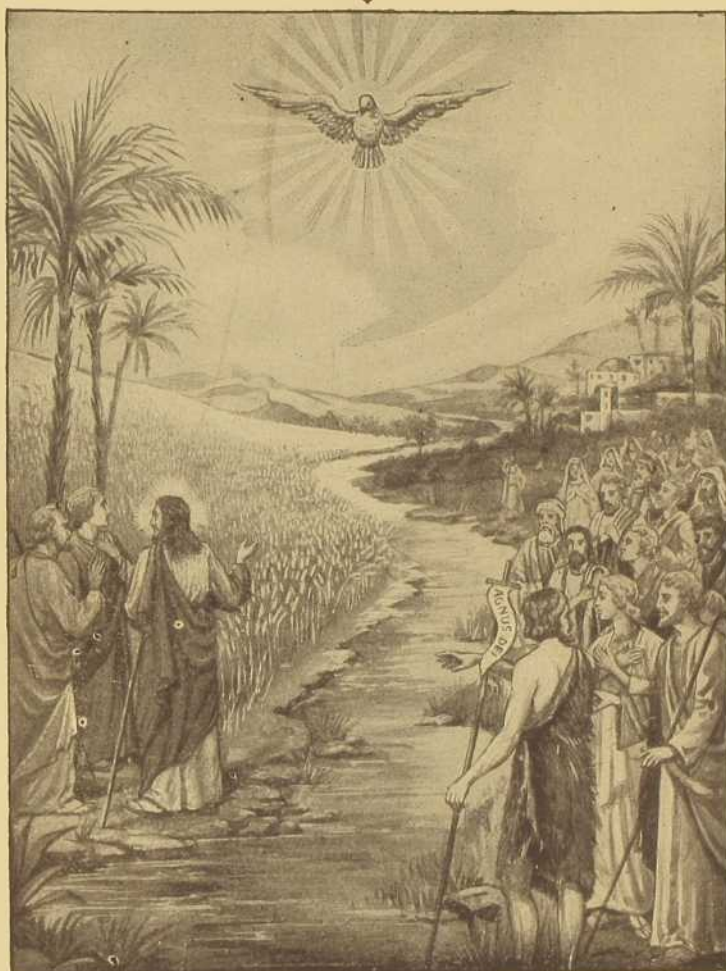


THE PRECURSOR



Vol. XI., 15th Year MONTREAL, January-February, 1937 No. 1

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)

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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.

THE Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception have a workroom in which are made church vestments and altar linens, the profit from which is destined to support their Mother House and Novitiate.

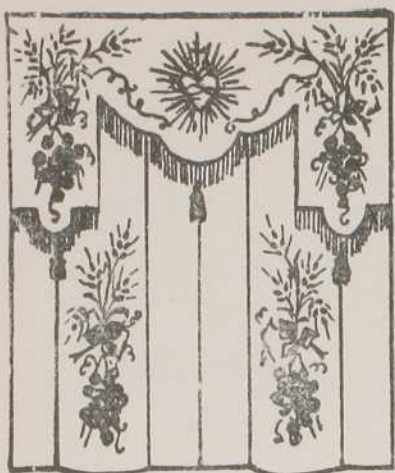
Missionaries must train for several years before being able to commence their apostolic work in foreign fields.

The articles mentioned on the page entitled "By Patronizing our Workroom", may be procured, on reasonable terms, at the workroom of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont, Que.

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

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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.

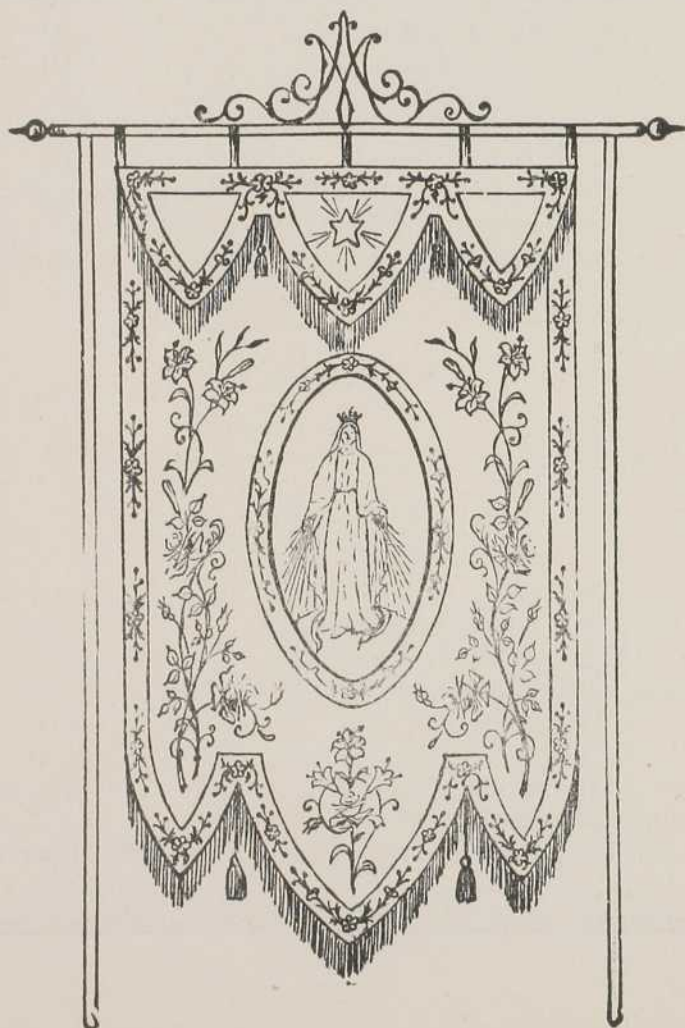
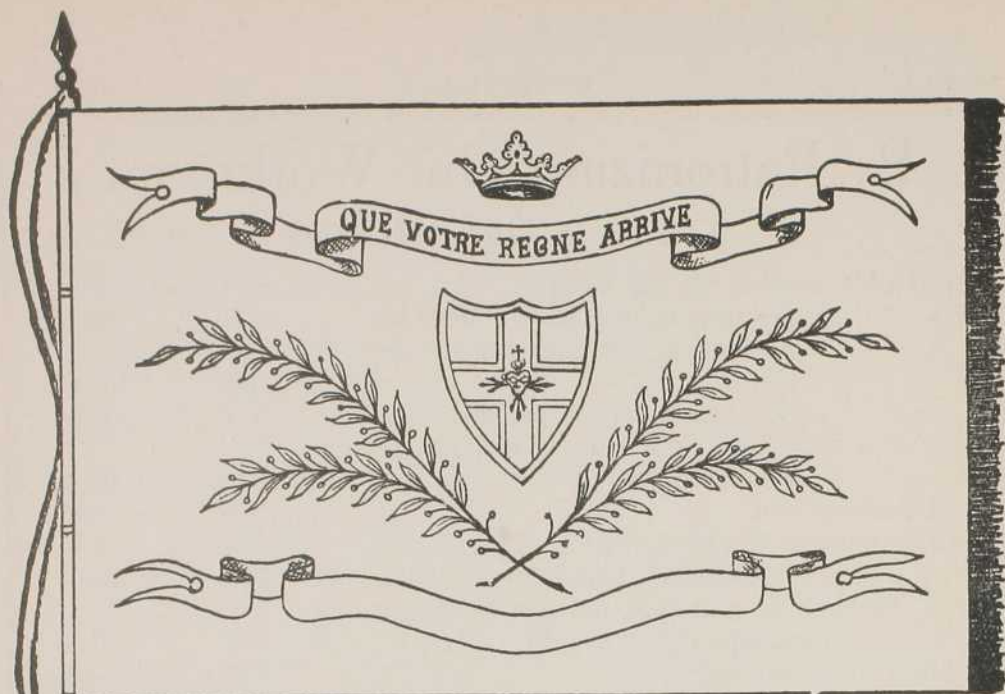
Description and prices given on request.

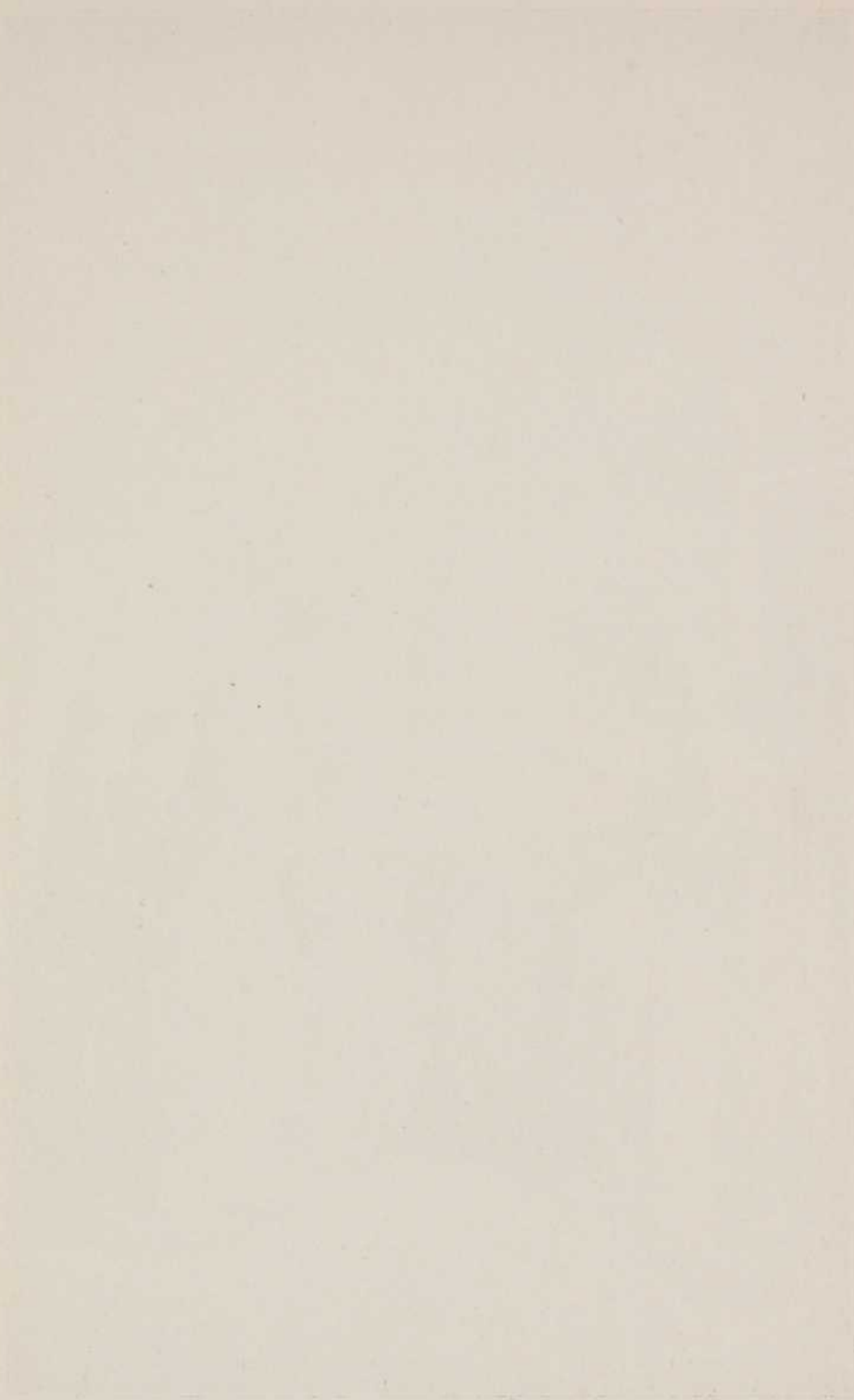
WAX INFANTS

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		
Altar Linens {	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
Large40	“ 100





THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS



"O IMMACULATE MOTHER, PROTECT OUR BENEFACTORS!"

THE PRECURSOR

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Missionary Sisters

of the Immaculate Conception

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Vol. XI., 15th Year

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No. 1

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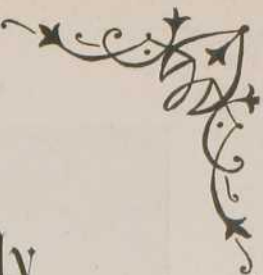

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*May Jesus, Mary and Joseph guide each soul
over the sea of life, and let each bide beneath their mantle
after the exile here below.*



The Holy Family



*Praise, praise to Jesus, Mary, Joseph,
The Three on earth most like the Three in Heaven,
Praise, praise to Jesus, Mary, Joseph,
To whom this heavenly likeness has been given.*



*'Mid Nazareth's sequestered mountains
How lovely was the Household of the Three;
And by the desert's crystal fountains
What secret wonders did not Angels see!*

*Then by the dark Egyptian river,
Joseph, the Mother, and the marvellous Child,
Heard the chill nightwinds softly quiver
In the tall palms or o'er the sandfields wild.*

*Sweet Family! thy charms detain Him;
Thou savest Him from an untimely woe:
From men who would too soon have slain Him,
He hides in thee, God's paradise below!*

*Now praise, oh! praise the sinless Mother;
Praise to that household's gentle Master be!
Praise to the Child who is our Brother!
Praise to Saint Joseph's Holy Family!*

— Father Faber.





Let all Catholics the world over, full of confidence, show their respect for the Vicar of Christ, who is blessing them anew, in God's name.

May they gladden his heart, which has been so deeply wounded by the actual state of affairs, by showing themselves to be loving and dutiful children of Holy Mother Church.

Discourse Delivered by His Holiness Pope Pius XI

*on September 14th, 1936, at Castel Gandolfo, to the refugees from Spain,
who were granted a special audience*

On September 14th, Our Holy Father granted an audience to five hundred refugees from Spain: priests, religious, and laymen, who were headed by the Bishops of Urgel, Vich, Tortosa and Carthage.

His Holiness was warmly applauded by the refugees, to whom he replied by waving his hand in a fatherly way.

The Cardinal Secretary of State, Eugenio Pacelli, introduced all present to the Sovereign Pontiff, after having spoken a few words.

Immediately after, Our Holy Father commenced his speech, the following being a text of it:

Your presence, my very dear sons who have been compelled to flee from your and our dearly beloved and sorely tried Spain, your presence excites in our heart a tumult of sentiments which clash so sharply one with another that it is absolutely impossible to speak in a manner adequate to the occasion.

We ought at one and the same time to weep for the intimate and inexpressible sorrow which afflicts our heart and to chant a hymn of praise for the sweet and proud joy which we feel.

THE GREAT TRIBULATION OF THE CATHOLICS OF SPAIN THE GLORY AND ADMIRATION OF THE CHURCH

You are here, O very dear sons! to tell us of the great tribulation you have come through, tribulation the signs and visible traces of which you carry in your words and in all which belongs to you, the marks and symbols of the war of suffering which you have undergone, giving thereby a witness in our eyes and before the whole world.

You have been robbed and despoiled of all things, hunted and driven even unto death in cities and villages, in the habitations of man and in the solitudes of mountain tops. You have been a witness like the first martyrs whom the Apostle beheld. Seized with admiration, he cast at the world that proud and magnificent phrase which proclaimed it unworthy to have such sons.

You have come to tell us of your joy in having been found worthy like the first apostles — to suffer for the name of Jesus — to tell us of your happiness like that once praised by the first Pope. You have been covered with reproaches in the name of Jesus and because you were Christians.

What would we say, what can we say to praise you, venerated bishops and priests, persecuted and wronged in your character as ministers of Christ and dispensers of the mysteries of God?

It is one long splendor of Christian and priestly virtue — of heroism and martyrdom in the full, sacred and glorious meaning of the word. Of the sacrifice of the most innocent lives; of those venerable with age; of youth in its first flower, of many as bold and generous as to ask for a place among the victims who are being carried to where the executioners are awaiting them.

It is in this superhuman light that we see you and proclaim to you the sacred and reverent admiration of all; even of those who do not possess our faith, but who have some sense of human dignity and greatness. For in that faith, beloved sons, is to be found the secret and Divine power which for twenty centuries has been enkindling and feeding that light.

A PLEASING REPARATION FOR THE HORRORS OF THE GODLESS

Beloved sons, you have stirred the admiration of all, but especially of us. For to us has been communicated by the Supreme Father of all an all embracing fatherhood, and in virtue of that fatherhood, we may and must apply to ourselves that beautiful and divine expression: A wise son maketh a father joyful. We embrace with our gaze and with our heart you and all your fellow-sufferers in tribulation and martyrdom and again we say to you, as the Apostle said to your earliest predecessors in the glory of martyrdom, 'My joy and my crown.'

And not merely mine, but that of God, himself, for according to the glad and glorious vision of the great prophet, with His (God's) grace there has been made of each one of you a crown of glory and a royal diadem.

Thou shalt be a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God.

What a splendid reparation is yours, beloved sons, which you have offered and continue to offer to that Divine Majesty which in so many parts of the world, and even in Spain, by so many is unrecognized, denied, blasphemed, rejected and in a thousand ways brutally offended.

How timely, how providential and how pleasing to God is your reparation, as a feat of honor and of glory in these our own days when we hear the new and horrifying cries of the godless and the enemies of God.

A GREAT APOCALYPTIC VISION

But all these shining rays of heroism and of glory which you, beloved sons, offer and recall to us make us see all the more inevitably and clearly, as in a great apocalyptic vision, the wreck and ruin, the profanation and havoc of which you have not been merely the witnesses, but the victims.

All that is most human, all that is most divine — consecrated persons, sacred things, holy institutions, inestimable and irreplaceable treasures of faith and Christian piety as well as of culture and of art, the most precious antiquities, the holiest of relics, dignity, sanctity, the fruitful activity of lives wholly dedicated to religion, to science and to charity — have been profaned.

The highest members of the sacred hierarchy, bishops and priests, consecrated virgins, the laity of every class and condition, venerable gray hairs and the first flowers of youth, the very silence so sacred and solemn of the tomb, all has been assaulted, violated, destroyed and in the most ruthless and barbarous ways.

BROTHERS HAVE MURDERED BROTHERS

This unbridled confusion of forces has been so savage and so cruel as to seem utterly impossible for human dignity, let alone for human nature, even the most miserable and debased. And louder than all this confusion and this clash of unrestrained violence passing through these burnings and massacres, a voice is heard proclaiming to the world a truly horrifying story. Brothers have murdered brothers in civil war — war between the sons of a common country, of a common people, of a common fatherland.

God knows that war even in the least tragic of circumstances is always something fearful and inhuman, man hunting man and killing as many as possible, destroying persons and property with means increasingly and fatally effective.

But what is to be said when war is fratricidal? It has been well said that the blood of a single man shed by the hand of his brother is more than enough for all time and for the whole earth. What is to be said when we are face to face with stories of brothers killing brothers, which are daily being told!

Above the bond of humanity and fatherland, there is a brotherhood which is infinitely more sacred and more precious — the brotherhood which makes us one in Christ our Redeemer — our sonship in the Catholic Church, which is the Mystical Body of Christ Himself, the treasury and fulness of all that our redemption has brought us. And it is precisely this sublime brotherhood which made Spain Christian, but which in the present calamity has had particularly to suffer.

A SATANIC PREPARATION

It can only be said that a Satanic preparation has relighted, and that more fiercely in favoring Spain, that flame of hatred and savage persecution which has been confessedly reserved for the Catholic Church.

It has been reserved for the Catholic religion as being the one real obstacle in the way of those forces which already have given a sample and measure of themselves in the subversive attacks on every kind of order from Russia to China, from Mexico to South America.

Such trials and preparations have been preceded and unfaillingly accompanied by a universal, persistent and most astute propaganda, intent on conquering the entire world for those absurd and disastrous ideologies which, once they have seduced and stirred up the masses, aim at nothing less than arming them and throwing them madly against every form of institution, human and divine.

A PRESSING DUTY

Will not terrible catastrophes occur, and that in the most aggravated conditions and proportions, if by false calculations and false interests, by ruinous rivalry and deplorable egoisms, those on whom the duty rests do not seek, before it is too late, to stop this disastrous march?

We who share in that universal, divine fatherhood, which embraces all souls created by one God and destined for God, and by the blood of the same God redeemed, we who share this fatherhood which adds to human solidarity such new duties, cannot but give expression to this fear before this gathering which your presence here, beloved sons, has rendered so solemn and so moving, by reason of the sacredness of your suffering to a father's heart.

We must deplore not merely such evils and disasters in general, but more in particular such fratricidal carnage, so many offences to Christian life and dignity, such destruction of the most sacred and precious heritage of a great and noble people and of a people so singularly dear to us.

THE MOST SERIOUS LESSONS

But, beloved sons, the things which your presence brings so bitterly to mind, are something more than a mere series, however impressive, of devastations and disasters. They are also a school in which the most serious lessons are being taught to Europe and the whole world, a world now at last wholly steeped in and snared and threatened by subversive propaganda, and a Europe battered and shaken to its very foundations.

THE POPE WARNS ALL AGAINST THE INSIDIOUSNESS
OF THE SUBVERSIVE FORCES

These tragic events in Spain warn Europe and the whole world once more of the extent to which the very foundations of all order, of all culture, of all civilization are being menaced. This menace, it must be added, is all the more serious, more persistent, more active because of the truly Satanic hatred against God and humanity redeemed by Him in all that concerns religion and the Catholic Church. This point has so often been admitted, and as we just said, openly confessed, that it is superfluous for us to insist on the matter further. And now less than ever when the events of Spain have spoken with such appalling eloquence.

It is not superfluous, on the other hand, rather it is opportune and even necessary, and for us a duty to warn all against the insidiousness with which the heralds of the subversive forces seek some common ground for a possible approach to and collaboration with Catholics. And this on the basis of a distinction between ideology and application, between ideas and action, between the economic and moral orders.

This is dangerous in the extreme, and its purpose is purely and simply to deceive and disarm Europe and the world in favor of the unchanging programme of hate, subversion and destruction by which they are being threatened.

Another truth is that with this renewed revelation and open confession of that privileged hate for religion and the Catholic Church, so lamentably obvious in Spain, a further lesson is being offered to Europe and the world — a lesson precious and highly salutary for all who do not care to close their eyes and grope in the dark.

Now, at last, it is manifest from the very confession of these forces of subversion which are threatening everything and everybody, that the one real obstacle in their way is Christian teaching and the consistent practice of Christian living as these are taught and enjoined by the Catholic religion and the Catholic Church.

Wherever war is being made on religion and the Catholic Church, and on her beneficent influence over the individual and the family and the mass of the people, that war is in alliance with the forces of subversion.

Everywhere and in every form, insidious or violent according to circumstance, with fictitious and insincere distinctions between the Catholic religion and religious benefits, difficulties, obstacles and barriers are placed in the way of the influence of the Catholic religion.

This is not the first time that we have set forth these very grave considerations, and have recommended them to all, particularly to those in positions of responsibility.

NEAR OUR DAY OF VITAL RECKONING

We have wished to profit by your presence here to renew these recommendations, and that in a moment so critical in the history of Europe and the world, and in which we ourselves are so near our day of vital reckoning. In this matter there is not testimony more authoritative, beloved sons, than yours, because in your person and in what you hold most dear, your father love, you have experienced the evils and disasters which are threatening us all.

It has been recently asserted that the Catholic Church and the Catholic religion have shown themselves unprepared and ineffective in the face of such evils and disasters, and the example of Spain — and not merely Spain — has been urged in proof of this. Very much to the point in this matter is a reflection of Alexander Monsoli: "There is no need to have recourse to an example to justify the church — it is enough to look at her teachings."

Give us, in fact, a society in which there is a genuinely free and untrammelled opportunity for the teachings the Church and the Catholic religion unfailingly inculcate, willed by God, and controlled and sanctioned by God, which will be a norm for individual conduct and dignity, for private, public, social and professional justice and for the sanctity of the family.

Teachings on human brotherhood lifted to a divine level in Christ and His mystic body, the Church: on the dignity of labor, viewed as a divine undertaking of expiation and redemption, directed towards ineffable and assured rewards; teachings upholding the obligations of mutual charity in which the sole rule and criterion are the welfare and the needs of our neighbor: these are felt and measured by a love which can have no bounds, because it is like the love to which God Himself has a right.

(To be continued.)

Father Damien

The Apostle of the Lepers of Molokai

BY MRS. AUGUSTUS CRAVEN NEE LA FERRONNAYS

I

ALTHOUGH the one to whose memory I wish to dedicate these few pages was a Catholic Belgian missionary belonging to a French religious order, I shall not, at the beginning of this work, appeal to the testimony of Belgium or France, and not even to that of the Church, who has blessed his apostolic work. By an extraordinary occurrence, which will be narrated further on, the holiness of a Catholic priest has won the admiration of people differing from him both in nationality and religion. The first demonstration of applause to the glory of his name was made in England, when Catholics and non-Catholics hailed him in unison.

Father Damien, the Apostle of the Lepers of Molokai has just died!... This news reached London in the beginning of May, 1889, and, for a while, it put an end to the discussions in which the public were deeply interested. People of all classes and of all religions united in sending up a cry of pity and sorrow and an acclamation indicating their respect and admiration, which the Catholic papers were far from being alone in manifesting.

In the following terms, *The Times* sums up a long article on this subject:

"Father Damien has transformed a leper settlement into a model colony, a fitting example to all those of the Pacific... he has decked the ignominy of leprosy with honour... his work is over, the hour of a well-deserved rest has come for him, and that of a *beatification* which, this time, will doubtlessly not take sixty years to be proclaimed!..."

"Truth," states *The Morning Post*, "has, in this case, surpassed fiction, and the simplest of men has been found to be a hero. Father Damien to-day lies in a leper's coffin, and the world has been given another proof of how little it recognizes the greatest men of all."

In fine, *The Daily Telegraph* (May 11, 1889) ends up two columns of panegyric with these words:

"This Catholic priest has become the friend of humanity. His glorious contempt of his own life and his courageous interpretation of the Gospel of His Master, will cause his memory to be ever in benediction. All, instead of mourning his loss, feel like voicing their praise and thanksgiving, for they are certain that all is well for Father Damien forever!"

One could multiply these quotations indefinitely by simply selecting those which show the least partiality. But it is better to endeavour to rapidly state that which justifies them, and in what way an ordinary Catholic missionary awakened such an ardent and universal fellow-feeling in the hearts of those belonging to another country and to another religion.

Let us immediately declare that such sympathy was felt simply because Father Damien set others an example of self-denial and of charity, the like

of which is seldom spoken of in the annals telling of the most heroic deeds. For the love of God and in order to favour material welfare and to labour for the salvation of the souls of a race composed of sick and dying creatures, this holy priest simply and joyfully gave all that a man can possibly give here below. He totally abandoned not only all the happiness that may be experienced in this world, but every chance of taking the least rest. For thirteen years, he willingly dwelt in the midst of a body of persons afflicted with leprosy, he alone being free from the dread disease. Then came a time when the difference between Father Damien and the poor lepers disappeared: the pitiless disease which had attacked the flock finally attained the devoted shepherd, and he felt himself to be more closely united to his dear charges than he had ever been before. For four years, the disease continued to make headway until his features and limbs were attacked. But he never ceased to labour and to suffer with the lepers, and, on April 10th, 1889, death caused him to enter the region of bliss promised to those who have loved their fellowmen. Our divine Lord has declared that *greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friends*. What then must we think of the welcome received from Him by the disciple who so generously obeyed His commands?...

II

Joseph Damien de Veuster was born on January 3, 1840, at Tremeloo, in Belgium, a village situated north of Louvain, and lying between the towns of Malines and Aerschot. His parents were of the middle class, and good and earnest Catholics. When he was nineteen years of age, he went, in company with his father and mother, to Louvain to visit his eldest brother Pamphile, who was then an ecclesiastical student of the religious Congregation entitled Society of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, better known as "Picpus Fathers." While with Pamphile, he suddenly made up his mind to follow his example, and he immediately carried out his resolution. The good parents left their two sons together and started back home, accepting the double sacrifice with simplicity and resoluteness which seemed to be traditional in this family.

It is true that the only suddenness there was about the call of Damien to the religious life, was his choosing of the missionary congregation to which he desired to be admitted, instead of that of the Trappists, which he had been thinking of up until then. So it was that he remained with Pamphile, who showed him good example and addressed him encouraging words of advice.

In 1863, when the youngest of the two brothers was as yet in minor orders, the eldest was asked by his Superiors to prepare for a departure for one of their distant mission fields. Father Pamphile had long been desirous of being sent to this mission, and he received the news with great joy. But after he had made all the necessary preparations for the voyage, and the day of the departure was near at hand, he grew so ill that he was forbidden to go. Damien, on seeing how grief-stricken his brother was, was struck by a sudden inspiration, and, going to his bedside, he enquired whether it

would be a consolation to him if he should go in his place. On receiving from the sick man an answer in the affirmative, he, in the generous impetuosity which characterized him, wrote to the Superior General of the Congregation in Paris, asking him for his brother's place. He wrote this letter without taking the advice of his immediate Superiors, but it was so eloquent that, to their surprise, he received a mandate for departure for the Sandwich Islands.

He embarked at Bremerhaven on October 30th, 1863; the crossing of the seas in a sailing vessel lasted *five months*, and the first letter of Damien to his brother indicates that he found it long and rough. There seem to be good grounds for such an impression, for the boat on which he set out on this first voyage had been in imminent peril more than once during the crossing. A few months later, he wrote thus to Father Pamphile:

"...I have spoken lengthily to you of our long voyage from Europe to Oceania... But considering what other missionaries say, we were highly favoured by Divine Providence during the crossing, as for its short duration and the beautiful weather we had all the time."

I am drawing your attention to this rectification because it shows forth a characteristic of Damien, which was to be found in him at all times: that of always speaking with simplicity of the difficulties overcome, and of lessening the importance of them.

He reached Honolulu, the capital of the Sandwich Islands, early in March, 1864. It was there that he first stayed for a considerable length of time, and there it was that, shortly after his arrival, he was ordained to the priesthood.

The Hawaiian or Sandwich Islands are situated in the Pacific Ocean, between America and Australia, about the same distance from one as from the other. They were discovered in 1778, by Captain Cook, but, for a long time, they were visited only by merchants or by whalers who, far from bringing the inoffensive inhabitants the benefits of a superior civilization, made them suffer by their brutality, and communicated to them their vices and their liking for intoxicating liquor. In 1820, a few missionary "Congregationalists" from Boston landed at Hawaii. They had the happiness of converting a sovereign warrior, a lady by the name of Kapiolani, who had a very great influence over her people. Once she embraced the Faith, she ventured to solemnly cross the plain of lava separating them from the volcano, where according to a popular belief, their dreaded goddess, Pele, had fixed her abode. There, before the eyes of the frightened people, she threw into the crater palms and fruit from the tree consecrated to the goddess, loudly defying her to punish her. For a moment, there was terrified silence, and, as no calamity occurred, Kapiolani calmly turned to the throng, saying: "You may see for yourselves that Pele has no power, there is but one God, Jehovah, and but one Saviour, Jesus Christ!" As a result of this courageous act, a great many of the people became Christians.

(To be continued.)

The Eighteen Apparitions of the Blessed Virgin to Bernadette Soubirous



FEAST OF THE FIRST APPARITION
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AT LOURDES:
FEBRUARY 11TH.

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

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

Third Apparition: February 18. — The child, in her ecstasy, cries out: "She is coming... there she is!" She presents paper, pen and ink to the Vision, and asks Her to write her desires: "It is not necessary to write down what I have to say to you. Do me the kindness to come here during fifteen days. I do not promise that you will be happy in this world, but in the next. I desire that people come here."

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

Fifth Apparition: February 20. — Bernadette is accompanied by her mother. A crowd had preceded

them to the Grotto. During the ecstasy, the Blessed Virgin teaches, word by word, to her little confidante a prayer exclusively for her.

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

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

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

Ninth Apparition: February 25. — The pious child is told "to go and drink at the spring and to wash herself there." As she had seen no spring,

she thought it was meant that she should go to the Gave. But with her eyes and her outstretched arm, Our Lady pointed to the corner of the Grotto. "I then began to scrape the earth," said Bernadette, "and the hole began to fill with water, and I drank some of it." It is this wonderful spring which has since worked so many miracles.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sixteenth Apparition: March 25, Feast of the Annunciation. — A heavenly light, more dazzling than ever, illuminates the Grotto. The celestial vision appears, smiling, and looking towards the crowd with unspeakable benevolence and with all the tenderness of a mother. Bernadette, in obedience to the instruction given her, asks her three times to tell her her name. Our Lady, raising her eyes to Heaven, and stooping towards the child, answers: "I am the Immaculate Conception."

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

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

THE GLANCES OF MARY TOWARDS HEAVEN

During the apparitions, Bernadette had asked the mysterious Lady what her name was, without receiving an answer. On the 25th of March, the Feast of the Annunciation, she asked the same question twice, but no reply was given her. "The Lady," the child declared, "was standing above the wild-rose bush, and she looked as she does on the Miraculous Medal. When I asked her her name for the third time, she began to look more serious and seemed to humble herself... She then folded her hands and placed them on

her breast... she looked towards heaven, and afterwards slowly lowered her hands. Bending over me, she said in a quivering voice: '*I am the Immaculate Conception.*' "

Mary lifts up her eyes as if to honour the Author of this eminent privilege, which, as Venerable Mother Alix le Clerc has stated, was the beginning of all her happiness, and to prove to Him her profound gratitude. Before giving an answer, she desires, as it were, to receive an inspiration from heaven.

In any undertaking that is the least important, let us also look up to heaven, in order to obtain light which will enable us to come to a conclusion and to ask as we should, and strength to be faithful to our good resolutions. By acting thus, we shall be following the example of a young saint, who was in the habit of saying: *Quid hoc ad æternitatem?* What relation is there between the deed I am about to perform and my everlasting life?

When a heavy cross, one, especially, that we have not expected, is placed on our shoulders, let us be resigned and, raising our eyes to heaven, let us join our cross to that of Jesus and beg Him to assist us.

When God in His Providence sends us happiness, we must not try to enjoy ourselves far from Him, as if He had done nothing for us. By simply glancing heavenward, we may prove to Him that we are truly thankful, and draw upon ourselves fresh blessings.

If we but look up to heaven when we are about to fall into the snares set us by our enemies, we shall not let ourselves be tempted, and we shall declare, as did St. Ignatius of Loyola, that the earth appears ugly to us when we think of heaven.

We are but exiles in this valley of tears. Daniel, when in captivity in Babylon, opened the windows of his apartment and looked towards Jerusalem, his country, and we, who are captives here below, should follow his example and look towards the Heavenly Jerusalem, our true country.

When we have need of divine assistance, let us not look towards the earth, but like David, let us look up to heaven, and we shall receive help from Almighty God, the Creator of heaven and earth.

Does not Holy Mother Church unceasingly invite us to lift up our hearts? *Sursum corda!*

She repeats to us the words that the mother of the Machabees addressed to the only child left to her, when she wished to encourage him to suffer martyrdom like his brothers had done. St. Symphorian, who also died for the Faith, was urged on in the same way by his mother.

St. Monica and St. Augustine, hand in hand, looked out of a window of a dwelling in Ostie, and together they repeated these words which flowed from their hearts: "When shall we be called to heaven?"

Heaven is our place of rest, for it has been made for us. In heaven, we shall possess and love God throughout eternity! In heaven, we shall be rewarded for the good work we have done and for the sufferings we have borne with patience! In heaven, we shall enjoy everlasting happiness along with the Blessed Virgin, the angels, and the saints!

Do you remember hearing about the hermit who was found in his hut by some hunters. The sportsmen were astonished when they saw what hardships the holy man had to endure, and asked him how he could lead such a life. "Come and see for yourselves," was the answer. The hunters entered the wretched hut, and, approaching one of the walls, they looked through a crack. When they told the hermit that they had seen nothing but the heavens, he answered that it was the sight of them that continually bore him up.

Let us also unceasingly look up to heaven, and we shall overcome all difficulties.

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

TWO CONVERSIONS AT LOURDES

Mr. N. gladly accompanied his wife and daughter to Lourdes, in spite of the fact that he had been neglecting his religious duties for a long time, probably since the time of his First Holy Communion. It was over thirty years since he had been to Confession and Communion.

One of his relatives, Mr. G., who lived at Lourdes, was always ready to do what he could for the family. This gentleman had seen many miracles worked at the Grotto, and he had found out by experience that those who are to be converted must first get a good look at things, and then be left free to reflect and to be touched by the rays of divine grace. He was careful not to say anything to the unbeliever concerning the need of returning to God.

Those who have charge of the Grotto must see that all who approach the Holy Table during certain pilgrimages do so in an orderly way. One morning, Mr. G. said to his sceptical relative: "See, there are many people coming to the Grotto, and I have so much to do that you will do me a favour if you carry the torch I am in the habit of carrying at Communion-time." Of course, he met with refusal, but he finally persuaded his relative to take the torch, by telling him that he was not binding himself in any way by rendering him a service of the kind.

Mr. N. faithfully obliged his devout relative, and his services were truly meritorious, for Communion was distributed for almost an hour.

On reaching home, he said to his wife: "My friend G. certainly made me do something against my will. Although I should like to keep on good terms with him, I will never go back, for the spectacle I witnessed made me ashamed of myself. Doubtlessly, I was among the happy communicants simply to contrast with them. All of a sudden, my task became a real torture, and I felt like a monster. No, I will never go back."

However, he kept thinking of what he had seen, and, the following day, he felt something urging him to return to the Grotto. The hard-hearted guardian again thrust the torch into his hand, and compelled him to stay.

When all was over, Mr. N. remarked: "It is too much for me, I can hold out no longer, and, if things do not change, I shall end up by going to Confession."

He had the occasion of visiting the Grotto for the third time when there were but a few pilgrims present. Father M. Anthony, who knew a little about the family and who had been told about the incredulous gentleman, was there waiting for him. Mr. G. discreetly withdrew, and, after the aged priest had spoken to Mr. N. concerning his daughter, he abruptly asked him if he had been to Confession not long before. On learning that it was a long time since he had approached the Sacraments, he told him that if he wished to confess his sins, he could kneel down just where he was. A few minutes later, the unbeliever was given absolution behind the "silver altar", at the foot of the white statue which marks the spot where the Blessed Virgin appeared.

After that, he not only led a good Christian life, but he willingly performed the functions which had won him his conversion.

Although he appeared to be healthy, he fell sick just a few months later. Two years after, he peacefully expired, while pressing to his heart the bronze medal of Our Lady of Lourdes which he had been given as a reward for his services, and which he had always loved to have with him.

One morning, a little before breakfast-time, Mr. V., a dignified gentleman, arrived in Lourdes in company with his wife and his grown-up daughter, who had succeeded in persuading him to come to spend at this beautiful spot the few hours he was obliged to wait before taking the train again.

The two women were both fervent Catholics, and they dearly loved the head of the family in spite of the sorrow he caused them by his neglect of the Sacraments. They immediately went to Massabielle to pray, and as Mr. V. had nothing in particular to do, he thought of ordering breakfast.

He made a point of looking for the most comfortable hotel and, on reaching it, he told the keeper that he was going to the famous Grotto if he did not have to go too far, and that on his return he wanted to find a good breakfast ready for his wife, his daughter, and himself. When the keeper remarked that it was Friday and that nearly everybody around abstained from flesh meat, the unfortunated freethinker cried out that it made no difference to him and that he must have meat.

The keeper, complying with the unreasonable demand, wrote out a menu which was far from being hermitical: beef-steak, chicken, etc.

Thus reassured, the traveller lit a cigar and, while making his way to Massabielle, admired the beauty of the surrounding district. He reached the Grotto ahead of his wife and daughter, who had stopped at the crypt and the basilica to recite a fervent prayer for the conversion of the dear unbeliever.

The two women finally reached their destination, and Mrs. V. was greatly surprised. Kneeling in front of her, at the foot of a rock, was a gentleman with tear-filled eyes, and this gentleman was her husband!... She hardly ventured to interrupt him, but as soon as the happy man caught sight of her, he cried out: "Yes, it is really I, I am praying and shedding tears. I know you are wondering how it has all come about, but I do not know any more about it than you do. A little while ago, I arrived here

without thinking of anything in particular, but, on gazing at this statue, I was deeply moved. As I was unable to resist, I fell on my knees. There was a priest close by, and, when I asked him to hear my confession, he told me that there was nothing easier. I have just confessed my sins behind the little altar in this Grotto. I want you to stay here to-night, for I want to go to Communion to-morrow. You cannot imagine how happy I am."

Mr. V. was not the only one who shed tears of joy and gratitude. His wife and daughter united with him in praising God and in thanking Our Lady of Lourdes.

On returning to the hotel, the new convert called the numerous persons who were at breakfast and, with smartness like that with which he had ordered the innkeeper to get meat ready for him, he said: "Gentlemen, I am Mr. V. a great huntsman, as some of you perhaps already know. I was a freethinker, but I am going to tell you of what has just happened." After telling them all he had told his wife and daughter, he informed them that he had been to Confession, and that he was going to receive Communion the following day. He then asked the innkeeper not to serve him the meat he had asked for for breakfast, assuring him that he would arrange matters, and that he was willing to wait.

It would take too long to describe the surprise and the impressions of the listeners.

Ever since that particular Friday, Mr. V. has been a very good Catholic.



The Immaculate Conception Hostel in Granby

THE Immaculate Conception Hostel, in charge of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, was founded in October, 1931, at the request of the Reverend Pastor, Father E. E. Pelletier who, for a long time had desired to have a home for the girls of Granby who are obliged to earn their living.

The house in which the work commenced, No. 285 Main Street, was so small that only five or six boarders could be lodged in it along with a few Sisters. But, like the mustard seed and the many undertakings blessed by God and His powerful Mother, the work soon developed, and the hostel was replaced by a more spacious one alongside it and just opposite Notre Dame Church. Plans for transforming the old residence were formed by our kind Pastor, who became an architect in favour of the work of his choice and, in this work, he was admirably assisted by our dear Sister Superior,

who laboured with untiring devotedness. Walls were cut into, window-frames were decorated, a flight of stairs was taken out, and a sky-light arranged. The twelve rooms for the boarders, painted in different colours, are very pleasing to the eye.

On September 25th, nearly the whole of the hostel had been done over, and the boarders were invited to it. For a few days, the girls suffered from the cold, for there was still no heating system. Everybody set to work and, on October 3rd, our hostel was very attractive, with its bright rooms, its spotless curtains, and the new linoleum on the floors. Our dwelling was then so cosy that, quite naturally, we exclaimed: "How good it is for us to be here!..."

The following day, the people of the parish celebrated with great pomp an event which we are unable to pass over in silence: the consecration of their church, repaired in remembrance of Jubilee Year 1934. The celebration was even more pompous on account of being graced with the presence of His Excellency F. Z. Decelles, Bishop of St. Hyacinthe, and Mgr. A. Desmarais, the Auxiliary Bishop.

After singing a High Mass of Thanksgiving, Mgr. Desmarais blessed the church, the new statues, and some bread, which was distributed to the faithful. While addressing all present, His Excellency remarked that the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary was being celebrated at the same time as that of St. Francis of Assisi, whom Our Lord one day asked to repair His church, which was falling into ruins. Now that our church has been embellished, we should see to embellishing our souls, the temples of the Holy Ghost. His Excellency remarked to us that, in order to be successful in our apostolic work, we must show our love for Holy Mother Church, our affection for the Sovereign Pontiff, and great zeal in the service of God.

The ceremony was brought to a close by the singing of the *Te Deum*.

This memorable event procured us a number of privileges, above all, that of a visit from our revered Chief Pastor. After speaking to the Sisters for a few minutes, His Excellency Mgr. Decelles asked to see the boarders, whom he received with great affability. He then went through the Hostel and declared that he was anxious to see the work progress.

The following day, the Reverend Pastor, Father E. E. Pelletier, said the first Mass in our humble chapel. All the boarders assisted at the Holy Sacrifice before going to work. Deeply emotioned, we thanked God for all that He had done for us, especially for having given us a comfortable home.

May our Immaculate Mother, our Patroness, continue to watch over us, and may she send us some new companions. Along with us, they will experience how good it is to take a rest in her peaceful dwelling after their day's work.

A Boarder.

As Mary, by being the Mother of God, was the means of saving sinners, so sinners receive salvation by proclaiming the praises of Mary.

St. Anselm.

A Few Roses Scattered

By the Little Sister of Missionaries...

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

St. Teresa of the Child Jesus



I am enclosing the ransom price of three dying Chinese babies, in thanksgiving for favours received through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Please say a prayer for my intentions. Miss K. M., **Vancouver, B. C.** — Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving for favours received from St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Mrs. J. L., **Indian Orchard, Mass.** — I have obtained a favour through the intercession of the Little Flower of Jesus. Enclosed please find a small offering.

Miss J. P., **Anthony, R. I.** — The enclosed offering is in thanksgiving for a favour obtained from St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. I will send you an offering every month as long as my husband has work. Mrs. D., **Montreal.** — I have received an important favour through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, and I am indeed grateful. A Subscriber, **Montreal.** — Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving for a great favour obtained through the intercession of the Little Flower. Mrs. M., **Montreal.** — The enclosed offering is in thanksgiving for favours obtained through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Mrs. F. — The Little Flower of Jesus has obtained me a favour, and I am thankful to her. Enclosed please find the ransom price of forty dying Chinese babies. Mrs. E. G. — Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving for a favour obtained from St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Mrs. T., **Montreal.** — The Little Flower of Jesus has obtained me a great favour. Kindly accept the enclosed thank-offering. A. C. — Enclosed please find a small offering in thanksgiving for a favour obtained through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. A. B. — I have received a favour through the intercession of the Little Flower of Jesus. Please use the enclosed thank-offering for the missionary work. Anonymous. — I wish to thank St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for coming to my aid. I am enclosing an offering for the ransom of a dying Chinese baby, as promised. Mrs. J. G. — I have received some favours from St. Teresa of the Child Jesus and, to thank her, I am sending you an offering for the Missions. I am asking this dear little Saint to intercede for me again. Mrs. J. D., **Montreal.** — The Little Flower of Jesus has come to my assistance, and I am truly thankful. I am sending you my renewal subscription, as promised. Mrs. T., **Montreal.** — I have obtained a position and some special favours through the intercession of the Little Flower of Jesus. Enclosed please find an offering for the burse in her honour. C. L., **Holyoke, Mass.** — Please find enclosed an offering for your missions in thanksgiving for a few favours obtained through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. I promised that I would send you this amount. Mrs. E. S., **Ottawa, Ont.**

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. Teresa 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!

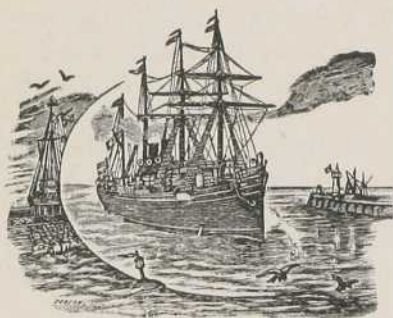
September-October 1935.....	\$ 29.50	May-June 1936.....	\$ 37.60
November-December ".....	7.00	July-August ".....	152.25
January-February 1936.....	159.42	September-October ".....	16.50
March-April ".....	45.70	November-December ".....	6.00

ON THE WAY TO THE ORIENT

*Extract from the Diary of the Missionary Sisters
of the Immaculate Conception
who left for the Missions on September 27th, 1936.*

Monday, September 28, 1936

The notes of the *Ave Maris Stella* kept ringing in our ears, even after the cars had borne us far away from the Mother House, the hallowed spot from which we had to tear our hearts, in spite of the fact that we were really glad to set out for a land in which there were so many poor pagans to be saved. We still seem to see our devotional chapel lit up as it was last night, Mary's statue, surrounded by fragrant lilies, and before which we



lovingly made our promise of fidelity, the refectory in which we took the last meal at the dear Mother House, just before saying good-bye to our beloved Mother Foundress and listening to her words of advice, addressed us in a broken voice, our dear Sisters lined up on either side of the long corridor, smiling upon us while bidding us good-bye, and, lastly, the dear ones we left at the station.

When all was over, we exchanged glances, and we were astonished to find that we were all so joyful after gazing upon such a heart-rending scene. Our loving Master knows how to make everything easy, and we have good reason to repeat over and over again: "How good God is!"

A few minutes after the train had pulled out, Mr. George Gonthier, father of our Sister St. Stanislas Kostka⁽¹⁾, who is doing mission work in Hong Kong, wished us a safe trip, gave us a letter for his dear daughter, and kindly slipped into the hand of our eldest Sister an alms to be used for little things needed on our trip.

After putting away our baggage and saying our prayers, we retired for the night, for it was already bed-time for us. To-day, we learn that Reverend Father Langlais, O. P., got on the train yesterday evening at Ottawa, and that he would have liked to have spoken to us. We are very sorry that we missed his visit and his blessing.

This morning, we made up for the sleep we lost during the night. We were awakened at Sudbury at a quarter past six, by Mrs. Malboeuf, the mother of our Sister Ste. Denise⁽²⁾. This dear lady, who seems to have acquired the habit of providing our travelling Sisters with dainties every year, came to us loaded down with good things... We shall not fail to bring her dear daughter in Manchukuo all the messages we have been given for her.

We have decided that we shall go each morning to the observation car for prayer and meditation and that we shall take breakfast in our compart-

1. Germaine GONTHIER, of Montreal.

2. Odile MALBOEUF, of Sudbury, Ont.

ment. We have often found out for ourselves how true is what we are taught in the Gospel: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His justice, and all things shall be added unto you," and this morning we are given a fresh proof of it, when we open our lunch box and find the many good things that have been so carefully prepared for us by our dear Sisters in the Mother House! We are grateful to them and to our benefactors, who have kindly donated palatable as well as necessary victuals.

After breakfast, we chatter together for a while and we laugh heartily when we think of the funny things that happened just lately and of which our companion, Sister St. Amedee⁽¹⁾ was involuntarily the author.

The train keeps gliding on, and, at half-past five, we begin to skirt the Great Lakes. The sun is just going down behind the rugged cliffs, and its rays are reflected on the silvery summits and on the peaceful waters. We imagine that we are enjoying a pleasant trip across the ocean. The only one who is unable to keep on her feet is our poor Sister Marthe de Jesus⁽²⁾, but she has all the Sisters she needs to attend to her and to give her the medicine she requires.

Shortly after the sun goes down, myriads of silver stars are to be seen sparkling in the blue sky, and the moon shines on the waters, which are as smooth as a sheet of ice. While gazing at the sweet and majestic Queen of the Night, we quite naturally think of the Queen of Heaven, whom the Church speaks of as being as beautiful as the moon.

Tuesday, September 29

We slept better last night than we did the first night, and we were up early this morning. On seeing us getting ready to go outside, one of the trainmen was surprised, for it was very cold. A little later, we understood why we were looked upon as early risers: we should have put back our watch an hour yesterday at Fort William!...

It is nine o'clock when we reach Winnipeg. Reverend Father Primeau, who has come from the Bishop's House to greet all the missionaries, hands us a few pictures of different parts of the city, and gives us his blessing. The Sisters of the Precious Blood who are travelling with us, have the great happiness of being greeted by two of their Sisters. Miss Lavallee brings us some big packages for her sister, Sister du St. Cœur de Marie⁽³⁾, who is in Szeping kai at present. We shall indeed be very glad to give our dear companion fresh news of her people.

In order to keep from getting sick, we stay outside the whole day long, and, as a result, our faces are red. The smoke from the locomotive is not at all pleasant, and the sand is being blown in all directions. After we have finished making our spiritual exercises, we write an account of what is happening along the way, and we shall send our diary to our dear parents, for they have expressed the desire of receiving it.

The train reaches Regina at supper-time, and at twenty-two minutes

1. Emilienne VEZINA, of Quebec.

2. Antoinette DESJARDINS, of Montreal.

3. Agnes LAVALLEE, of Winnipeg, Man.

past seven, we are at Moose Jaw. The streets of this city are very wide, and we are able to see to the other end of them. It is not long before the train is again racing through the immense plain...

Wednesday, September 30

We were wondering just when the plain was going to come to an end, and, this morning, we suddenly catch sight of some green hills and, in the West, the snow-capped peaks of the Rockies, which seemingly wish to hinder us from advancing. We learn that we must travel eight thousand miles before reaching the other side of these majestic mountains. At noon, we pass Castle Mountain, which is situated in the centre of a valley, and which, when viewed from a distance, really looks like a castle. We find Lake Louise to be incomparably beautiful. It is the colour of the lake that fascinates the eye and ravishes the senses. It is surrounded by red, yellow, and white flowers, which appear as so many specks of paint on an artist's palette. Here and there, caribou and buffalo herds may be seen grazing.

We were very anxious to go through the two tunnels which we had heard so much about. These tunnels resemble the figure 8. One of them, which runs through Mount Ogden, is 2,910 feet long, and the other, cut through Cathedral Mountain, extends a distance of 3,200 feet. The train appears as a worm as it winds in and out through the rocks, and the mouth of the tunnel, even when we look at it closely, appears to be only a little black dot. Before long, we catch sight of Kicking Horse River, a swift-flowing current winding in and out between the most picturesque banks. Then our eyes rest on Mount Stephen, which towers high above the pretty little village of Field. We also admire the roaring cataracts, the rushing torrents, the graceful falls, the beautiful forests, the immense glaciers, and the pretty lakes, which appear to be artificial. We reach Field towards three o'clock in the afternoon, and, for the third time since leaving Montreal, we put back our watch an hour. Here, the railroad crosses Kicking Horse River, and runs through immense pine forests until beautiful Emerald Lake is reached. We could describe to you many other wonders if we had more time; however, there are a few we could never begin to tell you about, and we are satisfied with simply gazing upon them and exclaiming: "Lord, how great are Thy works!"

This trip through the beautiful Canadian West may serve as a preparation for our work in the mission field that has been assigned us. We are but poor little creatures of the All-powerful God whose works we have been admiring, and yet we shall have the great honour of making Him known to the heathen nations. But we are no longer fearful after reflecting that we are in the hands of the Almighty, and that it is He who sustains the universe.

Thursday, October 1

We arrive in Vancouver at nine o'clock, and are pleased to find Sister Marie de la Visitation⁽¹⁾ and Sister Marie de la Presentation⁽²⁾ waiting for

1. Elise CROTEAU, of St. Antoine de Tilly.

2. Berthe SURPRENANT, of Swanton, Vt.

us at the station. Our dear Sisters treat us with great kindness, which reminds us of that bestowed upon us by our beloved Superiors in the Mother House.

Saturday, October 3

After taking a two day's rest in our dear convent in Vancouver, we are ready to set out on our trip across the seas, which will be watched over by loving St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, since we are setting sail on her lovely Feast.

Four of our dear Sisters of the Oriental Hospital accompany us to the quay. At eleven o'clock, the bell rings to announce that the boat will soon be leaving, and, immediately, long strips of paper of many colours are thrown from the steamer, and it is pretty to see them crossing one another.

At half-past four, we reach Victoria, and, towards eight o'clock, the Empress begins to pitch in such a way that we realize that we are in the open sea. Our steamer is bearing away twenty-nine missionaries: two Dominican Fathers, two Sulpician Fathers, three Sisters of the Notre Dame Congregation, three Ursuline Sisters, two Dominican Sisters, three Sisters of the Precious Blood, seven Maryknoll Sisters, and seven Sisters of the Immaculate Conception.

Monday, October 5

There is a violent wind blowing. Sister Imelda de l'Eucharistie⁽¹⁾ and Sister St. Amedee⁽²⁾ are the only ones that have not yet been sea-sick. Towards noon, the waves reach the second deck, and they will probably reach the third before seven o'clock. There seems to be danger ahead and, when we see the life-buoys being placed ready for use, we feel that we are at the mercy of the waves, and we wonder what is going to become of us. We are not afraid, however, when we stop to think that at this very moment the *Ave Maris Stella* is being sung for us at the Mother House and in all our convents, and we know that we cannot be shipwrecked when guided by the Sweet Star of the Sea.

Wednesday, October 14

To-day, the sea is so calm that it appears to want to make us forget how angry it has been for a few days past. At daybreak, we are able to see, through the fog, the shores of Japan and famous Mount Fuji-yama.

At half-past nine, the Empress sails into the port of Tokyo, and it is not long before we catch sight of two of our dear Sisters: Sister Marie de la Redemption⁽³⁾ and Sister St. Marc⁽⁴⁾. We bring them to our cabin the train for Koriyama, bringing Sister Ste. Rose de Viterbe⁽⁵⁾ along with and converse with them until twenty minutes past eleven, when they take

1. Simone BOISCLAIR of Almaville.

2. Emilienné VEZINA, of Quebec.

3. Basillise MAILLET, of West Bathurst, N. B.

4. Alida TALBOT, of Cacouna.

5. Annette TOURIGNY, of Trois Rivières.

them. The Sisters of the Precious Blood, who are destined for China, are the only missionaries who do not disembark here.

In the afternoon, we are given a pleasant surprise. Sister Marie du Crucifix⁽¹⁾ and Sister St. Amedee are stopped by a charming Japanese maidin, who bows and says Good-day to them. Great is the astonishment of our companions on hearing a person in this city speaking their language. This girl, a native of Tokyo, is anxious to meet Sister Marie de la Redemption, with whom she had become acquainted at Wakamatsu, where she spends the holidays every year. Our companions, wishing to give us the same surprise as they had been given, bring their new friend to us. We are delighted to see how ladylike she is and also to hear her speaking our language.

While we are looking at the people going to and fro in the harbour, we are surprised to see one woman carrying on her back an aged person, who appears to be her mother. We knew that mothers carried their children on their backs, but we did not know that mothers were sometimes carried on the backs of their children.

Here we are sending you our diary, which we have written quickly. The next letters you receive from us will be from Szepingkai or Suchow, the mission stations to which God has called us, and in which we wish to live and die.

1. Eva TESSIER, of St Bonaventure.

The Pope and Closed Retreats

A pontifical Letter entitled "*La devota lettera*," addressed, August 9th, from Castel-Gandolfo, to the Congregation of Our Lady of the Cenacle, renews the exhortations of the Holy Father in favour of Closed Retreats, which have already been the object of the *Mens nostra*, the Encyclical issued in 1930.

After evoking his personal experience during the time of his sacred ministry in Milan and recalling the merits of the Congregation of Our Lady of the Cenacle, which is especially devoted to this apostolate, the Pope expresses the wish that Closed Retreats become more and more prosperous.

"In the multiform religious activity which transforms all of the houses of the Cenacle into so many spiritual hives that are always active and untiring in the service of the good cause," states our Holy Father, "the Work of Closed Retreats, which, more than any other initiative, seems to respond to the aims of the Congregation and to offer a field adapted to the culture of that interior life to which the very name of the Institute call its daughters, will be — We do not doubt — as particularly fruitful as it is particularly attended to; and, while it is making it easy for many souls to possess that peace which our Divine Lord promised to His own, it will be for the Cenacle, also, an ever-abundant source of heavenly light and grace."

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



Echoes from our Missions

CHINA

*Letter written by a Missionary of the Immaculate Conception of Canton,
to her Superior General.*

Canton, October 13, 1936.

BELOVED MOTHER,

I have been in Canton since Saturday, the 10th. We arrived in Kowloon at seven o'clock in the morning. Sister Marie de Loyola⁽¹⁾, who came to meet me, brought me to the Church of the Holy Rosary, and I received



NEW TEMPLES OF THE HOLY GHOST ERECTED BY A HUMBLE
MISSIONARY SISTER WHO GIVES BAPTISM DAILY.

Communion while there. I was greatly pleased on receiving our divine Lord into my heart, for it was five days since I had had the happiness of approaching the Holy Table.

Our Sisters of Kowloon were very kind to me, and they were all so happy that I felt quite at home with them.

1. Orphise BOULAY, of Coaticook.

We left for Canton at noon. All the Sisters are well, and they say that they are very glad to receive a new companion.

After supper, Sister Superior brought me to the Foundling-Home and told me that I might baptize the dying babies. I inquired if there were any to be baptized and, in answer to my question, a Chinese woman handed me a bottle of water and another, a baby. I was so deeply impressed when I thought of the sublimity of the act I was about to perform that I hesitated a moment. In order to encourage me, Sister Superior baptized the little one, after asking me what name I wanted to give it. I, myself, poured the Saving Waters on the brow of the second baby, to whom I gave the name of my dear mother: Marie Alida. Immediately after, I baptized a little Marie Delia and a little Mary Nellie. As the babies continued to arrive, I had to stop to think in order to find sponsors for them; a few minutes after, I had baptized eighteen. Dear Mother, you can imagine how happy I was to think that I had opened heaven to these poor little wailing creatures, who had been so wretched ever since their birth. When night came, instead of going to sleep at the usual time, I listened to the cries of the babies I had baptized, and I envied Sister Marie de la Misericorde⁽¹⁾, who attends to these dear little ones day and night.

The next day, I had the happiness of baptizing eight children and, the day after, sixteen. So each of my relatives and benefactors has a little yellow angel to protect him.

While performing the task assigned me: the giving of English lessons, I intend to do all in my power to get our friends and benefactors to take an interest in the work that is being done at the Foundling-Home. The poor babies, especially the last ones brought to us, are really to be pitied. Their little black eyes seem to have been made only to shed tears. The dear Sister in charge of the Foundling-Home takes good care of the poor little ones, but there is really not room enough for them all...

I began to study Chinese yesterday. I find that this language is harder than Japanese, but, with the help of God, I hope to learn to speak it a little. I am grateful to you, dear Mother, for sending me to Canton, and I shall strive to do all that I am expected to do here.

I shall write again before long to tell you of the many other things I have to tell you, for I want this letter to leave on the boat which sails tomorrow.

While expressing to you my heartfelt gratitude, I remain
Your loving daughter,

Sr. JOSEPH DE LA SAINTE FAMILLE, M. I. C.⁽²⁾

1. Berthe DUFRESNE, of St. Helene de Bagot

2. Jeannette DELISLE, of Worcester, Mass.

As in the time of tempest mariners are guided into port by the star, so by Mary we are guided over the sea of this world to Paradise.

St. Thomas.

*Letter written by a Missionary Sister of the Immaculate Conception,
Hospitaller at the Shek Lung Lazaretto,
to her Superior General*

St. Joseph's Lazaretto, Shek Lung, August 11, 1936.

BELOVED MOTHER,

I cannot refrain from telling you of something which will certainly make your heart rejoice. On the eve of the blessed anniversary of your Religious Profession, God sent us a gift: fifty lepers, thirty men and twenty women.

As you already know, for a number of years past, we have not been able to take in any new patients, owing to the lack of funds. We failed to receive what we had been promised by the Government, and, in order to be able to see to the needs of the five hundred and forty lepers sheltered by us, we were obliged to refuse to take in any more. It has been said that misfortune for some means happiness for others, and our poor lepers have realized how true it is. Cheurn Ky Sek is now in power. He has already proved his kindness by paying a big part of the sum promised the lepers by his predecessors, and he intends to do more for them.

Already, a little newcomer has winged his flight to heaven after being baptized. Is he not one who can boast of being lucky? In Canton, there are many companions of his in a dying condition and who do not know how their souls should be adorned in order to be received into heaven.

The joy of the fifty new lepers on their arrival reminded us of that of a caged bird that one day finds the door of its prison open... One cannot imagine all these poor unfortunates had to put up with in the hovels in which they were shut up. They were not given enough rice and vegetables to satisfy their appetite and, when they complained of being thirsty, the soldiers were in the habit of beating them soundly.

The first day they spent in our midst must have appeared to them as a beautiful dream which they were afraid would soon vanish, and, up above, the angels, leaning over our leper settlement, as they leaned over the little gray house in Outremont, on August 7th, 1905, must have been filled with admiration on seeing our patients serving their new brothers as if they were princes. The bowls of rice were filled as soon as they were empty, and the many dishfuls of *soung* seemed to fall into bottomless stomachs...

There are still fifty-three patients in the Home in Canton, but there are thousands of lepers elsewhere. We hope that the Authorities will keep sending us others, as in former years. If they do, our Lazaretto will soon be too small, but our loving Master will see to our needs...

It is the first time I have seen so many lepers being received at the Lazaretto in one day. I am unable to express to you my happiness, and, in spite of the fact that most of the patients have a bad attack of leprosy, God allows me to entertain the hope of curing them or of relieving them at least. Every morning, I set out with my box full of samples of remedies which the generous druggists and doctors in our native land have supplied.

I go from one room to the other, distributing tonics, calming draughts, etc., and God often deigns to permit that these remedies do much good.

Each week, we give as many as four hundred injections of chaulmoogra oil. From the beginning of February to the end of August, we used up fifty pounds of oil, and, just lately, we had to order a hundred pounds, in order to give injections to those who needed them. Injections of the kind do much good to our patients, who appreciate all that we do for them.

After speaking to you of our dear charges and of what we are doing to cure them, allow me, dear Mother, to tell you that Sister St. Francois



LEPER WOMEN OF SHEK LUNG, CHINA, CARRYING
FUEL TO THE LAZARETTO.

d'Assise and I made our annual retreat with our Sisters of Canton this year. Our retreat began on July 6th, and the exercises were preached by a Salesian Father of Bishop Versegia's Mission. It was as a token of gratitude for the kind welcome which our dear compatriots gave the lamented deceased, when he visited Montreal in 1927, that this Salesian Father came to preach to us, and he felt sure that he was pleasing Bishop Versegia by acting as our retreat-master. Several times during his conferences, he spoke about him. We saw that he felt the need of telling us about the martyred bishop, and those of us who had had the privilege of becoming acquainted with the illustrious prelate were indeed very glad to hear about him.

All the charitable persons who helped on the construction of the Lesser Seminary, of which Bishop Versegia spoke, will doubtlessly be interested to learn that his most ardent desire: the erection of his dear seminary was realized just three days before he was cruelly massacred by the bandits.

Just lately, I was asked to hasten to settle a dispute. Moses, one of the lepers whom I told you about not long ago, failed to speak in the right way to one of his companions, who hit him twice on the head, with a brick. The culprit spent the day with a chain around his neck. Wishing, doubtlessly, to follow the advice of our divine Lord and not let the sun go down upon their anger, they made up before evening. They arrived, arm in arm, to ask to be forgiven before the Reverend Director returned. Moses, who

did all the talking, began by making an act of humility, but when he saw his companion trying to hide the chain he had around his neck, he tried to get everybody to notice it. He then made a second act of humility by declaring that they both had a bad temper, and immediately added that the dispute had been caused by his companion and that they would not wrangle again. Our Sister hastened to forgive them both, and she did not fail to admonish them.

Ever since yesterday, a violent hurricane has been raging, and we were awake all night on account of it. We were afraid that all the dwellings on the Island would be blown down, and that our poor charges would perish. The noise of the tiles from the balconies being carried off by the wind alarmed us all, but God in His Providence watched over our poor patients, and no lives were lost. Several months ago, many of the houses were evacuated, but when the fifty lepers arrived from Canton, we were obliged to make use of them again. However, He whom the winds and the storms obey, took pity on our lepers, and their shaky dwellings were not blown down. Some big boats were driven against the rocks near Hong Kong and were split in two. It was clear that God also watched over those on board, for only a few sailors perished. It is the worst typhoon we have had since 1926.

We always pray for you, dear Mother, that God may spare you for many years yet, to be loved by all your children and especially by

Your ever-loving daughter,

Sister CLAIRE DE JESUS⁽¹⁾

* * *

Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Tsungming

Friday, April 3, 1936

Our Sister infirmarians have had much difficulty in visiting their patients lately, owing to the fact that the rivers are being deepened. On the Island of Tsungming there are a number of canals, through which pass boats laden with rice, wood, earth, etc. Water and fish are procured from these canals, which are like big reservoirs. We always find it amusing to see the Chinese washing their rice, their goats, their clothes, etc., in one of

1. Exilda COTE, of Montreal.



ANOTHER MOSES KNEELING IN PRAYER
AT THE SHEK LUNG LAZARETTO.



LITTLE ONES THAT HAVE JUST
BEEN RECEIVED AT THE FOUNDLING-HOME
IN TSUNGMING, CHINA.

them. As these water-courses fill in little by little, they must be dug anew every six or seven years. The Authorities of the district hire a man who, by beating the tam-tam, invites all the people living near the canal to set to work. This man is followed by an other, whose duty it is to mark with a sort of paste the spots where the work is to be begun. The task must be finished two months after being commenced, and the property owners set to it themselves, or hire others to perform it. Those who fail to lend a helping hand are summoned to appear before an

assembly composed of the leading men of the district, and are obliged to pay a fine, or to spend some time in prison.

The work is very hard. First of all, digging is done in order to make steps on the sides of the canals, then a man stands in the river, and, taking a shovelful of earth, throws it into the shovel of one of his companions, who is on the middle step. The latter throws the earth into the shovel of a third man, at the top, who, without bothering about the passers-by, throws it onto the street. This earth is very black, and it is so sticky that no vehicle can pass over it. When we are obliged to go on foot, we must take great care so as not to soil our shoes and our skirts... There are hundreds of men at work, and they encourage one another by crying out: Ho hi! Ho ah!... At such a time, many sick people must give up the thought of coming to be treated or of asking for our Sister infirmarian.

An incident which would have greatly amused our friends in Canada, occurred to-day. While going to visit a sick man living in Se Wou Tsen, our Sister infirmarian found herself in front of a canal between sixteen and seventeen feet deep, and the bridge had been removed in order to facilitate the digging. How is she going to get by?... The people in this particular section, who know how charitable Sister is, talk together for a few minutes, and then four men stand in the water while some others place some planks over them, letting the ends lean on the earth. As soon as the planks are arranged, the travellers are invited to walk over them. Sister goes first, then her companion, and, lastly, the coolie with his cart. It is very touching and so comical that everybody laughs heartily... The happiest one of all is the humble Missionary Sister, who thus has the happiness of going to baptize a dying consumptive. The poor man has been wretched all his life, but, on this day, he becomes a child of God and an heir to the Kingdom of Heaven.

Saturday, April 4

We were kept busy at Paochen this morning. We visited several pagan homes, treated a number of sick people at the Dispensary, gave Holy Baptism to two little ones, and prepared an adult to receive this great Sacrament.

On returning, a mandarin asks us to visit his sick wife. On his grounds, which are surrounded by a high stone wall, eighteen swarms of bees (something unusual in China) are beginning to be lively again after the winter. The house, which was built not long ago, is a rather beautiful one, and appears to contain several rooms. We ask the mandarin who lives in the pretty abode, and he tells us that his seven wives inhabit it... It is the youngest of these seven women whom we have been asked to treat.

Sunday, April 5

The fishers of souls are careful to make their monthly retreat, in order to prepare for fresh conquests...

The little ones at the Orphanage have remarked that the first Sunday of the month is a day of recollection for the Sisters. This morning, they try to think of a way of greeting the Sister who takes care of them... After talking together, they decide to bow gracefully to her when she arrives. On entering, Sister finds the fifteen children lined up like little soldiers and, without saying a word, they all bow to her together.

Monday, April 6

A tubercular patient in a pagan home we visit accepts Holy Baptism, and declares that he is truly resigned and that he hopes to one day share everlasting bliss. The roads are in a bad condition, and, on returning, we must see to having our cart arranged. The wheelwright, who is in the habit of taking his time, does not seem to understand that we must reach the convent at a certain hour. At half-past five, we are not yet on our way. A man who comes regularly to the dispensary in Paochen, noticing how anxious Sister looks, offers to bring her to the convent in his own cart, and he goes at such a rate that he covers in three quarters of an hour the ground that is usually covered in an hour and a quarter. It is a ride we must not take often, for, after bouncing up and down on the hard seats, we are all shaken up...

Easter Sunday, April 12

The sun, which has hidden itself for a few days past, doubtlessly on account of the sad events of Holy Week, shines brightly to-day, the birds sing sweetly, and the fields and the trees are beautiful to look upon. Truly, Nature seems to wish to fill all hearts with the joy of our divine Risen Lord.

Numerous Christians come from all over the Island to receive the Bread of Life. Everybody in the Mission is overjoyed. Our beautiful religion is indeed a consoling one.

Friday, April 17

Our Sister infirmarians travel a distance of forty *li*, and, on reaching their destination, it begins to rain hard. Nevertheless, they go to six pagan homes to attend to some sick people, and have the happiness of baptizing four adults. The devil, who is not in favour of the work that is being done

by the missionaries in a territory over which he has been ruling, shows us once again how displeased he is, by making things hard for our Sisters. Soon after they have started back home, one of the coolies begins to complain, saying that he is hungry and tired, and he walks very slowly. As the other coolies ask for an unreasonable sum, our Sisters must make up their minds to walk twenty *li* (seven miles) in the mud.

When the *Angelus* is ringing in the evening, they reach the Mission tired out, but happy to find themselves sheltered from the wind and the rain.

Tuesday, April 21

We go this morning to Causatsa, where several sick people are awaiting us. After treating them all, we distribute medals and beads to them.

The priest who ministers to the spiritual needs of the people in this mission station, asks us to go to treat one of his servants, and, before complying with his desire, we pay a visit to our Eucharistic Lord. This little



LITTLE GIRLS OF THE ORPHANAGE OF TSUNGMING, CHINA,
BEING GIVEN THEIR LUNCH.

church is for us a real oasis. We are surprised to find one so pretty at the far end of the Island. The statue of the Blessed Virgin seems to us to be particularly beautiful, so accustomed are we to seeing productions of paganism in so many wretched hovels.

At dusk, a poor baby but a few hours old is brought to us. All the doors are locked, but a Sister who happens to be near, lovingly receives it, and, after pouring the Saving Waters over its brow, places it with the other little ones.

Friday, May 1

It is a very beautiful day. The sun sheds its bright rays upon the green fields while the little birds seem to sing with joy:

'Tis the month of our Mother
The blessed and beautiful days!...

All Nature is hailing with delight the opening of a month dedicated to a Queen and Mother. At seven o'clock in the evening, all the women of



MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
OF TSUNGMING, CHINA.

the Mission assemble to sing the praises of Mary and to urge one another to be really fervent during her lovely month.

Our Sisters will go far into the country to fill with renewed ardour their office as Good Samaritans and liberally sow the name and the blessed image of Our Lady. May the seeds thus sown spring up to the glory of our Immaculate Queen!

Saturday, May 9

One of our little orphans, Lee Yin, is preparing for her First Holy Communion, which she will make on Whitsunday, the patronal feast of *Tsong Ta Momo*, of Canada. The Sisters find this preparation to be a difficult one, for the child is hard to manage, and she must be broken in at all costs. One day, the Sister in charge of the children said to the little one: "Listen here, if you do not begin to act better, you will not make your First Communion on Whitsunday, and I shall be obliged to write to tell *Tsong Ta Momo* that there is a little girl here who does not like the Infant Jesus. Just think of how sorry *Tsong Ta Momo* will be, for I have always told her that all the little girls in the Orphanage of Tsungming were good children, and that they always pleased me." Just a few minutes after she had spoken thus, Sister found two other little girls who are going to make their First Communion soon, kneeling in a corner saying the beads. "What are you doing there?" Sister asked. "We're asking God to make Lee Yin a better girl, so that you'll not have to write to *Tsong Ta Momo*, for she'll feel bad..."

Sunday, May 10

After High Mass, a man comes to ask a Sister to go to see his sick child. The doors were locked when he came first, and he followed the Christians who were going to church. He thus has had the occasion of listening to

the priest speaking of the Blessed Virgin, and having remembered a sentence repeated several times by the preacher: *Seng Mo Pa Gnou* (Holy Virgin, protect me), he keeps saying it over and over again.

We find a little four-year-old girl who is so sick that the best remedy for her is Holy Baptism. In his sorrow, the pagan father has the child repeat: "Holy Virgin, protect me!" And the Blessed Virgin proves to us that she loves the dear little girl by spreading her blue mantle over her and conducting her to heaven in the evening.

While we are on our trip, two old women are made heirs to the Kingdom of Heaven.

Tuesday, May 19

We are greatly consoled to-day, for we have the occasion of saving a number of little souls. This afternoon, we find ourselves near a new pagan foundling-home, and we stop there, letting on that we wish to see one of the women who has charge of the little ones. While someone is looking for her, we visit the cradles in which there are dying babies, and we baptize twenty-one. The little Holy Childhood Members must have made a few great sacrifices to-day.

Sister Marie de Sion,⁽¹⁾ who prepares the flowers for the church, goes to ask a pagan to kindly give her some little pieces of bamboo. The man gladly complies with her request, but Sister has the misfortune to thank him for them as soon as he gives them to her... The superstitious Chinese believe that if a person thanks another for some pieces of bamboo, the forest will not yield any more... Sister has a very hard time trying to undeceive the poor pagan.

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



ORPHANAGE IN CHARGE OF THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
IN TSUNGMING, CHINA.

Tuesday, June 2

To-day, we are given a proof of how true God is to His promise of rewarding one for even a cup of water given in His Name. A few days ago, our Sister infirmarian relieved a poor man by pulling out a tooth which was causing him great pain. Wishing to thank her, he asked her to go to the home of a dying pagan, who willingly embraced the Faith. A soul for a tooth is well worth while, is it not?

Thursday, June 4

Two men who, before the sun was up this morning, left Lin Shie Daong, which is thirty-six *li* away from Tsungming, request us to go to see a sick person. After travelling several hours in a Chinese wheel-barrow, we reach the pagan home, where a number of people are waiting for us. We have the happiness of baptizing four adults and a child, and of visiting fifteen homes.

We find these long tiresome trips very pleasant when we stop to think how good it will be in the evening to offer our divine Lord, as a compensation for our many imperfections during the day and in thanksgiving for all the favours we have received, the souls of the little ones we have baptized while in the country. Our vocation is indeed beautiful. May we all be true missionaries!

The three pagan women who come to the Orphanage in the afternoon are surprised to see how healthy the forty little girls are, and they tell us that they really think that they are beautiful.

Thursday, June 11

At the pagan foundling-home, one of our Sisters manages to baptize five babies, in spite of the fact that the women who take care of the little ones are not at all in favour of having the Saving Waters poured on their brows. Our Sister and a maiden catechist ask to visit the foundling-home, and they end up by gaining admittance. The pagan women offer to make tea for their visitors and, while it is being made, Sister has the chance of regenerating the poor dying babies, and, when she leaves the pagan foundling-home, she is on good terms with the people there.

Six babies are brought to us from a nearby institution. We are told that one of them had been left on the side of the road by its father, who rid himself of it simply because he was not able to go to work on account of it.

In this land, the wheat is ripe, and the ears are being gathered one by one. Fourteen thousand men work so hard that they are wet with sweat. Nine-tenths of the inhabitants are thinking of nothing else but of laying in enough food for themselves for the rest of the year.

Friday, June 19

It is the patronal feast at *Koung Sou*, and, the whole day long, the bands play and fireworks are exploded. The Blessed Sacrament, exposed on the Altar Throne, is surrounded by lilies which are usually found blooming in the early part of June.

Something very touching happens in the Workroom: one of the workers, while going to draw some water, sees an old woman with a baby, which she says she is going to sell. The girl hastens to notify her companions, who decide to put their money together in order to ransom a little soul for the Sacred Heart. The workers take copper coins from their purses, and soon thirty are collected and given to the pagan woman, who asks for five cents more for the child's clothes. In the end, the girls supply the amount requested, and happy after the sacrifice they have made, they come to offer the fruits of it to God.

Report of the Dispensary in Tsungming from April to June inclusive:

Children baptized.....164	Adults baptized.....15
Patients.....1,854	Treatments....3,582
Homes visited.....123	Vaccinations...40
	Injections.....32

Report of the Dispensary in Paochen from April to June inclusive:

Children baptized.....151	Adults baptized.....23
Patients.....2,209	Treatments....4,444
Homes visited.....260	Vaccinations...43
	Injections.....139

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* *

MANCHUKUO

Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters in Szepingkai

Tuesday, May 19, 1936

During the forenoon, a messenger rushes in and begs us to pay a visit to a poor unfortunate who, intending to commit suicide, has taken a strong dose of opium and is now at death's door.

Our Sister infirmarian hastily seizes her first aid kit, we help her to place therein what is needed for the occasion. She quickly takes everything, and she and a Native Sister climb into the vehicle that is waiting for them. The reins are loosed, but it seems that the horse is not going fast enough yet, our Sister is so afraid to arrive too late.

At last, the vehicle stops before a poor house; our Sister infirmarian walks in, and her first thought is to glance at the *kang*, where she expects to see a man in the throes of death, but, to her great surprise, she finds no one on the Chinese bed. Thinking there has been a mistake, our Sister is about to ask for explanations, when a tall man, who seems to be enjoying the best of health, calmly steps forward, in the middle of the room, and bows to the *doctor*, thanking her for having come to see him. "Are you really the one who is sick?" asks our Sister. "Yes, it is indeed for me that you have been called; I took some poison, but being sorry right after for having done so, I mixed some yellow earth with water and drank a large quantity of the liquid, a remedy which I knew could save my life, and now I am better." In fact, this manner of proceeding is commonly looked upon as being marvellous in counteracting the effects of such poison.

"But why did you want to end your life?" "My wife is hateful and provoked me beyond endurance, and I resolved to take "the short path."

Our Sister asks to see his wife, who has *lost face* and is hiding in a nearby room; when she appears, our Sister infirmarian inquires about her health and shows her as well as her husband great kindness and real interest. Our Sister's conduct is contrary to what was expected by this unfortunate pagan and by the neighbours, who have gathered in the house and outside. All of them are quite surprised: "Just look," they say to one another, "how the *doctor* seems peaceful and kind, she does not even reproach them for having quarelled." Our Sister quickly catches these words and profits by the occasion to speak to them about the Catholic doctrine, which gives its followers happiness here below and assures them great bliss after death. With the help of the Native Sister, she briefly explains the spirit of our holy religion to over forty persons who have come to satisfy their vain curiosity.

Whitsunday, May 31

After having sung our joy at a Low Mass said in our chapel, which was beautifully adorned, we leave for the Cathedral, where we shall assist at Pontifical High Mass. The sermon is given by His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre. As usual, on feast days, those assisting are very numerous, and there is a great explosion of fireworks as the faithful are coming out of the church. The pagans of the neighborhood, attracted by the music and the detonations, climb onto the roofs of their dwellings to see what can be going on at the Catholic Mission. Curious heads give an indented effect to the wall of the Mission Compound.

At eleven o'clock, we attend a Confirmation ceremony: seventy-four new Christians receive the holy chrism, which makes them soldiers of Christ

Wednesday, July 22

Eight days ago, at early dawn, a Christian child about twelve years old died with the most reassuring marks of predestination. Though of a pagan family, he had attended the Mission school for two years and had received Baptism, with his parents consent, after a year of religious instruction at the Catechumenate; but in spite of the boy's pressing invitation the father and mother did not want to embrace the Faith.

The child, having taken sick, told his parents that before long God would come for him, that he was happy to offer his life to win them the grace of conversion. A few minutes before breathing his last, the poor boy, with a great effort, raised himself from his bed, made the *kotsou* (solemn salutation) to his father, his mother and his sister; this is for all Chinese a last prayer to which very few are able to resist. On seeing his son, the father turned away his head to hide his tears, while the mother and daughter were choked up by their sobs. "Don't cry," the dying child said, "because I'm going to God, and you must come to join me. I don't want to be separated from you for ever." After having pronounced these words, he expired.

God no doubt accepted the holocaust of this gentle little victim, for his parents are entering the Catechumenate to-day. His uncle and aunt, who were formerly very hostile towards the Catholics, are also beginning to study Christian Doctrine. This consoling fact proves once again that the school is one of the principal means of apostolate in the mission lands, and that it deserves all the missionaries' solicitude.

Wednesday, July 29

A living antique dwells not far from us, and we see him to-day for the first time: an elderly Manchu a hundred and seven years old.

Having come to the Dispensary, he is the object of a demonstration of esteem by all the patients. Everybody has stood up to welcome him,



A KOREAN FAMILY BEING GIVEN THE ADMISSION FEE
TO THE DISPENSARY OF SZEPINGKAI, MANCHUKUO.

a series of questions follow, and he answers with remarkable common sense and coolness, a striking proof that his intellect is still lucid; his eyes and feet still seem to be strong. His bronze-coloured face, deeply wrinkled, is framed in by a long white beard, and his hair hangs over his shoulders as that of the patriarchs of old. The poor man, not withstanding his advanced age, is worthy of the esteem in which he is held; his exterior is calm and stamped with a certain dignity, the ordinary ornament of those who have spent their lives practising self-respect and temperance. He has assured us that he has never smoked opium or taken strong liquors, that he has always endeavored to avoid all excess and to hold back sudden flashes of humour and of character.

Knowing that he is a pagan we try to insinuate a few words of religion while speaking to him. He tells us that a priest has spoken to him before of our beliefs, and that he will think it over later. This proves that the desire to live is endless in man. After inviting him to come back often to



*Assembled near the Convent in Szepinghai, Manchukuo, are members of five Religious Communities :
Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, Maryknoll Sisters, Daughters of the Holy Ghost,
Antonian Sisters of Mary, Native Nuns of the Congregation of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary.*

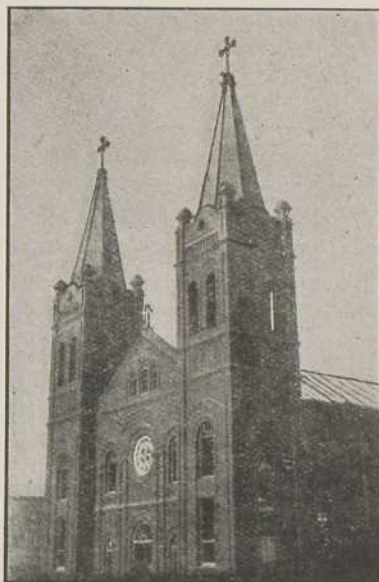
hear the explanations of the Catholic doctrine, we propose having his picture taken, and it is with satisfaction that he complies with our request.

Another rarity was seen at the dispensary some time ago: a Chinese with a long braid like the Orientals of olden times. He came from a distant country-place. "What time did you leave home?" questioned the Sister infirmarian. "You ask me that as if you believed I had a clock, all I can say is that I started out at daybreak and that I have not stopped walking since."

An aged Chinese, who was admitted to the Catechumenate not long ago, lately claimed our care. As his case was a most interesting one, we decided to take his picture. Consequently, we placed him in the light, had him take a certain position, and asked him not to move. At first, the poor man did not quite understand what it all meant, but on seeing the camera, he thought he had found the solution: "The *doctor* is going to baptize me," he said to himself, "and that is the instrument he uses..." Then getting up with a bound, he cried out: "Doctor, wait a minute before baptizing me. You must give me a name, I want to be called Peter." The Sister infirmarian, greatly amused, tried to persuade the artless old man that he was mistaken, and invited him to sit down, but being set in his ideas and realizing that the same operation was about to begin over again, he stood up repeating that he wanted to be given the name of Peter. New explanations finally convinced our aged patient that the camera had nothing to do with Baptism, and he quietly stood before the apparatus.

Tuesday, August 4

Our revered Pastor, Mgr. Lapierre, celebrates the fourth anniversary of his Episcopal Consecration, and it is in our poor chapel that he deigns to celebrate Mass, during which hymns in our own language and in Chinese are sung alternately. We express our gratitude to God during the Holy Sacrifice for the consoling progress of the Church in Sze-ping-kai. Within the walls of the Mission, where but lately all was to be created, five religious families fraternize: Fathers of the Foreign Missions, Clerics of St. Viator, Native Sisters of Our Lady of the Rosary, Antonian Sisters of Mary, who arrived here last January, Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, and, temporarily, six Sisters of the Holy Ghost, who have come from France and are now being prepared for the future apostolate they are to carry on in the Vicariate Apostolic under the jurisdiction of Bishop Gaspais. A seminary, convents and schools, a dispensary, a catechumenate,



CATHEDRAL OF SZE-PING-KAI, MANCHUKUO.



The Clerics of St. Viator in the Vicariate Apostolic of Szepingkai, Manchukuo, when visited on January 6th, 1936, by Very Reverend Canon Roch, Superior General of the Foreign Mission Seminary, Pont Viau.

From left to right, seated: Reverend Father Roger Drolet, Very Reverend Canon A. Roch, Sup. Gen., His Excellency Mgr. L. A. Lapierre, V. A., Reverend Father J. Elias Crevier, Reverend Father Pierre Carriere; standing: Reverend Brothers Georges Coulombe, Real Bissonnette, Oscar Lalonde, Gerard Michaud, Gustave Pineault, Real Peloquin, Josaphat Lesperance, Andre Paquette, Emile Bourgault.

a native novitiate and a boarding-school have been built alongside a spacious cathedral, where all the ceremonies of our liturgical feasts are held. With the officiating prelate, we this morning repeat: *Gratias agamus... Dignum et justum est!*

Friday, August 7

This morning, Sister Superior takes to the station a Professed Sister of the Congregation of Our Lady of the Rosary, who is destined for Taonan. This dear Sister leaves with sorrow her dear Novitiate, where she has found the "hidden pearl." As the religious spirit is becoming more intense in this new religious family, its members go out, one by one, to different mission stations, spreading among their pagan brothers and sisters the peaceful influence of Christian virtues. The catechumenate of Szepingkai will also be confided to the Sisters of Our Lady of the Rosary, two of them will begin their new work in a few days.

Tuesday, August 11

The Primate of the Church in Manchukuo, Bishop Gaspais, is actually visiting in Szepingkai. Yesterday, accompanied by Mgr. Lapierre, he paid a visit to our Community. He told us he was intent on thanking our dear Sister Superior for the kind assistance she had given the Sisters of the Holy

Ghost and for the delicate thoughtfulness she had shown them on their arrival in our midst. "You have done much for these Sisters," he said, "you have spared them the difficulties that are met with in the beginning and which are often very great. The nature of these is known to you, since you were the first to come to this Mission." He informed us that the Sisters of the Holy Ghost would probably leave us during September to take possession of their field of action in his Vicariate. His Excellency celebrated Mass in our convent this morning.

Tuesday, August 18

Thanks to the solicitude of Mgr. Lapierre, the construction of a modest boarding-school has just been completed. Its doors are opened to-day to receive the first pupils, Christians and pagans, who are not numerous, for, in China, one is generally seen better when arriving late. Probably, there will be scholars admitted all month. Two of our Sisters have charge of this establishment, and they are helped by a Native Sister.



PUPILS AND TEACHERS OF THE SCHOOL IN SZEPINGKAI, MANCHUKUO, ABOUT TO TAKE PART IN A PARADE.

Friday, August 21

The father of a family is in the last stages of tuberculosis. Yesterday, while we were with him, his wife confided her secrets to us. She was formerly a Christian, but, for many years, has not been practising her religion on account of having been compelled to marry a pagan. Her story, told with unconstraint, deeply touched us. We informed her that the priest would visit them the following day, seeing that her husband did not have any objection.

The priest made a point of calling on the family to-day, and he has told us of the happy results of his visit.

The sick man was baptized and prepared for death, his wife, being well disposed, made her confession, and the marriage was blessed. The children will also receive Baptism after they have studied the Catholic doctrine awhile.

The missionary was embarrassed for a moment when it came time to hear his penitent's confession: the only room in the house was filled with pagans who had come to see... The door and the windows were trimmed, from top to bottom, with curious heads; how could confession be heard in such a crowded centre?

After a second thought, the priest took one of the blankets with which the sick man was covered, tied a cord on it and hung it in a corner of the

room, and, taking a small bench, seated himself behind the improvised curtain while the penitent knelt down beside him. A few minutes later, the poor lost sheep found the joy which, years ago, had left her soul, to be replaced by remorse. On leaving, the priest promised to bring Holy Communion the following day.

Report of the Dispensary of Szepingkai from May to July inclusive:

Baptisms.....	120	Patients.....	9,331
Treatments.....	13,946	Dressings.....	1,362
Homes visited.....	78	Teeth extracted.....	32
		Injections.....	305
		Vaccinations.....	200

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Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Leaoyuansian

ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORDINATION OF THE REVEREND PASTOR

Saturday, June 13, 1936

We were obliged to celebrate the anniversary of our Reverend Pastor's ordination to the priesthood a day ahead of time, as it coincided with the Feast of Corpus Christi. During the Mass said in our devotional little chapel, we sang a few hymns of thanksgiving.

After dinner, Fathers Berichon and Sarrazin, the pupils' parents, and a few friends were requested to repair to the Workroom and, while they were



THE CHRISTIANS OF LEAOYUANSIEN, MANCHUKUO.

marching in, an organ prelude was played. As is customary on an occasion of the kind, each one present wore a flower given him by a little girl. The priests were given a programme in their own language by one of the pupils, and all the others had to do was to gaze at the wall, on which there was a programme written in Chinese characters.

After singing a song appropriate to the occasion, the little girls put on a play consisting of four acts: "The Stolen Child," and they played their parts well. Chinese girls find that it is an easy matter to represent dramas

and to act comedies. Between the acts, the pupils went through some drills and sang a few songs.

One of the children read an address, and a little girl, in the name of the personnel of the Mission, offered a spiritual bouquet to the Reverend Pastor, who thanked all present for what they had done for him. The entertainment was brought to a close by the singing of the National Hymn.

At a quarter past four, we had the privilege of assisting at Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, given by Reverend Father Berichon. We began the day on our knees before the Tabernacle and we ended it up in the same way.

CORPUS CHRISTI

The weather was beautiful on June 14th and, at half-past two in the afternoon, a procession was held in the Mission Compound. We wonder if it will be a long time before the people of Leaoyuansien will bend low in adoration as our Eucharistic Lord is being carried through the city. We are hoping and praying that this happy day will soon dawn.

The processionalists piously marched out of the church, passed the priests' house, and made their way to the Repository, which had been set up in front of the Dispensary. Gathered round the Repository were eighteen little angels with pink, green and yellow wings; a few of them wear wreaths of flowers of many hues.

The day's happiness was crowned by the baptism, by Father Berichon, of Mrs. Wang, a poor woman who has been given hospitality at the Mission. A number of pagans have embraced the Faith since Father Berichon has been welcoming the sick to the Catholic Mission.

A REMARK NOT ACCEPTED AS IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN

Just lately, a Chinese woman made a remark which made her daughter so angry that she took a dose of opium, and died the day after. When a woman who came to the Dispensary for treatment, told all the people present of what had happened, they were greatly alarmed, and a number of them, without thinking any more about their sores, hastened to the home of the unfortunate girl in order to see things for themselves... The Chinese are always eager to witness a spectacle of the kind. The poison that had been taken towards six o'clock in the evening began to take effect towards eight o'clock, and it was then that the parents sent for a Chinese doctor, who gave the maiden two injections.

The next morning, she was still alive, and her parents decided to try another remedy, which all the Chinese find to be a very good one: a grave was dug and, after putting the girl in it, they threw earth over her, but left her breast, eyes, nose, and mouth uncovered. The whole day long, she hovered between life and death, but, in the evening, she was much better. She began to cry, saying that she was very hungry, and, as she was shivering with the cold, she asked to be placed on the *kang*. The parents were astonished when they saw such a change, and they sent for the Chinese doctor again. The girl was given two other injections, which

made her worse. She died a few minutes later and, unfortunately, she had not been baptized...

VISIT FROM MGR. LAPIERRE

His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre arrived in Leaoyuansien towards noon on August 22nd, and all at the Mission were surprised and overjoyed, for they had not been expecting him. The next day was Sunday, and the distinguished visitor celebrated the High Mass. He afterwards came to address us a few words of advice, and we felt ourselves being urged to imitate his wonderful apostolic zeal, his faith and his confidence. We are pleased to learn that the works in the Mission of Szepingkai are developing: a boarding-school for girls is just finished. We hope that it will soon be filled and that a bigger one will soon be needed... This visit brought us happiness and blessings, and we found it fitting to ask for a holiday. His Excellency, thinking that one is not enough, gave us three.

THE CROSSING OF THE BRIDGE

The relatives of an old man of the neighbourhood who died recently, kept him seven days at the house and, before burying him, they decided to perform a certain rite.

A bridge, arranged on the street, was covered over with strips of yellow cotton, and the relatives of the dead man took turns in crossing it. The bonze who headed the march, wore a yellow cotton robe and a black turban, and, he carried a little bell and a dishful of bread crumbs, which he threw on the ground while mumbling a few prayers, his intention being to appease the anger of the demons, who were set on snatching the soul of the deceased. Two servants carried dolls which represented the spirits coming to meet the soul, and these servants were followed by three or four bonzes dressed in red silk, and playing flutes while certain prayers were being recited. The eldest son, who walked ahead of all the relatives of the deceased, was bent over in order to show that he was grief-stricken, and he carried a tablet on which his father's name was written, and which was to be placed on the family altar, before which, on all the pagan festivities, certain rites are performed. After the bridge had been crossed over twice, a man representing the devil tried to stop everybody from going by. This man began to discuss with the bonze who, wishing to win him over, offered him some money, which he accepted, and all were allowed to go by without being disturbed. The soul of the deceased was then supposed to be released, and could enjoy peace... The ceremony lasted nearly two hours.

Anybody, on seeing the fuss these people were making, could have easily imagined that they were children making a fuss over their games.

Report of the Dispensary of Leaoyuansien from May to August inclusive:

Baptisms.....	103	Patients.....	8,457
Treatments.....	9,697	Dressings.....	1,475
Homes visited.....	261	Teeth extracted.....	97
		Injections.....	320
		Vaccinations.....	29

Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Fakou

A DAY IN THE COUNTRY

Friday, May 22, 1936

It is seven o'clock in the morning and, in spite of the fact that there are dark clouds in the sky, we, after confiding ourselves to God's watchful care, set out for Siaofangchen, a little country-place twenty-five *li* distant. The Mission catechist, who accompanies us, gladly tells his friends and acquaintances along the way that we are "doctors" from the Catholic Mission, who



A STREET SCENE IN FAKOU, MANCHUKUO.

are going to treat the sick and vaccinate the children at Siaofangchen, etc., etc.

While going from the eastern to the western side of the city, we see many curious things. Little wandering dealers have heaped up their clothing, vegetables, trinkets, and candy on the side of the road. Several workmen are to be seen riding on donkeys, and a few, in ox-carts. A number of people are going to get some water, and some others are carrying heavy burdens on their shoulders. The women are emptying their basins of dirty water on the roadside, while dogs and pigs are walking leisurely by the side of the passers-by.

Nearly all the dwellings are earthen ones, and they often shelter as many as four generations. In the few grey brick houses dwell the people who are a little richer than those living in the earthen huts, but they are really no better off than many poor people in Canada. At the far end of the city there is a modern three-storied school surrounded by pretty terraces, and which reminds us of the schools in our native land.

When we reach the open country, we gaze at the immense fields in which many labourers have sown grain, and we think of the great mission field which, to the sorrow of the few apostolic workers, is often ravaged by enemies. Nowhere is to be seen the steeple of a church or the Cross of our redemption.

The little pagodas which fervent pagans have carefully erected on their farms as shelters for their gods, and which appear as hovels to the foreigners, clearly prove that Satan holds sway in these parts.

We say the Rosary prayers during the two hours and a half we spend in the country, and we do not fail to entreat our Immaculate Mother to obtain us the favour of soon seeing her divine Son being adored by all nations.

It is half-past nine when we arrive at the village of Siaofangchen. A wooden cross above a sign on which is written: *Tien tchou tang* (Catholic Mission), indicates to us that we have reached our destination. We enter a very plain house, which serves as a catechumaente and a school. It is there that all the priests who visit the mission station celebrate Mass and administer the Sacraments. The catechist who resides therein instructs the catechumens and Christian children, and, when the priest is unable to come, he presides at the prayers said in common, on Sundays and feast days.

After unpacking our little medicine chest, we sit on the *kang* for an hour and a half. It has been said that patient waiting is an art, and it must be more of an art in China than it is anywhere else... Several of the curious onlookers expect to be treated by the Sisters they see for the first time.

The devoted catechist is careful to introduce us... "These *doctors*," he says, "have not come to Siaofangchen to make money, but for the love of the one true God and for your good. Christians and pagans will be treated with the greatest charity: the Christians, because they are children of God, the pagans, because they will one day embrace the Faith." We shall sum up his little discourse by a very common expression: "He procured us *face*."

The moment has come to begin work: twenty-five children are vaccinated, some fifty adults treated. As is required by Chinese politeness, the patients ask us our name, our age, what country we are from, and they



AN ALTAR WHICH HAS JUST BEEN ARRANGED FOR SUNDAY MASS
IN A NEW MISSION STATION IN MANCHUKUO.

even wish to know how many sisters, brothers, nephews, etc., we have.

At noon, the catechist asks everybody to leave, which doubtlessly means to change their post of observation, for we immediately find our spectators with their noses pressed against the window-panes; we let them look at us, for, by doing so, we may be able to practise an apostolate such as that practised by St. Francis of Assisi.

We prepare to take our lunch at a table on which a white paper serves as a cloth, but the Christians wish to do things with much ceremony. Miss Wang suddenly makes her appearance, carrying cups, saucers, chopsticks, spoons, and the only fork she has been able to find, for everyone knows that the Chinese use chopsticks instead of utensils.

A little dish of food is first brought in, and the catechist quickly fills up our plate. The same service is repeated until the ninth dish arrives. The generous catechist, who sees that the bottom of our plate is always covered, takes from one or the other dish potatoes, eggs, and vegetables, the whole being covered with a sweet sauce, in our honour, for foreigners have the reputation of being fond of sugar... Although our stomachs feel ill at ease, Chinese etiquette requires that we taste everything, saying each time: "*Hen haa!*" (It is delicious.)

After dinner, we keep on with our work while asking Our Lady of the Holy Childhood to send us some dying babies, for not one of the little ones vaccinated during the forenoon was in a dying condition. Our bountiful Lady kept us a consolation for the end. On the other side of the village, we stop to see a poor woman in consumption, who gives us her child, a baby a month old, whom we immediately baptize and christen Mary.

At half-past three, we leave Siaofangchen, our hearts overflowing with gladness. We are but humble little missionaries, but we certainly must have helped to make our holy religion known to a few poor souls. The sun, which has been hidden behind the clouds ever since this morning, seems, at this moment, to join in our happiness, by the splendour of its rays.

We have heard that some girls in our native land, who are anxious to show their devotedness, have felt themselves being called to the mission fields, and that they have drawn back after having thought of the exile and the sufferings of the missionary life... Ah! if they could but experience the pure and holy joys of the apostolic career.

A CHINESE DOCTRESS

Wednesday, June 10

An interesting personage comes to the Dispensary to have her eyes treated: a Chinese doctress who, despite the fact that she is over sixty, is just as enthusiastic as she was when much younger. "I'm a doctress," she says, "and I can show you my certificates, I've practised medicine all my life." Upon the catechist's request, she opens her valise, a dirty little valise containing Chinese remedies wrapped up in pieces of paper of many colours, and which have been handled over and over again. When the catechist makes the remark that she had better get a new valise, she says: "I'm an old *ko lou* (queer person), I'm satisfied with what I have, but I'd

like very much to know the modern way of giving treatments. I've thought of becoming a Christian like my son, and, while learning about the Catholic doctrine at the Catechumenate, I'll come to your dispensary to be trained. It's a good idea, isn't it?"

It may happen that the desire this poor creature has to practise medicine will lead her to the knowledge and love of the heavenly Physician. She is indeed very zealous, and we believe that, once she is a Christian, she will be an excellent baptizer.

A LAST THOUGHT

Mrs. Kao, a patient whom we visit regularly, is sinking fast. She received Holy Baptism a few months ago, and she appreciates all that God has done for her. However, there is a thought which threatens to diminish her happiness. She is continually thinking of her coffin. One day, she told us that her father was too poor to buy her a coffin, and asked us if we thought the people at the Catholic Mission would give her one. She was pleased when we encouraged her as best we could, but, not being really sure that she was going to be given what she desired, she sent for the catechist and repeated her request.

A strange phenomena: the people here, far from being frightened on catching sight of the coffin which will receive their lifeless body, are greatly satisfied. A rich Chinese spends a considerable sum of money in order to have one made for himself while he is still alive, and, when he takes sick, he loves to gaze at it...

Mrs. Kao, delivered from her anxiety regarding her coffin, is now sleeping her last sleep therein. She died at half-past three this afternoon, and her relatives brought the body to the cemetery at five o'clock. It is the custom among the poor, who are unable on such occasions to pay for a banquet and music, to proceed with the interment the very day death occurs.



A CHINESE COFFIN.
THE NEAR RELATIVES OF THE DECEASED ARE DRESSED IN WHITE.

PROGRESS OF CATHOLICISM IN FAKOU

Before the catechumens left, the Native Sisters organized a little entertainment in honour of Reverend Father Barbeau, who celebrated the tenth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on June 29th. After gratitude had been expressed to God for the work done in the Mission since Father's arrival, it was expressed to the one who had caused Catholicism to progress in Fakou. A few years ago, there were not many fervent Catholics in the city, for a great many Christians, who had not learned enough about the Faith, had apostatized during the Boxer Revolution and had not returned to the Church. Many of them let themselves be won over when they see the untiring devotedness of Father Barbeau and of his missionaries; little by little, the apostates are coming back to the true Fold, the lukewarm Catholics are becoming fervent. As for the pagans, different works have been undertaken for their evangelization: catechumenates, schools, a dispensary, all of which have procured Baptism for about five hundred healthy adults and for thirteen hundred persons in immediate danger of death.

Report of the Dispensary of Fakou, from May to June inclusive:

Baptisms.....	62	Patients.....	5,859
Treatments.....	8,788	Dressings.....	914
Homes visited.....	96	Teeth extracted.....	76
		Injections.....	148
		Vaccinations.....	90

Extracts from the Novitiate Chronicles

Dedicated to our dear Parents

Sunday, September 13, 1936



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

St. Bernard.

Departures for the Missions are the order of the day, a contingent of generous apostles from different Communities, and which will soon count seven of our Sisters, will leave our dear native land shortly. Naturally, the conversation is on this interesting subject.

This evening, our enthusiasm increases, and we sing the touching Departure Hymn and other beautiful missionary hymns. We spend a pleasant recreation, which is interrupted by the ringing of the bell just as we are commencing to sing the *Magnificat*.

We are unable to sufficiently express our gratitude but our hearts beat fast when we think of the sublime vocation Almighty God has given us.

Wednesday, September 23

While we are in the dormitory this morning, a telephone message reaches the Novitiate. Messages of the kind, when received so early in the day,

remind us that we are about to be given bad news. Before long, we are informed of the death of dear Mrs. MacKenzie, which occurred at the Mother House, at twenty minutes past two. We are grief-stricken on receiving this sad news, and we seem to feel that we have lost a dear relative.

We are deeply indebted to this great benefactress of our Community, for we have often benefited by her generosity. We shall always prove our gratitude to her by remembering to pray for her.

Sunday, September 27

As our dear Sisters who are destined for Manchukuo and Japan, are to leave Montreal this evening, Sister Superior goes to the Mother House along with a few Professed Sisters, who take to the dear departants all our messages: wishes for a safe trip, the assurance of our affection, and wishes for a fruitful apostolate.

During the evening recreation, just as the clock is striking seven, we voice the *Ave Maris Stella* and, while we are confiding our dear Missionaries to our Immaculate Lady, we imagine we see the train bearing them away.

Friday, October 2

Our Superior have often told us about the sad things that are happening in Spain, and Reverend Father Rondeau has also spoken of them in his conferences. Our Catholic brothers in that country and their wretched persecutors are really to be pitied.

At the request of our revered Archbishop, whose letter was read to us in the refectory last Sunday, we this evening recite an Act of Reparation to the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, exposed on the altar. We also reflect that this month is dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary, and earnestly do we commence a crusade of prayer for the triumph of Holy Mother Church.

Saturday, October 3

It is with the greatest love that we celebrate the Feast of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. In the afternoon, while we are venerating one of the relics of our holy Patroness, the choir sings a touching hymn in which are recommended the following intentions of ours: the sanctification of us all, the missionary work, and the spreading of Christ's Kingdom. Afterwards, we ask the loving little Saint to watch over our dear country, that it may escape the dangers that are threatening the world.

Sunday, October 11

This evening, Sister Superior invites the different groups of novices to play a game of Perfection. In a few minutes, everything is ready. The desks from the classrooms serve as tables, and, very soon, everybody is greatly enthused, for the lucky winner is to receive a prize.

Our game of Perfection causes us to reflect on the necessity of striving to acquire the different virtues. We are greatly encouraged when we see that a little prize is given to the one who has not won anything at all, for it reminds us that God does not take into account our success, but only our

efforts and our good-will. The eldest novice may meditate on this comforting thought this evening, for the "honourable prize" has been awarded to her!

Sunday, October 18

The Mass for the Feast of St. Luke is said this morning instead of the one for the Propagation of the Faith, but, during the day, we often think of this sublime work, which is so dear to us and for which we wish to labour our whole life long.

At the noon recreation, there is a new pastime. Standing in a row, we seem to be awaiting a test, but evidently the results of it will have nothing to do with our future or our honour, for we do not appear to be the least excited. The only danger we are in is that of being laughed at by our companions, but we have resolved to be fully resigned. When we are asked to riddle certain things, our mouths remain closed or half open, but when our Mistress tells us the answer, we find that the riddles are not so hard after all.

Sunday, October 25, Feast of Christ the King.

It is with great fervour that we pay our divine Lord homage, and this homage we unite with the great manifestations in the different places to-day, to proclaim His kingship, and to obtain the favour of seeing all nations lovingly bowing before Him.

We entreat our Immaculate Queen to bless all who have organized these ceremonies, or who will assist at them, to cause Christ the King to be triumphant, and to confound those who are set on destroying His empire.

Sunday, November 1

The touching dogma of the Communion of Saints, which the liturgy of this Feast exalts, is recalled by us by the carrying out of a pious tradition, that of striving, in union with our dear Mother Mary, to find among the Elect a protector or a protectress who will watch over each one of us in a special manner until All-Saints' Day next year.

After paying homage to our new patron, we thank the one who, ever since this time last year, has been obtaining us favours, and we beg him to continue to intercede for us, for we shall never have too many heavenly intercessors.

After spending a pleasant time together in honour of the inhabitants of the Blissful Abode, we this afternoon help the Holy Souls as much as we can, by paying visits to our divine Lord in their behalf and by offering up many indulgenced prayers for them.



The desire of Mary to be invoked by us, in order that she may dispense to us her favors more abundantly, is so great that she not only considers herself offended by those who injure her, but also by those who do not ask favors of her.

St. Bonaventure.



The Children's Page

DEAR CHILDREN,

Doubtlessly, you have heard about the last departure for the Missions, the departure of the Missionaries who, after bidding farewell to their beautiful country and to all those dear to them, crossed the seas, in order to bear the Light of the Gospel to the nations sitting in the darkness of paganism.

Your *Great Friend*, who is also the friend of every worthy cause, was greatly pleased, for these courageous apostles, these devoted messengers of the Gospel Tidings admirably labour for God's glory by spreading His Kingdom. The aim of the missionaries is to make God known and loved, to bear His Name to the other side of the world, to cause Him to be adored by all men, to lead all the stray sheep back to the true Fold, and to conduct them to the abode of the Blessed. This ideal is indeed beautiful, noble, and befitting a true Christian, a true follower of Christ, a true child of Holy Mother Church!

The missionaries, dear children, sometimes have inexpressible consolations while labouring for the salvation of the pagans, but they also have to endure much suffering, their greatest sorrow being to feel that they are unable to save the many souls that are being lost, owing to the lack of apostolic helpers and of necessary funds... They are often heart-broken, and they say to themselves: "Ah! if the people in our dear land only knew more about the wretchedness of the heathen nations, they would be eager to help us!"

You are surely deeply touched on hearing of the lamentations of the missionaries, but do you know that, even though you are quite young, you may help them greatly? How?

BY BEING A MEMBER OF THE HOLY CHILDHOOD

Yes, dear Children, in spite of the fact that you are still young, you may be a great help to the missionaries in different ways, but especially by working for the Holy Childhood. By being a zealous member of this Society, to which every Catholic child may belong, you co-operate with our divine Lord and with all the apostolic workers in the redemption of the pagan world. Oh, what a great and beautiful association! Its aim is to have Christian children help to ransom pagan children and to have the poor castaways

baptized and educated. Twenty-eight million pagan children have been baptized through it since its foundation, in 1843, and, in the four hundred and seventy-three missions helped by it, nearly seven hundred thousand little ones are baptized yearly, and over a million are helped in its foundling-homes, orphanages, schools, etc. What splendid results!

The conditions required may be easily satisfied. They are as follows: *prayer*, which consists of the daily recitation of the *Hail Mary* and the invocation: *Holy Virgin Mary, pray for us and for the poor pagan children*. (100 days indulgence); *alms*, which consists of the small sum of twelve cents a year; *sacrifice*, which requires a few acts of self-denial. Just as the drops of water all together make an ocean, and as the grains of sand heaped up become hills, so will your prayers, alms, and sacrifices, joined to those of the Catholic children throughout the world, do much good.

If you already belong to the Holy Childhood Association, strive to do even more than you have already done for it; if you do not know about it yet, hasten to find out all about it from your parents, your teachers, or, better still, ask your Reverend Pastor to tell you what you need to do in order to become a member, and do not delay in joining this salutary Association. You will thus be complying with the request of Our Holy Father the Pope, who wishes to see all the children of the Catholic world members of the Holy Childhood.

THERE IS SOMETHING VERY TRUE

When you pray, dear Children, for the salvation of the pagans, when you make sacrifices with this aim in view, do not fail to think, at the same time, of the people in Catholic countries, that God may reign over all hearts, for *there is something very true*, and that is that the devil, who is lord and master in the pagan lands, looks unfavourably upon the arrival of the missionaries in the territories which he has stolen from God, yes, which he has stolen from God, for the whole world belongs to God, who made it, and all the people living in the world belong to Him, but the hellish foe has sown cockle and has been busy stealing.

When the wicked devil sees the missionaries preaching the Gospel, planting the cross on the ruins of the pagodas they have destroyed, building churches, and getting crowds of people to kneel before the Tabernacle, he roars like a furious lion, and is set on taking revenge... He goes to the Catholic countries, disturbs the peace which reigns therein, sows cockle, endeavours to extinguish the torch of Faith and, not wishing to be alone in his work, he sees to securing agents.



Like a furious lion...

Oh! how great is the necessity of doing what Christ has advised us to do, to *watch* and *pray*. Let us watch so as not to allow this ugly beast, this roaring lion, to come unawares to destroy Christ's flock, and so as to be able to conquer him before it is too late. Let us also pray, for it is especially by our prayers that we shall be able to overcome him, and let us not fail to invoke her who is as terrible as the embattled array: the Immaculate Virgin Mary.

Your Great Friend,

THE PRECURSOR.

Thanksgivings to the Blessed Virgin for favours obtained



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

BL. HENRY SUZO.

"I wish to return thanks to Our Blessed Lady for a great favour obtained through her powerful intercession. After praying with perseverance for two years, my request was finally granted, on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. May the ex-voto I am placing near the altar of this loving Advocate prove to her my gratitude. Please publish this so others may come to know of the power of Our Immaculate Mother. Mrs. L. Griffin, **Notre Dame de Grace**. — Enclosed please find a small offering in thanksgiving for a favour received. Mrs. K., **West Bathurst, N. B.** — I must thank you for all your prayers for me. I feel some stronger, and hope that I may regain my health. Miss M., **Aubrey, Que.** — My prayers have been heard, and I ask you to kindly publish my thanksgiving. Miss M., **Montreal**. — In fulfilment of a promise made not long ago, we are sending you an offering in thanksgiving for Mother's recovery from a serious illness. M. B., **Ottawa, Ont.** — Two great favours have been received through your good prayers. Mrs. J. R., **Hemmingford, Que.** — A cure has been obtained, and I am enclosing an offering for a taper to be placed on the Blessed Virgin's altar. M. B., **Pineville, N. B.** — I have received a favour through the intercession of our Blessed Mother and, to thank her, I am enclosing an offering for a novena of lights. Mrs. J. R., **Houlton, Me.** — Not long ago I wrote asking that you make a novena in honour of Our Mother of Perpetual Help to obtain a permanent position for a friend of mine. I am pleased to say that temporary employment has been obtained. I am enclosing a donation for your missions and will send a further amount if the position becomes permanent. M. H. G., **Montreal**. — I have received a favour and am sending you the ransom price of a dying Chinese baby, as promised. M. L., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find a donation for your missions in China, in thanksgiving for favours received. Please pray for our intentions. Mrs. W., **North Bay, Ont.** — Enclosed please find the ransom price of two dying Chinese babies, in thanksgiving for a favour received. L. B., **North Bay, Ont.** — Thanks to our Blessed Lady, my husband is now working. I am sending you my renewal subscription, as promised. Mrs. L. — I have received a favour and am sending you the amount I promised for your missions in China. M. T., **Portland, Me.** — I wish to thank our dear heavenly Mother for the favours that have been granted me. Mrs. L. C., **Webster, Mass.** — Enclosed please find an offering for your missions in thanksgiving for a favour received. Miss L. — My son has found work, and I am truly thankful. Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. Mrs. T., **Brunswick, Me.** — The enclosed offering is in thanksgiving for favours received. Mrs. N. — Enclosed please find a small offering in thanksgiving

for favours received. Mrs. R. B., **Montreal**. — I have received a great favour. Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. Mrs. N. C. — I wish to thank the Blessed Virgin for all that she has done for me. L. B. — Enclosed please find a donation for your missions, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Mrs. G., **Central Falls**. — Find enclosed my renewal subscription. I wish to thank the Blessed Virgin for the favour she has obtained me. I hope she will come to my aid again. Miss D. — I have received a favour and am enclosing the ransom price of a Chinese baby, as promised. Mrs. P. W., **Montreal**. — My husband has obtained a position, and I am gladly renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. May our dear heavenly Mother continue to watch over us. Mrs. T. C. — Please find enclosed an offering for lights in honour of the Blessed Virgin, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Mrs. F. M., **Holyoke, Mass.** — Enclosed please find an offering for the ransom of four dying babies, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Mrs. B. C., **Madison, Me.** — Enclosed please find the ransom price of a pagan baby, in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. M. D., **Adams, Mass.** — I am enclosing an offering for the ransom of a pagan baby, in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin Mary for a great favour that was granted me. Mrs. P. C. — A few requests have been granted, and I am sending you a little offering, which I promised. C. P., **Millinocket, Me.** — The enclosed offering is in thanksgiving for favours received through the intercession of our dear heavenly Mother. Miss F., **Webster, Mass.** — Enclosed please find an offering for a novena of lights, in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin. Mrs. R. — I have received a favour and am enclosing a small offering, as promised. Mrs. M., **Montreal**. — I have received a great favour through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. Find enclosed an offering for a novena of lights. Please pray for me. Mrs. R. — My request has been granted, and I am enclosing the offering I promised to send you. Mrs. F., **New York**. — Enclosed please find a small offering, in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. A Subscriber. — I have just received the favour I asked for. Enclosed please find a small offering as promised. Mrs. J. A., **Montreal**. — Thanks to our dear Lady, I received a desired favour. Mrs. L., **Montreal**. — Enclosed, please find my renewal subscription, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Mrs. A. S. — I am truly thankful for the favour that has been granted me. Kindly accept the enclosed offering for your missions. Mrs. J. — I have received an answer to my prayers. Enclosed please find the ransom price of four dying Chinese babies. Mrs. J. L. — I wish to thank our dear heavenly Mother for the favours she has obtained me. Mrs. A., **Montreal**. — I wish to return thanks for a cure obtained. Mrs. P. — The Blessed Virgin has granted me a desired favour, and I am now asking her to cure my husband. I am enclosing a donation for the Missions. Mrs. P., **Montreal**. — I have obtained a favour and am sending you a small offering, as promised. Mrs. O. F. — I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR, for I have received a great favour. Mrs. B. — I have obtained a special favour through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin and, to thank her, I am sending you an offering for the poor Chinese. Mrs. C., **Montreal**. — Find enclosed my renewal subscription. Please unite with me in thanking our Blessed Lady for the favour she has obtained me. Mrs. L. — I wish to thank the Blessed Virgin for the cure she obtained me after I had promised to publish my thanksgiving. Mrs. T., **Montreal**. — I have received a favour through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin and I am sending you my renewal subscription, as promised. Mrs. G. M. — Our dear heavenly Mother has come to my aid, and I am gladly sending you the enclosed Postal Note in favour of the Missions. L. S. — I have obtained a great favour through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin and am enclosing an offering for your missionary work, as promised. Mrs. J. L. — Enclosed please find a small offering, in thanksgiving for a favour received. A Subscriber. — The enclosed offering is in thanksgiving for a favour obtained through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. J. C. — The Blessed Virgin helped me to find a position after I had promised to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR. I am grateful to this dear Mother for all that she has done for me. Mrs. C., **Montreal**. — Kindly accept the enclosed cheque. It is my thank-offering for a favour received through the intercession of our Blessed Lady. A Subscriber, **Montreal**. — Please find enclosed my renewal subscription to THE PRECURSOR, in thanksgiving for a cure obtained. Mrs. A. C. — I am very grateful for the favour that has been granted me. Anonymous. — The enclosed offering is in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for a favour obtained through her intercession. Miss A. D., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find a small offering in honour of our Blessed Lady, through whose intercession I have obtained a very great favour. Mrs. M., **Montreal**. — I wish to thank the Blessed Virgin for the favour she has granted me. M. E. — I have received an answer to my prayers and I am sending you an offering to ransom some dying Chinese babies, as promised. Mrs. E. B. — Please find enclosed the ransom price of four dying Chinese babies, in thanksgiving for a favour received. M. P. — The Blessed Virgin has obtained me a favour and, to thank her, I am sending you an offering for the ransom of twelve dying pagan babies. Mrs. G. — A cure has been obtained and I am sending you a small offering, which I promised. Mrs. D. — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription and an offering for the ransom of some dying Chinese babies, in thanksgiving for a great favour obtained. Mrs. E. H. — I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR to thank our Blessed Lady for her watchful care. Mrs. M. D. — I am grateful to our dear heavenly Mother for all that she has done for me. Anonymous. — I am enclosing an offering for the Missions, which I promised in return for my recovery from a serious illness. Mrs. D. — I have received a very great favour. Please find enclosed a small offering for your works. Anonymous. —

I obtained a great favour through the intercession of our Blessed Lady after I had promised to publish my thanksgiving. A Subscriber. — Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving for favours received. If another request is granted, I will send you the same amount. Mrs. J. D., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find the ransom price of a few dying Chinese babies in thanksgiving for a favour received. Mrs. A., **Montreal**. — I have received a favour through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin, and to thank her, I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Miss D., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find the ransom price of a Chinese baby in thanksgiving for a favour obtained through the intercession of our Blessed Lady. M. P., **Verdun**. — My request has been granted. Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. Mrs. D., **Montreal**. — The enclosed offering is in thanksgiving for the many favours we have received through the intercession of our Blessed Mother. A short time ago I promised that I would send you this amount. Mrs. J. D. — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription, in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. Mrs. B. — Thanks to Almighty God and Our Lady of Victory my request has been granted. I am enclosing a small offering, as promised. Mrs. R., **Timmins, Ont.** — Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving for favours from Our Lord and His Blessed Mother. Mrs. C. R., **Sutton, Que.** — Many thanks to our Immaculate Mother and St. Therese for granting my petition. I hope that the position my son has obtained will be a permanent one. Please grant me some other favours, good health for my family and a suitable position for my sister. Mrs. E. Dunne, **Montreal**. — Some of my requests have been granted. Enclosed please find a small offering, which I promised. Mrs. M. C., **Montreal**. — I am enclosing an offering in thanksgiving for a favour received from St. Joseph. A. P., **Westmount**.

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

Petitions

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

I am writing to ask you to beg the Blessed Virgin to grant that my husband may get better soon, that he may not lose his position, and that my sister may start work before long. I shall renew my subscription as soon as I am able. Mrs. L. B., **Montreal**. — Please pray that my brother may get a better position. If the Blessed Virgin grants this favour, he will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR. Miss H. McG., **Windsor, Ont.** — Please find enclosed my renewal subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Please remember me and mine in your prayers. M. G., **Montreal**. — Please pray that my husband may succeed in getting a certain position. If my favour is granted, I will send a donation. Mrs. P. S., **Campbellton, N. B.** — Find enclosed an offering for votive lights in honour of the Blessed Virgin. Please pray that my three little ones may get better. Mrs. M. Mc A., **Montreal**. — I would ask you to make a novena that I may accept all my sufferings as coming from the Hands of God. I will send an Offering for the ransom of some dying Chinese babies if I feel better next month. A Subscriber. — Find enclosed my renewal subscription. Will you please pray for my special intention. H. C., **Montreal**. — I am enclosing an offering for a Mass to be said for a special intention and for guidance. I also ask your kind prayers for myself and family. Mrs. L., **Oshawa, Ont.** — Please ask our Blessed Mother to grant me a very important favour. Mrs. F. A. H., **Sandwich, Ont.** — If our dear heavenly Mother helps us to sell our farm, I will publish my thanksgiving and send you a donation. Kindly make a novena that I may obtain three very special favours. If these requests are granted, I will send you a life subscription to THE PRECURSOR. I am enclosing a small offering. B. W., **Brunswick**. — I would ask you to make a novena that my husband, who is out of work, may get a suitable and steady position. I promise an offering to help in your good work. Mrs. L., **Windsor, Ont.** — I am coming again to ask you to make a novena for me. Just as soon as I am able I will send you my renewal subscription and an offering for the ransom of four dying Chinese babies. Mrs. C. O'B., **Ste. Agathe des Monts, Que.** — Find enclosed an offering to ransom four dying Chinese babies. Will you please pray that my son may find day employment. Mrs. C., **Montreal**. — I am writing to ask you to kindly remember us all in your prayers. Miss D., **Blackville, N. B.** — We are asking for several favours. Please remember us in your prayers. L., **Vermont**. — Enclosed please find a Postal Note. May I ask you to make a novena for us. A Friend, **North Bay, Ont.** — I am renewing my mother's subscription to THE PRECURSOR and am sending you a donation. May I ask to be remembered in your prayers. M. B.,

Ottawa, Ont. — I would ask you to pray that my son may find a position. I will renew my subscription to THE PRECURSOR as soon as he is employed. **Mrs. C. T., Brunswick, Me.** — Enclosed please find a small offering. Kindly make a novena that I may obtain a desired favour. **Mrs. M., St. Edmond de Stoneham.** — Please remember us in your prayers. **B. P., Montreal.** — Please find enclosed my renewal subscription to THE PRECURSOR. May I ask you to pray that I may be restored to health. **L. P.** — I am not feeling well. Please say a little prayer for me. **Mrs. R. L., Indian Orchard, Mass.** — Will you kindly make a novena for my mother, asking that she may regain her health if it be God's Holy Will. **Mrs. A., Vankleek Hill, Ont.** — Please include our petitions in your prayers. If I get work, I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for two years. **B. P., Montreal.** — Kindly unite with me in asking that my husband and my son may live up to their religion, and that I may regain my health. If my requests are granted, I will renew my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. **Mrs. M., Camden, Me.** — If I obtain a good position, I will send you the ransom price of four dying Chinese babies every month for a year. **L. D., St. Johnsbury, Vt.** — Please pray for my intentions. **Mrs. C. S., Montreal.** — Kindly make a novena to Our Lady, asking that my son may keep his position. If my request is granted, I will send an offering for the ransom of a Chinese baby. I would ask you to remember us all in your prayers. **Mrs. C., Stratford, Ont.** — Please ask the Blessed Virgin to help my father to find work. **Miss B. P., Montreal.** — Enclosed please find a small offering. I wish to obtain a special favour, and would ask you to make a novena to the Blessed Virgin for me. **Mrs. B. C.** — I would ask you to pray that I may obtain a good position. **Mrs. M.** — I am asking for a favour. Please pray that I may receive it. **Mrs. C., Verdun.** — I wish to obtain a great favour. Please pray for me. **Mrs. M. P.** — I am not feeling well. Kindly ask our Blessed Mother to intercede for me. **Mrs. N.** — My husband is in poor health. Please pray that he may soon be cured. **Mrs. G., Montreal.** — Please pray that I may obtain a desired favour. When it is granted, I will send you an offering. **L. B., North Bay, Ont.** — I wish to obtain a special favour. Kindly make a novena to our Blessed Mother for me. **M. L., Ottawa, Ont.** — Please pray that I may obtain a position and that I may keep well. **A Subscriber, Montreal.** — Please pray that my son may not lose his position. **Anonymous.** — I am asking the Blessed Virgin to intercede for me, for I wish to obtain a few favours. **Mrs. M., Montreal.** — May I ask you to pray that I may be granted some special favours. **Miss A. M.** — I am asking our Blessed Lady to intercede for me that I may meet with success. **Anonymous.** — Please pray that a young man may lead a better life. **Mrs. B.** — Kindly unite with me in asking the Blessed Virgin to cure me and to grant me another great favour. **A Subscriber, Montreal.** — I am asking our Blessed Mother to grant that two persons dear to me may be restored to health and that I may feel better myself. **Mrs. H. B.** — Please ask our Blessed Lady to help me to find a good position. **M. P., Montreal.** — I am asking our Blessed Mother to continue to assist me as she has in the past. **Mrs. A., Madawaska, Me.** — Please remember me in your prayers. **L. M.** — Please pray that my requests may be granted. **Mrs. O. L.** — I am asking that one dear to me may be restored to health. Kindly remember him in your prayers. **B. M.** — Please unite with me in asking our Blessed Mother to come to my aid. **Mrs. P. W.** — I desire to obtain several important favours. Please pray that they may be granted me. **Mrs. N.** — Please ask our Blessed Lady to hearken to my prayers. **Mrs. D., Montreal.** — I would ask you to pray that a young man may begin to lead a better life, that my sister may be restored to health, and that a friend of mine may obtain a position. **Mrs. N., Montreal.** — I am asking our Blessed Lady to continue to watch over us. **L. G.** — Please remember me in your prayers. **M. E., Montreal.** — I would ask you to pray that the position a friend of mine has obtained may become permanent. **M. G., Montreal.** — Please pray for a special intention. **Mrs. F., New York.** — If I obtain a special favour, I will send you an offering. **A Subscriber.** — Kindly remember my daughter in your prayers. **Mrs. T., Brunswick, Me.** — Please pray for our intentions. **Mrs. L. C., Webster, Mass.** — I wish to obtain some favours. Please pray for me. **Mrs. R., Houlton, Me.** — I stand in need of special graces, and would ask you to remember me in your prayers. **M. P., Millinocket, Me.** — I am asking our Blessed Lady to continue to watch over all those dear to me. **Mrs. A., Montreal.** — I am enclosing an offering for a Mass to be said in honour of the Sacred Heart and our Blessed Mother, that my husband may secure a permanent position with the Company he is writing to. If this favour is granted, I will send you an offering for your Works. **Mrs. L., Oshawa, Ont.** — Kindly accept the enclosed offering. My granddaughter is not feeling well, and I would ask you to make a novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus for her. **Mrs. R., Sutton, Que.** — Please ask the Holy Mother of God and St. Joseph to come to my assistance. If I obtain what I am asking for, I will renew my subscription and send you an offering. **Mrs. M. Mc Gee, Quebec.** — I should like you to start a novena to St. Teresa that my health may improve and that another special request may be granted. If these favours are obtained, I will send a donation to aid your missionary work. **R. O'N., Montreal.** — Please make a novena to St. Teresa, asking that my son may soon find work. I promise to renew my subscription to THE PRECURSOR and to send an offering for a Chinese baby. **Mrs. J. T., Portland, Me.** — I wish to obtain a special favour. Please pray that I may meet with success. **Mrs. J. A., Montreal.** — Enclosed you will find an offering for the ransom of a few Chinese babies. Will you kindly pray for me. **Mrs. B. L'Epiphanie, Que.** — I am writing to ask you to pray that a very dear friend of ours may be restored to health. **A. G., Waterville, Me.** — I wish you would commence a novena, asking our dear Lord and His Blessed Mother to come to

our aid. Miss B., **Verdun, Que.** — Please ask the Sacred Heart and our Immaculate Lady to come to our aid. Miss B. P., **Montreal.** — Enclosed please find the ransom price of a dying Chinese baby. Please ask Jesus and Mary to grant me the favours I am asking. Miss G. W., **Montreal.** — Kindly pray for me, that I may get back my hearing. I promise to send an offering for your missionary work in honor of our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph, and I will also subscribe to THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. F. M., **Holyoke, Mass.** — I am enclosing the ransom price of a dying Chinese baby and an offering for a novena of lights in honour of the Blessed Virgin. Kindly ask this dear Mother and St. Joseph to obtain me two special favours. If my requests are granted, I will publish my thanksgiving and send you a donation. A Client of Our Lady, **Port Lambton, Ont.** — Please have some prayers said for me for a special intention. The enclosed donation is for the fund for the Burse in honour of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. F. McC., **Portland, Me.** — Find enclosed an offering in aid of the Missions. I am asking the Blessed Virgin and St. Ann to assist me. Please remember me in your prayers. I promise to send another offering. Mrs. C., **Verdun, Que.** — I feel certain that, through the intercession of the Blessed Mother of God, I shall obtain the favour I am asking. I am enclosing an offering to help along your missionary work and the price of two votive lights in honour of St. Ann. Mrs. R., **Sutton, Que.** — Please pray for me to Our Lady of Perpetual Help and the Little Flower of Jesus, that I may get back a sum of money. If my petition is granted, I will send you a donation for your Missions. Mrs. T., **Montreal.** — Will you please make a novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus for me, that I may obtain four special favours. If my requests are granted, I will renew my subscription to THE PRECURSOR and send an offering to ransom some dying Chinese babies. A Subscriber, E. L., **Waterloo, Que.** — Would you please arrange a novena of Masses in honour of St. Theresa, for an orphan boy who has a stepmother. R. P., **Montreal.** — Will you please make a novena for us. If the Little Flower helps us out, we will send a donation for the Missions. A Friend, **North Bay, Ont.** — The enclosed offering is for the ransom of four dying Chinese babies. Please keep on praying for me. Miss M., **Aubrey, Que.**



NECROLOGY

Mr. Charles J. KELLY, Allumette Island, father of our Sister Mary of the Rosary; Mr. Victor GALLIPOLI, Montreal, father of our Sister Ste. Anne Marie, deceased; Mrs. Louis PELLETIER, St. Francois de Madawasca, N. B., mother of our Sister St. Louis; Mr. Victor PAYETTE, Montreal, father of our Sister Madeleine du Sacre Cœur; Miss Lucille MENARD, St. Isidore de Prescott, Ont., sister of our Sister St. Gaetan; Mr. Adelard ROY, St. Henri, Co. Levis, grandfather of our Sister Ste. Jeanne de France; Mrs. G. D. REGNIER and Mrs. Jules LEGRAND, St. Jacques le Mineur, grandmothers of our Sister Ste. Rita, novice; Mrs. James CAHILL, Notre Dame de Grace; Mrs. N. S. EMERY, Notre Dame de Grace; Mrs. John A. BEATON, London, Ont.; Mrs. George SMITH, Point St. Charles; Mr. Leo STAPLETON, Quebec; Miss Mary MURPHY, Notre Dame de Grace; Mrs. M. FLEMING, Lowell, Mass.; Miss Sadie O'BRIEN, Montreal; Mrs. W. H. CLAPPERTON, Grand Cascapedia, Co. Bonaventure, Que.; Mr. John DOOLEY, Outremont; Mr. Patrick James QUINN, Outremont; Mrs. Mary HEMSWORTH, London, Ont.; Mr. William BYRD, Montreal; Mr. William MCPHILLIPS, London, Ont.; Mr. W. J. HENNING, Simcoe, Ont.; Mrs. Rose GEOFFREY, Collinsville, Mass.; Miss Dorothy JOHNSON, Montreal; Mrs. Joseph HELM, Henon, Ont.; Mr. C. CONNOR, Montreal; Mr. William MANSFIELD, Montreal; Miss M. C. MOISAN, Montreal; Mr. N. WHELAN, Notre Dame de Grace; Mrs. Ellen GIRARD, Pakenham, Ont.; Miss Bridget MEANEY, Montreal; Mr. George CARPENTIER, Montreal; Mr. TIMMINS, Montreal; Mr. D. BYRNE, Montreal; Mrs. O'HAGAN, Montreal; Mr. M. HEALY, Montreal; Mrs. James HURLEY, Vankleek Hill, Ont.

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of the

Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

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.

Privileges Granted to Benefactors

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

Besides, Benefactors are entitled to the following spiritual advantages:

1. — A special intention in all the Masses heard and Communions received by the Sisters.
2. — A Mass offered every month for their intentions.
3. — Every Friday and Sunday in the year, the Sisters offer, for their Benefactors' intentions, their hours of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament exposed in the chapel of the Mother House. (The names of Founders and Protectors are placed on the Altar of Exposition).
4. — For the same intentions, the members of the Community make, every day, the Guard of Honour to Mary, which consists in the continual recitation of the Rosary before the altar of the Blessed Virgin. The Guard of Honour is also made at the Shek Lung Lazaretto. There, the poor leper women, in successive groups of fifteen, continue the Rosary for the intentions of the Society's Benefactors.
5. — A Requiem High Mass is sung every year for deceased Benefactors.
6. — A share in the merits of the Way of the Cross, made daily by the Sisters, is also granted to deceased Benefactors.