

# THE PRECURSOR



Vol. XI., 15th Year

MONTREAL, March-April, 1937

No. 2



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

## **IN CANADA**

### **MOTHER HOUSE, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont, Que. (Founded in 1902)**

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

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

### **CHINESE HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY, 112 Lagauchetiere St. West, Montreal, (Founded in 1918)**

Teaching of Catechism to the Chinese.

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

### **NOMININGUE, Que., (Bethany) (Founded in 1914)**

### **RIMOUSKI, Que., St. Germain St. (Founded in 1918)**

Apostolic School for Aspirants to the Missions. Diocesan Office of the Holy Childhood. Workroom of Church Vestments. Workroom for our Missions. Kindergarten. Private lessons in French, English, Music and Painting.

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

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

### **QUEBEC, 4 Simard St. (Founded in 1919)**

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

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

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

### **TROIS RIVIERES, QUE., 466 Bonaventure St. (Founded in 1926)**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Hostel "The Immaculate Conception" for girls.

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

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

Closed Retreats for ladies and girls. Kindergarten.

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

Closed Retreats for ladies and girls.

*(Continued on page 3 of the cover.)*

## Please Help the Missionary Sisters

of the Immaculate Conception

*By procuring work for them.*

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

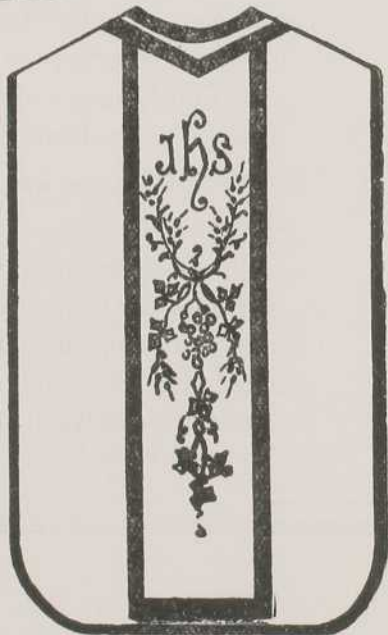
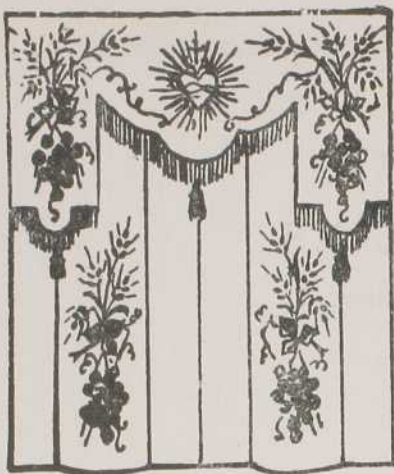
Missionaries must train for several years before being able to commence their apostolic work in foreign fields.

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

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

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

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



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

Chasuble, damask silk, silk braid . . . . .	\$ 17.00 and \$ 25.00	
“ moire-antique, with beautiful emblem . . . .	25.00 “	35.00
“ moire-antique, very richly embroidered in gold . . . . .	75.00 “	100.00
“ velvet, gold braid and emblem . . . . .	35.00 “	40.00
“ fine gold cloth, with or without very rich hand-embroidery . . . . .	50.00 “	90.00
Benediction Veil . . . . .	7.00 “	upwards
Cope, damask silk, silk or gold braid . . . . .	30.00 “	50.00
“ moire-antique, very richly embroidered in gold	70.00 “	90.00
“ gold cloth, with beautiful emblem and raised hand-embroidery in gold . . . . .	100.00 “	150.00
Alb with guipure lace . . . . .	8.00 “	upwards
Linen surplices with lace . . . . .	5.00 “	“
Felt Altar Covers, green or red . . . . .	5.00 “	“
Tabernacle Veil . . . . .	5.00 “	“
Ciborium Cover . . . . .	4.00 “	“
Breviary Marks, hand-painted . . . . .	1.00 “	“
Collar for “ Sacred Heart League ” . . . . .	8.00 “	“

A large variety of banners and canopies made in our workroom.

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

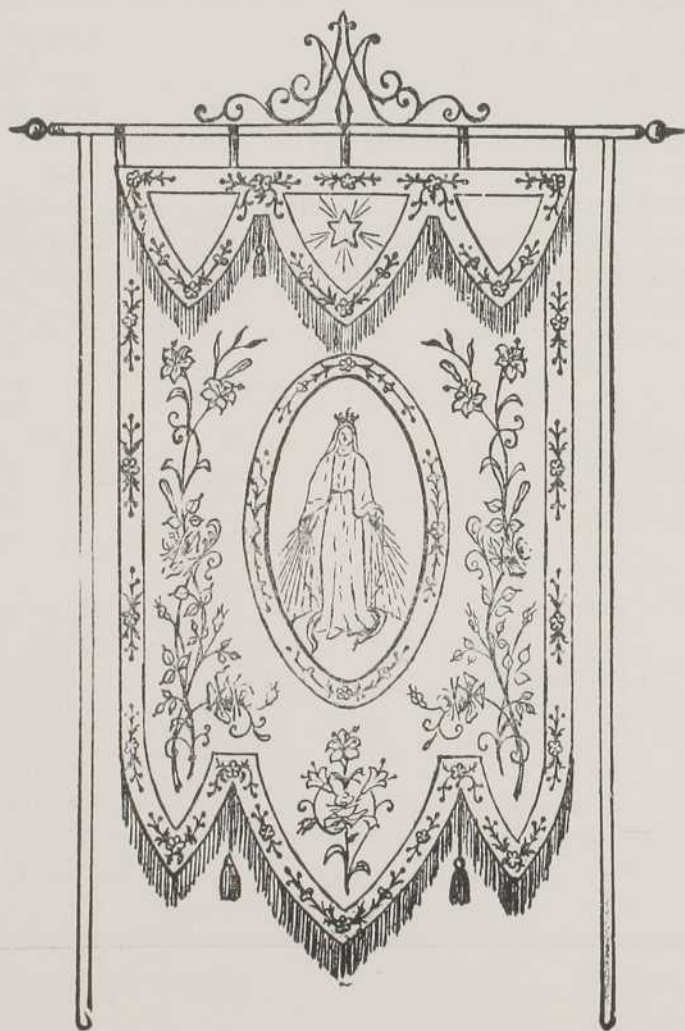
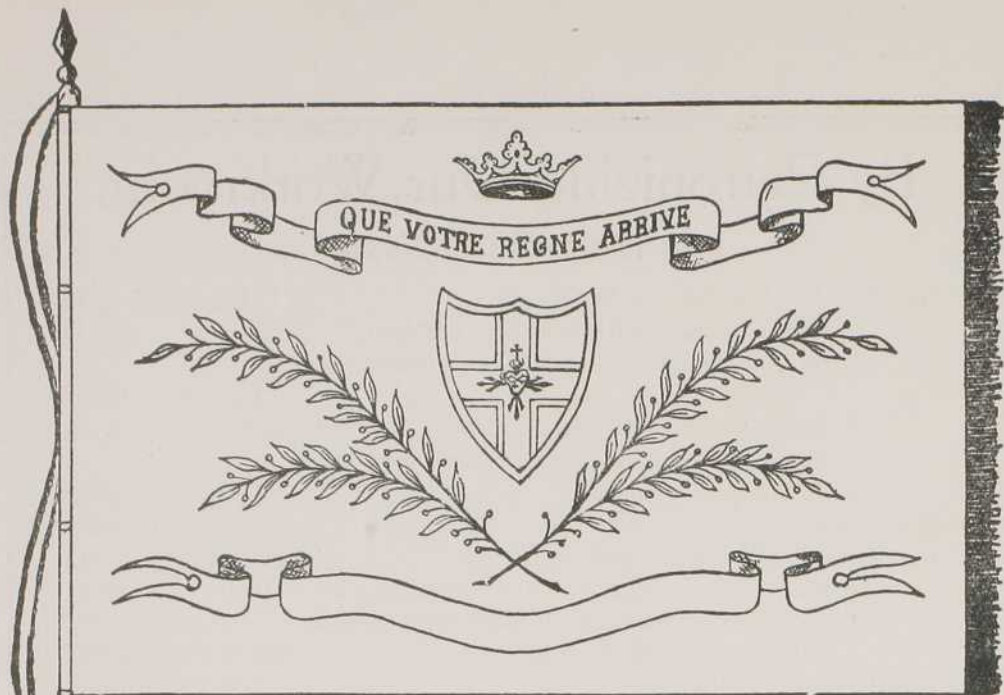
*Description and prices given on request.*

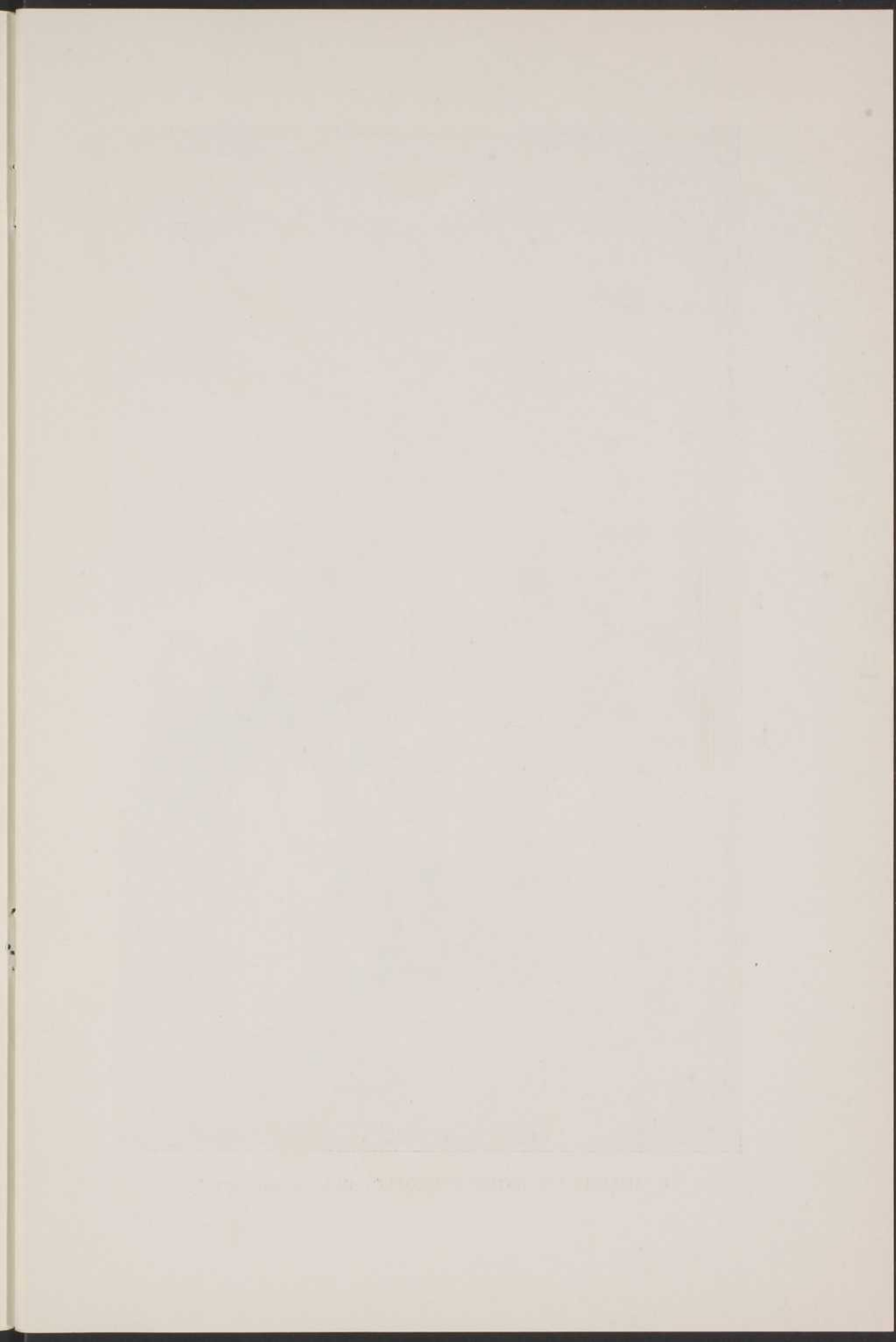
### WAX INFANTS

Length		Length	
5 inches . . . . .	\$ 2.50	14 inches . . . . .	\$16.00
7 “ . . . . .	4.00	17 “ . . . . .	25.00
9 “ . . . . .	7.00	22 “ . . . . .	35.00
12 “ . . . . .	14.00		
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
Large . . . . .	.40 “ 100







"O IMMACULATE MOTHER, PROTECT OUR BENEFACTORS!"

# THE PRECURSOR

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with the approbation of the Archbishop of Montreal

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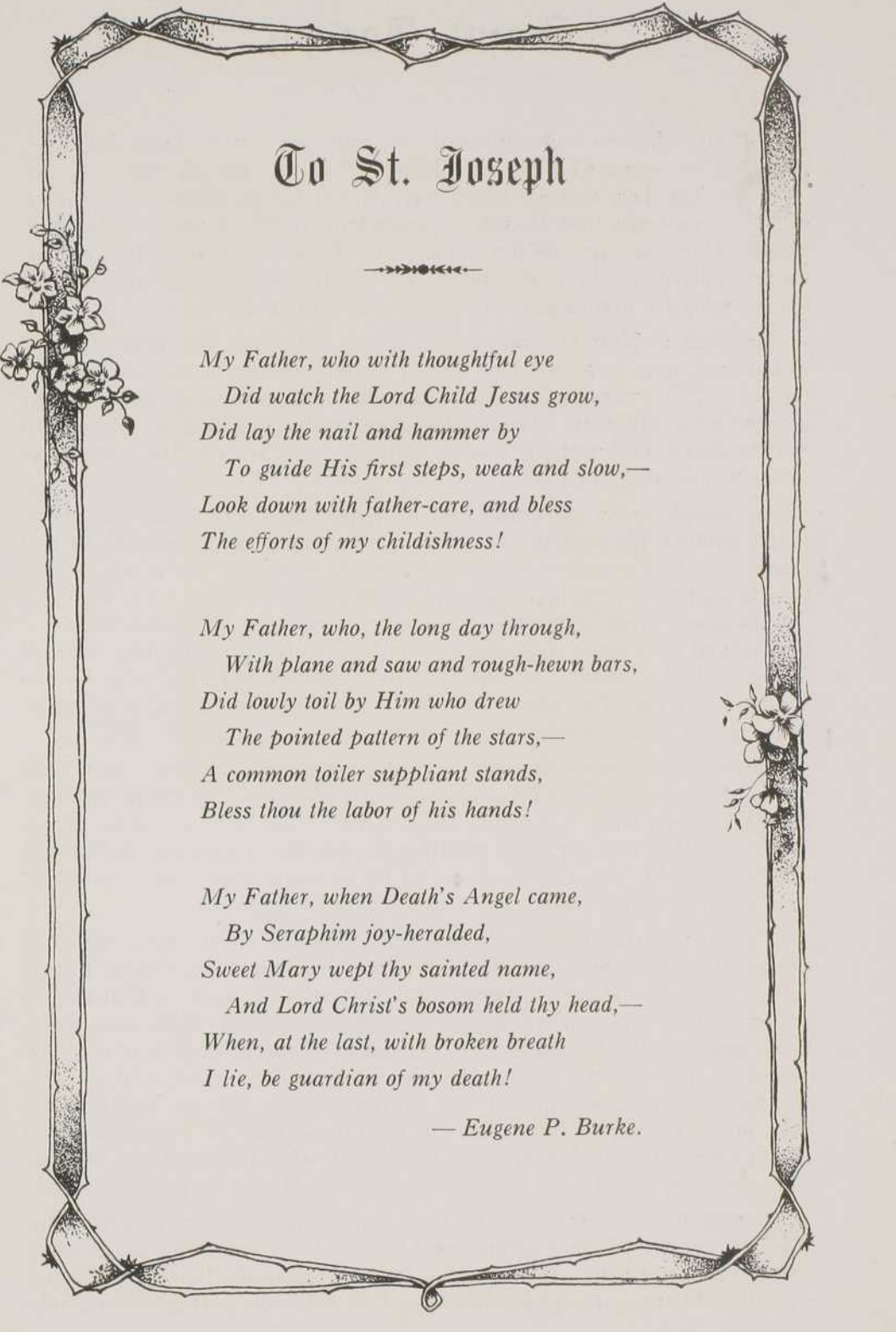
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*Reflect that St. Joseph,  
to whom the Holy Ghost gave the title of just,  
corresponded most faithfully to the abundant graces  
which he received and that he thus laid up  
an immense treasure of merit.  
You will certainly draw the conclusion that,  
after the Mother of God,  
St. Joseph is the nearest to the Eternal Throne,  
and that powerful must be his intercession.*



## To St. Joseph



*My Father, who with thoughtful eye  
Did watch the Lord Child Jesus grow,  
Did lay the nail and hammer by  
To guide His first steps, weak and slow,—  
Look down with father-care, and bless  
The efforts of my childishness!*

*My Father, who, the long day through,  
With plane and saw and rough-hewn bars,  
Did lowly toil by Him who drew  
The pointed pattern of the stars,—  
A common toiler suppliant stands,  
Bless thou the labor of his hands!*

*My Father, when Death's Angel came,  
By Seraphim joy-heralded,  
Sweet Mary wept thy sainted name,  
And Lord Christ's bosom held thy head,—  
When, at the last, with broken breath  
I lie, be guardian of my death!*

— Eugene P. Burke.

## Saint Joseph

---

**S** AINT JOSEPH is pre-eminently the saint of whom we know but little, the saint who has no history. Two of the Evangelists, St. Matthew and St. Luke, have traced his genealogy, from which we learn that he was a descendant of David and was of royal blood. However, they do not agree as to the name of his father, and so we are obliged to admit, in order to explain the double tradition, that he had an adoptive and legal father along with his real father.

He dwelt at Nazareth, an obscure village in Galilee, the name of which would have been forgotten long ago, if his own obscurity had not made it famous. We have no difficulty in picturing to ourselves a village somewhat like our own, but with dwellings less comfortable, perhaps, a village with narrow streets and a public fountain, which easily became the rendezvous of the women and children.

St. Joseph was a carpenter, and it seems that towards the end of the fourth century the faithful showed St. Jerome some of the ploughs he had made. His task was indeed a humble one, but it was the one it had pleased God to confide to him, and never did he seek another. His whole life long, he fashioned wood, sometimes arranging beams for the construction of houses, and sometimes preparing instruments for the carrying on of manual labour or tables, chairs, etc. He was fully satisfied with the work he had been given to do. One never finds that it is worth while trying to get away from his station in life when he is certain that he is doing God's Will.

In the Gospel, we learn that St. Joseph was just, and this short word means much to those who really seek its signification. It means that one gives everybody what is due him, and still more, that he realizes what things are worth, that he is prudent and honest, that he exaggerates neither the difficulties of life nor the sweetness of its pleasant hours; and, above all, that he gives God the place He should have, the first.

Thus it was that St. Joseph was living, when an angel appeared to him during the night, and told him that Mary, his spouse, was about to give birth to a son, who was to be the Son of God. We have no difficulty in understanding how excited he was on receiving such mysterious news. Some people would have refused to believe, and others would have given up all hope. For the evil passions which rise so quickly in the heart of man, the words of the angel opened wide all the sluices. But St. Joseph was a just man. We hardly have the right to suppose that he was confused for even a moment. In all simplicity, he believed what the angel had just told him, and he felt that the Lord had a great mission in store for him.

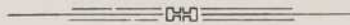
Immediately, his existence took on a new light. Close to him was to blossom forth the Flower sprung from root of Jesse, according to the words of the Prophet Isaias. It is with the greatest solicitude that he will watch over this Flower. He pronounced his *Fiat*, without, perhaps, being fully

aware of all that would be asked of him on account of uttering such a simple little word, and without being aware of the great self-denial he would have to practise. But he felt that with time he would be shown the different difficulties one after the other. And what is more, he counted on God's grace, which enters into and transforms the heart of a just man. He was entirely willing to let himself be led by this grace.

We know how he fulfilled his mission, or perhaps it would be better for us to say that we do not know how he fulfilled it. It consisted exactly in his being forgotten about altogether. After receiving such a mission, he went on with his work as before. He outwardly remained the same, and he had no need of changing his inner life, which was made up of simplicity, loyalty, and justice. Near to him and under his protection there lived a woman, who was the Mother of God, and there grew up a child, who was the Son of God. To him alone had the secret been revealed, and lovingly did he watch over the mystery as one watches over a treasure. And the rest of the world went by, heedless of this humble family, which appeared to be like all the others, but which was really quite different.

When Jesus had reached manhood and it was time for Him to preach the Kingdom of God, the task that had been confided to St. Joseph was found to be accomplished, and there was nothing more for him to do in this world. He died in just as obscure a manner as he had lived. No one has ever been told of the exact time of his death, nor of his place of burial. The early Christians were indeed anxious to know more about St. Joseph's departure from this earth, and they even wrote romantic narratives on the subject, but it is a long time since we have ceased to seek information concerning it. It was proper that death should come to St. Joseph without any note being taken of it, for his work had been altogether interior, and the light that had always shone in his soul had never left it.

To-day, the faithful all over the world lovingly look upon St. Joseph as their protector and patron. To this just man, the Church renders all justice, and those outside the Fold are greatly astonished. But well do we know that true grandeur is that which is spiritual. What a nobler soul has there ever been than that of the humble carpenter of Nazareth?



In reviewing attentively the history of the Church, one cannot fail to see how from the very first ages of Christianity the especial care and solicitude of the Roman Pontiffs has been directed to the end that they, undeterred by difficulties and obstacles, might impart the light of the Gospel and the benefits of Christian culture and civilization to the peoples sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death. For the Church has no other reason for existence, than by enlarging the Kingdom of Christ throughout the world to make all men participate in His salutary redemption.

*Pope Pius XI.*

# The Lessons of Nazareth

**D**URING His hidden life, during his stay in Nazareth, our loving Saviour wished, above all, to practise humility, in order to give us a striking example, an example more luminous than the sun, of this virtue which is so necessary, so fecund in fruits of salvation, but so difficult for our corrupted nature.

And the humility of the Son of God took on particularly two forms capable of causing it to stand out more clearly.

He, the Creator of the universe, He, the Lord of heaven and earth, He, who even as man, had an illustrious origin and descended from the noble line



THE MYSTERY OF LABOUR.

of the kings of Israel, deigned to lower Himself to the humble condition of an artisan. He desired to earn His daily bread by performing manual labour. His blessed hands took hold of the plane and carved wood, and in the early centuries, the Christians showed the ploughs He had made. "How wonderful!" exclaims St. John Chrysostom, "He whose powerful hands shaped in a day the sphere of the heavens; He whose gaze scooped out in an instant the fathomless depths, toils and sweats in order to make a hoop or to bore holes in a few boards. Let all handicraftsmen be consoled and let them rejoice: Jesus belonged to their society! Let them, while at work, learn to praise the Lord and to sing psalms and holy canticles: God will bless their labour, and they will be looked upon by Him as other Christs!

Jesus toiled at Nazareth. What more did He do? Something more sublime and heroic from the standpoint of humility! "He was subject to them."

But who is it that obeys? It is the Incarnate Word, God made man, He who rules over heaven and earth, over all animate and inanimate creatures, over the saints and angels, and over every creature.

Whom does He obey? Joseph, His foster-father, Mary, His mother according to the flesh, but, after all, two creatures who are not even in His presence as a drop of water before the immense ocean, as a grain of sand before the most lofty mountains.

How, and in what, and for how long did He obey? He obeyed not only in childhood, not only in youth, but when He reached manhood, up to the age of thirty years; He obeyed at all times, even in the most humble things, with exactness, promptitude, joy and amability!

Nazareth is not only a sublime theatre where we may admire the most beautiful virtues, it is a conspicuous school where the most practical lessons are taught us.

We must imitate, as far as possible, that which we admire. It is necessary that of each one of us, at the hour of our death, the angels may say while praising God: he grew, he made progress, he advanced in virtue!

Let us be faithful to all our duties towards God and towards our brethren.

Let us love labour: it expiates, it protects one against the treachery of the tempter, it is the condition of all progress, it makes us like to God, the Supreme Artisan who is always acting.

Let us practise obedience: the Holy Spirit tells us that the obedient man will speak of victory and, consequently, he prepares himself the most glorious crowns.

Above all, let us practise humility, that virtue which is the practical truth, that virtue which ravishes the Heart of God and makes Him feel inclined to enrich us with the most precious blessings.

Father Chas. ROLLAND.



It seems to Us, two special objects ought to be aimed at, both of which are not only opportune, but even necessary and intimately connected with each other: namely, that a much larger number of missionaries well trained in the various departments of knowledge be sent forth into the boundless regions that are still deprived of the Christian religion, and that the faithful may understand with what zeal, and what constancy in prayer, and finally with what generosity they are to co-operate in a work so holy and so fruitful.

*Pope Pius XI.*



#### DEATH OF A BENEFACTOR

On January 4th, 1937, the Community of the Missionary Sisters in Quebec, lost a great benefactor in the person of Mr. J. C. L. Bussieres, a physician of that city, who had a very sudden death.

For a number of years charitable Doctor Bussieres treated the Sisters free of charge and showed them untiring devotedness.

The Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, being deeply grateful to the lamented deceased, are making it their duty to offer their pious suffrages for the repose of his soul.

# 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.*

*(Continued.)*

## EXTENT OF CONTRIBUTION

Give us a society in which those teachings and other principles, theoretical and practical, organically related to those teachings, have undisputed influence and authority and we ask how and by what means can the Church and the Catholic religion make a greater or better contribution to the real well-being, whether of the individual, of the family or of society?

The Church and religion do, in fact, something more and something better, for they offer and provide for everyone of goodwill the means which make it possible to derive from those teachings and those principles the whole of that practical good of which they contain the secret and the generative power. For they offer divine grace and the instruments and vehicles of grace — prayer, the sacraments and Christian life.

There are the fearful possibilities of negligence, of inertia, of resistance, of opposition — all of which have their source in human liberty. And thus many sad events may be explained and traced to their source without involving the least trace of complicity on the part of the Church and the Catholic religion, but rather revealing a full and persistent contradiction with, and opposition to, all the things which they teach and try to make effective in every way possible to them — that is, by teaching, by translating teachings into lives lived in a Christian manner.

There are other explanations and sources for that which some seek to attribute to the insufficiency and ineffectiveness of the Catholic Church and the Catholic religion. And to these we cannot but make at least a passing allusion. What can the Catholic Church do but deplore and protest and beseech whenever and wherever contradictions and hindrances confront every step taken in regard to the family, to youth, to the mass of the people? That is to say, precisely in those spheres which have most need of the presence and action of this mother and mistress.

What else can the Catholic Church do in countries and places which seek to confine to the Church and pulpit the Catholic press — designed for the dissemination, exposition and defence of those genuinely Christian teachings which the Catholic Church alone possesses and proclaims?

## THE CATHOLIC PRESS PERSISTENTLY SUSPECTED

The Catholic press is persistently suspected and increasingly restricted, while every freedom and favor, or at least complete toleration, is accorded to that press whose mission and purpose, it would seem, is to spread con-

fusion of ideas, to mislead through falsifying facts, to bring the Church into suspicion, to discredit ecclesiastical persons and activities and Catholic teachings and institutions; a press that does not hesitate to proclaim a new Christianity and religion of a new coinage.

And again how hampered and paralyzed is the beneficent influence and action of the Catholic Church and religion by all those obstacles which make it barely possible to practise Christian living and to fulfil duties which the Church imposes in order to nourish the inner and spiritual life and by that unceasing and dizzying swirl of contemporary life which carries away into the turmoil of exterior and material things the youth of to-day — and not the youth alone.

And still more — and what is worse — by that general wave of immorality which more and more is breaking down every restraint of law and which seems already to have quenched in so many souls every sense of modesty and dignity, of conscience and responsibility.

But sin makes nations miserable and certainly a heavy and formidable responsibility lies on all those who by reason of and in proportion to the public character of their office fail to oppose to those great evils every remedy and barrier that is possible. We know only too well that there are many other grave obstacles in various fields of public, private, collective and individual life which are designed to prevent the influence and action of the Catholic religion and church from gaining full scope.

#### THE APOSTOLIC BENEDICTION

We must, however, content ourselves with the statements we have just set forth in order not to delay any further that fatherly and apostolic benediction which you have come to ask of the common father of your soul, of the Vicar of Christ; a benediction, my beloved sons, which you are longing to receive and which your father is longing to impart; a benediction which you have merited.

Like you, we too have willed and so disposed that our voice and benediction should reach far and wide to all your brothers in suffering and exile, who wished in vain to be here with you to-day.

We know how widely they are scattered, but no doubt divine designs aimed at doing much good, are involved. Providence has willed you to be in many places scattered far and wide, so that you who bear the marks of the tragic events which have afflicted you and your and our dear Spain, might bear personal and living testimony of the heroic attachment to the faith of your fathers, to a faith which has included confessors and martyrs, by the hundred thousand, and in that glorious legion you are numbered, among the glorious martyrs of the Church of Spain.

And this we learn with inexpressible consolation has been the occasion for an impressive and devout renewal, and for such a wide and deep awakening of Christian life and piety, particularly among the good, simple people of Spain, symbolizing the dawn and beginning of better things and fairer days for the whole of Spain.

Upon all these good and faithful people, to all this dear and noble Spain which has suffered so much, we bestow our benediction, and we desire that it may reach them. To them no less our daily prayer goes out and will continue to go out until peace, holy and orderly, returns.

Our benediction, beyond all political or worldly considerations, goes out to all those who have assumed the difficult and dangerous task of defending and restoring the rights and order of God and of religion, i. e., the right and dignity of conscience, the prime condition and most solid basis for all human and civil welfare.

We have called this both difficult and dangerous, for it is only too easy for the very ardor of defence to go to an excess which is not wholly warranted. Impure intentions, selfish interests and mere party feeling may easily intrude to cloud and change the morality and responsibility of what is really accomplished.

#### UNSELFISH MOTIVES

Our fatherly heart can never forget, and at this moment more than ever it must recall with a most sincere and fatherly gratitude, all those who with purity of intention and unselfish motives have sought to intervene in the name of humanity, and our gratitude is not diminished even though we have had to realize the failure of their noble efforts.

And what of the others? What is to be said of those others who also are and never cease to be, our sons, in spite of the deeds and methods of persecution so odious and so cruel against persons and things to us so dear and sacred. What of those who, as far as distance permitted, have not even spared our person and who with expressions and gestures so highly offensive have treated us not as sons treat a father, but as foes treat a detested enemy?

We have, beloved sons, a divine precept and an example which may seem too difficult for poor and unaided human nature to obey and imitate, but which are in reality, with divine grace, beautiful and attractive to the Christian soul, to your souls, beloved sons. We cannot and could not, for one moment, doubt as to what is left for us to do. To love them and to love them with a special love born of mercy and compassion, to love them and, since we can do nothing else, to pray for them; to pray that the serene vision of truth will illuminate their minds and will re-open their hearts to the desire and eternal quest for the real common good; to pray that they may return to the Father who awaits them with such longing, and will make a joyous festival; to pray that they may be one with us. Soon, of this we have confidence in Almighty God, the rainbow of peace will shine forth in the clear sky of Spain bearing the news of peace to the whole of your great and splendid country.

A peace, let us add, serene and secure, consoling all sorrows, repairing all hearts, contenting every just and wise aspiration which is compatible with the common good and heralding a future of order with tranquillity and prosperity, with honor.

*(The End.)*

# The Pope's Message

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*The following is the official translation of the Christmas radio address which Our Holy Father delivered on the morning of December 24th, 1936.*

If on the numberless occasions continually offered us by Divine Providence and by the love of our venerable brothers and beloved sons and of those from every corner of the world who came to us, our whole soul rejoices with the exaltation of the Father who embraces all in the heart of our Redeemer, today more than ever we feel near and present to our beloved Sacred College, whose venerable dean in an elevated address on behalf of his eminent colleagues, has expressed to us their greetings and good wishes which we value most highly.

We feel near and present also to our beloved Roman prelates and to the great Catholic family in the radiant light of the star of Bethlehem on this annual recurrence of the sacred season of Christmas.

THE HOLY SEASON OF CHRISTMAS UNITES THE HEART  
OF THE HOLY FATHER TO THE HEARTS OF HIS CHILDREN.

We are near and present to you and to all the Catholic world in spirit, in thought which, transcending time and Alpine heights and the vast expanse of oceans, rises above the universe and its tempests, even unto God.

We are near and present in the afflictions of our hearts because the heart is not divided from the mind but rather follows it and draws from it, as you know from daily experience, venerable brethren and beloved sons, the ardor to conquer those obstacles of time and space and the vicissitudes of human life which keep you from our presence.

We have spoken of the holy season of Christmas because the primary reason which makes us desire and sense so vividly your presence is precisely this: that we may give and exchange with you most cordial good wishes for every spiritual grace, for every holy gift and for the most plenteous blessings upon the recurrence of this sacred season of Christmas which has made resound throughout the ages that hour of all graces, of all favors, of all blessings, so ardently looked for and so long prepared by divine goodness with so profound a plan of love and mercy.

Unfortunately against the will of God who came to bring peace to men of good will there contends the malevolence of many misguided enemies of that divine Child who desired to become a man and dwell among us, full of grace and truth, so that of his fulness we might all receive "grace for grace."

TO THE MESSAGE OF SPIRITUAL JOY IS UNITED  
AN EXPRESSION OF BITTER SORROW.

Hence we, on the return of these holy days and almost constantly on every occasion given us to open our heart not only to you but to all the

great Catholic family, have desired to unite to our message of spiritual joy some expression of the bitter sorrow of our paternal heart caused by the many great evils which in these days have fallen like a scourge on humanity, on civil society, and on the Church.

At the same time pointing out to all the gravity of the perils that threaten us, exhorting all to vigilance and action and to the union of all men of goodwill against the propaganda of the enemy and his constantly renewed attempts to bring about the ruin of the most fundamental principles of human society, of the family and of the individual.

Above all we have called attention to the real remedies of truth, justice and brotherly love of which the Catholic Church is the sole depository and the divinely constituted feature.

#### CIVIL WAR IN SPAIN AND THE DESTRUCTIVE FORCES.

The sorrowful note which this year is mingled with the joys of Christmas is even more profound and distressing because of the fact there still rages with all its horror of hatred, of carnage and destruction a civil war in Spain. There it seems that propaganda and those evil forces of which we have spoken above have wished to make the supreme experiment of all destructive forces scattered throughout the world which they have at their command.

Here is a new menace more threatening than ever before for the whole world and principally for Europe and its Christian civilization.

Here are signs and portents of terrifying reality of what is being prepared for Europe and the whole world if they do not hasten to adopt the necessary remedies of defence.

#### NOT A FEW ARE DOMINATED AND GUIDED BY FALSE AND FATAL IDEAS.

Among those moreover who pretend to be defenders of the order against subversivism of civilization, against the spread of Atheistic Communism, who in this defence claim for themselves leadership, we see with sorrow not a few allowing themselves to be dominated and guided by false and fatal ideas both in their choice of remedies and in the appraisal of their adversaries.

False and fatal we say: for whosoever seeks to lessen or stamp out in the hearts of men and especially in the hearts of the young, faith in Christ and in His divine revelation; whosoever seeks to portray the Church of Christ, custodian of divine promises, and by divine mandate teacher of the peoples, as an avowed enemy of national prosperity and progress, such a one is not only no builder of a prosperous future for humanity and his own country, on the contrary he is destroying the most effective and decisive means of defence against dreaded evils and he is, even though he know it not, working with those against whom he believes and boasts that he is fighting.

## The Funeral Service of Rev. Brother Andre

**A**T NINE o'clock on Saturday, January 9th, there was held in the Cathedral the funeral service of Reverend Brother Andre, C. S. C., who died on the morning of the Feast of the Epiphany.

His Excellency the Coadjutor Archbishop wished to pay homage in this way to the humble religious whom God had deigned to make use of to promote devotion to St. Joseph in our land and beyond it.

The newspapers have been full of pictures and detailed accounts concerning the venerable old man whom God called to Himself at the age of 91. We do not wish to insist on publicity, which the fervent religious never looked for in particular. But, on the other hand, it is an event which is too important not to be recorded by us.



REVEREND BROTHER ANDRE, C. S. C.

Very Reverend Canon A. Harbour, Pastor of the Basilica went to meet the body, and Msgr. Georges Chartier, P. A., V. G., celebrated the Mass, assisted by Reverend Fathers Groulx and Lapalme, the Superiors of the College of St. Laurent and of the College of Memramcook, as Deacon and Sub-deacon. The singing during the service was executed by the Cathedral choir.

His Excellency Archbishop Gauthier assisted at the Throne, accompanied by Very Reverend Canons Mousseau, Chartier, and Binette, and he afterwards pronounced the Absolution.

In the sanctuary were numerous canons, parish priests, and priests of every order, especially of the Congregation to which Brother Andre belonged.

But it was the throng that attracted one's attention. It was headed by the Prime Minister of the Province of Quebec, the Secretary of State of the Federal Government, the Mayor of Montreal, and other distinguished personages, despite the fact that no official invitation had been sent out. The homage paid by these great men is worthy of note, but what was most impressive was the gathering.

When the church was opened for the six o'clock Mass, there were already a few persons waiting at the door. At half-past seven, the nave was nearly half filled, and at nine o'clock, the Cathedral was filled to capacity and no others were allowed to enter. And all this in spite of the inclement weather we had that morning. Everything was covered over with ice on account of the cold January rain that had been falling since the evening before, and the streets were in a bad condition.

An imposing cortege composed of from three to four hundred men left the Shrine and followed the hearse to the Cathedral, which was reached over an hour later. During the Mass, there was perfect order and religious behaviour.

One cannot help from seeing in all this a power which is not of this world. It is indeed the continuation in death of the work for which the humble religious had been chosen during his life: the recalling of the supernatural.

Without doubt, the Church is adorned with existences of men who do not appear to have anything human about them. But when these things take place quite near us, before our eyes, we cannot help from feeling deeply touched.

Canon HARBOUR.

(Translated.)

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### *Last Respects Paid to Reverend Brother Andre*

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**T**HE body of saintly Brother Andre, was, seven days after his death, laid in the vault constructed for such a purpose, at the Shrine on Mount Royal.

As on the days of great manifestations, the Shrine was not big enough to contain the people who continued to flock to Mount Royal. Several police forces were needed to keep the crowds from doing too much pushing.

The Mass was sung by His Excellency Bishop Limoges, Bishop of Mount Laurier, while His Eminence Cardinal Villeneuve, O. M. I., Archbishop of Quebec, was at the Throne along with His Excellency Archbishop Gauthier, Coadjutor Archbishop of Montreal, and Their Excellencies Bishops Deschamps and Desmarais. All the members of the Metropolitan Chapter and the Vicar Generals, Msgr. Georges Chartier and Msgr. Conrad Chaumont, also assisted.

In the first seats in the body of the church were to be seen Honourable E. L. Patenaude, Lieutenant-Governor, and Honourable Maurice Duplessis, Prime Minister of Quebec.

As soon as the coffin was placed in the vault, the seals of the Archbishop's House were affixed. The urn containing the heart of the religious was also deposited in the vault.

Never before had such crowds been seen at the Shrine, even at the biggest gatherings.

When it came time for the Absolution, His Excellency Cardinal Villeneuve spoke as follows: "Whatever the respectability of the virtues of her children may be, Holy Mother Church desires that a funeral service be held, and that prayers and supplications be offered as a satisfaction for the human failings they may have had. She forbids one to anticipate the judgment which she is to pass upon the magnanimity of their life or upon the assurance of their entrance into heaven. Respecting the prudence of the Church, we may say that we are to-day celebrating the feast of humility." Then the Cardinal depicted saintly Brother Andre, who was the incarnation of poverty and humility all his life.

## Historical Account of St. Joseph's Shrine

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ON AUGUST 9th, 1845, that is a little over ninety-one years ago, there was born at St. Gregoire d'Iberville, in a poor family of work-people by the name of Bessette, a frail child, who received the baptismal name of Alfred. Having lost his father at the age of five, and his mother at the age of eight, the child was taken in by one of his uncles not much richer than his parents, and he was obliged to begin to earn his living while still young, weak, and uneducated.

He was, in turn, apprentice to a shoemaker and a baker, hired man in a presbytery, farm hand in Canada and the United States, spinner in Connecticut, and he seemed to be unable to find a steady position or to establish himself permanently anywhere. A parish priest with whom he was intimate, discovered that he had a religious vocation and had him correspond with the Religious of Holy Cross, who received him with great kindness.

His period of noviceship completed in 1871, Alfred Bessette, having become Brother Andre, and having reached the age of twenty-six, was finally given a permanent position. His Superiors named him porter at their boarding-school in Cote des Neiges, and there he remained for thirty-eight years, up until the year 1909. A most humble position, promising but little material advantage and still less fame to the one to whom it had been given. In religion as in the world, under the name of Brother Andre as under that of his humble family, he appeared to be doomed for the rest of his days to perform the most modest tasks and to remain in the most profound obscurity. Nevertheless, is there a man living to-day who is shown more veneration, affection, and gratitude than the ex-porter of the College in Cote des Neiges? Is one able to mention a name more universally spread than his, or a work more profoundly influential and more prodigiously striking than that to which the memory of him will remain attached. What has then happened? What events have come to storm a destiny, by placing in the foreground of Catholic life the humble lay Brother, a member of a modest French Canadian Community.

I have attempted to set forth elsewhere the origin of what I should call with all the liberty of a lay writer, a miraculous vocation. One will excuse me for writing the following.

The movement began in the same way as the streamlets spring up in deep far-away forests, and which reach the sea as rivers. First of all, a little course of water, which is scarcely imperceptible, glides slowly and silently over the soil. On meeting with an obstacle, the little stream grows larger and becomes a pond and, through the branches of the trees, big patches of blue sky may be reflected in it. Having attained the level of the obstacle, the streamlet bounds violently, and modestly continues on its way. As it flows along it is joined by streamlets resembling itself and all of them together form a real stream. Farther on, after having picked up other streamlets along the way, the first little stream is found to be a river whose waters flow more swiftly after having met with big obstacles.

Brother Andre possesses an ardent love for St. Joseph and an absolute confidence in his intercession. Being naturally easily moved, he has a tender compassion for all those around him who are suffering. Having by his modest charge constant intercourse with the pupils of the College, their parents and visitors, he soon inaugurates in this spot the great mission of his long existence: that of making his favourite saint loved and glorified while getting him to multiply the manifestations of his power and bounty. And behold, by virtue of his piety and charity, the humble lay Brother not only rises far above his ordinary functions, but above every purely secular occupation or dignity; he is in the habit of living a supernatural life and he becomes, in a way, the co-labourer of the Spouse of the Queen of Heaven, the hero of his glory and, in a certain measure, the dispenser of his favours.

If it is true that bad news is soon conveyed, it also happens that good news is spread quickly. A day comes when, without knowing exactly when and how it all began, one ascertains that the corridors and the parlours of the college are encroached upon nearly every day by strange visitors, all of whom ask for and are set on seeing Brother Andre. It is, on a small scale, an exact representation of what would later be the throngs at the Shrine which already presents itself to one's gaze: a sombre mosaic of the greater part of the physical and moral sufferings capable of afflicting humanity. The compassionate porter prays along with the unfortunate creatures, cries along with them sometimes, and they are happy when they leave, either because, as it frequently happens, their burden has been lightened, or because they feel they have more strength to bear it. And the name of Brother Andre continues to penetrate into the centres where sufferers are to be found, and the number of suppliants at the College in Cote des Neiges unceasingly increases.

Such was the humble beginning of the sanctuary on Mount Royal, which is indeed one of the most remarkable spiritual centres of the entire world. Let us, by a few dates, mark the principal stages of its development.

In 1904, the erection of a plain little chapel measuring fifteen by eighteen feet, on the slope of Mount Royal, just opposite Notre Dame College and the abode of the porter, fervent Brother Andre! In 1908, the erection of a shelter for the pilgrims and the first addition to the chapel. In 1909, a pavilion is built near the little shrine; it contains a restaurant, a rest room for the pilgrims, and a room for Brother Andre, who leaves his room in Notre Dame College and his functions as porter, and becomes, in compliance with the desire of his Superiors, the guardian of the little sanctuary.

During the winter 1909-1910, St. Joseph's Shrine is again enlarged, completed by a sacristy, and adorned with a steeple. In the autumn of 1910 is commenced the construction of a three-storied house, which is finished in the spring of 1912, and is to serve as a residence for the already large number of religious required for the different services and for the material needs of the Shrine.

In the autumn of 1912, one witnesses the enlargement of the chapel, the nave of which now measures a hundred feet by forty. In 1915, is signed a contract for the construction of an immense crypt. The corner-stone of

this crypt is blessed on the 14th of May, 1916, and it is inaugurated on the 16th of December, 1917. Finally, on August 6th, 1924, the Apostolic Delegate blesses the first stone of a magnificent basilica, the construction of which goes on slowly for a few years and has unfortunately been left incomplete, owing to the serious depression existing all over the world since 1929.

This extraordinary expansion of St. Joseph's Shrine, this wonderful material progress is accompanied, or rather predated and made necessary by the constant and rapidly increasing thronging of the pilgrims. At first they could be counted by dozens, then by hundreds and, before very long, by thousands. The vast edifice which was opened to receive the crowds has often been filled to overflowing.

And here are a few figures capable of fixing in all minds, which otherwise could conceive no idea of it, the prodigious movement of piety towards St. Joseph, of which Brother Andre was the frail and modest instrument.

St. Joseph's Confraternity, established at the Shrine in 1909, counts 35,000 members. The Annals of the Shrine began to appear in 1912, and, each month 135,000 copies are published.

Each day, from the five parts of the world, arrive at the Shrine 600 letters on an average, 200,000 a year! Sixteen secretaries are needed for the correspondence at the Shrine, which is largely that of Brother Andre.

Newspapers and periodicals in every language and from a great many localities relate the marvellous history of the Shrine and echo the events which take place at it.

In fine, over three million pilgrims have annually made their way to the Shrine for a number of years past.

When one considers the enormous disproportion which there is between the task performed and the good, pious, and extremely humble lay Brother who performed it, he is ready to ask the following question: Where may a suitable explanation of this astonishing phenomenon be found? What is the profound signification of the doings at St. Joseph's Shrine?

I have attempted to explain this elsewhere and I know that one will kindly allow me to take up my conclusion again.

"During His life upon earth, when His mission and His divinity were the subject of violent controversy and anxious questions, Our Lord found that He could give no better proof of both than the numerous miracles He worked.

"After nineteen hundred centuries, in spite of the fact that the Gospel has been widely spread, the same passionate discussions are going on, and the same anxieties are troubling a great many people.

"A number of sincere seekers who are tormented by the problem of existence and of the destiny of man, are astonished and give way to despair when they are unable to conciliate all the factors. They do not take the time to reflect that the greater number and those which are the most important, being supernatural, surpass the resources of their logical powers.

To the pressing questions of all those who are in quest of religious certitude it is entirely useless to seek a better answer than that of our Saviour Himself,

an answer by a miracle. That is what gives privileged sanctuaries like that of St. Joseph's Shrine, their magnificent spiritual value, that which may be said to constitute their chief reason for existing. They are a living justification. By the supernatural occurrences of which they are the scene, they attest the divine origin of the Church, which they refer to. To satisfied sceptics, as well as to those who are in painful doubt, they oppose a victorious answer such as Our Lord's: "The deaf hear, the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed."

Arthur ST. PIERRE.

*of the Royal Society of Canada,  
Laureate of the French Academy.*

Extract from *Les Annales de St. Joseph*.

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## The Eucharistic Congress of Manila

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**F**ROM the 3rd to the 7th of February last there took place in Manila, P. I., the thirty-third International Eucharistic Congress, which, according to the declaration of the Vice-President of the Republic, is the greatest and most touching demonstration of faith that has ever been held in that part of the world.

On the 5th, at midnight, His Eminence Cardinal Dougherty, the Papal Legate, celebrated Holy Mass in Luneta Park, in the presence of a throng composed of some twenty-five thousand persons. The spectacle was gorgeous. Everything glistened in the rays from thousands of festal lamps, and about ten magnesium lights produced a dazzling effect around the altar. For fifteen minutes, three hundred priests distributed Communion to the pilgrims.

Over twelve hundred members of the Clergy took part in the Congress. Chinese, Japanese, and native priests were to be seen in large numbers. The diversity of their costumes gave an absolutely Oriental effect to this assembly of an exceptional character and produced a feeling of unity in the same manifestation of faith.

On the 6th, nearly sixty thousand Catholic children assisted at a Mass in the open air, during which they all received Communion. Four hundred Chinese youths, in white costumes, were to be seen in a group.

The closing ceremony was particularly majestic. A procession composed of two hundred thousand persons representing the religious, civil, and military life in the Philippines wended its way through the streets of the Capital, and finally rejoined the three hundred thousand pilgrims who had assembled in Luneta Park.

It was during this impressive ceremony that the pilgrims heard Our Holy Father speaking over the radio. Silence reigned supreme as the first words of the pontifical discourse resounded above the Park. Dignitaries, prelates, and laymen immediately fell on their knees and, in this attitude of respect and veneration, listened to the voice of the illustrious Pontiff. The hearts of those present were filled with anguish, and all reflected that perhaps it was the last time that the faithful of the Philippines were to hear the Sovereign Pontiff speaking.

# The First Saturday Devotion



His Holiness Pope Pius X has granted a Plenary Indulgence to be gained the first Saturday of each month.

"In order to increase the devotion of the faithful towards the most glorious and Immaculate Mother of God, and favour the pious desire for atonement which inspires the faithful to offer some reparation for the hateful blasphemies which impious men utter against the most Holy Name and the high prerogatives of the Blessed Virgin, His Holiness grants a Plenary Indulgence applicable to the souls in purgatory to all who, having gone to Confession and received Holy Communion, will, the first Saturday of each month, in a spirit of reparation, perform particular exercises of devotion in honour of the Immaculate

Virgin and pray for the intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff." (*Acta Apostolicae Sedis*, September 30, 1912.)

## SPECIAL GUARD OF HONOUR TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

To comply, although in a modest measure, with the intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff on the first Saturday of every month, from 8 A. M. to 6 P. M. a special Guard of Honour is made before the altar of the Blessed Virgin, in the chapel of the Mother House of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont, Que.

Persons desirous of taking part in this chorus of love, gratitude, reparation and supplication will be most welcome. The only condition necessary is to choose an hour at one's convenience and to come and spend it at the feet of the Immaculate Virgin, whose hands are filled with graces, which she is ever ready to shower upon her devoted servants.

In the afternoon, at 3 o'clock, a short talk on the prerogatives of the Mother of God is given, after which there is Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

## A LIGHT IN PERPETUITY THE FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

Do you wish to add to Mary's glory on this occasion? Do you wish your Guard of Honour to last the whole day? Do you wish to have your requests unceasingly before your bountiful Mother? See to having yourself represented by a light in perpetuity, by contributing the sum of twenty-four dollars which, invested at 5% interest, will yearly supply the price of twelve lights (a light costing ten cents). These lights will burn all day long in front of the statue of the Blessed Virgin, in the chapel of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont, on the First Saturday of each month.

# Father Damien

*The Apostle of the Lepers of Molokai*

BY MRS. AUGUSTUS CRAVEN NEE LA FERRONNAYS

(Continued.)

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It is related that, a little later, when the native examiners wished to separate the Christian pupils from those who were not Christians, they asked each of them the following question: *Do you love your enemies?* The ones that answered: *Yes!* were ranked among the Christians; those who said: *No!* were left with the pagans. To all appearances, the examiners had a good idea of the fundamental doctrines of Christianity. Another question was soon after put to the pupils: *Who made you?* and they were taught to reply: *The great God who made heaven and earth.* To-day, there are civilized parts of the world where one could perhaps envy the instructions given to these uncivilized people.

Such a simple commencement bore lasting fruits, and the Catholic missionaries who arrived shortly after had no trouble in developing them. Their first church was erected in Honolulu, in 1839, and, very soon there were a great many Catholics on most of the islands under Hawaiian control. But they were to be found in little groups, and were separated either by long stretches or by almost insurmountable obstacles. The missionaries were sent to bring, by turns, instructions and helps to religion to the faithful thus scattered. Unfortunately, the priests were not numerous, and it was impossible to leave each of the groups one, in spite of the desire of the inhabitants and of that of the missionaries, whose arrival was always hailed with delight by the poor islanders. Such was particularly the case when young Father Damien, full of energy and courage, was sent to evangelize them. Thus did his active ministry begin and, for nearly ten years, he laboured with the greatest devotedness at the cost of unheard-of fatigue and of difficulties which, up until then, had not been overcome, but which, by his superhuman energy, he succeeded in getting the better of. He obtained extraordinary results, but it was especially in the districts of Puna, Kohala, and Kamakua that his apostolic work left ineffaceable traces.

The following lines have been extracted from a letter which he wrote to his parents in 1865:

"It is a great pleasure for me to send you news of myself from time to time, and to remind you that, in the middle of the great Pacific Ocean, you have a son who dearly loves you, a priest who prays for you, a missionary who spends his time seeking our Adorable Saviour's lost sheep. I have troubles and difficulties, but I am happy just the same.

... The poor islanders are overjoyed when they see me arriving. I bear them a very great love, and willingly would I lay down my life for them. I spare no pains when I am asked to go seven or eight leagues to visit the sick, or when others whom I am able to assist send for me.

"Dear parents, pray for the poor missionaries, for great are their difficulties."

The different members of the family he has left forever are not forgotten, but, on the contrary, they are faithfully cherished by him until the last day of his life. He ends up his letter by asking to be remembered to all those near and dear to him, by begging them to write often, and by recommending them to ask God to grant him strength and perseverance.

During this period, the prelude and the *novitiate*, so to speak, of the apostolate to which he was to devote his life, he more than once manifested his indomitable energy and his ardent charity, of which he was to give so many proofs later on. One particular day, he arrived on horseback at the foot of a high mountain, beyond which lay a little Christian village that had not yet been visited by him. As the way was too rugged to be travelled over on horseback, he tied the nag to a tree, and commenced the difficult ascent on foot. His entire body was bruised when he reached the summit, and when he looked around, a precipice met his gaze, and nowhere did he see a settlement. In the distance there was a mountain almost as high as the one that had been climbed, and the devoted missionary immediately made up his mind to go to it. Hastily did he retrace his steps, and, the moment he reached the other mountain, he began to climb it like he had climbed the first. One may easily imagine how disappointed he was when he looked around him for the second time and saw that neither near at hand nor far away was there a habitation. At his feet there was a vast plain, and, beyond it, still another mountain! Anybody else would have given up, but the thought of reaching a place where there were souls to be assisted or to be saved made him leave aside any notion of drawing back. After stopping just long enough to say a short prayer, he continued to advance; for the third time he started on an upward march. His shoes and clothes were torn, and blood flowed from his hands and feet. Immediately did he have recourse to prayer, and he felt himself being urged on, when he repeated: "Courage, courage, our Saviour shed far more blood for us." Worn out, wounded, and covered with dust, he finally reached his destination, and he was amply rewarded on seeing with what joy he was received by the poor Christians, whom he had come to seek at the cost of such great efforts, and who had been deprived of all helps to religion since their last pastor had been taken from them by death, several months before.

There were so few priests that Mass could not be said for all the Christians every Sunday. To make up for this, to a certain extent, he thought of a plan which revealed that he possessed a rare talent for organizing besides being gifted with such wonderful energy. He chose from among the young Christians by whom he was surrounded, those who seemed to be capable of acting as catechists and, after giving them a careful training, he sent them to different places to which priests could not be sent often and, especially, where they could not remain. The young laymen instructed by Father Damien saw to giving Catechism lessons to the people, had them recite their prayers in common, taught them to sing hymns, and often addressed them glowing and efficacious words. "*God seems to have blessed this organization,*"

states Father Damien at the end of a letter in which he has given his brother an account of the plan he has seen to carrying out.

While on his journeys he had made a point of learning the language of the natives, and he had often had the occasion of meeting with lepers, who are to be found in great numbers on these islands. More than once had he witnessed the heart-rending scenes produced by the measures which the Hawaiian Government had deemed it necessary to take in order to check the attacks of the plague. The island of Molokai, one of the dependencies, had been chosen as a settlement for the lepers, and those who showed signs of the dread disease were brought thither even though they were not willing. The poor victims were not in favour of being thus compelled to leave their relatives and friends, who had endeavoured to keep them hidden and who had done their best to help them to escape the exile which had been decreed with the public interest in view. Father Damien, whose heart was enflamed with a special love, had been moved to pity a thousand times on seeing the wretchedness of these unfortunate creatures, and at last came the day when he was called upon to accompany Bishop Maigret, the prelate under whose jurisdiction he was, and to go with him to visit the Island of Molokai for the first time.

Scarcely had he cast his eyes upon the spectacle presented to him on reaching Molokai, which has been rightly named the *Eden of death*, when he felt within him the resistless longing to spend his life labouring for the wretched inhabitants of the island. He heard an inner voice saying to him: **HERE IT IS THAT YOUR LIFE'S WORK LIES.** Without waiting for an order from his bishop or even the expression of a desire, he, with ardour equal to that which had been the cause of his being admitted among the missionaries, asked to be allowed to take an interest in the lepers of Molokai, not by paying them occasional visits such as those they had received up to then, but to devote all his time to them until the end of his life.

No bishop would have dared to have given an order of the kind, for a sacrifice like the one the courageous missionary wished to make is never forced upon anybody. But when one is able to understand the reason for such an oblation, he knows how to accept it. Bishop Maigret had often sighed on seeing how few missionaries there were, for it was impossible to send the helps to religion to the unfortunate victims at Molokai, who had such great need of them. The heroism of one man was now going to make up for what was lacking. Father Damien had not responded to an impulse of pity which was but a fleeting one. His bishop fully understood, and he accepted, for the good of all, the sacrifice of the life of one missionary. And all may imagine what blessings accompanied the permission granted this good and faithful servant of the cross! According to his custom, Father Damien did not delay a day.

(*To be continued.*)

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It would make us all good if, when we go to the Altar, we were to say:  
"This may be my *last* Communion."

Cardinal Manning.

# A Few Roses Scattered

By the Little Sister of Missionaries...

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

St. Teresa of the Child Jesus



I am enclosing a small offering in honour of the Little Flower, who has helped me in many ways. Mrs. L. D., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find an offering for the ransom of two dying Chinese babies, in thanksgiving for favours received from the Little Flower. K. M., **Vancouver, B. C.** — A favour has been granted me through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus and I am enclosing an offering in her honour. A Subscriber. — The Little Flower of Jesus has obtained me a favour and, to thank

her, I am sending you the ransom price of two dying Chinese babies. Mrs. J. B., **Lasalle, Ont.** — The enclosed cheque is a thank-offering, and I wish it to be used for The Little Flower Burse. Anonymous. — Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving for a favour received through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Not long ago, I promised that I would send you this amount. M. G. C., **Montreal**. — St. Teresa of the Child Jesus has come to our assistance, and I entreat her to continue to intercede for us. I am sending you the ransom price of four dying Chinese babies, as promised. A Subscriber. — Enclosed please find an offering in honour of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, through whose intercession I have obtained a favour. Mrs.

R. R. — Find enclosed an offering for the Little Flower Burse, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Mrs. C. F. — I wish to thank St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for the favour she obtained me after I had promised to publish my thanksgiving. A. D. — I have obtained a favour through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Mrs. H. G., **Montreal**. — I am grateful to the Little Flower of Jesus for the favour she has obtained me. I am now asking her to cure me. Mrs. C. L. — I return heartfelt thanks to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. May she again intercede for my husband, that he may be completely restored to health. Mrs. C. P. — I have obtained a great favour through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, and I am truly thankful. E. D., **Montreal**. — A young person has obtained a position through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Mrs. M. L. — St. Teresa of the Child Jesus has obtained me a favour, and I wish to thank her for her powerful intercession. Mrs. H. N. — A cure has been obtained through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Mrs. A. C., **Montreal**. — I have obtained some favours through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, and I am asking her to assist me again. Mrs. N. M. — I am grateful for the favours I have obtained through the intercession of the Little Flower of Jesus. C. T., **Montreal**. — I return thanks to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a cure obtained. Mrs. A. B., **Montreal**. — I wish to thank the Little Flower of Jesus for the favour she has obtained me, and I beg her to continue to intercede for me. Mrs. W. H. — Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving for favours received from St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. A Friend, **Indian Orchard, Mass.** — The enclosed offering is in thanksgiving for favours received from the Little Flower of Jesus. Mrs. M., **Auld, Ont.** — Put the enclosed in the Little Flower Burse. I promised this to obtain a favour. I obtained it. Anonymous.

## 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	July-August 1936.....	152.25
November-December ".....	7.00	September-October ".....	16.50
January-February 1936.....	159.42	November-December ".....	6.00
March-April ".....	45.70	January-February 1937.....	162.80
May-June ".....	\$ 37.60		



A BIG MEAL BEING TAKEN UNDER THE TREES NEAR THE SHEK LUNG LAZARETTO.



## Echoes from our Missions CHINA

*Extract from the Diary of our Sisters, Hospitallers at the  
Shek Lung Lazaretto*

### **Monday, October 13th, 1936**

On the very first day of the month of the Holy Rosary, twenty-two lepers were sent to us by the officials of Hong Kong. We to-day receive from Canton a second contingent of fifty-one. The Authorities there continue to look for these outcasts who, for several years past, have been free to go everywhere without the least fear of being molested. The newcomers are given a most encouraging reception by their companions who arrived here a few weeks ago. As soon as they catch sight of them, the latter cry out: "Come, we are treated very well here, we have rice to eat, water with which to wash ourselves, clothes, mosquito nets, and injections for the warding off of leprosy. How different it all is from the former wretched order of things." We entreat our loving Lord to look with pity upon the sufferings of so many unfortunate creatures and to lead all of them to us, that we may help them physically and especially morally.

### **Sunday, October 18**

We receive an unexpected visit from the new director of the Board of Health of Canton, who is accompanied by two Chinese doctors and a European doctor employed in Peking by the Government. These four personages show great fellow-feeling, and they appear to be touched on seeing what care we lavish upon the lepers.



AT THE SHEK LUNG LAZARETTO.

*« I was hungry and you gave Me to eat. »*

Sister St. Francois d'Assise (Clara Hebert, of Montreal), a Missionary of the Immaculate Conception, who has been labouring at the Lazaretto for the last twenty-four years.

The noble representatives of beautiful France, who have arrived here on the gun-boat, "The Argus", also pay us a visit. In their honour, the lepers act a Chinese comedy, and although our guests do not understand a word of what is being said, they appear to be interested. Another play is promised for to-morrow.

### **Monday, October 19**

To-day, the doctor of the gun-boat is present while the injections of chaulmoogra oil are being given. Immediately after, the captain invites us to visit "The Argus", and we accept the invitation. We are struck by the silence reigning therein in spite of the fact that the vessel is in charge



LITTLE LEPER GIRLS OF SHEK LUNG, CHINA,  
DRAWING WATER FROM THE RIVER.

of some sixty noisy young men. The captain's apartments: his drawing room, which serves at the same time as a dining room and library, and his bed room, which may be compared to a Carmelite's cell, teaches us a lesson of poverty and simplicity. As for the doctor, he sleeps on the deck, the room in which he gives treatments measures but two feet by three, and he has not even a table to lay his instruments on, to make dressings, or to perform operations. The sailors sleep in cots, which they remove during the day. We remark two cannons and two machine guns. The latter are no bigger than carabines, and we are told that they fire six hundred shots a minute. Just before we take our leave, we are served a cup of tea and some cakes. "The Argus" will weigh anchor on the 21st, and will steer for Hong Kong.

### **Sunday, October 25**

A former patient of ours comes back to-day to see his companions. It is six years since this unfortunate man left us, and he has a truly pitiful tale to tell. The first signs of leprosy appeared while he was still young and, in order to hinder his wife and his little son from contracting the stain which clings to an entire family when one of the members is afflicted with that

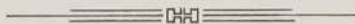
disease, he made up his mind to secretly leave them, concealing from them the reason for his departure and the place in which he intended to seek shelter. Time and again, on being given some vague indications by a few persons who assured her that they had met her husband, the unfortunate wife hastily set out in hopes of finding him. One day when one of our Sisters was leaving for Hong Kong, this leper handed her a letter into which he slipped five dollars for the purchase of dainties for his child. "Don't post it here," he remarked, "that I may not be found." On receiving this letter, all in the family immediately left for Hong Kong, feeling sure that they were at last about to find the one they had been looking for for such a long time, but nothing of the kind. For a whole week, they placed advertisements in the newspapers, but without any result whatever. Finally, the poor wife, in a fit of despair, committed suicide. In the meantime, the husband started out for his home, rejoicing at the thought of the happiness he was going to create therein. He arrived a few days after the death of his wife, and learned with sorrow of the terrible deed which he had involuntarily caused.

#### **Thursday, October 29**

One of the doctors of the Health Department brings to us a woman, a relative of his who has contracted leprosy. Despite the fact that this person belongs to an honourable family, she has not escaped falling a victim to the horrible disease: leprosy, like death, does not spare anyone; people of both sexes, of every class and of every age easily contract it, although it does not appear to be as contagious as it was formerly thought to be.

#### **Monday, November 2**

We assist at the three Masses that are said for the dead by Reverend Father Maillot, a missionary in Kwansi. This young apostle takes a great deal of interest in the lepers. He says that the latter abound in his region; his district alone counts a hundred of them, and he treats them in secret. The good priest treated one for a year, and after that the parents of the poor sufferer shot him to death. It was in that famous place that, some twenty years ago, all the lepers who could be taken hold of were thrown into a pit, sprinkled with petroleum, and set on fire. These cruelties are not as common now, owing to the fact that all the missionaries are freer than they formerly were to give instructions to the people. The hope is even entertained that, before very long, the Government will treat the lepers more humanely and that it will open settlements for them. As regards the missionaries, they have not as much to suffer from as formerly, in that part of China, but they are not yet spoiled. They live in Chinese fashion, never taking a mouthful of bread, and they are even reduced to eat the flesh of dogs.

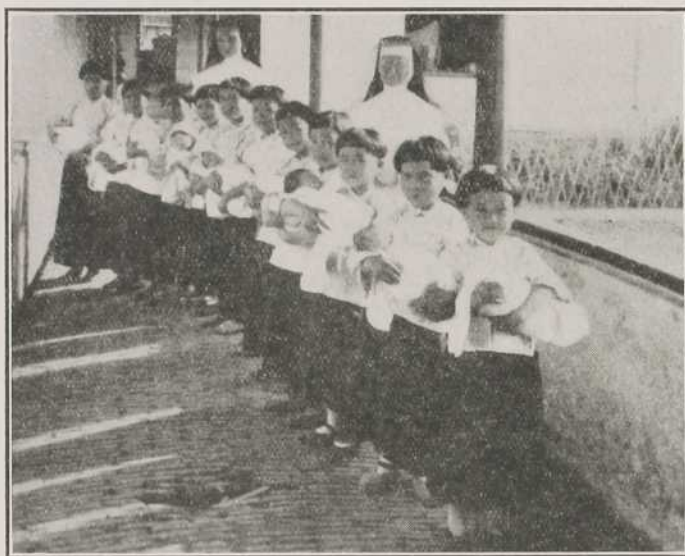


"True love is nourished by sacrifice."

*St. Teresa of the Child Jesus.*

*Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Tsungming***Wednesday, July 8, 1936**

A man residing at Lao Mi Han Tsen has asked us to go to see a sick child. Owing to the intense heat, he left home before sunrise. It is agreed upon that the Sister infirmarian will pay the youngster a visit towards one o'clock. At ten o'clock, a second messenger comes to tell us not to set out on the trip, as the child is at death's door. However, we do not wish to let this soul leave the earth without being baptized... The Chinese maiden catechist boasts of the Sisters' injections, which produce wonderful effects.



*Conducted by their directresses: Sister Marie Bernard (Emma Vanasse,) of St. Guillaume d'Upton) and Sister Marie d'Ephese (Jeannette Luneau, of Princeville), the orphans carry to the baptismal font the little castaways that have been picked up in one day at the Mission of Tsungming, China.*

A good racer is found, and a Sister and the maiden catechist leave in great haste. After a long ride in the burning heat, they reach their destination, but the child is already dead. Although the little one had a weak heart and was suffering from dropsy, it had been given a quantity of rice and pork for breakfast. Sister and her companion have entertained the hope of discovering a breath of life in the stiff little form, but they are disappointed.

On their way back, they complain in a respectful manner to the Guardian Angel of the dear little one, and as they are passing a group of houses, they suddenly grow very, very thirsty. The maiden catechist, looks around and, after hesitating for a moment, decides to enter a shop. She quietly glides along the corridor leading to the rooms occupied by the members of the family, and Sister quickly follows her. Four or five women are seated, but they immediately stand up. The maiden catechist explains to them why she is paying them a visit. Who is able to refuse to give one a cup of tea

when the weather is so hot? One of the women points to a big granite pot full of tea, into which a common bowl is dipped. A person who is very thirsty is satisfied with but little. Something has touched the heart of our Sister and attracted her attention; stretched on a bed in the corner of the room is a pale, thin patient. She draws near to the bed, and four men draw near to it also. "Do you know that you frighten me, you give me a terrible look, and, nevertheless, I do not wish to do the least harm," she smilingly says to them on catching sight of the poor sufferer, "I am filled with pity, and I should like to comfort him a little." All looks are immediately softened, and the men excuse themselves and say that such is their habitual expression, etc. Sister asks the poor consumptive a few questions and, after daubing his breast, and giving him a calming draught, she turns to the maiden catechist saying: "Go on with your work." Our dear companion steps back a little, drinks her tea very slowly, pets and questions the children, etc. During this time, at the far end of the room, a man learns that there is a God, asks forgiveness for his sins, recites some Acts of Love, and receives the greatest of all gifts, Holy Baptism. Ah! how unfathomable are the designs of the Lord.

### Tuesday, July 14

While on the road leading to Paochen, our Sister infirmarian meets a man who begs her to go quickly to see his wife, who is in danger of death. The poor woman had purchased a certain quantity of pills and, wishing to be quick about it, she had taken them all at the same time. Sister finds that the unfortunate creature is in convulsions, which are indeed terrible, and that her hands and feet are cold. As she is a Christian, the priest is immediately sent for in order that the salvation of her immortal soul may be assured, and the visitor sees to the needs of her body. A counterpoison and the usual treatments are given the patient and, after an hour and a half of desperate struggling, one realizes that there is a ray of hope. The priest soon arrives with Holy Viaticum; he approaches so as to hear the sick woman's confession. The netting drawn around the bed serves as a grating and, in order that nothing that is going on between the priest and his penitent may be known of, prayers are recited aloud in the house. The maiden catechist, making use of her stentorian voice, plays her part well, and Sister sees that nothing is lacking, and answers the prayers said in Latin.

Just before preparing to leave, the Chinese priest asks our Sister infirmarian a question in her own language. She is dumfounded at first, but on discovering that the questioner has made a mistake, and that it is the pulse of the patient he wants to know about, she hastens to reassure him. The devoted priest leaves satisfied; the sick woman breathes more freely and begins to grow better.

A banker of Shanghai, who had been given up by all the doctors, came to Tsungming to die. Still thinking that he could be cured, or, rather, urged on by his Guardian Angel, he sent for us last Saturday. We tied a miraculous medal around his neck and, as he was a pagan, we spoke to him

of Holy Baptism, of heaven, etc. In fine, we had the happiness of baptizing him that same evening.

This afternoon, he sends to Paochen for us, he is set on seeing us again. We arrive just before he breathes his last. Being unable to speak, he makes a sign that he approves of the Acts of Faith, Love and Hope which we suggest to him. He dies while pressing the crucifix to his lips. The fortunate mortal enters the heavenly abode just after being purified by the Saving Waters. Many old Christians may envy him his extremely happy death.

#### **Friday, July 24**

It is to the little floating population along the sea-shore that we go this morning to do the beautiful work we are called upon to do. We are hailed with joy by the poor fishers, whose faces are tanned, but whose hearts seem to be made of gold. A woman stretches out her hand and shows us the way from one boat to the other, and we finally reach the one our patient is in. A beautiful yellow mat has been spread out for our Sister infirmarian, and she is free to lay her medicaments on it. The patient is allowed on it also, but all the others must keep away. The boats are being rocked very gently by the waves. All the good people in the little vessels appear to be quite sympathetic and they manage to make their quarters attractive and restful in spite of the plainness of them. We therein attend to fourteen other sick people and pour the Sacred Waters of Baptism on the brows of a few of the children of the fishers. These little ones are dying, and will soon steal into heaven.

#### **Thursday, July 30**

His Excellency Bishop Tsu, who is accompanied by the Very Reverend Dean, has come to bless the new orphanage which God in His Providence has prepared for the poor little ones that have been cast away by their parents. It is an event which will go down in the annals of the Mission of Tsungming. The children are very happy, and they are so anxious to go to live in their new home that they make us all kinds of promises to prove to us that they are really delighted. The biggest ones say that they are going to very good, and the tiny tots stammer out: "*Zia, zia*" (Thank you).

Gratitude has certainly not been banished from this land, which is still a pagan one. To-day, we are deeply touched on catching sight of a little basket of fish, which the worthy fishers to whom we gave treatment last week have brought to our Sister infirmarian in payment of their debt.

#### **Monday, August 24**

A woman who has just arrived at the Dispensary, has some words with the maiden catechist. What can be the matter? The servant of a family in which our Sister infirmarian has treated two persons with great success has been sent by her master to ask for a piece of Sister's clothes. The pagan gentleman is anxious to have such a scrap, for he has thought of having it boiled and of giving the water to his little daughter, who, according to his belief, will become as capable as the foreign nurse. Needless to say, our Sister refuses to comply with the request, but the servant insists and cries

out in such a way that the maiden catechist, in order to get her to keep quiet, gives her an ordinary piece of cloth.

This evening, as Sister is quietly saying the beads while returning to the Convent, the cart she is in is suddenly stopped by seven or eight Chinese. These people, who are but little satisfied with what the maiden catechist has sent them, gather round our Sister, and insist on having a piece of her clothing. She must think of making her escape, in order to stop these pagans from keeping on with their superstitious practice, which is indeed a comical one.

### **Monday, September 21**

Wang Ting Shie, a young lady who has already helped in our Workroom, has asked us to hasten to pay her a visit. Sister Marie de Sion immedi-



AN AGED CHINESE WOMAN IS SEEN TALKING TO HER LITTLE GRANDSON  
IN FRONT OF HER STRAW HUT.

ately goes to her home, and finds that she is in a dying condition. The people of the house remind their visitor that she is not to speak of religion. The dying woman murmurs a few words, and one is able to make out what she is saying. Sister, after giving treatments for a whole hour without speaking about the one thing necessary, lets on that she is about to take her leave. The sufferer, wishing to testify her gratitude, asks her husband and her mother-in-law to go for some eggs, that she may offer them to her benefactress. Being unable to refuse, each of them sets out, leaving the religious alone with the patient for half an hour. The poor woman opens her heart to the happy visitor and, as the lessons given in the Workroom have not been forgotten, our Sister has her recite the Acts of Faith, Contrition and Charity, and then baptizes her in a transport of joy and gratitude. Shortly after her soul has been purified. Wang Ting Shie peacefully leaves the earth. At times, we receive but little thanks for what is accomplished in the Workroom, but the soul that has just been saved, has made up for all the aridity.

**Friday, October 9**

While going through the bush, we meet with all kinds of things... During the day, six bandits dash upon the cart our Sister infirmarian is in. One of them lets on that he has a sore hand which he wishes to have treated, another, a sore foot, while the others look into the valise containing different medicaments and into the little case placed in the back of the vehicle. As they do not find anything to satisfy their rapaciousness, they insist on being told why we go to Paochen so often... As these trips do not interest them in the least, they let Sister go on her way. We are always pleased to be back in the Convent after our apostolic journeyings, but this evening our Sister infirmarian feels much happier than she has ever felt...

**Tuesday, October 27**

After being in Shanghai for over a week, our Sisters Marie de Jesus<sup>(1)</sup> and Marie de Fourvieres<sup>(2)</sup> return to-day with the cases from Canada, which had been left at the Custom's Office by the new Sisters on their way to Suchow. During their stay, they had a hard time trying to persuade the Officers to let them have at the lowest price possible the different articles sent by our dear Sisters in the Mother House and our beloved relatives and benefactors, and, in the end, they had to furnish a big sum of money.

After supper, on seeing the cases placed around the refectory, all of us realize that we are to be given a thousand surprises. During recreation, everyone is asked to help with the unpacking, and many are the exclamations and the expressions of gratitude addressed to our devoted Canadian benefactors. We entreat our Guardian Angels to whisper to them our heartfelt gratitude until we are able to write to thank them.

Report of the Dispensary of Tsungming from July to October inclusive:

Children baptized....	253	Adults baptized.....	25
Patients.....	3,369	Treatments.....	5,862
		Teeth extracted.....	51
Homes visited.....	304	Injections.....	96

Report of the Dispensary in Paochen from July to October inclusive:

Children baptized....	325	Adults baptized.....	23
Patients.....	3,631	Treatments.....	7,194
		Teeth extracted.....	38
Homes visited.....	344	Injections.....	180

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*Letter written by the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception who recently arrived in Suchow, China, to their Superior General.*

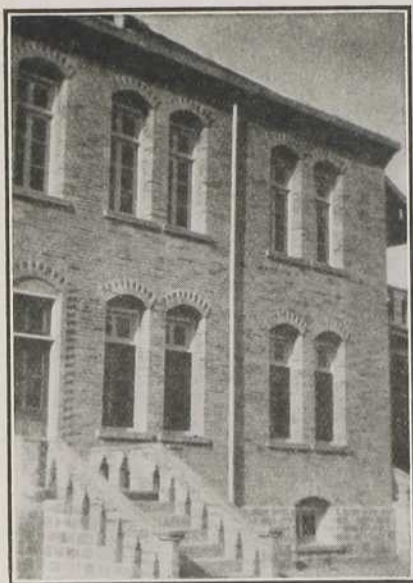
*Catholic Mission, Suchow, November 8, 1936.*

BELOVED MOTHER,

Having left Kobe on October 16th, our boat entered the port of Shanghai on Monday the 19th. We felt that we were really in China: the atmosphere was saturated with dust and smoke, and all around us were yellow faces

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

2. Lucie PARADIS, of Tingwick.



HALF OF THE FRONT OF THE CONVENT  
OF THE MISSIONARY SISTERS  
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
OF SUCHOW, CHINA.

with almond-shaped eyes. We immediately thought of what we, as children, had learned in our Geography concerning the land of the Orientals: "Here, all is yellow..." This characteristic is apparently but little attractive, but it nevertheless charms us, for we love China, the land of our apostolic dreams, a land in which there are souls to be won for Christ.

Two of our Sisters of Tsungming, Sister Marie de Jesus<sup>(1)</sup> and Sister Marie de Fourviere<sup>(2)</sup> were waiting for us in the harbour. They hired a jinrick-isha for each of us, and conducted us to the convent of the Helpers of the Holy Souls. The five vehicles were drawn along one after the other, the coolies making their way through the crowds of people who were coming and going as if nothing hindered them. We really felt like laughing, but, as everybody was looking at us, we had to re-

frain from doing so. Our dear Sister Marie de Jesus, who speaks Chinese like the natives, did us many a good turn, as did also Reverend Father Sansoucy, S. J., of the procure in Shanghai.

Towards eight o'clock in the evening, we went to the station in company with our two Sisters from Tsungming. The train for Suchow was to pass during the night, and the Helpers of the Holy Souls had kindly prepared us a big lunch. Shanghai and Suchow are four hundred miles apart. Chinese soldiers with guns in their hands were moving around in the train, and a few of them stood still for a while and looked distrustfully at us. Every time the train stopped, they went to stand at one of the doors; we were certainly well guarded.

At last, on October 20th, at half-past five in the afternoon, we got off at the station of Suchow. Sister Superior (Sister Marie de la Protection)<sup>3</sup>, and a Presentandine were waiting for us there. Bishop Cote had thoughtfully sent his car to bring us to the convent; the streets were thronged there also, and we had a hard time making a way for ourselves. The population of the city must be great, since such a crowd had gathered in a moment.

Our dear Sisters already stationed in Suchow, Sister St. Victor<sup>(4)</sup>, Sister Marie Xavier<sup>(5)</sup> and Sister Ste. Alice<sup>(6)</sup> were impatiently awaiting us on

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

2. Lucie PARADIS, of Tingwick.

3. Cecile ROBERGE, of Quebec.

4. Germaine TANGUAY, of Nashua, N. H.

5. Berthe PARADIS, of Tingwick.

6. Jeanne BASTIEN, of Montreal.

the verandah. We had imagined that we were going to arrive at a little Chinese house, and great was our surprise when we caught sight of a new spacious dwelling. Our Sisters have been residing there only since August 28th. We went to the chapel first of all and, after singing a hymn to the Blessed Virgin, the three of us recited an Act of Consecration to our Immaculate Mother while holding the blessed candle which was lighted just



ON THE OCCASION OF THE BLESSING OF THE CORNER-STONE OF THE CONVENT OF THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF SUCHOW, CHINA.

His Excellency Bishop COTE, S.J.; to the right: Reverend Father COURCHESNE, Superior, and Reverend Father D. GARIEPY; in the back: Reverend Brothers R. SAUVE, A. ST. JEAN, and D. PESANT.

Sister MARIE DE LA PROTECTION (Cecile Roberge, of Quebec); Sister ST. ALICE (Jeanne Bastien, of Montreal); Sister MARIE XAVIER (Berthe Paradis, of Tingwick); Sister ST. VICTOR (Germaine Tanguay, of Nashua, N. H.), M. I. C.; the Presentandines and school teachers.

before departure from the Mother House, and which will dwindle between our fingers when we reach the end of our apostolic career, which we hope will be a very long one.

After having embraced us in a sisterly way, our companions conducted us to the refectory, where a hot supper had been prepared for us.

The following day, we assisted at our first Mass in a mission land. Towards nine o'clock, the Presentandines came with their pupils to greet us. Sister Superior introduced us to them, calling us by the Chinese names which we shall henceforth go by: Sister Imelda de l'Eucharistie<sup>(1)</sup>, *Pou siou mou*; Sister St. Angelique<sup>(2)</sup>, *Ma siou mou*; Sister St. Amedee<sup>(3)</sup>, *Li siou mou*. The children said some little pieces in our language very nicely.

We went through the entire dwelling and through the Dispensary. The latter is not very spacious, for the needs are so great, but one feels comfortable therein, owing to the fact that everything has been neatly arranged.

The evening of the same day, Sister Superior went to the station to meet a few Sisters of the Precious Blood, who stayed all night and the next day with us before making their way to Sienhsien. We were really very

1. Simone BOISCLAIR of Almaville.

2. Cecile MATHIEU, of St. Evariste, Co. Beauce.

3. Emilienne VEZINA, of Quebec.

glad to bid them welcome; we considered each of them as one of ourselves, for two of them have a sister in our Community.

On October 22nd, Bishop Cote accepted the invitation of our dear Sister Superior and came to say Mass for us. After the Holy Sacrifice, His Excellency entered the parlour to become acquainted with the newly-arrived Sisters and to speak to us of his apostolic plans, which we found to be most interesting, and which we whole-heartedly desire to second.

Our cases, which had been left in Shanghai, reached us on November 3rd. The first one that was opened was the one containing the statue of the Blessed Virgin for the chapel. Our Sisters did not venture to think that they were going to receive any other images of the kind, for the shipping charges are so high, but, the next day, while keeping on with the unpacking, they had the happiness of taking out successively the statue of the Sacred Heart, that of St. Joseph, that of St. Ann, and that of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. We are unable to describe their joy when they caught sight of the altar linens, the ornaments for the chapel, and so many other articles so greatly needed in the convent and in our dispensary. Beloved Mother, our dear companions and the three of us who have just arrived wish to express our heartfelt thanks to you and to all our benefactors and benefactresses.

Your loving daughters, whose happiness on the Missions has been increased ten times.

Sister IMELDA DE L'EUCARISTIE,  
Sister ST. ANGELIQUE,  
Sister ST. AMEDEE.

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## MANCHUKUO

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



MISSION OF SZEPINGKAI, MANCHUKUO.

*The garden is being prepared for the spring sowing.  
Sister St. Jeanne de Chantal is superintending the work.*

We ended up our annual retreat on September 8th, close to the cradle of our Immaculate Mother. Reverend Father Masse, M. E., was the preacher and, towards the end of the exercises, His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre delivered a long sermon to the twenty-one retreatants, who had come from different mission stations. His Excellency told them that the call they had received was a call to holiness, and that they

would be holy in living the life of a religious, which is a life of obedience, of prayer, of silence, and of continual self-denial. He also reminded them that their chief means of apostolate was the continual immolation of themselves in union with the great Victim of Calvary.

On the morning of the eighth, we assisted at two Masses. The first was said by our retreat-master, and at it were present the Daughters of the Holy Ghost, who left immediately after for Kirin, a mission station in Bishop Gaspais' Vicariate. These religious, who had been in Szepingkai a few months, are to take over a work in their new field of action. Responding to our invitation, they had taken supper with us the day before they left. Our best wishes and prayers accompany them.

Mgr. Lapierre celebrated the second Mass and, in the afternoon, presided at the Final Profession ceremony of our dear companion, Sister Marie Therese.<sup>(1)</sup>

The joy at the evening recreation was heightened by pieces of music, old Canadian songs and a very amusing play. To the happiness of the moment was added that which one experienced on thinking of our beloved Mother Foundress and the never-to-be-forgotten feast day celebrations held at the Mother House and at the Novitiate. The following day we had recreation the whole time; before our Sisters left for their respective mission stations there was communicated all that had been learned by experience during the year and different plans capable of facilitating certain points of



THE BOARDING-SCHOOL FOR GIRLS  
WHICH WAS RECENTLY BUILT IN SZEPINGKAI, MANCHUKUO,  
BY HIS EXCELLENCY MGR. LAPIERRE.

the study of the language, for it is not easy for one to learn the secrets of the Manchurian dialect, and many Canadians have difficulty in getting used to the various tones. Some of the Sisters noted down prescriptions and receipts, and the others, hymns, and music for the chapel, etc. In a word, the day, which was usefully and pleasantly spent, went by like a flash and, on the morrow, each one packed up, in order to go to begin a new year of apostolic work.

#### AT THE BOARDING-SCHOOL DEDICATED TO ST. TERESA OF THE CHILD JESUS

There was great rejoicing at the new boarding-school on October 3rd. The picture of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus was adorned with streamers and flowers, in Chinese fashion. All the pupils assisted at Mass in the Cathedral before beginning to enjoy the holiday that had been given them and, as this festivity inaugurated, in a way, the Work in the mission of

1. Marie Therese ROUX, of Montreal.

Szeping kai, His Excellency had a big meal prepared for the pupils, and saw to sending Father Lefebvre to represent him. Hymns were sung in honour of the Little Flower, and one of the boarders made a little speech fitting to the occasion.

At the end of the day, four new companions were hailed with delight by the pupils.

It has been decided upon that all the pagan pupils, like their Christian classmates, are to observe the rules and regulations and, consequently, assist at different religious exercises. A little pagan girl, on arriving, was unwilling to take part in the prayers. "If one must pray here," she said, "I'm going to go home." Some time after, she asked her teacher to show her how to make the Sign of the Cross. These first fruits are an indication of the success we shall meet with in the future, if St. Teresa of the Child Jesus kindly agrees to let fall upon the little boarding-school dedicated to her the shower of roses we have asked her for.



A MISSIONARY OF THE IMMACULATE  
CONCEPTION RECEIVING  
A CHINESE TEACHER.

#### ARRIVAL OF THE MISSIONARIES, FIRST IMPRESSIONS

On Saturday, October 24th, we greeted our three new Sisters, who raised to fourteen the number of missionaries who, this fall, arrived here from the other side of the Pacific: six priests from the Foreign Mission Seminary of Pont Viau, three Clerics of St. Viator, and two Antonian Sisters of Mary. Our three Sisters reached here safe and sound, and they never stop telling us how happy they are to be in a mission land. We shall now leave it to them to tell you of their first impressions and to inform you of the little things that happened during the last part of their trip.

On October 20th, at noon, we left Kobe on the *Ussuri Maru* after having been given hospitality for four days by the kind Sisters of the Infant Jesus. Reverend Father Fage, who is ever faithful to his mission, and who has had great experience, had come to the harbour to assist us. He bought our tickets and saw to transporting our cases, etc.

The *Ussuri Maru* stopped at Moji a few hours. We went with a Maryknoll Sister to visit a little church, which we reached in seven minutes. The street leading to it is so narrow that a person would have a hard time keeping an umbrella open while passing someone else. We were greatly disappointed when we found out that our Eucharistic Lord did not dwell in the poor chapel. We made the Stations of the Cross and, immediately after, a Japanese lady who stays at the rectory asked us to come in. She offered us tea and little cakes, but we did not accept anything. Despite

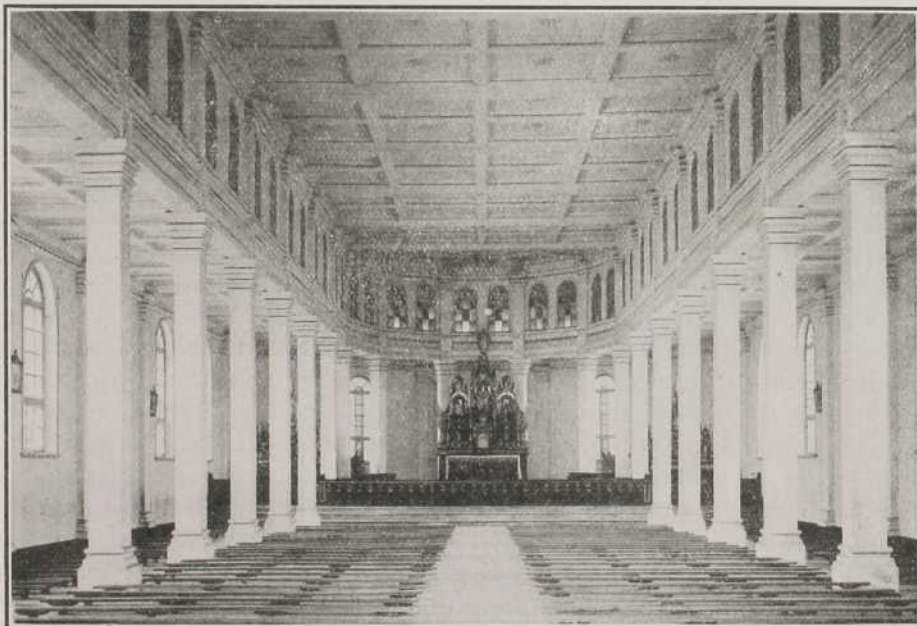
the fact that we did not speak the same language, we succeeded in finding out what was being said. A dozen deep bows were made as we were leaving: a language which although a silent one, is always expressive in the Orient.

We reached Dairen on Friday, October 23rd. Six Maryknoll Sisters had come to the harbour to welcome their Sisters and the three of us. The trip to the convent was taken in an open carriage, called a *matchu*. We made our way to the church and, immediately after, the Maryknoll Sisters served us a lunch in their refectory, and had us visit their Kindergarten, where their little Chinese and Japanese pupils sang a song in English. Sister St. Peter, the Superior, asked us to climb into a *matchu* a second time to visit the school. In the afternoon, we went with the same religious to procure our tickets and endorsements for Manchukuo and, at eight o'clock, we prepared to leave the convent where we had been so well received, for the train was due at nine. While we were waiting at the door for our vehicle, the Sisters sang the sweet invocation: *Sancta Maria, ora pro nobis*.

The following day, when we were but a short distance from our destination, we were surprised to see the dear Superior of our convent in Sze-ping kai getting on the train along with a Chinese girl. Powerless are we to describe the joy we experienced at that moment.

At half-past eleven, we entered the Mission Compound. After we had knelt for a while before the Tabernacle, to thank our Eucharistic Lord, His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre saluted us in a fatherly way. Our Sisters then embraced us, and we sat down to take a meal. How delighted we were to be with all our dear companions after such a long trip!

Late in the afternoon, the Civil Authorities demanded that not a light



INTERIOR OF THE CATHEDRAL OF SZE-PING KAI, MANCHUKUO.

be lit during the evening, as the soldiers were drilling. After supper, the majestic Queen of the Night was to be seen in the dark blue sky. Responding to the invitation which was seemingly extended us, we spent the evening recreation in the moonlight. The following day, the Feast of Christ the King, Pontifical High Mass was celebrated in the Cathedral. The singing,



*Sister St. Jeanne de Chantal (Jeanne Caron, of Montreal), and Sister Marie Emmanuel (Berthe Crevier, of Ste. Anne de Bellevue), Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception, who are showing the Native Postulants and Novices how to make candles.*

conducted by Reverend Brother Andre Paquette, C. S. V., was beautiful, and the music, ceremonies, etc., being faultless, we had a hard time believing that we were in a mission land. The Chinese do things very well. The Blessed Sacrament was exposed during the day, and there was also Holy Hour, at which we were able to assist.

The cathedral in Szeping kai is not furnished with comfortable pews like those in our churches in Canada, but simply with little benches six inches high, on which one sits or kneels down according to what is prescribed by the rites.

We spent part of the afternoon visiting the establishments of the Mission: the Native Novitiate, Apostolic School, Boarding School and Dispensary. On seeing the work that is done here, we began to be all the more desirous of learning the language of the country.

When we returned with Sister Superior, we were given a pleasant surprise. The parlour was prettily decorated, for our dear Sisters had prepared a celebration in our honour. You cannot imagine how much we enjoyed the little play they put on.

A few days after our arrival, our Sisters commenced to make for us wadded clothes, which, it appears, are absolutely necessary in the winter. We began to grow a little fearful, and we wondered how we were going to be able to wear them...

We were also somewhat puzzled on seeing the attire of a hired man, who came to the convent on business: he had on a blue blouse, a white cotton belt, white shoes, and around his hat was a white cotton band. We have been told that the Manchukuoans who are mourning the loss of their father or mother dress in this way.

On October 28th, Sister Marie du Crucifix<sup>(1)</sup> saw one of her ardent desires realized when she poured the Saving Waters for the first time. She gave the little eight-year-old girl whom she made a child of God, the name of Mary. On November 10th, Sister Eustelle de l'Eucharistie<sup>(2)</sup> inaugurated her missionary life by baptizing a baby that was just about to leave the earth. She gave it the name of her dear father: Joseph Desire. The following day, Sister Marthe de Jesus<sup>(3)</sup> had her turn. Deeply emotioned, she bent over a poor little creature, and gravely said: "Charles Edward, I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." Each time we open heaven to a little soul, we are so grateful and happy that we are unable to say a word, and with great affection do we go in spirit to visit our beloved parents, to whom, after God, we feel that we are indebted for such a grace.

Report of the Dispensary in Szeping kai from August to October inclusive:

	Baptisms.....	62		
Patients.....	6,731	Treatments.....	13,382	Dressings.....2,010
Teeth extracted...	45	Homes visited...	105	Injections.....332

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*Extract from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries  
to Koungtchouling*

**Tuesday, June 16, 1936**

Somebody has just come to tell us that a beggar, who was baptized recently by the Reverend Pastor, has spent the entire night outside in a coffin in which he had been placed by his companions, the reason for it being that he was too weak to help himself and no one wished to lend him a helping hand. How terrible is a night spent in a coffin!... Who ever could have thought of such cruelty?

Recently, a Christian woman, on reaching the home of a dying man whom she desired to baptize, asked the people there where the sufferer was, and they conducted her to a coffin, which had already been closed. When she asked to see the poor man, she was told that she certainly could. The lid was taken off, but, to her great surprise, the visitor found that the one that was supposed to be dead was still alive. When the kind woman asked him if he desired to be baptized, he replied: "Yes, baptize me." The Saving Waters were immediately poured on his brow and, after he had thus been made an heir to the Kingdom of Heaven, the coffin was closed.

1. Eva TESSIER, of St Bonaventure.

2. Eustelle SAMSON, of Lauzon, Que.

3. Antoinette DESJARDINS, of Montreal.



A LITTLE MANCHUKUOAN,  
WHO COULD EASILY MAKE USE  
OF A LITTLE CHARITY.

It often happens that a living person is buried in order that one may rid himself of him as quickly as possible. Here is an example: A man was seriously ill, and his relatives, not wishing to keep him any longer in their midst, put him in a coffin, the lid of which they nailed down. "Don't close me up like that," begged the captive, you know very well that I'm not dead, I beg you to leave me a little air, I'm not able to breathe!" But the heartless relatives refused to listen to his entreaties.

### Wednesday, June 17

We go to visit the beggar baptized by the Reverend Pastor, and whom we spoke of yesterday. The sick man is no longer in his coffin, but beside it, on the bare ground, exposed to the burning rays of the sun. A piece of a biscuit is near his head, and we ask him if he is not hungry. He says that he is no longer able to digest his food, but when we inquire if he wants a little water, he answers that he does. Someone had been charitable enough to give him a small quantity of food, but nobody had thought of giving him any water to quench his thirst during such a hot spell. As soon as this corporal work of mercy is performed, we comfort the heart of the poor unfortunate by kind and encouraging words.

### Friday, June 19

An event to-day interests all the Chinese: an eclipse... It takes place towards three o'clock in the afternoon. But what is an eclipse?... The pagans, who do not know what is the cause of such a phenomenon, maintain that, in the sky, a dog is eating the sun. Everyone seizes what he can find to make a racket with: a gong, drum, or metal dish, and beats hard upon this instrument, so that the *l'ien koo* (dog in the sky) may be frightened by the noise and give up his prey.

### Tuesday, July 29

A poor woman, whose husband has lost his sight, is discouraged on seeing the misfortune that has befallen her family, and she asks us if we are able to keep her two little girls with us. We tell her that we shall certainly try to place them in an orphanage, where they will be fed and clothed and be taught to read and to work, but we hasten to inform her that, before proceeding, we must be given the consent of her husband.

Regarding but the advantages and an easy way of being provided with food without spending a cent, and doubtlessly not understanding the true meaning of the word orphanage, she quickly replies: "It's quite sure that he'll give his consent, there're many privileges; at that rate, we'll not only send you our two little girls, all in the family will go..." This ingenuous answer causes us to smile, but it does not surprise us. How often do we hear people who wish to study the Catholic doctrine say: "We're going to come to stay at the Catholic Mission, because the priest there gives us food, we'll be able to satisfy our hunger." We may see by this what a great amount of prayer, sacrifice, and labour is needed to get these worldly-minded people to have supernatural aims.

### **Friday, July 31**

This afternoon, a mother brings her baby to the Dispensary. We ask her several questions concerning the state of the little one and, when we are through, she tells us that, last year, her three-year-old child had the same disease, and that when she saw that it was getting no better after she had requested the "doctor" to look at it two or three times, she threw it away. Fearing that the infant will have the same fate, we hasten to baptize it.

During the month, ninety little souls, after being purified by the Sacred Waters of Baptism, have gone to swell the ranks of the heavenly choirs. With hearts overflowing with gratitude, we voice the *Magnificat*.

### **Monday, September 21**

A little six-year-old boy has been coming to the Dispensary for a few days past. He lives two *li* away, and he fearlessly crosses all the streets of the city. We do not know who told him where the Dispensary was, but it is not necessary to give this little fellow many explanations, one can see by his big black eyes that he is an exceptionally bright child. When our Sister asks him what is wrong with him, he immediately answers: "I've sores on my head, I beg you to put salve on them." Sister asks him how it is that his mother has not come with him, and he tells her that his mother and his little brother are sick. The patients, who are surprised to see such a young child arrive at the Dispensary all by himself and to hear him answering our questions with such preciseness, look upon him with admiration. After being treated, the lad bows gracefully and says: "*Sie, sie*" (thank you very much), and immediately takes his leave. The same scene is renewed every day. On Saturday, we inform him that the Dispensary will be closed all the next day, but that he may come to the church to honour God. Mindful of what we have told him, the child does not fail to make his way thither, and he kneels down near our pew, closely observing the ceremonies; his eyes are fixed on the altar, and he sees all that is going on there. We entreat our Immaculate Lady to protect in a motherly way this interesting little boy, who gives such promise for the future.

### **Tuesday, September 30**

One day, some children were playing in the prairie near the House of Refuge, and one of them happened to find a bomb. Overjoyed on dis-

covering such a strange plaything, he hit it over and over again. The projectile suddenly exploded, carrying off the hand of the imprudent little fellow, who fainted and fell to the ground. On hearing the noise, his mother hastened to the spot and saw to having him brought to the Japanese hospital. A few weeks later, it was found that the arm was far from healing, and half of it had to be amputated. The little patient is brought to us to-day. Reverend Father Baron, who is visiting the Dispensary, speaks to him before leaving him, and bids him good-bye. But the sick lad looks up quite surprised and, when we urge him to reply, he says: "If I say good-bye to Father, what will he ask me afterwards?" Although the child is quite young, he fully understands the meaning of the unchangeable custom of the Chinese, who do not give anything without asking a favour afterwards.

### **Friday, October 30**

Yesterday, it was proclaimed throughout the city that the inhabitants were not to use an electric light for two days, except they use it in such a way that not one ray be seen outside. This is a military station, and it happens that the soldiers drill at certain times. Such is the case at present, there is supposed to be an attack by aeroplane. While an aeroplane is flying over certain parts of Kountchouling, beacons with wonderful reflectors follow it, and cannon balls are occasionally fired at the enemy. In order that the people may not be alarmed, the Civil Authorities have been careful to inform them that there is no danger.

### **Monday, November 30**

Report of the Dispensary of Kountchouling, from June to November inclusive:

Baptisms.....	174	Patients.....	4,042
Treatments.....	5,446	Dressings.....	934
Homes visited.....	73	Teeth extracted.....	8
		Consultations.....	425
		Injections.....	203

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## **WAKAMATSU, JAPAN**

### **Tuesday, August 11**

The heat is intense. For a week, the thermometer has marked 92 and 94° in the shade and, according to the weather forecast, the hot spell is to last the greater part of the month. The Japanese put on just the clothing that is necessary, and they wonder how we are able to wear our costumes. Baths are the order of the day during this season. The families who have even a little money have a bath tub in a room arranged for it. This tub, which is made of wood, is usually of an oval form, and is about two feet high. At one end of it there is a little heater, by means of which the water is heated very quickly. It is in very hot water that the people here take a bath. All of the members of the family take turns in the same water... Japanese politeness requires that a bath be prepared for each visitor on his



MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, WAKAMATSU, JAPAN.

*From left to right: Sister Joseph de la Sainte Famille (Jeannette Delisle, of Worcester, Mass.) Sister Marie de la Redemption, Superior (Basilisse Maillet, of West Bathurst, N. B.); Sister de l'Enfant Jesus (Florentine Dansereau, of Vercheres); Sister Ste. Justine (Cleona Robitaille, of Glenada); Sister St. Francois de Sales (Georgine Latour, of Montreal).*

The Members of a Japanese Family. The mother and father are in holiday attire and have on their badges.

arrival, and that he be invited to get into the water first. When there is no special room for it, the tub is placed behind a curtain in a corner of the kitchen, and it often happens that when there is no room at all for it indoors, it is placed in the garden or near the house. As it is the usual thing to take a bath thus, no one is offended on being asked to take one.

### Saturday, August 15

Mrs. Mori, a good Christian woman who is doing all in her power to lead her people to embrace the Faith, relates to us a narrative, which shows how wonderfully the Blessed Virgin protects those who place their trust in her. Her young son, a university student, bothered but little about the beliefs of his virtuous mother and he thought nothing of making fun of the pious practices she proposed to him. When the boy was about to set out on a voyage, the good woman persuaded him to accept a miraculous medal, which she tied around his neck while getting him to promise that he would never take it off. Our Blessed Lady did not delay in making the young fellow long for her divine Son, for he asked for a crucifix of his own accord, and, wearing these two objects of salvation, he joined his companions on a third-class boat. Scarcely had they set out for Moji when the vessel was wrecked, and it was only after a great deal of trouble had been gone to that part of those on board were saved. The student was among those who escaped being swallowed up by the waves and, while telling the others in the family of the catastrophe, he did not hesitate in declaring that he felt that he had not been drowned simply on account of having on the two talismans his pious mother had given him just before his departure.

**Tuesday, August 18**

We interrupt our ordinary tasks in order to spend the day in Higashiyama, a little village which it takes us an hour and a half to reach. After stopping for a while at Mrs. Mori's summer cottage, we start out again on the road which leads to the most peaceful solitude that one could ever think of, between two high mountains, near a little river embellished by dikes, and whose waters trickle between the stones. Little clusters of cedar and pine trees offer us their shade, while a number of birds join in the chirping of the grasshoppers all around us. After taking our lunch, we return to the convent. The rest we have taken has done us good, and we delight in thinking of the wonders which God has placed in this little corner of the universe.

Higashiyama, situated in the northern part of Japan, is noted for its hot springs. It is owing to the fact that an abundance of hot water issues forth from the soil that there are there a number of bath stations, which are frequented by crowds of people. The water, on bubbling up, is so hot that half as much cold water must be added to it in order to cool it sufficiently. We find this out for ourselves when we place our hands over a fountain in the middle of the road. A little higher up, a pool of this water is sending up steam, as if there were a fire under it. The phenomena are due to the volcanic soil of the country. During great persecutions, the tyrants often



KINDERGARTEN, WAKAMATSU, JAPAN.

The children are being taken to a spot where there are many cherry trees laden with blossoms.

tortured their victims by throwing them into ditches dug in certain places where there was hot water welling up, and the bodies of the martyrs were thus slowly scalded.

**Friday, September, 11**

The military manœuvres commenced yesterday in different parts of the Prefecture of Fukushima, and they continue until noon. From the aero-

planes that are flying over the city are thrown gas and inflammable matter, that the people may prepare to defend themselves against those who may later attack them. Last night, we deemed it wise to keep on the watch round about the convent until ten o'clock. Throughout the city are functionaries whose duty it is to stand on guard. The whistles blow several times during the day, and the inhabitants have been asked to put out all the lights during the night. In fine, there is more noise than work, but the Authorities are justified in ordering the people to make preparations, for the city may be raided unexpectedly. Circulars indicating the measures to be taken and the places of shelter have been distributed to all the families. What does the future hold in store for us? This is known to God alone, and it is with all confidence that we place ourselves under His loving protection.

### Monday, September 24

There is much rejoicing throughout Wakamatsu, and great is the bustling about in the most important sections. The reason for all this is that to-day is the day that has been set aside to honour with pomp the memory of the good old times. The inhabitants do not fail to hold the famous procession of the *daimyo*, a former ruler of the region. This illustrious personage is represented by a boy of thirteen, the age of the lord of Wakamatsu at the time the Chogunal Rule came to an end. He is dressed in antique clothing, like all his attendants, and is seated on a horse, which two servants lead by the bridle. The procession is preceded by a gentleman, who announces that the *daimyo* is going by and orders the common people to bow down, for the latter are not supposed to glance at the nobles. Those who venture to satisfy their curiosity, or who simply look up unintentionally, are beheaded on the spot. In the procession are to be seen, after the *samurai*, who are armed with swords and who act as sentinels, the entire personnel who wait on a noble, a number of archers, a doctor, some servants, who are to get tea ready on the way, and a few others, who are to see to feeding the horse. There is ever a sedan chair, in which the *daimyo* may take a rest.

As early as seven o'clock this morning, the procession was wending its way to Mount Limoriyama, which was reached almost an hour later. At that spot are venerated the remains of sixteen brave young men who gave up their lives for their lord at the time that the imperial power was being restored to Japan. On leaving the mountain, the processionalists march through the city part of the day, and the celebration is ended up in the old fortress by merry-making, which is continued until late in the evening.

### Saturday, October 24

Those who are in the habit of catching locusts met with wonderful success this year; the pupils sold all they caught, and realized the almost inconceivable sum of \$3,000.00. With this money will be procured food for the children who are too poor to bring their dinner to school, and one may easily imagine what good will be done.

### Sunday, November 1

Towards three o'clock this afternoon, we realize that there is an earthquake, and we continue to be shaken up until evening. We are informed that there will probably be shocks during the night. After taking the necessary precautions, we place ourselves under the protection of the Blessed Virgin, feeling confident that nothing will happen to us without the permission of our Heavenly Father, who alone rules over the elements.

### Monday, November 2

This morning, we assist at the three Masses that are said at the Mission for the Holy Souls. We thank Almighty God with our whole hearts, for we spent a rather quiet night. Towards three o'clock, there was a shock which startled us, but very soon all was calm. The volcano which is the cause of such quaking is still unknown of. It appears that the earth shook so violently at Sendai yesterday that some of the houses were overturned. There was also much shaking in Fukushima.

### Saturday, November 14

We enjoy the summer weather that has returned, and our neighbours are very glad, for they are able to take in their vegetables. They may be seen stripping a bed of *daikons*. These vegetables, which are much like radishes, are about twenty inches long, and the Japanese find that they are unable to do without them. The *daikons* taken in in the summer are very tender, and they are put into all kinds of sauces; those of the autumn are used especially in the preparation of the *tsukemonos*, pickles. Here is how this product of the Japanese art of cooking is obtained: the *daikons* are cut at the end, and after being strung together, are hung in the sun until they may be easily bent. They are then arranged in a wooden vessel with a mixture of bran, wine foam, rice, and salt, to which, in certain regions, is added a yellow tincture serving as colouring matter. When pickled thus, the *daikons* possess a special flavour highly appreciated by the Japanese, who cut off little slices and use them as a relish for their rice.

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## The Food of the Japanese

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THE FOOD of the Japanese is entirely different from that of the Europeans. As a rule, they do not eat any meat. They have very few animals, for there is no pasture-land. On the other hand, Buddhism, which has exercised such an influence on the Japanese, demands that all animals be spared, and forbids one to eat their flesh. They do not eat any grease, milk, butter, oil or cheese, and they are just beginning to make use of bread. Formerly, they knew nothing about wine, beer, and coffee.

The people of Japan, like those of other countries in the Far East, live chiefly on rice, which takes the place of bread. They add thereto fish, eggs,

and vegetables. Hygienists find that the food of the Japanese is good for the health, provided a great deal of exercise be taken after each meal.

The Japanese eat three times a day; the same food is taken each time, but the first meal is shorter and lighter. Each guest is asked to kneel on a cushion, and before him is placed a little varnished table, on which there are a great many saucers and covered porcelain bowls. In these saucers or bowls, there is bean or alga soup, raw fish, roasted fish, boiled fish, crabs, sometimes a little fowl cut into small pieces, a sort of vermicelli covered over with eel fillets, eggs, beans, turnips, radishes, carrots, sweet potatoes, bamboo sprouts, and lotus roots. The food is usually flavoured with capsicum, *shyoyu* (fermented barley sauce), peas, yeast and salt. A servant kneels before a wooden pail filled with rice, and fills up the bowls of those who are about to dine. The latter, holding their bowl with the left hand, and their two chopsticks with the first three fingers of the right, take some fish or some vegetables, which they eat with their rice.

Sometimes there is served fruit, raw, cooked, pickled, or in cakes. In Japan are to be found banana trees, plum trees, peach trees, apple trees, orange trees, pear trees, and pomegranates. Strawberry plants have just been introduced therein. There are many cherry trees, but only the blossoms are made use of.

Clear tea, which has been poured into tiny cups, is drunk by the Japanese during their meals. The tea of Japan is not prepared like that of China and

Ceylon, with boiling water, for it would be too bitter to drink. The finer the tea is, the cooler the water should be. The first tea poured into the cups is often thought to be too bitter, and is thrown out.

The Japanese always offer tea and cakes to those who pay them a visit. Formerly, they even prepared them a light meal. They often have their visitors bring cakes which have not been touched. At the beginning of a meal to which different guests have been invited, little cups of hot *sake* are brought in. *Sake* is a sort of alcohol that is obtained from rice, the distilling process being a complicated one. It usually contains from 11 to 14% alcohol, but there is a particular variety which contains from 20 to 50%.

When European food was introduced into Japan, the curiosity of the Japanese was aroused, and when these people came into contact with the Europeans for the first time, they were



A JAPANESE LADY ABOUT TO TAKE SOME TEA.

*In order to be polite, one must place the left hand as she has placed hers.*

astonished on seeing how big their plates and tumblers were compared to theirs. They imagined that the Europeans were capable of eating an enormous quantity of food and of drinking torrents of liquids. There are foreign restaurants in most of the cities of Japan at present. On the bill of fare are to be found written or printed in Japanese or Chinese characters the names of certain European dishes: *pan* (bread); *birru* (beer); *omuretsu*; *bifutekki*, etc.

The Japanese prefer their own kind of food, and they sometimes eat in European fashion, although they find it amusing to do so. A certain number of socials have been held in this way. The price of European meals is much higher than that of those usually served by the Japanese, but it is, however, much lower than that of sumptuous Japanese repasts. Above all, European meals are found to be more substantial, and the number of customers at the ordinary establishments keeps increasing every day.

Extract from *Le Japon Illustré*.

## Extracts FROM THE Novitiate Chronicles

*Dedicated to our dear Parents*



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

*St. Bernard.*

### Thursday, November 12, 1936

For once, we have a secret as regards our Immaculate Mother, It is that the Feast of her Presentation is drawing near, and we wish to prepare her a surprise. Besides the novena preparatory to this beautiful day, which we are making together, our Mistress has suggested to us the idea of forming a spiritual bouquet of three daily acts of virtue, destined to honour the age of three years, at which the Blessed Virgin was presented in the Temple. But we are so accustomed to keep nothing concealed from our bountiful Mother, and we feel so incapable of acting without her assistance that we have recourse to her in order to find out what she expects from us, and to obtain the grace of accomplishing it, while being careful not to reveal to her the object of our pious ingenuity.

On the 21st, our little flowers of love, carefully inscribed, will be placed at the foot of the statue of the little Virgin of the Temple, the Patroness of our Novitiate.

### Saturday, November 21

The Blessed Virgin always has in reserve for November 21st which, in our Novitiate, is the feast of the novices, precious graces and sweet emotions,

which she lavishes upon us in a motherly way. These joys which are so pure and which are doubled by a pleasant surprise for those amongst us who have not yet gone around the cycle of our annual festivities, cause our hearts to overflow with gratitude and happiness.

Last night's programme, executed with much naturalness and success by our little sisters the postulants, consisted of two acts interrupted by music and singing. The first, "The Call from God," had us assist at the generous struggles and the victory of a soul of a young girl overcoming every obstacle to follow the missionary vocation. The vehement pleadings in favour of the call from On High increased in our hearts the esteem for our holy state of life and gratitude towards God, who chose us without there being any merit on our part.

A comedy, "The Back of the Medal," then portrayed the illusions of a little lady and a shepherdess reciprocally showing their envy. But when, in compliance with their desires, the noble maiden was transformed into a shepherdess and the shepherd girl into a little lady, they did not delay in ascertaining that there is a back to every medal, and in desiring to become again what they had been made by God. It was for us as an illustration of the words of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, which contain the secret of true happiness: "We must always strive to find delightful the part Jesus gives us."

The statue of the little Virgin of the Temple, our loving Patroness, presided over the pretty play, which was brought to a close by the singing of a hymn in her honour. To-day, set up in the chapel, she receives our homage and our prayers, and, four by four, we come with joy to express to her our love and gratitude and to tell her of our immense needs.

In a pretty basket at her feet have been placed the lists of the little flowers culled by each one of us during the last few days for the making up of her feast day bouquet.

### **Sunday, November 22**

We are celebrating the Feast of St. Cecilia and that of St. Catherine together, and one brings us melodious concerts and the other an enticing smell of good Canadian taffy.

We entreat St. Cecilia to obtain that from our hearts, as from hers, a hymn of praise, love and gratitude may be wafted heavenward unceasingly, and we solicit from St. Catherine, not the refined science of the philosophers, but divine wisdom, which makes us know of and appreciate the things of God.

### **Sunday, November 29**

On this first Sunday of Advent, we are commencing a new ecclesiastical year, during which all the mysteries of our holy Faith will again present themselves for our contemplation. What wonderful light, grace and sweet joy does the religious life teach us to draw therefrom!

Before long, in union with the Church, we shall celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of our Blessed Mother, and after that will arrive the Christmas Season with its series of delights. Far from being sad and monotonous, our life in this abode is thus marked out by numerous

religious solemnities and festivities, all of which have special beauty and charms.

What gratitude do we feel towards God who, in order to have us drink at this fountain of pure felicity, has drawn us away from the false pleasures of the world!

### **Tuesday, December 8**

Our beautiful Feast of the Immaculate Conception is gliding away in profound, calm and pure joy, which makes one think of the joys of heaven, but which, like the latter, escapes the attempts at analysis by the chronicles.

Closely united by strong and numerous bonds to our peerless Mother, celebrating her marvellous privileges, and confidently opening our hearts to her, we feel the gifts of her tenderness and of her liberality descending upon us.

After supper, a pretty dramatical and musical play is put on by the eldest novices. In order to express to our Immaculate Mother the ardent love of her little missionaries, the choir makes use of the touching strophes of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus: "Why I love thee, Mary." Then the three acts of a play entitled "The Eye of Siva" attract the interest of all the spectators by having them assist at the victory won by a statue of the Blessed Virgin in the palace of a wealthy Hindu nabob, in spite of the cruel and vigilant attention of the priests of the goddess Siva.

Before the bell ends up this blessed day by announcing the night prayers, another hymn is sung in honour of the Blessed Virgin, a hymn of confidence and self-surrender, which finds an echo in all our hearts.

### **Monday, December 14**

We have a longer recreation this evening, in honour of the accession to the throne of our new sovereign George VI.

On granting us this pleasure, our Mistress reminds us that it is a duty for us to pray for those who govern, who are invested with authority, and who have in their hands the destiny of the nations.

### **Sunday, December 20**

At recreation time is announced a raffle organized by the postulants with the approbation of Sister Superior. The articles to be drawn for are as pretty as they are useful and they excite the envy of everyone, but, strange to say, it is especially the price of the tickets which is full of attraction, for it offers us the occasion of giving our filial piety free sweep. The conditions of the sale are, for each ticket, a thousand invocations to the Infant Jesus or a hundred *Memorares* for our beloved Mother's intentions.

Each one of us is aiming at acquiring the largest number possible, in order to add to the spiritual bouquet which, on the occasion of the great Feasts, will convey to our Mother the pledge of our veneration and love.

### **Friday, December 25**

We at the Novitiate are living over again the beautiful Christmas Days of our childhood...

Yesterday evening, we very wisely went early to take our rest and, during the night, we are awakened by melodious hymns, which invite us to go to the Crib of the Child God.

During the night office, which pious harmonies, a splendid decoration, and a sparkling illumination frame in with grandeur and solemnity, there is a High Mass followed by two Low Masses from which, with all our heart, we draw the joys and the graces of the first Christmas.

We then make our way to the refectory where, unaware to us, the tables have been set for a midnight repast.

This morning, the regulation bell cedes anew its rights, and the sweet accents of a Christman hymn notify us of the hour for rising, which is later than usual.

Yes, Jesus is born, it is Christmas, and our hearts overflow with gladness. We have not eyes enough to admire the pretty cribs which adorn the different rooms and the beautiful Christmas tree in the novices' quarters, above all, we lack expressions to thank our Superiors and the Sisters in charge, who are full of delicate thoughtfulness for us, as our dear mothers were not so very long ago.

#### **Thursday, December 31**

Our meditation on this last day of the year sets before us as an example a merchant making an inventory. We also wish to make a schedule of our spiritual life and, for this purpose, we see that this 31st day of December is a day of recollection.

What a favourable date for serious reflections on the fleetness of time and on the good use we should make of it! What resolutions to be taken, what pardons to be asked for, what thanks to be formulated!

The Holy Hour which will have us gather before our Eucharistic Lord during the night, from half-past eleven to half-past twelve, will give us the opportunity of sealing with repentance, gratitude and love the year that is leaving us, and of dedicating to God the very first moments of 1937.

#### **Friday, January 1, 1937**

To-day, wishes for happiness are re-echoed everywhere. During the night, we offered ours to God, our heavenly Father and, afterwards, to our Blessed Mother, and, this morning, we receive with respect and emotion those of our beloved Mother Foundress.

Her letter so full of motherly affection conveys to us the divine wish of charity: "Love one another." Yes, what a source of happiness is charity! We experience the sweet fruits of it on this festival when, grouped around our dear Mistress like real little sisters around their mother, we embrace one another while exchanging good wishes.

We then admire the gifts sent from the Mother House: calendars to replace those which the hand of Time has stripped of their leaflets, magnificent church ornaments for our sacristy and above all, oh! above all, the portrait of our beloved Mother Foundress, the sight of which is greeted by acclamations of filial love and enthusiastic joy. At last, those amongst us

who have not yet had the pleasure of seeing her, may gaze upon the features of such a good Mother, whose heart has been known to us for such a long time!

In order to reconcile the Professed Sisters, novices and postulants who are intent on having this treasure in their respective rooms, it is decided that it is to be set up in the conference hall, that all may enjoy seeing it.

### **Saturday, January 2**

The smooth thick ice on the marsh tempts us to go out to play like children. But can the ice possibly hold any interest for the novices?... Those who are inclined to be doubtful should have seen us, this morning, enthusiastically descending the little hill leading to the river, and sliding and gayly amusing ourselves until dinner-time.

This afternoon, we go to pay a visit to the Infant Jesus of the parish church and of the Foreign Mission Seminary. Kneeling near the Crib, like humble shepherds, we implore the Divine Babe to open His divine little hands and shower His choicest blessings upon all those dear to us.

### **Wednesday, January 6**

The cake for the Feast of the Epiphany this year reserves for the Professed Sisters, novices and postulants, the surprise of a kingship, an ephemeral but coveted one, since it gives the happy lucky ones the right to an offering of prayers by the other members of the Community.

This evening, we are invited to assist at an entertainment that has been prepared by the novices and postulants.

These recreative evenings, which are often repeated at the Novitiate, have the advantage, while greatly interesting us, of developing in us the family spirit and that of organization.

After a comical play which is preceded and followed by a piece of music by an orchestra, and a recitation, the scenery carries us to Bethlehem, where we assist at the adoration of the Child God by the shepherds, and afterwards, in a magnificent final scene, at the arrival of the Magi, who offer the divine little King their homages and their princely gifts.



## **Votive Lights in Honour of the Blessed Virgin**

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

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

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



# *The Children's Page*

DEAR CHILDREN,

One morning not long ago, when the sun rising majestically in the pure sky caused to sparkle brilliantly the frost on the trees, bushes and fences, in the calmness, smiling at this rich decoration, being far in spirit from the frivolous bustle of the world, I was reading... not from a book I carried in my pocket, nor from loose sheets which are known as newspapers and which convey news like the wind disperses good and bad seeds; but I was reading the magnificent page open before my eyes in the great book of Nature, the daily work of the finger of God.

Oh! how I should have liked, Children, to have had you assemble quite close to me at that moment, in order to have had you appreciate the charm, beauty and elevation of that incomparable reading lesson! Not possessing like the fairies of bygone days a magic wand to be used when desired, I am indemnifying myself to-day by writing for you the following lines:

On that particular morning, the whole of Nature was really pretty, and everything appeared to smile in the clear adornment of sparkling hoar-frost. The sun had risen in all splendour, its rays playing gracefully on the smooth surface of the limpid frost, in which the heavens were reflected. With dazzling light did it adorn all things, adding to the fresh white embellishment soft rosy tints and purple and golden tones.

Just as while working we learn to work, it is while reading that we learn to read; but there are all kinds of texts for reading and all kinds of books. The books composed of letters or characters, resembling those from which you study, are known to you, but different is the book of conscience, the book of life, in which our Angel Guardian inscribes our deeds, and different also is the book of Nature, from which all are asked to read, but whose lessons very few succeed in making out. Why?—Because many do not look at this book, or if they do turn their eyes towards it, they do so as senseless creatures do; they understand nothing or almost nothing of what is in it, because their heart is too much attached to the things of this world, and is not at rest. While a pure, simple and straightforward person, in the face of the beauties of Nature, rises at the contemplation of the greatness, perfection, power and love of the Creator, the one whose conscience is troubled grows restless and is terrified; this calmness, order, and immensity make him feel the presence of the eye of God from which he is trying to escape.

Immediately turning aside his gaze, he throws himself into the distractions, the amusements, the worry of business, and the embarrassing things of life.

## THE EYE OF GOD IS UPON YOU

Have you already felt, Children, that you are never alone, wherever you may find yourself, away from every human regard? Yes, doubtlessly, you have experienced this and all the more perhaps at the moment you were tempted to perform a bad deed, it seemed to you that someone was looking at you... Verily, someone was looking at you, and this someone was the *Eye of God*. God is everywhere, and He sees what is going on at all times and in all places. His divine Eye penetrates all space here below as in heaven. He sees our hearts, the depth of our souls, all our desires, our most secret passions, and our heaviest sighs.

*God sees us*, that is what should be a consolation to you, when at times you are unjustly accused, abused, seemingly forgotten, or when one does not appear to recognize the merit of your efforts. *God sees us*, that is what should encourage you to always do your duty with greater faithfulness, that is what should keep you from doing wrong. *God sees us*, that is all that counts, human regards are but little or nothing. Happy is the soul that seeks only to please the One who sees everything, and who is the sole just appraiser of our deeds. Happy, also, are the eyes which, interiorly, are always able to meet those of God, in imitation of a little child who takes delight in the gaze of its father or in that of its mother.



*A Good Deed Performed in God's Presence.*

## DO NOT FORGET

Dear Childern, you already know that at Easter all Christians should approach the Holy Table to receive the Author of life and of grace, but alas! it happens that each year there are some whom human respect, lukewarmness, or the *clutches of Satan*, that is love of sin, keep from performing this sacred duty. Ah! how afflicting it is for the so bountiful and merciful Heart of Jesus to see His benefits being thus refused, and how disastrous it is for those guilty Christians, who, turning away from the path to heaven, are setting out on the road to eternal reprobation! But there is one thing that should cause you to rejoice and arouse you to zeal, and that is that, young as you are, you are able to convert such sinners and lead them back to Jesus. How? By your prayers and sacrifices.

In the soul's world, there take place some wonderful things which are infinitely more beautiful and varied than those which happen in the material world. As in the midst of Nature, the finger of the Lord makes its way along, producing therein masterpieces of grace, mercy, and love. Blessed is the person who does not impede the work of God in his soul and who, little by little, by constant victories over himself, rises above all that is going on. And miserable, on the contrary, is the one that gives way to all his evil inclinations, before long he loses the friendship of God, and ends up by shutting Him out from his heart. But, by a wonderful miracle, those who have been unfaithful may be assisted in their wretchedness by those who have remained loyal and who are desirous of making Jesus loved and of winning souls for Him. By their prayers and sacrifices they move the justice of the Sovereign Judge and obtain graces of mercy of which one is unable to form an idea.

I am telling you this, Children, to encourage you to make as many sacrifices as possible for sinners. Oh! do not forget about these unfortunate creatures but think of coming to their assistance by imposing upon yourselves a few short prayers which you will say during the day, every time the clock strikes, for instance. To lift up one's heart to God by reciting a pious invocation every hour is an excellent habit to get into, it often serves as a consolation during life.

A Christian mother had acquired this good habit. When all the members of the family were at home, she was content with reciting in her heart sweet invocations, which always brought her strength and consolation, but when she found herself alone with her two youngest children she said these little prayers aloud.

The two youngsters: a little four-year-old girl with fair hair and delicate features, but roguish as an elf, and the two-year-old baby, who every day tried to speak a little better, quickly learned the lesson. Before long, they got ahead of their mother. As soon as the clock began to strike, they would cease to play and to chatter and, growing recollected, would cry out with their piping voices: "Sweet Heart of Jesus, be my love. Sweet Heart of Mary, be my salvation." The other members of the family were unable to keep from following their example, and very soon they all joined in the prayers.

Pious children, happy parents!

Your *Great Friend*,

THE PRECURSOR.



If we have recourse to Mary she will save us. For the Son will refuse no request of His Mother, as He Himself one day revealed to St. Bridget. She heard Jesus say to His Blessed Mother: "My Mother, ask what you will; know that it is impossible for Me not to listen to your prayers. Since thou didst never deny Me anything on earth, I will deny thee nothing in Heaven."

# Thanksgivings to the Blessed Virgin

## for favours obtained



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

BL. HENRY SUZO.

Enclosed please find the ransom price of a Chinese baby likely to live, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Miss L. — Enclosed please find an offering for the ransom of four dying Chinese babies, in thanksgiving for some great favours received through the intercession of our dear heavenly Mother. Miss A. — I have received a favour through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. I wish to thank this loving Mother for coming to my aid. Mrs. R. M. — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. I am grateful to the Blessed Virgin for the favours she has obtained me. Mrs. M., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find an offering for the Missions, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Mrs. R. — I have received a favour and am sending you a donation, as promised. Please pray for me. Miss A. M. — Thanks to our Blessed Lady, I received the favour I desired. M. B. — I have obtained some favours, and am enclosing an offering for a Mass in honour of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. If I receive what I am now asking for, I will send you a donation. Please pray for me. Mrs. A., **Montreal**. — My prayers have been answered. Find enclosed a small offering. A Subscriber. — Enclosed please find an offering for the ransom of some dying Chinese babies in thanksgiving for a favour received. M. B. — My request has been granted, thanks to the Blessed Virgin. Enclosed please find a donation. Anonymous. — Enclosed please find a small offering, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Mrs. J. B. — I have received some very great favours. Many thanks to our Blessed Mother. Mrs. M. M., **Montreal**. — I feel that it was through prayer to the Blessed Virgin that my request was granted. I am subscribing to THE PRECURSOR for two years in thanksgiving. Mrs. J., **Montreal**. — I wish to thank our dear heavenly Mother for the favour she has obtained me. I am asking her to again come to my aid. Mrs. B. — Enclosed find the offering I promised in thanksgiving if I obtained a special favour. Please ask our Blessed Lady to help me to obtain a good position. M. P., **Montreal**. — I am sending you a donation for the lepers, in thanksgiving for an important favour received. Mrs. A. C. — I have received a favour and am sending you an offering for the ransom of a dying Chinese baby, as promised. A Friend. — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription, in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. Mrs. A. C. — I am enclosing my renewal subscription in fulfillment of a promise. I have received a desired favour. Mrs. B. — I have received a wonderful favour through the intercession of our Blessed Mother, and I am truly thankful. Mrs. G., **Montreal**. — I am enclosing an offering for the ransom of a Chinese baby likely to live. Thanks to Our Lady, I have been granted some wonderful favours. M. D. — My prayers have been answered, and I return thanks to our Blessed Mother. I am sending you my renewal subscription, as I promised. Mrs. N. — Find enclosed my renewal subscription to THE PRECURSOR, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Mrs. A. D., **Montreal**. — I have received a favour through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin and, to thank her, I am sending you a donation for the lepers. Mrs. C., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find an offering in honour of our Blessed Lady, through whose intercession I have obtained a special favour. Mrs. D. S. — I am enclosing an offering in thanksgiving for a favour received through the intercession of our Immaculate Mother. Miss S. — Enclosed please find the ransom price of four dying Chinese babies, in thanksgiving for favours received through our Blessed Lady. Miss A. — I have received a favour through the intercession of our dear heavenly Mother and am enclosing a small offering, as promised. Mrs. C. C. — I have received a favour through the intercession of our Blessed Lady. Kindly publish my thanksgiving. Mrs. A. — I am enclosing a small offering, which I promised in return for a request granted. Miss N. — The enclosed offering is in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. Please pray that I may be restored to health. Mrs. B. — Enclosed please find the ransom price of two Chinese babies. Our Blessed Lady has obtained me a favour, and I trust that she will again hearken to my prayers. Miss N., **Montreal**. — I am deeply grateful for the favour I have received through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. Enclosed please find a small offering. Mrs. E. P., **Montreal**. — The enclosed offering is in thanksgiving for a great favour received through the intercession of our Blessed Mother. Mrs. D., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find an offering for a novena of lights in honour of the Blessed Virgin. I have received a favour through the intercession of this dear Mother. M. B., **Montreal**. — I have received a favour, and am enclosing a thank-offering. May our Blessed Mother continue to watch over us. M. G. — My request has been granted. Kindly accept the enclosed thank-offering. Mrs. L. — I

have received an answer to my prayers. Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. Miss R., **Montreal**. — I am enclosing an offering for the ransom of a few dying Chinese babies, as promised. I am asking our Blessed Lady to grant me a very special favour. Mrs. P. W. — Enclosed please find a small offering. The Blessed Virgin has obtained me a favour, and I am again imploring her aid. Mrs. D., **Montreal**. — I have received a favour through the intercession of our Blessed Lady. The enclosed offering is for a light in her honour. M. L. — Thanks to our dear heavenly Mother my son has obtained a position. Mrs. B., **Rougemont**. — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription, in thanksgiving for a favour obtained from Our Lady. Please pray that one dear to me may be restored to health. M. M. — I am thankful for the favour that has been granted me. Enclosed please find an offering for a novena of lights. Mrs. G. — I am sending you the ransom price of four dying Chinese babies in thanksgiving for a favour received. A Subscriber, **Montreal**. — The enclosed offering is in thanksgiving for a favour received. M. L. — I wish to thank our Blessed Mother for the favours she has obtained me. Mrs. T., **Montreal**. — The Blessed Virgin has helped my husband to find work and I am sending you my subscription, as I promised. I entreat this loving Mother to continue to assist us. Mrs. A. — Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving for a favour received through the intercession of our Immaculate Mother. Mrs. R. C.



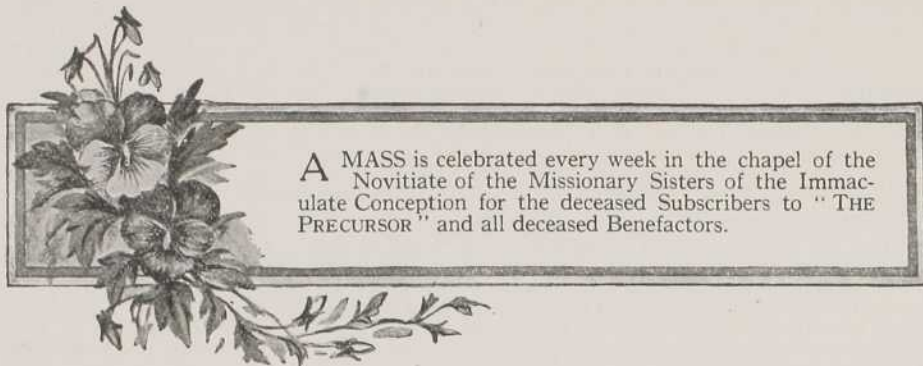
## Petitions

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

— Please make a novena to our Immaculate Mother for me, that I may obtain two special favours very soon. If my requests are granted, I will send you an offering. A. P., **Webster, Mass.** — I have been very sick for about ten days. Kindly make a novena for me, asking that I may regain my health. Mrs. W. R., **Montreal**. — I again ask you to remember my intentions in your prayers. R. C., **St. Thomas, Ont.** — Please remember us in your prayers. Mrs. McQ. — My boy will soon be out of work again, and I hope he will get a permanent position. If he does, I will not fail to send a portion of his money every month. I am enclosing a small offering. Please have a votive light placed in front of Our Lady's statue. Anonymous. — Please pray for a special intention. G. C. — I would ask you to pray that my husband may find work and that one dear to me may lead a better life. Mrs. G. — My mother is in poor health. Please pray for her. Mrs. M. J. — My sister is seriously ill. Please pray for her. Miss A. S. — I would ask you to pray that I may regain my health, that my sons may find work, and that I may be successful in my undertakings. Anonymous. — Please pray that my two boys may stop drinking and that my daughter-in-law may lead a better life. Anonymous. — May I ask you to pray that I may succeed in selling my farm. Mrs. G. — Please pray that I may obtain two desired favours. Mrs. B., **Montreal**. — I am asking the Blessed Virgin to grant that one dear to me may live up to his religion. Enclosed please find an offering for a novena of lights. Anonymous. — Please pray that I may discover my vocation. Miss B. — I wish to obtain a very special favour. Please pray for me. Miss T. — Please pray that my daughters may find work. Mrs. D. — Please pray that my mother may be restored to health and that my brother may return to the Sacraments. Anonymous. — My four boys are unemployed. Please ask the Blessed Virgin to help them to find work.

A Subscriber, **Montreal**. — I have been sick for a long time. If I regain my health, I will send an offering to ransom a few Chinese babies. Mrs. L. — May I ask you to pray that peace may reign in our household and that a friend of mine may obtain the grace to be good always. Mrs. B. — Please pray that I may obtain two great favours. Mrs. F. — Please make a novena, asking that my son and my daughter may find work. When they are employed, I will send you an offering. Mrs. C. T., **Brunswick, Me.** — I am enclosing an offering for a novena of lights in honour of the Blessed Virgin, that my leg may be cured. A. M., **Bathurst, N. B.** — I wish to obtain a special favour through the intercession of our Blessed Lady. Enclosed please find an offering for a novena of lights in her honour. Kindly remember me in your prayers. O. O., **Fort Kent, Me.** — I would ask you to make a novena for my mother, who has been ill for almost two months. If she is cured, I will send you a substantial donation to help on your missionary work. M. B., **Ottawa, Ont.** — Kindly remember me in your prayers. Mrs. E. G., **Acadia Siding, N. B.** — I am enclosing a small offering, and would ask you to pray for my intentions. Mrs. J. M., **St. Edmond de Stoneham.** — Enclosed please find a small offering. My husband has lost his position. Please pray for him. Mrs. A. D., **Southbridge, Mass.** — I am enclosing an offering for a novena of lights for a special intention. Please pray that my request may be granted. Mrs. R. B., **Newport, Vt.** — The enclosed offering is for the ransom of six dying Chinese babies. Please say a special prayer for a friend of mine. B. T., **Schenectady, N. Y.** — Will you please make a novena, asking that my son-in-law may get a steady position and that the Blessed Virgin may protect his wife and children. If these requests are granted, I will send a donation in favour of your missions. A Subscriber. — Find enclosed my renewal subscription. Please pray that my request may be granted. M. L. — I would ask you to pray that my husband may find work and that my son may regain his health. Mrs. T., **Montreal.** — Please pray that one dear to me may be restored to health. Mrs. F. — I am gladly renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. I am in poor health. Please pray for me. Mrs. J. — I recommend myself to your fervent prayers, for I am ill and there is no hope for my recovery. Mrs. N. C. — Please pray that three persons very dear to me may be restored to health. A. G. — I wish to obtain two temporal favours. Kindly remember me in your prayers. Mrs. L., **Worcester, Mass.** — I am in great need. I hope our dear heavenly Mother will come to my aid. Mrs. O. C. — I am asking our dear Lady to watch over us, for we are in dire distress. Mrs. M. — Please pray that my two boys may mend their ways. Anonymous. — Kindly make a novena to the Blessed Virgin, asking that I may be granted two great favours. I am enclosing a small offering. Mrs. E. C. — I have met with misfortune. Please pray that I may be resigned to God's Holy Will. Miss L. — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. Kindly remember me in your prayers. Miss A., **Montreal.** — I have been out of work for a long time. Please ask the Blessed Virgin to help me to obtain a position. E. B. — Please find enclosed an offering for lights to be burned in honour of the Blessed Virgin for a boy who is in poor health. Kindly join with me in asking that he may be cured. Mrs. C., **Lorne, N. B.** — I am writing for a friend, who wants you to make a novena for her. Enclosed please find an offering for lights to be burned during this novena. A Subscriber. — Please find enclosed my renewal subscription. Kindly remember us in your prayers. Mrs. F., **Portland, Me.** — Please pray that I may be granted a desired favour. If I obtain it, I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for two years. M. N., **Augusta, Me.** — Kindly make another novena for me. I will send an offering later on. Mrs. R., **Timmins, Ont.** — Please remember my intentions in your prayers. Mrs. M. C., **Verdun.** — I am enclosing an offering for a novena of lights. Please pray for me. Mrs. J. R., **Houlton, Me.** — I wish to obtain a very special favour. Please remember me and mine in your prayers. Mrs. C., **Belleville, Ont.** — Please pray that my husband may obtain a permanent position, that he may stop drinking, and that another special favour may be granted. If I receive what I am asking for, I will renew my subscription to THE PRECURSOR and will send you an offering in honour of the Blessed Virgin, and the ransom price of a Chinese baby. Mrs. R. S., **P. E. I.** — I am writing to ask you to pray that my husband may obtain the position he has applied for. I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR as long as he has work. Mrs. W., **Tracadie, N. B.** — Kindly unite with me in asking the Blessed Virgin to obtain me a desired favour. Miss G. — Please pray that I may be restored to health. Mrs. L. C. — I wish to obtain a very great favour. Please pray for me. E. B. — Kindly ask our Blessed Lady to continue to intercede for us all. Mrs. R. — Please pray that my son may not lose his position. Anonymous. — My son has not been well for some time past. Please pray that he may soon be restored to health. Anonymous. — I am asking the Blessed Virgin to continue to watch over me and to obtain me two special favours. A. L., **Montreal.** — I wish to obtain a few favours. Kindly remember me in your prayers. Mrs. P. — I would ask you to pray that I may obtain a very important favour. Miss P. — I am asking our dear heavenly Mother to intercede for me. Mrs. N., **Montreal.** — The Blessed Virgin has been very good to me, and I am asking her to come to my aid again. Mrs. B. — Please pray that my request may be granted. Miss L. — Please pray that my husband may lead a better life and that I may be granted another favour. Anonymous. — I would ask you to pray that I may be restored to health. Mrs. B. — I wish to obtain two favours through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. Kindly remember me in your prayers. Miss N., **Montreal.** — Please pray that we may obtain some important favours. Anonymous. — Please pray that my daughter may obtain a position and that two friends of mine may

regain their health. A. L. — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. May our Blessed Mother watch over my son. Mrs. S. — My husband and I are in poor health. Please pray for us. Mrs. J. M. — Please pray that one dear to me may lead a better life. Anonymous. — May I ask you to pray that I may be cured of stomach trouble. If my request is granted, I will publish my thanksgiving and send you a donation. Mrs. N. K., **West Bathurst, N. B.** — Please pray that my daughter's husband may give up a bad habit. Anonymous. — Find enclosed my renewal subscription. Please pray that my daughter may obtain several desired favours. Mrs. R., **Montreal**. — If I obtain some desired favours, I will send you a substantial donation. Mrs. L. — May our Blessed Lady watch over all in our family. Mrs. T. — Kindly make a novena to the Blessed Virgin, asking her to obtain me two special favours. Anonymous. — Please pray that I may be restored to health. M. B. — I wish to obtain a very special favour. Please ask our dear heavenly Mother to come to my aid. Mrs. M., **Windsor, Ont.**



## NECROLOGY

Reverend Father L. COUTURE, Sherbrooke, Que.; Sister Ste. VIRGINIE, novice, Missionary of the Immaculate Conception; Mrs. Ildege PROVOST, Montreal, mother of our Sister Marie Joseph du Sacre Cœur; Mr. Louis PELLETIER, St. Francois de Madawaska, N. B., father of our Sister St. Louis; Mrs. Arthur V. GADBOIS, Rougemont, sister of our Sister Marie de l'Incarnation; Mrs. Alphonse MARCOTTE, La Sarre, sister of our Sister Jeanne de Jesus; Mr. Napoleon BERGERON, Kenogami, brother of our Sister Ste. Eveline; Miss Catherine GORMAN, Outremont; Mrs. J. J. DOLAN, Montreal; Mrs. Michael KEEGAN, Outremont; Mrs. Patrick QUIGLEY, Frampton, Que.; Mrs. William SHINNERS, Montreal; Mrs. Ellen O'BRIEN, Lewiston, Me.; Mrs. Helen KIRBY, Verdun; Mrs. T. L. BROWN, Notre Dame de Grace; Mr. James MEEHAN, Point St. Charles; Miss Sadie O'BRIEN, Montreal; Mr. P. T. MC CANN, Montreal; Mrs. Catherine LAVERTY, Montreal; Mr. M. J. MC MAHON, Verdun; Mrs. J. BRADY, Sherbrooke, Que.; Mr. T. J. QUIRK, Montreal; Mrs. James Ed. FRENCH, Boston, Mass.; Mrs. Mary GORMAN, Montreal; Mr. John GRIFFIN, Pifferlaw, Ont.; Mr. John Mc KAY, Montreal; Mr. Armand BONDY, Amherstburg, Ont.; Miss Annie LEONARD, Montreal; Mrs. Julia BERIGAN, Ottawa, Ont.; Mr. George ALARY, Montreal; Mr. John O'DONNELL, Verdun; Mr. Michael DOLAN, Lachine; Mrs. Fred POIRIER, Notre Dame de Grace; Mr. David P. DANAHER, Verdun; Mr. and Mrs. Medard OUIMET; Mr. Jules BOYER; Mr. John PATTERSON, Donnacona.

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Procure for the Missions.

# Benefactors of the Society

of the

## Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

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1. — **Founders**, those who donate \$1,000.00 or more.
2. — **Protectors**, those who by a donation of \$500.00, provide the dowry and trousseau of a poor novice. By combining their alms, a parish, community or family may have a right to this title.

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

3. — **Subscribers**, those who give an annual offering of \$25.00.
4. — **Associates**, those who give the sum of \$2.00 a year.

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

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## Privileges Granted to Benefactors

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

Besides, Benefactors are entitled to the following spiritual advantages:

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