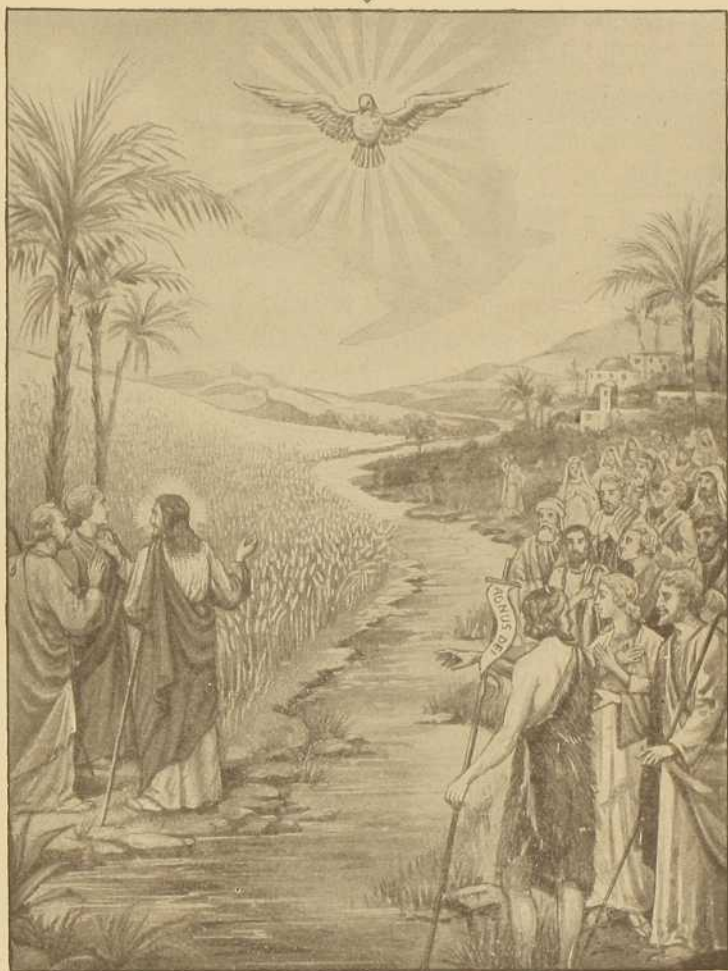


# THE PRECURSOR



Vol. X., 13th Year      MONTREAL, January-February 1935      No. 1

# **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. Kindergarten. Private lessons in French, English, Music and Painting.

### **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 Language 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. Kindergarten.

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

Closed Retreats for ladies and young girls. Workroom for our Missions.

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

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

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

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

(Continued on page 3 of the cover)



Please Help the  
**Missionary Sisters**  
of the Immaculate Conception

*By procuring work for them.*

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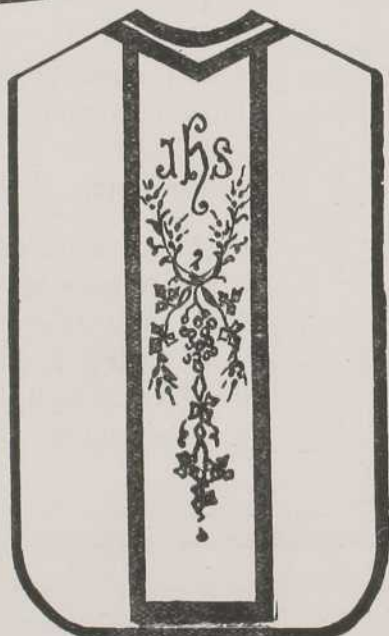
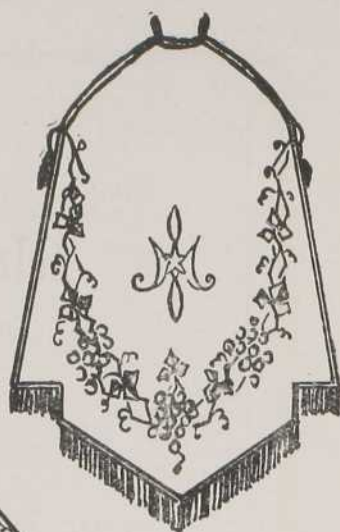
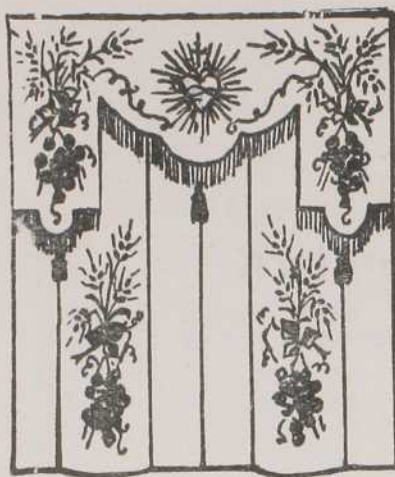
THE Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception have a work-room in which are made church-vestments and altar-linens, the profits of which are destined to support their Mother House and Novitiate.

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

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

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

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





## Kindly Read Attentively

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

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

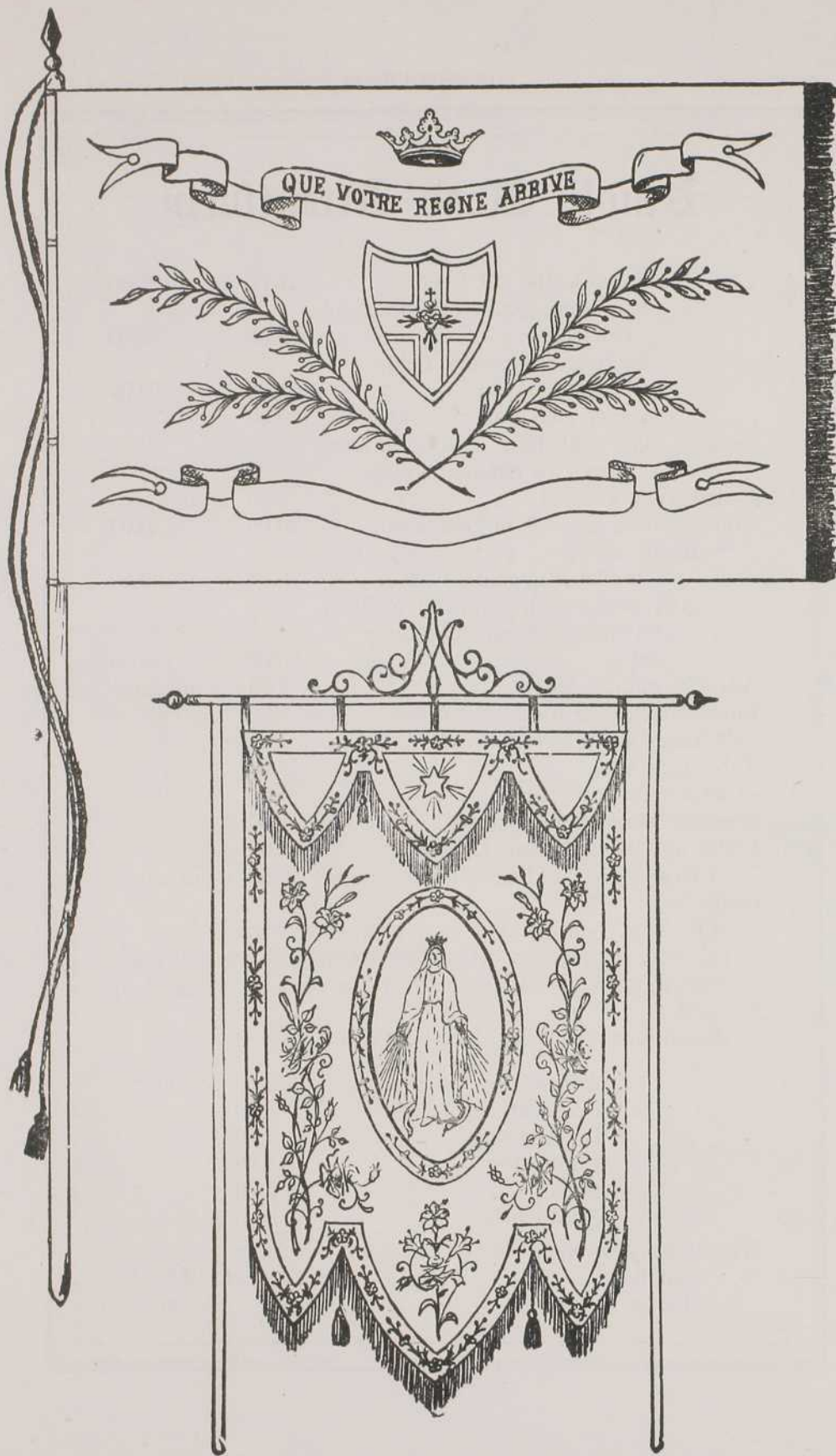
Silk flags, hand-painted and hand-embroidered. Staff is of oak and comprises a detachable holder and lance of gold-enamelled brass. Finished with fringe of half-fine gold at the end.

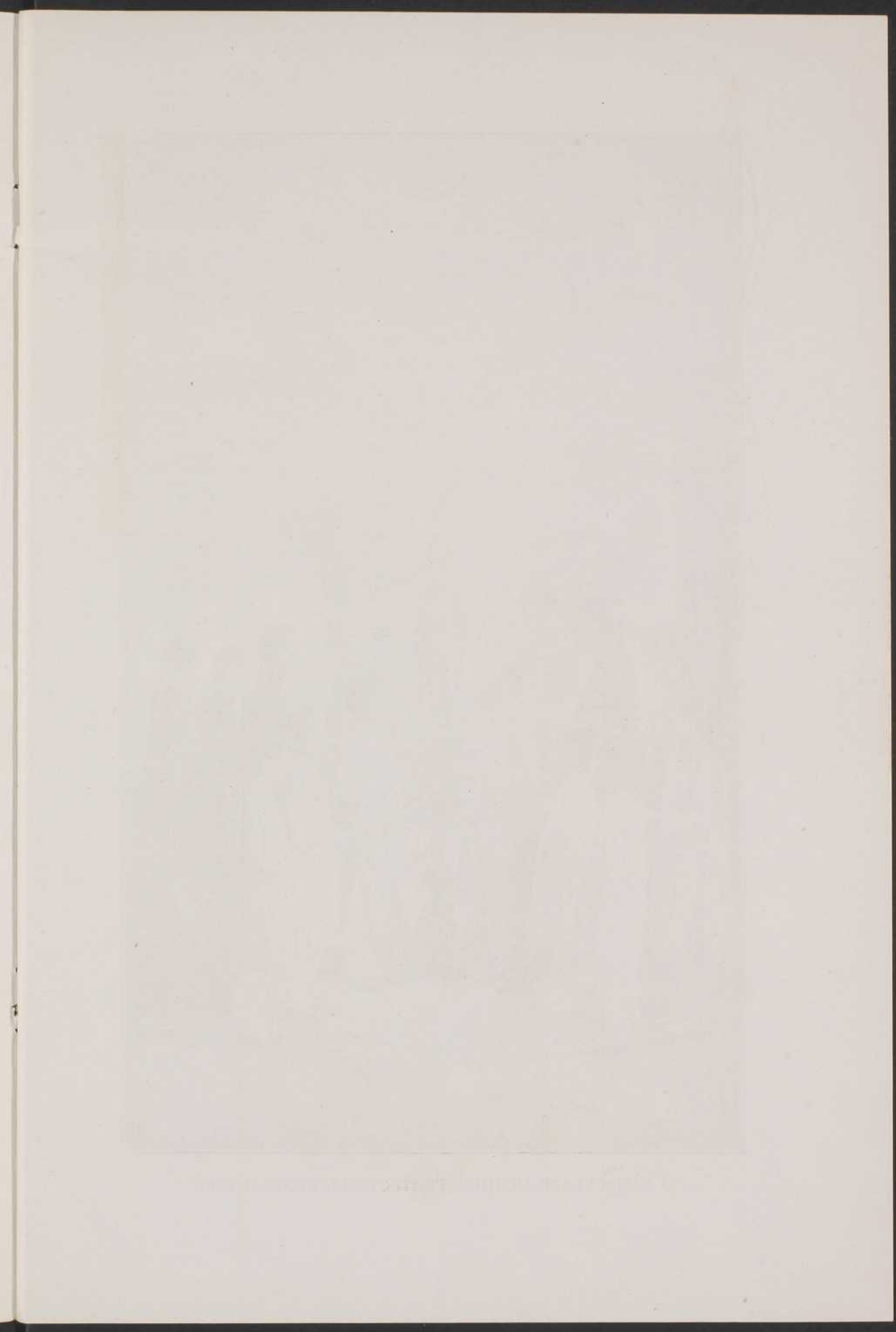
*Description and prices given on request.*

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

We supply *altar-breads* at the following prices:

Small.....	\$1.20 per	1000
Large.....	.40	“ 100









"O IMMACULATE MOTHER, PROTECT OUR BENEFACTORS!"

# THE RECURSOR

Published by the  
**Missionary Sisters**

of the Immaculate Conception

*with the approbation of the Archbishop of Montreal*

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Montreal, January-February 1935

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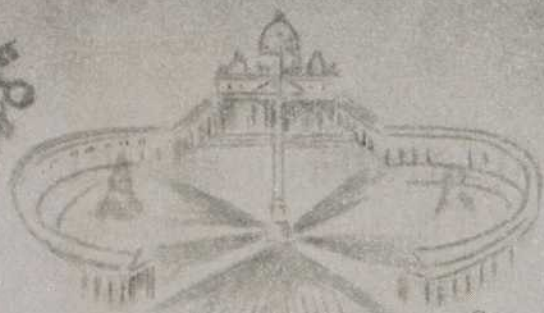
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Très Saint-Père,

Mère Marie du Saint-Esprit,

Sup. Gén. des Sœurs Missionnaires de l'Immaculée Conception,

humblement prosternée aux pieds de

Votre Sainteté,

sollicite la Bénédiction Apostolique  
pour les Bienfaiteurs de sa Communauté  
ainsi que pour les Abonnés au "Précurseur",  
revue missionnaire de l'Institut.

Dingpp. XI

Nov. 1934







*He has the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven;  
he is the infallible Vicar of Jesus Christ;  
when he gives his blessing, he does so  
in the name of the invisible Head of the Church...*

## **Most Holy Father,**

*Mother Marie du St. Esprit, Superior General of the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception, humbly prostrate at the feet of your Holiness, implores the Apostolic Benediction for the Benefactors of her Community and for the Subscribers to "The Precursor", a Missionary review of the Institute.*

**PIUS XI.**

*Nov. 1934.*

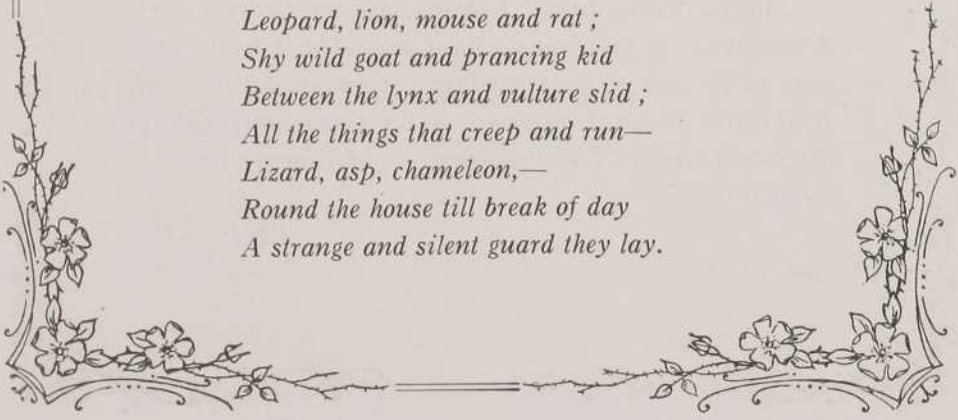



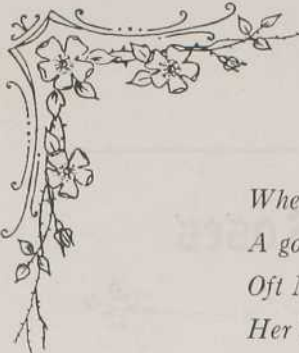
## The Holy Three in Egypt

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*When in Egypt lived the Three  
We call the Holy Family,  
All their humble dwelling round  
Lay a tiny strip of ground.  
Here Mary walked at eventide,  
With Child Jesus at her side.  
And where her robe's hem touched the earth  
Sprang flowers white and blue to birth :  
Eastern poppies glowing shone, —  
Flower lamps lit by the sun.  
'Twixt the low hills and the sky  
Snowy birds went fluttering by.  
When the last pale rays of light  
Were lost within the veil of night,  
Then those dear and holy Three  
Went to rest all silently, —  
Mary close beside her Sweet,  
Gentle Joseph at their feet.*

*Now the things without a soul  
Come gliding out from tree and hole,—  
Desert eagle, flying bat,  
Leopard, lion, mouse and rat ;  
Shy wild goat and prancing kid  
Between the lynx and vulture slid ;  
All the things that creep and run—  
Lizard, asp, chameleon,—  
Round the house till break of day  
A strange and silent guard they lay.*

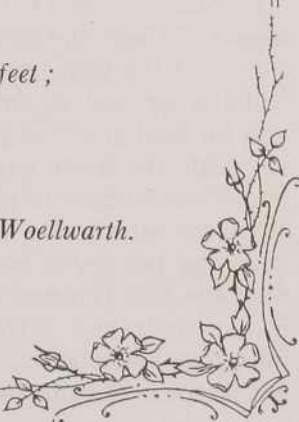
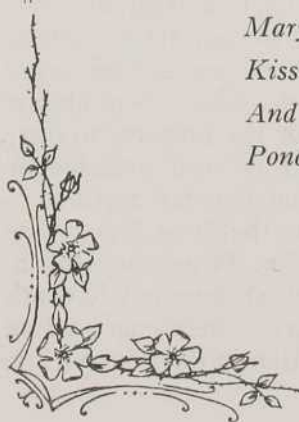




*When morning tossed the gay sun up,  
A golden ball in sapphire cup,  
Oft Mary saw with wondering eyes  
Her little Son awake and rise.  
There He stood in short white gown,  
Pink and flushed and golden brown.  
She watched Him cross the cottage floor,  
She watched Him slip out through the door ;*

*And when the beasts saw Him advance,  
Each made a quaint obeisance.  
She saw His tiny hand thrust through  
The lion's mane, as though He knew  
His the power to subjugate  
By love divine all fear and hate.  
The wild ass and the fox He led ;  
A white dove fluttered round His head.  
The others softly followed Him  
Until He reached the desert rim ;  
For where the desert line began,  
He clapped His hands and off they ran.  
When from this entrancing game  
Back on dancing feet He came,  
Mary ran her Lord to meet,  
Kissed His robe, His hands, His feet ;  
And often, when she sat apart,  
Pondered this thing in her heart.*

*—M. Woellwarth.*







## Lilies and Roses

Among all the glorious champions whom the Church honors, there are none to my mind so fascinating, so full of pathetic, appealing, human interest, as those youthful martyrs — the merest boys and girls often — who in times of persecution confronted torture and death with gay and festive intrepidity. Soldiers of Christ were they, eager to do and to die for Him, burning to pour out their blood in His service, proud by any suffering of theirs to further His kingdom. That persons of mature years and tried virtue lay down their lives for the truth is already sufficiently sublime, but that heroes of Christian daring should be found among little children is nothing short of marvellous. The Holy Innocents, slain by Herod, have had many imitators and rivals in the subsequent history of our faith.

Even the very first persecution — that of Nero, A. D. 65, — which cut short the lives of SS. Peter and Paul, produced also a child-martyr in the person of St. Celsus. Arrested at Milan, together with his guardian St. Nazarius, with him, too, he was beheaded. Their bodies, buried in a garden outside the city, were found by St. Ambrose in 395. Another St. Celsus, also a child-martyr, sealed his faith with his blood in the persecution of Galerius (A. D. 313). The Church celebrates the feast of the former on July 28, that of the latter on January 9.

Famous among the youthful champions of Christianity are the seven sons of the widow St. Symphorosa. Ruinart assigns their deaths to A. D. 120; Allard, to A. D. 135; in any case, during the reign of Hadrian. The legend of these martyrs says that Hadrian, wishing to dedicate his palace, consulted the gods, who replied: "The widow Symphorosa and her seven children torment us daily by worshipping their God. Make them abjure, and we shall give you all you want." Summoned by the Emperor to deny her faith, the brave mother refused indignantly, and by word and example urged her children to persevere. After she had been horribly tortured, a stone was attached to her neck and she was flung into the River Anio. The next day her seven boys, Crescens, Julian, Nemesius, Primitivus, Justin, Stacteus, and Eugene, having been savagely tormented, were put to death in various ways. "Their names," observes Ruinart, "were engraved on numerous monuments; but, better far, they are written in the Book of Life in characters of light that time can never grow dim."

Some thirty years later, A. D. 164, a similar case of heroism was seen in St. Felicitas, also privileged by God to be the mother of seven martyrs. Dragged before the prefect and threatened with death, the dauntless matron answered: "You can never win me by promises, nor frighten me with threats; for I have within me the Holy Spirit, who will not allow me to be conquered by the devil. Therefore I am certain that, living, I shall overcome you; and if you put me to death, I shall still triumph over you." To the prefect's appeal that she would at least have pity on her children and not force him to execute them, she replied by urging them to martyrdom: "Look up to heaven, my children, and see where Christ is waiting for you with His saints. Fight for your souls, and prove yourselves strong in the love of Christ." Then the judge appealed to each child in turn, using the most flattering promises and awful threats to weaken the boy's resolve. But his efforts were in vain: worthy sons of such a mother, each and all preferred death to dishonor. The eldest brother, Januarius, was scourged till he expired; Felix and Philip were killed with clubs; Silanus was flung over a precipice; Alexander, Vital, and Martial were beheaded. Last of all, Felicitas herself paid the penalty of her fortitude.

The number of children who thus died with their parents would seem to be considerable; for the martyrologies contain many examples of whole families gladly laying down their lives for Christ. Thus at Adrumeta in Africa, St. Boniface, St. Thecla his wife, and their *twelve* children, were massacred together. In Africa, too, under the reign of Septimus Severus, St. Celerina and her two uncles, St. Lawrence and St. Ignatius, won the same day the martyr's crown. In Rome, under Hadrian, the widow Sophia and her three daughters, Pistis, Elpis, and Agape, sealed their faith with their blood.

One of the youngest and most gallant of the child-martyrs venerated by the Church is St. Cyr, put to death at the age of three years, with his mother, St. Julitta. In 304, during the persecution of Diocletian, Julitta, a noble lady of Lycaonia, fled from her home and sought refuge in Tarsus, the birthplace of St. Paul. Shortly after arriving there, she was arrested and made to appear before a magistrate named Alexander. Her little boy accompanied her, and to all the questions of the official she answered simply: "I am a Christian." Alexander ordered the child to be taken from her and brought to him, and that she should be scourged severely. During his mother's torture the child constantly strove to go to her, and in concert with her he exclaimed several times: "I am a Christian!" Alexander became furious. Making himself at once judge and executioner, he caught up the boy in his arms, — violently dashed the little head against the steps of his judgment-seat, and killed St. Cyr on the spot. Julitta thanked God for having deigned to place her child amongst the glorious company of His martyrs. The same day she herself was beheaded. The relics of SS. Cyr and Julitta were brought to France by St. Amator, Bishop of Auxerre, and distributed amongst various churches.

In the same persecution perished another child-martyr, St. Barulas, who



laid down his life for Christ in Antioch, at the tender age of seven. Questioned as to his faith, Barulas replied: "There is but one God, and Jesus Christ is true God." In the presence of the boy's mother, the governor caused him to be scourged so cruelly that the blood flowed in torrents. He was then sentenced to be beheaded a few days later, and flung into a dungeon to await the appointed time. When the day arrived, the poor little mite was so weakened from pain and loss of blood that he was unable to walk. His mother carried him in her arms to the place of execution, kissed him good-bye, and recommended herself to his prayers.

Likewise in the persecution of Diocletian succumbed St. Vit, a little Sicilian boy, who had learned the faith from his nurse, St. Crescencia. The child had already been tried and condemned in Sicily, but his nurse and her husband, Modestus, managed to rescue him from prison, and to make their escape with him in Italy. In Lucania, on the banks of the River Silara, they were captured; and, after being racked and exposed to wild beasts and flung into a cauldron of boiling lead, they obtained the martyr's palm together.

There are on record no fewer than four martyrs who bore the name of Cyril. Two of these were soldiers, one a priest, the fourth a boy-martyr in his fourteenth year. A native of Cesarea in Cappadocia, St. Cyril was persecuted by the boys of the town for his precocious piety, and finally driven out of doors by his pagan father. The governor of the city intervened, and tried to reconcile Cyril with his father by getting him to deny his faith. The saint replied: "I am proud to suffer your reproaches. God will take care of me. I am glad to have been driven from home, for I have a better one. I do not fear death to gain a better one. I do not fear death to gain a better life." He was then bound and led away to the pyre, as though to be burned; but the governor intended merely to frighten him, feeling sure he could prevail over the easily-shaken constancy of a child. "Boy," said he, "you have seen the fire and the sword: be sensible; return to your father's house." — "I do not fear your fire or your sword," replied Cyril. "I am going to a greater house, and to inestimable riches; finish me quickly, so that I may enjoy them." Those present at the trial compassionating his youth, he said: "You ought rather be glad and lead me to death with joy. You do not know what a magnificent city I shall dwell in, nor how great is my hope." Thus he met death by fire, to the amazement of the people of Cesarea. His feast occurs the 29th of May.

August 18 is the feast-day of another youthful martyr, St. Agapitus, a boy of fifteen who, in the third century, eagerly laid down his life for Christ at Palestrina, about twenty-four miles from Rome. He possessed extensive estates, which he sold, giving the proceeds in charity. It was apparently this benevolence which directed the attention of the authorities toward him. Brought before the prefect Antiochus, Agapitus confessed himself at once a Christian; but the prefect, before proceeding to punish, was anxious to obtain his victim's fortune. The saint having refused to sacrifice, and having spoken contemptuously of the gods, Antiochus said: "All these



blasphemies will be punished by the most cruel torments, but first tell me where are your treasures," The boy replied: "My riches, which you seek for so greedily, are deposited in the treasury of Christ, to which no robbers can come." Unable to overcome his young prisoner's constancy, the prefect first had him scourged, and then exposed to wild beasts in the amphitheatre of Palestrina, where two lions crouched at his feet and could not be induced to harm him. Finally, Agapitus was led outside the city and beheaded. A soldier named Attalus, or Anastasius, was so impressed by the boy's courage that he, too, became a Christian, and died a martyr shortly after.

Other martyrs remarkable alike for their youth and daring are: St. Tarsicius, an acolyte, captured by soldiers as he was bringing the Blessed Sacrament to the sick; on his refusal to deliver his Treasure to them, they beat him to death; and the legend says that his dead hands remained crossed on his breast like bands of steel, that no profane force could dislodge; St. Pancratius, put to death at Rome in his fourteenth year; St. Ponticus, at Lyons, in his fifteenth; SS. Pergentin and Laurentin, of whom the Martyrology says that, although the merest children, they suffered the most frightful torments and worked the greatest miracles, and at last perished by the sword.

Nor are those ardent knights of Christ thus determined to carry heaven by storm without companions of the female sex. Some of the most glorious martyrs, whose loveliness of character has inspired both poetry and art, were young girls. Probably no martyr took such a hold on the faithful of Rome as St. Agnes. Brought to trial at the age of twelve through the spite of a rejected suitor, threatened with torture and fire unless she denied her faith, she proudly called on the executioner to do his work quickly. And when the abominable magistrate wished to inflict on the innocent child a punishment far worse than death, God worked a miracle to protect her. Condemned to decapitation, she went to death with girlish gaiety, — one of the sweetest and most attractive figures in those dazzling ranks who walk with Christ in white, and follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth.

The day of St. Agnes' funeral, her foster sister, St. Emerentiana, a girl of the same age, also laid down her life for the Faith. St. Ambrose told the story of St. Agnes in stately prose; Prudentius and St. Damasus sung her virtues in majestic verse; St. Jerome in one of his letters says that St. Agnes' life was told in the Churches of all nations, and her name praised in all languages; and many poets and painters since have found inspiration in her wondrous story.

What St. Agnes is to Rome, St. Agatha is to Catania, in Sicily. Rich, sought after, highly connected, the young girl preferred to be a "slave of Christ" rather than enjoy all the world could give. The Church honors her memory February 5. Similar too, is the history of St. Lucy, the patron of Syracuse, who perished by the sword December 13, 304. Nothing could better show the prominence attained by these saints and the reverence paid them than the fact that they enjoy the privilege of being daily invoked in the Canon of the Mass.

St. Eulalia is the Agnes of Spain. Her Acts say that at the age of twelve she stole away from her mother's house, proceeded to the palace of the governor of Merida, reproached him with his cruelty toward the Christians, of whom he had already slain a great number, and offered herself as a victim in their stead. "Since you seek Christians," said the valiant maiden, "I am a Christian, and the relentless enemy of idols. Where are they, that I may trample on them?" Then and there she was brutally scourged. Not a tear escaped her, nor a murmur. "They are writing, Lord," she said, "Thy victories on my body. How I love to read them there! Thy adorable name, O Jesus, gleams on me in red!" As was often done to the martyrs, a pyre was built around her and set fire to; her agony quickly ended, and the bystanders saw a white dove issue from her mouth and take its flight toward heaven, — emblematic truly of the white and stainless soul that had dwelt within the holy virgin.

These are some of the glorious boy and girl heroes of unselfishness, selected at random from the Church's Rolls of Honor; flawless beings without spot or stain, every one of whom now helps to form the bodyguard of the Lamb of God.

There is nothing more precious or more rare than self-sacrifice. Incarnate Wisdom Himself has said: "Greater love than this no man hath, that a man lay down his life for his friends." And the feeble, the weaker, the gentler the victims, the more touching and appealing their sacrifice. To see cut short a career that in any case the grave would soon claim is not half so moving as to witness the murder of those youthful beings whose budding lives are as yet full of promise and golden possibility, and hitherto unclouded by any disappointment or mistake. These are they whose multitudinous voices, like the noise of many waters, St. John heard singing that new canticle which they alone can sing, in whose "mouth was found no lie; for they are without spot before the throne of God." Apoc., XIV, 5.

William P. H. KITCHIN, Ph. D.

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### **Dedication, at Lourdes, of a Statue of St. Bernadette**

A bronze statue, erected by the Municipality of Lourdes and depicting St. Bernadette as she was when she first came to that city as a shepherdess from the mountain hamlet of Bartres, was dedicated on July 8, 1934.

The Most Reverend Pierre Gerlier, Bishop of Tarbes and Lourdes, pontificated in the Basilica at the solemn Mass which preceded the dedication of the statue and delivered one of the three addresses. The other speakers were the Mayor of Lourdes and the distinguished writer and Academician, Louis Bertrand.

The statue bears the following inscription, in the language peculiar to the district: *Ara nousta Bernadeta* (To our Bernadette), to which has been added the four most important dates in the story of her life: 1844, her birth; 1858, the Apparitions; 1879, her death; 1933, her Canonization.



## Noted Prelate Dies in Rome

---

Pietro Cardinal Gasparri, war-time secretary of state for the Vatican and a powerful influence in the cause of universal peace, died of pneumonia on November 18th, 1934. He was eighty-two years of age.

Cardinal Gasparri had been secretary of state under two popes and was regarded as the most noted prelate in the Catholic Church after Pope Pius XI himself. He was also regarded as one of the most able diplomats that ever occupied the secretary of state's post, as well as one of the Church's outstanding authorities on Canon Law. He was a strong opponent of Fascism.

The services, conducted by Mgr. Tito Trocchi, auditor of the apostolic chamber, took place on the following Thursday at St. Ignatius' Church, one of the largest churches in Rome. The body was transferred for burial to Ussita, the Cardinal's home town.

His Eminence Cardinal Pacelli is Cardinal Gasparri's successor in office.

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If, as they tell us, no leaf of the forest has in nature its exact copy, if each one of the myriad of tiny insects which fill the sunshine with their transient life, possesses an individuality as readily recognized by God as that which distinguishes man from his fellowman, then what must it be with immortal souls, souls created to the image and likeness of God, souls created in order that for all eternity, they may enjoy an endless personal intimacy with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost?

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Jesus Christ reigns in the minds of individuals through His teachings; He reigns in hearts through charity; He reigns in the whole life of man through obedience to His law and imitation of His virtues.

*Pope Pius XI.*

### **ANOTHER EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY**

In its own name and in that of all the subscribers, THE PRE-CURSOR respectfully offers to His Eminence Cardinal J. M. R. Villeneuve, O. M. I., Archbishop of Quebec, the expression of its profound sympathy on the death of his dear mother, Mrs. Rodrigue Villeneuve (nee Marie Louise Lalonde), which occurred in Montreal, on November 21st, 1934.

Just a few weeks before, on the 18th of September, the beloved father of His Eminence passed away.

*R. I. P.*





## Apparitions of the Blessed Virgin to St. Bernadette Soubirous

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*First Apparition : February 11, 1858.* — The Blessed Virgin teaches Bernadette how to make the Sign of the Cross well.

■ *Second Apparition : February 14.* — “There she is!” joyfully exclaims Bernadette, while advancing towards the Grotto; she throws some holy water towards the mysterious Lady, who smiles reassuringly.

*Third Apparition : February 18.* — The child, in her ecstasy, cries out: “She is coming..., there she is!” She presents paper, pen and ink to the

Vision, and asks Her to write her desires: "It is not necessary to write down what I have to say to you. Do me the kindness to come here during fifteen days. I do not promise that you will be happy in this world, but in the next. I desire that people come here."

*Fourth Apparition: February 19.* — The ecstasy lasts half an hour.

*Fifth Apparition: February 20.* — Bernadette is accompanied by her mother. A crowd had preceded them to the Grotto. During the ecstasy, the Blessed Virgin teaches, word by word, to her little confidante a prayer exclusively for her.

*Sixth Apparition: February 21.* — A large number of deeply-emotioned spectators. Bernadette, seeing the sad expression on the Lady's face, asks her why She is sad: "Pray for sinners!"

*Seventh Apparition: February 23.* — The Blessed Virgin confides three personal secrets to Bernadette, which she never revealed.

*Eighth Apparition: February 24.* — Bernadette kneels on the rock, her beads in her hands; all at once her countenance, which had been radiant with joy, grows sad. She drags herself along on her knees up the steep ascent in front of the Grotto, kissing the ground at each step and repeating, while she turns to the crowd, these words which the Blessed Virgin had pronounced: "Penance! Penance! Penance!"

*Ninth Apparition: February 25.* — The pious child is told "to go and drink at the spring and to wash herself there." As she had seen no spring, she thought it was meant that she should go to the Gave. But with her eyes and her outstretched arm, Our Lady pointed to the corner of the Grotto. "I then began to scrape the earth," said Bernadette, "and the hole began to fill with water, and I drank some of it." It is this wonderful spring which has since worked so many miracles.

*Tenth Apparition: February 26.* — "You will kiss the earth for the conversion of sinners."

*Eleventh Apparition: February 27.* — A prolonged ecstasy; at the end of the celestial visit, the Blessed Virgin seems to grow recollected and bids Bernadette "to go to the priests and tell them that they should build a chapel there."

*Twelfth Apparition: February 28.* — Intimate and personal communications.

*Thirteenth Apparition: March 1st.* — Enthusiastic emotion of the numerous spectators who, wishing to imitate Bernadette, present their beads to the Blessed Virgin.

*Fourteenth Apparition: March 2.* — "I desire to have people come here in procession."

*Fifteenth Apparition: March 4.* — An enormous crowd. Bernadette is plunged in an ecstasy which lasts an hour, she seems now jubilant and now sad.

*Sixteenth Apparition: March 25.* — *Feast of the Annunciation.* — A heavenly light, more dazzling than ever, illuminates the Grotto. The celestial vision appears, smiling, and looking towards the crowd with unspeakable



benevolence and with all the tenderness of a mother. Bernadette, in obedience to the instruction given her, asks her three times to tell her her name. Our Lady, raising her eyes to Heaven, and stooping towards the child, answers: "I am the Immaculate Conception."

*Seventeenth Apparition: April 7.* — A fresh wonder: the flame of the candle which Bernadette is holding passes through her fingers without harming her.

*Eighteenth Apparition:* The last Apparition takes place on July 16, the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. — Our Lady bows and smiles: it is the last time the humble child is to be favored on earth with the sight of the Queen of Heaven. Bernadette later became Sister Mary Bernard in the Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of Nevers, where she died in the odor of sanctity on the 16th of April, 1870, the first Wednesday after Easter, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

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## Where Are Your Beads?

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ON March 1st, Bernadette hastened joyously to the grotto. [She was thinking of what had already happened to her and entertained the hope that she would again see the Lady at the Rock of Massabielle. On arriving, she knelt down and looked towards the niche. What happiness! The Lady was there and was smiling upon her.

"Where are your beads?" she asked.

Bernadette showed her those she had in her hand.

"You are mistaken," the Lady authoritatively said to her, "these beads do not belong to you." True enough, a devout person had given the child her beads, that she might say them in front of the grotto so that they, after being looked at by Mary, might be for her a precious religious souvenir. Bernadette examined the beads she was holding and discovered that they were not her own. She immediately put them aside and taking hers, she offered them to the Lady. All present, thinking that Bernadette was asking for a demonstration in honour of the Most Blessed Virgin, held up their beads to the Apparition while fervently reciting the Hail Mary.

This time, the Lady smiled at Bernadette; she looked so kind that the little girl felt fresh courage and began to pray earnestly as she was wont to do.

Where are your beads? The Blessed Virgin could more rightly put this question to a number of Christians who neither carry their beads with them nor have them at home, than to Bernadette, who, at least, had her beads in her pocket. They perhaps had them when they made their First Communion, but they have been careless and have not bothered about making use of them and have forgotten where they put them. Such neglect is far



from being pleasing to the Immaculate Virgin; find your beads and she will be consoled.

Where are your beads? Many still have their beads, but they are ashamed to say them. They forget how important are the Rosary prayers, how delighted Mary is with them, with what devotion the saints and persons of high rank recited them, and the numerous blessings they draw down upon mankind. Make Our Lady happy by using your beads.

Where are your beads? Ah! Most Blessed Virgin, if you ask me such a question, I shall immediately reply: "Here are my beads, my beloved Mother. And I do not carry them to make a big show, they are beads I have always with me and they are worn a little because they are often said, but they care no more about such a defect than the soldier about his scars, or the flag about the blood, mud or dust with which it has been soiled on the battlefield. I always have my beads with me; they go everywhere I go, I live with them and I was just on the point of saying that they live with me."

Where are your beads? Here they are, O Mary, and they are really my own. It is for me that the Church, full of motherly love, has thoughtfully enriched the prayers recited on them with so many indulgences: apostolic indulgences, the Rosary and the Crosier indulgences, an accumulation mercifully granted by the Church and a real treasure for me, since it helps me to diminish the temporal punishment I deserve on account of my sins; and which is also a treasure for my fellowmen, since by saying my beads I ask God's blessing upon them. Charlemagne wished for no other sword than his own, which he called his "Joyous". It was with it that he was so victorious. My "Joyous" is my Rosary, it is the sword with which I drive away the clouds of sorrow, worldly attractions and the hellish foes. I love this sword and keep it always with me. With it I am able to do wonders, even in the other world, by relieving the Souls in Purgatory and freeing them from their prison.

Where are your beads? No matter when you may ask me this question, I shall be able to answer you without being the least ashamed. During the day, they are in my pocket or gliding through my fingers; at night, they are on my neck, protecting me during my sleep and crying out to the demons: *Fugite, partes adversæ*. They serve as a necklace, an honour necklace, more precious than that worn by Annonciade, more precious, also, than the Golden Fleece. The beads were placed on the heads of a group of Sisters of Cambrai who were about to die on the scaffold. That day, the Rosary was really a crown which adorned the brows of these virgins on the point of leaving this earth.

When the last sleep, which will not be an everlasting one, comes, I hope to hold my beads in my hands, my own beads and not those belonging to someone else, the beads I have kept with me, prayed on, worn and loved, the beads which have witnessed my joys, my struggles and my victories. While holding them, I shall present to Jesus and Mary all the *Aves* I have said during my life and ask them to forgive me for having recited some of

them badly and to accept the others with the petition with which they end up: Pray for us now and at the hour of our death.

My beads will be very useful to me when I am in my coffin, for they will serve to keep my hands folded even until I am carried to my grave. And thus shall I proclaim to all those who come to see me then how dearly I love my beads and they will be for each of my visitors the echo of Mary's words to Bernadette: "Where are your beads?"

—Extract from *Le Parterre de Notre Dame de Lourdes*, by Rev. J. B. Vuillemin.

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### Indulgences for Prayers Recited Before the Blessed Sacrament

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By a decree issued on June 4th, 1934, the Sacred Penitentiary has granted new indulgences for three prayers or invocations recited before the Blessed Sacrament: "In order to direct the minds and hearts of the faithful to the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, it has seemed opportune to propose for them some short prayers which may be recited readily even when preoccupied throughout the day, and to enrich these prayers with special indulgences. Hence, the following indulgences have been granted:

1. For the recitation of the Antiphon "O Sacrum Convivium" together with the verse "Panem de Cœlo" and the prayer "Deus, Qui Nobis," a partial indulgence of seven years is granted every time they are recited with devotion and at least a contrite heart; also a plenary indulgence, to be gained in accordance with the usual conditions, if they are recited daily for a month.

2. For the recitation of the "O Salutaris," a partial indulgence of five years and a plenary indulgence, as above.

3. For the recitation of the popular prayer of praise, "Vi Adoro Ogni Momento," I adore Thee every moment, a partial indulgence of 300 days and a plenary indulgence, as above.

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### Indulgence for Prayers After Mass

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In accordance with the requests of many priests that greater indulgences be granted for the recitation of the prayers which Pope Leo XIII prescribed to be said after Low Mass, and in order that the faithful will refrain from leaving the church before everything prescribed by liturgy has been completed and they have recited these prayers with the priest, His Holiness Pope Pius XI has granted an indulgence of ten years for the recitation of these prayers after Mass. The partial indulgence of seven years granted by Pope Pius X for the repetition of the aspiration, "Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us," remains as heretofore.



# The Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception and their Works in Pagan Lands

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*Talk given over the radio on October 14th, 1934, at Station CKAC, Montreal.*

By Miss Marie Rose BOULAIS, Outremont.

ON June 3rd, 1902, was founded at Notre Dame des Neiges, near Montreal, a Community of Missionary Sisters, the first Canadian foundation of the kind, its chief aim being the spreading of the Faith among the infidels. Two years later, on December 7th, 1904, His Holiness Pope Pius X, of holy memory, approved and blessed the new institute, naming it the Society of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception and giving it as its field of apostolate every country to which its members might be called.

After thirty-two years of existence, the Institute counts 32 foundations and 400 Professed Sisters: 393 French-Canadian Sisters, 6 Irish Sisters and 1 English Sister. All are labouring for the Foreign Missions, to which cause they dedicated their lives on the day of their religious Profession. Those who have not yet gone to labour in the far-off mission field are working for the Missions in their different convents in Canada by endeavouring to cause their works to progress.

At the present time, 112 Sisters are labouring in pagan lands. Four have died after a few years of apostolate, and as their dust is mixed with pagan soil, the Canadian missionaries feel that they have a footing in the mission field.

It was in the year 1908 that the members of the new Institute were asked to offer themselves for the Missions. His Excellency Bishop Merel who, at that time, was Bishop of Canton, China, had come to Montreal to visit a few of his confreres belonging to the Sulpician Fathers' Society. On learning from them that there was in this city, a Congregation of Missionaries, he had an interview with its members. His Excellency, wishing to have Canadian Sisters to attend to the needs of his vast Mission and seeing that the religious were ready for such work, requested the Reverend Mother Superior General to give him helpers.

In September 1909, six Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception sailed for Canton. On reaching their new country, Bishop Merel asked them to take charge of a school, a workroom, an orphanage and a foundling-home. Several bishops have since visited the latter and have declared that it is one of the largest foundling-homes in China. The very first year, they baptized therein 1,500 dying children. We see by the reports of this home that 102,093 dying babies were baptized by our Canadian Sisters from 1909 to 1933.





MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, CANTON, CHINA, AND THEIR POOR CHARGES.

In February 1933, the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception were obliged to find another home for the abandoned babies in a section of the city of Canton where the air is purer. To this foundling-home, which is dedicated to Our Lady of Providence, are brought the little ones for whom there is no room in the other.

Our poor Missionaries are often greatly puzzled on considering the great debts which they contract daily. Owing to the financial depression, only half as many offerings are received and the Orphanage and Foundling-Home in Canton are in most precarious situation. It is impossible to refuse to pay for the children that are brought to the Foundling-Homes, for that would mean that these little creatures would be deprived of Holy Baptism but, on the other hand, one must think of a way of meeting expenses. God alone knows how they are to be met and we confidently hope that He in His Providence will see to solving this problem.

Now, let us glance at the Holy Ghost School, which has known dark days. In 1927, when there was civil war in Canton, the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception were obliged to close their school, which was attended by seven hundred pupils, and to leave quickly for Hong Kong with their orphans: they could not think of remaining among the revolutionists. What would have become of their charges, who were crowded into two small houses and for whom they had neither food nor the necessary clothing? During this period, one of the Missionary Sisters wrote to her Superior General, saying: "All along we have been having trials, but at present we are grief-stricken."

As time went on, the political situation changed, things quieted down, and the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception were able to go back to their convent in Canton but, on account of the pagan course of studies which the Chinese government forced upon the schools directed by foreigners, under pain of penal seizure, they were not able to re-open their school, through which a goodly number of young students had been won over to the Faith and which had meant so many sacrifices on the part of the members of the Community. After three or four years, however, the Holy Ghost School was re-organized and, to-day, there are two hundred and fifty pupils in attendance.

As the saying goes, "It is an ill wind that blows nobody good." What appeared to be a disaster for the Sisters in Canton only caused a new mission to be opened. Bishop Valtorta, Vicar Apostolic of Hong Kong, allowed the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception to settle permanently in Hong Kong and permitted them to establish a school, wherein the different subjects, including Christian Doctrine, are taught to two hundred pupils.

It was in 1913 that the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception were asked to go to labour in a most beautiful field of apostolate wherein they were to exercise great charity and heroic devotedness. This new mission was the Shek Lung Lazaretto, founded in 1907, by Reverend Father Conrardy of the Paris Foreign Mission Society. Shek Lung with its six hundred and fifty patients is considered the largest Catholic leper colony in the world.





LEPERS OF SHEK LUNG, CHINA, COMING OUT OF THE CHAPEL. THE MISSIONARIES OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION HAVE BEEN HOSPITALERS AT THIS LAZARETTO FOR OVER TWENTY-ONE YEARS.



Since the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception have been caring for the lepers, that is to say, during the past twenty-one years, they have had the happiness of seeing all their leper women baptized before dying and of seeing many others filled with lively sentiments of faith and just as resigned as the early Christians were. A comparatively small number of the men failed to respond to the grace granted them by God and died pagans. On February 11th, 1934, thirty-three men and thirty-three women received Holy Baptism and made their First Communion.

In this settlement, it may be said that everything is carried to extremes: suffering, devotedness and poverty. Reverend Father Marsigny, the



A WARD IN THE CHINESE GENERAL HOSPITAL, MANILA, P. I.

Director, and our Sister infirmarians are so greatly in need of funds that they wonder how they are going to be able to keep up the work. The dark buildings, which lack all modern conveniences, are falling to pieces and it is impossible to think of repairing them, for the Sisters can scarcely procure their charges their daily portion of vegetables and rice. True it is that the Chinese government gives them \$3,500.00 yearly, but \$10,000.00 is required for the bare necessities: the Director and the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception endeavour to procure the difference by asking others to take an interest in this admirable work. It is estimated that there are 50,000 lepers in the Province of Kwang Tung, which counts 30,000 inhabitants. How many souls could be saved by our charitable missionaries if they but had funds enough to see to them all.

Let us now consider what is being done in the Province of Kiangsu. In 1928, Bishop Tsu confided to the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception of Tsungming, in the Haimen Vicariate, a foundling-home and an orphanage and asked them to see to the formation of a Congregation of

Chinese Sisters. The first profession ceremony was held on February 2nd, 1933. Seven novices took their vows. The little Community is gradually developing and probably, before many years, its members will be able to direct charitable works among their own people.

Since 1928, over 6,000 children have been ransomed and baptized at the foundling-home in Tsungming.

The Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception have also been labouring in Manila since the year 1921. In that city, they have charge of the Chinese General Hospital and a training school for nurses. Knowing that these young ladies will have the occasion of doing much good, they instil into their minds the traits of good morals and hope that, later on, they will be real apostles. The people of this region are not pagans, but they do not know much about their religion. In the same city, the Sisters also have charge of a home for Chinese children, to whom they teach Catechism.

Let us now turn to Manchuria. In 1927, at the request of His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre, Vicar Apostolic of Szepingkai, three Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception went to lend a helping hand to the Reverend Fathers of the Canadian Foreign Mission Seminary, who, two years previous, had settled in the northern part of China. Since then, missionaries have left Canada yearly to join their companions already on the Missions. Actually, forty-three Sisters are converting, by their works of mercy, the natives of antique China. In the eight missions in which they are stationed, these Sisters have charge of dispensaries, orphanages, schools, a home for the aged, and, since 1930, they have been conducting



AT THE KINDERGARTEN DIRECTED BY THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, KORIYAMA, JAPAN: LITTLE PUPILS SAYING THEIR GRACE.  
ALL OF THESE CHILDREN ARE PAGANS, AS YET.





MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, SUCHOW, CHINA,  
THREE PRESENTANDINES AND THE PUPILS OF THE SCHOOL.

a Native Novitiate at Szeping kai. On November 21st, 1933, the first four Sisters of Our Lady of the Rosary pronounced their Holy Vows and each of the nine postulants received a novice's veil. The same year, on the 16th of August, six Native Sisters, directed by the Missionaries, commenced their apostolic labours.

It is especially by their work in the different dispensaries that the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception cause the charity of Christ to be appreciated by the pagans. Led on by this salutary light, many of these poor people have found the veritable road to heaven and, after listening to the instructions given at the Dispensary, they ask to be admitted to the Catechumenate. Others who, while in good health, never seemed to be touched by the rays of divine grace, ask for the Missionaries when they see death approaching. In the Vicariate of Szeping kai, in 1933, four hundred and one adult pagans died just after being baptized.

In taking note of all the reports which the Sisters in Manchuria send every month to their Mother House, we find that since their arrival in the Vicariate, in 1927, the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception have baptized 11,737 dying persons: adults and children. To the sick they have given 955,872 treatments, dressings included, and they have visited 12,789 pagan homes.

The people of this region rendered docile by great suffering resulting from extreme poverty and the trouble caused them by the brigands, seem to be ready to embrace the Faith.

Now, it is time to speak of the works of our Missionary Sisters in Japan. In their missions at Koriyama and Wakamatsu, in the Hakodate Diocese, confided to the Canadian Dominican Fathers, they have two Kindergartens



and they also visit the poor Christians and pagans who are ailing. Besides all this, they give private lessons in English, French and music. People with experience say that these lessons are an excellent means of winning souls, fitted to Japan. The Japanese do not believe in having religion explained to them in the presence of others. During the private lessons, the pupil may ask his teachers anything he wants to know about the things that puzzle him. This kind of apostolate exists throughout the Japanese Empire: the fish the missionaries are after may not be caught in nets but with a hook and line only. The Kindergartens are very promising; the seeds of truth, discreetly sown, fall upon the hearts of these children before pagan prejudices cause them to look unfavourably upon our holy religion.

In the year 1934, there was another foundation. Last April, four Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception were asked to take charge of a native novitiate at Suchow, in the Prefecture Apostolic of Mgr. Marin, S. J. There, they are called upon to do all kinds of charitable work.

While, in the remote mission stations in pagan lands, the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception baptize, console and instruct the poor and dress their wounds, the Institute in Canada is rapidly progressing with a view to aiding the Missions. In the Archdiocese of Montreal and in the Dioceses of Quebec, St. Hyacinthe, "Trois Rivières", Joliette, Rimouski and Chicoutimi, they propagate the Pontifical Work of the Holy Childhood. By the talks on the Missions which they give in the schools and religious institutions, they endeavour to inflame the hearts of the children of our province with apostolic zeal.

The Missionary Sisters also organize closed retreats in nearly all of their convents, as well as sewing circles for women and girls. From these sewing circles come what is needed for the vestries of the chapels, foundling-homes and orphanages in their missions.

Missionaries, like soldiers, require ammunition in order to accomplish their tasks. It is in their convents in Canada that our future apostles are preparing for the struggles ahead of them and are supplying the ammunition for their Sisters labouring among the pagans.



## 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

# 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 an offering for the ransom of a dying Chinese baby, in thanksgiving for a temporal favour received through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. I would like the child to be called Teresa. Miss K. M., **Vancouver, B. C.** — Please find enclosed a Postal Note, which I wish to go towards the Little Flower Burse as an acknowledgement of a favour asked and granted. Please remember me in your prayers. Mr. J. O'D., **Montreal.** — Enclosed find an offering in thanksgiving to

St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Please pray to her that everything will turn out alright. Mrs. L. S., **Pawtucket, R. I.** — I am sending you a small offering in thanksgiving to the Little Flower of Jesus, through whose intercession I have obtained a favour. Mrs. L., **Indian Orchard, Mass.** — I am enclosing another offering in thanksgiving for the countless favours that the Little Flower of Jesus has granted me. A Friend. — Please find enclosed a donation towards the Little Flower Burse for a favour asked and granted. J. O., **Montreal.** — We have succeeded in renting our two flats and we are sending you an offering for the Missions in honour of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, as promised. P. R., **Montreal.** — Some time ago, I said that I would send a sum

of money for the orphans in Manchuria if a serious operation proved successful. Two of my children were badly injured and I promised to send another offering in honour of the Patroness of Missionaries if they were cured. I received an answer to my prayers and am now fulfilling my promise. Mrs. T., **St. Anne.** — Find enclosed a Money Order in favour of your missions. It is my thank-offering to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, who has come to my aid. Mrs. D., **Montreal.** — I have obtained a favour through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus and, to thank this dear benefactress, I am enclosing an offering for the Missions, as promised. Mrs. A. F., **Lac Marois.** — I am sending you an offering in honour of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, in thanksgiving for a favour received. I promise to send you another offering if this dear Saint grants me the favour I am now asking. A Subscriber, **Champlain.** — I am subscribing

to THE PRECURSOR in thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, through whose intercession I have obtained a favour. Please pray for a special intention. Mrs. P., **Sorel.** — I am fulfilling a promise made some time ago, by sending you the enclosed offering in honour of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. It is for your poorest mission. I am asking for another favour, which, with God's help, I hope to obtain. Miss P., **Montreal.** — I am subscribing to THE PRECURSOR in thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, who has granted me a favour. Mrs. D., **Montreal.** — I am enclosing an offering for a novena of lights to be burned before the picture of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Please unite with me in thanking St. Therese for what she has done for me and ask her to continue to help me in all my troubles. Mrs. S., **Loretteville.** — I wish to return most grateful thanks to the dear Patroness of Missionaries, through whose intercession I have obtained a favour. Enclosed please find an offering for the ransom of a Chinese baby likely to live. A Subscriber, **Pike River.** — Some time ago, I promised that I would send you an offering for the ransom of a forsaken Chinese baby girl. I am now fulfilling my promise and I wish you would call the little one Teresa, after my heavenly protectress. A Subscriber, **Southbridge, Mass.** — I would like you to publish my thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Six months ago, I was so weak that the doctors gave me up. I recited fervent prayers in honour of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, sent an offering to your Community and promised publication. I am now very well and am able to do the work for six persons, all alone. Mrs. P. C., **Jonquiere.** — I am enclosing an offering in honour of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, in thanksgiving for a favour granted me. Mrs. B., **Pawtucket, R. I.** — St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, has deigned to watch over me. Enclosed please find a thank-offering. A. C., **Lachine.** — My prayers have been answered and I am enclosing an



offering for the Missions, in honour of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Mrs. G. — Please find enclosed an offering for lights to be burned before the statue of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, in thanksgiving for a favour. Mrs. P., **Montreal**. — I have obtained a cure and two other favours through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus and, to thank my great benefactress, I am sending you an offering for the missions dedicated to her. Once again, I am asking her to come to the aid of a poverty-stricken family. Mrs. Z., **Lauzon**. — You will find enclosed an offering that you may use to ransom a pagan baby. I am sending it in thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus and the Jesuit Martyrs, through whose intercession, I have obtained a cure. I have promised to ransom four more pagan children and will do so as soon as possible. E. G., **Matane**. — I am enclosing a Money Order to be added to the Little Flower Burse. It is money I promised long since and I am glad to be able to fulfil this obligation. Please pray for my intentions. Mrs. D., **New York City**.

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“O my God, Thou knowest I have never desired anything but to love Thee alone. I seek no other glory. Thy love has gone before me from my childhood, it has increased with my growth, and now it is an abyss, the depths of which I cannot fathom.”

*St. Teresa of the Child Jesus.*

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“Souls, dear Lord! we must have souls! Above all, souls of apostles and martyrs, that through them we may inflame the multitude of poor sinners with love of Thee.”

*St. Teresa of the Child Jesus.*

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

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A Burse is a sum of money, the interest of which forms a perpetual income for the support of a Missionary. Burses are founded in honor of a Saint whose name they bear. The religious whose support is thus assured becomes the Missionary of the donor and takes his place near the poor infidels. The Founders of the Burse participate in all the spiritual advantages of the Community. The sum of \$1,000.00 given in one or several payments, by one or many persons, forms a complete Burse.

#### OFFERINGS FOR THE “LITTLE FLOWER” BURSE.

We shall 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 September-October	1933 ....\$41.60
In July-August	“ .... 12.25	In November-December	“ .... 60.75
In September-October	“ .... 85.00	In January-February	1934 .... 38.75
In November-December	“ .... 38.40	In March-April	“ .... 15.00
In January-February	1933.... 77.00	In May-June	“ .... 17.50
In March-April	“ .... 18.25	In July-August	“ .... 26.45
In May-June	“ .... 30.75	In September-October	“ ....108.25
In July-August	“ .... 58.15	In November-December	“ .... 11.35



## Echoes from our Missions

*Diary of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception who left  
for Manchuria on September 2nd, 1934.*

FROM VANCOUVER TO SZEPINGKAI

### Monday, September 10, 1934

It was with a little heartache that we, this morning, bade farewell to our dear country... We are now sailing towards the land of our dreams: far-off Manchuria.

When we got off the train at Vancouver on Thursday, September 6th, we were greeted by Sister Superior and Sister Assistant. We immediately climbed into the cars placed at our disposal, and arrived at the Oriental Hospital not quite ten minutes later. It was just ten o'clock. A priest of the Foreign Mission Seminary of Pont Viau said Mass at once and we all assisted at it and received Holy Communion. After breakfast began the family rejoicing, which lasted four days. All our dear Sisters, who had assembled in the Community room, asked us how our dear Mother was, enquired about our different Sisters and, in fact, about everything in the Mother House.

In the Hospital, there are at the present time some sixty tubercular patients: men, women and children. Some are Chinese and the others, Japanese; only ten of them are Catholics. We soon recognized Mr. Chow, the Chinese gentleman who made his First Communion at the Mother House last year on the Feast of the Presentation. He was pleased to see that we remembered him.

At the Old Folks' Home, the inmates are so clean and seem to be so happy that we seemed to think that they were quite good looking... In the Hospital is to be found a miniature China and Japan. Everything is very interesting therein and there is ample scope for apostolic zeal.

The next day was the First Friday and so, after two Masses had been celebrated, the Blessed Sacrament was exposed. The five of us were especially honoured, for we were the ones chosen to kneel in adoration before the altar throne of our Eucharistic King. On Saturday, the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lady, the Holy Sacrifice was offered up three times in our chapel. One of our Sisters at the Hospital renewed her Holy Vows and



we sang hymns fitting to the occasion. We also had a special intention for our Sisters who, in the Novitiate chapel, that same morning, dedicated their lives to God by making religious profession.

Last night, a charming little concert which had been hastily organized and which reminded us of our Sunday evening recreations at the Mother House, brought our last day in Vancouver to a close.

This morning, we look upon a sunrise in our native land for the last time. Just as long as we are on Canadian soil, we shall not feel that we have really left our loved ones.

After placing ourselves under the protection of our Immaculate Mother and Patroness, we climb into the autos sent for us. Four of our Sisters and several persons from the Hospital come to the harbour with us. We walk up the gang-plank at eleven o'clock, and a half an hour before the boat weighs anchor, when the whistle blows for the first time, we go on deck. Soon after, strips of paper of various colours are unrolled; our dear Sisters catch the ones we are holding. Poor human nature, how strange it makes us act sometimes!... We do not refuse to leave those who are so dear to us, we even are glad to make such a sacrifice but, nevertheless, feeling that something is being taken from us, we want to hold on to it, even though we have but a strip of paper to cling to. But the mighty steamer is mindful of no one and soon it shall pitilessly snap in two these frail bonds. Once again the whistle sends forth its shrill notes to warn all that it is time to leave and then our boat slowly steers out into the deep...

The land gradually shades off and very soon we see the shores of our beloved country dwindle and fade away... We keep looking, even after there is nothing to be seen and finally decide to go to our cabins. The first thing we do is to set up our beautiful little statue of the Immaculate Conception, which we adorn with pink and white carnations given us by a Japanese girl. Our cabins, which are flooded with sunshine, are spotlessly clean and very comfortable. We shall soon get used to making a Japanese bow. Already, we have bowed several times to the captain and the crew and to the different passengers.

### **Tuesday, September 11**

As we feel that we are now good sailors, we go on deck to say our morning prayers and to make our meditation. We are eager to gaze upon the beautiful sea, with its many coloured waves sparkling in the sunlight. On the ocean, we feel near to God and realize all the more that we are in His hands. How wonderfully do the waves proclaim His omnipotence! We spent a very restless night, but it was our first night on the water and we could not expect anything better.

### **Thursday, September 13**

Towards ten o'clock, this morning, the gong is rung and all the passengers are ordered to go on deck. Each of them is shown the place he is supposed to go to in order to embark in a life-boat if there happens to be a shipwreck.

Then life-savers are distributed and the passengers, while learning how to use them, are told that, at the time of a disaster, they must obey orders. These drills must be gone through, in order that panics may be avoided.

Would you care to become acquainted with a few of the people aboard the *Heian Maru*? We shall first introduce you to Mr. Inabata, the Head of the Japanese Senatorial Delegation. This Senator has many other titles which we shall not enumerate and he deserves special praise for being a fervent Catholic. He has a very tender devotion to the Blessed Virgin. Besides his own language, he speaks English and French fluently. He is accompanied by his little fifteen-year-old daughter. It was she who gave us the bouquet of carnations with which we adorned the little statue of the Immaculate Conception in our cabin. Another Japanese gentleman asks us if we are on our way to Koriyama, he knows our Sisters there and tells us that they are teaching French to his little sister. A Protestant missionary, a minister who is going to Japan with his wife and children, also greeted us soon after we embarked. He even invited us to attend one of his meetings.



A MISSIONARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND TWO JAPANESE GIRLS WEARING THE NATIONAL DRESS.

#### **Friday, September 14**

At four o'clock this morning we are awakened by the boat whistle, which keeps blowing almost all the time. On looking out of a port-hole, we see some enormous waves, one of which suddenly dashes up against the thick glass. On account of the dense fog, we can see nothing over ten feet from the boat. Towards noon, the sun begins to shine brightly and soon casts its conquering rays over the immense ocean, whose waters have become quite calm. Little waves, seemingly trimmed with fine white lace, are to be seen here and there. We must be as far north as the steamship route extends, for the air is very dry and cold. We put on our warm capes before going on deck to make our spiritual exercises. How easy it is to meditate while looking at the vast sea upon which is reflected God's infinite power!

This evening, we look admiringly at the most beautiful sunset we have ever seen. It is a spectacle of which the beauty cannot be conceived. Oh! with what wonderful colours does God paint His tableaux!... Why do we not let Him daily draw and paint on our souls and adorn them as He likes? What masterpieces would He not produce! More than ever before do we realize that our perfection depends on our resignation to His Holy Will.

#### **Wednesday, September 19**

The weather is always lovely, the ocean is always calm, and the Sisters





AFTER THE SOLEMN BLESSING OF THE KINDERGARTEN IN CHARGE OF THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, WAKAMATSU, BY MGR. A. DUMAS, O. P., ADM. AP. FOR THE DIOCESE OF HAKODATE, JAPAN, (SEPTEMBER 25TH, 1934).

are always well and happy; really we are sailing like « old sea dogs »... Poor Sister St. Clement <sup>(1)</sup> has not yet had a chance to open her medicine chest!...

### **Friday, September 21**

The fine weather is followed by a storm: to-day we feel that something unusual has occurred and we soon realize that our boat is being rocked by a typhoon. We are surrounded by immense waves which seemingly wish to swallow us up, the deck is splashed in such a way that one would think that snow instead of water is falling on it. We are no longer able to see the sky and we find ourselves, little powerless creatures as we are, at the mercy of the waves, which toss us in all directions. All the passengers go on deck, for one is not rocked so roughly there as in the cabins. It is during a storm of the kind that we see the value of trusting in God and in our all-powerful heavenly Mother... All the passengers are so frightened that they have grown quite pale and they are all greatly surprised to see that we are not the least afraid. After tossing us about for ten hours, the typhoon ceases, and we thank God for having let us feel only part of its fury.

### **Saturday, September 22**

At two o'clock, after the usual outward forms, we reach Yokohama, where our dear Sisters from Koriyama, Sr. St. Marc <sup>(2)</sup> and Sr. Agnes d'Assise <sup>(3)</sup> and a Japanese girl are awaiting us. All are glad to be together again and acquaintance is quickly made or quickly renewed. Oh! what a pleasant time we have speaking of dear Outremont and of our missions in Japan!

### **Sunday, September 23**

Our Sisters of Koriyama leave this forenoon for Wakamatsu, where we have a new convent which is to be blessed to-morrow.

### **Tuesday, September 25**

At ten o'clock, we are joined by Sister Marie de Fourviere, <sup>(4)</sup> who is on her way to Kobe. We leave the harbour at eleven. We were obliged to remain in Japan three days, for yesterday was a day of great rejoicing for the inhabitants. We saw many new and interesting things there but we, nevertheless, found the time long, for we were anxious to reach our mission in Manchuria.

### **Wednesday, September 26**

We reach Kobe towards ten o'clock this morning. Awaiting us are two Sisters of the Infant Jesus and Reverend Father Fage, who belongs to the

1. Juliette MALTAIS, of Sacre Cœur, Saguenay.

2. Alida TALBOT, of Cacouna.

3. Lucienne RENAUD, of Montreal.

4. Lucie PARADIS, of Tingwick.



Paris Foreign Mission Society and who is known by all the missionaries. We have nothing to worry over, for our trip has been carefully organized at Outremont. Reverend Father Fage is pleased to see that everything has been arranged for. Five cabins on the *Ussuri Maru* were reserved for us three weeks ago. We shall leave at noon to-morrow and we are told that we shall be in Dairen on the 30th.

### Wednesday, October 3

We shall continue our Diary, which we were obliged to lay aside for a few days. On Sunday, September 30th, when we were singing our daily hymns, the *Benedicite* and the *Magnificat*, we noticed, in the distance, the shores of Manchuria, our land of adoption. What happiness! What indescribable emotion!... At eight o'clock, the *Ussuri Maru* reached Dairen. A Maryknoll Sister, who was there awaiting us, noticed our white guimps and came and stood just opposite us as we were getting off, in order that we might see her. As it was Sunday, this dear Sister kindly took us to the convent, that we might hear Mass, and she and a Japanese woman saw to bringing our baggage to the Customs' Office. At half-past three, two of us, accompanied by a Maryknoll Sister and a Japanese girl, went to the Office for the inspection of our cases. Although the Officers opened but two of them, it took them until half-past six. At eight o'clock that same evening, we got on the train with all our baggage to go to Szeping kai. We must not forget to mention how extremely kind the Reverend Maryknoll Sisters were to us, they treated us just as though we were their own Sisters.

On Monday, October 1st, we arrived in Szeping kai just in time to dine with our Sisters there. How happy we were to see them again and to give them all the affectionate messages from our Sisters in Canada... After our meal, we were taken through the convent, the garden, the dispensary, the native novitiate, the cathedral and the Bishop's house.

After making our spiritual exercises, the five of us renewed our consecration to the Blessed Virgin and our promise of labouring unremittingly for the greater glory of God. Our trip was such a safe one that we feel that it was our tender heavenly Mother who watched over us. How grateful we are to her!

During recreation, Sister Superior told us what name we were to go by in China. It was all very amusing... We are awaiting the assignments, for it appears that we are to be sent to different mission stations.

The day after she arrived, Sister Blandine de Jesus<sup>(1)</sup> had the happiness and the honour of baptizing a little girl, to whom she gave the name of Mary Delia Margaret, as a mark of affection for our beloved Mother Superior and in memory of her dear mother who died last year.

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I have never been able to persuade myself that one can be saved who has done nothing for the salvation of his brethren. *St. Chrysostom.*

1. Blandine SIMARD, of Roberval.

## SZEPINGKAI, MANCHURIA

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

### **Sunday, August 12, 1934**

This evening, the novices and the girls of the Apostolic School put on a concert, during which they offer their best wishes to the newly-professed Native Sisters who are leaving the Novitiate dedicated to Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary, to-morrow, to commence their apostolic work in Taonan. This little celebration reminds us of the one that took place the last evening we spent in Outremont. We endeavour to treat these native religious,



NATIVE PROFESSED SISTERS AND NOVICES OF THE COMMUNITY OF OUR LADY OF THE HOLY ROSARY OF SZEPINGKAI, MANCHURIA, AND TWO MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, WHO CONDUCT THE NOVITIATE.

who consider us as their mothers and elder sisters, with as much kindness as we ourselves were treated on a like occasion. It is with heavy hearts that these dear Sisters leave their novitiate, but all are quite willing to go to labour for the salvation of their countrymen.

### **Monday, August 13**

His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre kindly comes to the Native Novitiate to give his blessing to the Sisters who are about to leave and he deigns to grace by his presence the modest ceremony which is held in their honour. A sweet hymn to Our Lady is sung in Chinese just before the departure. On Thursday, three other Native Sisters will leave for the Mission of Fakou



**Thursday, August 30**

At seven o'clock, His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre preaches the first sermon of our annual retreat. Three of our Sisters stationed at Leaoyuansien are not able to attend the exercises, for the plague is raging in that city and they are quarantined. Two from Taonan are also obliged to remain in their mission and so there are only thirteen retreatants.

The beautiful weather we are having is ideal for taking walks in the garden during our leisure time; at present, Nature is at its best.

The spot where the remains of our lamented Sister St. Dominique<sup>(1)</sup> lie is our favourite resort, we love to go there to pray and to meditate on the salutary lessons taught us by death.

**Saturday, September 8**

At two o'clock this afternoon, Sr. Marie Mediatrix<sup>(2)</sup>, Sr. Joseph Arthur<sup>(3)</sup>, Sr. Lazare de Bethanie<sup>(4)</sup>, Sr. St. Paul de la Croix<sup>(5)</sup> and Sr. Ste. Denise<sup>(6)</sup> pronounce their Final Vows. His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre, who presides at the ceremony, is assisted by Reverend Fathers Masse, Jasmin and Crevier and Reverend Brothers Lesperance and Lalonde. All the Chinese Professed Sisters and novices and a few of our pupils assist at the ceremony. They take the place of the relatives of our Sisters, for, of course, not one of them are present. On seeing the little group, we reflect that, henceforth, the members of our family will be those whom we shall win for Holy Mother Church: the many inhabitants of Manchuria.

In his sermon, His Excellency reminds us that one of our chief duties as missionaries is to praise and thank God for all His benefits, and especially for the blessings He showers upon the Church in Manchuria.

A little before supper, while the *Veni Sponsa Christi* is being sung, the Sisters who have just taken their Final Vows receive a wreath of lilies. This wreath they will wear all day to-morrow and, in the evening, they will lay it at the feet of the Blessed Virgin while we are singing a hymn to this tender Mother.

**Wednesday, September 12**

Reverend Father Takuchi, a Japanese priest who sees to the editing of a Catholic newspaper in Tokyo, is visiting Mgr. Lapierre to-day. Towards eight o'clock, he comes to our convent with His Excellency and a few priests; he speaks French fluently, so we are able to converse with him. Reverend Father visits the houses where our works are carried on in the Mission and he finds everything very interesting; he has already been to Canada.

**Saturday, September 22**

We have been treating only a few patients at the Dispensary lately, for it is the time fixed for the procuring of wadded garments for the winter.

1. Marguerite DUNN, of L'Acadie, Que.

2. Marie Aline MALOUIN, of Quebec.

3. Laura THERIEN, of St. Leonard d'Aston.

4. Josephine COUTURIER, of Piopolis, Co. Compton.

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

6. Odile MALBŒUF, of Sudbury, Ont.

Moreover, for the last three days, the people of Manchuria have been holding celebrations in honour of the new season. For this event, biscuits are symmetrically arranged on plates. The other day, a Christian woman brought us some which she had piled up so as to form a cone; the one at the bottom is as large as a fruit dish and the one at the top, which is the ninth, is no bigger than a fifty cent piece. The whole is covered over with red paper and various decorations. These days are days of great rejoicing and as the celebrations are national rather than superstitious, the Christians may take part in them.

We go to see the new seminary recently erected in Szeping kai and, on our way back, stop at a pagoda. Only one little door is open, but we can see three idols which seem only to be waiting for adorers. Lie Louisa, our Chinese teacher, acting as our interpreter, makes her way into the grounds and asks the bonze to let us go inside. He opens all the doors for us and steps aside, so that we may look around. We count twenty-four statues, the shape and the expression of which are in accordance with the power they are supposed to possess among the pagan deities. The largest idols are covered over with satin or with silk and are from fifteen to eighteen feet high, they are sitting on a dragon and are decorated with grotesque designs. The different kinds of food which have been placed before them and the smoke that arises from the incense sticks that have just been burnt, prove to us that a few pagans have recently come to the pagoda to ask their gods for some favours. After we have gone all around the temple, the bonze courteously shows us out. He looks so kind and sympathetic that we imagine that he secretly longs for the happiness we possess. As soon as we reach the convent, we do not fail to ask the Blessed Virgin to assist him, for she is able to convert even the bonzes.

### **Tuesday, September 25**

This morning, the Missionaries in Szeping kai extend a hearty welcome to the priests of the Foreign Mission Society and to the Clerics of St. Viator who have just arrived here from Canada. In the afternoon, His Excellency brings them to our convent, and we gladly listen to all that they tell us about our dear native land which, for the moment, seems to be closer to us. We are pleased to see in the group the brother of our dear Sister Assistant General, who conveys to us her best wishes.

### **Monday, October 1st**

On this the first day of the beautiful month of the Holy Rosary, we greet another group of missionaries, five of our Sisters from Canada. At noon, they arrive at the Mission, where we are eagerly awaiting them... Their first thought is to visit Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. We unite with them in thanking Him and our Immaculate Patroness for their loving protection. His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre does not delay in coming to welcome the new apostolic labourers, to whom he gives his blessing.

Our kind companions communicate to us the messages from our dear Superiors and repeat to us the words of our beloved Mother: "Tell the



Sisters in China that my heart is in the Missions." We knew it but, just the same, we are pleased to be told it again. On visiting the Cathedral, the Dispensary, the Native Novitiate and the Apostolic School, the newly-arrived Sisters get a glimpse of our works and desire to begin to help us at once.

### Wednesday, October 3

On this the Feast of the Patroness of Missionaries, His Excellency gives the children of the Mission schools a holiday, so as to let the inhabitants know that the Catholic Church has heroes who have been its glory. Needless to say, there is great rejoicing in our convent.

During the day, we open the cases that our new companions have brought us. There is many an exclamation: we would like to mention the articles one by one, thanking the while all those who help on our apostolic work among the poor, the sick, etc., but it would take too long... Dear Mother, we are very grateful to you and to all those who have come to our aid. We desire to inform our dear benefactors that we pray for them every day and we know that God will hear our poor prayers, for they are prayers of thanksgiving.

Report of the Dispensary of Szepingkai, for the months of August and September 1934:

	Baptisms.....	78		
Patients.....	4,003	Treatments.....	7,735	Dressings.....736
Teeth extracted...	14	Homes visited...	84	Injections.....119

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## LEAOYUANSIEN, MANCHURIA

*Extracts from letters written by our Sisters, Missionaries to Leaoyuansien.*

*Catholic Mission, September 1934*

During July, St. Ann sent us fifty-nine dying babies, whom we baptized. Ah! if the people in Christian countries only knew of the fate of pagan children, especially in China! We are only able to give you a faint idea of the way they are treated. How often it happens that a pagan mother comes to us with her child, saying: "Do you want it? You may have it, for I don't want to keep it any longer." What surprises us still more is to see how badly bruised are the bodies of the poor little waifs, it is really hard to understand how parents can be so cruel.

On the vigil of the Feast of the Assumption, seven babies whom we had baptized at the Dispensary, following their heavenly Queen's example, left this earth... That day was the one that had been fixed for the re-opening of the schools of the Mission. Several pupils offered to help us decorate the church and the altar in our convent chapel. We were pleased to see

these young pagan girls testifying their respect for the image of Her who so ardently longs to see them enter the true Fold. On the 15th we, together with the pupils, executed the singing during High Mass and during Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. We had recreation all day long and we spent our time preparing medicaments for the two Chinese virgins who were to leave for Ya Men T'ail the following day. The Reverend Pastor, Father Berichon, brought them to their mission station and saw to the re-opening of the school there as well, as the one in Mao Ling Tchan, on the same highway. The summer holidays here, unlike those in Canada, last for a month only but, in the winter, the children are free for four or even five weeks. The Chinese, in general, are fond of studying and our pupils were glad to come back to school again.

Late in August, the civic authorities asked that the schools be closed for two weeks. In a small village close by, the pest was raging and a few children who had come from it died in Leaoyuansien; such a terrible epidemic was greatly dreaded and, for this reason, many of our patients stopped coming to the Dispensary. The few who ventured to come were terrified on hearing the rumours that had spread throughout the city. The Sisters of our Mission who were supposed to go to Szepingkai for their annual retreat, were unable to leave, for the inhabitants of Leaoyuansien were not allowed on the trains. Reverend Father Berichon was kind enough to ask the Mandarin to let our Sisters make the trip, but the orders were strict and could not be disobeyed. So it was that they were obliged to make their retreat here. Reverend Fathers Berichon and Gilbert kindly preached a sermon each day.

The gates of the city are kept closed, in order that the inhabitants may not contract the dread disease and that they may not be troubled by the bandits. A great many of these lawless men are lying in wait just outside the walls, it is just the right time for them to prowl about. They hide among the *kao liang* (a Chinese cereal, the stalks of which resemble corn stalks), and they miss no opportunity of robbing the passers-by. It seems that they killed a functionary of the city who was on his way back from Mukden. But that did not hinder the Manchurians from keeping up their time-honoured traditions regarding their superstitious practices. On August 24th, they walked in procession, carrying lanterns of various colours, their aim being to light up the road on which they believed their ancestors were travelling... A certain number of men who came behind them, occasionally took their shovels and scattered sawdust on the road, in order that the spirits might have no trouble in finding their way if they happened to lose it...

To-day, we visited some patients and, while on our way back home, we saw a new kind of a funeral. As the coffin, which was almost square, was borne along, bonzes dressed in red played different musical instruments. One of them kept waving a white flag and, at each curve, he would make a deep bow to the dead bonze. The bonzes are not laid out, but are left sitting with their legs crossed. This accounts for the shape of the coffin. We are told that the Mongolians also put their dead in their coffins in this way.



One day, while taking the children for a walk in the country, we stopped at a pagoda. As there had just been a dry spell, several persons were there offering incense and presents to the idols, in order to obtain rain. A Chinese virgin had come along with us. The bonzesses in charge of this pagan temple received us kindly and asked us a number of questions. They appear to be doubtful as to whether they are on the right path and wish to be enlightened. Really, they seem to be good at heart and they tell us that they strive to lead good lives and that they habitually seek the truth. While answering their many questions, we make a point of teaching them a little Catechism. We confidently hope that Our Immaculate Mother will cause these seeds of truth to take root.

We often speak of our Sisters who have just set out on their long trip. We entreat the Sweet Star of the Sea to watch over them and to bring them quickly to us.....

YOUR SISTERS OF LEAOYUANSIEN.

Report of the Dispensary of Leaoyuansien from June to September inclusive:

Baptisms.....	145		
Patients.....	10,842	Treatments.....	13,517
		Dressings.....	1,515
Teeth extracted..	60	Injections.....	158
		Homes visited....	138

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## TAONAN, MANCHURIA

*Letter from the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception  
of Taonan to their Sisters at the Mother House*

*Catholic Mission, Taonan, September 22, 1934.*

BELOVED SISTERS,

The schools, which were closed for a month during the holidays, reopened on the 15th of August; on the same day, twenty-eight boarders, almost all of whom are still pagans, were admitted to the boarding-school. As the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady coincided with the day on which they arrived, we build great hopes for the future of these girls and have set our hearts on winning them all to our religion. We well know how powerless we are to accomplish this task ourselves and, for this reason, we count a great deal on being assisted by the lamented Father Berger, who, during his short apostolic career, contributed in no small measure, to extend, in his mission of Taonan, the Kingdom of God. It is thanks to his zeal that the works are so well organized. When the news of his death was conveyed to us on the 11th of August, profound sorrow reigned throughout the Mission; the Christians here, who looked upon the deceased priest as a father, feel his loss keenly. On the 13th, a High Mass was sung for the repose of his soul by the Reverend Father Bonin, in the church of Taonan which

had been draped in black. All the Christians were present and, deeply impressed, strove to express their gratitude to their former Pastor by wafting heavenwards their fervent prayers. During the next few days, some Christians, though in poor circumstances, gave stipends to have Masses said for him, while a sufficient amount of money was raised among the school-girls to have a Mass said for the devoted Pastor, to whom they feel they owe so much.

It is also doubtlessly due to the fervour of some of the Christians and catechumens that God's blessings are poured so lavishly on Taonan. To mention but one example: a catechumen kneels down in the church for hours at a time without moving; when she is told to sit down, she always answers: "As I do not yet know how to pray, I offer my fatigue to God to make up for it." If she is always as fervent as she is now, she will certainly be a model for the other Christians.



A MISSIONARY SISTER OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, A NATIVE SISTER OF OUR LADY OF THE HOLY ROSARY AND A GROUP OF GIRLS OF THE BOARDING SCHOOL, TAONAN, MANCHURIA.

During the hot summer season, many children suffering from various diseases are treated at the Dispensary. It often happens that their mothers, before bringing them to us, have consulted Chinese doctors; the latter, unable to do anything for the sick children, send them to us, and we have thus had the opportunity of baptizing, in one day, ten, fourteen and even seventeen babies at our Dispensary. How happy we are to be able to open heaven to all these little souls; we should unceasingly render thanks to God who is so good to us.

On August 8th, a pagan sixty-five years of age, was converted without offering the least resistance. We were called to his bedside at five o'clock in the afternoon. The patient had no notion whatever about religion and after treating his body, we broached the subject to him. He listened attentively to us and seemed to grasp everything we told him. Seeing that neither he nor the other members of the family who were with us were offended, we



offered to baptize him. He consented immediately. On the 10th, we learned that our protege had passed away during the night, taking with him to heaven the baptismal robe with which he had just been vested. Really, these labourers of the last hour are to be envied... How admirable and how powerful is grace which, in a few moments, thus transforms the soul of a pagan into that of a believer, unfolding before the new Christian heavenly beauties which remain as a closed book to many others whose knowledge of religion is far greater.

We offered this "gift" to God in gratitude for His infinite bounty to us, His spouses, whom He had in mind when our beloved Mother Foundress made her religious profession thirty-two years ago to-day. Two little Mary Delias who were baptized at the Dispensary, took their flight to heaven shortly after our good neophyte left this earth.

In order to remind us that the conversion of souls is obtained only by divine grace, and that we are absolutely unable to do anything by ourselves, God sometimes permits that our efforts be of no avail... We were called one day to the bedside of a Mohammedan and ventured to say a few words about religion. The dying man rudely interrupted us: "Do not defile my ears by speaking about your religion." We could tell from the tone of his voice that he would not listen to any argument. To our sorrow, we had to abandon this poor man to his fate.

We were very apprehensive about a sick woman who seemed, when we first paid her a visit, to be unwilling to embrace our religion. When, during the instructions that were given her, she was told that if she consented to be baptized she would go to heaven, where all her sufferings would be over and that, there, she would see God, she replied that she was unable to believe these truths, nor could she understand that the wicked are punished in hell. To all our arguments, she replied roguishly: "Has anyone gone there to see if it's true?" Having met with no success the first time, we returned to her bedside the following day. During the night, Our Lady of Good Counsel had enlightened this poor woman who wished to believe but who was unable to do so. She was completely changed, she believed all that we told her and asked to be baptized.

A young woman, Miss Tchao Yu Lan, feels very happy, for she has just received her parents' permission to enter the apostolic school at Szeping-kai. Two years ago, in order to become a Christian, she had been forced to leave her home as her father, learning of her intention of becoming a Catholic, had threatened to kill her. Ever since the day she was baptized, she had desired to enter this school, which is a training school for girls who wish, later on, to embrace the religious life. We were unable to comply with her request, however, as we require the parents' written consent before admitting any student to this school. She had often tried to obtain her parents' consent, but her efforts were unavailing. At last, in the beginning of August, her little sister, who comes to our school, ventured to put in a word for her sister. Turning to the older girl, the mother-in-law indignantly asked: "What are you coming for again?" On learning that her step-daughter had not changed her mind, the woman said to her husband: "Give

her the permission she wants, so that she may leave us alone." The girl is extremely happy and has shown, beyond any doubt, how firm she will be in carrying out her resolutions.

On the 10th of September, the Sisters who went on retreat to Szeping kai, returned to our convent where they again took up their different tasks, to the great delight of those who had replaced them... As we are so few in number, the absence of any Sister leaves a void in our little convent, and we are just as pleased to see one another after being separated for ten days as we would be after a year's separation. Sister Marie Mediatrix<sup>(1)</sup> of Paitchengtze spent the night with us before returning to her post on the following day. How pleased we are to welcome any of our Sisters in our convent!

We are very anxious to have among us, in Manchuria, our dear companions who are now so near to their "Promised Land." We speak of them every day and hope that at least one of them is destined for Taonan, this dear Sister will soon find out that we have not forgotten our own language... We long to hear all the news concerning our Mother House and our loved ones.

Yours very affectionately in our Blessed Mother,

The Sisters of Taonan.

Report of the Dispensary of Taonan from June to August 1934 inclusive:

Baptisms.....	446	Patients.....	9,522
Treatments.....	17,361	Dressings.....	4,014
		Teeth extracted....	44
Injections.....	296	Consultations....	4,453
		Homes visited.....	301

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## KOUNGTCHOULING, MANCHURIA

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

### Friday, June 22, 1934

Just now, arrangements are being made for the marriage of our Chinese teacher, Miss Wang. Yesterday evening, her father came to the Mission, and the young lady immediately guessed what he came for; it was very amusing to see her acting up. In this country, when a question of the kind is being settled, the one concerned must pout, turn her back to those who happen to speak about her marriage and appear to be quite vexed. Mr. Wang knocked at the door and asked to speak to his daughter. Someone called her several times, but she pretended to be angry and cried out: "What does he want? He has no business bothering me and I don't want to talk to him." Mr. Wang did not appear to be surprised, for he had expected to receive some such reply. He left without having had the chance of seeing his daughter.

1. Marie Aline MALOUIN, of Quebec.



The customs followed here before, during, and after weddings, funerals and other ceremonies are strange ones. They continually remind us that we are in a pagan land. When a patient is at death's door, he is taken down from his bed of bricks and is laid on the floor, so that he may not have to carry the *kang* on his back after his death. The pagans, while on the way to the cemetery, sometimes place on the coffin a rooster whose legs have been tied together; this cock is supposed to conduct the soul of the deceased to its new home.

### **Friday, July 13**

We go to visit a woman suffering from what one might term a pagan disease. Although, in our dispensary, we have no medicine good for a disease of the kind, we go to see the victim, hoping to be able to help her



AT THE DISPENSARY OF KOUNGTCHOUING, MANCHURIA.

in some way. The unfortunate woman lately flew into a rage and that accounts for her illness; she can hardly move. Her husband's first wife is living in the same house and she has continually quarrelled with her. Indeed, one might well say that both women are leading a hellish life... On hearing of what has been going on, we are fired with renewed zeal and we do all we can to help these poor pagans by telling them about our holy religion.

The roads are in a very bad condition, owing to the heavy rains. While going to visit our patients to-day, we often have to get out of our cart and walk for some distance and we even have to jump over the ditches.

We baptize three dying babies at the Dispensary.

### **Wednesday, August 1**

This is a day dedicated to St. Joseph and we thank our loving Provider for sending two very sick children to the Dispensary. We feel that this dear Saint, throned as he is in glory, is very anxious to fill heaven with little souls. Here is how one of these children, a ten-year-old girl, was converted. Just as we were about to take our dinner, the child was brought to us. We hurriedly examined our little patient and found that she was seriously ill. As she was old enough to understand what we were

talking about, we explained to her the truths which one must believe before being baptized. Our efforts, however, were all in vain, we were unable to do anything with her, for she started to cry, refused to listen to what we were saying and tried to get away from us. Meanwhile, many Hail Marys and invocations to St. Joseph were being recited in an adjoining room. All of a sudden, we thought of giving the little one a miraculous medal. As soon as she received it, she stopped crying, listened to the instructions given her and said over and over again: "I believe, I believe." With a heart truly grateful, one of our Sisters, who was deeply touched, immediately poured the Saving Waters on the child's brow.

### **Thursday September 6**

- All week, catechumens have been coming to the Mission to study Christian Doctrine. Already, fifteen women have been enrolled, but a only few men,



MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF  
KOUNGTCHOUING, CHINA, LEAVING TO VISIT THEIR PATIENTS.

for the work in the fields is not finished yet. These catechumens are the hope of the Mission. We entreat the Blessed Virgin to make them all fervent Christians like one woman who, in order to get her fellow-countrymen to embrace the Faith, spends all her time visiting the sick. Thus it happens that she is allowed in the different homes, where she is able to baptize a goodly number of children. She also teaches Catechism to dying adults. Two weeks ago, she made her way to a house where morphine was being sold. After speaking encouragingly to a morphine fiend, she taught him a little about our holy religion and baptized him. The following day, the poor man breathed his last. Just lately, the devoted catechist went back to the same house, where she had the consolation of instructing and baptizing the morphimaniac's brother.

The other morning, something happened which made our Sister in-firmarian laugh. Our Sisters at the Dispensary received a visit from two women and a little boy who carried a basket full of empty bottles. These simple folks thought that the *doctor* could fill their bottles with medicine, free of charge, of course, so that they might have enough for two months.



Two other amusing incidents which happened in the church one Sunday last month, caused us to have a few distractions. A Christian woman, wishing to comfort her little boy who began to cry during the sermon, took him around the church to look at the Stations of the Cross. Another woman threw a cushion over the heads of several people to one of her relatives... But we must not forget to tell you that such things do not happen very often and, when they do, we readily forgive these poor people, who were baptized but a short time ago.

### Tuesday, September 25

This morning, a baby was baptized at the Dispensary. Sister Marie de la Sainte Famille<sup>(1)</sup> called the little one Mary Ida, after one of her benefactresses in Canada.

Report of the Dispensary of Koungtchouling from June 1934 to September 1934 inclusive:

Baptisms.....	56	Patients.....	3,218	Treatments.....	6,987
Dressings.....	910	Injections.....	116	Consultations....	190
Homes visited.....	73	Vaccinations.....	8	Teeth extracted...	6

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## TSUNGMING, HAIMEN VICARIATE, CHINA

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

*Tsungming, September 1st, 1934.*

BELOVED MOTHER,

Let me tell you something about my missionary life and the happiness I experience. My work is at the Dispensary. I am able to get along alright with the patients, for I learned how to care for the sick while at the Hospital in Manila and, besides, Sister Superior tells me what to do. Ever since I was eighteen, I have been dreaming of caring for the poor and the sick and of pouring the Sacred Waters, and my dream has come true. Sometimes I go to the Dispensary in Paochen to replace the Sister infirmarian. On August 22nd, I was asked to go there to see a sick woman seventy-two years of age, to whom Sister Marie de Sion<sup>(2)</sup> had already taught Catechism. The virgin catechist who came along with me, had the patient review all that she had learned and I thought it wise to baptize the poor woman at once, for I noticed that she was very low. It was really edifying to see how fervently she repeated the Act of Contrition and the Acts of Faith, Hope and Charity; big tears flowed down her cheeks and onto her crucifix, which she pressed to her lips. All the idols in the house had been burned and our aged patient and her husband had begun to learn their prayers.

1. Marie Rose St. PIERRE, of Boucherville.

2. Florida RAVARY, of St. Clet, Co. Soulanges.

After receiving Holy Baptism, the old lady was overjoyed and thanked me over and over again.

August the 27th was even a more beautiful day. Ten *li* distant from the Mission, I had the happiness of baptizing three dying babies and an adult. Having set out at seven o'clock in the morning, just after a heavy rain had caused the fields and the meadows to appear unusually charming, I greatly enjoyed my trip. My clever driver did not take me over any bumps and I was able to settle down quietly to make my morning meditation and to say my beads. On reaching my destination, a very sick two-year-old girl suffering from enteritis was brought to me. Her little cheeks were very red and she looked like an angel who was only waiting for wings with which to fly to God. They were soon given to her, for we decided to pour the life-giving waters on her brow, so sure were we that the little one would ere long wing her flight to heaven to there sing the *Sanctus* eternally. Everyone in the neighbourhood soon learned that the *doctor* had come and the sick flocked to me, somewhat like the people in former times gathered around Jesus, but He, being almighty, cured those who were ailing, gave the blind their sight and the deaf their hearing, while His little missionary only gave her patients a little relief... She had, however, the same aim in view: to save souls and give glory to Almighty God...

One woman in the crowd carried her seven-year-old daughter to me. The little one was afraid to look up, but I noticed that she was very pale and seemingly in great pain and I tried to think of a way of winning her confidence... I began to show the child my beads, my crucifix, the ring I received on the day of my religious Profession and she was so pleased that she no longer thought of being afraid. I sat down on the doorstep and began to amuse her, I got her to kiss Jesus on the cross and to say after me that she loved Him, believed in Him and that she wished to go to see Him. Finally, when no one had the least notion of what was going on, I baptized the little one. I then went on with my work; my happy little patient kept looking at me and I found it very consoling to see that there was something divine in her look...

The second last patient who asked for treatment was an old man seventy-two years of age, who was in the last stages of tuberculosis. His feet were swollen and he could hardly breathe. Knowing but little about the customs of the country, I asked him where his home was. On being told that it was but a short distance away, I told him that I would go to see him and bring him the very best medicine. As soon as I was through, I paid the old man a visit. I had thought that I would be alone, alas! all the people followed me. I tried to get speaking to the sick man in private, but my efforts were useless... everyone was waiting to see what I was going to do and to hear what I had to say. As I could not speak Chinese fluently, I told my patient out-and-out that he was very sick and that, doubtlessly, he had but a few days to live. Where was he going to go to? Did he wish to be happy? etc. etc. The poor man had to fight with himself, but grace triumphed in the end. He listened attentively to a Catechism lesson, kissed the crucifix,



asked God to forgive him his sins and did everything I asked him to do. I went with him to an altar on which were several idols and, while there, I was not backward in telling him that such idols were but false gods and that but one Supreme Being, three persons in one God, should be adored, etc. I and the young orphan were surrounded by some fifteen men, all worshippers of pagan deities. They could have easily annoyed us, but they did not interfere in the least, and my aged patient, making a big effort, turned his back on the ugly idols, bowed down before the crucifix and said after me the Act of Contrition and the Acts of Faith, Love and Adoration. After he had made another profession of Faith, I decided to baptize him, for I did not feel that I would see him again before death claimed him. As I was just getting ready to climb into the cart to return home, a man ran to me with his three-year-old daughter who had enteritis, too; I felt that I could give her no better medicine than Holy Baptism. Oh, how happy I was to thus pour for the fourth time the Sacred Waters of Baptism! I was deeply thankful to Almighty God who, in His mercy, had allowed a poor little creature like me to open heaven to these souls.

I have not such consolations during all my apostolic journeyings... One cannot expect to always experience happiness of the kind on this earth. The day before yesterday, I travelled twenty-four *li* in a Chinese wheelbarrow and returned home in it also. That day, I was driven sixteen miles in the burning sun. My driver brought me over so many bumps that I kept bouncing like a ball and, in the evening, I returned empty-handed. Yesterday, I went to the mission station dedicated to my patron saint, St. John the Evangelist. I thought that I would be very successful. Alas! our Heavenly Father treated me as He sometimes treats His friends... I got caught in a big storm, my driver tried to take a short cut and, as a result, I was splashed all the more. There were several canals to be crossed and there were no bridges, so I had to get out in the mud, my shoes fairly sinking into it. And what is more, the *lou deu* (reeds) which drooped over the path seemed to take pleasure in sprinkling me with all the water that had fallen on them. I was a sight to behold when I reached the Mission... and, just to think, I had not had even one baptism! The Sisters laughed when they heard of the adventure I had had and they all teased me during recreation.

.....  
Your happy and grateful daughter,

Sr. St. JEAN DE L'EUCARISTIE, M.I.C. (1)

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

### Saturday, May 26, 1934

The eldest orphans are overjoyed: they are preparing the decorations for the corridor in which a procession in honour of the Blessed Virgin is to

1. Jeanne MOQUIN, of Eastman.



ORPHANS BROUGHT UP AT THE FOUNDLING-HOME CONDUCTED BY THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, TSUNGMING, CHINA, ON THE DAY OF THEIR FIRST COMMUNION.

be held to-morrow. They take the samples given them by Sister Superior, making use of the gaudiest first. "When *Seng Mo* (the Blessed Virgin) was small, St. Ann dressed her in red," one little one remarks. "No, in yellow," rejoins another... "*Momo*, (Sister) you know all about it," a third one says, "what was the colour of the Blessed Virgin's dress?" "I think it must have been white," Sister tells her, "for the Blessed Virgin was very pure and very tidy..." "She wasn't like me," adds Ya Tsen, "I'm always dirty, but I know my soul is a little like the Blessed Virgin's, for it hasn't sinned..."

### Monday, May 28

This morning the little orphans who are to make their First Communion on June 24th, begin to assist at Mass. Although they are all over four years of age, a few of them have such weak legs that they can scarcely stand up. They are all wide awake, however, and they notice everything that is going on in front of them and they would see everything behind them, also, if the gentle hand of the Sister beside them did not occasionally turn their little heads towards the altar. Our little charges are very interesting: Vou Yin is very orderly and is a very good child; everything around her is spick-and-span. "Go away," she says to one of her companions, "don't you remember that *Momo* told us yesterday that the Child Jesus would be grieved if He happened to come into our classroom and saw what a litter there is... I've tidied up all my things so as to please Jesus, and don't you come to toss them up..."

A three-year-old child, wishing to teach Catechism to the little one sitting beside her, says "Tsou Bou teh lai" (Bless yourself). As the latter refuses to do what she is told, her young teacher points to the statue of the Blessed Virgin, saying: "*Seng Mo* is not pleased." Seeing that her words



have taken no effect on her pupil, she cries out to the Sister in charge: "Look, *Momo*, look, Baby won't do what she's told..."

### Saturday, June 2

We have just received a sixteen-year-old blind girl whose mother is dead. "I've been told," she says, "that there are some very kind *Momos* here and that they dearly love all poor unfortunate creatures. I'm able to work a little and I earn my rice. My work is done badly, for I cannot see, but I work with a heart." Truly, the poor maiden is willing-hearted. She tries to help us as much as she can, in spite of her blindness: another treasure for the Sisters at the Orphanage!

### Tuesday, June 5

Sister Marie de Sion<sup>(1)</sup> brings back from the dispensary in Paochen a baby that has screamed all the way. This morning, she was asked to go to see the child's mother, whom she found to be in the last stages of tuberculosis. After treating her as well as she could, she gave her the best medicine of all: Holy Baptism. The poor woman has experienced more sorrow than happiness during her life and, like most of the poor people, she was easily won over. She readily consented to become a Christian and, to show that she was really willing, she gave her child, which was born but three months ago, to the Mission, that it might be baptized, also.

Not far from this young woman, whom Holy Baptism made an heir to the Kingdom of Heaven, was another consumptive, a wealthy lady whose heart we did not succeed in softening. She informed us that she would not consent to be baptized until she was sure that she was dying. Unfortunate woman, fear Jesus, who has come your way, and who will not return!...

### Wednesday, June 6

This is the vigil of the Feast of the Sacred Heart. This afternoon, all the big orphans go to Confession. Our ten future First Communicants go to the chapel to see what is going on. When the priest is through hearing the big girls' confessions, he calls the little ones whom he had try a Catechism examination, yesterday. They stand on their tip toes and confess their sins with great simplicity, as children are wont to do. The Sister who has charge of these little ones, has helped them to prepare themselves for Confession. "I stole some fruit," says one. "I was disobedient," says another. "I fought with Fifi," says a third one..." One of them who is a great little leader, cries out: "I've often fought with them all." On returning to the Orphanage, Sister sees that a tiny tot is crying and she asks her what is wrong. "I want to go to Confession," answers the child, "I didn't obey you yesterday; you said to me: 'Do what I am telling you to do,' and I said to myself: 'I won't do it,' and I didn't."

1. Florida RAVARY, of St. Clet, Que.

**Saturday, June 9**

Sister Marie de Sion has just come back from Paochen and she is happy to think that one of the consumptives she has been going to see for a few days past, died clasping her miraculous medal, but she grows sad when she reflects that the other one practised superstition up to the last. Oh! impenetrable mystery, one lets her heart be touched by the rays of divine grace, while the other refuses to do so... Is not the story of the two thieves being repeated daily?

Our Sister, who is asked to go quickly to see a dying woman, leaves immediately and has the happiness of pouring the Sacred Waters once again. Her patient has been to the Dispensary more than once and has heard about our holy religion. She is longing for Holy Baptism, which will be the cause of her happiness in the life to come and which will make her a child of our bountiful and all-merciful God. She is sorry that she did not know Him earlier in her life... On her way back to the convent, the *Doctor* is asked to go in to see another sick woman living some distance from the first, but on the clearly expressed condition that not a word about religion be uttered in her presence. It is hard to agree to visit such a home, but one does not always know how completely hidden are the infinite and merciful designs of Divine Providence. Once we accept the invitation, we go in... An idol set up in the middle of the room seems to say to us: "I'm the king here." Four red candles have been lit in his honour. Sister cannot help from begrudging him such homage and she tries to pay him back. With great tact, she puts her medicine chest on the table on which the villain has been placed and, every little while, she pushes the candles closer to him. Very soon, his whiskers and his hair are near the flames. She makes another attempt and, before going to the bedside of her patient, she again pushes the candles. All the people in the room listen attentively to everything Sister is saying and, at first, they do not notice what has happened. It is only after the idol is on fire that they are terror-stricken. Sister secretly praises herself for having played such a trick on the devil.

During this trip, our happy Sister infirmarian, while walking along the side of the river, is met by a boatman, who asks her to attend to one of his children. In order to reach his abode, which is simply a barge in which manure is being transported to Shanghai, she walks on planks that are suspended over the river, passes through three other boats and, finally, she finds a poor dying child lying on a bundle of rags. His mother, who is but a short distance away, is cooking rice on a Chinese stove. The odour of the load, which is ready to be sent, makes the boat even more wretched to live in. The child, who is eight years of age, is unconscious. The Saving Waters are poured on his brow and, very soon, he will fly from this miserable home to the heavenly abode.

**Monday, June 11**

We are asked to pay a visit to the second wife of a pagan. It is not without a little shame that she tells us that she first lived in Nanking



À  
Tsung  
Ming  
Chine



*Sœurs Indigènes*



*Ouvrières  
de  
l'ouvrage  
à  
l'œuvre*

1934



*Sœurs Missionnaires de l'Immaculée Conception  
avec un groupe d'orphelins*

- AT TSUNGMING, CHINA: 1. NATIVE SISTERS.  
2. CHINESE WOMEN AND GIRLS BUSY IN THE WORKSHOP.  
3. MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION WITH A GROUP OF ORPHANS.

where she was sold to a boatman of the district and that the latter sold her to a man living in Shanghai, who, in turn, sold her to an inhabitant of Tsungming, who desired to have her as his second wife. She is living in a straw hut, while the other woman lives in a stone house. Before long, she will be visited by the Angel of Death. She has suffered greatly and is deeply touched when we tell her about the consolations of our Holy Faith. Every second day, a Sister will go to continue to teach her Catechism until she has the consolation of pouring on the brow of the unfortunate slave the Saving Waters of Baptism, which, through God's infinite mercy, will make her an heir to the Kingdom of Heaven.

### **Friday, June 22**

Yesterday evening, Reverend Father Cote asked us to give hospitality to a parishioner who is about to be married to one of his Chinese teachers. This morning, the doorkeeper is greeted by the mother of the bride, who has come to bring her her jewels. The young lady is sent for and, as soon as she makes her appearance, she takes off her long wrap and comes forth in her bridal outfit: the skirt of which is made of black silk, and the bodice, of blue watered silk adorned with a pink silk rose. On the day of her marriage, she appears to be angry, as every well educated Chinese girl is supposed to do. She acts up in her mother's presence and, finally, goes and hides in a corner. After the marriage ceremony, the young couple return to the Mission. While the young lady goes to take her breakfast all alone, her husband waits for her at the door. Under his arm, he has a basket that, no doubt, contains wedding presents, one of them being a bottle of wine. All of a sudden, he drops the bottle on the pavement. What a mishap!... We can see by his face that he is discouraged. He stoops down to read what the label says about the value of the wine, while his mother-in-law, after borrowing a Chinese cup, gathers up the last drop of the precious liquor with her finger... Oh! if we were only as powerful as the Blessed Virgin who, at Cana, saved those who had just been married, from the shame of not having any more wine.

### **Wednesday, July 4**

In spite of the wind that is playing in the leaves, the heat is intense and there has been a dry spell for over a month. If God does not come to the assistance of the inhabitants, the crops will be destroyed. One day, one of the middle-sized orphans skipping about in the yard, said to a playmate: "Let's go inside and kneel down in front of the statue of the Blessed Virgin and say as loud as we can: "*Seng Mo* send us rain, so that we may have a good crop of vegetables and corn." And a little one spoke up, saying: "I'll drink only once a day, so that it may rain..."

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What spirit of angel or soul of man was ever in such union with God as the soul of Mary.

*Father Faber.*



# Extracts FROM THE Novitiate Chronicles

*Dedicated to our dear Parents*



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

*St. Bernard.*

## Monday, October 1st 1934

The sun becomes more and more sparing of its rays, the last flowers wither in the frosty air and the sky often weeps over the beautiful days that have flown away. However, this new month brings us a heavenly breeze filled with a delicious rose fragrance. Yes, in spite of the gloomy appearance of Nature that mourns, it is really the month of roses, the mystical roses of our *Aves* whose wonderful blooming defies wind and snow and requires but the ardent outpourings of our filial love for Mary. We therefore wish to gather an abundant harvest of these roses; fragrant sheaves will they be to offer

to our Immaculate Mother as a token of our most affectionate and grateful feelings towards her.

## Wednesday, October 3

Though young novices at the rear-guard of the large army of missionaries, we have a place under the mantle of their glorious patroness, St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, and we feel the effects of her protection. Her feast is a day of mirth for us all. Many are the prayers that are addressed to this dear little Saint during the pleasant hours of our holiday; she is often the subject of our conversations and of our desires. How we would like to have her great love, her profound humility, her childish simplicity, her boundless confidence, her untiring zeal, as well as her ardent soul, so noble and so pure.

## Monday, October 15

Guided by Holy Mother Church, as one after the other the liturgical feasts are solemnized, we seem to be standing in a magnificent gallery where all the divine and moral beauties therein portrayed are revealed to us. To-day, the figure of St. Teresa of Avila captivates our eyes, and our hearts are charmed by the treasures of her noble soul. We envy her great zeal and beg her to grant us the seraphic love that consumed her.

## Sunday, October 21, Propagation of the Faith

If this feast is so fervently celebrated throughout the Catholic universe, with what solemnity must it not be observed by those who, by a special vocation, are called upon to teach to the pagans the truths of the Gospel. How we long for the day when the beautiful motto of our Institute will be

realized: "May the Immaculate Virgin be known from Pole to Pole," for we well know that if this pure and white aurora, which is the Blessed Virgin, rises upon the nations which live in the darkness of paganism, the burning rays of the divine Sun will, ere-long, penetrate every heart. There will then be but one flock guided by one shepherd and all mankind will proceed towards the heavenly Fold while singing hymns of triumph. We resolve, to-day, to pray more fervently than ever and to do everything in our power to bring about the realization of our dream.

### **Thursday, November 1st**

To-day, the bliss which the saints enjoy in heaven is the theme of our meditations and fills us with joy and with holy desires. The decorations in the chapel are in keeping with the feast which is being celebrated. Many wreaths of different sizes and designs, symbolizing the rewards granted to the elect in Heaven, are artistically placed around the altar, their rich colours blending with the dark green foliage of the palms. Each one of them seems to tell us: "I shall be your reward for your labours and trials." All the wreaths are very beautiful, but we especially long for those that are fashioned of white lilies and to which our title of Spouses of the King of virgins and of children of the Immaculate Lady, seems to give us a special right. Hanging down from the highest points of the altar, these wreaths show us how sublime is our destiny and how elevated our ideals should be.

Our patron saints for the whole year are introduced at the opening of the holiday. The Blessed Virgin upon whom we relied for the choice of our heavenly Protectors, confided many of us to the same saints. Her most chaste Spouse, St. Joseph, will have under his protection about twenty of us. St. Alphonsus of Liguori, whose edifying life is actually being read with great interest, St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, our dear little Patroness, and St. John, the model of purity, of love and of devotion to Mary, have also many favourites in the Dovecot of the Immaculate. We shall strive to fervently invoke these dear Saints so as to obtain, through their intercession, the grace of imitating them and of enjoying with them the bliss of heaven.

A gloomy tint is spread on all these thoughts of happiness: our dear Sister Marie Eugenie<sup>(1)</sup> whose help is needed, for some time, in another Mission, leaves us this forenoon. Her absence leaves a void among us, so maternal and disinterested have her devotedness and her kindness always been for each one of us! We hope and pray that she will come back very soon.

### **Monday, November 5**

Trying an examination is almost an *ordeal* for us and invariably drives away all our calm and our presence of mind. Although we are twenty-one years old — some a little older and others a little younger — examinations are, nevertheless, for all of us, examinations!... For the past few days we

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1. Octavie ROBERGE, of Sanford, Maine.



have been studying with renewed ardour in order to succeed in the examination which we are trying this morning.

The opening of the class is solemn. Long sheets of blank paper are distributed and each candidate writes down the questions a little nervously. Then is begun a real war against the army of question marks...

The task is difficult... the only noise to be heard is that of the grating of pens on the paper, but this silence which is favourable for thinking becomes unbearable when it abides in our faculties. There is nothing more annoying than a stubborn memory which is determined to keep silence in such circumstances! Finally, the ringing of the bell informs us that it is time to give in our papers...

Needless to say that during recreation, we discuss the questions that were asked in the examination. We encourage one another, striving to allay our fears concerning the mistakes we have made or the parts that were left out in our answers.

At the close of recreation, we pretend to be *very weary*, so much so, that our Mistress tells us that we shall be dispensed, for to-night, from studying. The effect is magical: our weariness instantly disappears and we enjoy our agreeable chat for a few minutes longer.

### Wednesday, November 14

The evening recreation is going on very pleasantly: our joyful talk and our merry laughter resounding throughout the Dovecot show how happy and contented we are. Still, we are far from thinking that God has a most pleasant surprise in store for us. A telephone message is received, announcing that His Eminence, Cardinal Villeneuve, who is paying a visit to the Foreign Mission Seminary, will be at the Novitiate in a few moments. Cheerful exclamations are heard everywhere and all the Sisters repair to the reception hall to await the arrival of the distinguished visitor.

At half-past seven, His Eminence, wearing the cardinal's toga and the red biretta, enters the room, his hand raised in blessing. Many priests accompany him. "I come to see," says His Eminence, "if you really wish to go to China..." The Cardinal then encourages us to pursue our aim and tells us how sublime our vocation is, and how necessary it is that we should prepare ourselves for our future apostolate by practising self-denial in all things. His Eminence insists particularly on the obligation of putting aside our own will and judgment in order to permit the Holy Ghost to operate freely in our souls and bring about our sanctification. Then, in a very solemn voice, our distinguished visitor adds: "Are you willing, in a spirit of sacrifice, to accept... a holiday?" A round of applause greets his words. "So that is how," the Cardinal rejoins, "you profit by the advice I have just given you?... Just a moment ago, I was speaking about mortification and self-denial and no one said a word, but now that I mention a holiday, every one applauds..." Then, turning to our Mistress, he says: "How hard it is to train these children!... Very well, for your

penance, you will have a holiday!" We thank His Eminence, and, deep down in our hearts, we firmly resolve *not to amend our lives*.

The Cardinal also teases the postulants, comparing them to the Souls in Purgatory. "The very expression '*Souls in Purgatory*,'" he says, "evokes sad thoughts... these poor souls are doomed to wait until heaven is opened to them... and so it is with the postulants: they wear a black costume and are obliged to wait until the Novitiate, which is a heaven on earth, is opened to them."

The Cardinal then asks us to pray for his beloved mother, adding: "I think that God is about to ask me another sacrifice: a few months ago, my father died, and now, my mother is seriously ill..."

Before giving us a last blessing, our distinguished visitor proposes that, when we meet again all together in heaven, we should not forget to remind him of what he told us this evening. We whole-heartedly promise to do so, it will be such a pleasure for us to recall the interesting and instructive talk given to us by one of the most eminent prelates of Holy Mother Church.

#### **Thursday, November 15**

We make it our duty, this morning, to hear Mass and to offer our Communion for the mother of our revered Cardinal.

Everyone is determined to faithfully accomplish the *penance* which was imposed last night and, accordingly, the holiday opens at nine o'clock. As it does not happen very often that we have a Cardinal's holiday, everyone is free to spend it as she wishes. If His Eminence saw how much we are enjoying ourselves, he would again say that we possess *self-denial* to a very high degree, but we earnestly hope to be able, in Heaven, to prove to him in some other ways that we have profited by the good counsels he gave us on November 14th, 1934.

#### **Tuesday, November 20**

The day opens and goes on, apparently as usual; still, one can tell that there is something unusual, something cheerful... and even mysterious in the atmosphere. It is the eve of the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lady, and, consequently, our own Feast; that is why we feel so happy even though the weather is so dull.

The older novices, being acquainted with the customs of the Novitiate, discreetly watch the postulants as they go back and forth in the Convent, for they are the ones who usually put on the entertainment. All the preparations, however, are made so warily, that no one suspects anything.

So anxious are the older novices to see what will take place, that they find the time very long. On the other hand, the youngest "Doves" have not the least suspicion that there is going to be an entertainment and attend to their different tasks as usual; that is why they are so surprised when asked to repair to the reception hall.

Everything is ready. While we take our places, a piano duet is played; and, then, the different numbers on the programme are executed.



A song entitled "The Dovecot" reminds us that the dwelling-place which our beloved Mother has prepared for us is most peaceful and happy and also, how we, the little Doves of Mary, who wish to go to labour in foreign lands, should carefully prepare ourselves for our apostolate.

How instructive and interesting is the play that follows! It contains so many practical lessons that may be applied to our daily lives. O beloved Master, Thou Divine Gardener who cultivatest our souls with such tender solicitude, and who drawest them to Thee by such a powerful attraction, grant that we may answer Thy call with as much ardour and generosity as the little heroine, whom we have admired in to-night's play.

A violin duet, a recitation, "The Virgin and the Doves", which is also very instructive, and a song, "The Novice and the Flower", are executed between the acts of the play.

The last number on the programme is a march entitled: "Going to the Temple." All the postulants, each one carrying a white lily and dressed in white, like Mary on the day of the Presentation, with a blue girdle and a ribbon of the same colour tied around their heads, their necks and their arms, march to the Temple while singing a well-known hymn.

A curtain is drawn and our dear little Patroness is seen wearing the novices' costume. All around her are white lilies, verdant foliage and small blue lamps. How we admire her modesty, her sweet simplicity and her profound piety!

We join our younger Sisters and, all together, we direct our steps towards the Virgin of the Temple, entreating her to fill our hearts with gratitude so that we may render fitting thanks to our heavenly Father, to our devoted Superiors and to our beloved little Sisters who have given us such a beautiful and pious entertainment.

We then go to take our night's rest, thinking, the while, of to-morrow's holiday: a High Mass will be sung in the chapel; the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed all day; a special Guard of Honour will be made to the little Virgin of the Temple; the different Mysteries of the Rosary will be sung; we, the Novices shall have no tasks to perform, for the Postulants will do all the work with great enthusiasm and *ostentation*, and lovely prizes will be distributed to the lucky winners of the games of "Perfection".

We feel overwhelmed with all the bounties of our Heavenly Father: truly, we are already in possession of the hundredfold which Our Blessed Lord promised to those who leave everything in order to walk in His footsteps.



No one has access to the Almighty as His Mother has; none has merit such as hers. Her Son will deny her nothing that she asks; and herein lies her power. While she defends the Church, neither height nor depth, neither men nor evil spirits, neither great monarchs nor craft of men nor popular violence, can avail to harm us; for human life is short, but Mary reigns above all, a Queen forever.

Cardinal Newman.

# 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.

Please find enclosed an offering for the ransom of a dying Chinese baby, in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin Mary for a favour received through her intercession. Miss G. W., **Montreal**. — I am sending you the sum I promised if I obtained my request through the Blessed Virgin, which I did. I would like to have you make a novena for my intention and if my favour is granted, I promise to make a donation every month in thanksgiving. E. D., **Ottawa**. — Enclosed please find a Money Order to help the Missions, in thanksgiving for a favour granted me this summer. I asked to have more steady work and the Blessed Virgin hearkened to my prayer. Miss Marjorie Martin, **Providence, R. I.** — I have received several favours from Our Blessed Mother. Enclosed you will find a small donation. Please pray for a special intention. Miss B. P., **Sandwich, Ont.** — Enclosed please find a cheque for the ransom of a baby likely to live. I promised this last year if my favour was granted. I shall send the same offering every year and even increase it if it is possible for me to do so. Please remember me in your prayers. C. A. C., **Montreal**. — I am enclosing an offering in thanksgiving to our Blessed Mother for a favour which was granted me. Please continue to pray for me. Mrs. L. F., **New York City**. — Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for favours received. M. C., **Sherrington**. — Enclosed you will find the sum my husband promised for different favours granted us. Mrs. R. L., **Montreal**. — I am enclosing an offering for a novena of lights in honour of our Blessed Mother for a request granted. If I receive some other favours which I am asking, I will make another donation. M. P., **Windsor, Ont.** — I am very grateful to the Blessed Virgin for the favour she has granted me. Miss M. Gilmour, **Montreal**. — Thanks to our dear heavenly Mother, my husband, who was idle for a long time, has at last found work. Enclosed please find an offering, as promised. J. D. J., **Montreal**. — I am sending you the enclosed offering in honour of the Blessed Virgin, who has granted me a favour, and I am asking her to continue to watch over me. Mrs. A. P., **Montreal**. — Please use the enclosed offering for the ransom of Chinese children. I am sending it to thank our Immaculate Mother for a favour received through her intercession. Mrs. R. M., **St. Dorothee**. — The enclosed offering in favour of the Missions is in thanksgiving for a request granted. J. A. B., **Montreal**. — I am enclosing a Money Order in thanksgiving to our Blessed Mother, through whose intercession I have kept my position. A. T. — I am enclosing a small offering in grateful thanksgiving for a favour granted me. A Subscriber, **Montreal**. — This offering is to thank the Blessed Virgin for a favour received. I am now asking her to cure my sister. Miss A. R., **Taftville, Conn.** — You will find enclosed a Money Order for the renewal of my subscription to THE PRECURSOR in thanksgiving for a favour granted me. Mrs. E. D., **Montreal**. — My father has secured a position through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. I am sending you this offering for the Missions in thanksgiving. Miss C. C., **Montreal**. — Our Blessed Mother has granted me countless favours, and, to thank her, I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR and am enclosing an offering for a novena of lights in her honour. C. L., **Brandon**. — I am very grateful to our loving heavenly Mother, through whose intercession my husband has secured a position. Mrs. J. E. C., **St. Johnsbury, Vt.** — Enclosed please find an offering for the ransom of pagan children, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Mrs. H. M., **Springfield, Mass.** — I am sending you this Money Order in grateful thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for the favours she has granted me. Miss C. G. P., **Gardner, Mass.** — I am enclosing an offering to rescue a dying pagan baby to thank the Blessed Virgin for granting me a special favour. I would ask you to continue to pray that my husband may find work, for we have six children to provide for. Mrs. A. A., **Montreal**. — To express my thanks for a favour received, I am enclosing a cheque for your Mission that needs it the most. F. J., **Montreal**. — Those who have recourse to the Blessed Virgin are never left unaided: I have been granted another favour and am enclosing herewith a small offering in thanksgiving. Mrs. M. J., **Tracadia**. — I return most heartfelt thanks to our Blessed Mother, who has helped me to recover my health and I am sending you an offering for the ransom of a pagan baby likely to live. A. B. — The Blessed Virgin has cured my child through the medium of the Miraculous Medal. I thank this loving Mother over and over again. Mrs. A. T., **St. Cesaire**. — Some time ago, I promised to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR and I am now gladly fulfilling my promise. Mrs. A. L. — I wish to return thanks to our Immaculate Mother,



who has granted me a favour. Mrs. F. J. — Please accept the small offering I am sending you in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for a favour she has obtained me. Mrs. J. O. P. Enclosed please find a small offering. The favour I have been asking has been granted me. Please continue to pray for me. Mrs. T. C., **Belleville, Ont.**

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 am writing to beg your prayers for a favour I desire very earnestly. If my request is granted I will immediately send an offering for the ransom of a Chinese baby. I would also ask your earnest prayers for a friend of mine. M. D., **Chatham.** — Will you please begin a novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help that I may not have to undergo another operation if it is God's Holy Will. I am enclosing an offering and promise to renew my subscription. I am also asking a special favour for a little friend. M. A., **Montreal.** — Please ask Our Lady to come to my aid. If I obtain suitable employment, I shall donate a certain sum towards your great work. W. C., **Ridgetown, Ont.** — I am enclosing an offering in honour of the Immaculate Mother of God for the ransom of four dying Chinese babies. I am asking you to please remember me in your prayers to Our Lady and ask her to find me employment or aid me in some financial way. Miss M. M., **New York.** — Will you please make a novena for my boy, asking our Blessed Mother to cure him. If he is cured, I will send you something. Mrs. E. H., **Stratford, Ont.** — Will you kindly make a novena for my brother, that he may get a position at once. If he gets work soon I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR. M. McD., **Shawinigan Falls.** — I am writing you in behalf of my mother, who is preparing for a serious operation on her throat. It is her wish that you begin a novena for her in honour of the Blessed Virgin, who has never forgotten her in time of need. After her operation is completed, I will send you an offering in thanksgiving. M. C., **Montreal.** — Please find enclosed a small offering to ransom a dying pagan baby for my son's return to the Faith. Kindly pray that my daughter may continue to live up to her religious duties and that her health may improve. Mrs. M. A. — I am anxious to secure a position and would ask you to pray for me. As soon as I begin to work, I will send you a donation. M. O'M., **London, Ont.** — You will find enclosed my renewal subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Please pray for my intentions. Mrs. J. L., **Springfield, Mass.** — Would you please make a novena for me to the Blessed Virgin, that I may be granted a few special favours. I shall be able to send you a small donation next month. G. F., **Montreal.** — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. Please pray for me. Miss M. M., **Ottawa, Ont.** — You will find enclosed an offering for the ransom of sixteen dying babies. Please keep on praying for my husband that he may continue to have work. Mrs. J. C., **Montreal.** — I am enclosing a small donation and would like you to make a novena for our intention. A Friend, **North Bay, Ont.** — Will you please make a novena to Our Blessed Lady that some of my children may obtain work. If my request is granted I will gladly send a donation. Mrs. P. S., **Montreal.** — Enclosed you will find a small donation. Please say a prayer for me, for I am not very well. Mrs. McH., **Newport, R. I.** — Just a few lines to ask you to remember me in your prayers. I will send you a donation as soon as I find work. G. C., **Stratford, Ont.** — Will you kindly start a novena, asking that I may obtain a special favour very soon. Miss K. L., **Montreal.** — I am writing to ask you to make a novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help that my brother and myself may obtain steady work. If my favour is granted, I will send you a small donation each month for half a year. A faithful Client, **Montreal.** — I am sending you a small donation. Please pray for my brother and myself. Miss J. F. — I am dangerously ill and would be very grateful to you if you would make a novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, asking her to cure me. When I am better, I will do all in my power to repay you for your kindness. Miss G. W., **Montreal.** — I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR and would ask your prayers for the recovery of my married daughter, who has not been well for some time past. Also pray that I may obtain two other favours. I will send a donation to ransom some Chinese babies if my requests are granted. Mrs. A. D., **Montreal.** — My son is addicted to drink. Kindly make a novena for him and if he stops drinking I will send you a donation every



year as long as I live. Mrs. H. D., **New Erin**. — I am writing to ask you to pray that my daughter and my son may find work. I am enclosing a small donation and promise to send a more substantial one and to take THE PRECURSOR if my petitions are granted. Mrs. H. C., **Windsor, Ont.** — Please remember me in your prayers. If I receive the favour I am asking, I will send you a donation every month. Mrs. V. M., **Pawtucket, R. I.** — Will you kindly make a novena to our Blessed Lady that I may be cured of varicose veins. I am enclosing a small donation and promise to send a larger sum if my petition is granted. Anonymous. — May I ask you to kindly make a novena to our Blessed Mother that I may find work until my husband is able to obtain a permanent position. If my request is granted, I will send you an offering. Mrs. A. F., **Pawtucket, R. I.** — I would ask you to make a novena, asking that I may meet with success in my undertakings. If I receive the favour I am asking, I promise to help your missionary works. A Subscriber, Mrs. B. — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription to THE PRECURSOR. My mother still suffers greatly and cannot sleep at night. Please pray for her and also for some other special intentions. I promise to send you an offering if my requests are granted. Miss I. A., **Montreal**. — Please pray along with me that my husband may meet with success in his undertakings. Mrs. L. W., **Spencer, Mass.** — I am coming to you once again to ask you to remember us in your prayers. My father, brother and myself have been idle for a long time and we would like to obtain work of some kind. Miss B. P., **Montreal**. — I am writing to ask you to make a novena to the Blessed Virgin that we may obtain a special favour. If my request is granted, I shall send you a substantial donation. J. M. C., **Ste. Sophie**. — Will you kindly say a prayer for us and ask our Blessed Mother to continue to watch over me and my family. Mrs. A. P. — I am pleased to enclose herewith an offering for the ransom of four dying Chinese babies and would ask you to continue praying for my little son that he may be successful in his studies. Mrs. V., **Sherbrooke**. — Kindly say a prayer for me that I may be able to keep a little girl whom I adopted three years ago and whom I dearly love. Mrs. A. F., **Warren, R. I.** — Please pray that we may meet with success in an undertaking and that my daughter may graduate at the hospital and obtain a good position. Mrs. L., **Verdun**. — Will you kindly make a novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and to the Blessed Virgin that I may obtain a permanent position as soon as possible, for I have to support my mother. When my prayers are answered, I will send you a generous donation. A Subscriber, **Lowell, Mass.** — I am afraid of losing my position. I entreat the Blessed Virgin to help me to keep it, for I have twelve children to provide for. O. D., **Lachine**. — Kindly commence a novena that my husband may obtain a position and that we may rent our house. Mrs. O. D., **Notre Dame de Grace**. — We are in great financial trouble. Our property will be taken away from us if we do not receive help of some kind. Mrs. A. F. — Please pray that I may win a lawsuit. Mrs. J. C., **Montreal**. — I have been sick for the past five years and am afraid of losing my mind. I am asking the Blessed Virgin to cure me. P. B. — Will you please pray that I may obtain a position and also that I may sell my property. A. L., **Belle Riviere**. — I promise to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR all my life and to publish my thanksgiving if I am restored to health. Mrs. E. D., **St. Thomas d'Aquin**. — I would ask you to pray that I may be restored to health and that I may find a way of paying my debts. Please pray also that I may be granted several other favours, both spiritual and temporal. M. E. D., **Montreal**. — I promise to send a donation for your missions if I receive an answer to my prayers. Mrs. A. B., **St. Paul**. — Please pray for a person who is very dear to me. Anonymous. — I am enclosing an offering for the Missions. Please pray for my intentions. Anonymous, **Port Alfred**. — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription to THE PRECURSOR. I am asking the Blessed Virgin to cure me and to help me to secure a position. Mrs. A. B., **Loretteville**. — I want to put in a petition to Our Immaculate Lady that a person may be cured without an operation. A. M., **Quebec**. — Enclosed is an offering for a novena of lights to be burned on the Blessed Virgin's altar, for a special favour. A Reader, **Montreal**. — I have been idle for some time past. I promise to renew my subscription to THE PRECURSOR if the Blessed Virgin helps me to secure a position. M. A., **Montreal**. — I promise to take THE PRECURSOR again if, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin, I obtain a temporal favour. An old Subscriber, **Acton Vale**. — I would ask you to pray for my intentions. Mrs. B., **Montreal**. — Please unite with me in praying for a very special intention. I promise to ransom four dying pagan babies if I obtain the favour I am asking. R. D., **St. Joseph**. — Please pray for the conversion of my two sons. Mrs. A. C. — I wish you would pray that we may be granted several spiritual and temporal favours. C. D., **Montreal**. — Please pray for a very special intention. If I receive the favour I am asking I will fulfil the promises I have made. Miss G. — Enclosed please find an offering for the ransom of four Chinese children. I would ask you to kindly remember me in your prayers, that I may obtain a favour. I promise to send another offering for the poor pagan children if this request is granted me. Miss M. R. E., **East Angus**. — I promise to renew my subscription to THE PRECURSOR and to publish my thanksgiving if I obtain the favour I am asking before long. A Subscriber. — A subscriber wishes to secure a permanent position and promises an offering for the Missions. Mrs. O. G., **Point St. Charles**. — Please pray for a person suffering from diabetes. J. B. — I am obliged to earn my living, but I cannot find work. May our dear heavenly Mother take pity on me. E. L., **Montreal**. — I have been ill for a long time past and I am afraid that I shall have to undergo an operation. Kindly ask our Immaculate Mother to cure me. Mrs. G. — Please



pray for my husband, who is addicted to drink. Anonymous. — I would ask you to pray for two of my relatives who are not living up to their religion. Please pray also that I may obtain another special favour. Mrs. H. C. — I earnestly ask your prayers that my husband, who has not worked for three years, may stop drinking and lead a better life. Anonymous. — I have been bedridden for two years and seven months and am asking God to cure me if such be His Holy Will. Please unite with me in praying that this favour may be granted. A. B., **Westmount**. — Please remember us all in your prayers. Mrs. S. S., **Fort Edward, N. Y.** — Please pray for a gentleman who has been drinking for several years. Anonymous, **Manchester**. — Will you please pray to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and to the Blessed Virgin for some favours for me. If I am granted my requests, I will send you a donation for your missions. R. I. — Will you please make a novena for my family and myself. If I obtain the favours I am asking, I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. F. M., **Stratford**. — I am writing to ask you to kindly start a novena to Our Blessed Mother and St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, begging them to help my husband to find work. If he secures a steady position very soon, I will renew my subscription. Anonymous, **Truro, Mass.** — I would ask you to make a novena to St. Joseph, asking that a friend of mine may be restored to health and that I may be granted two other favours. I will send an offering as soon as possible. Mrs. M. C., **Montreal**. — I wish to obtain two special favours. Please make a novena to St. Teresa and St. Anthony for me. If my requests are granted, I will send you a substantial donation. Miss P., **Montreal**.

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



## NECROLOGY

Mr. Jovite LAPOINTE, Montreal, father of our Sister St. Viateur; Mr. Alfred DESROSIER, Fall River, Mass., father of our Sister St. Jean de la Croix; Mr. Paul LAMY, Montreal, brother of our Sister Marie de la Foi; Mrs. Napoleon BOUCHARD, Silver Lake, Mass., sister of our Sister Marie de la Compassion; Miss Therese DUBOIS, Ste. Therese de Blainville, sister of our Sister Helene de la Croix; Mr. Hermel TREMBLAY, St. Cyprien, brother of our Sister St. Adelaide; Mr. Zotique LEMAY, Ste. Emilie de Lotbiniere, grandfather of our Sister Marie Arthur; Mrs. J. PAQUETTE, Montreal; Mrs. Stephen MACDONALD, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.; Mr. Edward SULLIVAN, Montreal; Mr. Joseph E. COTTER, London, England; Mrs. Ellen HANLON, Montreal; Miss Grace HUNGERFORD, New York; Mrs. Catherine MCCARTHY, Newfoundland; Mrs. John MONTGOMERY, Glasgow, Scotland; Mrs. James RYAN, Montreal; Mr. James Duncan REDBURN, Lachine; Mrs. Adeline PENNY, Harizona; Mr. Andrew THREEHOUSE, Sr., Glens Falls, N.Y.; Mr. Andrew THREEHOUSE, Jr., Glens Falls, N.Y.; Mr. Michael GANNON, Cornwall, Ont.; Mrs. Mary LAMOTHE, Outremont; Mr. Wm. A. BURKE, Detroit, Mich.; Mrs. L. ARCHAMBAULT, Outremont; Mrs. J. S. MANSFIELD, Grand'Mere; Miss Margaret BURKE, Rockville, Conn.; Mr. Robert E. MCANESPIE, Collinsville, Mass.; Mr. Patrick HOGAN, Collinsville, Mass.; Mr. John DILLON, Collinsville, Mass.; Mrs. Katherine BURKE, Collinsville, Mass.; Mrs. Henry TRUDEL, St. Marc, Shawinigan; Mrs. V. CASSIN, Richmond; Mr. Louis BOUDREAU, "Trois Rivières".

## Practical Means

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

#### *By contributing alms for:*

The enlarging of the chapel at the Mother-House..  
The erection of Chapels in mission countries.....

#### *By providing for the:*

Annual supply for the upkeep of the sanctuary lamp in our houses of Canada and in mission countries \$	20.00
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Annual subscription to THE PRECURSOR .....	1.00

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

\* \* \*

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



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

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

Lazaretto.

### HONG KONG, 6 Amai Villa, Kowloon (Founded in 1927)

Procure and School.

### TSUNGMING, Catholic Mission, Pao Chen, Kiangsu

Orphanage. Foundling-Home. School.

(Founded in 1928)

Native Novitiate "St. Teresa of the Child Jesus".

### SUCHOW, Catholic Mission (Founded in 1934)

Training of native virgins.

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## IN MANCHURIA, VIA JAPAN

### LEAOYUANSIEN, Catholic Mission (Founded in 1927)

Dispensary.

### PAMIENTCHENG, Catholic Mission (Founded in 1929)

Dispensary. Orphanage. School.

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

Dispensary. School.

### TAONAN, Catholic Mission (Founded in 1931)

Dispensary. School.

### SZEPINGKAI, Catholic Mission (Founded in 1931)

Dispensary. Native Novitiate "Our Lady of the Rosary".

### TUNGLEAO, Catholic Mission (Founded in 1932)

Dispensary. School.

### PAITCHENG TZE, Catholic Mission (Founded in 1933)

Dispensary.

### KOUNGTCHOULING, Catholic Mission (Founded in 1933)

Dispensary.

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## IN JAPAN

### KORIYAMA, 96 Toramaru, Koriyama Shi, Fukushima Ken

Kindergarten.

(Founded in 1930)

### WAKAMATSU (Founded in 1933)

Kindergarten.

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## IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

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

Chinese General Hospital. Training School for Nurses. Hostel "St. Teresa of the Child Jesus."

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## IN ITALY

### ROME, 20 Via Acquedotto Paolo, Monte Mario (Founded in 1925)

Procure for the Missions.



# Benefactors of the Society

of the

## Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

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1. — **Founders**, those who donate \$1,000.00 or more.

2. — **Protectors**, those who, by the donation of \$500.00, provide the dowry and trousseau of a poor novice. By combining their alms, a parish, community or family may have a right to this title.

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

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

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

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

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## Privileges Granted to Benefactors

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

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

3. — Every Friday and Sunday 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 placed on the Altar of Exposition).

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

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

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

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