

# THE PRECURSOR



Vol. X., 14th Year

MONTREAL, July-August, 1936

No. 10

# **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.

### **ST. JOHNS, Que., 430 Champlain St. (Founded in 1935)**

Closed Retreats for ladies and girls.

(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.

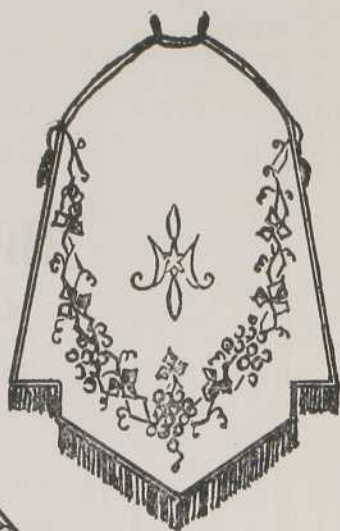
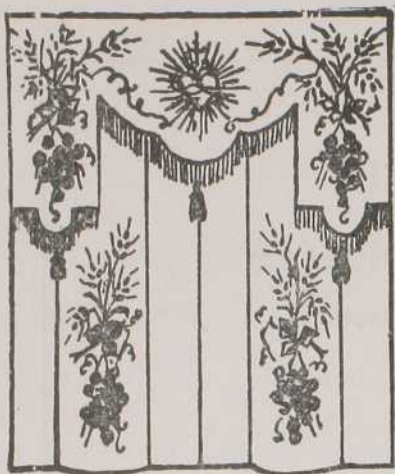
Missionaries must train for several years before being able to commence their apostolic work in foreign fields.

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 Dei*s, 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.*

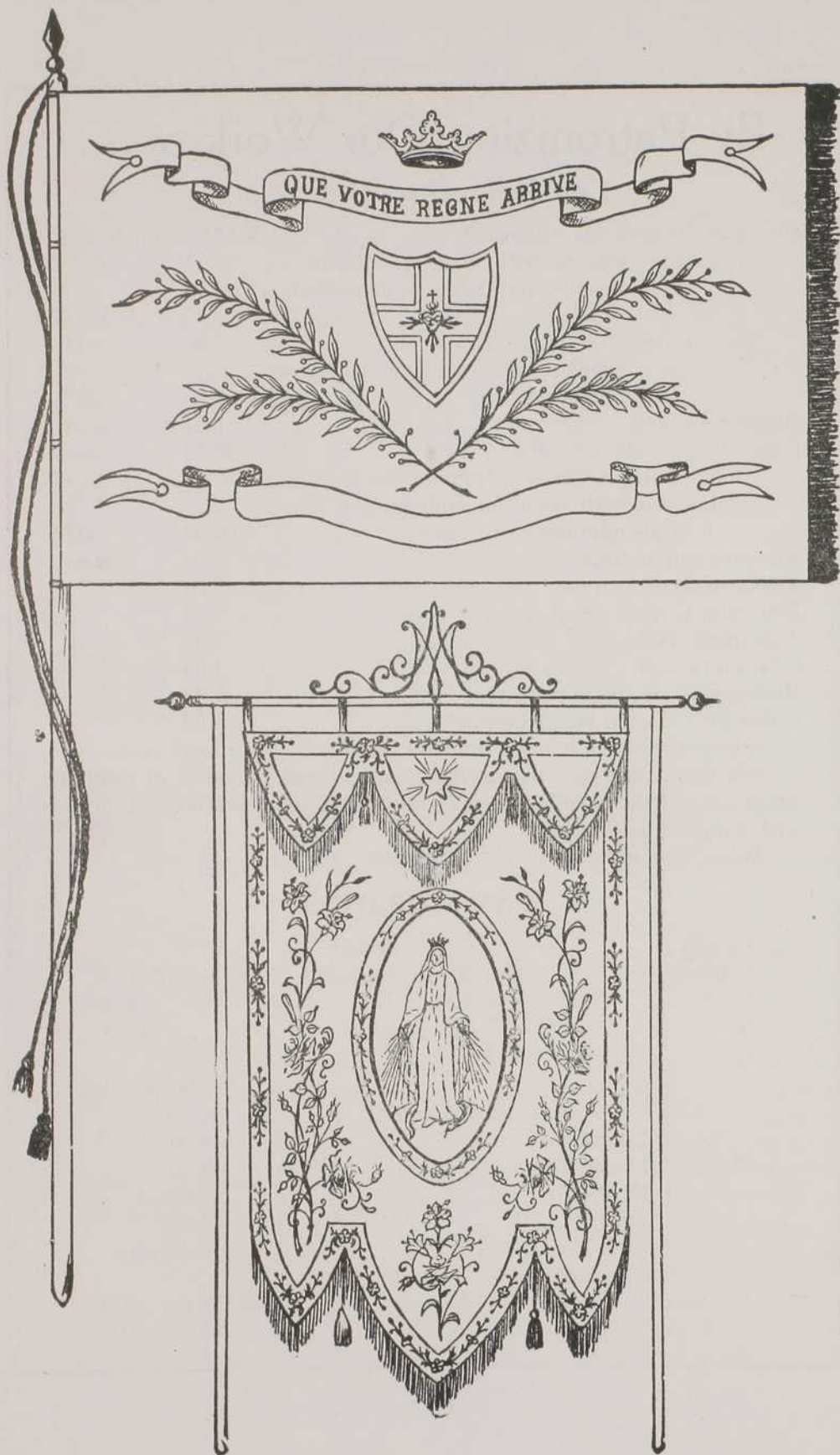
### WAX INFANTS

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		

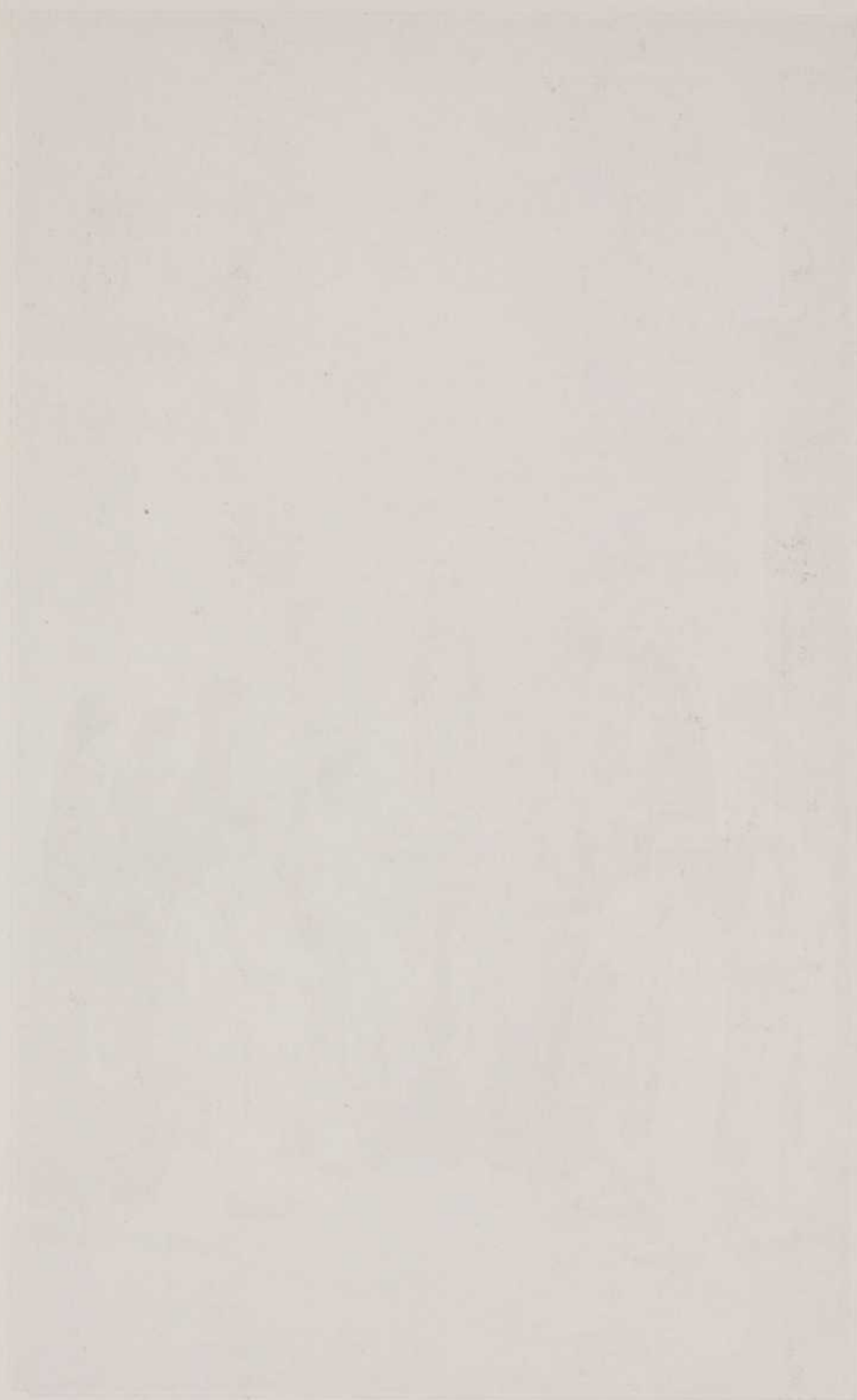
<i>Altar Linens</i>	{	Amices.....	\$12.00	per doz.
		“ linen, second quality.....	10.80	“ “
		Corporals.....	8.50	“ “
		Finger-towels.....	4.50	“ “
		Purificators.....	5.00	“ “
		Palls.....	4.00	“ “
		Altar cloths.....	6.00	each

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

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







THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS



"O IMMACULATE MOTHER, PROTECT OUR BENEFACTORS!"



# THE PRECURSOR

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*with the approbation of the Archbishop of Montreal*

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Take the resolution of honouring St. Ann every day of your life by the recitation of a prayer or a short invocation.

*Glorious St. Ann, pray for us.*



# The Week of Missionary Studies of Quebec

*Opened on February 17th, 1936, and closed on the 20th.*

*(Continued)*

Conference given by Mgr. Wilfrid Lebon, P. D.,  
*of the Faculty of Philosophy of Laval University.*

## THE PROGRESS OF CONVERSION SINCE THE PONTIFICATE OF POPE BENEDICT XV

### SUMMARY

The mission movement is actually expanding in a manner such as has never been recorded. The Pontificates of Pope Benedict XV and of Pope Pius XI will continue to stand out in golden letters in the history of the evangelization of the nations. I have been asked to point out the new means the Church, through the medium of these two Pontiffs, has placed at the disposal of her apostolic workers, and to show how the results in conversions are the proof of the efficacy of these means. Therefore, my conference will consist of two parts:

- (a) What means the last two Popes have proposed.
- (b) What are the results they have obtained.

These proposed means are especially to be found in the Encyclical "Maximum Illud" of Pope Benedict XV (1919) and in that of "Rerum Ecclesiae" of Pope Pius XI (1926). Therein it is stated that the conversion of the infidels should be the work of the Catholics, without exception: bishops and priests should join "The Missionary Union of the Clergy," established in 1919, in order to become the propagandists of the missionary idea. The faithful are asked to become members of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, that of the Holy Childhood, and that of St. Peter the Apostle. The missionaries themselves find that in these two pontifical documents their duty regarding the missionary problems has been traced for them: to strive to become more intellectual and spiritual, to beware of dangerous nationalisms, to unite with the bishops in recruiting and training indigenous priests and chosen souls among the natives.

What results have these means given? What are those which may reasonably be looked forward to? The total population of the globe is actually a little over two billions. Roman Catholics form but 18.8% of the inhabitants of the entire world, and there are over a billion pagans; the converting of this billion of infidels is actually the great problem with which the Church is confronted. In all the missions together, the 17,000 missionaries baptize over 400,000 adults every year. It is apparently but little, but it is the modest measure of heaven which will, with the grace of God and the co-operation of the faithful, end up by causing the whole to rise. Such hopes are being built on account of the numerous missionary vocations which are springing up everywhere. Archbishop Salotti, Secretary of the Propaganda, says: "To-day in history the missionary problem is spoken

of in these terms: "There is an increase in conversions, because the number of vocations is constantly increasing." At present, there are nearly 215,000 missionaries, 18,000 of whom are priests stationed here and there in the 500 ecclesiastical districts. Pope Pius XI alone has created nearly half of the apostolic vicariates, prefectures, and other territories; he is really "The Pope of the Missions." Canada has supplied some 2,000 missionaries, of whom 500 are priests. As many as 150 Canadians leave for the Missions each year.

The work done in the seminaries is the guarantee of future conversions among the infidels. \*And there are actually in the different parts of the world over 200 Lesser Seminaries in which 10,000 students are being trained for the Missions. There also exist more than a hundred Grand Seminaries in which there are over 3,000 seminarians. In Canada, we have the Foreign Mission Seminary of Pont Viau and that of Scarboro in Ontario. Let us also mention the 8,000 Brothers and the 50,000 Sisters, who are the best auxiliaries of the missionaries throughout the world.

But the supreme work for the conversion of the infidels is the formation of a Native Clergy. Pope Leo XIII once said to a missionary bishop: "It will please Us more to learn that you have ordained one indigenous priest than to learn that you have converted 50,000 infidels." To-day, in the mission lands, there are over 5,000 native priests, 4,000 young men attending the Grand Seminary, and 12,000 attending the Lesser, and in these seminaries the studies are on a level with those of Europe. Actually, the native bishops are ten in number. Moreover, there are 2,500 indigenous religious without counting the 18,000 native Sisters, all of whom, by means of works of charity, teaching, the care of the sick, and kindness to the children, end up by winning the hearts of the pagans.

Among the new means which, since the Pontificates of Popes Benedict XV and Pius XI, the Church has been putting into operation for the conversion of the infidels, one must not forget the auxiliary works: intellectual and spiritual. Let us draw your attention to one of these intellectual works: the Missionary Exhibition of the Vatican, which is to-day prolonged by the permanent Museum of the Lateran, by the missionary exhibitions in different places, like that of Joliette and Montreal, to speak only of Canada. There is also "The Fides Service" for missionary publicity, missiological chairs in different Universities of Europe, and also the teaching of missionary medical science, but, above all, the creation or the solidification of five Catholic universities in mission lands. Among the spiritual works, let us mention the missionary leagues, the crusades of prayer and action which are being organized throughout the world in the Primary, Secondary, and High Schools, and in the Universities, under the protection of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, the Patroness of the Missions. More than ever, therefore, is the Mission problem being given the attention of the Church. Pope Pius XI has said: "*Nihil actum si quid agendum*"... Let the bishops, priests and the faithful unite, and in fine will be realized the wish of our divine Lord: "*Unum ovile et Unus pastor.*"

(To be continued.)



# A Canadian Bishop in Japan

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Reverend Father Marie Joseph Lemieux, a Dominican Father of the province of Canada, has been appointed Bishop of Sendai, Japan, where he will reside.

By a decree dated March 9th, 1936, the Sacred Congregation of Propaganda Fide, changed the name of the Diocese of Hakodate to that of Sendai, to which the Episcopal See has been transferred.

After having founded in 1927 their first mission in Japan, the Dominican Fathers of the Province of Quebec see one of their own acceding to the first Episcopal See of Sendai.

Born in Quebec, on May 10th, 1902, Reverend Father Lemieux made his studies at the Seminary of that city and at Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere. On August 3rd, 1923, he took the Holy Habit of the Dominicans at St. Hyacinthe and, on August 4th, 1927, he made Solemn Profession at Ottawa. He was ordained priest on April 5th, 1928, by His Eminence Cardinal Rouleau. He left for Japan on September 27th, 1930, after having made his theological studies at the Dominican College of Ottawa and at that of Rome, and studying at Oxford, England. Reverend Father Lemieux has exercised the sacred ministry as Pastor of Kameda, in the Diocese of Sendai, Japan.

The Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception are taking the liberty of offering the newly-appointed Bishop their humble congratulations and their best wishes for a long episcopate and a fruitful apostolic career.

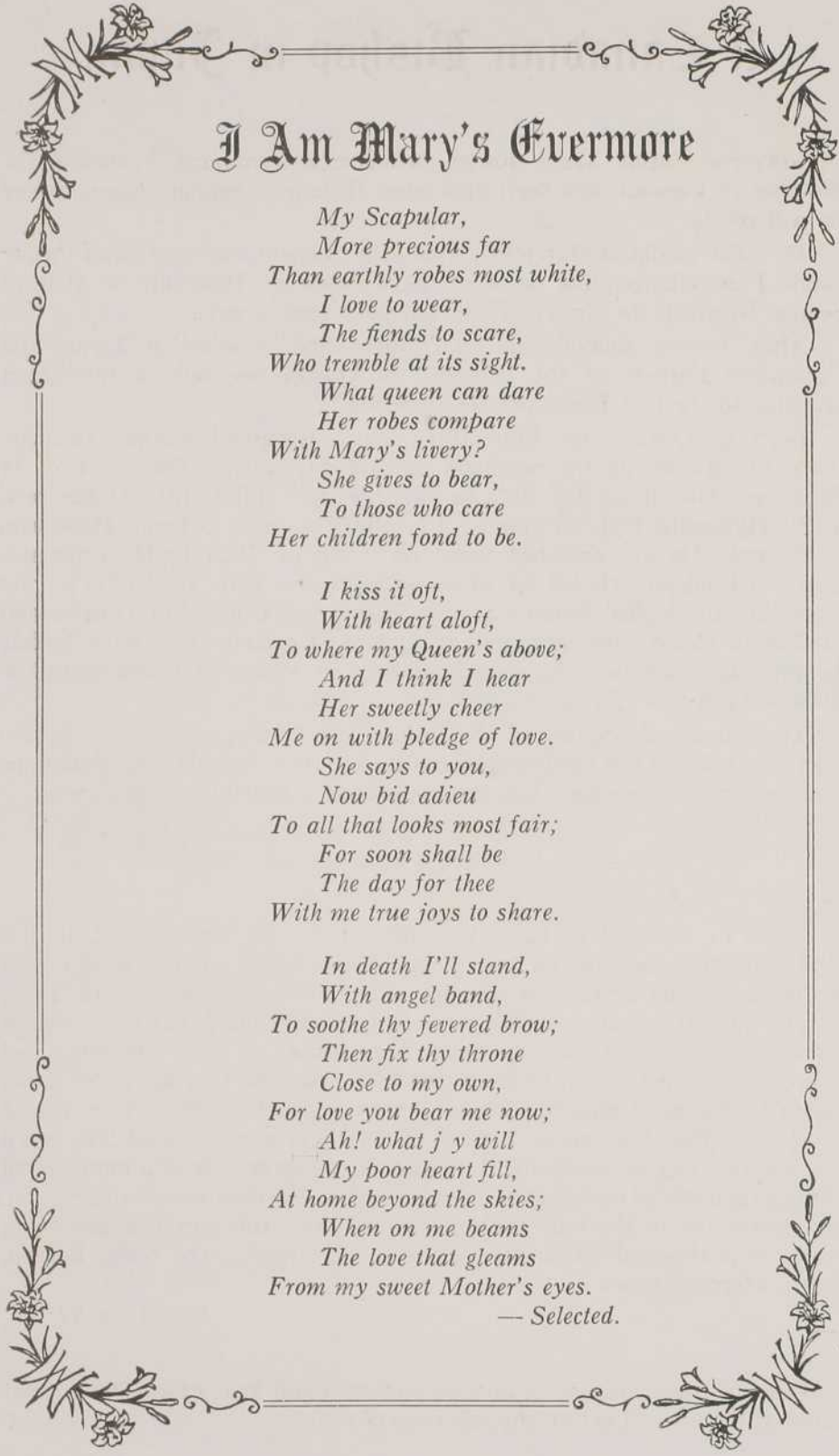


There is no need to insist how foreign it is to the virtue of charity, which embraces God and all men, for those who belong to the Fold of Christ not to have a care for the rest who are unhappily straying without the Fold. Surely the duty of charity that binds us to God demands not only that we strive to increase with all our power the number of those who know and adore Him in spirit and in truth (*John, 4, 24*), but also that we bring under the rule of the most amiable Saviour as many as possible. 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.

*Pope Pius XI.*

---

Our lives must be lives of love, of pure unselfish love, of love for a great cause, the cause of God for the salvation of souls.

A decorative border of stylized flowers and leaves surrounds the text. The border is composed of several floral motifs connected by a line of small, swirling leaves. The flowers are simple, five-petaled shapes. The leaves are elongated and pointed. The border is symmetrical and frames the text on all four sides.

## I Am Mary's Evermore

*My Scapular,  
More precious far  
Than earthly robes most white,  
I love to wear,  
The fiends to scare,  
Who tremble at its sight.  
What queen can dare  
Her robes compare  
With Mary's livery?  
She gives to bear,  
To those who care  
Her children fond to be.*

*I kiss it oft,  
With heart aloft,  
To where my Queen's above;  
And I think I hear  
Her sweetly cheer  
Me on with pledge of love.  
She says to you,  
Now bid adieu  
To all that looks most fair;  
For soon shall be  
The day for thee  
With me true joys to share.*

*In death I'll stand,  
With angel band,  
To soothe thy fevered brow;  
Then fix thy throne  
Close to my own,  
For love you bear me now;  
Ah! what joy will  
My poor heart fill,  
At home beyond the skies;  
When on me beams  
The love that gleams  
From my sweet Mother's eyes.  
— Selected.*

## The Scapular of Mount Carmel

**A** GREAT servant of Mary, speaking once of the devotion of the holy Scapular, made this solemn and consoling declaration: "Of all the devotions to the Blessed Virgin, the easiest and surest is the holy Scapular; gladly am I taking up this subject. I would like to inspire all those who read what I have written, with the desire of donning Mary's livery: I would feel that I was saving them!" Truly, the Scapular of Mount Carmel is a garment of strength and of glory.



BLESSED SIMON STOCK, GENERAL OF THE CARMELITE ORDER, RECEIVING FROM THE HANDS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN THE SCAPULAR KNOWN AS THAT OF MOUNT CARMEL.

The Carmelite Order, dedicated to the honour of the Most Blessed Virgin, had for a long time been a victim of the furious Moham-medans, and seemed on the verge of being ruined. Simon Stock, when elected General of this Institute, generously placed all his trust in Mary. Kneeling at her feet, he would pour out his soul to her, tearfully reminding her that the Carmelite Fathers had always been her privileged children; that they were the successors of Elias, the prophet who, seeming to see her in the future, had, even before her birth, built a shrine in her honour, on Mount Carmel. Following the example set them by this man of God, all the members of the Carmelite Order ever gave Our Lady proofs of their devotedness, confidence, and love.

The Blessed Virgin was touched on hearing the fervent prayers of her servant. On the 16th of July, 1251, she appeared to him with a scapular in her hand, saying: "Receive, my beloved son, the Scapular of thy Order, as the distinctive sign of my Confraternity. Whoever dies invested with this Scapular shall be preserved from the eternal flames. It is a sign of salvation, a sure safeguard in danger, a pledge of peace and of my special protection until the end of the ages."

Yes, the Scapular is a garment of strength which protects us from temporal ills. It is a powerful shield preserving the wearer from the darts of the world and the devil, it is an impregnable bulwark, defending one from the furious attacks of his angry passions.

It is for us as the cloak of Elias. In the fourth Book of Kings, we read that this prophet, mounting heavenward in a fiery chariot, loosened his mantle and let it fall at the feet of his dearest disciple, Eliseus. The latter hastened to pick it up; he put it on, and by virtue of the precious relic, as



well as by his own holiness, words, miracles, and works, he kept alive in Israel, by his prodigies, the memory of the great prophet Elias. With the mantle of Mary, the holy Scapular, the good Christian, as strong, as it were, as Mary herself, grows marvellously courageous. Dear Lady of the Scapular, Blessed Mother, tell us how many souls thou hast snatched from the lion's jaws and from the gates of hell. If a maiden who has spent the first part of her life vainly amusing herself, to-day sees her waywardness and seeks her God, is it not to thee that she owes her conversion? If such and such a libertine was not carried away by his passions, when, in his youth, he was blinded by them, was it not through thy intercession that he obtained this favour? If this miser gives up the money he has illicitly procured and drives from his heart the slimy desire for earthly goods, is it not thou who hast filled him with sentiments of the kind? If a vindictive person has become reconciled with his brethren, is it not thou who hast crushed and softened his heart? Dost thou not inspire us all with the thought of performing hidden and heroic acts of virtue, and are not those persons who are especially devoted to thee and who wear thy livery reminded by thee to be generous-hearted.

The Scapular of Mount Carmel is also a garment of glory belonging to Mary. We are told by St. Paul that, by Baptism, we are clothed with Christ. By the Scapular, we are clothed with Mary, since we wear her livery. One is proud to wear the livery of persons of high rank, of the princes of the earth, and he feels that he shares somewhat in their dignity and that a ray of their glory is shining upon him. But what are all the mighty ones of the world, all the princes, compared to Mary, the Queen of heaven and earth, God's Blessed Mother. O priceless ornaments of my Mother, I choose you in preference to all the ornaments, to all the gold, to all the pearls, to all the precious stones of the worldly-minded! Ah! I know that there are people who scoff at thy Scapular. But who are they? They are the simple admirers of the brilliant triflingness which the world distributes; they are those ambitious ones unfaithful to the dictates of conscience who, to secure the decoration of an order more or less illustrious or ridiculous, to pin on themselves a ribbon of many colours, frivolously multiply their efforts, and, more than once, do not fear to act basely in order to adorn themselves with the sign of honour!

The Scapular is a garment of glory, because it recalls to us the memory of the most precious virtues, whose practice adorns our soul with the richest splendor. Remark how in this little habit, which is regarded as worthless by worldly-minded people, everything is full of mysterious instruction. It is made of common woollen cloth, to teach us that it is often by the most simple means that Mary communicates to us the rarest favours; its shape, which renders it so light, marks the sweetness of the yoke which Mary lays upon her servants; the strings stand for the alliance Mary contracts with those who wear it; the brown or the black colour is the symbol of the humility and self-denial which should be practised by those who have been enrolled in it; lastly, the blessing attached to it is the emblem of the heavenly blessings that it draws upon those who wear it piously and respectfully.

Let us be worthy children of Mary; let us be zealous members of the Confraternity of the Scapular, and the Blessed Virgin will shield us from danger, help us in time of peril, lift us up when we fall, encourage us in our efforts, sustain us at the hour of our death, procure us the grace of receiving the Sacraments as we should, shut the gates of hell against us, and promptly draw us out of the purgatorial prison, so as to conduct us to the everlasting tabernacles.

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## The Five Scapulars

1. *Faculties.* — The faculty of enrolling the faithful in the five scapulars is granted to the priests who belong to the following associations: The Missionary Union of the Clergy, the Pious Union of St. Joseph for the Dying, and the Holy Childhood. They may make use of but one formula (indicated in the Ritual) to invest with the five scapulars. The members of the Missionary Union of the Clergy are exempted from inscribing the names in the registers of the Confraternities; the others must enregister at least the members of the Confraternity of Mount Carmel.

2. *Material.* — The scapulars must be made of woollen cloth: brown for that of Mount Carmel, blue for that of the Immaculate Conception, black for that of Our Lady of Sorrows, red for that of the Passion, white for that of the Blessed Trinity. On the scapular of the Blessed Trinity must be worked in wool a red and blue cross; on that of the Passion, the image of our Crucified Saviour and the Holy Hearts of Jesus and Mary; that of the Immaculate Conception bears the image of our Immaculate Mother, but this image is not obligatory; for those of Mount Carmel and Our Lady of Sorrows, no image is required. When they are sewn together, the string on which they are, and which is put over the shoulders, must be made of red material (for such is required for the scapular of the Passion.)

3. *Reception.* — At the reception, the priest may recite the formula once in the plural, enroll each of the faithful, by placing the scapular or the scapulars on his or her shoulder (*Ami du clergé*, 1933, p. 554). For the reception, the faithful must have the scapular (one suffices for all those who are being enrolled, provided they pass it from one to the other). After the reception, all the scapulars may be replaced by a scapular medal (except that of the Third Order).

When the scapulars are renewed, there is no need of having them blessed. But each medal must be blessed by a priest having the faculty of investing with the scapulars, and who will make the Sign of the Cross for each scapular the person has been enrolled in. On one side of the medal should be engraved the image of Jesus showing His Heart, and, on the other, the image of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The Church recommends the faithful to wear the scapular rather than the medal, when one may easily do so; but the medal is still authorized. (Decree of Dec. 16, 1910). The medal may be hung on the neck, or worn in any other respectful way. The scapular must be worn on the neck. (*Ami du clergé*, 1911, p. 130; 1913, p. 673.)

4. *Obligations.* — No pious practice is strictly required of the one enrolled in the five scapulars. But in order to enjoy the spiritual advantages of these confraternities, one must first have a special devotion to the Blessed Trinity, to the Passion of Our Lord, and to the Blessed Virgin, honouring her Immaculate Conception, her Joys and her Sorrows.

The one wearing the scapular of Mount Carmel is advised to say daily, when possible, seven *Patens* and *Aves*, in honour of the Seven Joys of Mary.

What is important is that every person should adopt a pious practice for his scapulars, according to his capacities and his devotion, and that he strive to be faithful to it.

5. *Special Advantages.* — The scapular of Mount Carmel, which is the principal one, preserves the wearer from hell's fire, if he has it on habitually and especially at the moment of death: that is to say that it procures the one who piously wears it the grace of final perseverance. He must, however, prove himself worthy of it by fidelity to his duties as a Christian.

This scapular may also obtain one a *speedy deliverance from Purgatory* (the first Saturday after his death, whence the name of Sabbatine Privilege), on the following conditions: (a) the daily recitation of the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin; for priests and religious, this condition is fulfilled by the divine Office which they are always obliged to recite; (b) if one cannot possibly say the Office, he must observe the fasts of the Church and abstain on every Wednesday and Saturday throughout the year. All confessors possess the power of changing this obligation when there is something which really hinders it from being accomplished.

6. *To Gain the Indulgences.* — By wearing any one of the scapulars, a person may gain a great many plenary and partial indulgences, the enumeration of which is to be found in Beringer's Book of Indulgences.

Certain plenary indulgences are to be gained on the principal liturgical festivals, on the condition of Confession, Holy Communion and a visit to a church, with a prayer for the



intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff. Bear in mind that a fortnightly confession and a Communion during the octave suffice; and that those who are in the habit of receiving Holy Communion at least five times during the week, do not need to make a special confession in order to gain these indulgences.

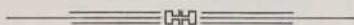
By wearing the red scapular (that of the Passion) one may gain some plenary indulgences, if, on Friday, he habitually meditates on the Passion and says a prayer for the Pope's intentions.

7. *General Advice.* — The scapular procures a person special protection, provided he lead a virtuous Christian life. It would be an error for him to believe that all he is required to do in order to save his soul is to belong to a Confraternity and recite certain prayers. First of all, each of the faithful must keep the Commandments of God and of the Church, without which he may not possibly be saved; all the scapulars and confraternities are unable to exempt one from these primordial duties.

The different Confraternities of the Scapulars (a) procure us special graces for the practising of the virtues; (b) by the indulgences with which they are enriched, they procure us the remission of the temporal punishment due our sins, and they shorten that much the time we shall have to spend in Purgatory; (c) they have us share in the prayers and the good works of the religious Orders: Carmelite Fathers and Sisters, Theatines (scapular of the Immaculate Conception), Servites of Mary (that of the Seven Dolours) Trinitarians (scapular of the Blessed Trinity), Lazarists (that of the Passion) and also in the prayers and good works of the other Confraternities in which these scapulars are worn; (d) lastly, they increase our confidence towards the Passion of Christ, towards the Blessed Virgin, the Mediatrix of all graces, and towards the Blessed Trinity. While wearing these sacred badges, which are as so many standards of salvation, we shall find it easier to keep the demons at a distance and we shall march to heaven with greater assuredness.

Extract from "*La Semaine Religieuse*" of Quebec.

G. P., Priest.



## The Missions of China in 1935

The Year Book of the Missions of China for 1936, published by the Sinological Department of Zi-ka-wei, of the Jesuit Fathers, has been issued, it contains a series of very suggestive tableaux, which clearly show the progress of evangelization in that country.

The total number of Catholics, those of Manchuria included, is 2,818,235, and marks a net increase of 96,450 souls; in 1935, the conversions in which only adult baptisms figure reached the record number of 96,680; in the catechumenates, there are 495,060 persons preparing to receive Holy Baptism.

The ecclesiastical provinces confided to the Native Clergy have again increased; the Chinese priests are in charge of 22 of the 125 ecclesiastical districts; 1,734 Chinese priests compose 41% of the clergy labouring in China.

The year 1935 has witnessed 101 ordinations, a figure never before attained. The Native Clergy, in spite of a considerable number of deaths, has been doubled since 1917 and tripled since 1906. There is reasonable ground of hope for the future, for there are 935 young men in Grand Seminaries 4,201, in Lesser Seminaries, and 1,906 pupils in preparatory schools. The number of Chinese Brothers exceeds that of foreign Brothers: 635 against 532; 63% of the 5,413 Sisters are Chinese. Surprising results, in spite of the very great economical difficulties existing at the present time, the catechists have increased 17%, becoming 13,817.

The total number of baptisms is 565,792; confessions: 10,820,426; the preceptory confessions show an increase of 55,937, marking an augmentation of fervour among the old Christians; the Communion have reached the handsome figure of 27,322,233. This number, which excludes the works of charity, of teaching, etc., eloquently marks the vitality of the Church in China.

Extract from "*Les Missions Catholiques*."



# The Centenary of the Diocese of Montreal

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**I**T was in the month of May, 1836, that His Holiness Pope Gregory XVI erected into a bishopric the part of the Diocese of Quebec known up until then as the District of Montreal.

To solemnize the centenary of this happy event and to return God thanks for the blessings which He has so bountifully showered upon the Diocese within the hundred years that have just gone by, a Pontifical High Mass was celebrated on Thursday, May 14th last, in the Basilica of the Metropolis. His Excellency Most Reverend G. Gauthier, Coadjutor Archbishop, occupied the Throne, and His Excellency Bishop Deschamps, Auxiliary Bishop, celebrated the Holy Sacrifice. The bishops of the suffragan dioceses and several other prelates formed, in the sanctuary, an imposing hemicycle; there were also to be seen representatives of the regular and secular clergy. In the nave, besides the personnel of the Grand Seminary there were members from most of the religious Communities of men and women, and a goodly number of laymen. The President of the Executive Council, Mr. J. M. Seignac, officially represented the City of Montreal.

Very Reverend Canon Harbour, Pastor of the Basilica, delivered the sermon on this occasion. After expounding the actual state of the diocese by comparing what it was a hundred years ago with what it is to-day, he paid homage to the artisans of this beautiful edifice, and especially to the illustrious pioneer, Bishop J. J. Lartigue. "His life," stated the preacher, "may be thus summed up: He spent fifteen years preparing and consolidating the bases of the new diocese; he traced a way for his successors. Bishop Bourget loved to repeat that he was but the continuator of the apostolic designs conceived by Bishop Lartigue.

"And behold there appears upon the scene a great, a matchless constructor, the indefatigable Bishop Bourget. A Canadian publicist recently stated that it was seemingly impossible that one man alone could have done so many things. I find in the funeral oration of the great Bishop, by a very eloquent priest, Father Collin, Superior of the Sulpicians at that time, a page which sums up this entire period of the existence of the Diocese: 'A Grand Seminary and five Lesser Seminaries established and flourishing; three religious Communities already existing, increased and developed; six new Communities of men attracted from France and placed in conditions of solid prosperity; four Communities of women founded, and five others introduced into the Diocese and admirably seconded; the Roman liturgy established; the Pontifical doctrines and the great Catholic principles always powerfully and valiantly propagated and upheld; seventy-five new parishes erected, the distant missions favoured; over three hundred pastoral letters left to the faithful; an immense cathedral under way of construction; the

finances of the Bishopric drawn from peril by heroic courses.' Such was the second Bishop of Montreal; he gave the impulse of his youth, the work of his life and of his genius, and the sufferings and the prayers of his old age for the great work of the Diocese of Montreal."

The preacher then passes to Bishop Fabre, whose mission appears to have been the interior organization of the Diocese. "There is not the smallest matter which he did not see to and concerning which he did not give directions. Bishop Fabre arrived in a diocese where everything had been organized on a large scale; the care of it was entrusted to him, and he went to the trouble of making the interior as beautiful as the exterior had been deemed great. Neither great enterprises nor great trials were lacking during the episcopate of this good bishop, but the task that fell to him particularly concerned the disciplinary, administrative, and liturgical organization of the Diocese. It is from his time that the elevation of Montreal to an Archdiocese dates.

"The Holy Ghost had reserved for the Church in Montreal the commander of glorious days, in the person of Archbishop Paul Bruchesi."

Very Reverend Canon Harbour kept on with the eulogium of our revered Archbishop in these terms: "Wherever he made his appearance, whether here in our own country, in the United States, in France, in Rome, in England, or in Spain, he caused our beautiful diocese to be loved through his personal qualities. His natural optimism, which he deliberately cultivated, gave a considerable impetus to all the Communities, to all the works, and to all the parishes. And he one day reached a summit which to us who so greatly admired it, seemingly cannot be surpassed, this he reached during the memorable celebration of the Eucharistic Congress, in 1910.

"And thus, from one day to the other, after being the glory of this diocese, he became its victim and its holocaust. In his first charge, he wrote as follows: 'The glorious crown with which Our Lord has decked our brow will perhaps become a crown of thorns like the one He deigned to wear Himself. We, beforehand, adore and are resigned to His Most Holy Will, bearing in mind that the crown of thorns was his diadem at the hour when, hanging upon the Cross, He ransomed the world.'"

Then, addressing His Excellency the Coadjutor Archbishop, the preacher continued: "We shall not make such a blunder as to compel you to listen to an eulogium prepared for you. Nevertheless, allow me to tell you in but one word that all the priests and the faithful acknowledge the part you have taken in the glorious reign of Archbishop Bruchesi as well as in the role of his propitiation."

After evoking the memory of the Chief Pastors of the Diocese during the last century, Very Reverend Canon Harbour paid homage to the regular and secular clergy of the different parishes, as well as to the religious for the part they have taken in the persevering labour which has contributed to the steady progress of the Church in Montreal.

The preacher ended up by a last token of respect to the humblest and greatest of all the inhabitants, to those without whom the rest are nothing: to the tillers, who incarnate the tradition of our magnificent race of peasants.



Among all the others, they are the unknown soldiers who, along with their families, are worthy of special homage. Their patrimony is this delightful country district of ours, organized on a Catholic plan, with the spires of its churches distributed here and there and which seem to be "a finger raised to indicate heaven;" spectacle and population so sound, sympathetic and good that they formerly drew from the lips of an illustrious visitor this exclamation which everyone has since been repeating: "People with golden hearts and silver steeples!"

The District of Montreal which, in 1856, was separated from Quebec in order to be made a diocese, to-day comprises five dioceses and one archdiocese. The Archdiocese of Montreal alone counts 788,077 Catholics.

May the illustrious labourers, Bishops Lartigue, Bourget, and Fabre, protect from above what they have erected at the cost of so many sacrifices, and may they keep among us the lively and active faith with which they were animated.

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## A Wonderful Remedy

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**H**UMANITY is at present suffering great evil, the tears that are being shed are like the briny water of the sea, and all the moaning and sighing is as a great voice more doleful than that of the autumn wind sighing through the bare branches of the trees in the big woods... Nevertheless, illuminating joy, which has issued from heaven, is still to be found in Nature, and unceasingly does it knock with the hope that hearts may be opened...

Yes, human beings are at present suffering great evil because they reflect but little, or not at all... because, confiding in their short-sightedness and weakness, they believe that they are able to do without God. And lacking help from Above, they stray from the paths of justice and truth, they are marching towards darkness, towards the chaos... The hellish foe rejoices exceedingly, but the holy angels are grieved...

Alongside these great evils, the Lord, who is always kind and merciful to the children He has ransomed by shedding the last drop of His Blood, has caused to appear in the Church a wonderful remedy: that of Closed Retreats. "Come apart into a desert place, and rest a little," did He say to his apostles after they had been busy all day long. And it was during His intimate discourses that He revealed heavenly secrets to them and warned them against the dangers of the world.

"Come apart into a desert place," such is the pressing invitation of the Holy Ghost, who has promised to speak to the heart of the faithful one whom He leads into solitude.

"Come apart into a desert place," such is the desire of our Holy Father Pope Pius XI, who has said: "We especially recommend the Spiritual



Exercises made in secret or Closed Retreats, because one more easily withdraws from the intercourse of creatures and there draws together all the powers of his soul, in order to think only of himself and of God while contemplating the eternal truths.

"Come apart," all of you, men, women, youths, and children, into this oasis of peace and sanctification, known as Houses of Closed Retreats. Come thither to spend three days, and you will return light-hearted and with your mind set on seeking all that is beautiful, true, and good, for in this does happiness consist.

#### CLOSED RETREATS FOR WOMEN

The Work of Closed Retreats for Women, which the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception inaugurated in Canada in 1911, is a work which they are particularly eager to see develop and produce fruit in abundance.

They are happy to receive at all times, in any one of the houses specially set aside for this purpose, the ladies and girls desirous of receiving in solitude and holy meditation, the precious graces of a Closed Retreat.

For any information, apply to one of the following houses in which retreats are given:

Retreat House dedicated to Our Lady of the Cenacle, 651 St. Cyrille St., Quebec.

Retreat House dedicated to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, St. Jean Baptiste St., Rimouski, Que.

Retreat House dedicated to Our Lady of the Missions, 61 Jacques Cartier St., Chicoutimi, Que.

Retreat House dedicated to the Immaculate Conception, 100 St. Louis St., Joliette, Que.

Retreat House dedicated to Mary Mediatrix, 35 Dufferin St., Granby, Que.

Retreat House dedicated to St. Bernadette, 430 Champlain St., St. Johns, Que.

Retreat House: "Bethany," Nominingue, Co. Labelle, Que.



### Votive lights in honor of the Blessed Virgin

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

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

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

# A Few Roses Scattered

By the Little Sister of Missionaries...

"When I shall be in Heaven, Jesus, Thou wilt fill my hands with roses and I will shower them upon earth."

St. Teresa of the Child Jesus.



Enclosed please find my renewal subscription and an offering for a Mass in honour of St. Theresa, in thanksgiving for a favour granted. Mrs. A. S., **Southbridge, Mass.** — I wish to thank St. Theresa for curing me of pneumonia. Enclosed please find an offering for the ransom of two dying Chinese babies, as promised. I desire to obtain two other favours. Mrs. E. T. — Please find enclosed a donation in favour of the Missions, in honour of the little Patroness of Missionaries. It is a thank-offering for requests granted. Mrs. A. L. — This offering, which I am sending in honour of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, is to help the poor Chinese children. I am again asking St. Teresa to assist and protect me. A Subscriber. — Enclosed please find my yearly contribution, in thanksgiving to St. Theresa. May I again ask you to pray that I may obtain two favours. Mrs. R. B. — I am truly thankful to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for all that she has done for me. May she help my brothers and sisters to find work. Miss C. C. — I have received a favour, and am sending you an offering for the Missions, as promised. I am now asking St. Theresa to grant my other requests. Mrs. A. E., **Montreal.** — Enclosed please find an offering, in thanksgiving for a favour

obtained from the Little Flower. May I again ask you to pray for me. Mrs. L. T. — You will find enclosed the ransom price of four dying Chinese babies. It is my thank-offering to St. Theresa of the Child Jesus. I desire to obtain several other favours. Mrs. A. L. — St. Teresa of the Child Jesus has come to my aid, and I am sending you a small offering, as promised.

A. L. — I have obtained some favours from St. Theresa of the Child Jesus and, to thank her, I am sending you a donation. L. L., **Spencer, Mass.** — Enclosed please find an offering for the Little Flower Burse, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Mrs. L., **Outremont.** — I have received a favour through the intercession of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus. Please ransom a dying Chinese baby with the thank-offering I am enclosing. A Subscriber. — Please find enclosed a donation towards the Burse in honour of the Little Flower, in thanksgiving for a favour obtained through the intercession of this dear Saint. Kindly remember us in your prayers. Mrs. E. L., **Montreal.** — I am sending you my renewal subscription and a small donation, to thank St. Theresa of the Child Jesus for the favour she has obtained me and that she may intercede for me again. Mrs. P. C. R. — Enclosed please find an offering in honour of the little Patroness of Missionaries, in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. Mrs. M. R. — I have received a favour through the intercession of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus. May my loving protectress now intercede for my daughter, who is anxious to obtain a position. You will find enclosed my renewal subscription. Mrs. R. C. — I wish to return thanks to St. Theresa of the Child Jesus, through whose intercession I have obtained a position. Miss E. L., **Montreal.**

## OFFERINGS FOR THE LITTLE FLOWER BURSE.

We shall therefore receive with gratitude, any offerings, (thanksgivings for favours obtained or requests for new ones) for the complete formation of the Burse in honor of St. Theresa 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!

September-October 1935.....	\$ 29.50
November-December ".....	7.00
January-February 1936.....	159.42
March-April ".....	45.70
May-June ".....	37.60





MISSIONARIES OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION WHO HAVE ASSEMBLED IN CANTON, CHINA, TO CELEBRATE THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARRIVAL IN A MISSION LAND OF THEIR BELOVED ELDEST SISTER, SISTER ST. PAUL (BLANCHE CLEMENT, OF MONTREAL). TO THE RIGHT MAY BE SEEN THE HAPPY JUBILARIAN.





## Echoes from our Missions CANTON, CHINA

*Letter from the Superior of the Missionary Sisters  
of the Immaculate Conception of Canton*

*Canton, China, March 19, 1936*

*To the Ladies and Girls of the Workrooms of our dear Mother House.*

DEAR BENEFACTRESSES,

I have already, through the medium of our Mother House, expressed to you my entire gratitude for the beautiful things which you have so lovingly made for our poor orphans. Every day, their thanks and ours are trans-



A DAY OF GREAT REJOICING AT THE FOUNDLING-HOME DEDICATED TO OUR LADY OF PROVIDENCE, CANTON, CHINA. THE ORPHANS HAVE ON THE LITTLE DRESSES THAT HAVE BEEN MADE IN THE CANADIAN WORKROOMS OF THE MISSIONARIES OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

formed into prayers which call down upon you the most precious blessings of our Heavenly Father. To-day, allow me to repeat to you with all the effusion of a heart of a missionary how much we appreciate your so very disinterested devotedness, which never grows cold. I wish that you could



SISTER MARIE DE LOYOLA<sup>(1)</sup> AND SISTER  
ST. BARTHELEMY<sup>(2)</sup> M. I. C.,  
HAPPY MISSIONARIES OF CANTON.

only see our little ones when we distribute to them the clothing from Canada, and also the astonishment of the people who behold them.

Great is the contentment of the little ones and just as great is the happiness of their adopted mothers. A few days ago, one of our Sisters brought a few children to the hospital to have their ears treated; the nurses, on considering how numerous are our dear charges, wondered how we were able to dress them so prettily. Our dear Sister proudly told them that these dresses were sent them by benefactresses in Canada.

It is always very amusing to see the children when the cases from home are opened; each one chooses and puts aside the little things she likes; the articles taken from among the treasures seem to be the answer to a few desires awakened by the thousand and one needs of our big family. A visitor who, one day, happened to be at the station just as the unpacking was being done, was so greatly struck by the joy on all sides that he could not help remarking: "Were it only to procure happiness of the kind, it would be worth while making cases." The joy of the unpacking is not fleeting, it lasts until the cases are completely empty, especially for our charges, who only little by little rejoice over the treasures contained in them. We have distributed new aprons to these seven-year-old youngsters, and just listen to the remarks they make with the greatest simplicity and sincerity.

We often tell them about their kind godmothers in Canada. One of them, on casting a glance at the brand-new aprons of so many colours, says to her little companions: "We're lucky to have godmothers. It's too bad Canada is far away, for we'd go to thank them." "I'd love to see them," says another, I don't know if they look like Sister *Sing Sum*? They have white skin like Sister *Anap* and Sister *Sing Sum*, but they have no veils on their heads. If they were to come here, I'd say the piece I learned for Sister Superior, then we'd give them flowers." And a third child spoke up, saying: "I'd sing a song for our godmothers. I'd tell them that we're praying that their little girls will be Sisters like Sister *Malea*, Sister *Anap* and Sister *Sing Sum*, so as to come to tell us about Baby Jesus."

These children are cunning, and they think of everything. I am sure that you love them and, if you but knew the sad story of each of them, you would love them still more. One of them would tell you that she had been

1. Orphise BOULAY, of Coaticook.

2. Maria LAMBERT, of St. Barthelemy, Co. Berthier.



left on the bank of a river, another, in a dirty corner of the street, etc., etc. Several of these little girls, whose ages range from three to seven, have been abandoned on account of the poverty of their parents, or through superstition. Look at the hand of one of them. Her father and mother, after having examined it, saw that it foretold that she would bring misfortune on the entire family, and hastily got rid of her. This foretelling of misfortune won her the happiness of becoming a child of God and an aspirant to Heaven. It is the time to state that their superstition was fortunate. In China, the life of a child is regarded as being of very little importance; the fate of a great many little waifs depends on what their hands foretell. We wish that all those who give signs of misfortune would be brought to our Foundling-Home instead of being left in the bed of a river to end up their lives. Many are the superstitious practices which precede and accompany the birth of a child. Until the little one is a hundred days old, it is surrounded by them as by a network. All the superstitious practices together constitute a veritable ritual for the pagans. The rites performed in regard to the children are sometimes graceful, for instance, a month before the birth of a little one, its parents buy a pot of bell-flowers, and, after hanging it up, are careful to water it morning and evening, saying: "Water the flower, that it may at last blossom forth." By doing so, they think that the child about to be born will be fortunate. Most of the time, alas! these rites are dreadful and cruel like all that has anything to do with paganism.

For a month after a new baby has arrived in the family, no one is allowed to chop wood in the house or even nearby, for it is believed that the child would run the risk of being crippled... If a distracted person or one that does not believe in the superstitious practices, happens to break these laws, the child is abandoned by its parents, so greatly do they fear the authority of the evil spirits.

The pagans are the slaves of their foolish superstitious beliefs, but, as a rule, they naturally love their children, especially the little boys. Very great is their affection for the last child born, whether it be a girl or a boy. There is a proverb which says that the youngest in the family wins all the affection of its parents. Such a proverb is a charming one and one that is true in every clime.

It is a wide-spread belief that the ephemeral baby is but a devil who has taken on flesh in order to come to exact the money due him. Therefore, the frightened people give a dying child a great deal of medicine as payment. Immediately after, they cry out: "I've paid you enough, I've given you all I owe you, go away!" They do not wait until the child is dead to abandon it.

Pardon me, dear Benefactresses, if my letter, which I wanted to be one of gratitude, resembles a catalogue of superstitious practices. I feel confident that, knowing more about the diabolical way in which the Chinese children are treated, you will help us by your prayers and the offering of your daily sacrifices in establishing in our adopted land God's law of love.

Surrounded by my dear charges, I whole-heartedly thank you for your present and past generosity. May the Master of Heaven, as the Chinese

say, shower abundant blessings upon all your dear ones, in return for what you are doing for the humblest of His children.

Yours very gratefully,

THE MISSIONARIES OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION,  
per SR. MARIE DE LOYOLA.

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## SHEK LUNG LAZARETTO

*Letter written by the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception,  
Hospitaliers at the Shek Lung Lazaretto, to their Superior General.*

*Shek Lung, March 5, 1936.*

BELOVED MOTHER,

We are going to tell you about the beautiful ceremony which was held at the Lazaretto on February 11th last. Each time we greet the blessed date on which the spotless Virgin smiled upon our earth, this tender Mother seems to cast a merciful look upon our poor Isle and to crush with her heel the antique serpent, which keeps the souls under its tyrannical yoke. This year, twenty-three leper men and a leper woman abjured all error to embrace our holy Faith. Reverend Father Chan administered the Sacrament of Baptism before the Holy Sacrifice and, at Communion-time, our twenty-four new Christians approached the Holy Table. The whole day long, happiness beamed on the faces of the privileged ones, and they were often heard repeating these words: "I did not know that one could be so joyful! I never before experienced so much happiness!"

Among the First Communicants was a little eight-year-old girl. We put on her the pretty white dress which you sent us last year, dear Mother. We also tied on her a blue sash and put a wreath of roses on her head. She looked like a little angel. We were overjoyed on seeing these dear children so happy.

The Chinese New Year's Day is the happiest day in the year for our patients, and there is rejoicing for three days. As the Authorities of Hong Kong had given us some money for our charges, we were able to procure them a good meal of meat, which they only have on great festivals. We also served them fruit and certain little delicacies. Our Sisters of Hong Kong and Canton came to share our happiness. The first day, the girls put on a little play, and there was drawing in the women's apartments the following day. Each one received an article: a towel, an undervest, a piece of soap, etc. The rest of the day was spent in preparing the meals and in playing chess or dominoes. In the evening, the lepers acted a Chinese play, which greatly amused everybody. The third day, there was a drawing contest among the men, and then the candies received from Canada were distributed. No need have we of telling you of the joy of all these grown-up children...



We have the happiness of sheltering a leper by the name of Moses, whom we feel will replace the one who, last year, was snatched from us by death. Several weeks before being baptized, he left all work aside, in order to study his catechism day and night. To anyone who wished to listen to him he would say: "Without Baptism, I cannot be saved. What use would a fortune be to me if I were to lose my soul? I wish to attend to my soul before bothering about my body." While listening to him, these words of our divine Lord came to our minds: "I praise Thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because Thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them to little ones." The good man is as ignorant as it is possible for anyone to be and, moreover, he has such a poor memory that it is almost useless for him to try to learn about our holy religion. Fortunately, God saw to keeping his neighbour in bed by sending him a severe attack of leprosy. Being a good Christian, the bedfast leper had patience enough to teach the ignorant man his catechism character by character, and he always thought that he was lucky when he succeeded in getting him to repeat the lesson exactly as it was taught to him.

On February 18th, one of our leper women surrendered her soul to God. Despite the fact that her hands and feet fell off quite a long time ago, we did not expect that she would die so soon. She had suddenly had a bad attack of leprosy and had been taken to the infirmary. After receiving Holy Viaticum and Extreme Unction with angelical fervour, she seemed to grow a little stronger. She was very gay and talked to us as if she had never been sick, but, shortly after, she began to suffer as before and lost the little strength she had. She unceasingly asked God to send her her seventeen-year-old son, that she might exhort him to become a Christian. The latter was informed of the illness of his mother, but, unfortunately, when the letter reached him, she was already dead. He arrived here two days after her death, and was grief-stricken to think that he would never see her again. He was, however, consoled on learning what a beautiful, holy death she had had,



A FEW POOR LEPERS OF SHEK LUNG, CHINA.  
WILL THEIR SUPPLICATING VOICES  
BE RAISED IN VAIN?

and he promised us that he would study the Catholic doctrine.

On March 2nd, St. Joseph sent us eight new patients. When the bark arrived, our attention was attracted by shouting on all sides. On making inquiries, we found out that our lepers, having no fireworks to explode to extend a welcome to their new companions, had decided to replace the racket by yelling at the top of their voices. The new-arrivals were left opposite the Dispensary until they were given a room. All in the little group soon became acquainted with our charges and learned that they were to be treated here not at all in the way they feared they would be. At bed-time, they were beside themselves with joy and each of them danced like a child on receiving a new coverlet and a blanket, donated by a committee of charitable ladies of Hong Kong.

Our dear charges are very, very thoughtful when they have any painful news to tell us. Not long ago, Sister St. Raphael<sup>(1)</sup> met the gardener, who sadly said to her: "Sister, there's one that eats no longer!" "Ah!" exclaimed our Sister. "He does not drink... he cannot see... he is cold... he is no longer able to stand up!" "Then," answered our Sister, who had at once understood what it was he was talking about, "dig a hole, and throw it into it." It was a rabbit that had just died...

Among our patients is a man almost ninety years old. He has not contracted leprosy, but is terribly afraid of the disease. You may wonder how he happens to be living here if he is not a leper. The good old gentleman was the only Catholic in his family. His sons and grandsons were dead, and his daughters-in-law supposed that it was he who had eaten them up, as he still had all his teeth. Afterwards, when the animals began to die, it was too much for the suspects, and the poor unfortunate was chased from their home for the sole crime of having preserved his teeth!... He has been living alone for several years, in a room which we placed at his disposal. He is deaf and is beginning to lose his sight, but he has kept, along with his teeth, all the lucidity of his mind. At times, he greatly amuses us.

Recently, we were obliged to refuse to take two lepers, on account of the lack of funds. We are heart-broken to think that we cannot help a greater number of poor unfortunates, who, one after the other, keep exciting our pity. But how are we to accept any more, when we are hardly able to procure food for those we already have. Actually, we are sheltering five hundred and thirty. We trust that God in His Providence will help us to continue the work we have so much at heart. May He find us some charitable persons, who, by their alms, will enable us to comfort all the wretched creatures who come to us for treatment.

On leaving you, beloved Mother, we recommend this intention to your fervent prayers.

Your loving Daughters of the Lazaretto.



"Despise not our petitions in our necessities, but deliver us always from all dangers, O ever glorious and Blessed Virgin." *St. Bonaventure.*

1. Malvina BIRON, of Coteau Landing, Que.



## HONG KONG, CHINA

*Letter written by a Missionary Sister of the Immaculate Conception  
of Hong Kong, to her Sisters in the Mother House.*

*Hong Kong, March 1, 1936.*

BELOVED SISTERS,

I feel that it will please you to hear of the conversion of one of the pupils of the English Course of the Tak Sun School.

In the month of February, 1935, there came to us from Swatow a twenty-year-old pagan girl who had never heard of God. Dolly Chan, as she was called, was, however, one of those pure and simple souls that are sometimes met with in this pagan land. Like a lily among thorns was she. She was attracted to our school by one of her friends, a Catholic maiden who had been taking lessons from us for about a month. As both of them were behind in their studies, I spent the hour which was usually set aside for their French lesson, preparing them for their English examination. All the subjects, except Catechism and Bible History, were taught them. One day, the pagan girl asked me why I left these two subjects aside. I explained to her that she was a pagan and that we do not compel anyone to learn what concerns religion. "But Sister," she said, "I'd like to know about the Catholic religion, I've never heard tell of such things." From that day on, the hour set aside for French was a Catechism period for two very attentive pupils. Magdalen, who was a Catholic and whom I had advised to be a model that her companion might look up to, began, in the month of May, to go to Mass every morning. Dolly, wishing to follow her example, accompanied her when she paid this daily visit to the church. Towards the 15th of the month, she expressed her desire of being baptized. She wrote to tell her mother about it, but as the latter can neither read nor write, she had the letter read to her by one of her friends, who did not fail to represent the Catholic religion to her as a most sombre one. As a result, Dolly did not receive an encouraging reply. She tried several times, but with no greater success. Finally, in the month of December, we received from her people a letter, in which they asked us to let the girl return home to get married, promising that she would afterwards go back to continue her studies. In hopes of winning over her mother, the dear maiden, accompanied by Magdalen, left us on Christmas afternoon. After her marriage, she succeeded in obtaining from her mother the long-desired permission, and then her husband gave his consent. She came back to us on the 4th of January, and I immediately saw by her beaming countenance that her desires were going to be realized. She earnestly settled down to study her Catechism, succeeded in her examinations, and finally saw the beautiful day of her Baptism arrive. It was on February 2nd, the Feast of the Purification, that she was made a Christian and received the name of Helena Teresa Bernadette. On February 11th, the day of her First Holy Communion, she was as happy as anyone could be. Ever since, she has been afraid of nothing else but of staining her pure soul. Once she upset an ink-well, and

a few drops of ink fell on her feet. "It is really too bad," I said to her. "Oh! Sister," she replied, "it's better on my feet than on my soul, I'm afraid of soiling it, but I trust that the Blessed Virgin will protect me."

And now, I have another great joy to share with you. A few months ago, Magdalen confided a secret to me: she wanted to join a cloistered Community. Yesterday, we took her to the Carmelite convent, where arrangements were made for her entrance before long. The very austere life which the Carmelite Sisters lead was not of a nature to turn her from her resolution. I beg you, dear Sisters, to pray for the perseverance of this future Carmelite and also for the poor instrument whom God deigns to make use of in order to make His Name and His benefits known in the dear Tak Sun School.

I affectionately say good-bye to each one of you.

Your humble and loving Sister in Mary Immaculate,

SISTER ST. JOHN OF CALVARY, M. I. C. (1)

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## MANCHUKUO

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

### **Sunday, September 15**

Knowing that we should greatly please our orphans, we, on the occasion of the "Pa ue hie," invited them all to come to spend the evening with us. Hai Tong, a child of nine, who recently arrived here from Lin Si, had never before seen a clock. When ours struck, the little girl did not know what to think; she never grew tired of admiring this *picture* on the wall, from which came such a melodious sound. She was quite surprised to see that we found that it was just an ordinary thing. The Chinese think that the clock is a wonderful invention. Perhaps it is because the greater number of them are deprived of such a handy article. Those who can grant themselves the pleasure of having their picture taken, are pleased when there is a clock on the wall in the room in which they are. When there are a number of them, they find that the effect is even prettier. Some time ago, our Chinese teacher brought us the portrait of one of her relatives. In the room in which the gentleman had been photographed, there were to be seen five alarm clocks, all serving as a decoration. Each country has its own customs: the people of our native land adorn their rooms with flowers, while the inhabitants of China place clocks all around them. The Chinese usually deem it an honour to adopt western customs, but they are sometimes very awkward in practising them. We often meet men dressed as Europeans, but who have let their shirt hang over their trousers. Just lately, we saw a bride carrying flowers in a bottle.

### **Friday, September 20**

We are called to the bedside of a dying man, who has been suffering terribly for the last ten days. On examining him, we are persuaded that

1. Doris HAGUE, of Montreal.



no medicine whatever is able to save him from death, which is fast approaching; we, however, have in our hands the best medicine of all: the Saving Waters, but shall we get him to consent to be baptized? He is willing to listen to the explanations of the Catholic Doctrine, but the other members of the family are not at all in favour of our holy faith. We confide this patient to the care of our dear heavenly Mother, and we hope against all hope.

### Saturday, September 21

The catechist of the Mission goes to see the patient we visited yesterday. For a long time, he speaks to the poor man about the truths of our religion



AN AGED BLIND MAN OF THE OLD FOLKS' HOME OF PAMIENTCHENG, MANCHUKUO, CARRYING A BUNDLE OF CHOU KAI TO HEAT THE KANG. HIS COMPANION IS LEADING HIM.

and he listens attentively the while, but his people still refuse to let him receive Holy Baptism. Tired out after the struggle, the catechist gets ready to leave, when a pagan visitor enters. The latter listens for a few moments to the explanation of the Catholic Doctrine, and then says: "Why aren't you willing to have the patient receive Baptism, this *superstition* is certainly not able to harm either you or him, and the gentleman will be happy. Finally these pagans give their consent, and the Cleansing Waters flow on the brow of another of God's children.

### Friday, October 4

To-day, we are brought a few pieces of *mai lou tsien* (paper money) which has been strewn on the road by some people on their way to the cemetery. The paper from which this counterfeit money is made is yellow, very thin, and about three inches in diameter. In the centre, there is a hole about a half an inch in diameter, in imitation of the old coins which were



A WOMAN OF MANCHUKUO CARRYING  
TO THE DISPENSARY HER HUSBAND,  
WHO IS UNABLE TO WALK.

perforated in the middle. The money which is burnt in the home is the same shape but very much smaller, it is about an inch and a half in diameter. The poor procure money of the kind, but use it more sparingly than the rich do. It is burned in honour of the deceased, in order that in the other world he may live very comfortably. On the road, just in front of the house in which the death has occurred, the mourners throw away the cords which hold in the white robes they have donned for the march to the cemetery. Rich and poor wear the same kind of a costume. The cords are not to be replaced by a belt or a ribbon, and one must leave them half way between the residence of the deceased and the cemetery. It would not be proper to wear them to the place of burial.

### **Sunday, October 6**

Little seven-year-old Siao Ya who, ever since her birth, has been on a bed of pain, has surrendered her soul to God. What a surprise and what a joy it must have been for this dear little one to see her sufferings changed into heavenly delight. All that she endured is inconceivable. She was covered with sores from head to foot, and she always had to remain in the same position on account of her legs being ankylosed. And as she had bronchitis, she had great difficulty in breathing. Her mother died last March, and her father, considering her as a bearer of bad luck, hastily abandoned her; she was brought to us by some charitable people. We were not able to relieve her of so many ills, but she had the happiness of receiving the consolations of our holy religion and, above all, Baptism, which has procured her the infinite treasures of Heaven.

### **Friday, October 11**

The big bell of the Mission has just rung to call the Christians to the church for the Rosary devotions. All, little folks and grown-ups, young and old, hasten to respond to its appeal. Old Mr. Lee, who is blind, has difficulty in repairing to the sacred edifice, for he has to feel his way along with his cane. On catching sight of the aged man, the Reverend Pastor goes up to him, and, taking him by the arm, brings him to his seat in the church. The astonished Christians are filled with admiration on seeing such a distinguished personage as the priest stooping down to help a poor beggar. Not one of them would have thought of performing an act of the kind. They say to us: "We're greatly edified on seeing how charitable you Christians are. To spend one's life treating miserable creatures, cleaning and dressing their ugly wounds, and bringing up children who are often looked upon with disdain even by their own parents, courage and self-denial are required. Such devotedness is not to be found among those who do not know God."



**Saturday, October 19**

The list of superstitious practices to be carried out when there is a death in the home is so long that even the Chinese often do not know of several of them. We have been told that a person whose mother was dying went to the home of her neighbour, a Christian woman, and begged her to cut out of a piece of red cloth a tiny ladder and a flower, which she wished to sew on the soles of the shoes that would be put on her mother after her death. The ladder would conduct her to heaven, the flower would bring happiness to those she had left behind her: their fortune would increase with every step they took. The Christian woman was greatly embarrassed, for, if she were to render this service, she would be showing that she was favouring the superstitious practice. On the other hand, if she were to refuse, she would prove that she was extremely ungrateful to this pagan family. God came to her aid, for one of the friends of the sick woman suddenly arrived and offered to do this little bit of work.

**Friday, November 22**

The little ones of our orphanage are very cute and they sometimes greatly amuse Sister St. Lazare<sup>(1)</sup>, the religious who has charge of them. This morning, she finds them practising in order to observe the rules well. The two biggest girls, one of whom is six and the other, five, are the directresses of those two, three, and four years of age, and of the babies still in their cradles. The first time the bell rings, it is the signal for rising, but the four infants do not answer the call; this first refusal to obey is tolerated. After a certain time, the bell is rung again to announce that it is time for prayer, and it is again the same little ones who break the rules. As it is once too often, the four of them are severely reprimanded, and all are asked to take the practical resolution of being more punctual and faithful.

Reverend Father Forcier, Pastor of the Mission, dearly loves our little charges, and he often comes to see them, bringing them delicacies. It was with great sorrow that they learned that he was soon to leave for Canada. "When your Very Reverend Superior comes, we'll ask him not to take you back," the dear children say to Father. When they are told that the Very Reverend Superior will not understand what they are saying, they decide on having Sister St. Lazare ask him in their stead.

**Friday, December 13**

Liou Siao, a little four-year-old orphan, arrived here just lately. When the child was but a few months old, its mother died. Its father, who had joined the army, was unable to look after it and he offered to give it to anyone at all who was willing to take care of it. The little one was adopted by some well-to-do people, who, like the persons in many of the homes in China, had contracted the bad habit of smoking opium. Inevitably, the day arrived when the tiny creature was found to be in the way. Each time the woman whom it called its mother, took her daily dose of the drug, she delighted in pricking the child's body with the red-hot lancet which she

1. Juliette RAINVILLE, of Beauport, Que.

made use of to prepare her pipe. On learning of the cruel way in which the little one was being treated, the father demanded that it be given back to him, in order to entrust it to the Catholic Mission. The poor child is very thin and very pale, and we fear that it will die on account of having been treated so cruelly. We shall at least have the sweet consolation of having opened heaven to it.

### **Wednesday, December 18**

A few days ago, we received a little four-year-old blind girl. The pagan father is very poor and, after selling his wife, he made up his mind to rid himself of his young daughter by throwing her out. One of his neighbours, wishing to dissuade him from carrying out this barbarous project, advised him to bring the youngster to the Catholic Mission, and he consented to do so. The poor child is unable to walk, to talk, and to feed herself: she is like a little idiot. Her tiny companions at the Orphanage are teaching her to walk and are also doing their best to get her to talk, but they will have a hard time, owing to the fact that she is blind. We have had her baptized and christened Paula.

### **Tuesday, December 31**

Report of the Dispensary of Pamientcheng from August, 1935, to December, 1935, inclusive:

Baptisms.....	29	Patients.....	7,847	Treatments....	17,876
Dressings.....	2,379	Teeth extracted....	57	Homes visited...	142

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

### **Wednesday, January 1, 1936**

Following a pious custom in our Institute, we kneel before the Tabernacle at midnight to end up the old year and to offer to our heavenly Father the one that is just opening. As there is only one priest at the Mission this morning, we go to the parish church to assist at Holy Mass. Just as we are singing the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary, the little orphan boys comes to wish us a Happy New Year. While we are finishing our prayers, the little fellows grow interested in the Crib of the Infant Jesus, and, as soon as we are through, they come with us to the Community-room to offer us their greetings. The oldest one gives a signal, and all very solemnly make the three customary bows. Sister St. Mathias,<sup>(1)</sup> our Superior, who has put aside some pretty pictures, thinks that it is a good time to make these children happy, and she gives one to each of them. Sister St. Bernardin de Sienne<sup>(2)</sup> at once says to the youngest lad: "What are you going to do with this picture?... Are you going to sell it?..." The little chap is somewhat displeased, and answers: "No, Judas sold Our Lord, and he lost his soul." When one of his roguish companions teasingly remarked that he had a great many pictures and that he was going to sell them and get rich,

1. Ida VINCENT, of Gananoque, Ont.

2. Antoinette FOISY, of Waterloo.



the little philosopher spoke up, saying: "Nobody needs to be rich on earth, true riches are to be found in heaven. If God doesn't help you, you'll never be rich."

### **Wednesday, January 8**

To-day, our Sister infirmarian goes to a very wretched hovel to see a poor sick man. The only room is but a few feet square, and it is not heated in the least. In one corner, there are a few pieces of *chou kai* and a handful of branches, but they have been reserved for the night. The wall near the *kang* on which the pagan father has been lying for a few months past is partly covered with icicles, which are a proof of how cold it is in the house. And these poor people have not even a small amount of sorghum for food. They are in dire distress, their only nutrition being a few big balls of something dubious. We immediately give our patient a little medicine, assure the family that we shall send them relief, and, after telling them a little



A MISSIONARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF FAKOU, MANCHUKUO,  
GOING TO MAKE KNOWN THE CHARITY OF CHRIST  
TO THE UNFORTUNATE PAGANS.

about God, the Father of the Poor, we entreat our Immaculate Mother to prepare the sick man for Holy Baptism.

### **Saturday, January 11**

Mr. Ly, the teacher at the Dispensary, goes for the second time to the home of Mr. Che, the patient whom we visited last Wednesday. Finding the wretched man very low and quite willing to embrace Catholicity, he loses no time in baptizing him. A few hours later, the new Christian leaves for heaven. We imagine how well off he must find that he is there, after having led such a sad life upon earth.

### **Friday, January 17**

Some twenty days ago, Mr. Tchen, a tailor displeased his wife while she was at breakfast. The latter flew into such a rage that she became

dangerously ill. Mr. Tchen, after giving her a quantity of Chinese medicine, which took no effect, grew discouraged and had recourse to a fortune-teller, who told him that in the western part of the city there was a woman doctor who was able to cure her. Immediately, the poor man thought of the Catholic Mission, and our Sister infirmarian was sent for yesterday. Realizing how very sick her patient was, she thought that the best thing to be done was to teach her a little catechism. The maiden catechist told her all about the Sacrament of Baptism, and discovered that she was well disposed towards our holy religion.

When our Sister returned to the pagan home this morning, she found that the face of the dying woman was covered with a cold sweat, but that she was still fully conscious. After making many an effort, Mrs. Tchen made known her desire of receiving the Saving Waters, and she was immediately baptized and given the name of Delia.

"Last night," her husband tells us, "I thought of burning some incense in front of our deities, but when I recalled that I had promised in the morning to become a Catholic along with my young daughter, I took down all the idols we had and I burnt them." We were very happy on hearing of this first victory over Satan, and we returned to the Convent reciting the *Magnificat*. Three hours later, we learned that Mrs. Tchen had just died.

### **Saturday, February 1**

In the course of the forenoon, we are told that Delia and Pauline Marie, the dying children we baptized a few days ago, have been thrown out. We are shocked on hearing of the monstrous act, even though we know that in a few hours these little castaways will be enjoying heavenly bliss, which Holy Baptism has procured them. How many other children, alas! who after having been abandoned in the same way, will perhaps never share the same happiness because a selfish Christian has refused the sacrifice, the humble prayer, and the act of self-denial to which God had determined to attach for them the grace of Baptism...

### **Monday, February 3**

For some time past, we have been frequently called upon to treat patients who have been frost-bitten. To-day, we receive at the Dispensary a peasant woman whose face is blue and swollen, and whose hands are covered with sores. She tells our Sister infirmarian that, as she had no money for fuel, she has suffered much from the cold in her miserable hovel. This poor woman greatly excites our pity, and, while we are trying to soothe her pain, we return thanks to God who, in His Providence, sees that we are sheltered in a warm dwelling while so many other human beings are shivering near a fireless hearth.

Report of the Dispensary of Tungleao from December to January, inclusive:

Patients.....	2,870	Baptisms.....	20	Dressings.....	914
Teeth extracted...	12	Treatments.....	3,335	Homes visited.....	92



Report of the Dispensary of Siakaiki (open three times a week) from December to January, inclusive:

Patients.....	387	Baptisms.....	7	Dressings.....	116
Teeth extracted.....	2	Treatments.....	437	Homes visited.....	2

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## TSUNGMING, CHINA

### Wednesday, November 6, 1935

Just as our Sister infirmarians of Paochen were finishing their dinner, fourteen persons from Tie Yen Daong arrived at the Dispensary. What indeed was the matter? A kitten which was said to be mad had rubbed itself up against the feet of some of them and up against the hands of the rest, and they feared that they were tainted with its disease. The Chinese are terribly afraid of cats and dogs. If they happen to be touched by one of these animals which they think are mad, they believe that they are almost sick enough to die. These people, trusting in our Sister infirmarian, came to be examined. Sister attended to them each in turn, feeling the pulse of the two hands, in Chinese fashion, and then solemnly declared to one that there was nothing wrong with him, to another that he would have to take a dose of salts, and to a third one that he needed to take some sulphate of soda. She ended up by assuring them all that they would be perfectly well inside of two days. We have already tried to convince some people frightened in the same way, that they were not sick, but just afraid, and we only succeeded in being looked upon as "doctors" who knew nothing. The fourteen patients who came to us to-day returned home satisfied, and probably not one of them will grow seriously ill.

### Thursday, November 7

While treating the patients at the Dispensary this morning, a Sister hears an aged pagan woman speaking of her mistress. "Ten days ago," she says, "my mistress gave birth to a little boy who, yesterday, began to be feverish. Having no hopes of saving his life, she put him in the dust-pan." Our Sister infirmarian, after asking the name of these people and where they live, sends to baptize the poor little one the maiden catechist. The latter immediately makes her way to the place indicated, unceremoniously enters the pagan home, as it is natural for one to do in China, and goes over to the spot where the rubbish is. True enough, there is there a dying baby. Pretending to be just looking at it, she draws quite close to it and pours the Saving Waters on its brow. Her task performed, the catechist takes her leave as silently as she arrived, and no one has any idea of the grace she has brought with her. There is no way of asking to take the child, for its superstitious parents would believe that the greatest misfortune was reserved for them by their gods.

### Tuesday, November 12

Just lately, Ya Ying, one of the biggest girls in the Orphanage, was taken from us. After being sick a month, she left for the heavenly abode. Being

languid ever since her arrival, she was thought to be a little lazy until the Sister in charge of the children one morning found that her feet were swollen and that she had nephritis. She recovered from this first illness, but soon after was down sick with pneumonia, which carried her off. The poor child was fortified by the Last Rites of the Church. For a few days, her companions were sad and were always in a pensive mood. This morning, one of them said: "I believe that Ya Ying is in heaven for, when I found it



SISTER CAMILLE DE LELLIS, (YVONNE JOLICOEUR, OF JOLIETTE),  
IN THE MIDST OF AN INTERESTING GROUP OF ORPHANS OF TSUNGMING.

hard to sew a certain part of my dress, I asked her to help me, and I got along alright..."

These dear little ones are very interesting; every day, they amuse us and surprise us by their remarks. Ping Sie likes to jump around, and cannot keep still a minute. Once, one of her playmates said to her: "How are you going to manage to face God up in heaven without moving?" "It'll be easy," the child replied, "you know that up above everyone will do as he likes. Well, I'll ask God to let me jump around!..."

The other day, a few of the children were seated at a table, chattering together. All of a sudden, Ling Moi, who is cross-eyed, spoke up saying: "I'm not pretty, but I'm very glad I'm not. Nobody wants to adopt me, so I'll always stay with the *Momos*..."

### **Saturday, November 16**

On her way back from a visit to some sick people, our Sister infirmarian is stopped by a pagan, who says to her: "Are you willing to take my child and give me one from your foundling-home?" "Let me see the little one before making the bargain," Sister answers. Immediately, she is brought a poor little creature that is suffering terribly. Just an hour before, it had tried to help itself to some *tsou*, mush, and on stretching out its arm to reach the coveted vessel, it fell head foremost into it. Its little body is so horribly burned that there is no hope of its life being saved. Our Sister



baptizes it, and afterwards refuses to take it in place of another. The excuse she gives is that the child is too sick, but the real reason is that we confide the children of the Foundling-Home to Christian families only.

### **Wednesday, December 18**

Someone comes to ask our Sister to go eighteen *li* distant to see a Christian woman, who is suffering from a cancer. It is very cold, and the roads are in a bad condition, but she sets out just the same. After travelling for two hours, she reaches her destination and finds a woman whose flesh is so terribly eaten away by a cancer that no hope remains for her recovery. After giving the patient a composing draught, she exhorts her to unite her sufferings with those of Our Lord, and then starts back home. While on the way, she meets a Chinese woman, who invites her to visit the pagan foundling-home where she works. Our Sister immediately makes her way thither and, winning the favour of the old women who take care of the building, she has the happiness of baptizing eighteen dying children. "What a wonderful day I have had," our Sister remarks on reaching the Mission, "how little I care about the slight fatigue I had to endure!..."

### **Tuesday, December 31**

Sister Marie de Sion<sup>(1)</sup> crowns all the work she has accomplished in 1935 by the baptism of a three-year-old child, to whom she gives the name of Mary Delia Emma, and by that of an adult, who, although a robber, brigand and murderer, is the object of God's mercy. The unfortunate dying man is filled with fear when he sees death approaching and, as there is no priest near, our Sister, after exhorting him to be truly sorry for his sins and to be trustful, explains to him the principal truths of our holy religion and pours on his brow the Regenerating Waters, which win him, just before the dawn of the New Year, a place near the Penitent Thief. What a joy it is for a missionary to be the instrument of God's mercy and to fill the heart of a poor culprit with the peace of forgiveness and the hope of eternal happiness!

### **Friday, January 17, 1936**

To-day, seventeen little ones are brought to the Foundling-Home. Six of them have already suffered so much that they cannot live any longer, and our Sister infirmarian sees to baptizing them as soon as they arrive. The happiness of baptizing the eleven others she leaves to Sister Superior. When the latter goes to the Foundling-Home to perform this sacred function, she finds at the door another baby that is only waiting for Holy Baptism. Thus she has twelve little souls to offer the Blessed Virgin this evening.

### **Saturday, February 1**

The eyes and the hearts of all in Kong Sou are turned towards the Native Novitiate, and all are eagerly awaiting the ceremonies which will take place therein to-morrow: that of the Final Profession of the first four Professed Sisters of the Institute and that of the donning of the Holy Habit by fifteen

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

postulants. The principal buildings of the Mission are decorated with flags and streamers. The parents of the Sisters who are about to make Final Profession, send for the big meal that will be served them on the great day what the inhabitants usually offer their friends for a marriage feast: a pig, a sheep, some chickens and different victuals. Two men carry all this to us on big trays.

### **Sunday, February 2**

As early as four o'clock this morning, the servants hasten to finish preparing the feast. At half-past six, His Excellency Bishop Tsu enters the Novitiate chapel, which has been prettily decorated with artificial roses. After the customary ceremonies for the admitting of the postulants to the Novitiate, the Holy Sacrifice is commenced. At Communion-time, the four Sisters who are about to unite themselves irrevocably to our divine Lord, make their way to the feet of His Excellency, who is holding the ciborium,



A CHINESE SERVANT OF THE MISSION OF TSUNGMING, CHINA,  
OSTENSIBLY WEARING THE SIGN OF CHRISTIANS.

and each of the happy chosen ones pronounces her formula of vows, in presence of the Sacred Host. Then, kneeling at the balustrade, a group of novices make religious profession and the other Professed Sisters renew their holy vows for a year. After Mass, the Sisters who have just pronounced their Final Vows kneel again at the feet of His Excellency, who gives them the ring of fidelity and crowns them with white lilies. The ceremony is brought to a close by the giving of Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament and the singing of the *Te Deum*. After dinner, His Excellency gives the assignments. Two of the Sisters who have just made Final Profession and two who have renewed their vows, are assigned to Haimen, where they will direct a girls' school; the others will remain at our Mission to labour.

### **Sunday, February 23**

Just now, it is so cold that the water freezes in our basins in the dormitory. The poor Chinese suffer greatly in their straw huts and they long for the warm spring days.



During Benediction, someone comes to ask us to go to see a poor sick man. We leave the chapel to find God elsewhere, and we make great haste, in order to be back before dark. But, instead of having to go but six *li*, as we were asked to do, we must travel ten before reaching our patient. Just another *pious* falsehood of the Chinese, who always deceive us in regard to the road to be covered, so as not to meet with refusal. For our patient, who has been given up by the doctors, there is but one remedy: Holy Baptism. On our return, we have the happiness of opening heaven to a month old child.

### **Sunday, March 1**

The cold weather continues, what a difference from last year! On this same date, the tulips were budding and the doors and the windows of all the dwellings remained open, so as to let in the beautiful sunshine and the gentle spring heat. Nature has not supplied us with flowers for the celebration of the month of St. Joseph, but, just the same, our little charges do not fail to testify their love to their great Protector, by adorning his statue as well as they are able. Ya Sieu asks the Sister in charge of the Orphanage to give her the prettiest flowers she has. As soon as the decorating is finished, the middle-sized orphans come in and ask many questions. "What does it all mean?" one inquires. "It's St. Joseph's month," another little one answers. "Momo told the big girls about it after we had gone to bed last night, but I understood everything she said. We must dearly love St. Joseph, for he is the father of the Infant Jesus, and he is able to grant us many graces." "Good-day, St. Joseph," three-year-old Ling Mei says while making three profound bows before the statue of our dear Patron, "I've sore eyes, will you cure me?"

### **Monday, March 2**

A good old woman, whom we visited on February 29th, has gone to heaven, and to-day we have the great happiness of baptizing her husband, who will not delay in joining her. Before returning to the convent, we also have the occasion of baptizing an eight month old baby. While we are thus engaged in pouring the Saving Waters, nine little ones for the Foundling-Home are received at the Dispensary.

### **Tuesday, March 3**

This morning, a man from a neighbouring Christian settlement carried to the Dispensary a basket containing eight babies. These poor little ones were very dirty and had been covered over with rags. Our orphans, who saw the wretched little creatures when they arrived, made a few remarks. Ya Sieu, in a pensive mood, said to her tiny companions: "Do you know that we were brought to the Foundling-Home like that? We must not forget to thank God for letting us live, we could have easily died like most of the children thus abandoned..."

"Can you tell me why these strangers have come to labour for the rest of their days in such a poor part of China?" a pagan one day asked the

launderer at the Foundling-Home. "What salary do they receive?" "They aren't given a salary," the launderer replied, "they've come to Tsungming solely to make God known to pagans like you, and it's God who'll repay them." "I can't believe that," said the pagan. A few days later, the latter noticed a Sister attending to a poor man who had part of one of his legs horribly eaten away by an ulcer, and he immediately exclaimed: "I really believe that these people aren't working for any earthly reward!" When he left us, we could see that he was thinking over all that he had seen...

### **Friday, March 6**

This morning, we travel fifteen *li* to visit a new Christian suffering from dropsy. We give him the very best treatment, and tell him more about our holy faith. While the drivers are at dinner, we go to see the sick of the neighbourhood. Before our errand of mercy is ended, we meet a good old beggar, who can hardly drag himself along. On seeing how eagerly he listens to all that we tell him about our holy religion and with what happiness he receives Baptism, we feel like exclaiming, "Blessed are the poor!"

### **Monday, March 9**

After treating all the sick people at the dispensary in Paochen, Sister St. Jean de l'Eucharistie<sup>(1)</sup> sets out for a place twenty-four *li* distant. On the way, she stops at nine homes and baptizes a poor man twenty-three years old. The latter, who is in the last stages of tuberculosis, has already been treated by our Sister. Once, when she told him about the Faith, he did not pay any attention to her, and she wondered what she was to do in order to snatch his soul from hell. All of a sudden, she had a bright idea. In the cases sent us from Canada, there was a bottle of excellent cough medicine. She gave it to the young man, who found that it did him so much good that he twice sent to the Dispensary for some more. As the Sister infirmarian had none left, she tried to imitate the remedy as best she could. The patient, grateful for such devotedness, to-day asks for his benefactress, who goes in all haste to make another attempt to save the soul of the poor unfortunate, but she finds that he is more rebellious than ever. Our Sister and her companion are sad-hearted, but, just as they are getting ready to leave, someone cries out: "*Momo, Momo*, stop, the patient wants to see you again." This time, he asks to be baptized. He kisses the crucifix, accepts the miraculous medal he had thrown aside, makes all the acts suggested to him, and, in fine, the Saving Waters are poured on his brow. Will the person who donated the medicine found in one of our cases ever know the worth of the little bottle?...

### **Saturday, March 14**

To-day, we baptize an aged opium fiend, who has already been given instructions by Reverend Father Cote, S. J., but who has never been baptized owing to the fact that he always refused to stop taking the drug. A Sister who happens to be going by his hut feels herself compelled to pay him a visit. The poor unfortunate, who has no one to take care of him, has had

1. Jeanne MOQUIN, of Eastman, Que.



a hemorrhage, and is lying bathed in his blood, being too weak to get up. Sister treats him and speaks to him of God, of Holy Baptism and of the endless bliss of heaven. He listens to all she has to say and, upon his request, she baptizes him. Shortly after the Sacred Waters have been poured on his brow, he surrenders his soul to his Creator.

Report of the Dispensary of Tsungming, from November, 1935, to March, 1936, inclusive:

Baptisms.....	149	Patients.....	11,457	Treatments....	21,738
Teeth extracted....	75	Homes visited...	336	Injections.....	197

\*  
\* \*

## WAKAMATSU, JAPAN

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

### Monday, August 26, 1935

Yesterday, we learned of the death of Mrs. Yamada, a pagan woman, who, although the eldest member of a large Christian family, had the happiness of receiving Holy Baptism only at the hour of death. To-day, the *Libera* was chanted in her home, which is about twelve miles from here. Complying with the Reverend Pastor's request, we, as well as a few Christians, make our way thither. In the room in which she is laid out, we are pleased to notice, in the place of honour, a crucifix, a picture of the Immaculate Virgin, some holy water, some lighted candles, and a few vases of flowers. Numerous relatives and friends of the deceased are talking unrestrainedly in the room while preparations for the ceremony are being made. After the recitation of a few prayers for the departed soul, the coffin (a plain unpainted wooden box) is placed on a stretcher firmly attached with straw cords, covered with a pall, and carried by four individuals in working clothes. The funeral wends its way past some rice fields to a little cemetery but a short distance from the dwellings in this village. The *Libera* is chanted in the open air, in the shade of some tall cedars, and afterwards all those present bid farewell to the good old woman in the way they find the most fitting: the Christians, by the reciting of a short prayer and the sprinkling of the coffin with holy water, the pagans, by coming each in turn to bow down before the coffin while clapping their hands. On returning to the pagan home, we tell the family we are sorry that we are unable to spend the rest of the day with them, and then we go back to the convent, leaving these good people to enjoy at their ease the feast prepared for the occasion. In Japan, all bereaved families invite their relatives, friends and neighbours to a banquet after the funeral; they endeavour to drown in the rice wine and the delicious food, the grief caused by the loss of a dear one. Without exceeding the bounds of temperance, the Christians respectfully observe the customs of their country. We find this out for ourselves on casting a glance at the twenty little separate tables all around the room, each of them laden with delicacies. In the evening, all the guests will return home, bringing with them what was left over of their dinner and a package of steamed rice cakes.

### **Thursday, September 12**

Throughout Japan, this evening, is being celebrated the *Ju Go Ya*, a festival in honour of the moon. This is said to be the epoch in which the Queen of the Night shines more brightly than usual, and on this festival there is rejoicing of all kinds. The houses are adorned with *susuki*, a sort of gramineous plant of a graceful form, and the inhabitants feast in the moonlight while the minstrels play old-time tunes on their flutes and while the poets, (and what Japanese citizen is not a poet on the evening the *Ju Go Ya* is celebrated) versify a few strophes in honour of *o tsuki sama* (noble Lady Moon). On looking up at the sky, we presume that the poems this evening will be a little melancholic, for the moon is slightly hidden...

### **Tuesday, September 17**

Ever since the grains of rice have appeared on the stalks, the agriculturists have had a hard time keeping their crops from being destroyed by big grasshoppers; these insects, while causing the farmers to despair, are for the children a plaything ever new, and, for the mothers, a highly appreciated resource for the kitchen... Our little pupils, having gone for a walk, come back this afternoon with their apron pockets filled with grasshoppers. They are greatly pleased to think that they have caught them and the hope of seeing them gracing the menu at supper-time makes their mouths water... Evidently, these little ones would not be easily moved to pity on learning of the austerity of the food of St. John the Baptist in the desert! This is how this delicious dish is prepared: After the grasshoppers have been scalded, their wings and the tips of their feet are cut off, they are then washed very carefully and cooked in a flavoured sauce to which much sugar has been added. If they are to be kept for a certain time, even for several months, they are put in earthen pots. When about to be made use of, they are sprinkled with flour and fried in oil.

### **Tuesday, September 24**

For a few days past, the weather has been unhealthy, on account of the warm damp wind; it is the autumnal equinox which is making itself felt. We are told that sleeping sickness has broken out in this city and also in several parts of Japan; the people die after being sick but for a few days.

### **Friday, October 4**

With the anticipation of a great joy did we rise this morning. As yet, we have not been able to discover why a few cases addressed to us did not arrive with our dear Sister St. Maurice,<sup>(1)</sup> who recently landed here from Canada. Each time the door-bell rings, we imagine that the desired event is being announced, but the employees at the station must not have any idea of our little and our great uneasiness, for it is only this evening that they decide to deliver us two cases, which we gladly welcome. It is with heartfelt joy and lively gratitude that we open the packages, realizing with

1. Juliette SIMONEAU, of Gardner, Mass.



what affection each of them has been tied up, and gathering up all the wishes which seemingly accompany them. The most filial gratitude springs from our hearts, how good God is for having given us such a kind Mother, such thoughtful and charitable Sisters, and such generous parents and benefactors! Before long, we shall go to the church for the Rosary devotions,



FAMILY REUNION OF THE MISSIONARY SISTERS  
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, AT WAKAMATSU, JAPAN,  
DECEMBER 29th, 1935.

and it will be with great love and gratitude that we shall offer each of our *Aves* for all those who so kindly furnished the contents of the precious cases.

### **Sunday, November 3**

The Japanese are to-day solemnizing the anniversary of the birth of Emperor Meiji, the grandfather of the present emperor, and whose fame has spread throughout the Empire on account of his wise administration and laws. It was while this emperor was in power that the Japanese finally allowed foreigners to enter their land and that the missionaries were able to freely penetrate into the country and therein see to reorganizing the Church, which, after two hundred years of isolation was thought to be annihilated, but which Almighty God had kept alive in the midst of paganism. In accordance with Japanese decorum, we prepare for the youngsters of our Kindergarten the customary little ceremony: the singing of the national hymn, of a song in honour of Emperor Meiji, and a little exhortation to the practising of the virtues which make great men, and of which all the Japanese regard Emperor Meiji as the model. The points developed are thus summed up: To obey one's parents and teachers, to keep from quarrelling, to always tell the truth, to come straight to school. All return home fully convinced that if they are faithful to these injunctions, they will be Japanese worthy of Emperor Meiji. How much more pleasant it would be for us to speak to these children of the true model of all the virtues, and before whom the perfection of the mightiest ones in the world is as nothing, but this hour of grace has not yet arrived.

**Thursday, November 28**

This morning, we learn that a baby which was baptized in a pagan home two weeks ago, has winged its flight to heaven. The father is a pagan, but he nevertheless asks that the little one be given a Christian burial. The ceremony takes place this afternoon. Before closing the little box which serves as a coffin (according to the custom in Japan, the richest person even has but a plain wooden box for a coffin), all the members of the family come to bid farewell to the baby and to burn incense in the pagan way. The Reverend Pastor wished that the burial ceremony be carried out with the greatest solemnity possible, at the church as well as at the cemetery. A tiny cross marks the spot where now lies little Joseph Shinbayashi, in the cemetery reserved for the Christians. We hope that this happy privileged child will intercede for his people before the Throne of God; his mother is already a catechumen and she has a little four-year-old son at our Kindergarten.

**Sunday, December 15**

For the last eight days, the snow has been falling in big flakes, the fences are hidden by such a thick blanket of it, and the big pine branches bend under their burden, which is not disturbed by a breath of wind. Although several miles distant from us, the mountains by which we are hemmed in stand out so distinctly against the blue sky that we are able to count the recesses; in the morning, when the first rays of the sun appear, their snow-capped peaks look to be gold or silver-plated. We find that they resemble the mountains of Canada in some respects.

**Wednesday, December 25, Christmas Day**

As in the past, the beautiful Christmas festival brings together in the little church of the Mission all the Christians of the neighbourhood. Besides



BRAVE LITTLE PUPILS OF THE KINDERGARTEN DIRECTED BY THE MISSIONARY  
SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF WAKAMATSU, JAPAN,  
MARCHING IN A TRENCH OF SNOW.



the joys of the Feast, we have the happiness of seeing four adults becoming children of Holy Mother Church and receiving their God for the first time, at Midnight Mass. The Mass in the daytime, celebrated at nine o'clock, is also preceded by a Baptism ceremony, that of four children. The mother of three of these little ones was one of those baptized last night, and the oldest in the family is a pupil of ours. These are the first fruits of our Kindergarten, gathered for the Infant Jesus and His Holy Mother. We must now pray fervently for the conversion of the pagan father.

### **Sunday, December 29**

We have the pleasure of welcoming our dear Sisters of Koriyama, who come to spend the day with us. It is to our kind chaplain, Reverend Father Lanoue, O. P., that we are indebted for this favour, for it was he who procured tickets for our four visitors.

### **Tuesday, January 14, 1936**

A little four-year-old boy is in the habit of coming to the Kindergarten as early as eight o'clock in the morning, even though it is cold and there is much snow. Once, when his mother asked him why he wanted to leave so soon, he told her that it was because it was warm at the Kindergarten. In fact, the children are attracted hither on account of the heat, and thus there is always a good daily attendance. Here, they may amuse themselves as they like, while, at home, they have to stay near the "kotatsu" in order to keep from catching cold. The "kotatsu" is a fireplace in which charcoal is burned. It is covered over by a thick quilt hung on a wooden frame some distance from the fire. As the charcoal does not flame up or emit any sparks, there is no danger. The Japanese sit near this hearth and carefully draw the edge of the blanket over themselves. A heating system of the kind is more economical than convenient. It is used in most of the private dwellings; only in the public buildings, stores, schools, and banks may one enjoy the heat from a furnace.

### **Tuesday, February 4**

In order to chase the evil spirits out of the different rooms of the house, the Japanese spill on the floor beans, which they afterwards throw out of the window into the garden or on the street. Each family burns certain of its gods, so that new ones may be put in their place. The latter are supposed to bring only happiness to the home, and, to win their favour, the inhabitants prepare a celebration in their honour. If, in spite of all, these poor pagans meet with misfortune during the year, the new deities will be burned the following year on the same date, and will be replaced by others.

### **Wednesday, February 5**

The Church in Japan to-day celebrates the anniversary of the crucifixion at Nagasaki of its twenty-six heroes. For Japan, also, the blood of martyrs was the seed of Christians. In the very region in which the most bitter persecution was carried on are now to be found the most flourishing Christian

settlements of the Empire, which give numerous vocations to the Church. All the Japanese, even the pagans, cannot help from greatly admiring these heroic defenders of the Faith. May they, by interceding before the Throne of God, obtain the grace of perseverance for all those whom He calls to the light of the Gospel.

Having gone to pay a visit to the parents of our pupils and to distribute admission sheets for the next time the children are to come back to school, we noticed a great many branches just outside the door of the different stores. This manner of decorating is another superstitious practice which the inhabitants are in the habit of following on the occasion of the New Year. Formerly, they hung on twigs little rice cakes of various shapes and colours, and old coins, serving as supplications to Buddha or to a few Shintoist deities, in order to draw wealth, happiness, and prosperity upon the family. With time, the spirits changed and the old beliefs lost their fascination. As a result, the branches now serve solely as decorations, and each one looks upon them as emblems of whatever is suggested to him by his piety. Certain staunch followers of the ancient traditions refuse to sweep the floor to-day, thinking that they would be chasing out all riches; others just as fervent, but with opposite notions, minutely sweep theirs while repeating an invocation of a nature to cause money to be showered on the family the whole year round. Decorative trees and bags of straw, cord, and Shintoist paper are burned by the inhabitants, whose aim is to drive away the devil and all the misfortune which he brings along with him. At daybreak, the head of the house goes to a rice field to plant a few stalks of rice in the snow, in hopes of obtaining a rich harvest. While he is thus busying himself, the children run through the field yelling and making gestures so as to keep away the hens and the crows and to hinder them from coming to steal the grains. All this is done during a season in which the ground is covered with ten feet of snow and when the hens no more than the crows think of sticking their beaks outside of their habitations....



A LITTLE GIRL OF THE KINDERGARTEN  
IN WAKAMATSU, JAPAN, ON HER 7TH BIRTHDAY.  
SHE IS WEARING THE "OBI" SASH THAT IS  
DONNED FOR THE FIRST TIME AT THAT AGE.

According to a Buddhist belief, these festivals are kept not only upon earth, but also in hell. The damned are then allowed to lift the lid of the furnace in which they are shut up and thus procure themselves a little relief. No human being must labour during this period of infernal rest, and it is useless for one to ask a workman to perform the least task, even though it should be accomplished without delay...



**Friday, February 7**

Reverend Father Lanoue, O. P., procures us some warm clothing which we see to having a few poor families benefit by. He also gives us the money required for blankets for two blind men who are too poor to buy any. It would be difficult to describe the happiness of these unfortunate disinherited creatures on seeing themselves the object of such great charity. They do not seem to be able to account for the interest we take in them. Perhaps it will not be long before God deigns to let a ray of His grace shine upon their souls.

**Tuesday, February 11**

We leave to our compatriots the joy of celebrating the anniversary of the foundation of their Empire and, with our whole hearts, observe this most beautiful feast of our Immaculate Mother, the one on which she came down to smile upon the earth. Our spotless chapel with its pale blue decorations recalls pleasant memories, especially to the few who, on this same date, irrevocably united themselves to their Divine Spouse. Our thoughts are also carried back to our dear Sisters who are pronouncing their holy vows in the Novitiate and in all our mission stations. In our Community room, a tiny grotto of Lourdes has been put in the niche which, up to now, has been occupied by the statue of the Blessed Virgin. Some little roses, brought from the Mother House, and a few flowers which have blossomed forth here in Japan adorn the rock from which our gracious Queen lovingly smiles upon us. Several times during our work, we contemplate this charming tableau, and, going in spirit to our dear home in Outremont, we feel that our eyes are resting upon the blessed grotto there. From our hearts springs the wish of forever carefully preserving the principles of formation which we received during our religious childhood, and to cause abundant bouquets of Japanese flowers to blossom beneath the gaze of our Immaculate Mother.

**Saturday, February 15**

Just lately, we received a little decorative plant laden with buds. Thanks to the beneficent rays of the sun and the heat of our little abode we to-day have for the ornamentation of the statue of the Blessed Virgin, a plant covered with blossoms which exhale a delicate perfume. The leaves have not yet appeared, and these little pink blossoms sticking to branches which are apparently dry produce a rather queer effect. The "ume" plum trees supply the first flowers of the season. Branches graced with buds ready to open are sold at a high price by the florists. The Japanese excel in the art of making bouquets of these flowers for the decorating of their parlors. It is very important for the girls to learn how to arrange flowers. For this, they must take a full course, which is of three years' duration. The manner of arranging each flower is for them significative, and those who have made studies concerning it do not always find that our tastes agree with theirs...



HIS EXCELLENCY ARCHBISHOP PIANI, APOSTOLIC DELEGATE, SURROUNDED BY FIFTY-THREE SOULS BROUGHT TO OUR EUCHARISTIC KING  
AT THE HOSTEL OF THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, MANILA, P. I.



## MANILA, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

### THE LITTLE FLOWER HOSTEL

Under the loving patronage of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus and with the authorization of His Excellency the Archbishop of Manila, who gave the new work its name, our Sisters of the Chinese General Hospital began on January 14th, 1933, to visit the different Chinese families of the city, their functions as nursing Sisters giving them the chance of attaining only the sick in the Hospital. They thought that they would thus have the occasion of helping to bring about the conversion of a few pagan families, of leading others back to the path of virtue, and of assisting the sick in their homes. But the particular aim they had in view was the teaching of Catechism to the numerous children who grow up without being told anything about their duties as Christians, and who receive no other sacrament than that of Baptism.

The following has been gleaned from the diary of the beginning of the work. "To-day, the 18th of January, we made our way to a dwelling in which were twelve Chinese families, one in each room. A Catholic woman and her husband had us visit the different apartments. In the far end of one room, we found five Chinese mothers who had formed a circle, each of them being surrounded by her children. We gave the little ones some pictures and, while they were comparing them, conversed awhile with their parents. The women on the second flat were all pagans, but they were very amiable. As all they knew about the Hospital was its name, they asked us much about it. When we reached the third flat, the women were so surprised to see us that they did not understand anything we said to them and answered us only by looking evasively at us. One of them leaned over the bannister to ask the people downstairs who the strange visitors were. It was only when they learned where we were from that they got over their surprise, offered each of us a chair, drew closer to talk to us, and even went to get the ones who had hidden themselves on seeing us arrive. When we got ready to leave them, they invited us to come back. We cannot expect anything more of them."

On the following June 15th, our Missionaries wrote: "We are beginning to reap a little fruit from the Hostel; yesterday, nine children came in a group to go to Confession, or to be baptized and, this morning, eight of them made their First Communion. These little ones who, but a few days ago, neither knew how to kneel down, nor to make a genuflection, now repeat morning and evening: 'Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name, Thy kingdom come!'"

On December 8th of the same year was held another Baptism ceremony. As early as two o'clock in the afternoon, all the members of a number of good Chinese families arrived at the Hospital, and it could easily be seen that they were glad to assemble for the same cause, in a building open to all of them.

At three o'clock, Reverend Father Dusemund, of the Society of the Divine Word, assisted by Reverend Father Gross, proceeded with the Baptism ceremony of twenty catechumens. During this ceremony, the sponsors were surprised and overjoyed on hearing the prayers chanted in their own language. After the conferring of the Sacrament of Baptism, His Excellency Bishop Finneman, Director of the Blessed Virgin's Sodality, blessed for nineteen new members the cherished livery of their Patroness and listened to their promises of fidelity. His Excellency then delivered a persuasive discourse brimming over with filial piety towards our Immaculate Mother, and, immediately after, conferred the Sacrament of Confirmation. Forty-three persons, nearly all of whom had been baptized or had made their First Communion during the year, knelt before the revered prelate to receive the holy chrism. During Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, which brought the ceremony to a close, a touching scene took place. A father had brought his children to be confirmed. Having been educated in a Chinese school, all he knew about religion was that he had been baptized. He was so very tall that he was remarked by everyone. During Benediction, he knelt down in the middle of the chapel, laying his hands upon the heads of his two children who had just received the Sacrament which makes one a strong and perfect Christian. It was the first time in his life that this gentleman found himself before the shining Host. As the last notes were played on the organ, the crowd dispersed, and then took place privately the blessing of the marriage of one of those who had just been baptized.

In the year 1934, there were some very happy days at the Hostel. On December 27th, forty children were baptized and, three days later, were confirmed in the church of Binondo, by His Excellency Archbishop O'Doherty who was making his visitation. That same day, he also conferred the Sacrament of Confirmation on a hundred and one Chinese persons who had been gathered together during the year that had just gone by. In the group were men, women, big girls, and little folks. A goodly number of others were not able to show us their Baptism certificates, and so they were left over for another time."

"By comparing what work was done at the outset with what is actually being done," states the Diary of our Sisters about this same time, "we find many reasons for thanking God. Numerous deceptions have outweighed our joys, but we keep the thorns for ourselves, so as to let only the roses appear. Many ears which we should have loved to have picked up are lacking in our sheaf, for the devil has also been at work. The Catechism Course which at first was given to only five pupils is now attended by as many as seventy. Moreover, since we have begun to visit the different families and to give Catechism lessons, the pagans often ask us to explain to them in what way the religions differ, and, to all appearances, they sincerely wish to know the truth.

As the newly-converted Chinese do not as yet possess an unwavering faith, and as most of them receive little or no encouragement in their homes, we must follow them up closely and continually urge them on. Every



month, on the day preceding the First Friday, we extend them a special invitation to make their confession and to go to Holy Communion, and numerous are the children and adults who respond to the appeal. On seeing them coming back the following day to receive Communion, neatly dressed, and very quiet, we have a hard time recognizing them as our former noisy little urchins.

March 3rd, 1935, witnessed an imposing ceremony, during which fifty-three children received our divine Lord into their hearts for the first time." "To enhance the festivity," we read in another part of the Diary, "the Apostolic Delegate, His Excellency Archbishop Piani, kindly made his way to the parish church attended by the Chinese, on account of the limited space in the chapel of our hospital. He it was who celebrated the Holy Sacrifice on this occasion and who gave Holy Communion to the children. A few moments before the little ones approached the Holy Table, the Reverend Pastor reminded them in a few words of the sentiments with which their hearts should be filled on this solemn occasion. A goodly number of parents received Communion immediately after. The First Communicants were given souvenir pictures by His Excellency, and, after partaking of a light lunch, were sent home. At four o'clock in the afternoon, they came back to assist at Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Kneeling before the Monstrance, each of them laid his hand on the Book of Gospels and renewed his baptismal promises. Benediction was followed by the investing with the Scapular of the Blessed Virgin. The children then assembled in the presbytery, and, just before leaving for home, were given pictures and First Communion certificates, and were reminded to say their prayers every day if they wanted God to bless them.

As the Sister catechists wished to teach Christian Doctrine to the children whom they had attracted to them through the medium of the Hostel, the Immaculate Conception Academy was opened on June 15th, 1935. It was at first attended by forty young pupils, twenty-four of whom had been baptized. It is a great joy for us to hear them reciting their prayers every morning and evening and singing the praises of the Queen of Heaven: *Chan Siong Lo Tiek Sieng Bio Malea*. From the bottom of our hearts do we thank God that we are at last able to behold a Chinese Catholic school in the district."



Since none are to be considered so poor and naked, none so infirm or hungry or thirsty as those who are deprived of the knowledge and grace of God, there is no one that does not see that mercy and a divine reward shall not be wanting to him who has shown mercy to the most needy of his fellows.

*Pope Pius XI.*

"Hail thou, O Mother of God, who alone amongst creatures art more bright than any sunshine, more pure than any purity."

*St. John Damascene.*

# 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.*

## Thursday, March 12, 1936

The "Novena of Grace," which annually brings us to the feet of St. Francis Xavier from the 4th to the 12th of March, this year found us better disposed than ever before to honour our holy Protector. The reason for this is that his biography which was read to us in the refectory during the months that have just gone by has taught us more about him by causing us to admire his heroic virtues and his great works. Fully believing in the efficacy of his intercessory power, we confided to him our dearest intentions and, above all, we entreated him to enkindle in our hearts the apostolic zeal with which he was inspired.

At the close of the joyous holiday given us in honour of the holy Patron of Missionaries, we are invited to go to the parlor, where Reverend Father Reid, O. P., who is about to leave for Japan, bids us farewell.

We had not forgotten that, nearly a year ago, Reverend Father had promised to come back to our Novitiate before returning to his field of apostolate, and we are happy to receive the blessing of this zealous missionary who, by a short talk, so wonderfully stirs up our enthusiasm for the flights to the distant land of our dreams.

We laugh heartily when he repeatedly tells us that China and Manchuria are not the only countries on the other side of the Pacific, and that we should not forget the existence of Japan, where we are all warmly invited to land one day.

Has not our kind visitor been sent us this evening by St. Francis Xavier, the great Apostle of that Empire, to recommend to our prayers the poor pagans of those countries?

His appeal, which we find very touching, does not, however, open to us a new field of labour, for we have always followed up with interest the work of our dear Sisters of Koriyama and Wakamatsu, and we have constantly entreated our Immaculate Mother to bless their tasks; but, henceforth, we wish to be doubly ardent and solicitous for this part of the Lord's vineyard.

## Thursday, March 19

To us, St. Joseph is not only an admirable Saint who has been raised to a supereminent dignity: above all, he is a beloved Father. The testimonies of respect which we waft heavenward to his throne, on this his Feast Day, are stamped with filial affection and gratitude.



We adorn all the images we have of him, we execute the singing at a High Mass in his honour and, at nine o'clock, we assemble in the chapel and, there, voice pious hymns which speak of his glory and goodness. The whole day long we each in turn hastily leave for a while the joyous conversation of the traditional holiday to kneel at the feet of our kind Father to pray to him for all our dear ones.

This evening, the postulants surprise us by a pretty recreative programme, which is a full success. One of them sings a song that causes to stand out in relief a distinctive feature of the life of St. Joseph, the one that we perhaps admire the most and do our utmost to imitate: his silence, which is the result of his humility, recollectedness, and love for the hidden life. But, as we are told in the last verse, if St. Joseph was silent upon earth, he unceasingly intercedes for us in heaven. Let us therefore ask him to obtain us the sublime virtues of which his silence was such an eloquent predication.

### **Monday, March 23**

A few days ago, we learned of the death of one of our little sisters, Marguerite Marquis, of L'Isle Verte, Co. Temiscouata, who, was obliged to leave us in January, when the great day of her taking of the Holy Habit seemed to be so close at hand. A second doleful message is transmitted to us this evening. Another of our former companions, (Rollande Girard, of Ste. Perpetue, Co. Nicolet), who also had to return home on account of ill health, has ended her career here below.

Was it not because God had loving and merciful designs upon the souls of these two aspirants to the religious life that He conducted them to the Novitiate of the Immaculate Conception in order to prepare them, by lavishing upon them His choicest graces, for the final summons, which He was to send them not long after.

Both had remained deeply attached to us, and we feel certain that, up above, they will not forget their little sisters in Pont Viau and all the members of their religious family, whom we beg them to assist and protect.

### **Wednesday, March 25**

While giving us instructions recently, our Mistress told us about the consecration to Mary which we shall be asked to make or renew on the beautiful Feast of the Annunciation, and explained to us what it consisted of. With what great happiness do we to-day offer to be the slaves of our heavenly Mother, confiding to her all that we have and are.

Of all the ineffable secrets which our divine Lord sometimes reveals to those betrothed to Him, that of this devotion, which makes one absolutely dependent on the Blessed Virgin, seems to us to be the most precious.

We therefore implore Jesus living in Mary to direct us towards the perfection of the life in union with the Blessed Virgin, to which He has deigned to call us.

**Monday, March 30**

We to-day begin to read in the refectory the autobiography of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. There is not one of us who has not read and re-read these captivating pages, but, nevertheless we are all happy to hear them again. We resolve, this time, to seek in this autobiography something better than the knowledge and the admiration of our holy Patroness; following the advice given us by our Mistress, we wish to look up to her as a model of the principal virtues which should characterize our little Institute: humility and simplicity.

May we profit by the lessons taught us by the Little Flower and by the example she has set us, in order to become as simple and childlike as the little ones.

**Wednesday, April 1**

Many are the tricks we play on one another each year on April Fool's Day, and we delight in seeing entrapped those who, but a few moments before, declared that they were too much on their guard to be victims of a joke which is the subject of all the conversation.

This evening, without our having casts any nets, we find in our drawer in the refectory some nice little red and golden fish which seem to be squinting at us in order to see our astonished looks and the faint smile which appears upon our lips when we catch sight of them. We joyfully partake of them, imagining the while that our surprise has been given us by our beloved Mother, who so dearly loves to please her children of the Novitiate.

We guessed right: our Mistress confirmed our supposition at the beginning of recreation. Immediately, one of us, expressing the sentiments of each of the novices, tells how happy she would be to go to thank our Mother for her delicate thoughtfulness, and she thus gains the privilege of interpreting our gratitude and filial affection to the one who is so dear to us.

**Thursday, Friday, Saturday — 9th, 10th and 11th of April**

How rapidly have glided by, in silence and in prayer, the three last days of Holy Week, which presented themselves to us full of ineffable memories of sorrow and of love, and laden with numerous favours.

The spiritual reading and the meditations appropriate to the occasion, helped us to settle our minds on the divine mysteries of our Redemption and kindled in our hearts sentiments of tenderness and gratitude and very great desires of fidelity and zeal.

Thanks to the devotedness of Reverend Father Gariepy, our chaplain, and the kindness of our neighbours of the Foreign Mission Seminary, the Holy Week ceremonies were more solemn than ever before; during the office on Good Friday, we, for the first time, heard chanted in our chapel the touching Passion of Our Lord.

At three o'clock the same day, in union with the Blessed Virgin, we followed Jesus along the Sorrowful Way by making the Stations of the Cross,



and, in the evening, we returned to the chapel to spend an hour sharing the anguish and the isolation of our dear heavenly Mother. But, to-day, a ray of light and hope beams before us. How eager are we to proclaim the triumph of our divine Saviour!

### Sunday, April 12

"This is the day which the Lord hath made: let us be glad and rejoice therein."

As soon as we come down from the dormitory, the silence is broken by the singing of the *Regina Cæli*. These accents rouse the echoes of the convent, which joyfully repeat the Paschal Alleluias.

We were told in our childhood that the bells came back from Rome for Easter Sunday. Ours has been adorned with pretty pink paper, and, at nine o'clock, it gaily rings out to announce the day's recreation, which is commenced by the distribution of the many letters heaped up since the opening of the Lenten Season.

At dinner-time, the traditional treat is offered us: delicious maple taffy cooled in snow. As it is a long time since the earth has thrown off its white mantle, one would think that God had purposely left the little heap of snow which we discovered in a sheltered spot in the garden, in order to procure us the pleasure of having this excellent Canadian dessert.

The Easter eggs of every size and colour sent us by our dear parents, have also been put on the table. Have we not all kinds of things lavished upon us, we who believed that we had forever given up these little joys of our childhood?

On this beautiful day, we are given another surprise, which we greatly appreciate; some pretty statues of the Blessed Virgin surrounded by dainty decorations, have been placed in our classrooms. May our hours of study be more fruitful under the blessed gaze of our Immaculate Mother!

### Thursday, April 23

To-day, we have to inscribe in our annals a glorious event and one that will never be forgotten in our Novitiate: the visit of the Primate of the Church in Canada, His Eminence Cardinal Villeneuve.

Towards nine o'clock, our kind paternal visitor is in our midst. With filial and profound respect, we kneel to receive his blessing, and then listen to the words he addresses us, which, being sometimes humorous and sometimes grave, cause us to pass from merry laughter to serious considerations.

We wish to here note the principal points of this discourse, which bring before us the reason for our beautiful missionary vocation and the means of realizing its ideal.

Why is it that we have desired to be Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception? Why do we wish to devote our lives to foreign mission work when there is so much good to be done in our native land? This objection, which is often presented to us, is immediately answered: Because Our Lord did not come upon earth for a few nations only, but for all mankind, and,

consequently, the light of the Gospel must shine everywhere. If in Christian countries it is easy for every willing soul to draw from the fountain of Truth, it is not so in pagan lands, where the apostolic labourers are so few in number, and where millions of infidels are sunk in the darkness of paganism. Therefore, people must go to help these abandoned creatures, following the example of our divine Lord, who preferred labouring among the poor and the humble.

But to be missionaries and do much good, it is not necessary that we perform striking deeds. What did Jesus, our Model, do? It seems to us that, having come down from heaven to save all men, He should have lived a long time, in order to go all over the world, converting its many inhabitants. No, He came on earth to die. After thirty years of silence and oblivion, and but three years of public life, He dies, having lost His reputation and been forsaken by His Apostles. His work then seems to be brought to naught, the faith of the Apostles wavers, the disciples of Emmaus, giving way to sadness, remark that they thought that He would be the Saviour of Israel. But from the Divine Heart, from which blood and water flowed, the Church sprang into existence. The centurion proclaims the divinity of Jesus, Mary Magdalen remains hopeful, and, before long, arrives the triumphal hour of the Resurrection... Then comes the Feast of Pentecost, when the Church receives Strength from above. Had not Jesus said: "Unless the grain of wheat falling into the ground die, itself remaineth alone, But if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit."

The fecundity of our lives is also subject to this rule: one must die in order to live.

How many missionaries are snatched by death at the very beginning of their apostolic career! And how many others are there who spend their lives doing work which is hidden and apparently fruitless!... And His Eminence gives us as an example two priests, one in north-western Canada and the other, in Africa, who laboured for many years without their work appearing to be useful; but, on the unprofitable soil they had tilled, their successors saw a magnificent harvest spring up.

It is commonly believed that in order to become holy, one must rise; but it is the contrary that must be done. We must acknowledge our powerlessness, die to ourselves, and appear to men not to be doing anything. Above all, we must place our entire trust in God, without whom we are nothing. And if God humiliates us, makes us feel how miserable we are, sends us suffering, and leaves us unable to perform the least action, let us remain very docile in His hands, for it is then that we shall be able to do the most good, or rather it is then that divine grace will operate in us and through us.

May these few notes, but a feeble echo of the words which fell from the lips of a Prince of the Church, deeply engrave the pressing exhortations on our minds and hearts.

Before leaving us, His Eminence asks us if it is a long while since we have had a holiday, a *big* holiday. Our answer is: "It is a year, Your Eminence!...



Yes, and even longer than that, for the last time we were given a holiday by a cardinal was in November, 1934. How happy we then are to hear our distinguished visitor, who has been amused by our reply, offering us a triduum of holidays, which, as may well be supposed, is hastily accepted by the entire personnel.

Those among us who were born in the City of Quebec or in the Archdiocese are then invited to step forward, and their revered Chief Pastor congratulate them on being so numerous.

His Eminence kindly gives us his blessing anew, and takes his leave after soliciting the help of our poor prayers. We whole-heartedly assure him that we shall pray for his intentions, and it will be a real joy for us to fulfil our promise.

The new kind of a triduum granted us is immediately commenced, and it is not necessary to be a prophet in order to foretell that the gaiety and liveliness with which it is greeted will be kept up until the very end.

### **Friday, May 1**

We cannot refrain from speaking of the opening of the month of May, whose return fills our hearts with such great joy. We are extremely happy to think that, during these blessed days, the Catholics all over the world are wafting heavenward to the Blessed Virgin the most fervent prayers and the sweetest hymns.

What share shall we have in this universal tribute of praise and love? Although we are very small and very modest, we wish to honour our heavenly Mother more ardently than anyone else and we are thinking of offering our humble homages with love great enough to make up for the culpable indifference or ignorance of too many creatures.

### **Wednesday, May 6**

As the beautiful weather has returned, the spring work has been begun. For a few days past, our young gardeners vie with one another in weeding and raking the soil, while a real army of active housekeepers go to the different rooms of the Novitiate to wash the few hundred windows which make our abode so inviting and gay by letting in plenty of light and fresh air, and to put mosquito netting over them.

It is with childlike pleasure that we go about our work. This afternoon while we are making an extra effort with the hope of finishing up our long task in a few hours, Sister Superior sends us a joyful *Deo Gratias*. Our work is made more pleasant by a lively conversation, and soon becomes a real pastime.

The charms of this fair season, which, from all the windows, meet our gaze, arouse our admiration and bring to our lips the blessed name of the Author of all these wonders and that of the Queen of May, whom we lovingly invoked during the hours of silence.



## The Children's Page

DEAR CHILDREN,

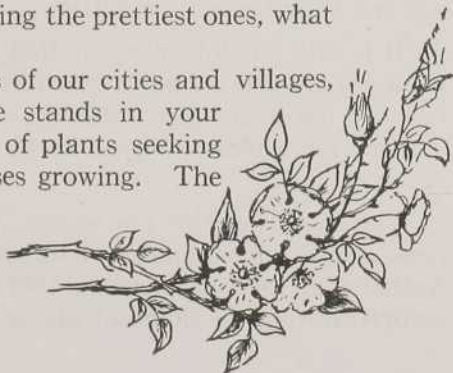
Many things have occurred in your midst since two months ago: First Communion and Confirmation ceremonies, final examinations, the giving out of prizes, and at last it is holiday time!...

I, your *Great Friend*, have affectionately followed you step by step, rejoicing in your happiness and sharing in your anxieties and, now, in union with your dear Parents and Teachers, I jubilate when I see you flitting about like the butterflies under God's big sky. At the epoch when Nature is so beautiful and charming, it is indeed pleasant for one who has been studying for ten months, to leave his desk and whole-heartedly enjoy the fresh air, the cloudless sky, the shady nooks, the limpid waters, the songs of the birds, the bustling of all created things, of which man is the lord and master. It is pleasant to skip through the fields and the woods to pick the fragrant flowers and the nice fruit which God has so liberally sown on our soil. How pleasant it is, also, for a scholar to spend his time with the rest of the family, sharing in their work as well as in their relaxation. Yes, hurrah! for the school books, and hurrah! also for the holidays!

### THE THORN UNDER THE FLOWER

While walking in the country, have you not already remarked the pretty wild-rose bush growing beside the fences and on the borders of the woods like a seed fallen from the heavenly gardens? When it is adorned with flowers, it is not only pleasing to the eye, but it also exhales such a delicate perfume that it is very easily found. Have you not yourself been attracted by its charmingness, have you not hastened to pick a few of the dainty corollas and, in your eagerness in selecting the prettiest ones, what did you feel?...

In the plots embellishing the streets of our cities and villages, in your own flower gardens, or on the stands in your homes, on which there are a variety of plants seeking the sunlight, have you not found roses growing. The rose is a very graceful flower, and many are the shades of its sweet-smelling and velvety petals. Indeed, this flower is so beautiful that it is known as the





queen of the flowers. Have you not often stooped down to look at it closely, to inhale its perfume, or to pluck it? And what did you feel when you touched the stem?...

You felt the thorn under the flower... you pricked your fingers, and perhaps your blood trickled down the rose as it did when you touched the wild-rose bush, perhaps you even left there a few scraps of your clothing...

The thorn under the flower is indeed the figure of worldly rejoicing, of forbidden pleasures, of the satisfying of self-love and sensuality, all of these at first captivate and emit a perfume, but in the end they wound the heart and the soul, and, what is more, they outrage the Heart of God. Oh! those ugly, cruel thorns!... The thorns that prick the fingers of the one who touches them are but little to be feared, those that wound the heart by producing disenchantment, regret, and sadness are sometimes very painful and dangerous, happy is he who knows how to keep away from them. Oh! how much one must fear and try to avoid the thorns which, at one and the same time, wound the heart and the soul, render them displeasing to God, and cause Him to withdraw from them His love!...

#### DURING THE HOLIDAYS

During the holidays, dear Children, more than at any other time, your thoughts will be fixed on things resembling blossomed rose-bushes: pleasures, games, walks and a thousand and one other satisfactions which your Parents will not always be able to grant you. In order to procure these enjoyments, you will be tempted to disobey, to pout, and to be proud and lazy, perhaps you will even have to hold out against a few of your companions who wish to persuade you to do wrong. You will be tempted to give way to self-love, to vanity, to gluttony, etc. Yes, dear Children, you will several times be tempted to pick these enchanting flowers, under which are hidden cruel thorns. But you must not listen to the voice of the tempter, of the wicked devil, who wishes to lead you away from the path of duty, towards bushes deceitfully charming, in order to pervert your soul. Instead, be attentive to the sweet voice of your Angel Guide, who ever remains by your side, in order to preserve you from everything harmful to the soul and to the body, and to incite you to keep straight on the path of duty, which leads to heaven. You must have recourse to your Guardian Angel, saying: "O my celestial Guardian, my tender and faithful Friend, whom God has deigned to place beside me, I entreat thee to unceasingly watch over me and to spread thy wings round me, for day and night, I believe that thou lovest me. I beg thee, also to inspire me, to make me listen to thee, and to guide me along the path of life. When I reach the end of my voyage, beautiful golden-winged Angel, I wish to find thee still by my side."

#### I SHOULD LIKE TO KNOW

Before leaving you, dear Children, I would like to know if you always wear on your neck the Scapular of Mount Carmel, in which you were enrolled on the happy day of your First Holy Communion. This blessed livery, or

the medal replacing it, will protect you, for it is a safeguard. You must never leave off wearing it, and when it is worn out, you must quickly procure another. The Blessed Virgin herself has promised to preserve from the everlasting flames all those who die with this scapular on. Listen to the following true story.

The chaplain of a certain college, on going to the different dormitories to make sure that all the students had retired for the night, noticed a boy kneeling beside his bed.

"Why are you not in bed yet?" the chaplain asked.

"I gave the door-keeper my scapular, that he might put a new cord on it, and he has not brought it back to me yet. I cannot think of going to sleep without my scapular; I am afraid that I shall die during the night."

"Confide yourself to the Blessed Virgin and do not fear, your scapular will be given back to you tomorrow; in the meantime take a good sleep."

"Oh! no, I cannot go to bed, for perhaps I shall die during the night."

On uttering these words, the poor boy shed bitter tears. The priest was deeply touched on discovering the dispositions of the pious student and, admiring his confidence in Mary, he went down to the door-keeper, bringing back with him the desired scapular. The student piously kissed it, and, after putting it around his neck, he joyfully went to sleep while invoking Mary, whom he called his tender Mother.

The following morning, the chaplain again visited the dormitories to see if everybody had been faithful to rise when the signal was given. When he reached the bed of the pious student who had so greatly edified him the evening before, he noticed that he had not got up. He imagined that he was making up for lost time, and, after giving him several calls without receiving an answer, he drew closer in order to awaken him. But, to his great surprise, he found that the boy was dead. He had died during the night!... An angelical smile beamed on his countenance; he still held in his hands his scapular, which he had doubtlessly kissed just before surrendering his soul to God. Mary had wished to reward her young servant for his





admirable trust by not letting him die without her holy livery on.

Dear children, you, like so many others, may meet with a sudden death. Your Parents and all those who love you, will be greatly consoled if they find that you are wearing your scapular, for they will be sure that a place in heaven has been reserved for you...

To-day, therefore, take the firm resolution of never leaving it aside, even for a day, an hour, a moment.

*Your Great Friend,*

THE PRECURSOR.

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## The Archconfraternity of "Our Lady of the Sick"

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Highly encouraged by the last few Popes, recommended by Their Excellencies Cardinals J. M. R. Villeneuve, O. M. I., (Quebec) and D. Dougherty, (Philadelphia); by His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate, and by over fifty Archbishops and Bishops, in Canada and the United States. Papal Blessing to the Director and to all the Members as to all the Sick, in 1935.

### REGULATIONS AND CONDITIONS

1. To become a Member, one must give his name and address;
2. One must recite three times every day the invocations: Our Lady of the Sick, cure us, with a Hail Mary.
3. On the last Sunday of the month, at the meeting, before Benediction and the sermon, the lists of petitions or of the cures obtained are read in the chapel. Each person may make his request himself or by a mediator.
4. The Solemn Feast is celebrated on September 15th, and is always preceded by a Novena of Masses, sermons, prayers, and invocations for the sick. During this Novena, invalids from outside are in the habit of sending their petitions, requests for prayers, and alms for the propagation of the Archconfraternity.
5. All the alms are sent for the spiritual welfare of the sick.
6. The festivity is a pompous one. Over five hundred patients come to the sanctuary to ask to be cured, and it is then that the Blessed Sacrament is placed on the head of each one of them. It is an ideal day, known as the "Day for the Sick." The Pope sends to the sick and to all who assist at the ceremony the Apostolic Benediction.
7. The festival is preceded by a Triduum during which sermons are delivered. The exercises are held at half-past seven each evening. On the Feast Day, a Solemn High Mass is celebrated at eight o'clock. At three o'clock in the afternoon, His Excellency the Bishop of Sherbrooke, the Vicar General, and the Canons of the Cathedral come together to offer the sick their heartfelt sympathy. After the procession, each patient may bring back with him blessed oil for his cure. Have your seat reserved.

Let us make this devotion known throughout the world. By simply having your name inscribed, you become a dear friend of Our Lady of the Sick, and you have a right to implore her powerful intercession before the Throne of God, in your favour. Make the Novena in common in your home. Ask for the Novena leaflets. Have a statue or a picture to pray before. Receive Communion once during the exercises. Send your petitions, requests for prayers, and alms to Our Lady of the Sick. Tell of the favours obtained for the greater glory of the Blessed Virgin. Ask for monthly suggestions. — Address all communications to:

Father Zoel Frechette, Canadian Promoter,  
Sherbrooke, Que. (Canada.)

(Translated.)

# Thanksgivings to the Blessed Virgin for favours obtained



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

BL. HENRY SUZO.

Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. Please pray for me. Mrs. P., **Verdun**. — I am happy to say that my father and my sister are feeling much better. Kindly accept this small thank-offering. May I ask you to continue to pray for a very special intention. Miss L., **Ottawa, Ont.** — I am feeling a little better, and am indeed very grateful to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal. I am asking my loving Protectress to completely cure me and to grant that my sister may enjoy good health. I am enclosing an offering for a Mass to be said for my intentions. M. H., **Johnstone, Scotland**. — Enclosed please find a Money Order, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Kindly send this offering to a mission in China to aid the children. Mrs. H. M., **Malboro, Mass.** — We return thanks for a favour received. Kindly remember our intentions. As soon as we get work, I will send you a donation in favour of the Missions. B. P., **Montreal**. — My prayer has been answered, and I am sending you an offering to ransom a dying Chinese baby. J. F. M. — I am sending you the ransom price of four dying Chinese babies. A short time ago, I promised that I would send this offering if my brother recovered from his illness. Mrs. J. H., **Montreal**. — I wish to return thanks for a favour received. I am enclosing a small offering. Please pray for me. Miss A. G., **Garden, Mich.** — Enclosed please find an offering in favour of the Missions, in thanksgiving for a request granted. Miss D., **Marlboro, Mass.** — I have received my favour, and am sending you a two years' subscription to *THE PRECURSOR*. I will send you a donation if our Immaculate Mother again hears my prayers. Mrs. H. B., **Southbridge, Mass.** — Enclosed please find the ransom price of a Chinese baby likely to live, in thanksgiving for a favour received from the Blessed Virgin. Miss L. P. — I return thanks to our Immaculate Mother for the great favour she has obtained me. Mrs. F. — I have been cured through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. Please find enclosed my renewal subscription. A. C. — The Most Blessed Virgin has come to our aid, and we are grateful. I wish to thank our dear heavenly Mother for helping my son to find work. A Mother. — I am very grateful for the favour that has been granted me. Mrs. O. C. — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription, in thanksgiving for a favour obtained through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. Mrs. P., **Montreal**. — A person who has been leading a reckless life for the past twenty years has returned to the Sacraments. I wish to thank Our Lady for her powerful intercession. Anonymous. — I have received some desired favours. Kindly accept the enclosed thank-offering. Mrs. J. B. — Please find enclosed an offering for the Missions, in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. M. G., **Ottawa, Ont.** — I have obtained a favour through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin and am sending you a donation, as promised. Please unite with me in thanking my loving Protectress and in asking her to continue to assist me. M. P., **Montreal**. — I wish to thank the Blessed Virgin for the favours she has obtained me. May she again intercede for me. Mrs. G. — Some time ago, I promised to send you an offering if I obtained a certain favour. My prayers have been heard, and I am hastening to fulfil my promise. Please pray for my husband and myself. Mrs. B. — I return heartfelt thanks to the Blessed Virgin for the favour she has granted me. Mrs. W. L., **Montreal**. — I am grateful for the favour I have received through the intercession of our dear heavenly Mother. I am asking her to again come to my aid. Mrs. J. T. — I wish to thank our Blessed Mother for all the favours she has obtained me. Miss B. — Enclosed please find a Postal Note in favour of the Missions, in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for her loving protection. Mrs. J. L. — My son has at last found work. Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. Mrs. A. — I have obtained the favour I have been asking for. I return most heartfelt thanks to our dear heavenly Mother and beg her to watch over me again. Enclosed you will find an offering for the ransom of a Chinese baby. A Subscriber. — I am taking a subscription to *THE PRECURSOR* in thanksgiving for a position obtained. I am again asking for prayers for the cure of my ears. C. A. T. — Kindly accept this small offering, which is in thanksgiving for a favour received through the intercession of our bountiful heavenly Mother. E. B., **Marlboro**. — May the Blessed Virgin be thanked a thousand times over for the favour she has granted me. I am sending you the price of a novena of lights for the Souls in Purgatory, as promised. D. L., **Newton Falls**. — Grateful thanks to the Blessed Virgin for favours received. I am asking that all in my family may keep healthy and that I may obtain a diploma. Mrs. M. G. — I wish to pay my debt of gratitude to our dear heavenly Mother. Enclosed you will find an offering. J. U. G. — The one who was sick is now able to go around and is able to do her housework. This is a great favour granted us by our dear heavenly Mother. Please unite with us in thanking her for it. Mrs. M. A., **Montreal**. — In thanksgiving to Our Blessed



Mother for curing me without my having to undergo an operation, I will be a life-long subscriber to THE PRECURSOR. Please publish my thanksgiving. Mrs. A. D., **Winthrop, Me.** — I am enclosing an offering and would ask you to have a Mass said for the Holy Souls in thanksgiving. Mrs. J. N., **Lachine.** — Enclosed please find an offering for the ransom of four dying Chinese babies, which I promised for a favour granted. Mrs. O. E. G., **Indian Orchard, Mass.** — I have obtained a great favour through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. Kindly accept the enclosed thank-offering. May our loving Mother continue to intercede for my grandchild. Mrs. R., **Sutton, Que.** — I return thanks to the Sacred Heart and the Blessed Virgin for a favour received by a friend of mine. Please remember him in your prayers. A Subscriber. — Please accept my offering for the ransom of ten Chinese babies in honour of the Sacred Heart and Our Lady. Miss T., **Schenectady, N. Y.**

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

## Petitions

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

Please make a novena to our Immaculate Mother for me, that I may obtain two special favours. If my requests are granted, I will send you an offering. Miss M. C., **Montreal.** — Will you be kind enough to make a novena for a special favour and a cure for two invalids. I will send you an offering next month. A Subscriber. — I am writing to ask you to pray that I may obtain a position. I will send you an offering as soon as I am employed. D. R. G., **Portland, Me.** — Will you kindly make a special novena, asking that I may soon get a better position and be able to keep it. There are also a few other favours that I wish to obtain. If all of them are granted, I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR as long as I am able to. Miss R. L., **Montreal.** — Please remember me in your prayers. Mrs. R., **Southbridge, Mass.** — I am enclosing my renewal subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Will you kindly make a novena that my hearing may be restored and head noises stopped. I shall gladly send you a donation if my requests are granted. Mrs. L. B., **Montreal.** — Please pray that I may get back a sum of money. If my petition is granted, I will send you part of the sum to use as you see fit. Miss R. L., **Montreal.** — I am enclosing a cheque for the renewal of my subscription to your magazine. Please pray that I may obtain two very special favours. As soon as they are granted, I will send you an offering. Mrs. A. B. — May I recommend to your prayers my sister, who has been ill since my father's death. L. L., **Spencer, Mass.** — I have been sick for almost two years. Please ask our Blessed Mother to make me better. If I am cured, I will send you an offering and will also renew my subscription. Mrs. P. D., **Pittsfield, Mass.** — I am writing to ask you to kindly pray for my intentions. Mrs. C. T., **North Adams, Mass.** — Will you please make a novena to the Blessed Virgin for me, that I may obtain the favour I am asking. If my request is granted, I will be a life-long subscriber to THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. A. B., **Collinsville, Mass.** — I would ask you to start a novena to our Blessed Mother for my husband, who has been sick for the last sixteen years. If he recovers I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for a year. Mrs. F. C., **Harrington East, Que.** — I am enclosing a two years' subscription to THE PRECURSOR, and would ask you to beg the Blessed Virgin to grant that my eyes may get better. Mrs. B., **Granby, Que.** — I would ask you to kindly make a novena for me. Mrs. W. L., **Montreal.** — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. May I ask you to pray for a friend of mine, that he may be restored to health and find steady employment. Also please remember me in your prayers. If I obtain the favours I am asking, I will send you an offering. A. F., **Webster, Mass.** — I am asking that my boys may find work. Mrs. J. S. — Please pray that I may succeed in renting a flat and in selling a house, and that my husband may obtain a good position. Mrs. E. D., **Aldenville, Mass.** — Kindly make a novena to the Holy Family for me. If my petition is granted, I will send you an offering. Mrs. P. I., **Quebec.** — I wish you would make a novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, asking that my husband may be called back to work. I will send you a donation if my wish is granted. L. L. — Enclosed you will find a Postal Note for the renewal of THE PRECURSOR. Will you kindly ask the Sacred Heart of Jesus and His Blessed Mother to grant that my son-in-law may soon obtain a position. He has been unemployed for the past four years. Mrs. M. McN., **Montreal.** — I am enclosing my renewal subscription and an offering to ransom a dying Chinese baby. I am asking St. Therese to pray for my sister's son, that he may soon obtain a steady position at his own trade. We have received many favours through the intercession of Our Blessed Mother and St. Therese, so I feel confident that this request will be granted. M. McC., **Montreal.** — Enclosed you will find a small

offering. Please commence a novena to the Little Flower for me. **M. C., North Bay, Ont.** — Will you kindly make a novena to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, asking that my father may regain his health and that he may live up to his religion. If my requests are granted, I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for two years and will send an offering to have some lights burned. **Miss M. L. S., Verdun, Que.** — I come to ask you to kindly make a novena for me that I may not have to undergo an operation, if it is God's Holy Will. Please ask our dear Lady of Perpetual Help to obtain this favour. **M. McA.** — I wish to obtain a favour and would ask you to kindly commence a novena for me. **D. M., East Angus.** — A position for a young lady. **Mrs. P.** — If one dear to me stops drinking, I will renew my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. **A Subscriber.** — May the Blessed Virgin Mary keep sickness away from our home. **Mrs. L. R. C.** — I wish to obtain a favour. Please pray for me. **Mrs. L. T.** — My husband has heart disease. Kindly make a novena for him. **Anonymous.** — I would ask you to pray that I may regain my health, that my son may obtain a position, and that a member of my family who no longer goes to Mass, may live up to his religion. **Mrs. J. G.** — A gentleman who has been idle for a year is asking the Blessed Virgin to help him to get back his position. **A. P., Montreal.** — I am asking Our Lady to grant that a dear one may return home, that I may be successful in my undertakings, and that I may obtain a position before long. **C. G. M.** — As the Blessed Virgin has already heard my prayers, I am asking her to obtain me another favour. If my request is granted, I will do something for the Missions. **Mrs. F. G.** — I have subscribed to THE PRECURSOR in hopes of obtaining a special favour from the Blessed Virgin. Please ask this loving Mother to listen to my entreaty. **J. S. G.** — Please pray that peace may reign in our household and that my husband may mend his ways. **Mrs. L., Montreal.** — I wish you would make a novena, asking that one dear to me may lead a better life. **A Subscriber.** — If a gentleman is cured of rheumatism, I will send you an offering. **A. S., Montreal.** — A mother of several little ones has been sick for a number of years. If she is restored to health, I will send you an offering for the Missions. **Mrs. S., Montreal.** — I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. May the Blessed Virgin grant that I may be restored to health, in order that I may be able to do my work. **L. B., Warren.** — May I ask you to pray that my husband may not lose his position. Also kindly entreat the Blessed Virgin to grant that I may feel better. **Mrs. A. R., Montreal.**



## NECROLOGY

The Most Reverend James Anthony WALSH, Superior General of the Maryknoll Missionaries; Reverend Father Alphee PLAMONDON, S. J., Sault au Recllet; Reverend Father William J. GOUGH, P. P., Holy Family Parish, Montreal; Miss Therese PARADIS, Levis, sister of our Sister Marie Gertrude; Mrs. J. B. RENAUD, Montreal, grandmother of our Sister Agnes d'Assise; Mr. Philip WHITE, Vancouver, B. C.; Mr. and Mrs. WHYTE, Montreal; Miss M. McGUIGAN, Montreal; Miss A. McGUIGAN, Montreal; Mr. McNALLY, Montreal; Mr. J. QUINLAN, Montreal; Miss FASSETT, Worcester, Mass.; Mrs. Thomas MEEHAN, Montreal; Mrs. William HACKETT, Chatham, N. B.; Mr. Hugh ARKINSON, Glen Robertson, Ont.; Mr. Michael SCANLON, Montreal; Mr. Thomas WHITTY, Newcastle, N. B.; Mr. James F. WHALEN, Bangor, Me.; Mrs. E. COPIN, Cape Breton, N. S.; Mr. Patrick FARRELL, Notre Dame de Grace; Mrs. Julia FARRELL, Notre Dame de Grace; Mrs. Eleanor STEWART, Calais, Me.; Mr. James McQUILLAN, Point St. Charles; Mr. John B. DELANEY, Montreal; Mr. Charles WOOD, Brewer, Me.; Mr. Joseph MOREL, Notre Dame de Grace; Mrs. U. LEVESQUE, Montreal; Mrs. RIEUTORD, Southbridge, Mass.; Mrs. T. BAIN, Montreal West; Mr. William PARR, Montreal; Mr. J. Peter BOUCHARD, Millford, Me.; Mr. William DUNN, Redmondville, N. B.; Mr. P. RICHARD, Rogersville, N. B.; Mr. Denis MALONE, Montreal.

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



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SHEK LUNG, near Canton (Founded in 1913)

Lazaretto.

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

Procure and School.

TSUNGMING, Catholic Mission, Pao Chen, Kiangsu (Founded in 1928)

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 MANCHUKUO, VIA JAPAN

LEAOYUANSIEN, Catholic Mission (Founded in 1927)

Dispensary.

PAMIENCHENG, Catholic Mission (Founded in 1929)

Dispensary. Orphanage. School.

FAKOU, Catholic Mission (Founded in 1930)

Dispensary. School.

TAONAN, Catholic Mission (Founded in 1931)

Dispensary. School.

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

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Dispensary. School.

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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 Acquadotto 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. This 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.