

THE PRECURSOR



Vol. IX., 12th Year

MONTREAL, May-June 1934

No. 9

Works of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

IN CANADA

MOTHER HOUSE, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont, P. Q.

(Founded in 1902)

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

NOVITIATE, Pont Viau (near Montreal), Laval Co.

CHINESE HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY, 112 Lagauchetiere St.

West, Montreal, (Founded in 1918)

Teaching of Catechism to the Chinese.

The Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception also visit Chinese patients in Catholic or Protestant Hospitals when requested to do so.

NOMININGUE, P. Q., (Bethany) (Founded in 1914)

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

Apostolic School for Aspirants to the Missions. Diocesan Office of the Holy Childhood. Workroom of Church Vestments. Workroom for our Missions.

JOLIETTE, P. Q., 100 St. Louis St. (Founded in 1919)

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

QUEBEC, 4 Simard St. (Founded in 1919)

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

VANCOUVER, B. C., 236 Campbell Ave. (Founded in 1921)

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

TROIS RIVIÈRES, P. Q., 466 Bonaventure St. (Founded in 1926)

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

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

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

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

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

CHICOUTIMI, P. Q., 61 Cartier St. (Founded in 1930)

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

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

Hostel "The Immaculate Conception" for young girls.

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

Apostolic School.

RIMOUSKI, P. Q., St. Jean Baptiste St. (Founded in 1932)

Closed Retreats for ladies and young girls.

(Continued on page 3 of the cover)

Please Help the Missionary Sisters

of the Immaculate Conception

By procuring work for them.

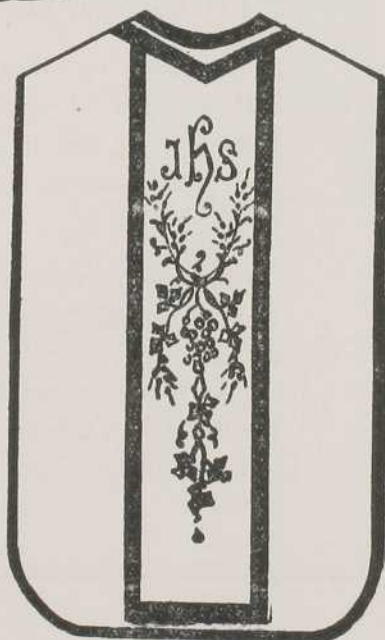
THE Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception have a work-room in which are made church-vestments and altar-linens, the profits of which are destined to support their Mother House and Novitiate.

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.

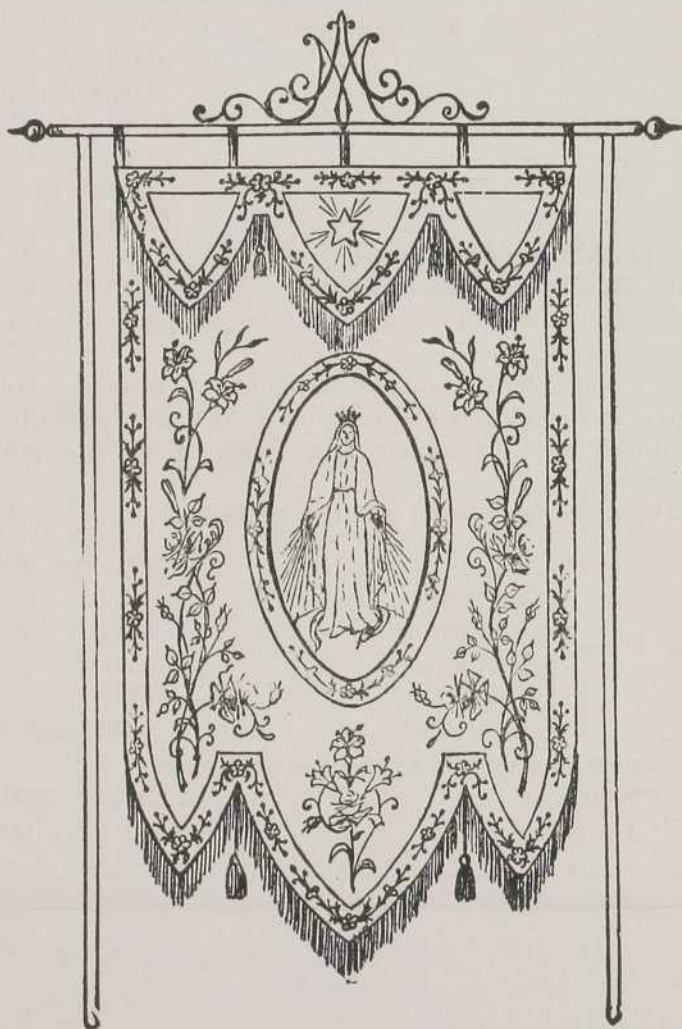
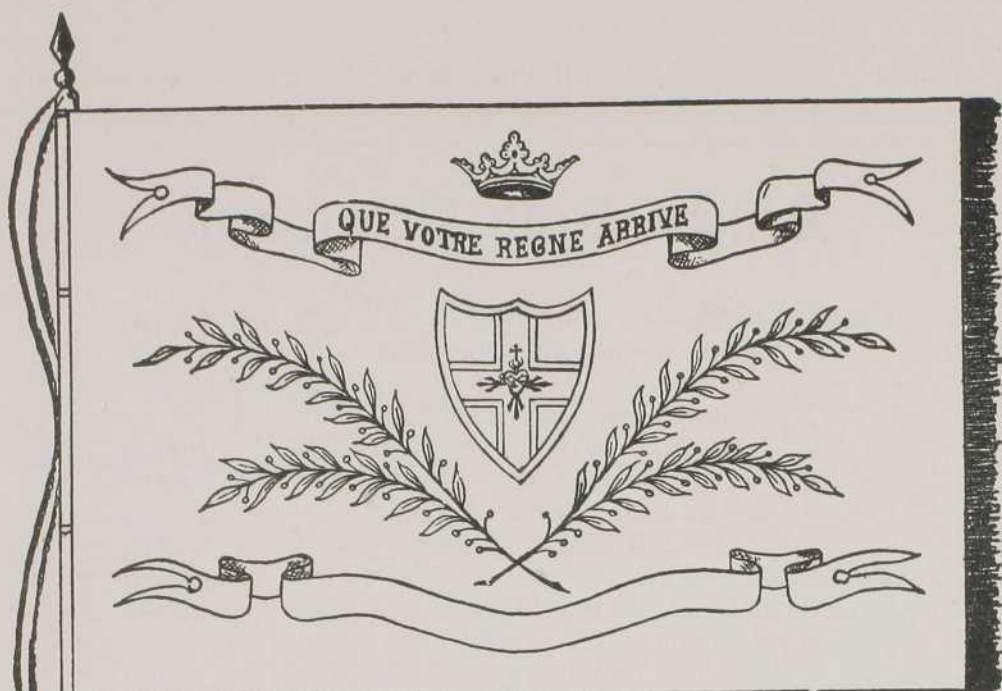
Silk flags, hand-painted and hand-embroidered. Staff is of oak and comprises a detachable holder and lance of gold-enamelled brass. Finished with fringe of half-fine gold at the end.

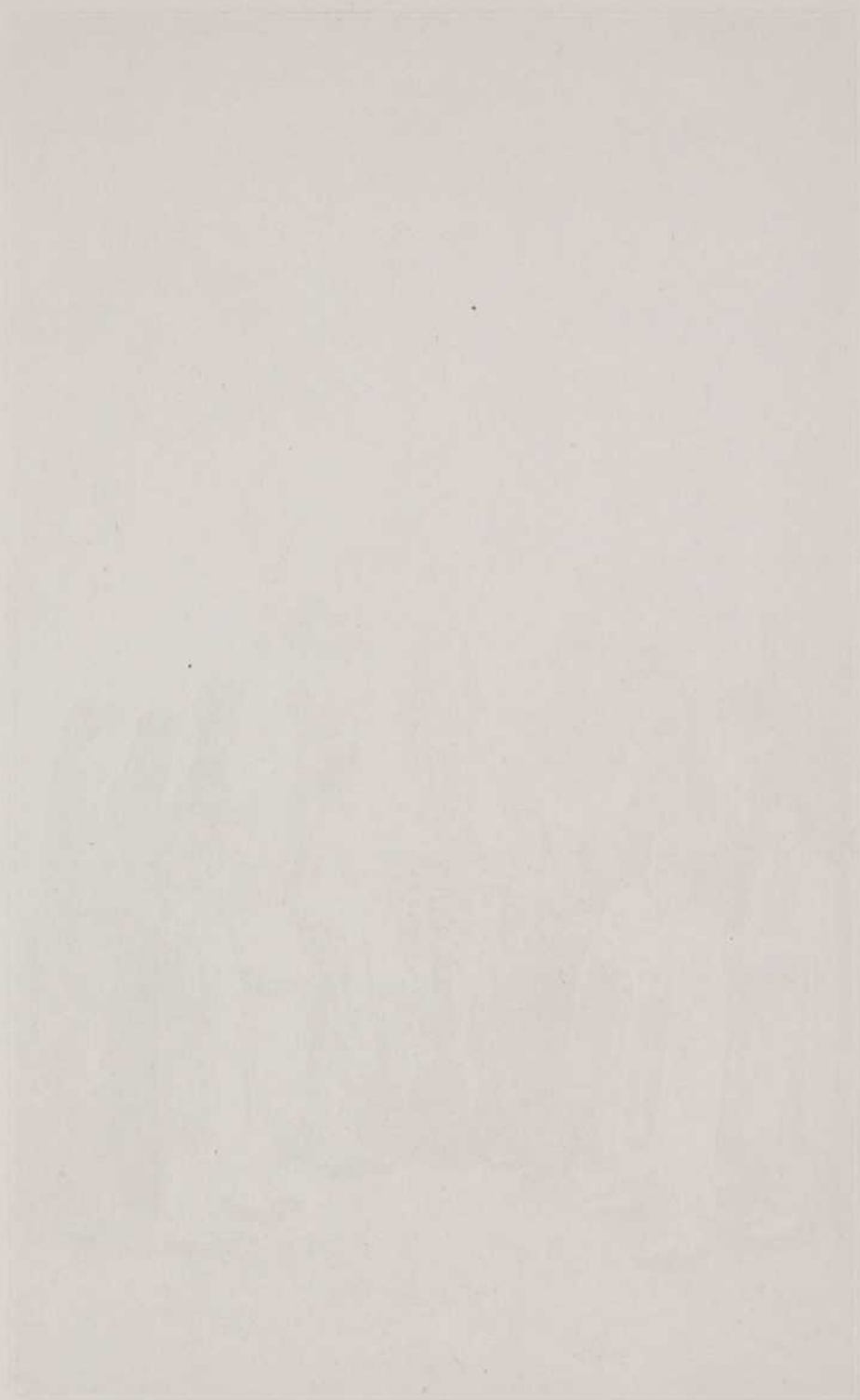
Description and prices given on request.

<i>Altar Linen</i>	{ 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

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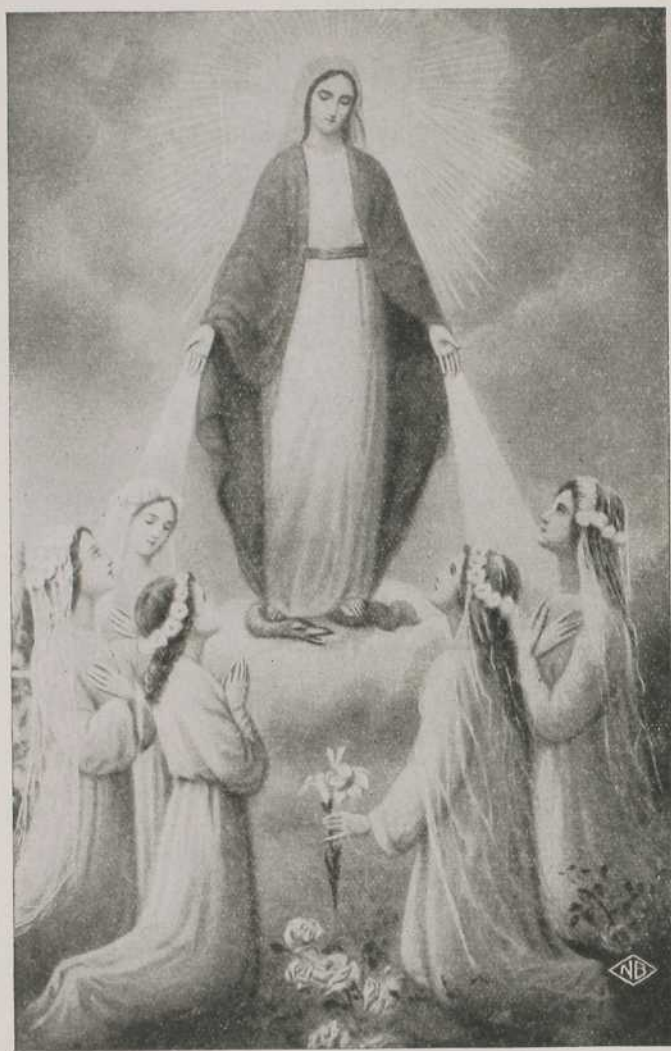
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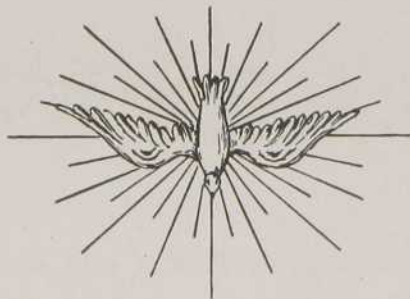
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After her, shall the virgins, her neighbours,
be brought to the King.

(Ps. 44.)



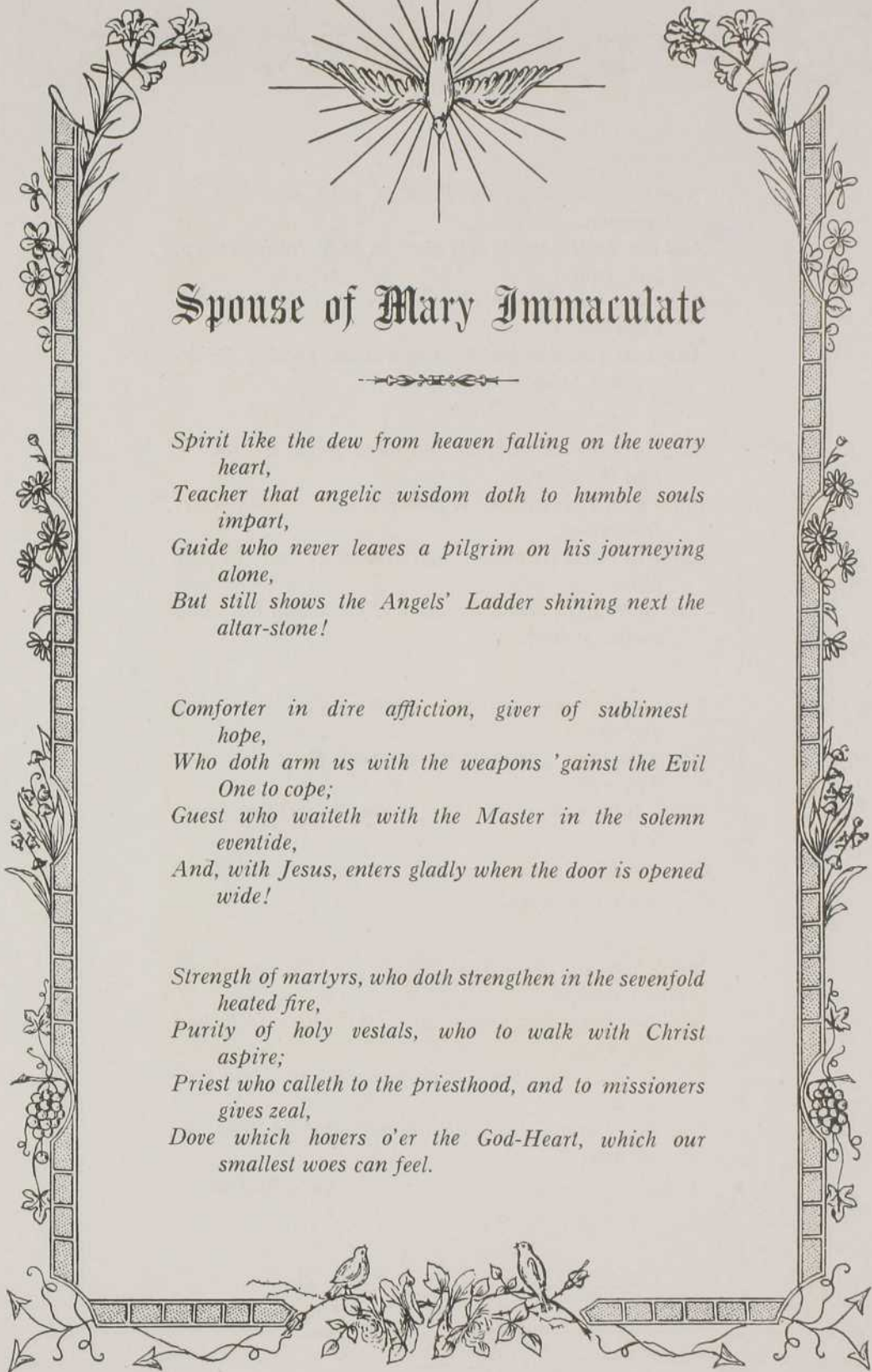
Spouse of Mary Immaculate

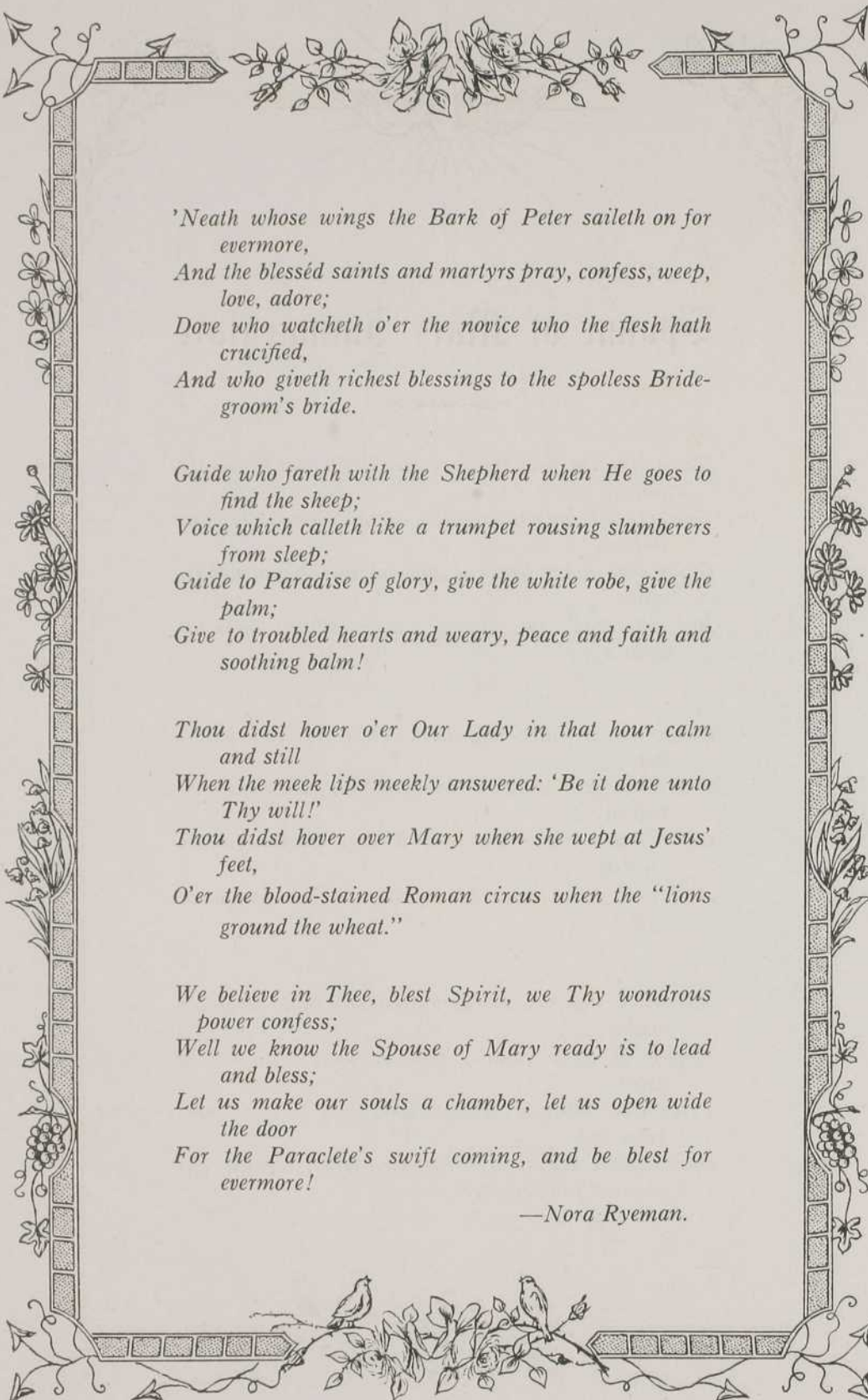


*Spirit like the dew from heaven falling on the weary
heart,
Teacher that angelic wisdom doth to humble souls
impart,
Guide who never leaves a pilgrim on his journeying
alone,
But still shows the Angels' Ladder shining next the
altar-stone!*

*Comforter in dire affliction, giver of sublimest
hope,
Who doth arm us with the weapons 'gainst the Evil
One to cope;
Guest who waiteth with the Master in the solemn
eventide,
And, with Jesus, enters gladly when the door is opened
wide!*

*Strength of martyrs, who doth strengthen in the sevenfold
heated fire,
Purity of holy vestals, who to walk with Christ
aspire;
Priest who calleth to the priesthood, and to missionaries
gives zeal,
Dove which hovers o'er the God-Heart, which our
smallest woes can feel.*





*'Neath whose wings the Bark of Peter saileth on for
evermore,
And the blessed saints and martyrs pray, confess, weep,
love, adore;
Dove who watcheth o'er the novice who the flesh hath
crucified,
And who giveth richest blessings to the spotless Bride-
groom's bride.*

*Guide who fareth with the Shepherd when He goes to
find the sheep;
Voice which calleth like a trumpet rousing slumberers
from sleep;
Guide to Paradise of glory, give the white robe, give the
palm;
Give to troubled hearts and weary, peace and faith and
soothing balm!*

*Thou didst hover o'er Our Lady in that hour calm
and still
When the meek lips meekly answered: 'Be it done unto
Thy will!'
Thou didst hover over Mary when she wept at Jesus'
feet,
O'er the blood-stained Roman circus when the "lions
ground the wheat."*

*We believe in Thee, blest Spirit, we Thy wondrous
power confess;
Well we know the Spouse of Mary ready is to lead
and bless;
Let us make our souls a chamber, let us open wide
the door
For the Paraclete's swift coming, and be blest for
evermore!*

—Nora Ryeman.

The Month of Mary

JESUS assures us, in the Gospel, that when two or three are gathered together in His name, He is in their midst and prays, along with them, to God the Father, thereby rendering their entreaties efficacious. During the month of Mary, we kneel, not only two or three together, but along with millions of fervent Catholics. How could we, favoured with the powerful intercession of Our Saviour, not obtain an answer to our prayers?

It has justly been said that flowers are never received by anyone without being acknowledged at least by a smile. But when one presents them to his mother, he is certain to be rewarded by tender words of affection and sometimes by dainty gifts. And could Mary, who is just as loving as she is rich, be less appreciative than the poorest and the most indifferent of mothers? Far from it, her heart is deeply touched by the material and spiritual flowers which we daily offer her during the month of May; on seeing our gifts, this bountiful Mother is inclined to grant us countless favours.

She bestows her blessings upon the Church. Ah! the Church is sadly assailed at the present time. She is grief-stricken on seeing so many of her children deserting her; after having grown worldly-minded, they have fallen into the snares of the devil. The faith of many is fading away owing to the irreligion of the times. Happily, Mary is as powerful as ever. Let us invoke her, particularly during the beautiful month which is dedicated to her. She is the Mother of all the faithful because she is the Mother of God, to whom the great gift of faith is due; because she has converted the Gentiles, represented by the Magi, by presenting her Divine Son to them; because she has, down through the ages, crushed rising heresies. She has prevented Satan, the enemy of all that is good and pure, from working havoc in the world. She will protect our religion: She is our Hope!

She bestows her blessings upon the parishes which are especially dedicated to her. She helps them, in a most powerful manner, to keep up old traditions.

She blesses the good and pious Christians who are zealous in rendering her homage and honour, and showers the choicest of favours upon them.

Yes, let us loudly proclaim that it is more especially during the month of May that the Blessed Virgin proves that she is the Mediatrix of all Graces, the Queen of Peace, the Comforter of the Afflicted, the Health of the Sick, the Refuge of Sinners, the Help of Christians, the Cause of our Joy!

Yes, it is during the month of May that one realizes how true are these words uttered by a devout client of Mary: "The devotion to the Blessed Virgin is as pure as the dawn, as fresh as the morning, as sweet as the dew."

Let us then assist as often as possible at May devotions. Many are the graces which we shall receive if we do our share in paying homage to the Mother of God.

By honouring Mary, on earth, during her blessed month, we shall obtain the privilege of honouring her and of praising her throughout eternity.

Indulgences to be gained during the Month of Mary.

Pius VII, in 1815, granted an indulgence of 300 days to all who assist daily at May devotions; and a plenary indulgence to all who, during the month of May, receive Holy Communion in honour of the Most Blessed Virgin. These indulgences may be applied to the Souls in Purgatory.

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

Plenary Indulgence to be Gained the First Saturday of Each Month

His Holiness Pope Pius X, in order to increase the devotion of the faithful to the most glorious and Immaculate Mother of God, and to favour the pious desire for atonement which inspires the faithful to offer some reparation for the abominable blasphemies which sinful men utter against the most august name and the high prerogatives of the Blessed Virgin, grants to all those who, having gone to Confession and received Holy Communion, will, the first Saturday of each month, in a spirit of reparation perform particular exercises of devotion in honour of the Immaculate Virgin and pray for the intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff, a plenary Indulgence, applicable to the Souls in Purgatory. (*Acta Apostolicae Sedis*, September 30th, 1912.)

Special Guard of Honour to the Blessed Virgin

On the first Saturday of every month, from 8 A. M. to 6 P. M., a special Guard of Honor is made before the altar of the Blessed Virgin, in the chapel of the Mother House of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, for the people of the world, of any age or station in life.

In the afternoon, at 3 o'clock, a short discourse on the prerogatives of the Mother of God is made, after which Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament takes place.

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

Jesus is looking for helpers, He comes to you, also, to point out to you the great need of the heathen world. He directs your attention to the millions of stray sheep and asks you to help win their souls to eternal life.

Rev. H. J. Fischer, S. V. D.

St. Bernadette Soubirous

and the Apparitions at Lourdes



Bernadette, in describing the Blessed Virgin at Lourdes, had not omitted the least detail as to her dress, her veil, her girdle, the way she stood, the movement of her hands and of her features, her smile, her look of sadness and how the Apparition gazed intently, sometimes upon her, sometimes upon the persons around her, or towards Heaven, when she appeared to become lost in contemplation. Yet, after having been given such minute details, the sculptor had experienced great difficulty in making his statue, and Bernadette, upon looking at it, found no resemblance between it and the Virgin she had seen.

A few years later, Bernadette happened to be sitting, one day, in the Rectory at Lourdes, turning over the pages of an album. She was looking indifferently at the various pictures in it when suddenly she stopped on finding one of the Blessed Virgin. Showing it to the Pastor of Lourdes and to Mr. Fabisch, the sculptor, she joyfully exclaimed: "Father, Father, this is how the Blessed Virgin appeared, oh, this is how she looked!" It was a rather ordinary print of the Madonna by St. Luke.

There is, concerning the fact just related, a document which was duly prepared, about the year 1873, by Reverend Father Jean Clave, S. J., and which is based on the narration as given by Mgr. Peyramal. The document is still to be found in the archives of Lourdes.

Without determining the genuineness of the picture or the pictures of the Blessed Virgin said to have been drawn by St. Luke, they may very well represent a traditional type; in many of the manifestations of Our Lady, the same characteristics were to be remarked.

There existed many statues representing the Immaculate Conception. In our day, there are two models which have been given us by revelation: the Miraculous Virgin, as she appeared to Catherine Laboure, and as she is reproduced on the Miraculous Medal; secondly, the Virgin of Lourdes, as Bernadette has described her to us by giving us all the details of her costume and even her portrait, so to speak, by her recognition of the Virgin drawn by St. Luke.

The features of our heavenly Mother when she appeared at Pontmain

were somewhat like those of Our Lady of Good Counsel, who also resembles the type of virgins drawn by St. Luke.

In the apparition of the twenty-fifth of March, the most important one of all, there is a detail which has not been sufficiently remarked. Bernadette, in giving an account of the apparition, says: "The Lady was standing above the rock and appeared as she is represented on the Miraculous Medal."

The Miraculous Medal had been the first link of the chain which was to connect all the apparitions together. After they were over, it again appeared in order to recall to us the plan followed by the Virgin of the grotto.

In the happenings at Lourdes, everything is supernatural.

A rustic grotto and a spring are the scenery, while a shepherdess does the acting; but, above all these, is the radiant figure of Our Lady.

Truly, supernaturalism pervades the scene: never has a heavenly instruction been given to mankind with more clearness. For nearly thirty years, the apparitions and revelations succeed one another: Catherine Laboure and Father Ratisbonne behold the Miraculous Medal before them: *Mary conceived without sin*. The Pastor of Notre Dame des Victoires receives the inspiration of dedicating his church to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Pius IX, inspired by God, defines the dogma of the *Immaculate Conception*.

The plan seems to be complete. Nay, Mary herself comes down from heaven to confirm these teachings.

She appears eighteen times at the Grotto of Lourdes and these apparitions are so arranged that they all tend to one point.

For fifteen days, the Blessed Virgin instructs Bernadette, but she wishes especially to draw the attention of a wayward world, she asks that pilgrimages be made in her honour and that a chapel be built, that crowds come thither; at her bidding, a spring bubbles up, she asks the child to pray for sinners.

These preliminaries over, she keeps the crowds in suspense for twenty days, and again appears smiling and surrounded by an oval ring of brilliant golden light. On this occasion, instead of simply saying that she is *Mary conceived without sin*, Our Lady proclaims one of her most cherished prerogatives: *I am the Immaculate Conception*.

The little peasant girl could not understand the meaning of such words. A confusion purposely existed between the attribute and the subject.

Those outside the Faith laid great stress upon this grammatical error, remarking that the Blessed Virgin would not have spoken incorrectly. She would have called herself the *Immaculate Virgin*, *Mary conceived without sin*, but never would she have said: *I am the Immaculate Conception*.

But it must be remembered that the Blessed Virgin alone could make herself known by the name which the Church had just given her. She calls herself the Immaculate Conception in order to confirm the dogma which Pius IX had just proclaimed, the glorious privilege which the Catholic universe had recognized for already four years.

Bernadette was not able to combine these words which have such a deep meaning. She could but repeat them after having stamped them on her mind, without knowing what they meant. Her intellectual power was not developed fully enough to grasp the meaning of this Conception, this definition.

As a result of the words pronounced by the Blessed Virgin, a magnificent basilica has been built on the Grotto near the Rock of Massabielle and the lofty spires of this noble edifice seem to waft heavenwards the prayers of the pilgrims; the Church of the Rosary: "a quarry of rocks piled one on top of the other, with arches as high as naves, with aisles of gigantic dimensions suited for its pompous processions; such a great number of convents which have sprung up as so many plants, in this land of miracles".

Extract from "*La Reine de Lourdes*".

Homily of Our Holy Father the Pope

pronounced on December 8, 1933

during the Mass of Canonization of Sister Marie Bernard Soubirous

VENERABLE BRETHREN, BELOVED SONS,

We greatly rejoice to be able, once again, during the course of this Holy Year, to cull fresh flowers of saintliness in the garden of the Church and to present them, filled with heavenly sweetness, to be admired by the Catholic universe.

This child of Lourdes, to whom We gave, but a few years ago, the title of Blessed, has since wrought other wonderful miracles whose authenticity, after the prescribed judicial examinations, has been recognized; that is why We have decided, with very great joy, to bestow upon her new and solemn honours.

It is, moreover, impossible for us not to admire a secret design of the Most High in this event. The present year, which We have especially dedicated to commemorate the Divine Redemption of mankind, witnesses, as a matter of fact, 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 very innocent little girl, near the rock of Massabielle. It therefore seems as if God, who is the Sovereign Lord of time and circumstances, has desired to render the Year of Jubilee still more solemn. For everything that glorifies Bernarde Soubirous, also tends to shed additional lustre on the Immaculate Virgin. Our Blessed Mother, in fact, cherished Bernadette with such a motherly love that she confided to this most humble shepherdess the commission of proclaiming her privileges and of urging mankind to do penance.

God, says the Apostle, hath chosen the foolish things of the world, that He may confound the wise; and the weak things of the world that He may confound the strong. His Most Holy Mother acts in like manner.

It is, in fact, worth remarking that the Blessed Virgin Mary, wishing to confirm in a miraculous way, the definition by which our predecessor Pius IX of holy memory, had sanctioned, on this very day and in this very Basilica, amidst the applause of the whole universe, the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, did not choose the most learned of men, but simply an ignorant child who possessed nothing save her candid heart, and it is to this child that she said: *I am the Immaculate Conception*. Nor did she choose, in order to revivify the Faith and to renew Christian morals, the rich and powerful of the world or any of its rulers. She chose a 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*. (St. Matthew, V.) Thus, in compliance with the wish which the Queen of Heaven expressed to her docile servant, three Basilicas have been erected near the Rock of Massabielle and the faithful of all nations go thither, either separately or in groups, to implore Divine assistance! 'Tis a grand spectacle, venerable Brethren and beloved Sons, one which is universally admired, even by those who have not received the light of Faith! Lourdes! Admire at Lourdes the honour and glory of the Immaculate Virgin Mary. And, at the same time, bear in mind that Lourdes stands as a remarkable monument attesting the holiness of Marie Bernarde Soubirous. How many men, led astray by false doctrines, have, at Lourdes, found their way back to the True Fold! How many others have given up sinful habits and been led, on seeing Lourdes, to practise virtue! Still how many others have there felt God's grace prompting them and have resolutely stepped onto the path of perfection! And how numerous have been the miraculous cures obtained by the sick and the maimed in that place sacred to Mary!

We, on this, the glorious day of the canonization of this child of Lourdes, feel the need of going, in spirit, to the Grotto of the Immaculate Conception to implore help from God's Blessed Mother, in order to walk always in the footsteps of Bernarde Soubirous, whose virtues and illustrious examples are to-day proposed to our imitation. Let us strive to imitate her modesty and her humility, her lively faith and charity, and just as she so constantly and faithfully responded to the heavenly inspirations, so should we courageously follow the grace of God inviting us to a holier and more perfect life. If it be impossible for us to lead a life as innocent as hers was, let us try at least to be as zealous as she in doing penance, each according to our state.

We desire, moreover, that fervent prayers be addressed to the Immaculate Mother of God and to her 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 the Christian principles.

May it please God — We ask this through the intercession of the Immaculate Virgin Mary and of her most faithful servant, Bernarde Soubirous — that we may ever profit by the fruits of the Redemption through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Reverend Father Emile Charest, of the Foreign Mission Society, Falls on the Field of Honour

FATHER Emile Charest is the second priest of the Foreign Mission Society of Pont Viau to die within the past few months; it is widely known that, on November 8, 1933, death claimed Father Victor Champagne who had been labouring in the mission field for already two years.

But this fresh trial, however bitter it may be, has not failed to fill the hearts of all the members of his Society and of all his fellow-countrymen with sentiments of supernatural pride. Father Charest died on the field of honour, he shed his blood for a very holy cause, the spreading of the Faith, the evangelization of the heathen.

Father Emile Charest was born in St. Germain de Kamouraska, on May 6th, 1900, his father being Ludovic Charest and his mother, Anne Tardif. When he was but twelve years of age, his parents emigrated to the United States (they live actually in New Bedford, Mass.) but young Emile remained in Canada in order to take a classical course.

It was Reverend Father Gervais, Pastor in St. Andre de Kamouraska, who gave him his first lessons in Latin; later on, he attended the Apostolic School in Quebec and made his literary and philosophical studies at the Lesser Seminary in the same city.

In 1922, he entered the Foreign Mission Society of the Province of Quebec, but as this Society did not then have a seminary for theological students, he remained for two years at the Grand Seminary in Quebec. On September 2nd, 1924, he entered the seminary at Pont Viau.

He was ordained on June 29th, 1926, and left for the Missions on September 10th of the same year. Most impressive was the ceremony held in the Cathedral of Montreal, and in which seven departing missionaries took part. It was presided over by His Excellency Mgr. Gauthier, Coadjutor Archbishop of Montreal, who also preached the sermon.

After arriving in Manchuria, he studied Chinese in the Seminary of Mukden for a year and then went to Nioutchoang, to learn from a missionary from France the way to guide souls to God. He spent the year 1928 at Fakou and, in the month of June 1929, Mgr. Lapierre called him to Leao Yuan. His Excellency was then seeing to the construction of a chapel, a residence for the missionary priests and a convent for the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception. It was Father Charest who was



REV. FATHER CHAREST, M. E.

appointed to attend to the spiritual needs of that Mission. He was to succeed Mgr. Lapierre a few months later. His Excellency, less than a year after, was named Prefect Apostolic and went to reside at Szepinghai, the seat of the new prefecture.

Father Charest was a real missionary: always joyous, active, charitable, and confident in Divine Providence, he never spared himself. He was loved and esteemed by everyone: pagans and Christians alike.

A tireless worker, he succeeded in mastering the Chinese language. Many a time he was taken for a Chinaman on account of his faultless pronunciation and his oriental-like features. Ever since the Japanese took possession of Manchuria, he had been studying their language. He always had in view the establishing of three great works: dispensaries, schools and catechumenates.

When Father Charest first came to Leao Yuan, there were but fifty Christians there, but, after labouring among the inhabitants for five years, he had the happiness of counting nearly seven hundred. These figures speak for themselves and tell us of the esteemable qualities of this apostle. In spite of all his cares and his numerous duties, Father Charest found time to bear the teachings of the Gospel to the neighbouring districts. Thus it was that he paid regular visits to the mission stations of Palichan, Maoli, Tahan and Yamentai. His parish was at least sixty miles square. Neither the bad weather nor the fear of the brigands ever hindered him from setting out on his apostolic journeyings. Many a time, he related his different adventures, unaware that they were of a heroic nature.

CLOVIS RONDEAU, P. M. E.

(Translated.)



It is for souls, the souls of all the men and women living upon earth, of the little ones afar in heathen lands no less than of those so dear to us at home, that the Heart of Christ is thirsting.



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

Letter from Rev. J. E. Crevier, C. S. V.

MISSIONARY IN MANCHURIA

*Catholic Mission, Szepingkai, Manchukuo,
February 10, 1934.*

Very Reverend Mother General of the Missionary Sisters
of the Immaculate Conception,
Outremont, Canada.

REVEREND MOTHER GENERAL,

I am behind in my correspondence, New Year's has come and gone in Canada and I must make haste in order that my letter may leave before the Chinese New Year's Day which, this year, falls on February 14th. It is only since the 20th of January that we have had a little time to ourselves, and that is why I am so late in wishing you a Holy, Happy New Year. May God bless all the plans which you are making for His greater glory by the spreading of your works and especially those in mission lands.

It was this year that we started our missionary work. On March 20th, 1933, His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre called me from Pamiencheng to take charge of the school which had just been built near his residence. We began with two classes. At the opening of the second term on August 16th, nearly two hundred pupils came to be enrolled, but we could only accept a hundred and twenty for our three classes: in Canada, forty is a large number of pupils for one class and we find that that number is sufficient for us, despite the fact that in the Chinese schools there are far more than that. Our pupils study Chinese, Japanese and English. The Catholic children are taught their Catechism by a Catholic Chinese professor and Father Berichon, P. M. E., gives instructions to the young pagans who wish to learn about our holy religion. It is not easy to convert Chinese scholars. Several wish to become Catholics and we hope to succeed in leading a few of them to embrace the Faith.

On February 11th, we received five new confreres: three from Montreal and two from Chicago, one of whom is a priest. They will study Chinese for a year. Like ourselves, they will be obliged to continue their studies for a long time before mastering this difficult language. Next year, three of them will likely be employed at the Lesser Seminary and the others at the school.

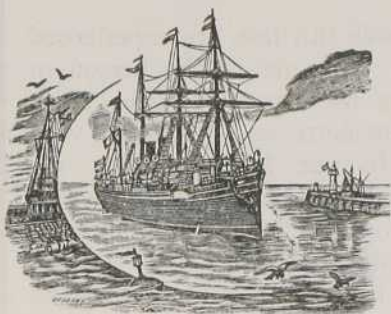
The works for which missionaries are needed are numerous here. Several posts are to be established, as well as many schools, homes for the aged and infirm and workrooms for Chinese maidens. May Almighty God send a great many labourers into His vineyard in Manchukuo in order that the steadily-increasing number of conversions may be kept up. It seems as though God, in this troubled period through which we are passing, has been leading the pagans to seek the true light which brightens the way for every man and which finally conducts him to a happy eternity.

Yours most devotedly in St. Viator,
J. E. CREVIER, C. S. V.



MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION WHO LEFT FOR THE MISSIONS ON MARCH 27TH, 1934.

Departure for the Missions



On Tuesday, March 27th, in the chapel of their Mother House at Outremont, took place the touching Departure Ceremony of four Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception: Sr. St. John of Calvary (Doris Hague, of Montreal) destined for Kagoshima, Japan; Sr. St. Victor (Germaine Tanguay, of Nashua, N. H.) and Sr. Marie Xavier (Berthe Paradis, of Tingwick) for the new mission of Suchow, Kiangsu, China, and Sr. Marie de la Presentation (Berthe Surprenant, of Swanton, Vt.) who will remain at St. Joseph's Oriental Hospital, Vancouver.

Very Reverend Father Dugre, S. J., Provincial, kindly presided at the pious gathering and delivered a sermon fitting to the occasion. He was assisted by Reverend Father Duplessis, chaplain of the Community. Present in the sanctuary were: Reverend Father Rondeau, Assistant General of the Foreign Mission Seminary of Pont Viau and the Reverend Fathers A. Gauthier, A. Brossard and D. Monty, S. J.

Numerous relatives and friends of the departing Missionaries also assisted at the modest farewell ceremony, sharing with them the blessings and consolations bestowed by Our Eucharistic Lord.

The little ceremony was soon followed by the family meal, which the courageous Missionaries took, for the last time, within the blessed walls of their dear Mother House. While all were bravely trying to overcome their emotions, a group of cherished Sisters raised their voices, singing to an organ accompaniment, the touching strains of an apostolic hymn which carried all of us in spirit to the remote pagan lands, where souls are being lost in such great numbers on account of the scarcity of labourers, to those distant mission fields where Our Lord and His Blessed Mother are calling for more and more apostles to bring to these souls the light of Faith and to open Heaven to them.

After supper, all the members of the Community repaired to the chapel and, there, the four Sisters about to leave knelt at the foot of the altar to receive a final blessing, placing themselves under the motherly protection of the Queen of Heaven while imploring her to guide them safely to their far-off mission field. Meanwhile, the choir sang a touching departure hymn in honour of Our Lady.

There were a few minutes left and the last farewells were exchanged, after which the departure for the Windsor St. Station took place while the *Ave Maris Stella* was being sung. At seven o'clock, the train pulled out, bearing away, probably for ever, the four new missionaries of the Immaculate Virgin,

Our Sisters arrived in Vancouver on March 31st and set sail on April 5th.

Precious in the Sight of the Lord is the Death of the Just



MISS CELINA MONTMARQUET.

On March 9th last, we experienced the sorrow of losing in the person of Miss Celina Montmarquet, one of our greatest benefactresses. From the very beginning of our Institute, she was really providential in regard to the new work and by her devotedness and unceasing kindness in our behalf she has merited for herself a right to our undying gratitude.

Miss Celina Montmarquet was the sister of our lamented Mother St. Gustave, the helpmate of our beloved Mother Foundress and the first Assistant General of the Community, who died at Nominigues on January 23rd, 1917. On June 6th, 1902, she took up

her abode in the little house in Notre Dame des Neiges, which was the cradle of our Institute, sharing the laborious life of our dear Mother and of her first two companions, although she could have procured herself a life of ease. She was to be remarked for her boundless charity. A great many persons benefitted by her generosity.

Our lamented benefactress calmly expired at our Mother House, on Friday, March 9th, at ten o'clock in the evening, manifesting in death all the signs of a predestined soul. She was eighty years of age. The funeral ceremony was held, according to her desire, in our chapel, on Monday, March 12th.

Reverend Father Duplessis, chaplain at our Mother House, sang the funeral Mass, assisted by Reverend Father Poulin, C. S. V., as deacon, and Reverend Father Lacroix, P. M. E., as subdeacon. Reverend Father Roy, C. S. V., Pastor of St. Viator's Parish, Outremont, deigned to extend his sympathy to the Community by attending the funeral.

Three Sisters of the Good Shepherd Community, where Miss Montmarquet had a sister, Mother Marie du St. Redempteur, who died on September 21st, 1926, a few cousins of the deceased, and a number of friends were also present.

The mortal remains of our dear benefactress lie in the cemetery at Cote des Neiges, in the family plot.

To express our deep gratitude, we are ardently multiplying our supplications for the repose of her soul.

THE MISSIONARIES OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

In Loving Memory of a Little Missionary Sister

IT is in the garden of heaven, in the long line of virgins or in the ranks of the apostles that we must now look for our beloved little Sister St. Priscille, whom death snatched only too soon from her religious family, thus frustrating the hopes of a fruitful apostolic career.

Our dear Sister, whose life was as short as that of an ephemereal flower, has left us as a lasting remembrance the delicate perfume of the most beautiful virtues. During the four and a half years which she spent with us, although in the midst of her companions she was like unto a violet which hides itself from view, it was always edifying to see the endeavours she made in order to do everything well, her faithfulness to duty, her life of prayer and her zeal for the works of the Community; but it was especially during the five months of her trying illness that one admired the candour of her soul, her childlike simplicity, her great attachment to her Superiors and her burning love for her divine Spouse and her dear heavenly Mother.

Born at Tiverton, Rhode Island, on October 14th, 1911, our Sister received in Baptism the name of Marie Blanche Alberta. As the happy child grew up, she was the object of the affection of her good parents and of her elder brother and two sisters, in whose games she took part. But at the age of seven, when she was preparing for her First Communion, she lost her dear mother. Great, indeed, was her sorrow when she learned that she would never again see that beloved mother here below, but our divine Lord, desiring to keep the heart of this little one in His possession, doubtlessly lavished His consolation upon her when He visited it for the first time. Two of her aunts insisted on having her father let them adopt her, but he could not make up his mind to do so, thus complying with the desire of the child, who, in her personal notes written later in life, stated: "I preferred a thousand times over to stay with my brother and sisters in our humble home, rather than to leave for another abode where I certainly would have lived in much more luxury."

When she was between fifteen and sixteen years of age, Alberta might have been enticed by worldly allurements, which she already looked upon with pleasure, had not two other deaths successively prompted her to leave aside all human affections and made her reflect on the shortness of life and the insignificance of fleeting joys; her brother died after a long period of suffering and, three months later, it was one of her sisters who was called to her reward. She felt deeply grieved at this last separation and it was then that she generously made resolutions for the future.

On reading a few short accounts of the works of our Community, she decided to ask to be allowed to enter the Novitiate. She was admitted, on August 8th, 1929, at the age of seventeen. She put her whole heart

into following the different exercises of the Novitiate and practised all kinds of virtues, while striving as she herself wrote, "to make her life a never-ending hymn of thanksgiving, under the motherly protection of the Immaculate Virgin."

On February 11th, 1932, she had the great happiness of uniting herself to our divine Lord by making religious Profession. From that day on, her love of duty increased as well as her ardent desire of devoting herself unreservedly to the service of the dear Community into which she had been adopted and to which she felt herself indebted, but Jesus, who had other designs on His faithful little spouse, called her to the heavenly abode before she had had the occasion of harvesting souls in the distant mission fields, as was her great desire.

During the month of September 1933, she commenced to have lung trouble and the disease soon made great headway. Our beloved Mother, thinking that if the little patient spent some time at Nominigüe it would do her good, sent her to our "Bethany", where the air is so pure and where everything is so peaceful, pleasant and reposing; but, instead of improving, she soon caused us to become greatly alarmed and we finally realized that there was no hope for her recovery. Her entire abandonment to God's Holy Will, her mortification, simplicity and filial affection for her Superiors both edified and delighted the Sister infirmarians. She did not fail to thank them from the bottom of her heart for the good care they gave her and often asked them to thank in her name our Mother and all the Sisters to whom she owed so much. "I would like to have a thousand voices," she had one of the Sisters write to our dear Mother, "to thank you as much as I feel the need of doing. The Infant Jesus, understanding how powerless I am, will see to paying my debt of gratitude to you, as I am asking Him to do. At "Bethany", Mother, I am like a queen, I only have to ring a little bell and everything is brought to me without further trouble. Oh, how I thank you for having given me such a kind Superior and such a devoted Sister infirmarian!"

During the novena preparatory to the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and the Canonization of Bernadette Soubirous, she generously offered to God her life in order to obtain the cure of our beloved Mother, of whose serious illness she had been informed. As the novena was drawing to a close, she said to Sister Superior: "I have made a pact with the Blessed Virgin and have asked her to obtain our Mother's restoration to health instead of my own, if it is a case of only one of us getting better. Sister St. Priscille may be replaced, but no one can take place of our Mother Foundress."

Her pain was always so intense that she was hardly ever able to sleep. One evening, the Sister who was watching by her bedside, seeing that she was suffering so much, said to her: "I would like to take your pain from you for the entire night so that you might take a little rest." "Oh! no," she hastened to reply, "for you would, at the same time, take from me my merit. And if I did not suffer, I would not be happy, for I would feel that I was really useless to the Community; not being able to work, I can at

least suffer for it." At times, when in very great pain, she was heard to cry out lovingly: "Oh! Mary, my dear Mother, do come for me, I am too small to suffer so much, take me in your arms. I confide myself to thee, do for me what I am unable to do," or again, pressing her crucifix to her lips, she would kiss it, saying: "Without Him I could do nothing..." One day, she said to the Sister infirmarian: "After a hemorrhage, I could die immediately, I know, but I am sure of one thing and that is that I am to wait until it is a feast of the Blessed Virgin, I am too small to leave all alone."

As a reward for her confidence, our Blessed Mother, after having visibly assisted the dear patient when the hellish foe endeavoured to rob her soul of its peace, introduced her into the blissful abode on the vigil of the feast of her apparition at Lourdes, Saturday, February 10th, 1934, just when throughout the entire Catholic world were being commenced these consoling words of the Mass for that day: "Come, O Spouse of Christ, receive the crown which the Lord hath prepared for thee for ever." It was also the vigil of the second anniversary of the profession of our dear Sister. Along with the virgin's crown, she received from her divine Spouse the ring symbolical of unending union. She was twenty-two years, three months and twenty-seven days old.

From the heavenly heights, you have now, dear little Sister, a mission to accomplish, be faithful to your promise of labouring with us to make God and the Immaculate Virgin better known and for the welfare of our dear Community.

The funeral of the lamented deceased was held at Nominigüe, and her mortal remains lie near those of two of her Sisters of "Bethany" who preceded her to the grave: Sister Marie de la Purification and Sister Marie du Perpetuel Secours. The latter had been a missionary in Japan.

We wish to express our lively gratitude to Reverend Father Noiseux, Pastor at Nominigüe, and to Reverend Father Belanger, chaplain, who always showed the greatest devotedness to our dear sick Sister while attending to the needs of her soul. Thanks are also due to the Reverend Sisters of the Holy Cross for the religious and affectionate sympathy they extended us.

THE MISSIONARIES OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.



A Substantial Donation in Favour of the Lepers

One thousand dollars were gathered for the Shek Lung Leper Asylum by a non-Catholic lady of Hongkong who suggested in one of the newspapers that the residents of the colony provide one dollar for each of the 700 lepers in the settlement. The falling-off of subscriptions from America and Europe has hit the Shek Lung Colony so severely that Father Marsigny, the director, fears for the future of the work.

(Fides.)

Missionary Activities of the Foreign Mission Society of Pont Viau

ON November 30, 1919, His Holiness Pope Benedict XV published the Encyclical "*Maximum illud*" which will ever remain as the great chart of the modern Missions. Pitying the sad fate of the millions of infidels still groping in the darkness and ignorance of paganism, he asked for the assistance of the Catholics of the entire world, laying stress especially upon the need of foreign mission seminaries destined to train missionaries for the evangelization of the pagan countries.

"For a long time", the Pope wrote, "the need of Missionaries has been felt, and now, on account of the Great War, this need is greater than ever: in many places, there are no labourers to gather in the Lord's harvest."

Before such a pressing appeal, on one hand, and such great distress on the other, the Episcopal Authorities of the Province of Quebec have not remained indifferent and that is why they resolved to found a missionary society composed of secular priests which would, along with the religious congregations and orders, take its place in the Mission fields. This Society has been called by the Episcopal Authorities "The Foreign Mission Society of the Province of Quebec". Founded on the 2nd of February, 1921, approved and blessed by the Sovereign Pontiff, meeting with the sympathy of and supported by the Catholics of Canada, it was not long before the new Society was ready to commence its noble task: that of the conversion and salvation of the infidels.

At the end of 1921, it counted but five members: three priests and two seminarians; on the opening day of the newly-erected Seminary at Pont Viau (September 1st, 1924), it numbered twenty-two members: seven priests and fifteen seminarians; there are, at the present time, eighty-seven members, forty-four of whom are priests and forty-three seminarians. A man of virile courage, capable of coping with all kinds of difficulties, was needed to take charge of the new undertaking. The Episcopal Authorities confided the work to Very Reverend Canon Roch, then Pastor of the Cathedral of Joliette, and whom we still find, after thirteen years, devoted to the same noble task so full of responsibility.

With the help of a few co-workers, he has erected at Pont Viau, near Montreal, for the glory of his Faith and of his country, works for which it is but right to pay him homage and which will, for a long time, be universally admired.

The first departure for the Missions took place on September 11, 1925, that is to say, four years after the foundation. The pioneer group was composed of three priests: Reverend Fathers J. L. A. Lapierre, Eugene Berichon and Leo Lomme. The mission field assigned them was a section of the Vicariate of Mukden, Manchuria.

On August 2nd, 1929, this field was definitely confided to them and on February 19th, 1930, Mgr. Lapierre became its first Prefect Apostolic. Two years later, he was raised to the rank of Vicar Apostolic and, on August 4th, 1932, was consecrated as Titular Bishop of Cardique by His Excellency Archbishop Gauthier, Coadjutor of Montreal, in the presence of His Eminence Cardinal Verdier, Archbishop of Paris, and of a score of archbishops, bishops and prelates. That day will ever remain a memorable one in the annals of the Society.

So far, forty Missionaries from the Foreign Mission Society of the Province of Quebec have left for the Missions. The Society has had its share of trials, two of its Missionaries have already died on the field of honour: Reverend Father Victor Champagne, who passed away on November 8th, 1933, and Reverend Father Emile Charest who so nobly laid down his life on February 13th, 1934, shot by Chinese bandits. Four have been obliged to return to their Mother House at Pont Viau: three on account of sickness and the fourth, to act as General Bursar of the Society. There now remain thirty-four Missionaries who are labouring in the Vicariate of Szepingkai under the able direction of His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre, the founder of the Mission in Manchuria and the zealous promoter of its flourishing works which are constantly progressing and improving.

When the new Prefecture was divided in 1929, there were, for a population of about two millions, but five resident priests and five mission stations; altogether, there were some 1500 Christians. To-day, the Apostolic Vicariate comprises seventeen mission stations with resident Missionaries, eighty-seven Missionaries, of which thirty-four are priests of the Foreign Mission Society, one Chinese priest, nine Clerics of St. Viator (two priests and seven Brothers), thirty-nine Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception and four native Sisters. The number of Catholics has increased from 1,500 to 11,849. Of this number, 4,500 are from the newly-added section of the Jehol Vicariate, while the others are Christians who were baptized recently.

How is it that the Missionaries have been able to obtain such wonderful results in so short a time? After mentioning God's grace which is bestowed with profusion on this heathen land, we may say that it is due to the prayers and sacrifices of the Catholics of Canada that the Missionaries have been able to obtain these gratifying results by means of the three chief works of the Vicariate: the catechumenates, the dispensaries and the schools.

The Catechumenates

The object of the catechumenates is to teach the Catholic doctrine to those who desire to enter the Church. The catechumens who wish to receive Baptism must attend the Catechism classes during six months, after which they try a hard examination on Catholic Doctrine. The Sacrament of Baptism is administered to those who obtain satisfactory results in their examinations; those who fail must continue to attend the Catechumenate for some time. On June 30th, 1933, there were forty-eight catechumenates, twenty-five for the men and twenty-three for the women. Of a total number

of 1,735 Christians who were baptized last year, 1,094 had been instructed in the catechumenates. The outlook for this year is even brighter, the enrollment so far being in the neighbourhood of 5,000.

The Dispensaries

The dispensaries, as the word implies, are small hospitals where consultations and medicine are given to the patients free of charge. The following figures for last year show that the fifteen dispensaries of the Vicariate are well attended by the Chinese: Dressings, 59,044; consultations, 127,877; various treatments, 221,218. Ten of these dispensaries are in charge of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception; the others are under the direction of the missionary priests who, when it is necessary to do so, become surgeons (for small operations) or even dentists. The great advantage of these dispensaries is to dispose the pagans, by the charitable treatment of their bodily ills, to receive the faith which illumines souls. A Chinese catechist is always present in the waiting-room of each dispensary and there, making use of a large illustrated Catechism, he explains to the Chinese who stand amazed, the great truths of our holy religion: God, Jesus Christ, heaven, hell, etc. The result of this little strategy is that many of the patients, touched by the rays of divine grace, ask to be admitted to the catechumenate; others to whom, at present, our religion does not appeal, will, when seriously ill, send for the missionary priest, who will finish instructing them and administer Baptism to them. Thus it is that last year, 401 adult pagans in the Vicariate of Szepingkai received the Sacrament of Baptism before dying.

The dispensaries have still another advantage which is no less precious: that of opening heaven to numerous dying children. Last year, 3,724 little ones received, thanks to the dispensaries, the great favour of being regenerated in the Sacred Waters of Baptism and of enjoying the Beatific Vision for all eternity.

The Schools

When our Missionaries were given charge of the Prefecture of Szepingkai,



AT THE LI SHU MISSION STATION, MANCHURIA.
REV. FATHER GILBERT AND LECOMPTE
FIND ON THEIR WAY A DEAD BABY, HALF
OF WHOSE BODY HAD BEEN EATEN BY DOGS.

there were but two or three schools of prayer, attended by only a few children. Actually there are eighty-six schools: forty-eight catechetical schools or schools of prayer, thirty-seven primary schools and one High School. In all there are 3,727 students enrolled. These children are not all Catholics; far from it, most of them are pagans but as all the professors are Catholics and all of the students, or nearly all, study Catechism, or at least listen to the explanations that are given, it is easy to see that these schools are a powerful means of apostolate, and that they will be an immense help in breaking down the prejudices against our holy religion and the Catholic missionaries. In March 1933, Mgr. Lapierre also established, at Szepingkai, a High School which he confided to the Clerics of St. Viator; there was then an attendance of eighty pupils. At the reopening of school in September last, 120 pupils were enrolled and many had to be refused on account of the lack of space.

We must not fail to mention the foundation of a Lesser Seminary for the formation of the native clergy (it actually counts twenty-two students) and the establishment of a religious community for Chinese maidens who desire to consecrate themselves to God and to make the three vows of religion. This community, founded in 1931 and known as the Society of Our Lady of the Rosary, actually comprises four Professed Sisters, eighteen novices and two postulants. It is conducted by the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception.

From the very outset, the work of evangelization in the Apostolic Vicariate of Szepingkai has been seriously handicapped by the highway plundering which, for centuries, has been more or less prevalent in some part or other of China. However, the occupation of the country by the Japanese has not been as detrimental to the work of the missionaries as might have been expected. And this is the reason why: The Chinese people, being deprived of their former leaders, whose influence made them adhere to the essentially pagan traditions and practices of the country, and fearing the new rulers, whom they held in suspicion, looked to Holy Mother Church for protection, for they regarded her as representing peace, justice and charity. Until the past few years, our Missionaries, who had often been held up by the brigands, have been visibly protected. God has just seen fit to put our faith to a severe test by demanding us the sacrifice of a zealous Missionary but thirty-three years old, who had become inured to mission life and whose future was most promising both for the glory of God and the salvation of souls. The day preceding his departure for the Missions, in 1926, just after bidding farewell to his parents, he said to one of his former directors: "I cannot believe that at the present moment, there is anyone on earth happier than I." And to those who, to tease him, remarked that he might well be assassinated one day by the Chinese, he laughingly replied: "But, that is just what I am going for." God has granted the wish of His missionary. He died on the field of honour, faithful to duty, and for the holiest and the noblest of causes: the triumph of the Faith and the glory of God. Let us bend low before this newly-made grave. Reverend Father Charest is indeed a credit to the country which gave him birth.

My last word

It is one of grateful thanksgiving, first of all, to God Who has unceasingly lavished upon our Society the fullness of heavenly blessings. We next address our thanks to our Founders, Their Excellencies the Archbishops and Bishops of the Province of Quebec, who have not only laid the foundations of our Society, but who have also taken a great paternal interest in its development, both by their moral support and material help. Finally, we desire to express our gratitude to all our benefactors, priests and laymen who, by their prayers and offerings, have enabled our Missionaries to work the wonders of which you have just been the happy witnesses. We shall, in the future, continue to count, and more than ever before, upon divine assistance and upon the co-operation of our countrymen. We feel assured that they will never fail us. That is why we are filled with the brightest hopes; we count on receiving more and more offerings as well as vocations, so that numerous will be the missionaries who will go forth to remote lands to gather in the precious sheaves of souls which are ready to be harvested. May Divine Providence, taking into account the generosity of our people in supplying subjects and resources, put an end to the present financial crisis, preserve Canada from the dangers with which it is threatened, keep the Faith ever alive in the hearts of all its faithful, and grant to all peace, charity and eternal life. This is my most ardent wish!

Clovis RONDEAU, P.M.E.

(Translated.)

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 May-June	1933\$30.75
In July-August	" 12.25	In July-August	" 58.15
In September-October	" 85.00	In September-October	" 41.60
In November-December	" 38.40	In November-December	" 60.75
In January-February	1933.... 77.00	In January-February	1934 38.75
In March-April	" 18.25	In March-April	" 15.00

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.



I am enclosing a small offering for the Chinese Missions, in thanksgiving for a favor received through the intercession of the Little Flower of Jesus. **M. T., Montreal.** — Please find enclosed an offering in honour of St. Theresa, which I promised. **Mrs. A. B. McD., Montreal.** — My most grateful thanks to St. Theresa for a favour received. I am enclosing an offering, as promised. **Mrs. J. L., Indian Orchard, Mass.** — Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving to the Little Flower for two favours obtained through her intercession. **Mrs. M. S., Pawtucket**

R. I. — Please apply the enclosed sum to your mission work in China, in honour of St. Therese. **A Friend, Montreal.** — Please find enclosed an offering in thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a favour received. **J. E. L., Indian Orchard, Mass.** — My most grateful thanks to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a favour obtained. **Mrs. L. N. M.** — Find enclosed an offering for your missions, in thanksgiving to St. Therese for a favour obtained. **A. L.** — St. Teresa of the Child Jesus has granted me a favour and to thank her I am subscribing to **THE PRECURSOR**. Anonymous. — I am enclosing an offering for your missions, in thanksgiving to the Little Flower, through whose intercession

I have obtained a favour. **R. P.** — Find enclosed an offering for your Works, in thanksgiving for a favour granted me by St. Therese. **Mrs. E.,**

Montreal. — Please accept the enclosed offering in honour of the Patroness of the Missions, in thanksgiving for having been protected in a special manner all last month. **A. C.** — I wish to return thanks to dear St. Therese for having helped me to secure a position. **M. L., Outremont.** — Please find enclosed a donation for the Little Flower Burse. It is my thank-offering for a favour received. **Mrs. W. P.** — With my whole heart, I thank dear St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for the position she has obtained my son. **Mrs. L. R., Montreal.** — Heartfelt thanks to St. Therese for a favour received. **Mrs. L. E. W.** — Herein enclosed a small offering for your missions, as a token of gratitude to the little Saint of Lisieux for a favour obtained. **L. L.** — Please accept the enclosed offering in thanksgiving

to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for the favour granted me. **Mrs. E. S., Trois Rivières.** — Gratitude to the Little Flower who granted the cure of my baby suffering from eczema. **Mrs. C. J., Shawinigan Falls.** — I am making an offering in thanksgiving to St. Therese for a favour received. **M. R. G.** — Lively gratitude to the Patroness of Missionaries for the cure of my baby and for another important favour this dear Saint has obtained me. **Mrs. J. A. P., Frampton.** — Grateful thanks to the dear "Scatterer of Roses" for a favour obtained after promising publication in **THE PRECURSOR**. **M. O. T., St. Paul l'Ermite.** — Offering for the Missions, in thanksgiving for a favour obtained through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. **Mrs. M. R., St. Luc.** — Lively gratitude to the Little Flower who continues to protect us. **Mrs. O. T., St. Paul l'Ermite.** — Enclosed you will find a Postal Note for the Missions as a token of gratitude to St. Therese for the rose petals she scatters on my home. **S. T. D., Ottawa.** — With my subscription I am sending an offering for the Missions, to thank St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for the favours obtained through her intercession. **Mrs. P. H., Trois Rivières.** — Grateful thanks to St. Therese for a favour received. **M. A. B., Kenogami.** — Herewith an offering in thanksgiving to the Little Flower. **Mrs. J. P. C., Youville.** — Please unite with me in thanking God for the great favour He has granted me through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. **Mrs. J. C., Hochelaga.** — Grateful thanks to the Patroness of Missionaries who watches over us. **Mrs. J. N. C., L'Islet.** — An offering for the missions as a token of my gratitude to the Little Flower for a favour granted me. Anonymous, **Montreal.** — With my subscription to **THE PRECURSOR**, I am enclosing a donation towards the Little Flower Burse in thanksgiving for a favour received. **Miss C. D., St. Gregoire.**



REV. FATHER L. L. CONRARDY, AND A FEW OF THE POOR PATIENTS OF THE SHEK LUNG LEPER COLONY. HE FOUNDED THE LAZARETTO IN 1907 AND DIED AT HONG KONG ON AUGUST 24TH, 1914. IN 1913, COMPLYING WITH THE REQUEST OF HIS EXCELLENCY MGR. MEREL, BISHOP OF CANTON, FOUR MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION WENT TO HELP HIM IN HIS WORK AMONG THESE POOR OUTCASTS OF HUMANITY.



Echoes from our Missions

SHEK LUNG LAZARETTO

*Letter from a Missionary Sister of the Immaculate Conception
of the Shek Lung Lazaretto, to her Superior General.*

St. Joseph's Lazaretto, March 3, 1934.

BELOVED MOTHER,

It is already five months since I arrived at the Lazaretto and I always experience the same happiness while labouring among our lepers.

On All-Saints' Day, His Excellency Bishop Yeung, Auxiliary Bishop of Canton, administered Confirmation to fifty of the sixty patients baptized in the month of February 1933. As early as four o'clock in the morning, our



MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION,
HOSPITALLERS AT THE SHEK LUNG LAZARETTO SINCE 1913.

leper women were in their places in the chapel, wafting heavenward the most fervent prayers as a preparation for the reception of this great Sacrament. The smallest ceremony on this isle of suffering has something heavenly about it which cannot be explained.

After His Excellency had taken his leave, we, along with the leper men and women who are still able to walk, sailed in the little barks of the

Lazaretto to the other side of the river, where the *Libera* was sung for all the deceased lepers. On seeing the numerous graves, we could not help thinking of the founder of this Lazaretto whom we knew very well, Reverend Father Conrardy, of saintly memory. His mortal remains lie just behind the men's chapel. We have inherited his house consisting of three rooms, and in it we treat our patients. Twice a week, in one of these rooms, I give about a hundred injections of chaulmoogra oil. This treatment brings great relief to our poor lepers. Up to now, we have been treating only a certain number of patients, on account of our slender means, but, dear Mother, with the cheque you have sent us for this purpose, we shall be able, in the future, to give injections to all of our patients, being confident that God in His Providence will supply us with more oil when the quantity we have now is gone.

Allow me, dear Mother, to tell you what our lepers undertook to do. A few weeks before Christmas, these grown-up children, anxious to do something to adorn the House of God, asked us to let them make the Crib for the Divine Infant. After being coaxed a little, Sister St. Raphael⁽¹⁾ complied with their desire. And for eight days our poor charges held meetings in one of the rooms of the Lazaretto, in order to see about what was to be done. They decided to make two mountains: one very high and the other low enough to place therein the stable of Bethlehem. On a fixed date, the Crib was commenced. They all set to work in earnest and thought of nothing else but of erecting the two mountains; unfortunately, in spite of all their efforts, the Crib was a complete failure. Sister St. Raphael who was secretly superintending the work, arrived just when they were attempting to nail a bed plank to the roof of the church. "What are you doing?" she inquired. "It's the top of the mountain," they joyfully replied. "What are you thinking of? Do you want to kill somebody? Take all that down right away," said Sister. This somewhat dampened the spirits of our inexperienced builders. Our Sister was obliged to send away the contractor and his helpers and to begin herself, to complete this modern Tower of Babel, but our lepers, who are very tender-hearted, came back to beg her to let them finish the mountain; they transformed it into a hill as high as the church itself. It was before this elevation that we knelt to celebrate with great fervour the anniversary of the birth of the Saviour of the world.

February 11th, 1934, was a red-letter day in the annals of the Lazaretto: thirty-three men and thirty-three women received Holy Baptism and made their First Communion. On seeing these poor pagans being received into the True Fold, our Immaculate Queen, the Mother of all mankind, must have smiled as she formerly did at Lourdes. The same day, our dear Sisters Marie Bernadette⁽²⁾ and St. Antoine de Padoue⁽³⁾ celebrated the Silver Jubilee of their religious Profession. Our Sisters came from Kowloon and from Canton to take part in the celebration. On the eve of the Feast, we

1. Malvina BIRON, of Coteau Landing.

2. Alma LEGER, of Green Valley, Ont.

3. Yvonne FOREST, of L'Epiphanie, Que.

spent a very pleasant recreation together while assisting at a little performance put on by our leper women, all of whom strove to play their parts as well as they could, in order to prove their gratitude to the dear Hospitaliers who have been labouring among them for a number of years.....

Your happy daughter,

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

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MANILA, PHILIPPINE ISLAND

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



ON THE GROUNDS OF THE CHINESE GENERAL HOSPITAL, MANILA, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Saturday, September 2, 1933

A blind Chinaman thirty-nine years of age has been in the Charity Ward for a few weeks past. He had been baptized shortly after his birth and, as a child, had been taught a little about our holy religion but he had never received the Sacrament of Penance. Being a willing-hearted man, he agreed, on being admitted to the Hospital, to have us tell him more about the

Faith, and, this evening, the Reverend Pastor hears his confession. He will not be able to go to the chapel to make his First Communion, for he is paralysed as well as blind; our divine Lord will be brought to him. This evening, it is with much fervour that he prepares his heart for this great visit from heaven.

Sunday, September 3

A dying patient is baptized this afternoon. It is going on three weeks since this poor man was brought to us; we have had plenty of time to prepare him for Baptism. In a day or two, he will doubtlessly be called to his reward.

Along with this patient who is awaiting death, three young children, all of whom have been baptized, are on the point of leaving this earth.

Monday, September 4

Each time the Angelus is rung to-day, one of the three little ones under our care, wings its flight to heaven. *Magnificat!*

1. Exilda COTE, of Montreal.



AT THE CHINESE GENERAL HOSPITAL, MANILA, P. I. — GROUP OF CHILDREN AND ADULTS OF THE LITTLE FLOWER HOME AFTER THE CEREMONIES OF BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION AND FIRST COMMUNION WHICH TOOK PLACE ON DECEMBER 8TH, 1933, ACCOMPANIED BY A FEW SPONSORS AND PRESIDED OVER BY HIS EXCELLENCY BISHOP FINNEMANN, AUXILIARY BISHOP OF MANILA. TO THE RIGHT IS REV. FATHER DESUMUND, S. V. D., TO THE LEFT, REV. FATHERS BECK, S. V. D., AND GROSS, AND THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION WHO HAVE CHARGE OF THIS HOME.

Tuesday, September 5

Two dying patients are brought to us within a half hour's interval. The first is a pagan, who has acute appendicitis; his health has been undermined by the taking of Chinese medicine. We have the great happiness of pouring the Sacred Waters of Baptism on his brow after having prepared him for the reception of this Sacrament. Just after we have finished baptizing him, a European is admitted. This second patient breathes his last while being carried to a ward. Just a few minutes before, the young man had been dancing when he suddenly swooned and fell. Having been told by his companion that he was a Catholic, we immediately send for the priest, who anoints him conditionally. He had commenced the evening at a dance and finished it at the city morgue... Is this not enough to cause one to meditate profoundly and for a long time?...

Sunday, September 10

Two Cantonese youths, Julianna Ng and Antonio Wong, the adopted children of Mrs. Go Peng Co, who was baptized on Whit Sunday, are in turn received into the Church.

Thursday, September 14

At eight o'clock this evening a very feeble old man is admitted to the Charity Ward; as he is not in great pain, we are able to speak to him of God and to prepare him for Holy Baptism; being an upright man, we have no difficulty in instructing him. We baptize him the same evening.

Sunday, September 24

Our Sisters of the Little Flower Home make their way to St. Magdalena St. to open Catechism classes for Chinese children. How pleased we are to see, on arriving, a group of little ones, all of whom are well disposed. While continuing to pray for the success of our work at the Home, we, at the same time, thank God for what we are already able to do. Actually, some fifty persons, children and adults, assist regularly at Sunday Mass. Some of them are preparing for Holy Baptism, and the others, for their First Communion.

Sunday, October 1st

At the opening of this beautiful month, we seem to have renewed ardour in entreating our Immaculate Mother to help us to save the souls of all the pagans around us. We recommend in a special manner to the Queen of the Holy Rosary our dear charges and especially those of our Charity Ward, in which there are always from forty to forty-five patients.

Tuesday, October 3

This morning, we sing the praises of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus; we entreat her to obtain for us an ardent zeal for the interests of our loving

Lord, of His Blessed Mother and of Holy Mother Church. This dear Saint proved how really zealous she was when she said: "In the heart of the Church, my Mother, my mission will be to love." Yes, indeed, to love God in order that He may be loved by others, is the secret of a fruitful apostolate. We do not fail, to-day, to offer up special prayers for the success of the work which has been placed under the protection of the Little Flower.

Wednesday, October 4

A young Chinaman has been admitted to the Hospital. He was baptized when he was fourteen or sixteen years of age and must have been well instructed then, for now, although he has forgotten his prayers, he remembers much about the Catholic doctrine. For a few years past, he had been leading a reckless life; fortunately, sickness compelled him to make a "closed retreat". During his three weeks' stay at the Hospital, he reviewed all that had been taught him concerning his religious duties, learned his prayers over again, made a good confession and went to Holy Communion for the fourth time in his life.

Sunday, October 15

This evening, as we are all enjoying recreation together, Sister Superior opens a precious box, sent us just lately from the Mother House. In it are the books containing the Rules of our Institute, the final approbation of which we have received from Rome, as well as our "Prayer Books." Each one kneels to receive her Book of Rules, kissing it with great respect, for these Rules were inspired to our beloved Mother and it is by observing them that we should strive to become perfect while labouring for the salvation of souls.

Monday, October 16

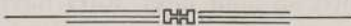
One day lately, Sister St. Gabriel⁽¹⁾, on duty, said to one of her companions: "In such and such a ward, there is a Chinese woman who is very sick. Her name is Pacita, perhaps she has been baptized." The Sister thus informed immediately makes her way to the ward indicated and there meets the patient's husband, who, after addressing her very politely, says: "My wife is a Christian, she has been baptized." We try to find out from him where she was baptized, but meet with no success. "I'm a Christian, myself," he adds. We then ask him if he assists at Sunday Mass and he replies: "Oh! very seldom, I'm in business and my time is always taken up." "Going to church on Sunday is just a habit which, once acquired, is very easily kept up," we tell him, "if you attend Mass every Sunday for a while, you will see that you will find time to do so just as you do for the taking of your three meals every day." He smiles and acknowledges that it is true that he has been neglectful. We ask him if he knows his prayers and he answers that he does not. Although

1. Brigitte AUGER, of Les Ecureuils, Que.

we are doubtful as to whether he and his wife have been baptized, we offer them both some books, that they may learn of their religious duties, seeing that they say that they are Christians. When we return with a collection of books which we think will be instructive and, at the same time, interesting, our patient's husband asks us if we have heard about the association known as Masonry. "Certainly," we reply, "but it is forbidden by the Church to be a Mason, you cannot be a Christian and a Mason at the same time." "But they have good principles," is his answer. "Yes," we tell him, "good enough at first, so as to induce you to join them." He has belonged to this sect for already two years: fortunately he knows no more about Masonry than he does about our holy Faith. He is a real gentleman and we have seldom met anyone who speaks with greater simplicity. He sincerely wishes to know what is right. We seize every opportunity given us to enlighten him. As another Chinaman and his wife have been coming here every Sunday for some time past in order to learn their catechism and as both of them knew no more, at first, about the Faith than our Mr. G., we have them all call at the same time. The two men are in business and know each other. Naturally, we have our supposed-to-be Christian listen to the Catechism lesson and, for his sake, we turn back to the lesson on the Creation and begin to explain all over again the immortality of the soul, the sin of our First Parents and the necessity of Holy Baptism. He is really astonished on learning about this sacrament. "Few understand what Baptism is," he tells us, and adds that he himself regarded it as being simply a matter of good taste. We also go over the Ten Commandments, explaining each one briefly. When we give him the following explanation of the Fifth Commandment: "Be peaceful and charitable, if your enemy has offended you, you should not take revenge on him. Christians are commanded to overcome evil by doing good and it is only God, who knows the wickedness of His creatures, who has the right to inflict punishment," he turns to his friend, saying: "That's beautiful!" On leaving us after having been given a few books and a letter of recommendation to be given to the priest in the district he lives in, he says: "I thought I was a Christian and I hadn't learned two per cent of the truths of your religion, now, I think I know at least thirty per cent of them..." We shall have the occasion of meeting this gentleman again and of seeing for ourselves if he has kept his good resolutions. In the meantime, we are asking God to assist him.

Report of the Chinese General Hospital, Manila, for the months of September and October 1933:

Baptisms.....	30	Communions.....	2,750	Confessions.....	412
Patients admitted	201	Treatments.....	11,159	Homes visited.....	219



God's love is creative of good. Wherefore as God's love for His Mother is incomparably greater than His love for all the rest of creation, so does it bestow upon her a fulness of grace like which there is none other.

St. Thomas.

SZEPINGKAI, CHINA

*Extracts from letters of the Missionary Sisters of Szepingkai,
Manchuria.*

Szepingkai, March 1934.

BELOVED MOTHER,

Before telling you of the principal events which have occurred lately at our dear Mission, we shall give you the report of our works for the month of December:

	Baptisms.....	7			
Patients.....	1,356	Treatments.....	2,453	Dressings.....	261
Teeth extracted..	4	Homes visited....	23	Injections.....	37

Recently, to our great happiness, an orphan who was admitted to the catechumenate not long ago, was snatched from Satan, to whom she had been sold. It could easily be seen that the devil was not at home at the Catholic Mission; in his fits of rage, he violently shook his prey, and the poor girl became so furious that we were obliged to tie her down. Nevertheless, she would manage to jump off the *k'ang* and throw herself on the floor. Reverend Father Berichon thought that the best thing to be done was to administer Baptism to her. Foreseeing what was about to take place, the evil spirit by whom the orphan was possessed, became more furious than ever and was heard to exclaim: "What, I've done so much for this child and to think I'm going to lose her!"... But, after Baptism, our orphan became perfectly quiet.

Just lately, as we were about to close up the Dispensary, we received a visit from a carter on whose back was an aged patient, whom he let down at the door. This patient, who was dying, kept repeating in Chinese: "*Oua sin Tien Tchou*" (I believe in God). One of our Sisters, noticing how sick he was, hastened to send for the priest. While awaiting his arrival, the professors who were afraid that the old man was going to die at the dispensary carried him to the side of the road, for they knew that if he happened to die at the Catholic Mission, his relatives could make trouble for us. Reverend Father Berichon came immediately to see the poor patient who was still conscious and who continued to make signs in order to let him know that he wished to become a Christian.

After a short instruction, the priest baptized him and, to his great sorrow, was obliged to leave him on the roadside where he was, while he tried to get some information about his relatives. Learning that he was penniless and all alone in the world and that the man for whom he had been working had sent him away because he was sick, Father had him brought back to the Dispensary, where he died an hour later, after having been anointed.

How sad, but at the same time, how consoling, it was to see this poor man receiving, on the side of the road, the Sacrament which conducts one to the everlasting abode! Spectacles of the kind cause us to meditate and make us feel even more grateful to God for having given us our sublime missionary vocation.

A virgin catechist living in the city happened to enter a Chinese dwelling one day; she noticed, in an unheated room, a baby doomed to death, the birth of this child being looked upon most unfavourably in a home where there were already too many little girls... The tiny victim of Chinese barbarity seemed only to be awaiting the visit of the virgin in order to be made a child of God before leaving this earth.

In a pagan home, a very sick little nine-year-old girl was baptized by our Sister infirmarian. She breathed her last just as Sister was tying a miraculous medal on her neck.

While going to visit our patients and during the other trips we are obliged to make, we have the occasion of examining the strange outfits of the inhabitants. Once, we caught sight of a driver who could hardly move on account of his thick wadded garments. The other day, we saw on the street, just a few steps from us, a bareheaded Japanese woman accompanied by her little boy, who seemed to have stepped out of a home in Canada, for he had on a woollen tuque, a little red coat and felt leggings. Another pedestrian wore a cap, the earlaps of which were made of thick fur which hid nearly his entire face, giving him a gruff appearance. Behind him walked an officer wearing a fur coat and cap resembling those worn by the people of our native land. It is interesting also to see the different costumes of the farmers on their way to the city.

And, to think that the souls of the majority of these busy people are covered over by the thick dark veil of paganism! Ah! how happy we are when we are able to replace this veil by spotless livery, that of Holy Baptism!

Our annual retreat preached by Reverend Father Berichon was held as usual from the 2nd to the 11th of February; twenty-two of our Sisters followed the different exercises.

On the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes which, this year, fell on Quinquagesima Sunday, there were two Masses here, the first being celebrated by His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre, during which six of our Sisters renewed their Holy Vows. At a quarter past eight, we again repaired to the chapel to assist at High Mass, which was sung by Reverend Father Quenneville. The Blessed Sacrament was exposed on our altar until eleven o'clock, after which we prepared the chapel for the Final Profession Ceremony which was to take place at a quarter after two. Our fatherly Bishop deigned to preside at the ceremony and was assisted by Reverend Fathers Berichon and Berger. His Excellency also delivered a sermon in which he exhorted us to testify our gratitude to God at all times. Present in the sanctuary were Reverend Fathers Masse, Quenneville, Lefebvre, Roch, Gilbert and Potvin of the Foreign Mission Society; Reverend Fathers Crevier and Drolet and Reverend Brothers Michaud, Lesperance and Ryan, Clerics of St. Viator.

The ceremony over, we all assembled in the parlour for the customary reception and afterwards visited the Native Sisters and the pupils of the Apostolic School. Then, as the *Veni Sponsa Christi* was being sung after the bell had called us to the refectory for our evening meal, took place the

crowning of our dear Sisters Marie de l'Assomption, ⁽¹⁾ Marie Emmanuel ⁽²⁾ and St. Paule, ⁽³⁾ the three who had just pronounced their Final Vows.

It is especially after such pious ceremonies that we are reminded of our own Profession, and it is on occasions of the kind that we realize more than ever that you are far from us, dear Mother.

During the evening recreation, Sister Superior reads us a long letter which she had kept on purpose in order to give us further pleasure at the close of this beautiful day. What comfort is brought us by the lines full of affection sent us by our Sisters at the Mother House or by those of the Novitiate, the cradle of our religious childhood, for they remind us that we are not labouring alone, that, across the seas, a Mother and Sisters closely united to us, are praying and making sacrifices for the success of the apostolic work we have undertaken. Oh, how happy we are to be Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception!

The following day, before our Sisters left for their respective mission stations, His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre kindly came to our Convent to give us his blessing.

But the joys we have just mentioned were to be followed by a great sorrow, which was shared by all the missionaries: word of the tragic death of the lamented Father Charest, murdered along with his Chinese servant, in his presbytery, was received at Szepingkai. It may clearly be seen that in all lands the Church must endure great suffering, in order to become more firmly implanted. In the death of this valiant soldier of Christ, the mission field of Manchuria has sustained a great loss.

Report of the Dispensary of Szepingkai for the months of January and February 1934:

Baptisms.....	17	Patients.....	1,767	Treatments.....	3,247
Dressings.....	290	Homes visited....	100	Injections.....	129

We entreat the happy little children whom we have the consolation of sending to heaven, to obtain for you, dear Mother, from their loving Queen, all the happiness we would like you to enjoy.

Your loving and grateful daughters of Szepingkai,
THE MISSIONARIES OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

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LEAO YUAN SIEN, CHINA

Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Leao Yuan Sien, Manchuria, China.

Wednesday, December 20, 1933

We learn that the patient with heart disease who, not long ago, was made a child of Holy Mother Church, died yesterday. Two dying babies, baptized by us just lately have also left this earth. Three more souls for the heavenly granaries!...

1. Alice LAROCHE, of Sweetsburg.

2. Berthe CREVIER of St. Anne de Bellevue.

3. Jeanne NADEAU, of St. Sophie d'Halifax.



Groupes de
Catechumènes
et
d'Élèves



À Leao Yuan Sien, Mandchourie.

AT LEAO YUAN SIEN, MANCHURIA. GROUPS OF CATECHUMENS AND PUPILS.

Sunday, December 24

Reverend Father Charest who left early in the week for the bush in the neighbourhood of Tung Leao, sends us word that he is not allowed to leave on account of the severe laws which have been put into force in order that the plague which has just broken out in the section where he is may not spread to the outlying districts.

Reverend Father Jasmin of Szeping kai, to whom Reverend Father Charest had sent a telegram, arrives just in time to assist his confrere, Reverend Father Roberge who was all alone to see to the preparations for the great feast of the morrow, to hear confessions and administer Holy Baptism to twenty new Christians.

Monday, December 25

At midnight, we hasten to join the throng of Christians who have come from all over the city and from the surrounding districts to assist at Holy Mass and to pay homage to the divine Infant.

The church has been very prettily decorated. Besides the flowers and the satin streamers bearing religious inscriptions, which adorn the different altars and the walls, there are, in the nave, some fifty Chinese lanterns of various designs and colours, which produce a very beautiful effect. During Holy Mass, the pupils of the boys' school sing in their own language some Christmas hymns which are alternated by the reciting of fervent prayers.

At nine o'clock, we again make our way to the church, this time to assist at High Mass. On returning to our little chapel, we recite the Rosary, singing the different mysteries. It is then that the day's recreation commences and that we begin to read the letters from our dear Mother House and from our beloved parents, which were received during Advent. While we are thinking of our dear native land, we receive from a Christian a Chinese dinner, twenty little dishes in all!...

During the day, Reverend Fathers Roberge and Jasmin come to offer us their good wishes; they are pleased with the results of their labours: 240 confessions and about 275 Communions. We share their happiness.

The rest of this beautiful Feast is spent in receiving visits from our pupils and from our catechumens. We find it very pleasant to labour among all the children of the great family confided to our care. How sweet is it to make others happy and, especially, to win souls to God.

Sunday, December 31

Report of the Dispensary of Leao Yuan Sien, for the year 1933:

Baptisms 824				Patients . . . 25,181	
Treatments 39,058	Dressings 6,984	Homes visited 1,095			
Consultations 2,247	Teeth extracted . . . 204	Anti-variolaous			
			vaccinations	70	

Jesus! I would so love Him, love Him as He has never yet been loved.

St. Teresa of the Child Jesus.

PA MIEN TCHENG, CHINA

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

Wednesday, December 13, 1933

The oldest of our orphans, Liou Theresa, seventeen years of age, was betrothed a week ago; she will be married next spring. It is not considered as the proper thing, in China, for a bride-to-be to look happy, she must appear to be vexed. Faithful to the customs of her country, Theresa appears to be angry, and, though her companions tease her a little, thus causing her to look all the more annoyed, she is nevertheless really pleased with the decision that has been made regarding her. Moreover, no constraint is put upon our orphans. They are perfectly free to get married or to remain single, just as they like, and before they are betrothed, they are asked what they think about it, but that does not hinder them, when everything is settled, from looking displeased.

Friday, December 15

Cold weather such as we have not yet had this winter keeps many of our patients at home; we have, however, the consolation of baptizing at the Dispensary a tiny baby which we name Joseph Marie.

Friday, December 22

Two days ago, another sprightly old man, eighty-four years of age, was admitted to the Old Folks' Home. As soon as he arrived, he began to study his catechism, but he has a hard time learning anything, for his memory is failing him. May our Blessed Mother come to his assistance and keep him from becoming discouraged.

Sunday, December 24

Two of our aged charges are baptized this afternoon. After dinner, we bring them some holy pictures and some medals, we cannot begin to tell you of the happiness of these grown-up children. They bow to us over and over again and, if we did not stop them, they would make us a *kol'oo*.

Report of the Dispensary of Pa Mien Tcheng for the year 1933:

Baptisms	227	Patients	20,080
Treatments	25,337	Dressings	4,629
Homes visited	144	Teeth extracted	296
		Children vaccinated	55
		Consultations	967

Tuesday, January 2

For a few days past we have been going to see a three-year-old child who has bronchitis. On visiting him for the first time, we baptized him, for he was so feverish and had such difficulty in breathing that we were afraid that he would soon be dead. To-day, he is a little better and his

parents cannot thank us enough for all we have done. They promise us that they will come here, before long, to learn the Catholic Doctrine, which they already know a little about, for their eldest daughter, sixteen years of age, has been studying at the Catechumenate for a few months past. We confide all the members of this family to our heavenly Mother, that she herself may conduct them to the heavenly abode.

Thursday, January 4

Yesterday evening we received the presents sent us by our beloved Mother: a pretty calendar and some leaflets containing some very practical advice. We greatly appreciate these gifts. How privileged are we to have such a kind Mother, who is always striving to make life pleasant for us and who desires but to see us happy in the service of God! May this loving Father spare her to us for many years yet!

Friday, January 5

We go to visit a patient living eight *li* distant. Wrapped up in warm blankets, we enjoy our trip under the beautiful clear sky, which is illuminated by a wintry sun. The people whom we meet are muffled up in their furs and seem to be surprised to see that the *tae fou* (foreign doctor) is not afraid of the cold, they are walking quite briskly, but they take the time to stop in order to examine us. It is amusing to see them; we find it strange that here, in Manchuria, only the men seem to feel the cold, they wear hats, woollen scarves, etc. The women, on the contrary, even on a cold day like to-day, go bareheaded, only a few old ladies have hats on. Each country has customs all its own!

Friday, January 12

On our way back from a pagan home, where we had the consolation of baptizing a little girl, whom we named Marie Delia, we drive past a cardboard wagon hitched to a cardboard horse. A man dressed in white is drawing along the miniature equipage. What a strange superstitious practice! A person has just died and this cart is supposed to take his soul into the land of the spirits... We feel sad when we consider that the soul of this poor man, created to the image and likeness of God, has left for the other life without being cleansed of the original stain. Ah! when will the shadows of paganism and the absurd superstitions existing in the land of China be replaced by the light of the True Faith!...

Friday, January 26

Sister Marie du Precieux Sang⁽¹⁾ who has been with us since last Sunday, has settled down to study the language of the country. She is beginning to speak Chinese, but she has to stop to think of the different words and she joins her sentences together by the word "and" and, to show that she has understood what has been explained to her, she answers "yes"

1. Aurore RACETTE of Limoges, Ont.

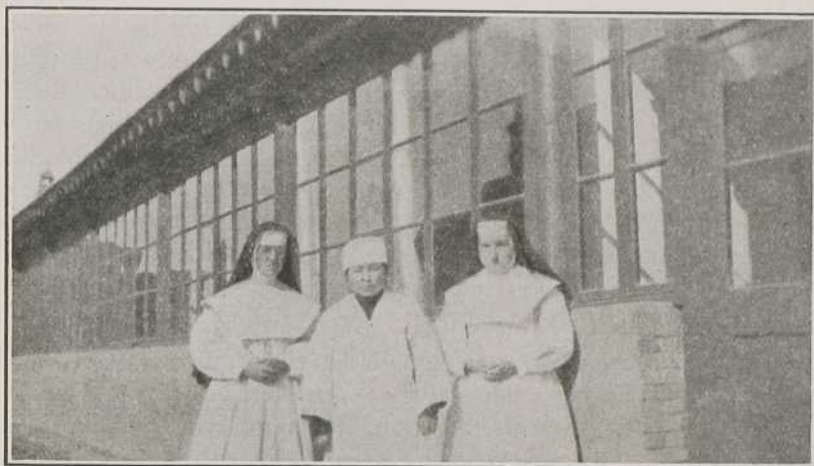
in the very best English. Her Chinese teacher cannot guess what she is saying, but the pupil has understood and that is the main thing.

Monday, January 29

The *Kouo nien* (New Year) holidays commence to-day, school will reopen on the 20th of the first moon, that is, on March 5th.

Report of the Dispensary of Pa Mien Tcheng for the month of January 1934:

	Baptisms.....	1		
Patients.....	929	Treatments.....	1,085	Dressings.....302
Teeth extracted.....	16	Homes visited.....	6	Consultations..... 68



MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND A CHINESE HELPER,
DISPENSARY OF PA MIEN TCHENG, MANCHURIA.

Sunday, February 11

We are having very mild weather; really, this is the most beautiful time of the year, the cold spell is over and the hot days have not yet arrived. It is, indeed, very pleasant to go for a walk in this season, for the clear blue sky, the warm rays of the sun and the gay warbling of the little birds inspire us with the thought of lifting up our hearts to the Creator of this magnificent universe and of returning Him the thanks due Him.

We receive a lovely letter from the Novitiate. What a joy it is for us to read and re-read such an interesting missive full of sisterly love! It carries us back to the days of our religious childhood, the memory of which, being ever fresh in our hearts, encourages us in the midst of the difficulties and obstacles which we sometimes meet with while performing our apostolic tasks.

Monday, February 12

While on our way to visit one of our patients, we see some people busy hanging up over their doors long red streamers, encircling grotesque and

even frightful pictures of dragons, serpents, etc. This is but another superstitious practice! These decorations are supposed to attract the attention of the spirits travelling during the New Year Season and to persuade them to be generous with the inhabitants whose homes are thus adorned.

The poor pagans have a great love for money, they think of nothing else. At New Year's, we hear them saying, "*Fa t'sai, fa ts'ai*" (May you become rich!) to their friends who answer: "And may you get rich yourself!"

On the 23rd of the last moon, the inhabitants burned the pictures of their oldest ancestors, in order to give them the chance of taking a trip to heaven, so as to come down to earth on New Year's Day loaded with presents.

All the farmers, in order to find out what seeds will be the most productive during the year, perform the following ceremony: they place on a bench dishes of *chou mi*, rice, corn, wheat and barley, which their pigs, sheep and mules are allowed to approach. The first dish to which these animals make their way is looked upon as being the one containing the best seeds for the coming year. And everyone is careful when spring arrives to sow nearly the whole of his land with such seed. How ridiculous are these beliefs and how firmly rooted have they become!

Tuesday, February 14

A phone message sent us from Leao Yuan Sien, informs us of the tragic death of Reverend Father Charest, which occurred yesterday evening. No details have yet been given us; at noon, Reverend Father Turcotte leaves for Leao Yuan Sien with Reverend Father Tardif, the first cousin of the deceased.

We are offering up our humble prayers for the repose of the soul of this zealous missionary, who will be greatly missed by his companions who are so very few in number.

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TAONAN, CHINA

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

Tuesday, August 29, 1933

The three hundred boys and two hundred girls of the schools of the Mission enthusiastically greet Reverend Father Roberge who has come to Taonan on a visit before returning to his native land to which his Superiors have called him, in order to assume the office of Procurator General. All our pupils wished him a safe trip and expressed their gratitude to him for what he has done for the Mission. The little boys played a few pieces on their different musical instruments. The discipline of these children

is perfect. Reverend Father Roberge taught English in Taonan; since then he has been labouring in Lin Si Sien. He tells us that he is sorry to leave his dear mission station and that he hopes to return to it in a few years.

Monday, September 18

Just now we are treating a bonzess who is well educated and who is very friendly. Can it be that she wishes to lead us to embrace her religion? We are inclined to think so on hearing her relating different stories about "spirits" and assuring us that several of the commandments she, as well as her companions, are obliged to observe are the very same as ours. As we do not appear to be very much impressed, she tries to persuade us of the truth of what she is advancing by showing us a burn she had inflicted on herself with an incense-stick during the rainy season, in order that there might be a change in the weather. This poor bonzess excites our pity and we would like to be able to free her from the bonds of Satan. We feel that it was not by mere chance that she was brought to a Catholic place and that our merciful Mother has special designs upon her.

While visiting a patient in the home of some fervent pagans, we noticed in one of the rooms, a "sacred fox", to which all the family daily pay homage. While gazing upon this animal which is known for its craft, we imagine that we see Satan himself, that sly fox into whose clutches so many poor pagans have fallen. It is with renewed zeal that we are striving to conquer our wily enemy.

To repair this outrage, we to-day offer our loving God the souls of two newly-baptized children, a little girl nine years of age and a three-year-old boy.

Sunday, September 24

We have just received a young Japanese maiden who lived for a year at Dairen, where she was taught the Catholic doctrine by the Maryknoll Sisters. She has not yet embraced our holy Faith but she eagerly desires to do so. We would like to be able to talk to this girl in order to encourage her to persevere, but what a hard time we have making ourselves understood! We, however, meet with a little success for she speaks a few words in English and can read some Chinese characters which have the same meaning in Japanese. We invite our visitor to remain for Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament and she is quite willing to do so. As she wishes us to teach her English, we readily comply with her desire, for, in doing so, we shall have the opportunity of teaching her more about our religion. We seek the intercession of the Blessed Virgin and it is to her alone that we look for help.

Monday, November 6

The Boarding School is finished. The pupils who, for more than a month, have been boarding with the virgins, take possession of the new

building and all seem to be well satisfied. A difficult task is awaiting us: that of teaching these children to be neat and orderly. It will be a long time before we are successful, for they have not the least notion of house-keeping.

We are also giving our pupils lessons in sewing, knitting and embroidery. We are surprised to see how skilful they are. While taking these lessons, they will also learn to spend their time profitably.

As soon as the Boarding School opened, we told the pagan pupils that they were free to say the night prayers or not. After a few days had gone by, they themselves came to ask to be allowed to join in with their Catholic companions.

Monday, November 27

Our Sisters, on their way back from Pai Tchong tze, stop at our little convent. They give us very good news of our Sisters at that post and inform us that Mr. Souen, who is the head inspector for this district, and who visited our school on November 18th, went to Pai Tchong Tze after having been to see our pupils. He acknowledged that the Catholic schools were doing great good in Man Tcheou kouo and that even the progress of the country depended upon them.

The Blessed Virgin, to whom we always have recourse, has come to our aid. The pagan pupils who requested us to let them recite the prayers with their Christian companions, are now asking Reverend Father Berger for catechisms, so that they may study the Catholic doctrine.

These consolations, along with those we so often experience when we administer Baptism to the unfortunate pagans, when we contribute in some way to make them give up their superstitious practices or when we alleviate the sufferings of the poor patients who come to us, make mission life most attractive for us, in spite of the sacrifices which it calls for.

Reports for the months of August, September, October and November 1933:

Dispensary of Si Tang, Taonan:					
	Baptisms.....	87			
Patients.....	6,985	Treatments.....	10,551	Dressings.....	1,756
Teeth extracted...	63	Homes visited ...	159	Injections.....	255
Dispensary of Tong Tang, Taonan, open three times a week:					
	Baptisms.....	58			
Patients.....	2,222	Treatments.....	3,179	Dressings.....	637
Teeth extracted...	9	Homes visited	63	Injections.....	117

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FAKOU, CHINA

Saturday, November 4, 1933

A neophyte, a member of an esteemed and wealthy family, was, after receiving Holy Baptism, put out of the home and deprived of all hereditary rights by his mother, a fervent follower of Buddha. The inhabitants of

his native village, all of whom are Buddhists, show their ill-feeling by annoying him in all kinds of ways. The faith of this young Christian, nevertheless, remains as firm as ever; admirably faithful to his duties, he redoubles his prayers and makes many sacrifices for his mother's conversion. What must be the power of divine grace since these people who, as a rule, are not very energetic, are able, with its help to overcome trials of the kind!

Monday, November 6

Reverend Fathers Barbeau and Cossette, along with several catechists, have left Fakou for a few days, in the aim of winning souls to Christ. Just lately, an aged Christian from a far-off village died and these zealous missionaries seized the opportunity to win over to the Faith the five or six hundred persons who constantly succeeded one another during the three days preceding the burial. They returned home well satisfied with their apostolic endeavours, for several families had expressed the desire of soon joining the Church.

Saturday, November 18

A Christian leads us to the home of a little boy who is seriously ill. After giving him some medicine, we have the happiness of making him a child of God.

Monday, November 20

Mrs. Jou hastens to the Dispensary to inform us that one of her relatives is in danger of death. While on our way to the home of the dying woman, we ask our Immaculate Mother to help us to save her soul. We find our patient well disposed, she has not forgotten the Catechism lessons given her at the Dispensary a few months ago. After addressing her a few words of encouragement, we pour the Sacred Waters on her brow, for she is very low. When we return to the Convent, the evening shadows are gathering but we are very happy to think that another soul will soon be enjoying God forever in heaven!

Saturday, November 25

His Excellency Mgr. J.L.A. Lapierre arrived at the Mission at noon and this evening, at the close of the annual retreat preached to the Christians of Fakou, Solemn Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament was given. Ninety-eight families had followed the exercises of this retreat. Most consoling are the results when compared with those of the first retreat which was given seven or eight years ago and which was attended by only sixteen persons; the Reverend Pastor tells us that he then regarded it as being such a success that he did not fail to have his picture taken with the little group to preserve as a keepsake. We are most grateful to God, to whom all apostolic success must be attributed. And grateful also are we to those who help the Missions, for, without the co-operation of our kind benefactors, the zealous efforts of the evangelical workers would be in vain, owing to the

lack of the necessary funds for the establishing and developing of their different works. May God in His Providence inspire many in our native land with the thought of giving to the Missions, so that the works which the missionaries have established after labouring for so long may ever continue to flourish.

To-morrow, His Excellency will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to some fifty neophytes.

Sunday, December 3

A little girl who will be taken to the Orphanage of Pamien Tcheng to-morrow, is brought to us and we are asked to prepare her for the trip. We dress her in woollen clothing sent us from Canada. Oh! how happy would our charitable benefactors in our dear native land be if they only knew what happiness and comfort the knitted garments and the other articles of clothing which they send us, procure our little charges! Thanks! thanks! dear benefactresses! May God reward you a hundredfold for your charity!

Monday, December 4

We find Mr. Tchang, one of our good patients, well disposed. He has tied on his neck the miraculous medal we gave him yesterday and is anxious to show it to us. "As soon as I put it on," he says, "I experienced unusual happiness... And I said to myself: 'I'm convinced that the God of the Christians is the true God.' This morning, I took down all the idols in my home, and never again will I burn incense in their honour." We urge our patient to keep the good resolutions he has taken; he promises that if God restores him to health, he will at once begin to study the Catholic doctrine.

Tuesday, December 5

Our Reverend Pastor returns from an apostolic trip through the different villages west of Fakou. On his way, he stopped at the pagan village of Lou kia fang chen, on which he is building great hopes. Over a hundred catechumens assisted at Holy Mass and all recited the prayers with even more fervour than most of the old Christians are in the habit of doing. "Their meeting-hall", Reverend Father Barbeau tells us, "was queerly decorated". The good catechist, a lover of sacred images, after adorning the main walls with all the holy pictures he could lay his hands on, pasted up, on the other walls, the pictures he had cut out of newspapers from Canada. One of them, representing a group of Christian Brothers, was in a conspicuous place. "These people", the catechist explained, "are the Bishops of Canada." These little mistakes made by the good old man in no way affect the Christian morals and dogmas and his work continues to be crowned with full success.

Wednesday, December 6

Two children to-day receive their passport for heaven.

Friday, December 8

We unite with the Sisters of our dear Mother House and with those who, in different climes, vie with one another in their efforts to celebrate the feast of our Immaculate Mother in a fitting manner. Although our slender means do not permit us to celebrate this solemnity with as much pomp as we would wish, still the Feast of the Immaculate Conception at Fakou is not without its charms. "It is not like at the Mother House and at the Novitiate," the newly-arrived Sisters remark, "but it is lovely just the same. We never thought that on the Missions we could be so happy on the great feast days of the year." Oh! it is because wherever we go, we are the true children of the spotless Virgin, and, consequently, are everywhere the object of her motherly kindness.

Monday, December 11

The Christian districts in the east have, in turn, been visited by a missionary priest. "Everywhere," Father tells us, "I found all the faithful eager to live up to their religion. Christians and neophytes alike were really well disposed. For instance, at Hei touo tse, where, during my visit in former years, I saw only thirty or forty persons approaching the Sacraments, I, this year, counted over a hundred." "It was in this same village," Reverend Father Barbeau relates, "that I ate dog flesh for the first time. The catechist, wishing to receive me with respect had had a dog killed for the occasion."

If these apostolic trips give much spiritual consolation to the missionary priest, they are often painful from a material standpoint, for he must live just like the Chinese themselves: sleep on the *k'ang* and be satisfied with the unwholesome and very often disgusting food of the natives. But what do these little hardships matter, since by enduring them souls are redeemed.

Tuesday, December 12

A child but three days old is baptized in a pagan home.

Friday, December 15

We have been called to the home of a Protestant lady who has asked us to treat her. She is a willing soul and has always lived up to her religion. When we offer her a medal of the Blessed Virgin, she says: "I would gladly take it, but I am afraid that it would be wrong for me to do so, as I am a Protestant. What do you think about it?" We put an end to her scruples by explaining to her that God could not possibly be offended on seeing the Mother of His Divine Son being honoured. She then gratefully accepts the blessed image, while expressing her gratitude.

Wednesday, December 20

To-day, we have the consolation of baptizing the Protestant lady whom we have been visiting for a few days past. It is with great piety and the liveliest sentiments of faith that she receives Holy Baptism. The second

time we visited her, she expressed the desire of becoming a Catholic. "As soon as I tied the medal you gave me on my neck," she tells us, "I experienced the greatest peace, and death, which I had been dreading up to then, no longer caused me to grow afraid." Oh! how powerful is our Immaculate Mother and how kind and merciful is she to everyone!

Thursday, December 21

We are asked to pay a visit to a dying pagan woman whose home is in a neighbouring village. This patient is not a stranger to us, she had come several times to the Dispensary and had there learned of the principal truths of our holy religion. After a short exhortation, we baptize her, place her under the protection of our heavenly Mother by tying her blessed image on her neck, and then take our leave. When we are half way home, a man on horseback approaches us and informs our patient's husband, who is driving us back to the Mission, to return home at once, as his wife is at death's door. How fervently do we thank Divine Providence for permitting us to visit this poor woman, who is really a privileged soul.

While visiting the different pagan homes, it is with joy and gratitude that we discover that the seeds of truth scattered in the schools, at the Dispensary, or by fervent neophytes, are bearing abundant fruit.

Friday, December 22

Reverend Father A. Cossette who, the other day, baptized the new convert, brings Communion to her. After receiving Holy Viaticum, she is extremely happy and it is with the greatest hope that she is now setting out on her trip to heaven. Our dear Lord has looked upon her with the most tender love. "During the night," she tells us, "I suffer greatly, but when my pain is really intense, I say to God: 'Dear God, you know very well that I am not able to suffer so much, I am tired out.' And right away, I feel much better, I begin to pray and soon go to sleep." How bountiful is our dear God and how condescending is He to those who place their trust in Him!

Saturday, December 23

While going to visit a patient in the western part of the city, many people stop to greet us. We are not acquainted with all of them, but, on seeing them bowing to us so respectfully, we quickly see that they are either catechumens or neophytes. All, in fact, are on their way to the Mission, where they will assist at the different ceremonies on Christmas Day.

Monday, December 25

We spent a lovely Christmas. Nearly six hundred Christians assisted at Midnight Mass; the church was filled to overflowing. The children even the little girls, were obliged to sit in the sanctuary; Sister St. Alice⁽¹⁾

1. Jeanne Bastien, of Montreal.

who did the playing, had a hard time making her way to the organ on account of the crowd of people around it. It was most touching, at Communion time, to see so many approaching the Holy Table! Thirty-six adults who had been baptized the day before, made their First Communion. How wonderfully devoted are the priests of the Mission, they spare no pains. Yesterday, for instance, they heard confessions nearly the whole day long and in the evening as well, in an unheated church. In order to get away from the Chinese, so as to read his breviary, the Reverend Pastor was obliged to hide in our little chapel. Father Cossette executed the singing at both Masses, and afterwards, in spite of his great fatigue, preached a long sermon. Besides the throngs of Christians, there were also many pagans present and, doubtlessly, much good will be the result of the different ceremonies.

Tuesday, December 26

The Christmas Angels send us two children to be baptized.

Sunday, December 31

Report of the Dispensary of Fakou, for the months of August, September, October, November and December 1933:

Baptisms.....	65	Patients.....	10,781	Treatments.....	13,956
Dressings.....	1,715	Homes visited...	305	Teeth extracted..	81

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TUNG LEO, CHINA

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


Friday, September 22, 1933

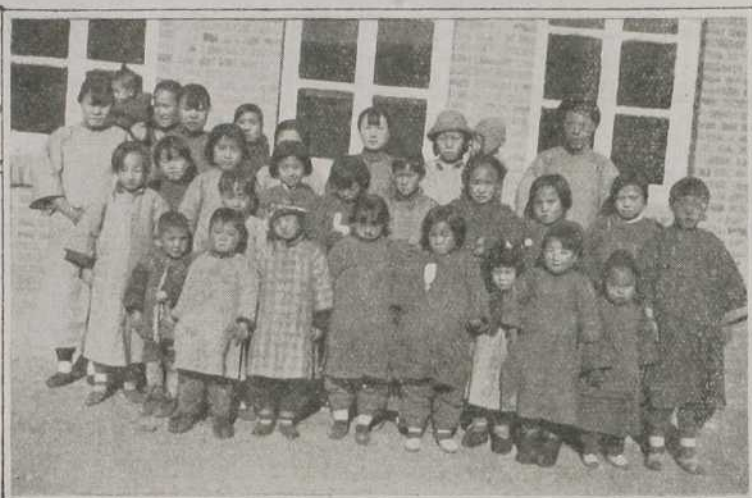
This morning, five dying children are baptized at the Dispensary. Another little one, four years of age, whose body is so terribly swollen that it excites one's pity, is brought to us in the afternoon. We give it the best medicine of all, the Sacred Waters of Baptism, which make it a child of God and an heir to the Kingdom of Heaven.

Monday, October 2

Just as we are beginning our work at the Dispensary this morning, someone comes to tell us that a baby but six days old is *tcho fong*, in convulsions, which means that it will soon be thrown away. What is to be done? We have not been invited to go to see it and, besides, if we wait until it is time to close up the Dispensary, we shall, perhaps, not arrive soon enough. Mrs. Yen, a Christian woman whose home is in Fakou but who has come to our Mission on a visit, offers to set out on the trip. After being given a little bottle of holy water, she goes to see the child, which she immediately baptizes, naming it Cecilia.




 Tung Leao
 Mandchourie




Groupes
 d'élèves
 de l'École
 de la
 Mission



Wednesday, October 11

We are called to the bedside of a dying adult. The air in the dark hole in which he is lying is foul enough to ruin anyone's health. The only opening to let in the light is the door, through which we see, in the far end of the room, our patient, who is a real skeleton. He has not much longer to live but he has already learned of the truths of our holy religion from one of our good Christians. He desires but one thing and that is to come to live at the Mission in order to join the Catholic religion. We offer him a miraculous medal, which he gratefully accepts. On returning home, we hasten to speak of this patient to our Reverend Pastor; he sees to preparing a little room not far from the Dispensary, to which the dying man is immediately brought and where he will end up his days. In the afternoon, Reverend Father Schetagne administers to him the Sacraments of Baptism and Extreme Unction. Holy joy is stamped on the features of this new child of the Church.

Saturday, October 21

This evening, Sister Superior arrives here from Szepingkai accompanied by Sister Marie Celine,⁽¹⁾ who has come to help us in our apostolic work. How joyfully do we welcome this new companion who has just arrived from our dear native land!

Sunday, October 22

We have recreation while unpacking the beautiful case of clothing which we have received from Canada, it is almost like New Year's Day. Oh! what beautiful and useful things have been sent us by our dear Sisters in Outremont, our beloved parents and kind friends in Canada. Thanks! Thanks! How many children we shall be able to make happy with the little woollen stockings, the warm quilts, etc. We are also very grateful to the kind-hearted little girls of the Convent of Henryville and to their devoted teachers, the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary, who are teaching them while yet so young, to prepare linens for our poor mission. Yes, thanks, many thanks for such great kindness.

Tuesday, October 24

Sister St. Vincent de Paul⁽²⁾ who wishes the little girls of the school to make hats for themselves, to-day prepares a model from which she will have them copy. Here, all the Chinese maidens know how to make shoes, but as they very seldom wear hats, they have never learned how they are made. Unless a hat is really needed, the Chinese consider that it is wasting money to buy one, even though it costs but fifty cents. Our Sister makes a pretty little hat which she gives to Paula, the maiden who helps us at the Dispensary, she is extremely pleased with it. To give as much happiness as possible to those around us is an ideal which may here be realized in more than one way.

1. Regina Beliveau, of St. Paul de Chester.

2. Eva Dumais, of St. Joseph de Lepage.

Sister Marie Celine administers Baptism for the first time. The little boy to whom she gives the name of Joseph Alfred Raoul will very soon be in heaven with God.

Monday, November 20

A poor man who wishes to return to the Province of Koan Li and who has not enough money to pay his fare, brings to the Mission his little daughters, one of whom is six and the other, eight years of age. A contract is at once signed and Reverend Father Schetagne, to whom the children are offered, gives \$20.00 for them. At least, these little ones are being placed in good hands. They will enjoy the inestimable happiness of becoming Christians and of receiving a good education. What a great number of their little companions have not this chance and are, in like circumstances, sold as slaves!

Thursday, November 30

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

Baptisms.....	118	Patients.....	6,331	Treatments.....	10,816
Dressings.....	2,980	Teeth extracted...	12	Homes visited...	83

Report of the Dispensary of Siao Kai Ki, for the month of November, this Dispensary being open twice a week:

Baptisms.....	1	Patients.....	104
Treatments.....	119	Dressings.....	20
		Homes visited.....	10



Extracts from the Novitiate Chronicles

Sunday, January 28, 1934



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

St. Bernard.

After supper, all the postulants come to join the novices in their assembly room, where a little performance is about to take place. In spite of the fact that the numbers on the programme are most amusing and that all strive to be as cheerful as possible, still one can easily see that there is a certain tinge of sadness in the air on account of the separations which will soon take place. Before long, the postulants will bid farewell to the postulate where they have experienced such sweet joys, and the group of novices about to make Profession will leave the Dovecot so dear to them.

Our younger Sisters sing a pretty song in honour of their little black bonnets which they will soon lay aside forever and which have so often whispered to them useful words of advice. Then the novices who will soon commence their apostolic tasks, sing an inspiring song in which they express

their desire to lead a life of devotedness and to reap an abundant harvest of souls.

Thursday, February 1st

Another group of aspirants come to join us. We greet them with the greatest affection, for it is always a real pleasure for us to welcome into our abode the little sisters sent us by the Immaculate Virgin. Never do we feel that they are numerous enough: so great is the harvest which, in the distant mission fields, calls for our zeal and activity; so many are the souls over whom Jesus and Mary do not as yet rule!

Friday, February 2

During the day, nearly eighty of our Sisters from the Mother House or from our nearby missions come to make their annual retreat. What happiness do we not experience on greeting our dear companions after being separated from them for so long!

At four o'clock, the bell, which interrupts our pleasant conversation, calls us to the chapel to assist at the first exercise. It is God Himself who is about to speak to us and we wish to listen to Him alone. We are happy to place our retreat under the special protection of the Blessed Virgin, for it is on the beautiful Feast of the Purification that we are commencing it and it is to end on the anniversary of her first apparition at Lourdes. May this tender Mother bless each day of it and obtain for us an abundance of strength, love and divine light!

Saturday, February 10

This is the last day of the retreat and everyone is preparing for the feast which will be celebrated to-morrow, for there are to be mystical nuptials at the Novitiate. But while our happiness increases according as we draw nearer to the approaching Bridegroom, very sad news is conveyed to us: a telegram from Nominique informs us that our dear Sister St. Priscille passed away this morning.

In the biographical notice which appears elsewhere in this issue are given the details of this early death which causes us to make some serious reflections... Just two years ago, this dear little Sister was at the Novitiate, being one of those preparing to consecrate her life to the Lord by the pronouncing of the Holy Vows. Who would ever have thought then that she would have been called so soon to the never-ending nuptials?...

We take pleasure in imagining that to-morrow, while her companions are renewing their sacred promises, she will, from the heavenly heights, bend over our white sanctuary and smilingly say to them: "Oh! be fervent and faithful, for life is so short, and so meritorious may become each one of the days consecrated to the service of God for the salvation of souls... if you but realized how radiant is the heavenly abode and how exceeding great is the reward in store for you!"

Dear Sister, your short sojourn in our midst has served to incite us to become more virtuous: we shall endeavour to walk in your footsteps by

refusing God nothing. Obtain for us from the Immaculate Virgin whom you dearly loved here below and whom you are now contemplating in heaven, a little of your fervour and of your generosity in always conforming yourself to God's Holy Will.

Sunday, February 11

Every year, on the anniversary of the day she smiled for the first time upon humble little Bernadette, the Blessed Virgin tenderly gazes upon us and it is with the greatest motherly love that she greets those who, on this day, become the betrothed of her divine Son Jesus as well as those who solemnly consecrate their lives to Him by the three Vows of religion. From her hands flows an abundance of grace, and we feel that she is smiling sweetly upon us all.

Unlike other years, the pronouncing of the First Vows takes place in private in the forenoon which tends to create a spirit of intimate joy, which we greatly appreciate. It is Reverend Father Lacouture, S.J., the preacher of our retreat, who presides at this oblation.

During a second ceremony which takes place at half-past two and at which Monsignor Dubuc, Pastor of St. John the Baptist's Parish, Montreal, deigns to preside, thirty postulants receive the Holy Habit and eight Professed Sisters take their Final Vows.

Those donning the Holy Habit are as follows: Miss Jeanne d'Arc Michaud, of St. Andre, Co. Kamouraska (Sr. Jeanne de Domremy); Miss Marie Anne Belanger, of St. Valerien (Sr. St. Valerien); Miss Annette Groulx, of St. Laurent (Sr. Joseph de l'Apparition); Miss Jeannine Sabourin, of St. Redempteur (Sr. St. Leonard de Port Maurice); Miss Fernande St. Pierre, of Manseau, Nicolet (Sr. St. Pierre Nolasque); Miss Marguerite Boivin, of Granby (Sr. St. Dominique); Miss Liliane Cayer, of Quebec (Sr. Elise de Jesus); Miss Helene Benoit, of St. Barnabe (Sr. Joseph Aldee); Miss Cecile Robillard, of St. Ours (Sr. Cecile de Rome); Miss Marie Fyfe, of Laprairie (Sr. St. Bernadette); Miss Madeleine Bolduc, of Beauceville (Sr. Estelle de Jesus); Miss Annette Tourigny, of Trois Rivières (Sr. St. Rose de Viterbe); Miss Gabrielle Laviolette, of Ottawa (Sr. Gabriel de l'Incarnation); Miss Juliette Boudreault, of L'Anse St. Jean, Co. Chicoutimi (Sr. St. Augustine); Miss Marguerite Jobin, of Quebec (Sr. St. Albert le Grand); Miss Juliette Chaput, of Montreal (Sr. Pauline Marie); Miss Augustine Rancourt, of St. Georges de Beauce (Sr. Marie Augustine); Miss Anna Ready, of Montreal (Sr. Jeanne Mance); Miss Marie Anne Brochu, of St. Henri de Levis (Sr. Jeanne de France); Miss Claire Giroux, of Beauport (Sr. Claire d'Assise); Miss Helen Hebert, of Notre Dame de Pierreville (Sr. St. Helene); Miss Lucienne Mercier, of St. Anselme (Sr. St. Anselm); Miss Therese Bernier, of East Angus (Sr. Philippe du Sauveur); Miss Cecile Rancourt, of St. Georges de Beauce (Sr. Marie Cecilia); Miss Alice Carrier, of Worcester, Mass. (Sr. M. Aristide); Miss Marie Ange Lebel, of St. Andre, Co. Kamouraska (Sr. St. Louis de Grenade); Miss Nina Ennis, of Salem, Mass. (Sr. St. Nina); Miss Elise Dallaire, of Riviere du Moulin,

Chicoutimi (Sr. St. Gerard Majella); Miss Juliette Trudeau, of Ste. Julie de Vercheres (Sr. St. Candide); Miss Marie Veilleux, of St. Clement (Sr. St. Clementine).

For Final Vows: Sr. M. de Gethsemani (Cecile Sansoucy, of Montreal); Sr. St. Janvier (Antoinette Alary, of St. Janvier); Sr. M. Estelle (Estelle Tremblay, of Lachute); Sr. Marie Alice (Marie Alice Ladouceur, of St. Genevieve de Jacques Cartier); Sr. St. Emerentienne (Marie Berthe Fleurent, of St. Germain de Grantham); Sr. St. Laurent (Marie Anne St. Laurent, of Val Brilliant); Sr. Madeleine de Jesus (Adelia Laforest, of St. Arsene de Temiscouata); Sr. St. Adelaide (Adelaide Tremblay, of St. Cyprien de Temiscouata).

This same day, in the distant missions, three of our Sisters also unite themselves forever to our divine Lord. They are: Sr. Marie de l'Assomption (Alice Larouche, of Sweetsburg, Co. Missisquoi); Sr. Marie Emmanuel (Berthe Crevier, of St. Anne de Bellevue); Sr. St. Paule (Jeanne Nadeau, of St. Sophie d'Halifax, Co. Megantic).

Present in the sanctuary are: Reverend Fathers Donat Chaumont and Alex. Paradis, Assistants General of the Foreign Mission Seminary; J. Eug. Moreau, Superior of the Seminary of Philosophy; Derome, of St. Christophe, Z. Alary, of St. Joseph; A. Duplessis, chaplain at the Mother House; Joseph Gariepy, chaplain at the Novitiate; Elias Vanier, C.S.C., of St. Laurent; Emile Deguire, C.S.C., of the Scholasticate of Montreal; G. Rioux, C.S.V., High School; W. Rioux, C.S.V., of Outremont; J. Aquila Ethier, chaplain at the Orphanage, Notre Dame de Liesse; Jean Baptiste Moreau, chaplain at the Foundling Home, Notre Dame de Liesse; Amedee Allard, P.S.S.; Henri Robillard, P.S.S.; Jean Cote, of the College of St. Jean; J. Armand Brouillard, of the Seminary of St. Hyacinthe; A. Delorme, of the Montreal College; Mr. Paul Guilbault, ecclesiastic, and Reverend Brothers Zephirin and Pierre Laurent, C.S.C.

Saturday, February 17

Our dear elder Sisters who have just pronounced their vows, receive their nominations. All, with the exception of one who will remain at the Novitiate, are to leave for the Mother House, where they will have the happiness of continuing the important work of their religious formation, while becoming initiated, little by little, in the different works of the Institute. On this day consecrated to the Blessed Virgin, they go forth from the Dovecot. We are a little sad and pensive on seeing them depart, for it is always hard for Sisters to separate... Before long it will be our turn to leave the pleasant paths of our religious childhood. The black veil which we receive on the day of our Profession, reminds us that during this new period of our life we shall have more austere duties to perform: we shall not be as carefree as before, for it will be necessary to prepare ourselves for the noble tasks which our missionary vocation calls for.

But, guided by our Immaculate Mother, we shall set out gayly and full of hope, like our elder Sisters: if we, as missionaries, feel that a new life

which will entail great responsibility and often painful sacrifices, is dawning for us, we also realize that we shall find it to be an ideal one, filled with the purest happiness and the most abundant consolations!

Sunday, February 18

As it is a beautiful sunny day, Sister Superior invites us to go out into the fresh air. We hasten to respond to this kind invitation for which we are truly thankful. The postulants take out the toboggans and amuse themselves like children, while their elder sisters walk up and down, breathing in the pure air, chatting and contemplating Nature. The freshly fallen snow sparkles in the sunlight; we can think of nothing purer than the immense snowy blanket before us. However, after a moment's reflection, we conclude that all this sparkling beauty cannot be compared with that of the spotless Virgin whom Bernadette contemplated on this same date, seventy-six years ago!... Much fairer, much purer was our Immaculate Mother when she appeared at the Rock of Massabielle. Never upon earth shall we see such dazzling splendour... Oh, what a radiant vision is awaiting us in the other life!!...

Monday, February 19

Since the newly-professed Sisters left for the Mother House, there have been vacant places here and there and all in the Dovecot know that it will not be long before they are given a different charge.

This evening, our dear Sister comes into our recreation room with the book of *Nominations* in her hand. There is silence everywhere except in everyone's imagination, where all kinds of ideas succeed one another during the few moments of suspense... There are many surprises... and it is amusing to note the look of interest which appears on each countenance according as the various tasks are given out and the different remarks are made concerning the way they are to be performed. And there is every reason for doing these tasks well, for each one of them, no matter how trivial it may seem, which is done at the Court of the King of kings is surely an important one.

The new novices are given their places in the classroom. They all hasten thither, so anxious are they to sit at a pretty desk where they will again be able to study as in their schooldays. Old and new scholars alike place themselves under the protection of the Blessed Virgin invoked as Our Lady of the Holy Ghost, Our Lady of Successful Studies, Our Lady of Good Success, Our Lady of Good Help and Our Lady of All Help, according to the names by which the respective classrooms are known.

Our one desire is to consecrate to God's greater glory this precious time given us for the completing of our scientific and religious studies, in order to save as many souls as possible.

Friday, February 23

A cablegram sent from the Far East to the priests of the Foreign Mission Seminary, last Wednesday, informed them that Reverend Father Charest

had just fallen a victim to the brigands at his post in Leao Yuan Sien, Manchuria. The Society has thus lost a young missionary in whom great hopes were being built by his confreres in that pagan land, where the harvest is great and the labourers are but few in number. God's designs are inscrutable... But we entertain the hope that the blood of this valiant missionary will be the seed of Christians, for although it does not appear that he expressly shed it for the Faith, it is, just the same, a token of Christian charity, of his devotedness to the Church and of his love for souls.

This morning, at the Seminary, His Excellency Bishop Deschamps sings Solemn Requiem Mass at which all the second year novices and a few Professed Sisters from the Mother House and the Novitiate have the privilege of assisting.

Sunday, March 4

After taking fervent resolutions on this day of recollection, we receive, this evening, some very good news. On the 27th of the month, four of our Sisters will go to lend a helping hand to our missionaries in China and Japan.

Each nomination tends to stir up our good will and enthusiasm, since our great ambition is to win as many souls as possible for God and Holy Mother Church.

When Sister Superior, before giving out the names of the four happy Missionaries who have been chosen, inquires who is ready to leave, all of us, being more or less sure of ourselves, hold up our hands. But we know full well that we who still wear white veils will not go right away. We must have patience for a while longer! Before many years have gone by, several of us will certainly be labouring among the poor pagans. Until this happiness is ours, the best apostolate to which we may devote our time is that of ardently striving to complete our religious formation while advancing in holiness.

Saturday, March 10

Miss Montmarquet, one of our most devoted benefactresses, who has lived at the Mother House ever since the founding of our Institute, has just died. We always took pleasure in calling her our "dear Aunt", for she was the sister of the lamented Mother St. Gustave, the first companion of our beloved Mother Foundress.

She calmly expired at ten o'clock yesterday evening and, though we feel that she is now enjoying unalloyed happiness, the news of her passing when conveyed to us, caused us great sorrow. How much more keenly must our dear Mother feel the loss of her dear companion, who watched with such sympathetic interest the birth of our dear Institute and its development.

The funeral ceremony will take place on Monday, the 12th, in the chapel of our Mother House. Fervent and numerous will be the prayers which we shall waft heavenwards as a token of our heartfelt gratitude to our generous benefactress.

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.

I have obtained a favour through the intercession of our Blessed Lady after sending you an offering in her honour. I wish you would publish my thanksgiving in THE PRECURSOR.

Mrs. J. K., **Montreal**. — My mother's hands were very sore and, through the medium of the Miraculous Medal, they have been cured. I am sending you a little offering and will send more if I obtain the favour I am now asking. Miss M. C., **Fort Edward, N. Y.** — Please find enclosed a small donation, which I promised for favour received. Please remember me in your prayers. Mrs. G. P., **Montreal**. — I am sending you an offering in thanksgiving to Our Lady of Perpetual Help for a great favour received. M. M. — Sometime ago, I promised to send a donation if I obtained two requests. I have received one, so I am enclosing a Money Order in favour of the Missions.

Mrs. M. McD., **Shawinigan Falls, Que.** — Enclosed please find a small offering which I promised our Blessed Mother and St. Theresa for two favours received. Mrs. H. E. McK., **Newport, Vt.** — I made a request in the month of January for a novena for my sick daughter. On the second day of the novena she began to improve; she is now well, and will not have to undergo an operation. The enclosed Money Order is my offering of thanksgiving. May I request a further novena, that my son may obtain a steady position. I promise another and more substantial donation if this favor is granted.

Mrs. W. H., **Verdun, Que.** — Enclosed please find a cheque in thanksgiving to our Blessed Mother for favours received. Kindly offer up a few prayers for my intentions. M. G., **Holyoke, Mass.** — I have obtained the favour I have been asking for and promise to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for five years, in thanksgiving. Miss J. D., **Montreal**. — My husband has found work and I am very grateful.

Mrs. G. C., **Timmings, Ont.** — I am writing to let you know that my request has been granted. I will soon send you an offering as promised. Miss V. M., **Pawtucket, R. I.** — I have obtained a favour. Enclosed please find a small thank-offering. A. V., **Providence, R. I.** — I wish to return thanks to our heavenly Mother for a special favour she has granted me. Mrs. O. D., **Montreal**. — Please accept this small offering, in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin, through whose intercession I have received a favour. L. L. — I wish to thank our Immaculate Mother for the favour she has granted us. Mrs. A. G., **Montreal**. — Please find enclosed an alms for your missions as a token of gratitude for a favour received. L'Islet. — I am sending you an offering for the ransom of two dying Chinese babies, in thanksgiving to our loving heavenly Mother. A Subscriber. — My heartfelt gratitude to the Blessed Virgin, through whose intercession I received a favour after promising to publish my thanksgiving in THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. C. L., **Montreal**. — I am enclosing a small thank-offering for a favour received. One who loves the Missions. — My most grateful thanks for a favour granted me.

Mrs. A. R., **Shawinigan**. — Blessed be our Immaculate Mother who has hearkened to my prayers. Miss V. R., **Montreal**. — I have obtained a favour after making a novena to the Blessed Virgin. Mrs. C. T., **Verdun**. — As a token of my gratitude to God's Holy Mother, I am sending this offering for the Missions. Mrs. W. M., **Granby**. — Lively gratitude to our Blessed Lady, through whose intercession I have succeeded in letting one of my flats. M.A.D., **Montreal**. — I am sending you this small offering as a token of gratitude to our Immaculate Mother who has hearkened to the prayers of one of her children. Louiseville. — I return heartfelt thanks to the Blessed Virgin for a very special favour received. I entreat this tender Mother to continue to watch over me. Mrs. A. M., **Batiscan**. — I am enclosing a small offering for the ransom of some poor Chinese children as a token of gratitude to our Immaculate Mother for the favours she has granted me. I entreat her to obtain me some others and especially the cure of one of the members of our family. Mrs. Z. L. — The Blessed Virgin has granted my request. Please unite with me in thanking her for her great kindness and in asking her to continue to watch over us. L. L. — Lively gratitude for a cure obtained. A. G. — My most grateful thanks for the position I have obtained through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. M. L. R. — Some time ago I promised to send an offering for the ransom of some Chinese children if my son secured work. My prayers have been answered and I am gladly fulfilling my promise. Mrs. D. G. — I have been granted a favour and am sending you the enclosed donation in thanksgiving. R. J., **Montreal**. — I wish to return heartfelt thanks to our dear heavenly Mother who has cured my little girl. Mrs. T. M., **Sandwich**. — Kindly accept this small donation in thanksgiving for a favour received. Mrs. L. D. — My most grateful thanks to our loving heavenly Mother for my young daughter's missionary vocation. Mrs. A. T., **Keegan, Maine**. — Find enclosed an offering for the ransom of a Chinese baby

likely to live, as a token of gratitude for a favour received. Mrs. L. E. R. — I am pleased to tell you that I have obtained the three favours I have been asking for. Please publish my thanksgiving in THE PRECURSOR. D. C. — My most grateful thanks to our Immaculate Mother for favours received. Miss I. L. — Find enclosed an offering for the ransom of six dying Chinese babies as a token of gratitude to our Blessed Lady. Mrs. A. B., St. Cesaire. — I am subscribing to THE PRECURSOR in thanksgiving for a very special favour obtained. Mrs. A. F., Montreal.

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

Petitions

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

I would like you to make a novena for me, that I may find something to do very soon. I have been out of work for some time. I promise to send you an offering and to take THE PRECURSOR for one year, if I meet with success. A. B., Brooklyn, Ohio. — I am writing to ask you for prayers for a friend of mine who has been given up by the doctors. Please also pray for me. K. F., Toronto, Ont. — I am about to undergo a very serious operation and would ask you to pray for me. If this operation is successful, I promise to send an offering for the ransom of a baby likely to live, in honour of the Blessed Virgin and St. Theresa and to be a life-long subscriber to THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. H. McN., Newport, Vt. — I am going to ask you to please make a novena for me to our dear Mother of Perpetual Help. I am asking her to obtain me a cure without my having to undergo another operation. I promise to send some small donations to help your good works. M. M. — I am writing to ask you if you would please make a novena for the cure of my father and that he will not have to have an operation. Miss M. C., Fort Edward, N. Y. — There are two favours I would like to ask. If they are granted, I will publish my thanksgiving and send some money for your missions. Mrs. F. N., Albany, N. Y. — I am praying for a very great favour which means everything to myself and my family. Will you please remember my intentions in your prayers. R. C., St. Thomas, Ont. — I promise to send you a substantial donation if my husband and my mother regain their health. Mrs. R. P., Iliion, N. Y. — Enclosed you will find my renewal subscription. I wish to obtain three special favours. Please pray for us. Mrs. T. F., Montreal. — Please pray for my intentions as I need two graces very badly. Mrs. A. McD., Montreal. — If I obtain the favour I am asking, I will send you an offering in thanksgiving. E. W., Central Falls, R. I. — May I ask you to pray for my success in a new position. I shall renew my subscription as soon as possible. Mr. F. K., Montreal. — I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR and would ask you to pray that my boys may live up to their religion and that they may find work. Please pray also that I may find some way of paying my debts. J. O., Windsor, Ont. — Please find enclosed an offering for the ransom of eight dying Chinese babies. I would ask you to pray for me, for I have been sick a long time and am much worse now. A. R., West Frampton, Que. — Would you please make a novena to our Immaculate Mother for the complete cure of my very best friend who is suffering intense pain. If my petition is granted, I will send you a donation. A. Client, Montreal. — Enclosed please find an offering for a novena of lights to be burned at Mary's Shrine for a special intention. Mrs. J. V., Angliers, Que. — Would you be kind enough to make a novena for a very special intention. I promise to send you a substantial donation if my request is granted. H. T., Montreal. — Please pray that I may not lose my sight. M. C., East Providence, R. I. — Find enclosed my renewal subscription. Please pray for me. Mrs. C. R., Bridgeville, Que. — Please accept the enclosed offering for a Chinese baby. Please ask our Blessed Mother to grant my requests. M. T., Schenectady, N. Y. — I am coming to you again to ask you to make a novena for a very special intention. I will send you some money for the Missions if I obtain what I am asking for. Mrs. W., Shawinigan Falls, P. Q. — Will you please make a novena to the Blessed Virgin for me and ask this tender Mother to come to my assistance. I will send you an offering for your missions as soon as possible. Miss G. W., Montreal. — I am writing to ask you to kindly pray for several special intentions. Mrs. G. C., Timmins, Ont. — I am enclosing a small offering to help a Chinese baby. Please say a prayer to our Mother Mary for my intentions. M. T., Schenectady, N. Y. — Please pray that I may obtain a very great favour. I would also ask you to burn three lights for me in honour of our Blessed Lady. Mrs. G. M., Belle River, Ont. — I wish

you would make a novena to the Blessed Virgin for me, that I may get something I want very much and that I may recover my health. If my requests are granted, I will give a donation for your missions. Mrs. M. C., **Montreal**. — I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR and would ask you to pray that my married sons may find employment. Mrs. A. C., **Dearborn, Mich.** — Please pray that a father of several children may give up drinking. Anonymous. — I wish to obtain some very important spiritual and temporal favours. Find enclosed an offering for your Works. Miss H. A., **New Bedford, Mass.** — Will you please pray that my husband may recover his health, so as to be able to work again. I am enclosing a small offering. Mrs. M. B., **Montreal**. — I am most grateful for a favour granted me. Mrs. A. R., **Shawinigan**. — I am enclosing an offering for the Missions, in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin, who has granted me some favours. M. E. P., **Montreal**. — If I obtain the conversion of my two sons who are addicted to drink and who have been neglecting their religion, I will ransom some pagan babies and will also be a subscriber to THE PRECURSOR all my life. A poor mother. — I humbly ask you to pray to our Immaculate Mother that, through her intercession, I may find work. If my request is granted I promise an offering and shall also publish my thanksgiving in THE PRECURSOR. E. O'B., **Newport, R. I.** — A position for my husband so that we may buy a home of our own; I also beg you to pray that my health may be restored. Mrs. C., **Timmins**. — I am asking for a special favour and am enclosing an offering for a novena of lights. Miss D., **Albany**. — I am enclosing an offering for a Chinese baby and will send the rest of the money I promised soon. Will you please keep on praying that I may get strong again. I know the Blessed Virgin will continue to help me. Mrs. J. F., **Montreal**. — Enclosed you will find an offering for lights in honour of the Blessed Virgin. Will you please pray for us. Mr. G. M., **Belle River, Ont.** — I am forwarding you an offering for the ransom of some Chinese babies as a token of my gratitude for a great favour obtained after promising to publish. Mrs. J. M. — I wish to return thanks to the Blessed Virgin for the favours she has granted me. Miss L. L., **West Warwick, R. I.** — I am writing to ask you if you will please remember me in your prayers to Our Mother of Perpetual Help and St. Joseph. My needs are many. I will not forget your good work in the future. Mrs. D. W., **Orleans, Vt.** — I am making a novena to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, asking her to give my sister the courage necessary to follow her vocation. Anonymous. — Enclosed find a small offering in honour of the Little Flower. Please pray for a special intention. Mrs. L. S., **Pawtucket, R. I.**

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NECROLOGY

Sister Ste. Priscille, Missionary of the Immaculate Conception; Miss C. MONTMARQUET, Outremont; Miss Jeannette COURTEAU, Outremont; Mr. Joseph LAVALLEE, Ste. Claire de Dorchester, father of our Sister Marie Auxiliatrice; Mr. Pierre LETOURNEAU, La Sarre, Abitibi, father of our Sister Jeanne de Jesus; Miss Bernadette DUBOIS, Ste. Therese de Blainville, sister of our Sister Helene de la Croix; Mr. Francois DION, Honfleur, grandfather of our Sister Marie du Temple; Miss Catherine EAGAN, Westmount; Mr. John ENRIGHT, Nashua; Mr. Wm. MOORE, Montreal; Mr. Thomas CARROLL, Montreal; Mr. Christie HANESON, Chicago; Mr. Walter MONTEITH, Point St. Charles; Mrs. A. McKEEGAN, Montreal; Mr. M. J. FORBES, Verdun; Mr. John ROWE, Verdun; Mr. Wm. COUGHLIN, Montreal; Miss Nora COUGHLIN, Montreal; Mrs. Elizabeth McGOWAN, Montreal; Mr. T. LAWLOR, Montreal; Mr. William Michael TRACEY, Point St. Charles.

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FAKOU, Catholic Mission, Manchuria (Founded in 1930)

Dispensary. School.

TAONAN, Catholic Mission, Manchuria (Founded in 1931)

Dispensary. School.

TUNG LEO, Catholic Mission, Manchuria

Dispensary.

(Founded in 1932)

KOUNGTCHOULING, Catholic Mission, Manchuria

Dispensary.

(Founded in 1933)

PAI CHENG TZE, Catholic Mission, Manchuria

Dispensary.

(Founded in 1933)

IN JAPAN

KAGOSHIMA, Kaziya Cho 160

Kindergarten.

(Founded in 1928)

KORIYAMA, 96 Toramaru, Koriyama Shi, Fukushima Ken

Kindergarten.

(Founded in 1930)

WAKAMATSU

School for young children.

(Founded in 1933)

IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

MANILA, 286 Blumentritt St. (Founded in 1921)

Chinese General Hospital. Training School for Nurses.

IN ITALY

ROME, 20 Via Acquedotto Paolo, Monte Mario

Procure for the Missions.

(Founded in 1925)

Benefactors of the Society

of the

Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

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 the title.

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

3. — **Subscribers**, those who give an annual offering of \$2.00.

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

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

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