

# THE PRECURSOR



Vol. X., 13th Year    MONTREAL, July-August 1935

No. 4

# **Works of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception**

## **IN CANADA**

### **MOTHER HOUSE, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont, Que. (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 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, Que., (Bethany) (Founded in 1914)**

### **RIMOUSKI, Que., 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, Que., 100 St. Louis St. (Founded in 1919)**

Diocesan Office of the Holy Childhood. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Closed Retreats for ladies and 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 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 Language and Catechism courses for Chinese children and adults. Visiting of Chinese families.

### **TROIS RIVIERES, QUE., 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 girls. Workroom for our Missions.

### **GRANBY, Que., 35 Dufferin St. (Founded in 1930)**

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

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

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

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

Hostel "The Immaculate Conception" for girls.

### **STE. MARIE, Co. Beauce (Founded in 1932) Apostolic School.**

### **RIMOUSKI, Que., St. Jean Baptiste St. (Founded in 1932)**

Closed Retreats for ladies and 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 workroom in which are made church vestments and altar linens, the profit from which is destined to support their Mother House and Novitiate.

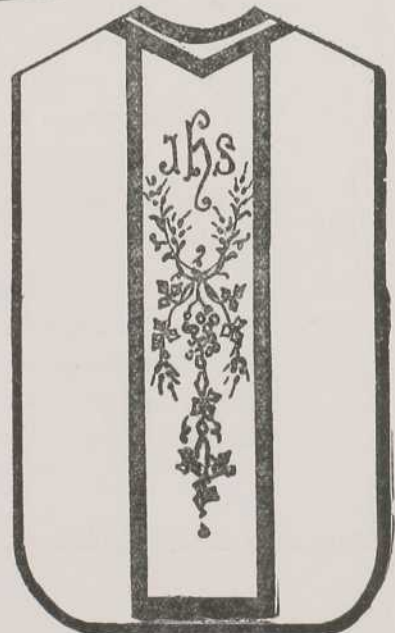
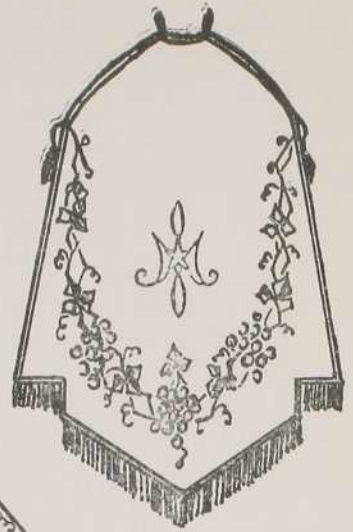
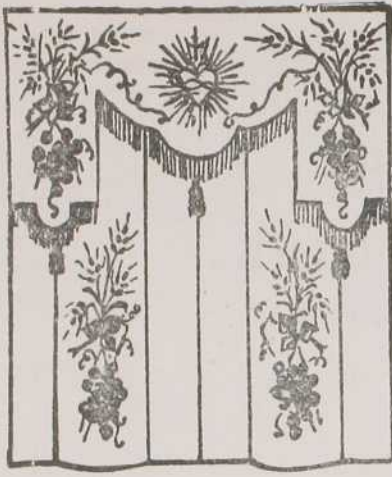
Missionaries must train for several years before being able to commence their apostolic work in foreign fields.

The articles mentioned on the page entitled "By Patronizing our Workroom", may be procured, on reasonable terms, at the workroom 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, St. Bernadette Soubirous, and mission scenes, First Communion and Confirmation badges, scapulars, *Agnus Deis*, cushions, etc.

We also make wax infants for Christmas Cribs, all sizes.

Chinese embroidery and lace are on sale. The work is done by our Chinese orphans. By encouraging these sales you co-operate in the salvation of many young pagan girls who, while earning their living in Catholic workshops, receive at the same time the light of Faith.





## By Patronizing Our Workroom, *You Help Our Missions.*

Chasuble, damask silk, silk braid .....	\$ 17.00 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 .....	35.00 “	40.00
“ 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 lace .....	5.00 “	“
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 workroom.

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.

*Description and prices given on request.*

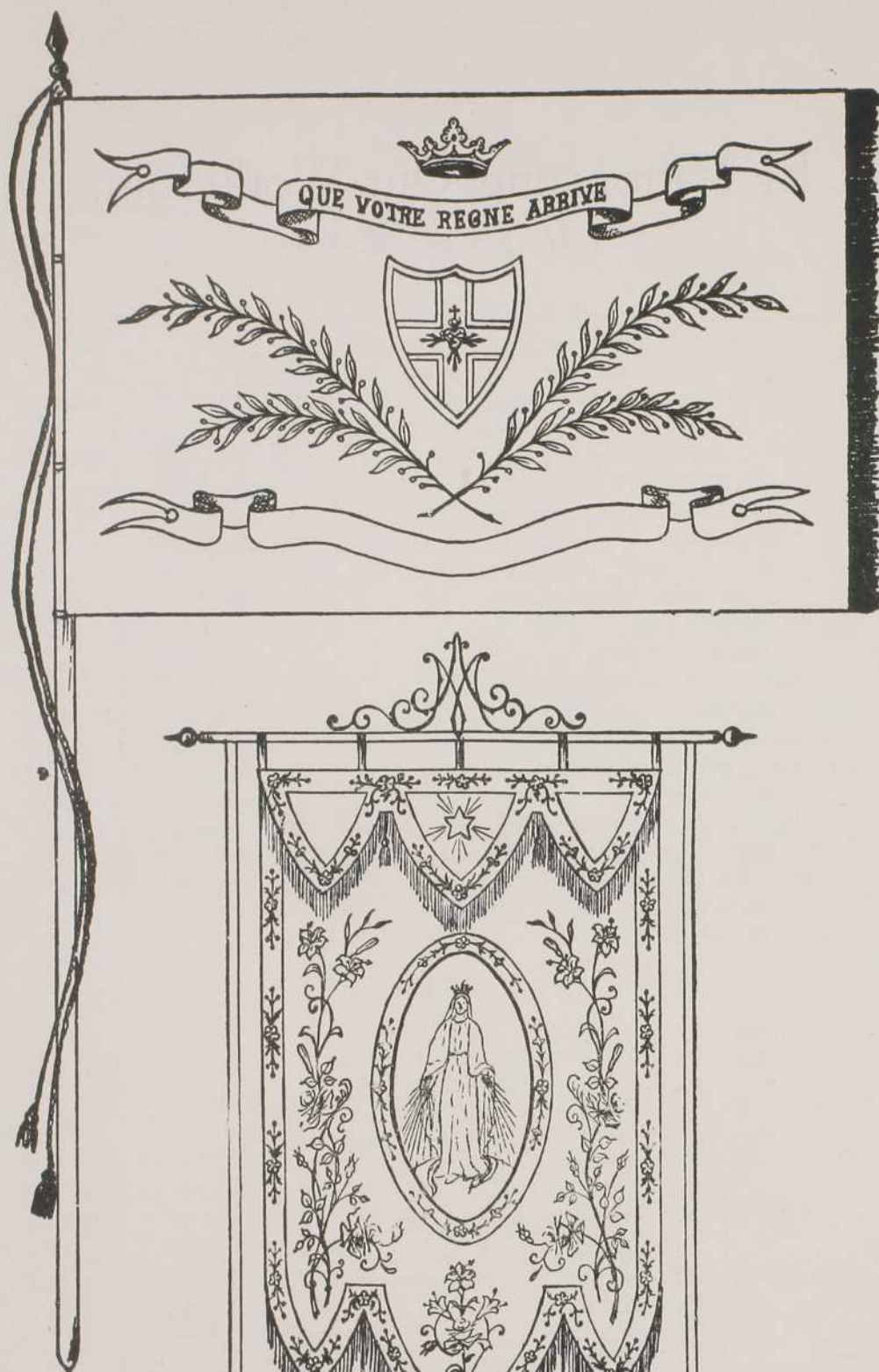
### WAX INFANTS

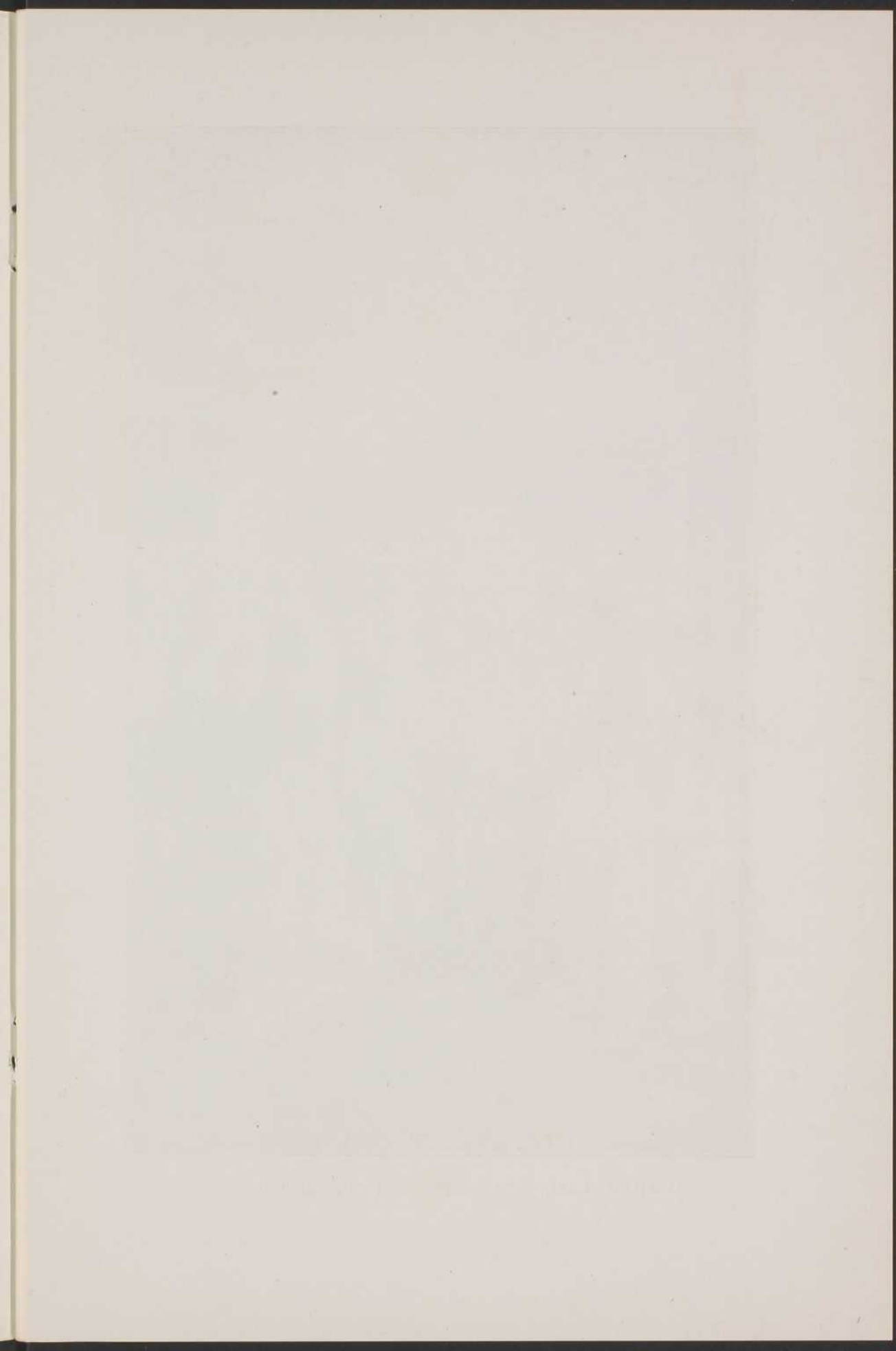
Length		Length	
5 inches .....	\$ 2.50	14 inches .....	\$16.00
7 “ .....	4.00	17 “ .....	25.00
9 “ .....	7.00	22 “ .....	35.00
12 “ .....	14.00		

<i>Altar Linens</i>	{	Amices.....	\$12.00	per doz.
		“ linen, second quality.....	10.80	“ “
		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 PRECURSOR

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of the Immaculate Conception

with the approbation of the Archbishop of Montreal

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Montreal, July-August 1935

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## CONTENTS

The Visitation.....	<i>Catherine M. Hayes</i>	185
The Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary ...	<i>Rev. C. Rolland</i>	186
Pope's Discourse on the Occasion of the Canonization of John Fisher and Thomas More, English Martyrs.....	<i>Catholic Record</i>	188
George V, King of Canada.....	<i>Jules Dorion</i>	192
The Triduum Held at Lourdes.....		193
The Late Father Rene Bedard, P. M. E.....	<i>Rev. C. Rondeau</i>	195
Blessed St. Ann.....	<i>C. K. Feehan</i>	197
The Missionary.....	<i>Rev. E. Champagne, P. B.</i>	198
Blessing of the Lesser Seminary of Szepingkai.....		202
A Few Roses Scattered.....		204
Echoes from our Missions.....		207
Novitiate Chronicles.....		231
The Children's Page.....		236
Thanksgiving — Petitions — Necrology.....		238

## ILLUSTRATIONS

Chinese Children Praying for our Benefactors.....	184
The Visitation.....	194
The Grotto at Lourdes.....	196
St. Ann.....	203
The Lesser Seminary in Szepingkai, Manchuria.....	206
Reverend Father Spada, Vicar General of Hong Kong, Four Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, and the Pupils of the Tak Sun School, Hong Kong, China.....	210
An Act of Charity Being Performed at the Shek Lung Lazaretto.....	212
A Final Profession Ceremony in Szepingkai, Manchuria.....	213
Two Pupils of the Apostolic School, Szepingkai.....	214
A Mandarin's Wife Visiting the Convent in Szepingkai.....	215
Convent of the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception, Leaoyuansien, Manchuria.....	216
Pupils of the Mission School, Leaoyuansien.....	222
Orphans of Pamientcheng, Manchuria.....	227
Some Happy Children of the Orphanage in Tsungming, China.....	236
The Forerunner of Christ.....	237
Jesus Blessing the Little Ones.....	



### The Mystery of the Visitation

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*Rarely has the world witnessed such rapturous joy as that experienced by Mary and Elizabeth. Their joy, having come from God, is referred back to Him: "My soul doth magnify the Lord". In her humility, Mary ascribes all honor and exaltation to God alone. "He hath regarded the humility of His handmaid... He hath exalted the humble. He hath filled the hungry with good things".*





# The Visitation



*Up from Nazareth the peaceful,  
Over Juda's summer hills,  
Beautiful her feet who hastens,  
Charity's sweet urge fulfils.*



*Happy door a welcome swinging,  
(Stars illumine the journey's end ;)  
Blest Elizabeth, so favored,—  
Hands like hers thy needs to tend.*

*And each tender ministration,  
Watchful, patient, peace-posessed,  
Telling of that wondrous Presence  
Tabernacled in her breast.*

*Queen of Charity, benignest,  
Teach thy self-effacing way,  
Love of God and neighbor blending  
Sanctify each fleeting day.*

*Christ within our heart reposing,  
Word and deed His Presence show,  
Thus life's hills and vales traversing,  
Bear Him wheresoe'er we go.*

—Catherine M. Hayes.



## The Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

---

**T**HE Feast of the Visitation dates only from the end of the fourteenth century. It was celebrated in the middle of the thirteenth century, by the Franciscans, who have always had a great devotion to Mary, and, in the Orient, long before that; but it was not until the year 1378 that Pope Urban VI asked that all the faithful celebrate it, in order that God might put an end to a terrible scourge: the schism in the East. In the year 1441, it was assigned to the 2nd of July; and, in 1849, Pope Pius IX declared that from then on it would be a second class feast, in commemoration of the freeing of Rome, by the French army.

The Collect on every solemnity, is of great importance. In it is usually expressed the object of the feast and the benefits to be derived from it. In the Collect of the Feast of the Visitation, reference is made to the time of its institution. The Visitation is a mystery of charity, and on the day it is commemorated, the Church asks for peace: "Unto Thy servants, we beseech Thee, O Lord, do Thou impart the gift of heavenly grace: that as the Childbirth of the Blessed Virgin was unto them the beginning of salvation, so the prayerful solemnity of her Visitation may give them an increase of peace."

All pious Christians regard the Visitation as a joyous event. It is one of the five Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary. On considering this Mystery, we see what great trouble the Blessed Virgin went to and what fatigue she suffered, but we are not inclined to feel sad, for we realize that all was done through love. We are reminded of the destroying of sin and of the defeating of the devil by the illustrious heroine of the New Law, who, more than Judith is "the glory of Jerusalem". The greatest joy beams forth in the acts and the words of the persons visited by Our Lady. What gladness fills the hearts of Jesus, Mary, Elizabeth, Zacharias and John the Baptist!

The Mystery of the Visitation is full of magnificent lessons. It is an abridgment of the Gospel.

In the *Magnificat*, Mary proclaims the infinite perfections of God, who supports, sanctifies and watches over His creatures. "O Mary!" Bossuet exclaims, "O St. Elizabeth! O St. John the Baptist! what great things you show us in this Mystery. But it is Thee, O hidden Jesus, who accomplishest such wonders on this blessed day, and falling down, I adore Thee."

We also learn in this Mystery of the distinguishing virtues of the Most Blessed Virgin: a heroic faith, an incomparable humility, a profound gratitude, and a burning love. Standing out in relief is her supreme dignity, which places her above the greatest saints and the highest choirs of angels.

St. Elizabeth proclaims that Mary is superior to all other women, however great and virtuous they may be: superior to Eve, to Rebecca, to Debora,

to Judith, to Esther, and to the Queen of Saba. She declares her to be the true Mother of God, because of the Incarnation of Christ. She states that the reason for this Mystery which brings such glory upon her, is her humble faith in what the angel has told her. She tells Mary that the fruit of her womb, Jesus, will be a great King and that she, also, will be great, on account of Him. In the Mystery of the Visitation, Mary's role in the Church is clearly marked out. She is the channel through which God's gifts come to us and the dispensatrix of the merits of her divine Son. It is through Mary that Jesus forgives, sanctifies and saves mankind. Bossuet states that God wished the Blessed Virgin to co-operate efficaciously in giving Jesus to men, by her desire to do so, and that we shall always receive Him through her loving intercession.

The Mystery of the Visitation eloquently preaches to us, exhorting us to have a lively faith, to willingly do what God asks us to do and to be extremely grateful for the visits He deigns to pay us. It is especially after Holy Communion, when God is dwelling in us as He dwelt in the Blessed Virgin, that we, like her, should exclaim: "My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour, because He that is mighty hath done great things to me. He hath filled the hungry with good things. He hath received Israel, His servant, being mindful of His mercy!"

This Mystery also teaches us how we should act towards our neighbour. "Avoid," it cries out to us, "selfishness, pride, susceptibility, criticism, and all ill-will. Always strive to oblige your brethren. In one way or another, make them think of God. Try to be as humble, charitable, kind, devout, and discreet as the Blessed Virgin was."

On this Feast, we are reminded that we should have great faith in Our Lady and that we should ever have recourse to her. It is through her that St. Elizabeth and St. John the Baptist received an increase of grace; it is through her that we shall be saved. *Ad nos Christus per Mariam!*

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



Since Jesus Christ proclaimed that the special mark of His disciples would be that they loved one another, can we vouchsafe to our neighbours a greater or a more signal charity than that of having them withdrawn from the darkness of superstition, and instructed in the true faith of Christ? Nay, this surpasses any other works or testimonials of charity, as the mind surpasses the body; heaven, earth; eternity, time; and everyone that exercises this work of charity to the best of his ability shows that he esteems the gift of the faith as much as it is meet and just that he should esteem it, and moreover, he manifests his gratitude towards the Goodness of God by sharing with the poor pagans this same gift, the most precious of all, and with this gift the others that go with it, or that are united to it.

*Pope Pius XI.*



# Discourse Delivered by His Holiness Pope Pius XI

*on the Occasion of the Canonization of John Fisher  
and Thomas Moore, English Martyrs.*

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**F**OLLOWING is the complete text of the striking discourse of Pope Pius XI, at the canonization of Blessed John Cardinal Fisher and Thomas More, English martyrs, in which His Holiness, after paying glowing tribute to the heroism and zeal of the two new Saints, asked the prayers of the faithful for the return of England to the Catholic fold.

As Jesus Christ, according to the words of St. Paul, is eternal and immutable, "yesterday and today, and the same forever," so the Church founded by Him is destined never to perish. Generations follow and succeed each other with their perennial vicissitudes. But whereas human institutions give way and disappear before the levelling tide of time, and human sciences, reflecting inconstant light, undergo repeated transformations, the Cross of Christ, reared steadfast above the engulfing billows, never ceases to illumine mankind with the beneficent splendor of Eternal Truth.

From time to time, new heresies make their appearance and, under the guise of truth, gain strength and popularity; but the seamless garment of Christ can never be rent in twain. Unbelievers and enemies of the Catholic Faith, blinded by presumption, may indeed constantly renew their violent attacks against the Christian name, but in wresting from the bosom of the Church militant those whom they put to death, they become the instruments of their martyrdom and of their heavenly glory.

## PERSECUTION STRENGTHENING THE CHURCH

No less beautiful than true are the words of St. Leo the Great: "The religion of Christ, founded on the mystery of the Cross, cannot be destroyed by any sort of cruelty; persecutions do not weaken, they strengthen the Church. The field of the Lord is ever ripening with new harvests, while the grains shaken loose by the tempest take root and are multiplied."

These thoughts, full of hope and comfort, spring up in Our mind as We, in this majestic Vatican Basilica, are about to proclaim briefly the praises of our two new Saints after having raised them to the honors of the altar. They, the bright champions and the glory of their nation, were given to the Christian people, in the words of the prophet Jeremias, "as a fortified city, and a pillar of iron, and a wall of brass." Therefore they could not be shaken by the fallacies of heretics, nor frightened by the threats of the powerful. They were, so to speak, the leaders and chieftains of that illus-

trious band of men who, from all classes of the people and from every part of Great Britain, resisted the new errors with unflinching spirit, and in shedding their blood, testified their loyal devotedness to the Holy See.

John Fisher, gifted by nature with a most gentle disposition, thoroughly versed in both sacred and profane lore, so distinguished himself among his contemporaries by his wisdom and his virtue that under the patronage of the King of England himself, he was elected Bishop of Rochester. In the fulfilment of this high office so ardent was he in his piety toward God, and in charity toward his neighbor, and so zealous in defending the integrity of the Catholic doctrine, that his episcopal residence seemed rather a Church and a University for studies than a private dwelling.

#### FISHER'S GENTLENESS, COURAGE

He was wont to afflict his delicate body with fastings, scourges, and hair cloth; nothing was dearer to him than to be able to visit the poor, in order to comfort them in their miseries and to succour them in their needs. When he found someone frightened at the thought of his faults and terrified by chastisement to come, he brought comfort to the erring soul by restoring confidence in God's mercy. Often when celebrating the Eucharistic Sacrifice, he was seen shedding abundant tears, while his eyes were raised to heaven in an ecstatic expression of love. When he preached to the multitudes of the faithful that crowded round to hear him, he seemed neither a man nor a herald of men, but an angel of God clothed in human flesh.

Nevertheless, whilst he was meek and affable toward the afflicted and the suffering, whenever there was a question of defending the integrity of faith and morals, like a second Precursor of the Lord, in whose name he gloried, he was not afraid to proclaim the truth openly, and to defend by every means in his power the divine teachings of the Church.

You are well aware, Venerable Brethren and Beloved Sons, of the reason why John Fisher was called in judgment and obliged to undergo the supreme test of martyrdom. It was because of his courageous determination to defend the sacred bond of Christian marriage — a bond indissoluble for all, even for those who wear the royal diadem — and to vindicate the Primacy with which the Roman Pontiffs are invested by Divine command. That is why he was imprisoned and afterward led to death. Serenely he advanced toward the scaffold, and with the words of the *Te Deum* on his lips, he rendered thanks to God for being granted the grace of having his mortal life crowned with the glory of martyrdom, and he raised up to the Divine Throne a fervent prayer of supplication for himself, for his people and for his King. Thus did he give another clear proof that the Catholic Religion does not weaken, but increases the love of one's country.

When finally he mounted the scaffold, whilst a ray of sunlight cast a halo of splendor about his venerable gray hairs, he exclaimed with a smile: "Come ye to Him and be enlightened, and your faces shall not be con-



founded." (Ps. 33: 6.) Most assuredly the heavenly hosts of angels and saints hastened in joy to meet his holy soul, freed at last from the fetters of the body and winging its flight toward eternal joys.

#### MORE'S FAITHFULNESS TO GOD

The other star of sanctity that traced a luminous path across that dark period of history was Thomas More, Lord Chancellor of the King of England. Endowed with the keenest of minds and supreme versatility in every kind of knowledge, he enjoyed such esteem and favor among his fellow-citizens that he was soon able to reach the highest grades of public office. But he was no less distinguished for his desire of Christian perfection and his zeal for the salvation of souls. Of this we have testimony in the ardor of his prayer, in the fervor with which he recited, whenever he could, even the Canonical Hours, in the practice of those penances by which he kept his body in subjection, and finally in the numerous and renowned accomplishments of both the spoken and the written word with which he achieved for the defence of the Catholic Faith and for the safeguarding of Christian morality.

A strong and courageous spirit, like John Fisher, when he saw that the doctrines of the Church were gravely endangered, he knew how to despise resolutely the flattery of human respect, how to resist, in accordance with his duty, the supreme head of the State when there was question of things commanded by God and the Church, and how to renounce with dignity the high office with which he was invested. It was for these motives that he too was imprisoned, nor could the tears of his wife and children make him swerve from the path of truth and virtue. In that terrible hour of trial he raised his eyes to heaven, and proved himself a bright example of Christian fortitude. Thus it was that he who not many years before had written a work emphasizing the duty of Catholics to defend their Faith even at the cost of their lives, was seen to walk cheerful and confident from his prison to death, and thence to take his flight to the joys of eternal beatitude.

#### EXAMPLE TO ALL THE FAITHFUL

Here, Venerable Brethren and Beloved Sons, we may justly repeat the well-known saying of St. Cyprian, Martyr: "O blessed prison which conveys men to heaven! O blessed enchained feet which with salutary steps are directed towards paradise!"

It was supremely fitting that these holy martyrs who shed their blood for the Christian Faith and for the defence of the sacred rights of the Roman Pontiff should receive, together with the aureole of sanctity, their due glorification here in the very centre of the Catholic world, close to the glorious sepulchre of the Prince of the Apostles, through the instrumentality of Us who are the heir and successor of St. Peter.

And now it only remains for Us to exhort with paternal heart all of you who, filled with veneration, are grouped around Us, as well as those



who, wherever they may be, profess themselves Our sons in Christ. We exhort you to imitate with all diligence the great virtues of these holy martyrs, and to implore, for yourselves and for the Church militant, their powerful protection. If all of us are not called to shed our blood for the defence of the holy laws of God, all none the less, according to the expression of St. Basil, with evangelical abnegation, with Christian mortification of their bodies, with energetic striving after virtue, "must be martyrs of desire, in order to share with the martyrs their celestial reward."

#### PRAYERS FOR ENGLAND'S RETURN

We desire moreover that with your ardent prayers, invoking the patronage of the new Saints, you ask of the Lord that which is so dear to Our heart, namely that England, in the words of St. Paul, "meditating the happy consummation which crowned the life" of those two martyrs, may "follow them in their faith," and return to the Father's house "in the unity of faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God."

Let those who are still separated from Us consider attentively the ancient glories of their church which were at once a reflection and an increment of the glories of the Church of Rome. Let them consider, moreover, and remember that this Apostolic See has been waiting for them so long and so anxiously, not as coming to a strange dwelling-place, but as finally returning to their paternal home. In conclusion, let us repeat the divine prayer of Our Lord Jesus Christ: "Holy Father, keep them in Thy name whom Thou hast given me; that they may be one as We also are." Amen.

*(The Catholic Record.)*

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As the only begotten Word has, in heaven, a Father Whom the angels proclaim Most Holy, it seems most befitting that He should have upon earth a Mother who never was without the grace of holiness.

*Pope Pius IX.*

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### Votive lights in honor of the Blessed Virgin


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

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

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

## George V, King of Canada

---

 HERE is a proverb which states that the people of each country have the ruler they deserve to have; but we must not think that it is due to ourselves alone that we are being ruled over by the noble sovereigns who actually occupy the English throne, and who are so worthy of the respect and affection shown them by all their subjects.

Reigning over a nation is not as simple a matter as thoughtless people suppose. It is just as difficult as ministering to the needs of souls, which is not an easy task. A person would never say that anyone was as happy as a king if he but looked at things a little more closely.

All rulers, the Supreme Head of the Church included, simply live for the people under their authority, and they devote all their time to the accomplishing of the tasks which are so numerous that they would cause them to lose hope if the voice of duty did not urge them on.

Many of the kings, as we learn in history, performed their functions in a careless way, a few of them even giving their subjects good reason to despise them; but the people of Canada are very fortunate, for reigning over them are a gentleman and a lady to whom they are deeply indebted for the good example they set them and the services they render them.

Queen Mary is the greatest lady in the Empire. She occupies the throne with wonderful dignity, and is ever a model whom wives and mothers may look up to.

When King George succeeded his father, twenty-five years ago, Europe was in the troubled state which led to the disaster of 1914. He withstood the Great War and the formidable social disturbances which have gone on since then. The entire Empire has benefitted by his imperturbability, his sound judgment, his matchless courage, and his attention in upholding his ministers and in discreetly guiding them.

In a word, in our sovereign are personified the most beautiful traditions of constitutional rule, and it is with the greatest tact that he makes use of the beautiful family given him by God, to bind together the ties which unite the different parts of the Empire.

Gladly, therefore, do all the Catholics of Canada join with their pastors in returning God thanks and in heartily singing the *Domine Salvum Fac Regem*, and they take great pride in paying allegiance to His Majesty King George the Vth.

It is not only with our lips, but with our whole hearts that we cry out: "Long live King George the Vth and his worthy companion, Queen Mary, to whom we wish happiness and prosperity!"

Jules DORION.

(Translated.)



# The Triduum Held at Lourdes

*from the 25th to the 28th of April 1935  
on the occasion of the closing of the Holy Year.*

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**T**WO hundred thousand persons, including sixty bishops, from different parts of the world, made their way to the grotto of Lourdes, in order to comply with the request of the Sovereign Pontiff, who had asked that groups of pilgrims beg Almighty God to grant peace and prosperity to the world.

His Eminence Cardinal Pacelli, Secretary of State at the Holy See, represented the Holy Father at this never-to-be-forgotten celebration.

Mgr. Gerlier, Bishop of Lourdes, read the bulls telling of the Cardinal Legate's mission and preached a touching sermon, after which His Excellency Cardinal Pacelli delivered the following discourse:

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

A while ago, when I set foot on this soil visited by our Immaculate Lady, I told you of the great emotion which filled my soul. I now feel that I cannot begin to reply to your address, in which you expressed your filial love and gratitude to the Holy Father and the esteem in which you hold me, without expressing to the faithful who have flocked here from so many countries, and to my priestly brothers, the joy which fills my heart. For a long time past, I have been wanting to come to pray in this Grotto, in which Our Lady told her blessed name to Bernadette, her holy and humble confidante, in these basilicas which the numerous pious pilgrims, in compliance with the commands of our loving heavenly Queen, have had erected; under these skies towards which, on the evenings the pilgrimages take place, is wafted the *Ave Maria* of Lourdes, that *Ave Maria* which the people of every nation, after returning home, continue to recite, thereby proving their supernatural brotherhood and their filiation to the Most Holy Mother of God.

And my joy is even greater on account of the circumstances. This time, I have not come to carry our Divine Lord among your sick and to beg Him to work miracles like those He formerly worked in Judea and Galilee. I have come to entreat the all-powerful Virgin to ask her divine Son to restore peace to the world.

And in what a wonderful way, thanks to Our Holy Father's great devotion to Mary! His Holiness has asked that, for three days and three nights, in the Grotto in which the apparitions took place, the Lamb of God be offered up by His ministers, in order that peace may be restored to us. As our beloved Pontiff recently remarked, Our Lady who helped to redeem the world, will mystically stand near the altar, as she stood at the foot of the Cross. Here, as on Calvary, she will take part in the sacrifice of Him



who, in the Sacrament of the Altar, is greeted as the Body born of the Virgin Mary: *Ave verum Corpus natum — de Maria Virgine, — vere passum, immolatum, — in Cruce pro homine.*

Is it possible for us not to be thrilled by the sublime spectacles which we shall witness during this triduum? They will, indeed, be the crowning of the work of our Immaculate Lady at Lourdes. She conducts the people who throng to her, to our Eucharistic Lord, of whose glory Rene Bazin speaks in one of his most beautiful books. In every clime, the many sons of our loving Queen, will, under her auspices, during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, unite with the Sovereign Pontiff and all the members of the Hierarchy of the Universal Church in imploring God to forgive sinners, to relieve the wretched, to lead back to the path of virtue those who have gone astray, and to grant us that peace which He alone is capable of granting!

O Lourdes! Holy City! *Gloriosa dicta sunt de te, civitas Dei!* Ever since the day when innocent Bernadette contemplated our heavenly Mother in the Grotto of Massabielle, thou hast continued to become famous; thou hast been honoured by God — *ne quaquam minima es in principibus Juda;* heavenly graces and blessings have been showered upon thee, and great have been the faith and the piety of the people who have thronged to thee. But during this triduum, God's blessings upon thee will be more abundant than ever before, and will, as it were, crown thy happiness. For, while thou art attracting the attention of all the people of the Catholic world, the Common Father of them all wishes you to waft heavenwards a hymn of joy, in this Holy Year of the Redemption, a hymn in which praises will be expressed to our Eucharistic Lord and to our Mother Mary, a hymn which only a city blessed by God is able to address Him. O Lourdes! Thou art a holy city! In thee is to be found the charms of Nazareth, the holiness of Bethlehem, the power of healing possessed by Bethsaida. Within thy walls, how many miracles have been worked and how many spiritual and temporal favours obtained! For more than one person like St. Thomas, thou hast become the Upper Room in which the doubting Apostle recognized his Lord, and for more than one person like Saul, the road leading to Damascus, whereon the fiery persecutor became a disciple of Christ. But, during this triduum, thou art more important than Nazareth, Bethlehem,



THE GROTTO OF LOURDES.

Bethsaida, the Upper Room in Jerusalem, and Damascus. Truly, thou hast become the sacred Golgotha, on whose summit rises the Cross of Jesus Christ, Priest, King and Saviour; and, at the foot of this Cross stands the noblest of creatures, Mary, Virgin and Mother, who, on account of participating in the bloody sacrifice of her Divine Son, is a most powerful Mediatrix. With the Vicar of Christ, we are fully confident that our gracious advocate will obtain us the favour of seeing the rainbow of peace beaming over thee, O City of Our Immaculate Lady, over thy mountains and thy hills, over the plains and the valleys of France, over all the people of Europe, and over the entire world.

The first Mass was celebrated by Cardinal Van Roey, Archbishop of Malines and Primate of Belgium. Crowds of people in every walk of life came to pray near the pools.

At the other Masses which were celebrated one after the other during the triduum, assisted throngs of pious people, the prayers and the hymns being conducted by priests in the pulpit. The Universal Church was represented at Lourdes by the Pope's legate, by numerous members of the clergy, and by different races: white, black, and yellow.

The torch-light procession was held at the usual hour, but it did not draw away from the Grotto the thousands of people who had gone there to assist at the Holy Sacrifice. It was very edifying to hear these faithful souls repeating the whole night long, the *Ave Maria* and the invocation: *Da Pacem Domine*.

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### The Late Father Rene Bedard, P. M. C.

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A telegram from the missionaries in the Vicariate of Szepingkai, Manchuria, received on April 21st, by the priests of the Foreign Mission Seminary, told of the death of Reverend Father Rene Bedard, in his 28th year.

Born in the Sacred Heart Parish, Montreal, on May 19th, 1905, of Joseph Bedard and the late Clara Robitaille, Reverend Father Rene Bedard took a classical course in the Seminary of Joliette, and made his theological studies at the Foreign Mission Seminary, Pont Viau.

Ordained to the priesthood on June 24th, 1934, in the Montreal Cathedral, by His Excellency Mgr. Oscar Morin, of the White Fathers' Society, he left for Manchuria on September 2nd of the same year.

On reaching his destination, he was assigned to the mission station of Hwaite-Sien. Reverend Father Rene Bedard spent but a few months on the Missions. He succumbed to typhus fever, which generally proves fatal.

Reverend Father Bedard leaves to mourn his loss, his father, Joseph Bedard, who resides in St. Clement's Parish, Viauville, his step-mother, his brother Paul, an Oblate lay-brother labouring in the Vicariate of Grouard, his sister Claire, and his half-sister Majella.

Rev. C. RONDEAU.

(Translated.)





*If one wishes to appreciate the worth of St. Ann, he must see her fruit: The Lily Immaculate took its root in her heart and budded forth from her blood as from a most pure fountain; on that blessed land, in that celestial paradise sprang up the rod of Jesse, the tree which has given the Fruit of life. It is St. Ann's glory to have been the Mother of Mary.*





## Blessed St. Ann

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*Blessed St. Ann!*

*Endowed with grace that bore thee on thy way  
With reverence thy duty to fulfil,  
The Flow'r of virgin grace in thy arms lay,  
And in thy heart reign'd peace and love so still,*

*Blessed St. Ann.*

*Mother, thrice blest,*

*How sweet that name when lisp'd by thy dear child,  
Her soul so pure, and laden with incense  
That wing'd its way unto the heav'nly throne,  
In humble adoration — love intense.*

*Mother, thrice blest!*

*St. Ann, thrice blest!*

*What joy awaited thee when Mary's Son  
An aureole of light 'round thee unfurl'd,  
Whose hand had rock'd the Mother of Our Lord,  
Whose Grace redeem'd the sinners of the world,*

*St. Ann, thrice blest!*

— C. K. Feehan.

# The Missionary

HIS QUALITIES, HIS PREPARATION

*Conference given by Reverend Father Emery Champagne, a White Father of Africa, during the Canadian Missionary Week held at Ottawa in October 1934 (Extracts).*

A missionary is, as his name implies, a "messenger", and very expressive is the word. (1)

A missionary is one who is officially sent by the Ecclesiastical Hierarchy to the pagan countries, in order to establish the Church wherever it does not already exist.

Our Lord Himself was the first Missionary. (2) Sent by God, His Father, He inherited all nations. (3) His mission, having been committed to the Apostles, must continue to be fulfilled until the end of the world by the Church which He Himself founded when he came upon earth and of which He is always the invisible Head. (4)

The object of this mission is, as we know, the extending of God's Kingdom by having more and more people live according to the Gospel. The word "Gospel", as used here, means the doctrine which has been revealed by Our Saviour, according to the following words of St. Matthew: *Docentes eos servare omnia quaecumque mandavi vobis.* (5) The aim of this mission may also be summed up, according to Our Lord's words, as follows: *Ut fiat unum ovile et unus pastor.* (6)

God's Kingdom will be fully established on earth when the Church is firmly established in every part of the world. (7)

The final and specific aim which the missionary must keep in mind and for which he has been called, is this: to establish the Church in a visible manner wherever it does not already exist. This is the special and essential work of the Catholic Hierarchy. Those who are known as missionaries are but its deputies. (8)

1. *Le Bulletin des Missions* (St. Andrew of Lophem), Vol. I. 419-421. *L'Envoyé*, by D. W. Willems.

2. I am not come of myself; but he that sent me is true. (JOHN VII, 28.) This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he hath sent. (JOHN VI, 29.)

3. The exceeding greatness of his power... the Father of glory which he wrought in Christ, raising him up from the dead, and setting him on his right hand in the heavenly places, above all principality, and power, and virtue, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come. He hath subjected all things under his feet. (Ephes. I. 17, 19, 22).

4. As the Father hath sent me, I also send you. (JOHN XX, 21). And behold I am with you all days, even to the consummation of the world. (MATT. XXVIII, 20).

5. MATT. XVI. 20.

6. JOHN X. 16.

7. And he gave some apostles... and other some evangelists... for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all meet in the unity of faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto the measure of the age of the fulness of Christ... (Ephes. IV. 11, 13).

8. SCHMIDLIN, *Catholic Mission Theory*, p. 124, 125, Techny III, 1931.

## WHAT THE MISSIONARY IS

The ideal missionary is one filled with enthusiasm and self-forgetfulness, fertile in expedients and possessing a sound judgment. These are the qualities which the missionary must have before leaving his country and which endear him to the heart of the vicar apostolic in whose mission field he is sent to labour.<sup>(1)</sup>

I say that he must be filled with enthusiasm, but with the right kind of enthusiasm, like that which a thoughtful person acquires, and of which he may daily lose a part without ever being completely deprived of it.

The missionary army must, in fact, be composed of volunteers and not of conscripts. I mean to say that Our Lord's command, "Going therefore, teach ye all nations," is not a despotic one which compels a missionary to leave his country. The necessity of extending God's Kingdom through the medium of missionaries sent to preach and baptize existed even before Our Lord confirmed the precept. This is set forth by the very nature of the Church as founded by Our Blessed Lord, namely, that as the Church is a mystical body, all its members must desire to see it grow.

While the one who is called to be a missionary has doubtlessly been granted special graces, he, nevertheless, chooses of his own free will, all the hardships which accompany the different functions of his ministry for the development of this living body which is, as yet, in its infancy. This he does through love of God and for a cause which he knows is a beautiful and a necessary one.

The enthusiasm of which I speak is not elusory. Enthusiasm is that burning zeal which will remain even after the missionary has, as he had foreseen, made unsuccessful attempts to convert the pagans and which causes him to hope that grace will, one day, render his efforts fruitful. It would be an illusion, on the other hand, if, through faulty reasoning, one were to expect too much from the natives, if he were to think that the methods employed by him to lead them to God would prove successful from the very outset. While enthusiasm, when rightly understood, is lasting and fosters devotedness, illusion is transitory and, once it has vanished, causes one to grow discouraged or indifferent.

Owing to the hardships which a missionary will inevitably have to bear, it is necessary that he be filled with enthusiasm, and that he be truly optimistic, for, otherwise, he will have to be heroic continually, if he wishes to do his duty, and one knows very well that, as a general rule, a human being is incapable of such a strenuous effort.

In order to be enthusiastic, a missionary must joyfully give himself up, body and soul, to the work of evangelizing the pagans. He must be convinced that his ministry among his neophytes should always consist in "leading souls from fall to fall and, by a final absolution, opening heaven to them."<sup>(2)</sup>

1. On the Missionary Vocation. Cf. LAHITTON, *Bulletin de l'Union Missionnaire du Clergé, France*, Vol. II, P. 144-151.

2. Cardinal Lavigerie to his missionaries.



It would be an illusion for the missionary to secretly hope that his newly-made Christians will remain constantly faithful, for one need but read the history of the primitive Church, and especially what St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians<sup>(1)</sup> to see that such a hope would be groundless.

The missionary who has no illusions, knows that the first generation of Christians is imbued with a certain number of pagan principles. He is not surprised to see these Christians neglect some of their duties, and he trusts that their descendants will be more faithful.

It is this kind of enthusiasm which prepares the missionary for the many occasions on which, henceforth, he will have to deny himself.

He who wishes to bear the torch of Faith to the pagan nations, commences his career by making an act of complete self-denial. He leaves his country, his family, his friends, and all those who love and esteem him. All these he leaves behind him, probably forever, and from then on, he continues to spend his energies.

Regarding the material things of which the missionary will be deprived, I do not wish to exaggerate. No well-organized body of missionaries would let one of its members die from hunger, nor fail to give him lodging, even in the tropical countries, where he would be able to sleep out-of-doors. But, unless the young missionary is sent to an old and well-organized mission station, he will not be favourably impressed with the food that is served him. He will doubtlessly never find any of his favourite dishes set before him. I need not mention the different occasions on which, in order to please the natives, one must eat the many things which to us are so repulsive, such as grasshoppers, roasted ants, rats or snakes, and a certain kind of liquid which is supposed to be beer but which reminds one, on drinking it, of badly-made soup.

One can easily see that a youth who, at the Seminary, selects only the food which he likes, and who, as a general rule, avoids eating what is served to all, is not preparing himself as he should for the life of a missionary.

We may say, however, that the missionary, little by little, gets used to the food which is served him. The same thing may be said in regard to the houses, which are often mere hovels. Quickly enough, one gets used to sleeping on the bare ground while insects are buzzing all around him; one becomes accustomed to standing, on issuing forth from the mosquito netting which surrounds his bed, on the floor of hardened mud instead of on a sheepskin. And I am sure that the missionary who has been preaching the Gospel for many years, is able to sleep soundly in the filthy hut of his Eskimos.

In mostly all the mission lands, the climate is often trying and causes much suffering. Everyone knows what hardships are met with by the missionaries who travel in dog-sleighs in the bitter cold of the Far North, or by those who, unaccustomed as yet to the hot climate of Ceylon, of Bengal and of Central Africa, must pay visits to their different mission stations. In these countries, where the climate is extremely hot or extremely cold,

3. *I Cor.* XI. 17, 23; *II Cor.* VI. 14, 27.

the missionary often contracts marsh-fever or other diseases peculiar to the region in which he is labouring.

Here, again, it is the duty of the superiors to protect, as far as within them lies, their missionaries from the dangers resulting from the climate, from Nature, from beasts and from the natives. We know with what zeal they have performed this duty, and we must say also that once the missionary has acquired a few years' experience on the Missions, he becomes accustomed to the hardships he must endure. Nevertheless, we must not forget that many are the young missionaries who died during the very first years of their apostolic career on account of the unhealthy climate of certain countries, especially in the missions along the western coast of Africa, and all must see that aspirants to mission life possess courage and self-denial. In a mission station with which I am very familiar, four of the five missionaries were carried off inside of a few weeks, by the terrible disease known as Yellow Fever which, so far, has been declared incurable by medical science. Shortly after, I saw four new recruits arrive at this mission. They were eager to continue, amidst the same dangers and hardships, the work commenced by their deceased companions, and had joyfully sacrificed their youth. They were not by any means cowards, nor were they young men who love comfort or who spend their time in idle pursuits.

But the sacrifice which is the hardest to make is of a more intimate nature. I might say that the loneliness which one feels at times is most painful, as is also the sacrifice of one's ideas and intellect when dealing with an ignorant native or a proud pagan by whom the missionary is regarded as an inferior. This is especially the case with the missionary who is sent to bear the torch of Faith to new districts. He must lavish his love upon people who will, for a long time to come, fail to understand him. They will look with suspicion upon what he considers to be noble and true. Before winning the hearts of the natives and imparting to them the sublime truths, he will be grief-stricken on seeing how he is despised and scoffed at. He will never be able to set his eyes upon even one friendly face, nor will he ever hear a word of appreciation from those whom he desires to love. The natives, looking upon him as an undesirable person to have in their midst and as an enemy to be avoided, will forsake him, and he will feel alone and friendless.

And when this great trial is over, there will be a fresh one awaiting him. He must, in some respect, be educated anew. He must conform his opinions to those of the people he wishes to convert, by becoming, as St. Paul says, a Jew with the Jews and a Greek with the Greeks. (1)

A poor savage, ignorant and uncouth, a Chinese or Japanese, or some native of the other Eastern countries will, without malice perhaps, but with great pride, undertake to make the missionary adapt his habits to his. For instance, he will tell him who believed himself to be well-educated, that he must think and speak in such and such a way in order to be understood, they will show him the fine points of a language which they consider

1. A missionary should adapt himself to the customs of the people he is evangelizing, rather than have the natives adopt European or American customs.



he should already know, they will have him adopt their ideas concerning music and singing; they will praise his every effort and, smiling indulgently at his blunders, will congratulate him when he is successful. He will feel like a child who is learning to walk or a pupil who is docile to his teacher.

It would be useless for the missionary, at least for some time, to try to enlighten the natives by any learned demonstration whose logic would be faultless or by the most subtle reasoning, for they would fail to understand him. Neither must he boast too soon that he knows the rules of good-breeding, he must first learn those of the natives. He must not mention the fact that he, belonging as he does to the White Race, knows more than they do. They will point out to him every one of the things that he does not yet know and which are considered, in their country, as being so important. All these details may seem trivial to those who have never laboured in a pagan country, but I can assure you that one must deny himself in many ways while evangelizing the heathens.

*(To be continued)*

*(Translated)*

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## Blessing of the Lesser Seminary of Szepingkai

*Ceremony is presided over by His Excellency Mgr. Gaspais,  
Vicar Apostolic of Kirin and Delegate Apostolic to Manchukuo.*

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ON March 19th, the feast of St. Joseph, which is a holy day of obligation in Manchukuo, took place the solemn blessing of the Lesser Seminary of Szepingkai, built during the summer of 1934. His Excellency Mgr. Gaspais, whose Vicariate touches that of Szepingkai and who is a member of the Paris Foreign Mission Seminary and the Delegate Apostolic to Manchukuo, kindly accepted the invitation extended him by Mgr. Lapierre to preside at the blessing of the new seminary.

His Excellency, accompanied by Father Sagard, Procurator of the Vicariate of Kirin, arrived on the noon train, and was taken immediately to the Bishop's House, where Mgr. Lapierre was awaiting him.

At half-past two, their Excellencies, together with several members of the clergy, left for the Lesser Seminary. First was held an official reception in honour of the Bishop of Kirin. After a cantata had been rendered by the choir and an address read in which Mgr. Gaspais was greeted as the Pope's representative in this part of the country, His Excellency made a speech and Mgr. Lapierre then spoke briefly to those present.



The first words spoken by Mgr. Gaspais were addressed to the Vicar Apostolic of Szepingkai who, with the help of his missionaries, has established many and various works which give glory to the Church and which edify even the pagans. "In order to estimate the amount of work done in a Vicariate," said His Excellency, "one must go to the Seminary of this Vicariate. It is scarcely more than three years since your Vicariate was erected and already, a spacious building has been constructed for the formation of the native clergy, and a great many pupils benefit by the education given therein. One cannot but praise those who have caused such a beautiful work to be established."

The solemn blessing of the Lesser Seminary then took place, the usual prayers for a ceremony of the kind being said. After the singing of the *Veni Creator* in the chapel, a procession was held in the Seminary. The officiating priest then blessed the different rooms, and all returned to the chapel, where Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament was given.

His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre had this Lesser Seminary built in 1934, the work being supervised by Father N. Turcotte, Superior. It is 180 feet long and 40 feet wide in the centre, while the wing on either side is 27 feet wide. The new red brick building is fireproof. At the present time, it houses fifty pupils divided into three classes: the first group of pupils learn Latin, the second, French, through the medium of which they will, later on, learn Latin, and the third group, which comprises those who have not had much schooling, learn only Chinese.

We are building great hopes on this rising generation, for we trust that these young men will, one day, be in a position, to confer on their countrymen the benefits of the true Faith and Christian civilization.



LESSER SEMINARY, SZEPINGKAI, MANCHURIA, WHICH WAS BLESSED  
ON THE FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH.

# 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 will shower them upon earth."

St. Teresa of the Child Jesus.



I am enclosing a small donation towards the Little Flower Burse, in thanksgiving for success in business and for another important favour this dear Saint has obtained us. Mrs. G. C., **Montreal**. — A cure has been obtained through the intercession of the Little Flower of Jesus, and I am sending you a small offering, as promised. I will continue to send you something in her honour. Mrs. L. D., — Please accept the enclosed offering as a contribution to the Little Flower Burse. At present, I am

seeking many favours both spiritual and temporal, and I know that you will pray for my intentions. K. D., **Tecumseh, Ont.** — Enclosed please find an offering for the Missions, in thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, through whose intercession I have received a favour. A Subscriber. — I am in very poor health and have eight little ones to look after. I will send you a donation every year as long as St. Therese intercedes for me before the Throne of God. Enclosed please find my first small offering. Mrs. R. P. — The Little Flower of Jesus has cured one very dear to me and, to thank her, I am sending you an offering to ransom two dying Chinese babies. A Subscriber, **Montreal**. — Please find enclosed an offering for the

poor lepers, in thanksgiving for a favour received through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. I would ask you to again remember me in your prayers. Anonymous, **Outremont**. — I am gladly sending you an offering in favour of your missions dedicated to the Little Flower. This dear Saint continually watches over me and I am most grateful to her. A. C.

— Enclosed please find a small offering, in thanksgiving to the dear Patroness of Missionaries for a favour granted me. A Subscriber. — After promising to publish my thanksgiving, I received a favour from St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. Mrs. J. V. L., **Sherbrooke**. — Find enclosed an offering for your missions, in thanksgiving to the Little Flower of Jesus, who has come to my aid. J. B. D. — I wish to express my gratitude to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, who has obtained me a favour. Enclosed please find a small offering.

Anonymous. — I am most grateful to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for the favour she has obtained me. I am again asking her to intercede for me. M. B., **Montreal**. — I have obtained a great favour through the intercession of my loving protectress, St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, and I am enclosing an offering, as promised. R. C. — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription, in thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a favour granted me. Mrs. A. L., **Montreal**. — The enclosed offering is in honour of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, through whose intercession I obtained a cure, after promising publication. Mrs. L. G. — Some time ago, when I was in great trouble, I had recourse to the Little Flower of Jesus. This dear Saint soon came to my aid, and I am truly thankful. Mrs. A. B., **Quebec**. — My son has received a favour through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus and he has asked me to send you the enclosed thank-offering. I hope that this dear little Saint will obtain us some other favours. Mrs. G. — Enclosed please find an offering, in thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, who has obtained me a favour. I am now asking her to help my husband to find work. Mrs. D., **Montreal**. — I have received a favour and am enclosing an offering in honour of the dear Patroness of Missionaries. Mrs. A. T. — I wish to return thanks to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, through whose intercession my daughter has been cured without having been obliged to undergo an operation. Mrs. S. P., **Montreal**. — I have received a favour through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus and am enclosing a small offering in her honour. A Subscriber. — Enclosed please find a small offering in thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, who has obtained me a favour. Anonymous. — I have received a favour through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus and am enclosing a thank-offering, with which I wish you would ransom some dying Chinese babies. Miss C. P., **Montreal**. — I return most heartfelt thanks to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, through whose intercession we have received several favours. May this dear little Saint continue to watch over us. A Subscriber.



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

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

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

We shall therefore receive with gratitude, any offerings, (thanksgivings for favors obtained or requests for new ones) for the complete formation of the Burse in honor of St. Therese of the Child Jesus. May the Little Sister of Missionaries inspire generous souls with the thought of adopting a Missionary and let fall on them a shower of roses!

In May-June	1932	....\$98.50	In November-December	"	.... 60.75
In July-August	"	.... 12.25	In January-February	1934	.... 38.75
In September-October	"	.... 85.00	In March-April	"	.... 15.00
In November-December	"	.... 38.40	In May-June	"	.... 17.50
In January-February	1933	.... 77.00	In July-August	"	.... 26.45
In March-April	"	.... 18.25	In September-October	"	.... 108.25
In May-June	"	.... 30.75	In November-December	"	.... 11.35
In July-August	"	.... 58.15	In January-February	1935	.... 188.35
In September-October	1933	.... 41.60	In March-April	"	.... 31.25
		In May-June 1935	.....\$10.50		



## The Honesty of a Missionary Causes a Pagan to Embrace the Faith

After visiting the Sub-Prefecture of Fsongyang, His Excellency Mgr. Liou, Vicar Apostolic of Fenyang, Chansi, relates how this mountainous region under his jurisdiction, was evangelized. "Some sixty years ago," he states, "Reverend Father Jang, a Chinese priest of the Vicariate Apostolic of Luanfu, whom I remember seeing when I was a child, came to this region to preach the Gospel. One evening, he entered an inn, where, on account of the bad weather, he was obliged to stay for several days. After paying his bill, he set out again. The missionary had been walking for two hours, when he realized that, by mistake, he had not given his host all that he owed him, and he immediately retraced his steps. Never before had the innkeeper met a traveller so scrupulously honest! He made inquiries as to what profession Father Jang was practising, and, on being told that he was preaching a new religion, he asked him to stay a few days longer, in order to tell him a little about it. The innkeeper became greatly interested in his roomer's conversation and, shortly after, he was baptized, being the first Christian in the district." Several others soon followed his example, and, to-day, the Sub-Prefecture counts four hundred Christians.





REVEREND FATHER SPADA, VICAR GENERAL OF HONG KONG, CHINA; FOUR MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, AND THE PUPILS OF THE TAK SUN SCHOOL, KOWLOON, HONG KONG.



## Echoes from our Missions

### HONG KONG, CHINA

*Letter written by a Missionary Sister of the Immaculate Conception  
of Hong Kong, China, to her Superior General*

*Kowloon, Hong Kong, China.*

BELOVED MOTHER,

I know it will interest you to be told about our Tak Sun School. Last year, on June 13th, we moved to new quarters just at the foot of a mountain, in a rather densely-populated district. On one side of the school is a public park and, on the other, a large vacant lot. Here, when the ground has been levelled, we shall be able to put up swings for the school girls. This will mean quite an expense, but we consider that it is necessary to have these swings in order to vie with the schools in the surrounding district. We are trying to find a benefactor who, inspired by St. Joseph, will undertake to pay for them.

On June 30th, the Catholic Chinese Society of Hong Kong, wishing to reward our pupils for being so attentive during the Catechism lessons, invited them to a concert. Mgr. Valtorta, Vicar Apostolic of Hong Kong, presided, and distributed the prizes. Two of our pupils had the honour of being presented with a beautiful silver medal by His Excellency.

Our distinguished visitor also very kindly presided at the blessing of our new quarters, on the feast of the Visitation of Our Lady. The pupils prepared a little reception in his honour. After addressing a few words of encouragement to the children, he told them that they were fortunate to be under the care of Sisters who strive so earnestly to impart to them the Gospel truths, as yet unknown to their parents.

After His Excellency left, our little Chinese pupils very gracefully offered their best wishes to our dear Sister Superior.<sup>(1)</sup>

On July 14th, a celebration was held in honour of your humble Daughter,<sup>(2)</sup> who is the Directress of the School. The pupils, wishing to anti-

1. Sister St. PAUL (Blanche Clément, of Montreal)

2. Sister St. GEORGES (Corinne Crevier, of Montreal), Directress of the Chinese School in Kowloon.



cipate the date of the Silver Jubilee of my Religious Profession, had worked very diligently and had put their whole hearts into preparing this entertainment, which was held in the forenoon. All the Sisters were surprised and delighted to see how well the children played their parts and how happy they all seemed to be. One could not help but marvel on hearing the little Chinese pupils speaking our language so correctly and distinctly. At the close of the entertainment, they sang the Hail Mary in Chinese; our hearts were filled with indescribable emotion when we heard the beautiful Angelical Salutation being sung by these pagan girls, and we wafted heavenward a fervent prayer, earnestly entreating our Immaculate Lady to ever shield these little ones. Gifts are always presented at a celebration of the kind and on this occasion, the most practical by far were the following: a big copper bell, whose sweet and solemn notes will call the children to school, a clock, a few dozen instructive Catholic books, with which to commence a school library.

The same entertainment was repeated in the afternoon for the pupils' mothers. Reverend Father de Angeli presided. When it was over, the pupils bade their teachers farewell and left for a month's holidays.

On August 27th, 121 pupils were enrolled for the new term; on the following day, eight more names were given in, and, finally, there was, on the 30th, a roll call of 150. We feel indebted to St. Joseph for such success. Reverend Father de Angeli, who came, that day, to give the weekly Catechism lesson, was greatly surprised to see so many pupils in attendance and also to see the repairs which have been made to our new quarters. "Your School is not only progressing," he said, "but it is the most beautiful Catholic school in China..."

We still have a delicate task to accomplish: that of doing good to the little ones confided to us and of bringing about their conversion. We know how difficult this will be, but we count on God's grace, which we know will not fail us.

As the twenty-fifth anniversary of my Religious Profession and that of Sister St. Francois d'Assise<sup>(1)</sup> fell during the holidays, the family rejoicing took place at the Tak Sun School. There, our dear Sisters, who kindly put on a little entertainment in our honour, were able to make use of the stage in the pupils' assembly-room. When we returned to Amai Villa for the family meal, each one found, beside her plate in the refectory, a little bell adorned with blue and silver paper and the number "25", and a slip of paper on which were written the following words: "There is a Silver Jubilee at Kowloon and all the guests are rejoicing..." The refectory was tastefully decorated with lovely pale blue streamers, studded with silver stars. The next day, the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady, a Maryknoll Father came to say Mass in our chapel. Above the altar, which was adorned with gladioli and lilies, was a scroll on which were inscribed the first words of the *Magnificat*, and hanging from the ceiling, just over our heads, were

1. Clara HEBERT, of Montreal, who has been attending to the lepers at the Shek Lung Lazaretto since 1913.



garlands of ivy and roses. Our humble chapel resounded with our hymns of praise and thanksgiving to our heavenly Queen.

After breakfast, both of the Sisters whose Jubilee was being celebrated received, at the foot of a statue of Our Lady of Lourdes, a wreath of white roses, which they wore all day. At three o'clock, Mgr. Deswazieres, the former Director of the Shek Lung Lazaretto, gave Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament in our chapel.

This pious Jubilee celebration will ever be remembered by your Daughters of Kowloon and especially by the two in whose honour there was such great rejoicing.

Your ever-loving and respectful Daughter,

SR. ST. GEORGES, M.I.C.

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## SHEK LUNG LAZARETTO

*Gleanings from the Diary of our Missionary Sisters  
Hospitaliers to the Shek Lung Lazaretto*

Moses, one of our fervent lepers, died on the Feast of St. John, at the age of forty. It was only a short time before that he had become a Christian, but it was with the greatest zeal that he made up for lost time...

A month previous to his death, he realized that he had œdema, and, feeling that he had not much longer to live, he had asked to be allowed to remain in the infirmary, in order to be better prepared to receive the Last Sacraments. A few of his companions, on visiting him, thought that he was acting up. Some of them teasingly said to him: "Ah! Moses, you're anxious to go to heaven?" His only answer was: "I'd be very glad to go to heaven, but I'm not asking God to come for me, for He knows what's best for me." The day he fell sick, he had missed Mass for the first time since being baptized, and he felt such stings of remorse that he hurriedly informed one of the Sisters of the omission. When Sister told him that he did not need to worry, as one is not obliged to assist at Mass on week-days, he told her that he was glad that it was not Sunday Mass he had missed, and, turning to his companions, he assured them that, even though they had put swords in his way, he would not have stayed home from Mass on Sunday. He was, indeed, a true Christian.

He had a great respect for everything concerning religion, and even thought it was wrong to lay down his prayer-book where there was any dust. He put aside a few of the thirty coppers which he, like all the other lepers, received monthly for sweets, and with them, he bought paper with which to cover the table he was in the habit of laying his book on.

After being anointed, he asked all the lepers present to forgive him, if he had in any way set them a bad example. Moses was always so afraid of committing the least sin that we feel that he went straight to heaven.



AN ACT OF CHARITY BEING PERFORMED  
AT THE SHEK LUNG LAZARETTO.

On the Chinese New Year's Day, while everyone at the Lazaretto was having a good time, one of our charges, twenty years of age, went to the river with two buckets, to get some water. Before filling them, she stooped down to wash her hands, but suddenly losing her balance, she fell head first into the river. A leper woman, who happened to pass that way just as the unfortunate creature was sinking, called for help, but, as there was a great racket being made at the Lazaretto, no one heard her. She was frantic and did not know what to do, but, when she returned to the river, she saw the one whom she believed to be drowned, climbing out of the water.

Afterwards, the fortunate young lady, who was baptized but a year ago, told us that, on going down, she had asked the Blessed Virgin to save her, and that after she had been in the bottom of the river for a long time, she suddenly

rose to the surface and was able to cling to a rock.

We were thus given a proof of how the Blessed Virgin watches over those who implore her aid.

On February 18th, fifty-six lepers were received into the Church. The four men who guard our little island, woke up their companions as early as two o'clock the morning of that day, that they might have plenty of time to prepare for Holy Baptism. Our neophytes will soon be very fervent Christians if they continue as they have begun. Before the seven o'clock Mass, the Regenerating Sacrament was administered to forty-one men, by Reverend Father Lao, and to fifteen women, by Reverend Father Chan. Nearly all of these new Christians approached the Holy Table. There are only ten women here who are not Christians, and they are either very old or not intelligent enough to understand the Catholic doctrine. They will be baptized at the hour of death. We were surprised to see so many men receiving Holy Baptism this year, for, not long ago, they did not appear to be well enough prepared... We are inclined to think that Moses is interceding for the poor unfortunates he has left behind him, for we know how zealous he was during his life..



## SZEPINGKAI, MANCHURIA

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

### **Tuesday, January 1st, 1935**

It was at the foot of the altar that we saw the old year dying, and it was there, also, that we saw the year 1935 being ushered in. It was just as consoling for us to leave to the mercy of our loving God the year that has just fled from us than it was to place the uncertain future in His hands.

After we had all assisted at Holy Hour, our dear Sister Superior read to us the New Year greetings sent us by our beloved Mother. Oh! of what motherly affection and holy solicitude do these New Year wishes speak to us.

Towards half-past eight, the Native Sisters and novices come to make us the three traditional Chinese bows. Immediately after, His Excellency accompanied by the Missionaries of Szepingkai, comes to give us his blessing, and, with a heart overflowing with apostolic zeal, he wishes us a holy and happy New Year.

### **Wednesday, January 9**

Up to now, the flour from which the altar-breads are made has been sent to the Mission from a distance, and there has often been much waste. To-day, a mill-stone is set up under a porch, and the wheat, sorted over by the novices, is to become the bread under which our Eucharistic Lord will be hidden.

### **Monday, January 14**

Sister Marie Esther<sup>(1)</sup> walks to the home of a sick woman who has not enough money to hire a cart for her, and she is richly rewarded for her act of charity. Two mothers ask her to kindly treat their children, and, as she sees that they are very sick, she baptizes them immediately.

At the Dispensary, while our Sister infirmarian is treating her patients, a woman with a baby hastily enters, and she is so excited that one can easily see that she is very uneasy. "Doctor," she says, "quickly draw for me the picture of a baby that I may bring to the gods, that they may see that it dies instead of my own little one!" Our Sister looks at the child, and, noticing that it is dying, she hastens to baptize it while a virgin catechist tries to get the heart-broken mother to understand why we cannot do what she has asked us to do for her. Immediately after, we see to sending the poor woman away, for the pagans would regard it as a sign of misfortune if the baby were to die in the Dispensary... How happy the pagan mother would be if she but knew that she now has a little angel in her arms!...

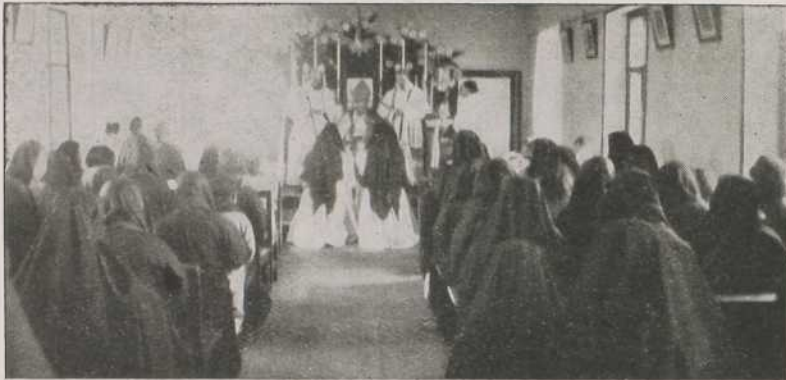
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1. Alice BUTEAU, of St. Evariste, Co. Frontenac.



**Thursday, January 17**

A thirteen-year-old girl greatly excites our pity. Her mother, who is an opium fiend, sold her, a few months ago, for a hundred dollars, and the poor child is now living in her new home. A few days ago, she tried to make her escape, but the little ten-year-old boy, her future husband, caught her and gave her such a sound beating that her arms and her hands are swollen! One of her aunts brings her to the Dispensary to-day. Next year, the child will be sent to the Mission school, and will, for a time, forget about her sad lot in life. The hearts to be comforted and the sufferings to be relieved are in abundance in China.



DURING THE FINAL PROFESSION CEREMONY WHICH TOOK PLACE  
ON FEBRUARY 11TH, 1935, IN THE CONVENT OF THE  
MISSIONARIES OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, SZEPINGKAI, MANCHURIA.

**Monday, February 4**

Our Sisters from the other mission stations, who received word to come to Szepingkai for their annual retreat, have arrived, so, in all, there are twenty-three retreatants. The exercises commenced on Saturday, and, in our Convent, the silence and recollection seem even more profound, for outside there is a great racket being made, as the Chinese New Year season is commenced...

**Monday, February 11**

Yesterday, it was with great sorrow that we saw dark clouds gathering, for we thought that we were surely going to have unpleasant weather to-day, but, to our surprise, the sun, this morning, sparkles on the beautiful fresh-fallen snow.

His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre kindly comes to our chapel to celebrate the Holy Sacrifice, during which six of the Sisters on retreat renew their Holy Vows. It is with the greatest fervour that we repeat the words of the touching hymn which is always sung by the members of our Community before the renewal of the vows.

The Final Profession ceremony commences at two o'clock, and it is carried out in the usual way. His Excellency, not only graces it by his presence, but also he preaches a sermon fitting to the occasion, in which he exhorts us to love more and more the holy vocation which we have been so privileged to receive from God.

Sister St. Pierre de la Croix<sup>(1)</sup>, Sister Ste. Aglae<sup>(2)</sup>, Sister Marie Celine<sup>(3)</sup> and Sister Marie Germaine<sup>(4)</sup> then pronounce the formula of holy vows and the word which, for a long time past, they have been longing to solemnly utter: *forever*. On this occasion, Sister Marie Germaine has the happiness of having with her her sister, Sister Marie Josephine, who has come from Fakou.

The family supper is preceded by the crowning of the happy chosen ones, and is followed by a recreation during which the greatest love is shown. After several months of separation, how much one has to say, and how much, also, at the close of a retreat, just as such a beautiful day is ending. The day after to-morrow our Sisters will again leave us, and we shall all begin over again our daily tasks, but with fresh courage... Your daughters in far-off Manchuria, beg you to bless them, beloved Mother, that they may be fervent religious, real missionaries, and that they may ever bring joy to you.

### Saturday, February 16

A postulant of the little Native Sisterhood, who is seriously ill, to-day receives a visit from her mother and her aunt. She is so weak that we cannot think of letting her be taken home. Born of Catholic parents, she was baptized, and she lived at home until she was seven years of age, when her father apostatized. One of her uncles adopted her and saw to giving her a good education, and she was raised by her aunt, whom she looks upon as a second mother. Last year, being desirous of embracing the religious life, she asked to be admitted to the Apostolic School, after her father had made things very hard for her. In September, she was accepted as a postulant. She was so talented, gay, and full of life, that great hopes were being built on her.

1. Sidonia ROUSSEL, of Montreal.
2. Aurore LUSIGNAN, of Belœil.
3. Regina BELIVEAU, of St. Paul de Chester.
4. Germaine GRAVEL, of St. Prosper, Co. Champlain.



PUPILS OF THE APOSTOLIC SCHOOL,  
SZEPINGKAI, MANCHURIA.



**Monday, February 18**

Yesterday, a cablegram informed us of the death of His Excellency's beloved father. At eight o'clock, this morning, a Solemn High Mass is sung in the Cathedral for the repose of his soul. Several visiting missionary priests assist at it.

**Saturday, February 23**

The sick postulant is anointed, to-day, and she is fully resigned to God's Holy Will.

We think of what an unhappy life this young lady would have led if she had remained with her apostate father, and we thank God for having



THE WIFE AND YOUNG SON OF A MANDARIN, WHO HAVE COME  
TO PAY A VISIT TO THE MISSIONARIES  
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, SZEPINGKAI, MANCHURIA.

directed her to the Catholic Mission. She is calmly awaiting the long voyage, after being fortified by the Last Sacraments. On February 14th, on returning from the Japanese hospital, to which we had sent her, she found awaiting her in the Native Novitiate a sunny room, and, in this room, she is quietly and joyously ending up her life.

**Tuesday, March 4**

After sending up to God many supplications, we, this evening, sing a hymn of thanksgiving... Mrs. Liou, a dying woman, to whom we have paid a number of visits in hopes of converting her, has always refused Holy Baptism, saying that her husband did not want her to become a Christian. This morning, she asked to be baptized, and told our Sister infirmarian that she was the one who was to manage such an affair... After some touching exhortations had been addressed her, she saw all the more clearly that our religion was the true one, and upon her feverish brow were poured the Sacred Waters of Baptism. Why was it that such a change came over her so suddenly?... Simply because she had been given a miraculous medal to

wear and because our entire personnel had, for several days, been asking our Immaculate Mother to come to her aid.

### **Saturday, March 23**

Mrs. Liou has just breathed her last. When her children saw that she was very low, they sent for Sister Superior, but when she arrived, the patient was at death's door. According to the custom of the country, her relatives had dressed her in her very best clothes and had tied her hands together, and also her feet. Sister Superior saw the coffin being prepared, and heard all the people present deciding on the funeral rites and loudly making plans for the future, quite close to the dying woman.

### **Friday, March 29**

Miss Lu, the virgin catechist who helps our Sisters to treat the sick who come to the Dispensary daily, tells us, to-day, that one of her brothers was put to death along with two French missionaries, during the Boxer Revolution, in 1900. The brave Christian, who was but seventeen years of age, was shot, but those engaged in the religious persecution, being even more bitter enemies of the two foreign priests, cruelly tortured them.

Our virgin catechist is unusually kind, and now that we know that she has suffered on account of being a Christian, and that one very dear to her has died for the Faith, we understand why she is so virtuous, and why God's grace produces such wonderful results in her soul.

### **Sunday, March 31**

Report of the Dispensary of Szepingkai for the months of January, February and March 1935:

Baptisms.....61			
Patients.....5,563	Treatments.....9,152	Dressings.....1,034	
Teeth extracted... 19	Homes visited... 129	Injections..... 207	

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## **LEAOYUANSIEN, MANCHURIA**

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

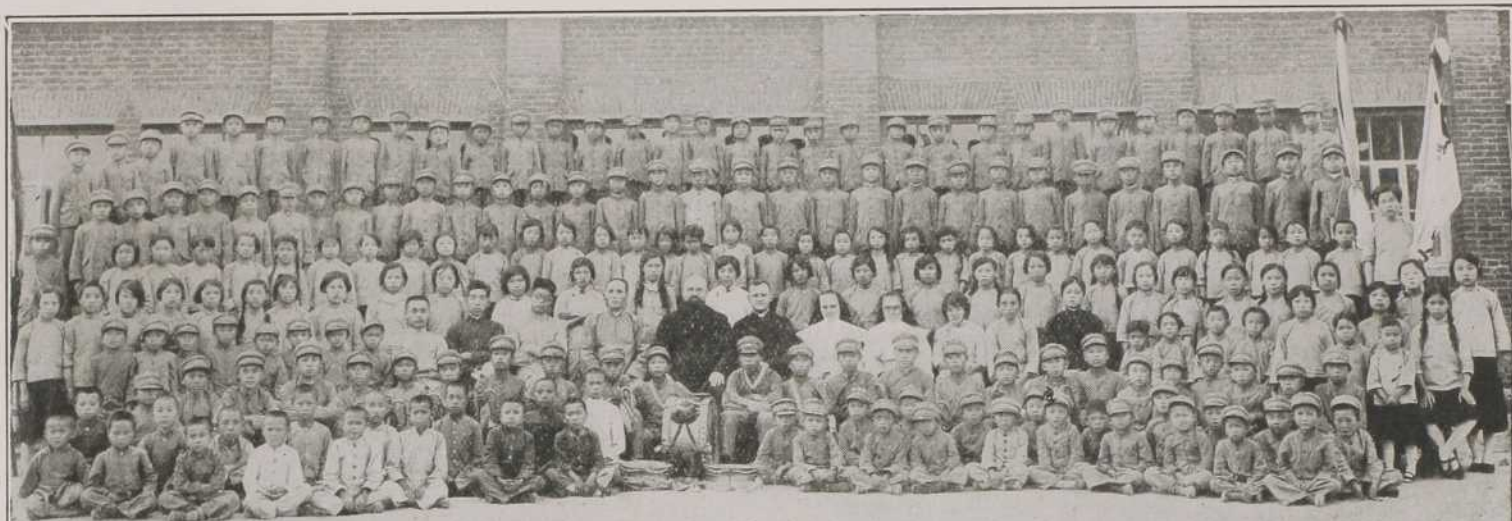
### **Tuesday, October 30, 1934**

On Sunday, October 21st, we were asked to give treatment to a pagan, his wife and four children. When we reached their home, we found a little eleven-year-old girl in a dying condition. After explaining to her the principal truths of our holy religion, we asked her if she wanted to be baptized



CONVENT OF THE MISSIONARIES  
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION,  
LEAOYUANSIEN, MANCHURIA.





Révérend Père A. Bérchon, p. m. c., Curé de Liao-Yuan-Sien, Mandchourie; révérend Père E. Gilbert, p. m. c.;  
 Soeurs Missionnaires de l'Immaculée Conception; professeurs et élèves de l'Ecole de la Mission.

LEAOYUANSIEN WAS THE FIRST MISSION STATION IN WHICH THE PRIESTS OF THE CANADIAN FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY OF PONT VIAU,  
 LABOURED ON REACHING MANCHURIA, IN 1925. IN 1927, REVEREND FATHER LAPIERRE, WHO HAS SINCE BEEN APPOINTED VICAR  
 APOSTOLIC OF SZEPINGKAI, ASKED THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION TO COME TO SETTLE THERE. ACTUALLY,  
 WE HAVE SISTERS LABOURING IN EIGHT MISSION STATIONS IN THAT DISTRICT.

and, as she said she did, we immediately poured the Saving Waters on her brow. As it was the Feast of St. Ursula, we called her after her. Two days later, her little sister followed her to the grave. We at once began to give instructions to her father who, although in great pain, listened to everything we said and asked to be baptized. Even one who does not possess the Faith would certainly have believed that there is a Supreme Being on seeing how happy the poor man was after his soul had been purified. God allowed him to live a few days longer, in order that he might acquire a little merit by bearing his sufferings patiently. To-day, we receive news of his death.

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

For the first time, the pupils assemble in the spacious room wherein they are to amuse themselves on Sundays and feast days. It will also serve as a sewing-room. There will be choir practice there for the little pagan girls every Tuesday and Thursday and for the Christian pupils, every Saturday and Sunday.

#### **Tuesday, November 6**

This afternoon, a poor consumptive is brought to us by his foster-mother, who is surprisingly good to him. The young man, like our other tubercular patients, does not realize that he is slowly wasting away. He coughs a great deal and has some ugly sores. The first time he is given a Catechism lesson, he is exceedingly happy, for he is told that if he becomes a Christian, he may one day share the bliss of heaven. He has suffered greatly during his life and all that he has been told about heaven seems to him to be a beautiful dream. We offer him a miraculous medal and, noticing that he is greatly in favour of our holy religion, we send for Reverend Father Berichon, who gives him a few instructions. The poor man is happy when he leaves and promises to come back in two days.

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

Reverend Father Berichon, pastor at Leaoyuansien, wishes to have a virgin catechist in the Catechumenate in Ta Lin. We prepare all the medicine that we think she will need for the patients she will be obliged to treat there. Reverend Father has just visited different mission stations and he tells us that Miss Yen, a virgin catechist for whom we prepared a little medicine-chest a few months ago, has already baptized fifty persons at Ya Men Tail.

#### **Wednesday, November 21**

We have only one priest here and it is to our modest chapel that he comes this morning, for he is supposed to come to say Mass for us every Wednesday. We are very grateful to God for allowing us to celebrate the Feast of the Presentation right in our own little convent. We all have our



work to do as usual, but when we happen to meet one another during the day, we speak of the dear Novitiate at Pont Viau, where there is great rejoicing each time this lovely feast comes round. We are, however, just as happy as we were at Pont Viau, for there are so many things which we must be thankful for in the beautiful life to which we have been called...

### **Friday, November 23**

As Mr. Lee, the patient we spoke of on November 6th, is no longer able to come for treatment, we pay him a visit. His pagan parents, who do not know what true charity is, are surprised to see that we give him medicine and dress his ugly wounds free of charge.

Last Saturday, Reverend Father Berichon baptized and anointed the poor man. He has been greatly privileged, for in this pagan land, thousands of poor unfortunates go back to their Creator without ever having heard of Him.

### **Friday, December 7**

For three days, we have prayed fervently, kept silence and offered up our work to our Immaculate Mother, in order to fittingly prepare for her lovely feast and, to-day, we spend our time decorating the chapel. The Sister sacristan decorates the altar of the church with lilies which the pupils and one of our companions have just made. The Christians, wishing to prove their love to God's Blessed Mother, have placed banners and flags here and there in the church.

This afternoon, at half-past two, His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre, who is accompanied by Reverend Fathers Roch and Drolet, arrives at the Mission. There is Holy Hour at three o'clock, for to-day is the First Friday. This evening, after Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, there is a short spiritual talk, which brings our triduum to a close.

### **Saturday, December 8**

On this beautiful feast, all the Catholics of the entire world joyfully sing the praises of their heavenly Queen. We who are her privileged children, feel that we must show her greater honour and love than anyone else.

At half-past eight, His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre celebrates Pontifical High Mass. He is assisted by Father Berichon, our pastor, and Fathers Drolet and Roch. Father Gilbert, Brother Paquette and a few pupils of the boys' school, execute the singing.

At eleven o'clock, His Excellency goes to the Workroom, where the pupils sing him a few songs in Chinese. He afterwards examines the needlework done by the children and tells them that they must study hard and do their work well, in order to be ready for the tasks which they will be asked to perform in the future.

Immediately after His Excellency takes his leave, our Sister infirmarian is asked to hasten to a pagan home. She leaves at once and, after treating

her patient, she goes to the Catechumenate, for she has been told that one of the catechumens is very sick. She baptizes the poor man at once, as she sees that he is at death's door and she knows that the priest will not be able to get to him in time. This morning, he came to the Dispensary to tell us that he had pains around his heart. The tonic we gave him did him so much good that he was able to remain standing while His Excellency was at the Workroom, just a half an hour before his death. He is indeed very fortunate to die just after receiving Holy Baptism and to go to heaven on the Feast of our Immaculate Mother...

At half-past two, His Excellency confirms some twenty new Christians and urges them to be true soldiers of Christ, ever grateful for the great gift of Faith. Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament brings the ceremony to a close.

It is then our turn to receive a visit from our revered Bishop. His Excellency, after being told about the work that is being done in our mission station, gives us some precious advice, which we shall be careful to follow while labouring among the poor pagans.

Report of the dispensary in Leaoyuansien, for the Year 1934:

Baptisms.....	308	Patients.....	27,392
Treatments.....	33,840	Dressings.....	4,441
Homes visited....	483	Injectons.....	396
		Vaccinations....	72
		Teeth extracted....	209

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## PAMIENTCHENG, MANCHURIA

*Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Pamientcheng*

### A SUNDAY IN PAMIENTCHENG

It is a beautiful morning in autumn, but it is so chilly that all the people who have warm shawls make use of them.

At half-past eight, the big bell hanging from a post in the middle of the Mission Compound, is rung. It is this bell that calls the Christians to Holy Mass, for there is no steeple. On one side of the church, the orphans march two by two, and are followed by our aged charges, who walk but slowly, and who seem to be quite resigned, although, as anyone can see by their haggard features, they have had a hard time all their lives. Just opposite them, the boys, like all other lads of their age, rush from their school, but they soon get into line and make their way to the church. Near them are to be seen a number of people, rich and poor, young and old, even some mothers with their babies. In their midst is the Pastor, who is pleased to see that they are on their way to Mass, and who reminds us of the Good Shepherd.

The church is not as elaborate as any one of the churches in Canada. The walls are white-washed and the floor is made of bricks. When the



days begin to get shorter, it is very dark at Mass-time. In order to read the different prayers, the priest has but a candle beside him. When it is time for the singing and the music, a lamp is placed on the little harmonium. But missionaries do not mind being so poor, for they realize that over the nations sunk in paganism is beginning to beam the Light of Faith. The Lord of the Harvest must certainly gaze lovingly upon these new Christians, who, in the midst of a pagan land, kneel to adore Him. Our fervent Chinese are able to set an example to many Catholics in a civilized country. On seeing how respectful they are in the church and how fervently they recite their prayers all together, we imagine that the early Christians must have done likewise.

Oh, how we long for the day when all the nations will unite in adoring the one true God and in offering Him their love!

### **Monday, November 12**

While returning from the home of one of our patients, we meet some women and children who are in mourning. They wear white shoes and yellow cotton veils which reach to their heels. We are told that the head of the house is dead. He was but thirty years of age and had ruined his health by taking opium. Very often do we meet opium fiends, whom we always recognize on account of their skinniness, their haggard looks, and their ragged clothes. It often happens that, in order to have more money for the drug, they sell all their clothes, and are obliged to wear a garment made of weeds, and, many a time, they go without food.

In order to earn a few cents, they willingly perform all kinds of mean tasks, such as going a long way with dying babies whose parents do not wish to see them die and have asked that they be thrown out, or burying poor beggars who have died on the road, and who have been left just where they fell. Their only thought is to satisfy their craving for opium, and nearly all of them die forsaken by their friends and even by their relatives.

### **Saturday, November 24**

The following is an account of what occurred recently at Pamientcheng and shows how powerful the devil is in this heathen land. A little pagan boy, while taking a donkey to the pasture, noticed near the road a number of holes, in which there were probably some wild beasts. Being full of mischief, the little fellow made the donkey walk back and forth over the holes until its legs were so badly bruised that it could hardly move them. When the poor animal was brought back, the mother of the mischievous lad asked him what had happened, and, on learning of the trick he had played, she hastened to ask the evil spirits, whom she believed had taken possession of the holes, to take pity on her son, who was very young and who had had no intention of insulting them. Then, after making several low bows and burning some grass, as she had no incense, she asked one of the spirits to come to her home, promising to honour it. When she came

back, there was nothing wrong with the donkey, and, the next day, a brown fox crept into the little pagoda near her home.

Needless to say, this unhappy woman, who is being ruled over by the devil, does not want us to mention religion to her.

### **Friday, December 14**

A pagan woman, whose home is but a short distance from the Mission, died just lately, and the virgin catechist, Agnes Tchang, tells us how the pagans act when a person is at death's door and after he dies. New clothes are put on the patient, he is placed on a stretcher near the *kang*, and is left there not only until he dies, but for a day after. He is then put in a coffin. Well-to-do people order their coffins several years before they are needed. These coffins are very heavy, and some of them are five feet high. They are lined with earth covered over with cloth. A rich person is laid out in a silk shroud and a poor person, in a cotton one; on such a shroud there must be neither a collar nor a belt, for the superstitious Chinese believe that other members of the family will fall sick and die if the deceased wears a shroud of the kind. At the foot of the coffin is placed a pair of new shoes, and, on the right arm of the deceased, a cock made of cotton, which is supposed to tell him the time. Near the house, there are two or three tents. In the first is placed the coffin and the gifts offered to the deceased: a carriage, a horse, and some tables and chairs, all of which are made of cardboard; in the second, the visitors are received, for there is to be feasting for three or four days. The bereaved parents remain near the coffin, and several of their relatives and friends offer them their sympathy. Every time a visitor arrives, fresh tears are shed and mock money burned. Those who have a little money hire bonzes, who pray beside the coffin day and night, and, on the third or fourth day, the people march to the pagoda to get some water over which the bonze has recited a few prayers. With this water, they wash the face of the deceased, in order that all the sins he has committed may be wiped out. The day before the burial, his near relatives go again to the pagoda, this time to bring his spirit thither. The march is headed by the eldest son, who carries a lighted lantern, to brighten up the road over which the spirit is passing, and a broom, to sweep away everything that is in his way. The persons who follow him carry different things made of cardboard, among which is a horse and a carriage. All these articles will be burned at the pagoda. The eldest son presides at all the ceremonies, and, before burning the horse and the carriage, he raises his voice and tells the spirit whether it is to travel towards the north, or towards the south.

The mourning outfits are white. The children, grandchildren, brothers and sisters of the deceased wear white hats and white robes, and his parents and friends, white hats, but robes of another colour.

Report of the Dispensary in Pamiéntcheng for the months of November and December 1934:



	Baptisms.....	12		
Patients.....	2,010	Treatments.....	4,554	Dressings.....278
Teeth extracted...	26	Homes visited...	33	Consultations.....316

Report of the Dispensary in Pamientcheng for the year 1934:

	Baptisms.....	297		
Patients.....	13,352	Treatments.....	20,988	Dressings.....2,479
Teeth extracted...	182	Homes visited...	208	Consultations ....1,710

Report of the Orphanage in Pamientcheng:

Children being cared for at the Orphanage.....	16
Orphans given out to be looked after.....	5
Orphans married during the year.....	2
Orphans adopted.....	2
Deaths among the orphans during the year.....	5



LITTLE GIRLS OF THE ORPHANAGE OF PAMIENTCHENG, MANCHURIA,  
WHICH IS CONDUCTED BY THE MISSIONARIES OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

**Thursday, January 8, 1935**

It is both interesting and consoling to see a pagan seeking the truth. Our Chinese teacher knew nothing about our religion when she came to us, and she told us lately that she felt a certain dislike when she crossed our threshold for the first time. Soon after she arrived, we asked her if she would like to visit the chapel, and she said that she would, simply to please us. Through curiosity, she gazed at the crucifix, and at the statue of the Blessed Virgin, and of that of St. Joseph and of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Later on, she took delight in asking us the following questions: Why was Jesus crucified? What did He do? Whom is the Blessed Virgin holding in her arms? Yesterday, on looking through a text book, she came across a picture of the Blessed Virgin, which she examined closely. When

Sister asked her if she knew who the Lady was and if she wanted her picture, she said that she knew that it was the picture of the Blessed Virgin she was looking at, but that such a beautiful lady would not be glad to see her picture in the hands of one who was not a Christian. Sister told her not to be afraid, as the Blessed Virgin loves those who seek the truth, and she immediately declared that she dearly loved the Lady and that she would like to have her picture. She accepted the image of our loving Mother, and began to wear her medal.

#### **Thursday, January 24**

During the Chinese New Year holidays, which last for four weeks our orphans are kept busy. Anyone coming unexpectedly to the Orphanage may see how true this is. As soon as the room has been tidied up, the children sit down on the *kang*. Two of them are soon engaged in making clothes for themselves, and several others settle down to make shoes. In an adjoining room, a few of them are taught how to cook. During this time, the tiny tots romp about and chatter gayly. Our dear orphans are really very good children, and they are very grateful to those who take care of them and who, besides showing them how to work well, give them a good spiritual training.

#### **Friday, January 25**

We are asked to go to see a young woman in the last stages of tuberculosis. After giving her all kinds of Chinese medicine, her people decide to have us treat her.

A catechist from the Mission has been going to see her regularly ever since she took sick. She gladly accepts a miraculous medal, and, being in favour of our religion, consents to be baptized. We give the poor dying woman the name of Mary.

#### **Saturday, January 26**

It is housecleaning time in China. Here, it is customary to do the housecleaning but once a year, and it is always done during the Chinese New Year season. Needless to say, the houses are dreadfully dirty. We endeavour to see what colour the walls were at first but all in vain. Everything in the house must be washed and dusted, and the cobwebs must be swept down. Why is it that the Chinese do not do their housecleaning oftener?... It is because they are superstitious and believe that if they clean the walls and sweep down the cobwebs, they will probably not receive the money they are supposed to receive daily.

#### **Sunday, January 27**

This is the day on which the picture of Tchao Wang Ie is burned in every pagan home. Tchao Wang Ie is regarded as a great benefactor, for he loved the poor and helped them in time of need. After his death, all



those whom he had helped believed that they would receive many a favour from him if they hung his picture over the fireplace. This custom soon spread, and, in every home, there is now a picture of Tchao Wang Ie. Before burning his picture, the pagans superstitiously stick a candy over his mouth, that he may not be able to move his lips and that, up above, he may speak in their favour. The pagans believe that it is really necessary to perform this superstitious practice. Our Chinese teacher has told us that one of her relatives who did not bother performing it, fell sick a few days later, and that the sorcerer who was sent for, declared that she was sick because Tchao Wang Ie, whose lips she had not stuck together, was speaking evil about her and had persuaded the spirits to turn against her. The poor woman soon died and everyone still believes that it was Tchao Wang Ie who caused her death.

### **Monday, February 4**

Just now, there are more superstitious practices being performed than at any other time of the year. Yesterday was the last day of the Chinese New Year season, and the superstitious pagans, expecting to be visited by the spirits, stayed up all night. On this occasion, the pagans are in the habit of arranging, just outside the door, a table, on which they place the god of the household, a little incense, some *mant'eou* (Chinese cakes), and some *tiaotze* (little meat pies). At midnight, the head of the house, accompanied by a few members of the family, goes outside to make a *ko-to* to the deity and to set off some fire-crackers, in order to bid the spirits welcome. Inside the house, a table has been set, and the spirits are invited to partake of a meal. Of course, the food is left untouched, and the guests are able to take a lunch before going to bed.

Every day of the first month of the year, the Chinese perform some superstitious practice, and they do no work. They believe that if they work on the first day the spirits will be displeased, on the second, that the father will die during the year, on the third, that the mother will die during the year, on the fourth, that they will be deprived of the happiness of having a baby boy born to them. Those who are lazy, must be overjoyed during this season.

### **Sunday, February 10**

We have received two new orphans from Ling Si: Kai Tong, ten years of age, and Sing Tchow, seven. About the same time, two others were brought to us from a pagan home in Tung Leao: Ta Ya, aged twelve, and Siao Sioung, aged eight. They were given a hearty welcome, and although they have been with us only a few hours, they already feel quite at home.

### **Sunday, February 24**

In China as elsewhere, there are chosen souls. Agnes Chang is one of them. The following is a sketch of her life:

Agnes was born of Christian parents, who strove to bring up their children in the love of God. She was not quite eleven years of age when her father thought of making arrangements for her marriage. One of his sisters, who lived some sixty *li* distant, wrote to tell him that a young Christian living near her wanted to become engaged, and she persuaded him to give his daughter in marriage. When Agnes was told that the day she was to meet the young Christian was arranged for, she began to cry and to entreat the Blessed Virgin to help her to tell her father that she had no intention of getting married. She had never seen any Sisters, but she had read somewhere that maidenhood was the most perfect state one could choose. The evening before the day she was to be introduced to the parents of the young Christian, she prayed more fervently than ever before. But her father, who was not touched in the least, told her that the next morning she was to get up early and to put on her prettiest dress, as he wanted her to please these people.

Agnes cried and prayed the whole night long, and, in the morning, she thought of a plan. She told her father that she knew very little about the Catholic doctrine and that she would feel quite ashamed on meeting these people, whose ancestors were all Catholics. Then, reminding him of how humiliated they would feel, she asked him to let her go to the Catholic Mission, fifteen *li* away, to study her Catechism for a while. Mr. Tchang was easily won over. Realizing that they were about to "lose face", he told his daughter that she might go to the Catholic Mission and that he would wait for a few months before settling the question.

The little girl left home that very morning, and she stayed away longer than her parents thought that she would. She returned to them only two years later. Every time her people begged her to come back, she would say: "No, I don't know anything about the Catholic religion, yet." Finally, her father grew so impatient that he came himself to the Catholic Mission and succeeded in compelling her to leave. When she told him that she did not want to go home because she was afraid that he would make her get married, he told her that she would be free to do as she liked. The dear child, on seeing what a change had come over her father, asked him to let her go to Mukden, to join the Community of the Sisters of Providence of Portieux. Mr. Tchang was not at all willing but, a few years later, when he saw that his daughter had not changed her mind, he hearkened to her entreaties.

Agnes was eighteen years old when she entered the Convent, but, as she began to have throat trouble, she was obliged to return home. Before leaving, the Sisters assured her that she would be allowed to enter again if she was cured during the year. After being operated on, she felt much better, and, nine months later, she returned to Mukden. She soon grew ill again and was obliged to leave. Her parents were vexed, and they told her that it was in the Convent that she had contracted such a disease. Agnes did not say a word but was patient and resigned. About that time, His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre, who was then pastor at Leao Yuan Sien,



had a native novitiate built in that mission station. Everyone in the Tchang family was acquainted with His Excellency, for it was Mr. Tchang who taught him Chinese when he arrived in China. Agnes wrote to Mgr. Lapierre, to ask him to accept her as one of his helpers. His Excellency needed virgin catechists, and so he sent for her. Owing to the tubercular wound on her throat, she was not admitted to the Novitiate. She, however, took two vows, the vow of obedience and the vow of remaining a virgin all her life, these vows being received by His Excellency. And ever since, Agnes Tchang has been labouring with the greatest zeal for the salvation of her fellow-countrymen in Pamientcheng.

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## TSUNGMING, CHINA

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

### Monday, January 7, 1935

When the Angelus is ringing this evening, a poor woman brings us a package, which she lays at the feet of our portress. The latter opens it and takes out two babies, born the same day of two mothers, who are neighbours, both of whom have no love for their children. Poor pagan China! How much misery does it show forth to us every day!

A twelve-year-old boy, whose home is twelve *li* away, wishing to earn thirty cents, comes to the Dispensary with a basket containing a baby, which was picked up on the road, and which we baptize immediately. The lad carries a cane and has such difficulty in walking that he could easily be taken for a little old man. We should be very glad if the desire for money always produced fruits of the kind.

### Thursday, January 10

On returning from a patient's home, our Sister infirmarian is asked to go to see a paralytic, who is stretched on a miserable bed. After doing all that she can to relieve him, she notices a little girl sitting on a bench in a corner of the same room. The poor child looks so pale that it can easily be seen that she has not much longer to live. "Who is this child?" Sister asks. A woman approaches her, saying: "It's my little girl, don't bother about her, for she's going to die soon." "Allow me," our Sister infirmarian says to her, "to give her some medicine, it will not cost you anything." The little one, surprised at the marks of tenderness shown her by the visitor, does not try to run away, she takes the medicine and, immediately after, receives Holy Baptism. Having apparently obtained no good results from our first visit, we admire in the last one the admirable designs of God in His Providence who desired the eternal happiness of the child suffering from rickets and, perhaps, of the paralytic, also, for he was given a miraculous

medal and we hope that we shall have the opportunity of baptizing him before he dies.

### **Monday, January 28**

One of our Sisters sets out on an apostolic journey, and comes back with a basket containing eight new little ones for the Foundling-Home.

A pagan woman goes to the Dispensary in Paochen to be treated, and, before leaving, she offers Sister Marie de Jesus<sup>(1)</sup> ten cents. "I'm giving you this money to buy tobacco with," she whispers to her... There is nothing that pleases this poor pagan woman more than smoking, so it is not surprising that she wishes the one who has treated her so well, to have a smoke, also.



SOME CHILDREN OF THE ORPHANAGE CONDUCTED BY THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, IN TSUNGMING, CHINA.  
THESE LITTLE ONES ARE EATING RICE IN CHINESE FASHION.

### **Tuesday, January 29**

Someone comes to the Dispensary asking us to go to see a person who is seriously ill with pneumonia... We ask her if she has any children. She does not know exactly, for, being a pagan, she unscrupulously got rid of them according as they came into the world.

When we hear tell of how cruel so many mothers are to their children, we look with all the more pity on the little ones who are fortunate enough to be brought to our Foundling-Home. It is always very touching to hear all the little orphans shouting gleefully when Sister Superior or the Sister to whom they have been confided, comes into their room, just like we, when we were children, used to greet our dear mothers, after they had been away,

1. Elmina MELANSON, of Rogersville, N. B.



even for a short time... It is charming to hear their piping voices as they cry out all together: *Momo, momo, Ta Momo* is coming. They are good children, and, after being naughty, they are afraid they have grieved us, and they try to make us forget about what they have done. Like all the other children of Adam, they have their faults, but they do not seem to have inherited from their mothers the hard-heartedness which caused them to be cast away.

### **Saturday, February 2**

Three novices of the Teresian Community make Religious Profession, this morning, while seven Professed Sisters renew their Holy Vows, which are received by His Excellency Mgr. Tsu, the celebrant.

After the ceremony, His Excellency assigns the newly-professed Sisters and the other members of the little Teresian community, their new work. He then takes breakfast and hastily makes his way to the harbour, feeling quite sorry that, owing to the opening of the Chinese New Year season, he is obliged to leave so soon. Until the 7th, the traffic between Shanghai and Tsungming will be held up; the Chinese do no work on the first four days of the year. On this occasion, they procure other deities, and many of the people we meet have their new idols with them. According to a pagan custom, eight days before the New Year commences, the Chinese burn the god of the household in order to send it to heaven, and they set up a new one just before the New Year dawns, so that it may, from then on, be their protector.

On the Island of Tsungming, where missionaries from France laboured for so long, two-thirds of the inhabitants are still pagans!... How heart-breaking it is to think of this!...

### **Monday, February 4**

It is the first day of the Chinese New Year season, and beggars are to be seen everywhere! The inhabitants who are not quite so poor, stay home to have a feast. The numerous beggars we meet excite our pity. A large sum of money would be required to relieve them all. To the old folks and cripples, we give a few cents, but only speak a few kind words to the others, for we know that, by giving them money, we shall encourage them to continue to be lazy...

We have but few sweets for our little charges, the number of whom is always increasing. However, we find a way of distributing a few candies to them, and they will not soon forget such an event.

### **Tuesday, February 19**

Twelve little ones are brought to us. One who has never lived in China cannot imagine what a state the abandoned babies are in when we receive them. Two of the twelve little waifs died on the way, after having been baptized, and all the others are sick, four being in a dying condition.

**Sunday, February 24**

On the occasion of the opening of the Old Folks' Home, we receive a number of visitors, among whom are some of the leading men of Shanghai and Tsungming. Several of them appear to be quite surprised on seeing so many children, and on discovering that a few of them are very pretty and very bright...

A pagan enters the big orphans' classroom, in which there are some big clothes-closets. "Open them, so that I may see what is inside," he boldly says to the Sister in charge of the orphans, and immediately adds, "Do you put children in them?" "We do not put any children in these clothes-closets, but only their clothing," Sister answers. The pagans are always puzzled on seeing how eager we are to receive abandoned children, for they only think of making money, and they believe that we do not gain anything by looking after these little ones... They ask us many questions concerning our dear charges, and we seize the opportunity to tell them a little about our holy religion and get them to look favourably upon it.

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**SUCHOW, KIANGSU, CHINA**

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

**Tuesday, November 20, 1934**

It is a long time since we first heard about what is done at a Chinese funeral, but not until lately did we have the occasion of seeing one. Five months ago, one of our neighbours died. After putting his body in a coffin, his people assisted at a banquet in his honour. For a few days, they made a great deal of noise, and then decided to leave the coffin in a corner. On certain days, incense and different kinds of food were offered to the deceased. It is only this week that he is buried. As the funeral passes our convent, we are able to get a good look at it. First of all come some poorly-clad minstrels; behind them is a man with a tray on which are a number of dishes of food. Each of the sons of the dead man carry a cane and all weep so bitterly that the ground is wet with their tears. Just behind the coffin, which is borne along by eight men, are a few rickshaws, in which the dead man's wife, his daughters-in-law, and his daughters are seated. The daughters-in-law ride ahead of the married daughters, for, in China, the girls in a family who have got married, are not considered as near relatives. All of these young women sobbingly tell of the misfortune which has been brought upon them by the death of the head of the house. They are sad to think that the bread-winner is gone and that there is now no one to provide for his aged mother and his children. When the mourners have told their sad tale, they keep quiet for a moment and then begin all over again, and this goes on for a quarter of an hour. While they are wailing, the coffin is placed on a stretcher in the middle of the road. The dead man is offered incense and food which has been prepared beforehand, and



the heirs take turns in making him a *ko-tow* (low bow) and burn many counterfeit bills. When they are through performing their superstitious practices, the mourners continue on their way, but they will begin such practices all over again just before the coffin is lowered into the grave. All the relatives and friends of the dead man, the tiny tots included, are dressed in white, for, in China, white is a sign of mourning.

The poor superstitious pagans are greatly to be pitied. How we long for the day when all the people of China will bend low in adoration before the one true God!

### **Wednesday, November 21, Feast of the Presentation**

This morning, we meditate on the virtues of the Child Mary and think of with what great love she, when but three years of age, consecrated her life to God's service. Lovingly do we ask her to help us to be always resigned to God's Holy Will.

The priests of the Mission have gone to different mission stations, and so Mass is not said in our chapel this morning. A number of Christians assist at the Mass celebrated in the church by Mgr. Marin, and all of them, complying with the desire expressed last Sunday by our Reverend Pastor, receive Holy Communion for the Presentandines, and ask our Blessed Lady to continue to assist and protect those devoted helpers in their different mission stations.

When breakfast is over, the pupils put on a little play in honour of the three Presentandines in charge of the school here. After a song of welcome and some comical acts, the Little Flower of Jesus is represented at different periods of her life, from the time she was miraculously cured by the Blessed Virgin until she entered the Carmelite convent. The numerous Christian women who are present, admire the wonderful generosity of the father of the loving little Saint, who does all he can to have her enter the Convent. We hope that it will be a discreet lesson for all of them and that even though they are not courageous enough to help their children to obtain admission to the religious life, they will not hinder them from following their vocation.

At the end of the play, Sister Superior gives the pupils some framed pictures sent them by Mgr. Marin.



## Report of St. Joseph's Oriental Hospital of Vancouver for the Year 1934.

Baptisms.....	49	Holy Communions.....	119
Extreme Unctions.....	23	Hospital Days.....	21,520
Medications.....	14,181	Patients admitted.....	141
Routine treatments.....	6,515	Dressings.....	2,004
Physio-Therapy.....	953	Injections.....	1,146
Pneumothorax.....	436	Patients discharged.....	42

# 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.

## Saturday, March 16, 1935

Our dear Sister Assistant General, who arrived at the Novitiate yesterday, spends the noon recreation with us novices. The postulants are invited to come to our recreation room, for very seldom is such a visit paid us. We group around the platform and are delighted during the short time that our dear visitor spends with us.

## Monday, March 25, Feast of the Annunciation

It is with the greatest filial love that we repair to our spotless chapel this morning. We imagine that we are accompanying the Archangel Gabriel, who is on his way to the home of the Blessed Virgin in Nazareth, and we unite with him in repeating the words: *Ave, gratia plena, Dominus tecum...*

Our Immaculate Lady seems to smile when we utter this salutation and to answer, as long ago, "*Fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum...*"

Oh! how ravishingly beautiful does Our loving Mother appear to us, surrounded as she is by lilies! We feel that she is the queen of these beautiful flowers, symbols of her virginal purity, which charmed the Eternal Father and attracted the Word which was about to be made flesh. Fervently we proclaim to her the love, gratitude and confidence so justly due her, and unceasingly do we greet her with our *Aves*, which are as so many sweet-smelling roses.

After the spiritual exercises, we consecrate ourselves anew to Our Blessed Lady. Sister Superior then tells us that we may take a holiday, and we have a very good time the whole day long.

## Tuesday, March 26

During recreation, a little bell is rung, and we are asked to keep silence and to arrange the room so that lantern slides may be given in it...

A look of gladness spreads over our countenances, for we all guess that it is a pleasant trip to the land of our dreams that we are going to be allowed to take. Before long, the screen is ready, the chairs are arranged so as to resemble an amphitheatre, the lights are turned off, and all of us are eager to set out on our trip. We are soon introduced to Reverend Father Berichon of the Foreign Mission Seminary, who arrived just lately from far-off Manchuria. He is accompanied by Reverend Father Roberge, Procurator of the Society, who has also had the happiness of spending a few years in China. The missionary is dressed as a Chinese priest; he gives us news of our Sisters on the Missions and tells us about the manners and customs



of the people in his land of adoption, according as the slides are shown. The speaker is very jolly, and he does not fail to amuse us for nearly two hours and to edify us by his many narratives.

At the close of our pleasant evening, we appreciate all the more our beautiful vocation, and feel all the more eager to go as soon as possible to rescue the benighted, superstitious inhabitants of China.

### Monday, April 8

For the second time since the beginning of the year, our divine Lord has visited the Dovecot, and another little Dove has been fascinated and has flown to heaven. The privileged one was known here below as Sister St. Gerard Majella (Elise Dallaire, of Chicoutimi). She has not been in our midst since November, for, owing to the disease with which she was wasting away, she was obliged to go for special treatment, to a hospital in her own city, where two of her sisters are in God's service, but, just the same, we always considered her as one of our Sisters, and she herself cherished the hope of coming back to our Novitiate. We were given news of her occasionally and such news caused us to be sometimes full of hope, and sometimes in doubt. This morning, our Mistress received the following letter from our dear companion's oldest sister:

*Hotel Dieu St. Vallier, Chicoutimi, April 7, 1935.*

REVEREND AND DEAR MOTHER,

I am taking the liberty of recommending to your prayers and to those of all your Sisters, our dear Elise, who flew to our Blessed Mother on April 6th, at one o'clock in the morning. She was ready to die, I can assure you, and in heaven you now have another protectress, for she was a true religious and dearly loved her Community until the hour of her death. Since pronouncing her Holy Vows, several months ago, she never uttered a word of complaint, but offered her life to God, for the conversion of the pagans. She was not backward in telling us that even on her bed of pain, she was labouring for the salvation of souls, since God wished her to be ill. She had a hemorrhage early in the morning of April 3rd, and another on the 6th, and in a moment all was over. We did not even get to her bedside in time to see her breathe her last. She had often told us to watch her closely, as she was sure that our Immaculate Lady, whom she had seen just after taking sick, would steal her away from us... and it was, indeed, surprising to see how she really was stolen away... It is a bitter trial, but we are resigned to God's Holy Will...

Once again, I thank you for all your kindness to her, for such was her desire. You have not obliged a thankless child, and, now that she has reached the heavenly abode, I think she will protect you in a special manner.

Yours devotedly in Jesus,

SR. MARY OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD.

It was just at the dawn of a Saturday, a day dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, that our dear little sister left this earth to eternally see our loving God face to face, and to hide beneath the mantle of our Immaculate Mother. We do not mourn her loss, for we know that she is very happy, but we beg her to watch over us from the blissful abode and to help us to convert the poor pagans, among whom she longed to labour.

### **Tuesday, April 9**

A kind benefactor, to whom we are deeply indebted, to-day sends us a beautiful little electric organ for our chapel, so that henceforth the music on the special feast days will be more solemn. We also receive from him two pianos, which will render our studies and our little celebrations more charming.

It is at recreation time that we receive these generous gifts, and we do not fail to express our happiness and our heartfelt gratitude. Wishing to do more, we shall strive to pay our debt of gratitude with prayers. They will be wafted heavenwards for the intentions of this kind benefactor, along with the sweet notes of our organ, which will unceasingly remind us of our pleasant duty.

### **Wednesday, April 10**

We shall make good use of our time from now until the end of Holy Year, by making other visits, as prescribed, so as to procure as large a share as possible of the merits of Jesus, for Our Holy Father has opened the treasury for us. While meditating in a special manner on Our Lord's sorrowful Passion during these last two weeks of Lent, we feel that we must not let the closing of the Holy Year pass by unnoticed.

### **Wednesday, April 17**

Last Thursday, we tried our Easter examinations, and, since then, we have had no lessons to study and have been able to do the spring housecleaning. The Novitiate may be compared to a hive, and it is amusing to see the band of novices armed with brushes, brooms and rags, standing on step-ladders rubbing and scrubbing as best they can.

We must admit that when the work began, much time was spent uselessly, as some did not know how to make a place for ourselves, and as a few others began all over again the work which one of their companions had just finished, but it was not long before everyone was able to perform her task... On considering how awkward we were, we could not help thinking of the dear mothers of a few of us, who would certainly have recognized their unhandy daughters, and we began to realize why they sent us away when we wanted to help them when they were very busy.

At noon on the fifth day, the housecleaning is nearly finished. Luckily that it is, for our Mistress promises us that she will let us take a trip to Japan if we are ready inside of an hour. We are overjoyed when we hear



this. Towards three o'clock, Reverend Father Reid, O. P., who just lately returned from the Land of the Rising Sun, where he has been for the last eight years, comes to tell us about his dear mission. All that he relates to us greatly interests us and makes us love our beautiful missionary vocation all the more.

China and Japan are very much alike, but of course they differ in some respects. Fortunately, we are not asked which country we prefer to labour in, but must go to the one we are sent to by obedience. Whatever mission field we are assigned to by our Superiors will be the one we shall love the most, for we shall feel certain that it is the one in which our divine Lord wishes us to gather in a harvest of souls. So, with the very same enthusiasm, we cry out: "Three cheers for Japan! Three cheers for China!"

### **Easter Sunday, April 21**

On awakening, we think of how Jesus rose triumphantly from the dead and how happy His Blessed Mother was on greeting Him. With the greatest piety we ask Our Lady to let us share in her happiness, just as we shared in her sorrow during Holy Week.

As it is our custom on this happy anniversary, we sing the *Regina Cæli* as we come down from the dormitory and enter the chapel. The Novitiate rings with the joyful *Alleluias*, which, along with a fervent meditation on the mystery of the Resurrection, fills our hearts with spiritual joy.

A great many letters are distributed at the beginning of recreation, and we all are exceedingly happy on reading the good news sent us by our dear parents.

It is, indeed, a beautiful day. We did not have the pleasure of seeing the sun rise this morning, for we did not get up early enough, but, all day long, we were pleased to see how it brightened up everything around us. We go outside to contemplate the beauties of Nature, and happy are we on spying among the grass the first flowers of the season. It is with the greatest love that we place them before the statue of Our Blessed Lady in the Novitiate.

### **Tuesday, April 30**

To-morrow, the month of Our Lady will open, and our Mistress has us assemble in order to tell us how dearly we should love this tender Mother and what a great devotion we should have to her. We listen attentively to her exhortations, which are as a touching hymn in honour of our loving Patroness.

Nothing causes us greater joy than to hear the one who is so dear to us, exalted. Our Mistress' words in Mary's praise are music to our souls; they will be re-echoed all during the month of May, and, we fondly hope, until life's day is done.

**Wednesday, May 1st**

On seeing the month of May return, we are overjoyed, for we are anxious to honour our heavenly Mother. We would have been glad if the sun had shed its bright rays upon the earth to-day. Instead, a mighty wind sings in its own way the praises of our peerless Queen.

Reverend Father Rondeau, P. M. E., who comes to the Novitiate every week to give us a spiritual talk, to-day tells us how the May devotions originated and what benefit may be derived from them. He explains to us how our Immaculate Mother intercedes for her children throughout the entire world, and exhorts us to love and honour her as we should.

**Thursday, May 2**

A certain number of us go with Sister Superior and two of our Sisters from Outremont, to the Foreign Mission Seminary in order to assist at a Requiem Mass for Reverend Father Bedard, a young missionary who died in Manchuria recently. Three other evangelical labourers have lately been snatched from this mission field. They are gone, but we feel that they will still continue to labour for the poor pagans. Up above, they will, as upon earth, promote the cause for which they gave up their lives.

**Sunday, May 5**

In the refectory is being read to us a pastoral letter from His Eminence Cardinal Villeneuve and Their Excellencies the Archbishops and Bishops of the Province of Quebec, concerning the celebrating of the Silver Jubilee of our gracious Sovereigns.

Filled with respect, we listen to our Bishops, who are reminding us of the justice and gratitude we must show on this occasion. Complying with their wishes, we earnestly entreat God to grant that such a glorious and peaceful reign may be a long one, and, uniting with all the people of the British Empire, we sing a hymn to thank Him for all the gifts He has bestowed on our beloved king and queen.

**Monday, May 6**

To-day, we are given a *royal* holiday, and we really enjoy ourselves. We feel that we could not have had a better time, even had we been at Buckingham Palace.

**Wednesday, May 8, Feast of the Patronage of St. Joseph**

Yesterday, our hearts were filled with joy, but we, nevertheless, felt a distant respect; to-day they fairly overflow with gladness, for it is the feast of the Patronage of our loving Protector, St. Joseph... During Holy Mass, joyful are the *Alleluias* which resound and, encouraging the promise of St. Joseph at the end of the Epistle: "In whatsoever tribulation they shall cry to me, I will hear them, and be their protector always." Full of confidence, we tell this great Saint what we are worrying about and what we are longing for, and we at once experience the greatest happiness.





# The Children's Page

DEAR CHILDREN,

Already several times, you have seen on the drawing-room table, in the hands of your parents or in those of your big brothers and sisters, your *Great Friend* THE PRECURSOR. Perhaps, you have even looked through it, thinking that you would find something to interest you...

THERE IS SOMETHING YOU DO NOT KNOW

You do not know that THE PRECURSOR is your *Great Friend*, for no one has told you so. For a long time past, your *Great Friend* has been thinking of calling you all together, in order to address you a few words of affection... From now on, in each number of THE PRECURSOR, there will be a page entitled: "The Children's Page."

When you have something to tell your *Great Friend*, you must not be backward, write to the address at the bottom of the page<sup>(1)</sup>. Your letters will be most welcome and you will receive a reply.

WHY THE PRECURSOR IS YOUR GREAT FRIEND?

THE PRECURSOR loves you because it is the friend of Our Lord, who dearly loves you. When our loving Saviour was here among men, He asked that the little ones be allowed to come unto Him, He laid His hands upon their heads and blessed them, because He is the Friend of the clean of heart...

ITS PATRON

THE PRECURSOR's patron is St. John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ. This great saint prepared the people for the coming of their Redeemer, by getting them to do penance and by telling them that the Kingdom of God was near at hand. Following the example of its illustrious patron, THE PRECURSOR wishes to get you to love Jesus more and more and to enjoy all the good things that make good children happy.



1. Address: THE PRECURSOR, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont, Que.



JESUS BLESSING THE LITTLE ONES.

St. John the Baptist lived in a desert, he wore a garment of camel's hair and ate only locusts and wild honey. When Our Lord told him of his great mission, he came into the country about the Jordan, urging the people to do penance and declaring that the one who was to come after him was mightier than he, and that he was not worthy to loose the latchet of His shoes. Once when He saw Jesus passing by, he said to his followers: "Behold the Lamb of God, who taketh away the sins of the world." And, on another occasion, he said to them: "He must increase, but I must decrease." He was put to death because of His great love for the law of God. Herod, at the request of Salome, the daughter of wicked Herodias, ordered that the head of Christ's precursor be cut off.

St. John the Baptist was to be remarked for his spirit of sacrifice, his profound humility, his disinterestedness, and his zeal. You cannot be as virtuous as this great Saint, but you all must try to walk in his footsteps.

#### DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Dear Children, the summer holidays have already begun. You are going to have a good time for two months, for you are free to romp about and to do just as you like, but you must not forget to please our divine Lord, by setting your little playmates a good example, by making little sacrifices, and by performing little acts of humility. Your *Great Friend* will ask your Guardian Angels to help you to seize the many opportunities you will have to practise virtue, so that they will have the happiness of often writing your names in their book of gold.

Your *Great Friend*,

THE PRECURSOR.



# Thanksgivings to the Blessed Virgin for favours obtained

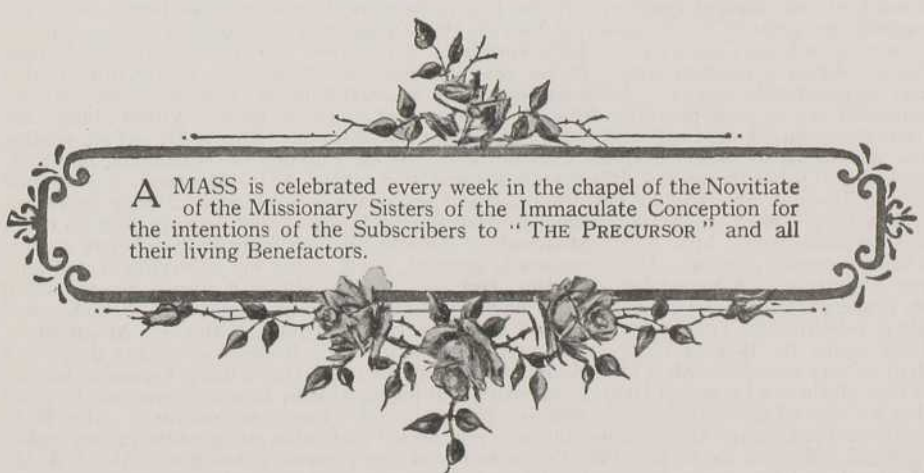


*"O MARY, the entire universe would perish before you refuse your assistance to those who, with all their heart, implore your help and protection."*

BL. HENRY SUZO.

I want to publish a very important favour I have received. My husband, who took a stroke two months ago, is up and around again. I attribute his cure to the novena to the Blessed Virgin Mary which was made for him. Mrs. J. K., **Montreal**. — My prayers have been answered, and it is with great pleasure that I send the enclosed. I trust that my other requests will be granted. I will send a further donation. Mrs. Moore, **Montreal**. — I am very grateful for all the favours I have received. Please pray that God may watch over my son and help him to find a position. Mrs. A. J., **Montreal**. — Please find enclosed an offering for a favour granted. I will make a further payment if another request is granted my husband and self. Kindly pray that we may obtain this request soon. Mrs. J. M., **Montreal**. — I am enclosing a cheque for a year's subscription to THE PRECURSOR and for the ransom of some dying pagan babies, as promised for a favour. Once again I appeal for novenas and prayers, for the restoration of my health. C. Moodie, **Aubrey, Que.** — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Mrs. P., **Montreal**. — Find enclosed an offering in honour of the Blessed Virgin, through whose intercession a cure has been obtained. Mrs. O. L., **Newport Centre**. — I wish to thank for a temporal favour obtained through her intercession. May she again come to our aid. A Subscriber. — My little brother is now much better after being operated on, and I am very grateful. M. B. — I have been cured of eczema and am fulfilling my promise by publishing my thanksgiving. Mrs. C. C. — Find enclosed a Postal Note to ransom two dying Chinese babies, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Mrs. C. H. I., **Port Alfred**. — I wish to return thanks for the great favour that has been granted me. Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. Mrs. F. T. — Enclosed please find a small offering for the Missions, in thanksgiving for a favour received. I am asking for another favour and if it is granted me, I will send you another thank-offering. L. R. — After I subscribed to THE PRECURSOR, I secured a position. I wish to thank the Blessed Virgin for coming to my assistance. Miss D., **Montreal**. — I have obtained a favour and am sending you an offering which you may use as you see fit. R. S., **Quebec**. — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription, in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin, through whose intercession I have obtained a favour. Miss R. D., **Montreal**. — I have obtained a favour and am sending you an offering to ransom a Chinese baby, as promised. Mrs. H. T. — I have obtained a favour through the medium of the Miraculous Medal. Please publish my thanksgiving, for I promised publication. Anonymous. — I have obtained a favour and am subscribing to THE PRECURSOR, as promised. Miss I. B., **Woonsocket, R. I.** — Find enclosed an offering for the ransom of some Chinese babies, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Anonymous. — I obtained a cure after promising to publish my thanksgiving. The enclosed offering is for the Missions. Miss A. M. L. — After promising to send an offering for the Missions, I obtained a position. I am most grateful to the Blessed Virgin for coming to my assistance. G. F., **Montreal**. — Some time ago, I promised that I would publish my thanksgiving if our Blessed Lady obtained me a favour. I have received an answer to my prayers. P. L. B. — My little girl has been cured of infantile paralysis through the medium of the Miraculous Medal. I am very grateful to the Blessed Virgin for the great favour she has obtained me. Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. Mrs. M., **Verdun**. — After making a novena and promising to have my thanksgiving published, I obtained a cure. Please publish. Mrs. J. N., **Quebec**. — Enclosed please find a year's subscription to THE PRECURSOR, in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. Anonymous. — After suffering greatly for a few months, I turned to Our Lady, promising to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR if she came to my aid. A few days afterwards, I began to feel better and am now quite well. I am very grateful for the great favour that has been granted me. Miss A. D. — My little girl has been cured through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. I am truly thankful for this favour, as well as for all the others I received during the year. Mrs. D. B. — The Blessed Virgin has helped me to find a position, and I am very grateful to her. Anonymous. — Enclosed please find a small offering, in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin, through whose intercession I have obtained a favour. Mrs. L. L. — I am most grateful to the Blessed Virgin, for, through her intercession, a man addicted to drink has begun to live a better life. Mrs. D., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find an offering for your missions, in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. E. R. M., **Quebec**. — I am most grateful to the Blessed Virgin, who has cured one dear to me. Mrs. J. L. — Find enclosed an offering to ransom a Chinese baby, in thanksgiving for a favour

received. Mrs. L. — The enclosed offering is in thanksgiving for a favour granted me. A Subscriber. — My petition has been granted and I am truly thankful. I am again asking the Blessed Virgin to take pity on me and to obtain me several other important favours. W. P., **Montreal**. — Our Blessed Lady has obtained me a favour and it is to thank her that I am sending you this offering. A. L. — I have received two favours and am sending you a donation, as promised. Mrs. R. G. B., **Stottville**. — I am grateful to the Blessed Virgin for her answer to my prayers, and I am gladly fulfilling the promise I made some time ago. Miss G. L. — I am very grateful for the favour that has been granted me. I am sending you an offering to ransom some Chinese babies. L. B., **Wauregan**. — My little one has been cured through the medium of the Miraculous Medal. I wish you would publish my thanksgiving in **THE PRECURSOR**. Mrs. G., **Montreal**. — I wish to thank our Blessed Lady for a special favour she has obtained me. Anonymous. — Find enclosed a Postal Note, in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin, who continues to watch over me. G. B., **Ottawa**. — A cure has been obtained through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin, and I am truly thankful. Anonymous. — Enclosed please find an offering, in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin and St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, who have come to my aid. A. C. — I have received a favour through the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Bernadette. Find enclosed my renewal subscription. Mrs. E. G., **Montreal**. — My request has been granted, and I am very grateful. Please continue to pray for my sister and myself. M. C., **Montreal**. — Inclosed you will find an offering for a novena of lights in honour of our Blessed Mother for a favour received. Please continue to pray for me. Mrs. J. L., **Springfield, Mass.** — I have just recently been granted a favour for which I have been praying for years. Miss C., **St. Thomas, Ont.** — I want to thank you for your kindness in making a novena for me. I have found steady employment. I wish to obtain another special favour, and would ask you to commence another novena for me. Miss L. L., **Highland Park, Mich.** — Enclosed please find an offering, as promised. Pray for us. Mrs. B., **Belle River, Ont.** — My daughter found work soon after I sent in my petition. I trust that Our Mother of Perpetual Help will help my son to obtain a good position, also. Mrs. H. B., **Windsor, Ont.** — I am enclosing an offering in honour of our Blessed Lady, through whose intercession my little girl has been cured. Mrs. L. A. A., **Spencer, Mass.** — Enclosed please find a small offering, in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. Please pray that I may be granted two other requests. Mrs. W., **Notre Dame du Nord, Que.** — Enclosed please find a small offering, in thanksgiving for a favour received from the Blessed Virgin. Mrs. P. E. P. — I have obtained a great favour through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin, and am enclosing a small offering, as promised. Please pray for some special intentions. Mrs. J. R. B., **Quebec**. — I am enclosing an offering to ransom eight dying Chinese babies, in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. A Subscriber. — I am most grateful to our Immaculate Mother for the favour I received through her intercession after promising to send an offering for the Missions. Mrs. R. B., **Montreal**. — I wish to return thanks to our Blessed Lady, who obtained me a great favour after I had promised to subscribe to **THE PRECURSOR**. Mrs. L. L., **Montreal**. — I am enclosing an offering for the Missions, to thank the Blessed Virgin for the wonderful favours I have received through her intercession. A Subscriber. — Enclosed please find an offering for your missions, in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. Mrs. F. B., **Verdun**. — Find enclosed my renewal subscription, in thanksgiving for a favour received through the intercession of our Blessed Lady. Mrs. P. G., **Montreal**. — My most grateful thanks for a favour received. Mrs. J. M., **Montreal**. — Please find enclosed an offering for your missions, in thanksgiving for a favour granted me. M. C.



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."

Would you please make a novena to the Blessed Virgin, asking her to obtain me a few special favours. Should I get my requests, I will send a little offering. Mrs. J. A. F., **Stratford, Ont.** — Will you kindly say special prayers that I may obtain a very special favour. If my favour is granted, I will continue to send donations. Mrs. T. McA., **Redford, Mich.** — Please make a novena for me, that I may obtain two special favours. If my requests are granted, I will send you an offering to use as you see fit. Mrs. M. J. M., **Danville, Que.** — I would ask you to pray that I may be granted three special favours soon. If I receive them, I will send a donation and will continue to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR as long as I am able. Mrs. J. N., **Seaforth, Ont.** — I am writing to ask you to kindly remember me in your prayers. G. W., **Montreal.** — I am sending my yearly donation, and would ask you to light a candle for my intentions. S. K., **Granton P. O., Ont.** — If I obtain the favour I am asking, I will send you a donation every month. Mrs. M., **Pawtucket, R. I.** — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. Kindly remember me in your prayers. Mrs. J. E. O., **Windsor, Ont.** — I will send you a donation if my husband secures a position and if the person for whom I am praying is converted. Mrs. G. L. — Enclosed please find an offering for a novena of lights to be burned during the novena I have requested you to make for me. Mrs. A. R., **Montreal.** — Will you please begin a novena to Our Blessed Lady, for a special favour. I promise to send a donation if my request is granted. C. O'C., **Montreal.** — I am sending you my renewal subscription. I would ask you to very kindly pray for my intentions. I have been an invalid for the past four years and I have to depend on others so much. My two brothers are in very poor health and one of them has been idle for three years. If my requests are granted, I will send THE PRECURSOR to a friend. A. E. M. — I would ask you to make a novena for my parents, that they may be granted two favours. Kindly accept the enclosed offering. A Friend, **Leamington, Ont.** — My husband has been sick for a year. Please pray for him. Mrs. D. B., **Manchester, N. H.** — If I regain my health, I will renew my subscription and send an offering to ransom four dying babies. Please make a novena to the Blessed Virgin for me. Mrs. A. P., **South Woodlee, Ont.** — Please pray that we may be able to sell our property and that my husband may secure a permanent position. When my requests are granted, I will send a donation. Mrs. M. L. — Enclosed please find an offering to help on your missionary work. Please pray for me. M. E., **Montreal.** — I am asking the Blessed Virgin to grant me a very great favour. Kindly make a novena for me. Mrs. M. L. T., **Montreal.** — I would ask you to pray for two boys who, for a few years past, have been careless about their religion. Mrs. A. P., **Montreal.** — Please unite with me in asking the Blessed Virgin to cure one dear to me. A Subscriber. — I am sending you an offering for a novena of lights in honour of the Blessed Virgin. A gentleman, the father of three children, has not been living up to his religion. Please pray that he may lead a better life and that I may be granted a special favour. R. M., **Montreal.** — If I find employment and obtain a very great favour I will send you a donation. A Subscriber. — I have been idle for some time and have grown discouraged. If the Blessed Virgin comes to my aid, I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for five years. J. D., **Montreal.** — I wish to obtain a special favour. Please ask our Immaculate Mother to intercede for me. Anonymous. — Kindly ask our Blessed Lady to cure me and to help me to obtain a position. When my requests are granted, I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR and send you an offering for the ransom of a dying Chinese baby. J. P., **Verdun.** — I have been idle for a long time and would like to obtain a position soon. Please pray for me. Anonymous. — Please pray that I may be restored to health. A Subscriber. — My married daughter is seriously ill. Kindly remember her in your prayers. Mrs. C. L., **Montreal.** — If the Blessed Virgin obtains me the favour I am asking, I will send you an offering for the Missions. Mrs. E. B. — I am sending you an offering to ransom a dying Chinese baby. If my husband stops drinking and finds work, I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for one year. Mrs. A. P., **Montreal.** — I promise to be a life-long subscriber to THE PRECURSOR if my relatives are successful in an important undertaking. M. J. — Please continue to pray for my husband that he may give up drink and get along well. Mrs. A. P., **Montreal.** — I would ask you to pray that I may receive a sum of money due me. If my request is granted, I will renew my subscription and send you a donation. A Subscriber, **Windsor, Ont.** — I wish to obtain a special favour and if my prayers are heard, I will send an offering every month for a year, to ransom a dying Chinese baby, subscribe to THE PRECURSOR and publish my thanksgiving. Mrs. P., **Montreal.** — I am asking the Blessed Virgin to convert one dear to me. If she answers my prayers, I shall be very grateful. Mrs. D. — I am enclosing an offering to have lights burned in honour of Our Mother of Perpetual Help. I am asking this loving Mother to watch over me, to grant that we may all have good health, and to come to the aid of one of my relatives. Mrs. E. L. — If our Immaculate Mother cures my wife and myself and helps me in an important undertaking, I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR and send you a monthly donation. Mr. J. A. R., **Montreal.** — I have great faith in the Blessed Virgin and I am asking her to obtain my cure,



for I do not wish to undergo an operation. M. L. S. — Please pray that a woman who is suffering from rheumatism, may soon be well enough to do her own work and that her husband who has been idle for the past two years, may find something to do. Mrs. L., **Montreal**. — Please pray that my son may regain his health and that he may begin to live up to his religion. Anonymous. — The person whom I asked you to pray for has begun to lead a better life. Please continue to pray for my intentions. Mrs. M. L., **Montreal**. — I promise to send you an offering to ransom a pagan baby likely to live, when I regain my health. Please pray for me. Mrs. L. A. B., **Montreal**. — Will you kindly ask our Immaculate Mother to obtain me four great favours. If my requests are granted, I will send you an offering for your missions. Mrs. J. R. — I wish to obtain a special favour. Kindly make a novena to the Blessed Virgin for me. Miss I. D., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find an offering for your missions in China. Please pray for me. Anonymous. — I am asking for my mother's restoration to health. If my prayers are heard, I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for two years. Miss M. L., **Montreal**. — Please make a novena to the Blessed Virgin, asking her to obtain me two special favours. If these favours are granted me within four months, I will send an offering to ransom a pagan baby, and will be a life-long subscriber to THE PRECURSOR. A Subscriber. — I would like to obtain several spiritual and temporal favours. Kindly ask the Blessed Virgin to intercede for me. Miss D. D., **Montreal**. — If the Blessed Virgin cures one dear to me and obtains me a special favour, I will send you an offering for the support of a leper woman for three years. Anonymous. — I am asking the Blessed Virgin to obtain me several favours. As soon as I receive one of them, I will send you an offering to ransom a Chinese baby likely to live. Anonymous. — I am asking the Blessed Virgin to obtain me two favours. If this loving Mother hearkens to my prayers, I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for ten years. A Subscriber. — Kindly commence a novena for a special intention. If my request is granted, I will send you an offering, be a life-long subscriber to THE PRECURSOR, and publish my thanksgiving. Mrs. D. B., **Montreal**. — Please pray that my husband may not become intoxicated again. Anonymous. — Please ask our heavenly Mother to take pity on me. If I receive an answer to my prayers, I will continue to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR or will send you an offering for the Missions. A. H., **Montreal**. — I am asking the Blessed Virgin to help me to secure a position, and I trust that she will hear my prayers. M. L. C., **Montreal**. — Would you please commence a novena to our Blessed Mother, that I may be restored to health. I promise a small offering each month if same is granted, also renewal of my subscription as long as I am able. Mrs. E. B., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. Please pray that my husband may be granted a special favour. Mrs. F., **Point St. Charles**. — Enclosed you will find my renewal subscription and an offering to ransom a dying pagan baby. Please pray for me. Mrs. C. O'B., **Vine Villa, Que.** — I am sending you an offering for your mission work. My husband has heart trouble. Kindly make a novena for him. Mrs. L. B., **Montreal**. — Will you please make a novena to our Blessed Lady for my intentions. When my request is granted, I will send you an offering for the poor Chinese children. Miss A. M., **Newport, Vt.** — I would like you to start a novena in honour of the Blessed Virgin for my intentions. If my requests are granted, I will send you a donation every month. E. D., **Ottawa, Ont.** — Would you kindly ask the Blessed Virgin to obtain me a very great favour. If this favour is granted me, I will send you a substantial donation. F. D., **Leamington, Ont.** — Find enclosed my renewal subscription. Please pray that I may obtain some very special favours. M. M., **Hardwick, Vt.** — I once more come to ask you to commence a very special novena to our Blessed Mother for a favour I wish to receive as soon as possible. When it is granted me, I will renew my subscription and send you a substantial donation for your missions. Mrs. M. W., **Shawinigan Falls, Que.** — I am writing to ask you to kindly make a novena that my husband may secure a permanent position, also that my husband and myself may receive the money owing us. If I obtain these favours, I will surely send you a donation for your good work. Mrs. L. S. M., **Montreal**. — Please make a novena, asking that my sons may find employment, and that I may be able to pay my debts. As soon as my requests are granted, I will send an offering to ransom two Chinese babies likely to live. A Friend, **North Bay, Ont.** — I am writing to ask you to please make a novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help for me. I wish to obtain two great favours, and if I am granted even one of them, I will send you a donation for your good works. E. I. B., **Milbury, Mass.** — Will you please make a novena to the Blessed Virgin, asking her to cure me. I will send you a donation as soon as my request is granted. A Subscriber, **Tilbury, Ont.** — I wish to obtain some very special favours. Please pray for me. Mrs. D. P., **Montreal**. — Will you please commence a novena to our Blessed Mother for a special intention. If my wish is granted, I will send an offering to ransom two Chinese babies. F. M. G., **Delhi, Ont.** — Please pray for a very special intention. Miss M. L., **Derby Line, Vt.** — Would you please make a novena to the Blessed Virgin, that we may collect enough money to pay our bills. I am enclosing a small donation and will send a more substantial one when I am able. A Friend. — Please ask the Blessed Virgin to grant that my husband may return home, and to help me to find work. When my requests are granted, I will send you a donation and an offering for a novena of lights. Mrs. E. G., **Webster, Mass.** — I am enclosing a small offering to ransom some Chinese babies. Kindly ask our Blessed Mother to intercede for me. M. B. T., **Schenectady, N. Y.** — I am asking the Blessed Virgin to help me to find something to do. If I secure a position, I will send you a donation every month for a year. M. R., **Montreal**. — If I obtain a very important favour soon, I will subscribe to THE PRE-



CURSOR for five years. S. L., **Montreal**. — I am deaf in one ear, and it is with the greatest confidence that I am asking the Blessed Virgin to cure me. If this loving Mother hears my prayers, I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. P. G., **Montreal**. — I am sending you my renewal subscription and a small offering. I desire to obtain some special favours. Please ask our Blessed Mother to come to my aid. Mrs. J. M. B. — Please pray that I may secure a position. Miss M. A. B. — My husband has left me, and I have eight children to provide for. If I obtain the position I have in view, I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for one year. Mrs. L. — I am asking the Sacred Heart and the Blessed Virgin to restore my brother-in-law to health. If my wish is granted, I will send a donation. Mrs. P. L., **Fitchburg, Mass.** — Please ask the Sacred Heart and the Blessed Virgin to grant that my husband may find a good position or that he may make a living at what he is doing. I promise to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. A. G., **Montreal**. — I have great faith in the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and I am asking Him to grant me a favour. If I obtain my request, I will send you an offering and will publish my thanksgiving in THE PRECURSOR. R. D., **Malden**. — Will you kindly make a novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, asking Him to grant me two favours. If I obtain both of them, I will send you an offering every month for six months. E. L., **Montreal**. — Please ask the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Little Flower to grant that I may regain my health and that my son may be successful in an examination he is about to try. If he passes, I will send you a donation. Mrs. P. S., **Tecumseh, Ont.**



## NECROLOGY

Right Reverend Msgr. T. WEST, Canaveral, Florida; Very Reverend Canon P. J. BRADY, Pastor of St. Mary's Parish, Montreal; Mrs. A. LAMARRE, Point St. Charles, mother of our Sister Marie des Martyrs; Mr. Theodore GADOURY, Ste. Elisabeth, Co. Joliette, father of our Sister Marie Theodore and grandfather of our Sister Marie Alberta; Mr. J. W. CREVIER, Montreal, brother of our Sister St. Georges; Mrs. Israel CREVIER, Montreal, grandmother of our Sister Marie de l'Enfant Jesus; Mr. Jeremiah J. DONOVAN, South Norwalk, Conn.; Mrs. B. NEESON, Montreal; Mrs. John HARGRAVE, Montreal; Miss Katherine Helen CAUFIELD, Montreal; Mrs. J. ROWLAND, Mount Carmel, Ont.; Mrs. W. ROSE, Point St. Charles; Mrs. M. McSHANE, Point St. Charles; Mrs. Patrick RYAN, Point St. Charles; Mr. J. REID, Alvinston, Ont.; Mr. Frank McHUGH, Montreal; Mrs. A. MORRISON, Park Hill, Ont.; Mrs. Mildred McGRATH, Worcester, Mass.; Mrs. M. O. LOUGHLIN, Worcester, Mass.; Mr. Patrick DOOLEY, Montreal; Miss M. REARDON, Mount Carmel, Ont.; Mr. Cyril B. DESPATIES, Worcester, Mass.; Mr. A. RIVIERE, Worcester, Mass.; Mr. Charles RYAN, Pendleton, Ont.; Mrs. William BROWN, Moulinette, Ont.; Mrs. V. THOMS, Arnprior, Ont.; Mrs. Delia GLADU, New Bedford, Mass.; Mr. Herbert COLEMAN, Montreal; Mr. John B. KENNY, Los Angeles; Mr. Henry BARKER, Pittsfield, Mass.; Mrs. Harriet Lowe, Pittsfield, Mass.; Mrs. Beatrice GIROUX, Pittsfield, Mass.; Mrs. Amelia V. LA-POINTE, Pittsfield, Mass.; Mrs. Delina BRIEN, Northampton, Mass.; Mrs. J. PICKERING, Montreal; Mrs. Francis LONG, Edmunston; Mrs. James KNOX, Verdun; Mrs. G. COBBY, Willimansett, Mass.; Mrs. Leo DUFF, Southbridge, Mass.; Mrs. William BRIEN, Holyoke, Mass.; Mrs. Hector EAST, St. Augustin.

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

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Orphanage. Foundling-Home. School.

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

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

Training of native virgin catechists.

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## IN MANCHURIA, VIA JAPAN

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Dispensary. Orphanage. School.

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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 (Founded in 1930)

Kindergarten.

### 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 a 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 given 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 a 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 labours, as also in the prayers and sufferings of all the poor unfortunates confided to their care.

Besides, Benefactors are entitled to the following spiritual advantages:

1. — A special intention in all the Masses heard and Communions received by the Sisters.
2. — A Mass offered every month for their intentions.
3. — Every Friday 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 Honour to Mary, which consists in the continual recitation of the Rosary before the altar of the Blessed Virgin. The Guard of Honour is also made at the Shek Lung Lazaretto. There, the poor leper women, in successive groups of fifteen, continue the 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 granted to deceased Benefactors.