chapel.

After breakfast, we hasten to assemble in the large parlour, which, before long, our distinguished visitor enters, while giving us his blessing. His Excellency very kindly tells us that his visit is the realization of a desire he has long cherished and that, knowing of our Community by the works our Sisters have charge of in the Diocese, in Granby, by a few visits to the Mother House, and through the "Precursor", he had planned to come to the Novitiate also. Having the occasion to carry out his plans at the very opening of the New Year, His Excellency offers us his best wishes for happiness and urges us to work with great zeal during the period of our religious formation. He then suggests to us a rule of life which, far from clashing with the rules of our Novitiate, is in perfect accordance with them and only serves to complete them. It is summed up in three words which a journalist made use of in giving an account of the life of His Excellency Bishop Charlebois, the great missionary bishop whom death has just claimed: forgetfulness of self, silence, self-denial, all of which we should strive to put into practice, in order to assure ourselves the happiness which our vocation offers us. His Excellency then points out to us the fact that the religious life not only offers us future felicity but also the present happiness promised by our divine Lord. "Read the Beatitudes," His Excellency tells us, "Christ said: 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven', while He said: 'Blessed are the meek, for they shall possess the land; Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God, etc...' The latter are promises for the future, but the first is for the present."

Before leaving us, His Excellency again bestows his blessing upon us and gives us a lovely holiday *with an octave*, which is greeted with a round of applause.

Tuesday, January 9

We have not forgotten the particularity which His Excellency Bishop Desmarais added to the holiday he gave us: a holiday with an octave. And we joyfully make the best of it. After the spiritual exercises at noon, which we made in the open air, our Mistress, knowing what pleases us most, allows us to remain out-of-doors to amuse ourselves.

The weather is mild, the snow is just right for packing, and we have a good time playing the games of our childhood days.

Thanksgivings to the Blessed Virgin

for favours 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.

Enclosed find a small donation for a favour obtained through our Blessed Lady. Please remember me in your prayers. Mrs. A. S.—Please find enclosed an offering for the ransom of a little pagan child, in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for a favour received through her intercession. Mrs. L. M., **Toronto, Ont.**—I am sending you my subscription to THE PRECURSOR and a donation for your missions, in thanksgiving to our Blessed Mother who has helped me to find work. M. P., **Montreal.**—I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR in thanksgiving for so many requests obtained. I am asking for some other favours and feel confident that the Blessed Virgin will come to our aid again. M. J. B., **Verdun.**—I am enclosing an offering for the Chinese babies, which I promised for favours received. I will continue to send the same amount every month if I am not disappointed in the cure that I have asked for. Mrs. A. McD., **Montreal.**—The enclosed offering is in thanksgiving for a favour received. Please pray for my intentions. Mrs. P. S., **Tecumseh, Ont.**—Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving to Our Lady of Perpetual Help for favours received. Mrs. J. A., **Montreal.**—With my subscription to THE PRECURSOR I am enclosing a small offering in thanksgiving to our Blessed Lady for favours which I have obtained. H. McG., **Windsor, Ont.**—Thanksgiving for position obtained for my son, through the intercession of our Blessed Lady. Mrs. B. K., **Montreal.**—I am very glad to be able to tell you that my request has been granted. You will find enclosed an offering for your works. Mrs. J. V., **Angliers, Que.**—Enclosed please find a small offering. I am very thankful to our Blessed Mother for the favours she has obtained for me. Miss R. P., **Montreal.**—My most lively gratitude to our dear heavenly Mother for her watchful protection. The enclosed is a small thank-offering. A. C., **Lachine.**—I wish to thank the Blessed Virgin for a favour received. You will find enclosed my renewal subscription. Miss E. B., **Montreal.**—Thanksgiving for a favour obtained. Mrs. J. L., **Quebec.**—I return most grateful thanks to the Blessed Virgin through whose intercession I have been granted a favour. A Subscriber.—I have obtained a cure through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin and wish you would publish my thanksgiving in THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. Street.—Please find enclosed an offering for the ransom of some Chinese babies, in thanksgiving for a cure obtained. A Subscriber.—I am sending you the price of the ransom of two Chinese children likely to live, in order to prove my lively gratitude to the Blessed Virgin for a favour granted me. Mrs. R. L., **Montreal.**—Our Blessed Lady has obtained a favour for me and to thank her I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. A Subscriber, **Shawinigan Falls.**—Find enclosed an offering for the Missions, in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for a favour received. Mrs. J. F. P., **Montreal.**—Please find enclosed an offering for the Missions, in thanksgiving for a favour granted me. Anonymous, **Montreal.**—God has been good to us and has granted us peace and freedom from worry. Kindly keep on praying for our intentions. M. G., **Watford, Ont.**—As promised, I am enclosing a Money Order to be used for the ransom of some dying Chinese children, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Please remember me in your prayers. Mrs. W. A. K., **Montreal.**—I have received a favour and am sending you a small donation in thanksgiving. Mrs. F. O. L., **Montreal.**—I am subscribing to THE PRECURSOR in thanksgiving for a position obtained. Mrs. J. M., **Stadacona.**—I am enclosing an offering for a novena of lights in honour of the Blessed Virgin, through whose intercession I have obtained a cure. M. H. F., **Viauville.**—My most grateful thanks to the Blessed Virgin for a favour received. Mrs. O. P., **Montreal.**—I return most heartfelt thanks to our Immaculate Mother for having watched over us and I entreat her to obtain other favours for us. Mrs. A. S., **Loretteville.**—I am enclosing an offering to Our Lady, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Mrs. A. B. McD., **Montreal.**—May our dear heavenly Mother be thanked a thousand times over for the cure she obtained for me after I had made a novena. Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. Mrs. E. G., **East Broughton.**—I have received a favour and am fulfilling my promise by sending you a subscription to THE PRECURSOR and an offering for the ransom of a Chinese baby likely to live. Mrs. V. G., **St. John.**—Enclosed you will find the donation I promised to send. Would you please continue to pray for the conversion of my son. Mrs. W., **Montreal.**—I am sending you my subscription to THE PRECURSOR and a small donation for the Missions, in thanksgiving for a favour received. I would ask you to pray that I may find work. A Subscriber, **Villeray.**—I am enclosing an offering for the ransom of four dying Chinese babies, to thank the Blessed Virgin for a favour received and to obtain some others. Miss

C. P., **Montreal**. — I wish to return most grateful thanks to the Blessed Virgin for a cure granted me through her intercession after I had promised to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR and to publish my thanksgiving. I have also received some other favours and so I am sending you a small donation. Mrs. R. C., **Valleyfield**. — I am gladly forwarding you the price of the ransom of a dying Chinese baby which I promised I would send you as long as I have work. Anonymous, **Montreal**. — My son has secured a position and I am gladly sending my monthly offering for the Missions as promised. I am also enclosing the price of the ransom of some dying Chinese babies, in thanksgiving for another favour granted me. Mrs. C. L., **Montreal**. — My little boy is now well on the road to health and I am most grateful to the Blessed Virgin. I am gladly fulfilling my promise by subscribing to THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. F. D., **Tetereaultville**. — I am sending you a subscription to THE PRECURSOR, in thanksgiving for a favour obtained after promising to publish. Mrs. E. D., **Yamachiche**. — I have been restored to health and, as a token of my gratitude, I hasten to send you an offering for a novena of lights to be burned in honour of the Blessed Virgin. Mrs. A. P., **Portneuf Station**. — I am sending you an offering for another favour obtained through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin: no one has ever implored the aid of this tender Mother in vain. Mrs. G., **Viauville**. — Please find enclosed my thank-offering for a position obtained. A Subscriber, **Shawinigan Falls**. — You will find enclosed an offering for the Missions, in thanksgiving to our Immaculate Mother for favours granted me through her intercession. Miss M. L. B., **Montreal**. — I return heartfelt thanks to Our Lady through whose intercession I underwent a successful operation, after promising to publish my thanksgiving in THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. J. R., **Villeray**.

A DONATION FOR THE LEPERS

Mrs. Joseph Levasseur, who died at St. Germain, Kamouraska Co., has bequeathed the sum of \$100.00 in favour of the poor lepers.

As a token of our lively gratitude, we recommend the soul of this charitable benefactress to the prayers of our kind readers.

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

Petitions

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

Please pray that my husband may secure a better position. Mrs. C., **Timmins, Ont.** — I beg you to make a novena for me, as I have been very sick. When I am cured, I will send you an offering and promise to get the PRECURSOR. May our Immaculate Mother be pleased to grant my requests. Enclosed you will find a small donation. Mrs. O. H., **Montreal**. — Please have prayers said for two very special intentions. Mrs. Carroll. — Kindly make a novena that I may secure a steady position. As soon as I obtain this favour, I will subscribe to your review. M. H. F., **Windsor, Ont.** — I herewith send you an offering for lights during the novena I asked you to make for me, trusting I will get my request. Mrs. J. K., **Montreal**. — I am sending you an offering for the ransom of four dying Chinese babies and I ask you to pray for several special intentions. A. S., **Copper Cliff, Ont.** — Please pray that I may obtain the favour I am asking. If it is granted me, I will send a donation for the missionary work. M. S., **Granville, N. Y.** — I promise to give an offering for the ransom of four dying Chinese babies yearly for five years and ask you to be kind enough to make a novena for my intention. Mrs. J. H. T., **Montreal**. — May I ask you to pray for me. Mrs. C. W., **Verdun**. — I am enclosing a small offering for lights. I hope to be remembered sometimes in your good prayers. I. R., **North Bay, Ont.** — A friend of mine has requested me to forward you this small offering and to ask you to have a novena made in honour of our Blessed Mother for a very particular intention. I, also, wish to be remembered in your prayers. N. H., **Montreal**. — Please pray that the favour I am asking may soon be granted. C. H., **Westerly, R. I.** — I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Kindly ask the Blessed Virgin to obtain my mother better health and to come to my assistance. Mrs. J. L., **Springfield, Mass.** — I wish you would remember my petitions in your prayers. I promise to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR if any of my requests are granted. Mrs. M. O'B., **Windsor, Ont.** — Please pray to Our Lady for three particular favours. I promise to renew my subscription,

publish my thanks and, at the same time, enclose an offering, if at least one of these favours is granted. Miss P. T., **Montreal**. — Enclosed find a small donation for your good works. Pray for our intentions. A Friend, **North Bay, Ont.** — I am enclosing an offering for your missions. Please pray for me, as I am not well. I hope I shall be able to hold my position. M. B., **Point St. Charles**. — I would ask you to pray fervently that we may have peace in our household. I promise to send you a donation if things brighten up this month. Mrs. A. B., **Mattawa, Ont.** — Will you please join with me in a novena to the Immaculate Conception for a very special favour. I promise a substantial donation in favour of your Chinese missions if my request is granted. Mrs. J. C., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find an offering to help you in your good work. Please pray for our intentions. Mr. and Mrs. W. C., **Goderich, Ont.** — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription to THE PRECURSOR. I am sending it so that my husband may find a good position, and that I may be granted two other favours. Mrs. M. W., **Shawinigan Falls**. — Enclosed find subscription to THE PRECURSOR for one year. Would you kindly pray for our intention regarding a certain favour we would like to obtain. If this request is granted we will send a generous sum of money to be devoted to your good works. Mrs. B., **Montreal**. — Please pray that I may get work soon. Mr. S. C., **Timmins, Ont.** — I am writing to ask you to kindly make another novena for me, for I am afraid of losing my sight. N. C., **East Providence, R. I.** — Please pray that my mother may be successful in renting her apartments. Mrs. T. Y., **Ilion, New York**. — I have had two operations and am no better, so I would like you to pray for me. Mrs. C. K., **Notre Dame du Nord, Que.** — Kindly accept this small offering for your missionary work. Please pray for my intentions. M. B. T., **Schenectady, N. Y.** — Will you kindly make a novena for a special intention. If my petition is granted, I will send you a donation. O. M., **Acushnet, Mass.** — Will you please pray for a young girl who is very nervous and very despondent. A., **Montreal**. — I would be very glad if you would pray for the sick members of my family. I promise to send you an offering every year if my request is granted. Mrs. A. McB., **Notre Dame du Nord, Que.** — Please pray that an operation may be successful and that my father, brother and myself may find work. B. P., **Montreal**. — Would you be kind enough to remember us in your prayers. If my husband obtains the favours he is asking I will send you an offering for your wonderful work in China. Mrs. J. G., **Napierville, Que.** — I wish to obtain a very special favour and I hope you will ask our Immaculate Mother to intercede for me. If I am granted this request, I will publish my thanksgiving and send you a donation for your wonderful work. Mrs. W. P., **Outremont**. — Please pray that my husband and myself may both be restored to health. A Subscriber, Mrs. J. H. M. — I recommend myself to your prayers that I may find good tenants for my six apartments, by the first of May. Mrs. P. L., **Montreal**. — I would ask you to pray that my son who is to be ordained in the spring may have better health. Mrs. J. P. — I am confidently asking the Blessed Virgin to help my husband to obtain a position and to obtain me two other temporal favours. If my prayers are heard, I will be a life-long subscriber to THE PRECURSOR. Anonymous, **Longueuil**. — You will find enclosed an offering to help the Chinese children. Please have them pray that I may be restored to health. E. B., **Marlboro, Mass.** — Please commence a novena for my husband, who wishes to be called back to work in a couple of weeks. Mrs. L., **Verdun**. — Kindly keep on praying that my husband may have steady employment and that we may recover a sum of money. Mrs. W. E. W., **Parmer, Ohio**. — I hope the enclosed offering will help out some. Please remember me and mine in your prayers. Mrs. J. H., **Goderich, Ont.** — Please pray that I may have better health. Miss M. W., **Notre Dame du Nord, Que.** — Kindly offer up fervent prayers for the conversion of a father of several children. Anonymous, **Montreal**. — We wish to recommend ourselves to the prayers of all the subscribers, for we have much sickness in our home. Mrs. C. G., **Holyoke, Mass.** — I wish to obtain the conversion of one addicted to drink, the cure of a fifteen-year-old boy, as well as a few other favours. Miss C. P., **West Shefford**. — I am asking for the following favours: a conversion, peace in our household, a young man's success in his studies. J. B., **Adams, Mass.** — I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR and am asking Our Lady of Lourdes to help my husband to keep his position. Mrs. L. J., **Montreal**. — I promise to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR and to send an offering for the Missions if, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin, I secure a position. Mrs. A. B., **Montreal**. — I will give an offering for the ransom of four dying pagan babies if I am successful in an undertaking before the first of May. A Subscriber, **Montreal**. — It is with confidence that I am asking to be restored to health. Mrs. B. S. T. — I have made several novenas, but do not seem to receive an answer to my prayers. I beg all the subscribers to unite with me in praying to our Blessed Lady. If I obtain the favour I am asking, I will send you an offering. A Subscriber. — I entreat the Blessed Virgin to intercede for me, that I may secure a position which I really need. Mrs. S. C., **Montreal**. — Please pray that my husband may obtain a position and that we may recover a large sum of money which is due us and which would enable us to pay our rent, for we have not a cent. Mrs. B., **Montreal**. — I am asking for a conversion and the cure of a sick person. Mrs. J. B., **New Bedford, Mass.** — You will find enclosed an offering for a novena of lights to be burned before the statue of the Blessed Virgin, that I may obtain the conversion of a sinner, and an alms for the ransom of a dying Chinese baby, that a father of a family may keep his good resolutions. M. L. J., **Montreal**. — I am coming in all confidence to ask you to pray that I may obtain a cure and another favour. If I am granted these requests, I will be a life-long subscriber to THE PRECURSOR and will also send a donation. Mrs. G.

R. **Montreal**. — With my subscription to THE PRECURSOR, I am enclosing an offering for the ransom of a pagan baby, hoping that I may be restored to health. Mrs. M. N., **Phoenix**. — Will you kindly commence a novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help that my brother may be restored to health. If I obtain this favour, I will send you a small donation every month. J. H., **Montreal**. — I have been ill nearly five years and wish you would pray that I may get better. J. E., **Notre Dame du Nord, Que.** — I am writing to ask you to pray to Our Lady and the Little Flower for me, for there are two great favours that I wish to obtain. If I am granted these requests, I will send you an offering every month for one year for the little Chinese babies. Mrs. A. B., **Montreal**. — My mother has been sick for two years. Would you please ask the Little Flower of Jesus to obtain her cure. W. G., **Morrisburg, Ont.** — Kindly pray to St. Anthony that my husband may be successful in an important undertaking. I promise to send different offerings for your wonderful work and to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for three years. Cassy.



At the time of going to press, a telegram sent by our Sisters of Nominating, informs us of the death of our dear Sister St. Priscille, nee Alberta Gauthier, of Fall River, Mass.

We recommend to the kind prayers of our readers the soul of the lamented deceased, who had just set out on her apostolic career.



NECROLOGY

Reverend Emile CHAREST, of the Foreign Mission Society, Pont Viau, who died in Manchuria; — Mr. Aristide VANCHESTEIN, St. Michel de Napierville, brother of our Sister Marie Immaculee; — Mr. Bruno MICHAUD, St. Andre de Kamouraska, father of our Sister St. Bruno, and Mrs. Alfred LAFOREST, St. Andre de Kamouraska, her sister; — Mr. Yvon TREMBLAY, Lachute Mills, brother of our Sisters Marie Estelle and St. Suzanne; — Mr. J. B. LAFOREST, Riviere du Loup, brother of our Sister Madeleine de Jesus; — Mr. Charles COUVRETTE, St. Dorothee, brother of our Sister St. Alphonse du Redempteur, novice; — Mrs. J. O'HARA, Point St. Charles; — Mr. Patrick O'DONNELL, Montreal; — Mrs. POWER, St. Thomas, Ont.; — Mrs. W. LYNCH, Duluth; — Mrs. F. GREENE, Westmount; — Miss Kathleen EGAN, Westmount; — Mr. John McMANUS, Notre Dame de Grace; — Mr. Coleman McDONALD, Notre Dame de Grace; — Miss Annie E COSGROVE, Montreal; — Mrs. M. MITCHELL, Lancashire, Scotland; — Mr. John MURPHY, Lancashire, Scotland; — Mrs. Austin MURPHY, Lancashire, Scotland; — Mrs. A. HINTON, Montreal; — Mr. T. J. SKELLY, Frankfort, N. Y.; — Mr. D. MC GLYNN, Montreal; — Mr. James HURSON, Montreal; — Mrs. A. TIMMS, London, England; — Mrs. F. M. KERRINS, Montreal; — Mr. Thos. A. DILLON, Long Branch, N. J.; — Mr. James PEART, Outremont; — Mr. W. J. KING, Outremont; — Mr. Patrick BOLIN, Keene, Ont.; — Mrs. Christina CLARK, Montreal; — Mr. Patrick O'CONNELL, Montreal; — Mrs. Annie MACDONALD, Dalhousie Mills, Ont.; — Mr. M. J. FORBES, Verdun; — Mrs. Julia ROGERS, Montreal; — Mrs. Helen COTTON, Barachois; — Mr. Robert HOLLAND, Notre Dame de Grace; — Mr. Edward BRAHAM, Montreal; — Mr. Danson STEWART, Montreal; — Mr. John THOMPSON, Sr., Maisonneuve; — Mrs. Rose GALLAGHER, Montreal; — Miss Alice GALLERY, Montreal.

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.

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* * *

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PA MIEN TCHENG, Catholic Mission, Manchuria

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TAONAN, Catholic Mission, Manchuria (Founded in 1931)

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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 poor 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.