

# THE PRECURSOR



Vol. XI., 15th Year

MONTREAL, July-August, 1937

No. 4

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

## **IN CANADA**

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

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

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

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

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

Closed Retreats for ladies and girls. Kindergarten.

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

Closed Retreats for ladies and girls.

(Continued on page 3 of the cover.)



## Please Help the Missionary Sisters

of the Immaculate Conception

*By procuring work for them.*

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

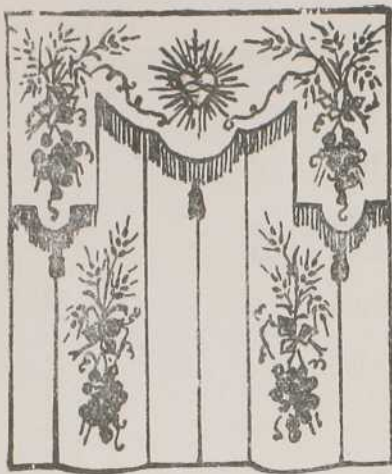
Missionaries must train for several years before being able to commence their apostolic work in foreign fields.

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

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

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

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

Chasuble, damask silk, silk braid.....	\$ 17.00	and \$ 25.00
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"    velvet, gold braid and emblem.....	35.00	"    40.00
"    fine gold cloth, with or without very rich hand-embroidery.....	50.00	"    90.00
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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
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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.

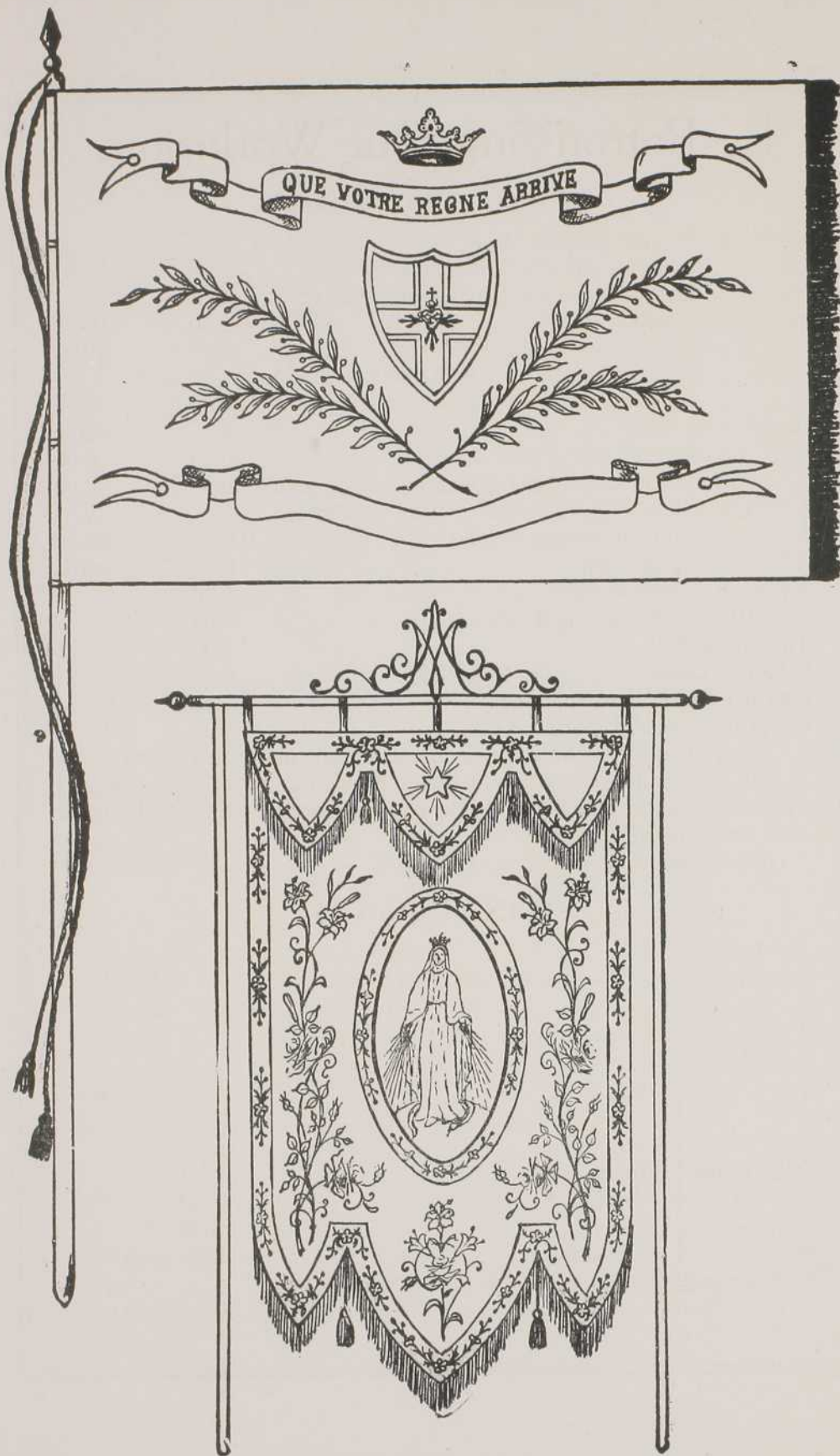
*Description and prices given on request.*

### 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	"    "
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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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*O Glorious St. Ann,  
by thy pure and holy love for thy cherished child,  
the ever blessed Virgin Mary,  
obtain for us a tender and solid love for her and thee,  
that thus we may merit her protection and thine.*





## Good Saint Anne



*O Mother of God's Chosen! Linked, Our Lord to Earth!  
True Ward'ress of the Wedded! Shrine of Stainless Birth!  
Gave Gift of Golden Glory — Promised-One-to be —  
To crush the Serpent's slavedom and force Eve's fetters free!  
Thou Matron, truly holy; splendidly you shine  
In scintillating brilliance; priceless powers, thine.  
Thy miracles, so boundless, Heaven's wonders show  
Great favors from thy God — Whence Mercy's fountains flow.*

*Grave ills of life quick conquered. Graces freely fall  
O'er all the world — far flung — as countless millions call.  
Rare lustrous Source of Sweetness! Chosen Channel, pure,  
To fend for Earth its Eve — unscath'd of Sin's allure!  
O may thy precious presence — bearing riches rare —  
Beneath each roof-tree glisten; homes — thy treasured care —  
For many such are empty, and lofty aims are lost —  
Saint Anne, on these, have pity. Surge and tempest-loss'd!*

— Ronald Stephen MacDonald.



## St. Ann, the Model of Christian Mothers

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**T**HE Holy Ghost chooses Joachim, from among all the sons of David, to be the father of the Blessed Virgin, and gives him the pious Ann, a daughter of the same family, as spouse. Joachim is a shepherd, and in reward for his great virtue and generosity, God watches over his flocks, and blesses his heritage which is to become also Mary's.

Endeared to God by the holiness of her life, Ann, the future Grandmother of the Messiah, is remarkable for her charity and extraordinary purity. She is not rich but she is generous, and, in concert with Joachim, she makes three parts of her modest revenue, one part being destined for the altar, a second for the poor, and the third for their personal needs. Thus, the world's goods which she has received from God are wholly given back to Him Who has lent them to her. Continually does she act in accordance with the law of God and her love for Him never diminishes.

However, virtue does not keep trials away from one; it is by their means that souls make rapid progress in perfection and attain holiness. For the just of the Old Testament, there can be no greater trial than that of having no posterity. Joachim and Ann have to bear this trial for many long years. Their lives are already drawing to a close and, in spite of their prayers, tears and sacrifices, they have not yet been blessed with a child. Each family of the royal line of David hopes that the Promised Messiah will be born of one of its daughters. So far, vain has been the expectation of these two holy spouses. They are therefore regarded by all the people of Israel as being excluded from the privilege of receiving the blessing of the patriarchs, but they continue praying just the same. Full of faith and confidence, they imitate the pious spouse of Elcana. Like her, Ann sighs and cries out: "Almighty God, listen to my entreaties, take pity on Thy servant, look favourably upon her... Lord, hear me!" The Lord hears her prayers and sends her a child, and what a child!...

Ann's sorrow is changed into joy: the little one is as a ray of sunshine which fills the house with happiness. This holy woman, as a true mother and as a model to be imitated by all mothers, does not leave it to anyone else to bring up her dear child. Mary understands her mother and, while resting in her arms, imparts to her some of the sacred flames with which her spotless soul is already inflamed; the mother understands her child and foresees her glorious destiny. With great affection and respect, she becomes Mary's first teacher. She does not depute to any stranger the task of imparting to her tender charge the first principles of religion and piety. It is from her holy mother that Mary learns the first words which she utters and her first prayers. She it is who teaches her child to read the Scriptures and to look upon all the precepts of the Law with the greatest respect.

When it comes time to part with her beloved child, Ann courageously takes her by the hand and brings her to the Temple where she willingly and





ST. ANN AND HER HOLY SPOUSE ACCOMPANY  
THEIR DEAR CHILD MARY TO THE TEMPLE  
AND CONSECRATE HER TO THE LORD.

lovingly offers her to the Lord. In this blessed abode, Mary grows in knowledge and holiness. Her mother, who has confidence in the priests of the Lord and in the holy women to whom she has entrusted her treasure, does not impede God's designs upon her by excessive tenderness, heedless disapprobation or specious pretexts. Christian mothers should learn from St. Ann how energetic and firm they must be if they wish to continue to draw down blessings upon the children whom they have confided to the care of priests or religious. Woe to the child whose mother leads a frivolous and worldly life, or who, ignorant of her duties, fails to understand these sublime truths! But woe especially to the mother who does not see and honour in her child the image of God, and who does not teach him to walk in the paths of innocence and piety which will lead him to his eternal salvation! Woe to

her if she does not tearfully implore from heaven the grace to know to what masters she should confide the heart and intellect of her son, the virtues and the nascent and tender faculties of her daughter.

O St. Ann, patroness and model of Christian mothers, pray for them and for the Church founded by Our Blessed Lord!

#### A MOTHER'S PRAYER TO ST. ANN

Holy St. Ann, Patroness of Christian families, I present my children to thy care. I know that I received them from God and that it is to Him they belong; therefore I beg of thee the grace, ever to submit cheerfully to whatever Divine Providence may decree concerning them. Vouchsafe to bless them. In their behalf, I ask above all, for the kingdom of God and His justice and to thee, good Mother, I leave all care of providing us with what is necessary and beneficial to our state of life. Imprint a great horror of sin on the hearts of my children; keep them aloof from all evil, preserve them from being contaminated by the world; may all their actions be inspired by Christian principles; grant them simplicity and uprightness of heart, teach them to love God alone, even as from her very earliest years thou didst teach thy holy and immaculate Daughter Mary to love Him.

Holy Ann, thou art the Mirror of patience, obtain for me the grace of patiently and lovingly surmounting the difficulties inseparable from the task of bringing up children. Bless me and my children; watch over us, good Mother, obtain for us the grace of always loving thee together with Jesus and Mary, so that we may live conformably to the spirit of God, and when this life shall be ended, we may have the happiness of being united to thee for all eternity.

Amen.

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Fortunate spouses, Ann and Joachim, every creature is deeply indebted to you. Through you, we can offer to our Creator the most perfect of all gifts, — a chaste Mother, the only being worthy of God.

*St. John Damascene.*

## God Bless our Sovereigns

Another glorious event was inscribed in the History of England on May 12th: the Coronation, at Westminster Abbey, of His Majesty, King George VI and his worthy companion, Queen Elizabeth.

The magnificent demonstrations at London, which were witnessed by millions of citizens, found an echo in the hearts of the people of Canada, especially.

Prayers were also offered, imploring God to grant a glorious reign to our new Sovereigns and all the faithful subjects who have peace and justice at heart, will continue to say daily: "God bless our King and all the royal family!"

## Introduction of the Cause of Bishop Grandin

The Catholics of Western Canada rejoice on hearing that the Sacred Congregation of Rites has approved the introduction of the Cause of Be-  
atification of His Excellency Bishop Grandin. Thousands of people who knew the saintly bishop are still living, for his death occurred only thirty-five years ago. All were deeply impressed and edified by the holiness of his life. It is needless to recall his intercourse with Bishop Tache, whose Coadjutor he was, and with the Diocese of St. Boniface in general. Let us pray that God may grant the Church in Western Canada the signal privilege of having one of its missionary bishops raised to the honours of the altar.

Bishop Grandin was a priest and a member of the Society of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate. He sailed to Canada from France in 1854 and went to St. Boniface, Manitoba. In 1857, he was consecrated Bishop of Satala, at Marseilles, and became Coadjutor Bishop of St. Boniface. From the summer of 1861 to the month of March, 1862, he undertook the voyage to the Arctic Circle: Athabaska, Great Slave Lake, MacKenzie River and Good Hope. In 1869, he went to reside at St. Albert's and there laboured unceasingly for the evangelization of the Indians. In 1871, he was appointed Bishop of St. Albert's (diocese of which the name was changed, in 1912, to Edmonton). In order to obtain funds for his apostolic works, he went to France, where he visited twenty-three parishes. He died in 1902.



# Encyclical Letter On Atheistic Communism

(DIVINI REDEMPTORIS)

*To the Patriarchs, Primates, Archbishops, Bishops, and other Ordinaries  
in peace and communion with the Apostolic See.*

VENERABLE BRETHREN,

*Health and Apostolic Benediction*

1. The promise of a Redeemer brightens the first page of the history of mankind, and the confident hope aroused by this promise softened the keen regret for a paradise which had been lost. It was this hope that accompanied the human race on its weary journey, until in the fulness of time the expected Saviour came to begin a new universal civilization, the Christian civilization, far superior even to that which up to this time had been laboriously achieved by certain more privileged nations.

2. Nevertheless, the struggle between good and evil remained in the world as a sad legacy of the original fall. Nor has the ancient tempter ever ceased to deceive mankind with false promises. It is on this account that one convulsion following upon another has marked the passage of the centuries down to the revolution of our own days. This modern revolution, it may be said, has actually broken out or threatens everywhere, and it exceeds in amplitude and violence anything yet experienced in the preceding persecutions launched against the Church. Entire peoples find themselves in danger of falling back into a barbarism worse than that which oppressed the greater part of the world at the coming of the Redeemer.

3. This all too imminent danger, Venerable Brethren, as you have already surmised, is Bolshevistic and Atheistic Communism, which aims at upsetting the social order and at undermining the very foundations of Christian civilization.

## I

### ATTITUDE OF THE CHURCH TOWARDS COMMUNISM

#### *Previous Condemnations*

4. In the face of such a threat the Catholic Church could not, and does not, remain silent. This Apostolic See, above all, has not refrained from raising its voice, for it knows that its proper and special mission is to defend truth, justice, and all those eternal values which Communism ignores or attacks. Ever since the days when groups of "intellectuals" were formed in an arrogant attempt to free civilization from the bonds of morality and religion, Our Predecessors overtly and explicitly drew the attention of the world to the consequences of the dechristianization of human society. With reference to Communism, Our venerable Predecessor, Pius IX, of holy memory, as early as 1846 pronounced a solemn condemnation, which he



confirmed in the words of the Syllabus directed against "that infamous doctrine of so-called Communism which is absolutely contrary to the natural law itself, and if once adopted would utterly destroy the rights, property, and possessions of all men, and even society itself." Later on, another of Our Predecessors, the immortal Leo XIII, in his Encyclical *Quod Apostolici Muneris*, defined Communism as "the fatal plague which insinuates itself into the very marrow of human society only to bring about its ruin." With clear intuition he pointed out that the atheistic movements existing among the masses of the Machine Age had their origin in that school of philosophy which for centuries had sought to divorce science from the life of the Faith and of the Church.

#### *Acts of Present Pontificate*

5. During Our Pontificate We, too, have frequently and with urgent insistence denounced the current trend to atheism, which is alarmingly on the increase. In 1924, when Our relief-mission returned from the Soviet Union, We condemned Communism in a special Allocution which We addressed to the whole world. In Our Encyclicals *Miserentissimus Redemptor*, *Quadragesimo Anno*, *Caritate Christi*, *Acerba Animi*, *Dilectissima Nobis*, We raised a solemn protest against the persecutions unleashed in Russia, in Mexico, and now in Spain. Our two Allocutions of last year, the first on the occasion of the opening of the International Catholic Press Exposition, and the second during Our audience to the Spanish refugees, along with Our Message of last Christmas, have evoked a world-wide echo which is not yet spent. In fact, the most persistent enemies of the Church, who from Moscow are directing the struggle against Christian civilization, themselves bear witness by their unceasing attacks in word and act, that even to this hour the papacy has continued faithfully to protect the sanctuary of the Christian religion, and that it has called public attention to the perils of Communism more frequently and more effectively than any other public authority on earth.

#### *Need of Another Solemn Pronouncement*

6. To Our great satisfaction, Venerable Brethren, you have, by means of individual and even joint pastoral letters, accurately transmitted and explained to the Faithful these admonitions. Yet, despite Our frequent and paternal warnings, the peril only grows greater from day to day because of the pressure exerted by clever agitators. Therefore, We believe it to be Our duty to raise Our voice once more, in a still more solemn missive, in accord with the tradition of this Apostolic See, the Teacher of Truth, and in accord with the desire of the whole Catholic world, which makes the appearance of such a document but natural. We trust that the echo of Our voice will reach every mind free from prejudice and every heart sincerely desirous of the good of mankind. We wish this the more because Our words are now receiving sorry confirmation from the spectacle of the bitter fruits of subversive ideas, which We foresaw and foretold, and which are, in fact,

multiplying fearfully in the countries already stricken, or threatening every other country of the world.

7. Hence, We wish to expose once more, in a brief synthesis, the principles of Atheistic Communism as they are manifested chiefly in Bolshevism. We wish also to indicate its method of action and to contrast with its false principles the clear doctrine of the Church, in order to inculcate anew, and with greater insistence, the means by which Christian civilization, the true *civitas humana*, can be saved from the satanic scourge, and not merely saved, but better developed for the well-being of human society.

## II

### COMMUNISM IN THEORY AND PRACTICE

#### *Doctrine*

##### *False Ideal*

8. The Communism of to-day, more emphatically than similar movements in the past, conceals in itself a false messianic idea. A pseudo-ideal of justice, of equality and fraternity in labor, impregnates all its doctrine and activity with a deceptive mysticism, which communicates a zealous and contagious enthusiasm to the multitudes entrapped by delusive promises. This is especially true in an age like ours, when unusual misery has resulted from the unequal distribution of the goods of this world. This pseudo-ideal is even boastfully advanced as if it were responsible for a certain economic progress. As a matter of fact, when such progress is at all real, its true causes are quite different, as, for instance, the intensification of industrialism in countries which were formerly almost without it, the exploitation of immense natural resources, and the use of the most brutal methods to insure the achievement of gigantic projects with a minimum of expense.

##### *Marxist Evolutionary Materialism*

9. The doctrine of modern Communism, which is often concealed under the most seductive trappings, is in substance based on the principles of dialectical and historical materialism previously advocated by Marx, of which the theorists of Bolshevism claim to possess the only genuine interpretation. According to this doctrine, there is in the world only one reality, matter, the blind forces of which evolve into plant, animal, and man. Even human society is nothing but a phenomenon and form of matter, evolving in the same way. By a law of inexorable necessity and through a perpetual conflict of forces, matter moves towards the final synthesis of a classless society. In such a doctrine, as is evident, there is no room for the idea of God; there is no difference between matter and spirit, between soul and body; there is neither survival of the soul after death nor any hope in a future life. Insisting on the dialectical aspect of their materialism, the Communists claim that the conflict which carries the world towards its final synthesis can be accelerated by man. Hence they endeavor to sharpen the antagonism which arise between the various classes of society. Thus the class-struggle, with its consequent violent hate and destruction,



takes on the aspect of a crusade for the progress of humanity. On the other hand, all other forces whatever, as long as they resist such systematic violence, must be annihilated as hostile to the human race.

### *Man and the Family Under Communism*

10. Communism, moreover, strips man of his liberty, robs human personality of all its dignity, and removes all the moral restraints that check the eruptions of blind impulse. There is no recognition of any right of the individual in his relations to the collectivity; no natural right is accorded to human personality, which is a mere cog-wheel in the Communist system. In man's relations with other individuals, besides, Communists hold the principle of absolute equality, rejecting all hierarchy and divinely-constituted authority, including the authority of parents. What men call authority and subordination is derived from the community as its first and only font. Nor is the individual granted any property rights over material goods or the means of production, for, inasmuch as these are the source of further wealth, their possession would give one man power over another. Precisely on this score, all forms of private property must be eradicated, for they are at the origin of all economic enslavement.

11. Refusing to human life any sacred or spiritual character, such a doctrine logically makes of marriage and the family a purely artificial and civil institution, the outcome of a specific economic system. There exists no matrimonial bond of a juridico-moral nature that is not subject to the whim of the individual or of the collectivity. Naturally, therefore, the notion of an indissoluble marriage-tie is scouted. Communism is particularly characterized by the rejection of any link that binds woman to the family and the home, and her emancipation is proclaimed as a basic principle. She is withdrawn from the family and the care of her children, to be thrust, instead, into public life and collective production under the same conditions as man. The care of home and children then devolves upon the collectivity.

Finally, the right of education is denied to parents, for it is conceived as the exclusive prerogative of the community, in whose name and by whose mandate alone parents may exercise this right.

### *Communist Society*

12. What would be the condition of a human society based on such materialistic tenets? It would be a collectivity with no other hierarchy than that of the economic system. It would have only one mission: the production of material things by means of collective labor, so that the goods of this world might be enjoyed in a paradise where each would "give according to his powers" and would "receive according to his needs." Communism recognizes in the collectivity the right, or rather, unlimited discretion, to draft individuals for the labor of the collectivity with no regard for their personal welfare; so that even violence could be legitimately exercised to dragoon the recalcitrant against their wills. In the Communistic commonwealth morality and law would be nothing but a derivation of the existing economic order, purely earthly in origin and unstable in character.



In a word, the Communists claim to inaugurate a new era and a new civilization which is the result of blind evolutionary forces culminating in a "humanity without God."

13. When all men have finally acquired the collectivist mentality in this Utopia of a really classless society, the political State, which is now conceived by Communists merely as the instrument by which the proletariat is oppressed by the capitalists, will have lost all reason for its existence, and will "wither away." However, until that happy consummation is realized, the State and the powers of the State furnish Communism with the most efficacious and most extensive means for the achievement of its goal.

14. Such, Venerable Brethren, is the new gospel which Bolshevistic and Atheistic Communism offers the world as the glad tidings of deliverance and salvation! It is a system full of errors and sophisms. It is in opposition both to reason and to divine revelation. It subverts the social order, because it means the destruction of its foundations; because it ignores the true origin and purpose of the State; because it denies the rights, dignity, and liberty of human personality.

#### *Spread of Communism Explained*

##### *Alluring Promises*

15. How is it possible that such a system, long since rejected scientifically and now proved erroneous by experience, how is it, We ask, that such a system could spread so rapidly in all parts of the world? The explanation lies in the fact that too few have been able to grasp the nature of Communism. The majority, instead, succumb to its deception, skilfully concealed by the most extravagant promises. By pretending to desire only the betterment of the condition of the working-classes, by urging the removal of the very real abuses chargeable to the liberalistic economic order, and by demanding a more equitable distribution of this world's goods (objectives entirely and undoubtedly legitimate), the Communist takes advantage of the present world-wide economic crisis to draw into the sphere of his influence even those sections of the populace which on principle reject all forms of materialism and terrorism. And, as every error contains its element of truth, the partial truths to which we have referred are astutely presented according to the needs of time and place, to conceal, when convenient, the repulsive crudity and inhumanity of Communistic principles and tactics. Thus the Communist ideal wins over many of the better-minded members of the community. These, in turn, become the apostles of the movement among the younger intelligentsia, who are still too immature to recognize the intrinsic errors of the system. The preachers of Communism are also proficient in exploiting racial antagonisms and political divisions and oppositions. They take advantage of the lack of orientation characteristic of modern agnostic science, in order to burrow into the universities, where they bolster up the principles of their doctrine with pseudo-scientific arguments.

*Liberalism Prepares the Way*

16. If we would explain the blind acceptance of Communism by so many thousands of workmen, we must remember that the way had been already prepared for it by the religious and moral destitution in which wage-earners had been left by Liberal economics. Even on Sundays and holy-days labor-shifts were given no time to attend to their essential religious duties. No one thought of building churches within convenient distance of factories, nor of facilitating the work of the priest. On the contrary, laicism was actively and persistently promoted, with the result that we are now reaping the fruits of the errors so often denounced by Our Predecessors and by Ourselves. It can surprise no one that the Communistic fallacy should be spreading in a world already to a large extent dechristianized.

*Shrewd and Widespread Propaganda*

17. There is another explanation for the rapid diffusion of the Communistic ideas now seeping into every nation, great and small, advanced and backward, so that no corner of the earth is free from them. This explanation is to be found in a propaganda so truly diabolical that the world has perhaps never witnessed its like before. It is directed from one common center. It is shrewdly adapted to the varying conditions of diverse peoples. It has at its disposal great financial resources, gigantic organizations, international congresses, and countless trained workers. It makes use of pamphlets and reviews, of cinema, theater, and radio, of schools and even of universities. Little by little it penetrates into all classes of the people, and even reaches the better-minded groups of the community, with the result that few are aware of the poison which increasingly pervades their minds and hearts.

*Silence of the Press*

18. A third powerful factor in the diffusion of Communism is the conspiracy of silence on the part of a large section of the non-Catholic press of the world. We say conspiracy, because it is otherwise impossible to explain how a press usually so eager to exploit even the little daily incidents of life has been able to remain silent for so long about the horrors perpetrated in Russia, in Mexico, and even in a great part of Spain; and that it should have relatively so little to say concerning a world organization as vast as Russian Communism. This silence is due in part to short-sighted political policy, and is favored by various occult forces which for a long time have been working for the overthrow of the Christian social order.

*Sad Consequences**Russia and Mexico*

19. Meanwhile, the sorry effects of this propaganda are before our eyes. Where Communism has been able to assert its power — and here We are thinking with special affection of the people of Russia and Mexico — it has

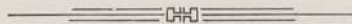


striven by every possible means, as its champions openly boast, to destroy Christian civilization and the Christian religion by banishing every remembrance of them from the hearts of men, especially of the young. Bishops and priests were exiled, condemned to forced labor, shot and done to death in inhuman fashion; laymen suspected of defending their religion were vexed, persecuted, dragged off to trial and thrown into prison.

### *Horrors of Communism in Spain*

20. Even where the scourge of Communism has not yet had time enough to exercise to the full its logical effect, as witness Our beloved Spain, it has alas, found compensation in the fiercer violence of its attack. Not only this or that church or isolated monastery was sacked, but as far as possible every church and every monastery was destroyed. Every vestige of the Christian religion was eradicated, even though intimately linked with the rarest monuments of art and science! The fury of Communism has not confined itself to the indiscriminate slaughter of bishops, of thousands of priests and religious of both sexes; it searches out above all those who have been devoting their lives to the welfare of the working-classes and the poor. But the majority of its victims have been laymen of all conditions and classes. Even up to the present moment masses of them are slain almost daily for no other offense than the fact that they are good Christians, or at least, opposed to Atheistic Communism. And this fearful destruction has been carried out with a hatred and a savage barbarity one would not have believed possible in our age. No man of good sense nor any statesman conscious of his responsibility can fail to shudder at the thought that what is happening to-day in Spain may perhaps be repeated to-morrow in other civilized countries.

(To be continued)



## **Alms Increase our Merits**

"He who soweth sparingly, shall also reap sparingly; and he who soweth in blessings, shall also reap of blessings." (II Cor., IX, 6.) The seed thrown into the soil seems lost forever, but in reality it grows. The hard-hearted think that what is given to the poor is lost, but, in reality, alms given for the love of God increase a hundredfold and merit everlasting life. For this reason, Our Lord tells us: "Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth, where the rust and the moth consume and where thieves dig through and steal." (Matth., VI, 19.) What a wonderful speculation this is: we give this world's goods and we gain Heaven; in return for a glass of cold water, we are put in possession of a stream of living water. By giving what we shall have to leave at death, we assure ourselves possessions which cannot be taken from us. Let us therefore, store up our treasures in Heaven, where we shall live eternally, rather than here below, where we are only passing. The poor are the bankers to whom we may confide them without fear; we shall find them all in the treasury of Christ Who will have increased them a hundredfold.



# The Forty Hours' Devotion

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**T**HE Forty Hours' Devotion was established in the Church long before the opening of the present century. In 1730, Pope Clement XII issued a decree with a view to regulate this devotion which already existed since 1534. A Capuchin Father of Milan, Father Joseph de Ferno, had a few of the faithful kneel before the altar to ask for the cessation of a dreadful war waged between Francis the First and Charles the Fifth. Since that date, the Devotion has spread everywhere.

The acts of exterior worship paid to God, such as the Feast of Corpus Christi celebrated since 1315, and the solemn processions of the Blessed Sacrament with the ostensorium, after the Council of Prague in 675, prove the piety of the faithful in the early days of the Church. In 1534, as stated above, this piety adopted the form of the Forty Hours' Devotion. Since 1730, the faith of the Christians in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar has become more lively, and, moved by the need of offering reparation to the Sacred Heart, the faithful have continued gathering around the Eucharistic throne. The religious orders devoted to perpetual adoration have continually increased in number and their apostolate is one of reparation.

Since the beginning of the twentieth century, International Eucharistic Congresses have been held almost every year, attracting the attention of the entire world. The Blessed Sacrament is therefore more than ever the incentive to piety and the strength of the faithful, who, by frequent Communion especially, and in response to the appeal of Pope Pius X, are returning to the fervour of the first ages.

The indulgences to be gained during the Forty Hours' Devotion are as follows:

1. A Plenary Indulgence, applicable to the faithful departed, is granted to all who, having gone to Confession and received Holy Communion, pray before the Blessed Sacrament exposed, for the intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff.
2. A Partial Indulgence of 10 years and 10 quarantines for each visit paid to the Blessed Sacrament exposed, with the firm purpose of confessing one's sins.



We shall find in the Eucharist as many mysteries as there are drops in the sea, as there are atoms in the sun, as there are stars in the firmament, as there are angels in heaven. There we shall find Bethlehem and the humility of God become man, there Nazareth with its examples for every walk of life, there Tabor and its glory, there Calvary and the price of our ransom.

*St. Albert the Great.*

# Father Damien

*The Apostle of the Lepers of Molokai*

BY MRS. AUGUSTUS CRAVEN, NEE LA FERRONNAYS

(Continued.)

The Hawaiian Government quickly responded to this appeal. A considerable amount of money had always been granted the poverty-stricken people in the leper colony, and all that Father Damien now proposed was approved of. The work he had asked to have done was undertaken, and he himself did all that he could to better conditions. There was no way of curing the disease, but its disastrous effects were averted by the good priest, who always remained with the lepers to urge them to bear their sufferings patiently. While he was among the poor unfortunates, he spoke words of comfort to over two thousand dying patients. He did all that he could to put cheer into the lives of these wretched outcasts of humanity, a number of whom declared that they would rather be lepers all their lives than be cured and sent away from Molokai. The devoted missionary often remarked that he was very happy, and that nothing could make him think of leaving his field of apostolate.

In 1881, while Father Damien was throwing his heart and soul into the work he had undertaken, a Catholic American, Mr. Charles Warren Stoddart, went with one of his friends to the Island of Molokai. On his return, this gentleman saw to having an account of his visit published, and from this account I have extracted the following passages:

.....

"At the far end of the village is to be found a little chapel. The cross surmounting it, and the one in the middle of the cemetery, indicate that the poor people of the Island have not been forsaken. In order to get to the church, we had to go through the cemetery, the gate of which was opened for us by a happy band of children. The youngsters hastily took off their hats, and told us that we were welcome. I noticed that all the little faces were covered with sores and scars, that the hands and feet of a number of the poor lads were deformed, and that blood was flowing from some of their sores. They, like all those who had greeted us on our way, had contracted leprosy. Nearly all of the people in the two villages on the coast are victims of the dread disease.

As strangers are seldom seen in Kalawao, the inhabitants kept staring at us. They did not venture to approach, and, when we went up to them, they immediately stepped aside. Very soon, we were surrounded by a crowd of lepers. As we looked at them one after the other, we were surprised to find that human bodies could be so horrible before being visited by death.



When we reached the chapel, a young priest opened the door, and, stepping outside, extended us a welcome. He wore a threadbare soutane; his hair was ruffled, and his hands hardened.

But happiness beamed on his countenance, and he appeared to us to be a man capable of undertaking and of performing the most difficult tasks. It was Father Damien, the voluntary exile, who was the only one on the Island who was not affected with leprosy."

Father Damien conducted the visitors to his humble abode, and asked them to sit down to take a meal with him. When he did not cook his food himself, he saw to having it cooked by a native who was not a leper. Except for this precaution, which he took less for his own sake than for that of the people who were in the habit of coming to see him, he was always in contact with the lepers. He never closed the door of his little dwelling, and he always had a few of the poor people with him. One must take note of all this in order to understand how it was that he succeeded in transforming the wretched inhabitants of the Island into one big family of submissive children. He would often remark that others were inclined to pity him, but that he believed that he was the happiest of all missionaries...

Mr. Stoddart and his friend did not accept the meal offered them. They had brought a basket of provisions, and they invited Father Damien to take a lunch with them. The missionary consented only after making up his mind to give them one of his most beautiful hens.

"He went outside," says Mr. Stoddart, "with his hand full of grain. While scattering this grain around, he uttered a shrill sound, to which all the birds of the air seemed to reply. They came from all over to perch on his shoulders, arms, hands, and head. He was proud of his hens, and he took pleasure in feeding them. Nevertheless, in order to prove his kindness, he gave us two of them, and, when it was time for us to leave, he wished us success."

In the same account are to be found the following details, which are of a nature to make us appreciate the zeal and activity of this holy missionary priest.

"Every Sunday and feast day, High Mass was celebrated at Kalawao, and, when it was over, Father Damien went to Kalapaupa to offer up the Holy Sacrifice. In the afternoon, he came back to Kalawao to sing Vespers, give Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, and teach Catechism. He afterwards returned to Kalapaupa to repeat the same religious exercises for the people there. It was only at nightfall that he took the time to put things in order in his little dwelling and to sit down to supper...

.....

"He attended to the needs of the body as well as to those of the soul, and he often acted as magistrate, school teacher, carpenter, painter, gardener, and grave-digger. He was able to exercise all trades, and he never refused to do anything that could help on in any way the poor people with whom he had come to live..."



Mr. Stoddart gives the following account of a High Mass at which he assisted at Kalawao.

"I had imagined," he states, "that this Mass was to be somewhat like one for the dead, for nearly all of those present appeared to be at death's door. Father Damien made a sign, and I saw that he wanted me to go to a little platform on the left side. There was but one chair surrounded by a grating, and I was told that not one of the lepers ever went near it. When I opened the door, I found that I was close to the celebrant, and that I was facing the congregation. The altar boys, who were respectful and well clad, had leprous sores, and a few of the people were horribly disfigured.

"The magnificent liturgical vessels had been sent from Paris by the Pastor of St. Roch's Church. Father Damien made use of them on Sundays and feast days. It was lovely to see how piously he celebrated the Holy Sacrifice. The church was well filled, and there was congregational singing. The Catholics of the Hawaiian Islands do not always act with due consideration, but they are devout and are capable of being heartily sorry for their sins.

"It was a very touching spectacle that I witnessed that day. How beautiful did I find the altar with its spotless cloth, the golden vessels, and the twinkling lights! What a contrast there was between the healthy-looking priest who was singing the *Pater*, and the poor outcasts of humanity who had come to hear Mass!... The air was filled with an offensive odour. Father Damien, however, did not mind it, and he even found that it was a glorious privilege to be able to thus unite himself to His Lord and Master. I thought of the following verses from the Gospel of St. Luke: *And as He entered into a certain town, there met Him ten men that were lepers, who stood afar off, and lifted up their voice, saying: Jesus, master, have mercy on us.* The poor lepers kneeling near me had also cried out to our divine Lord, and they had received, through the instrumentality of His faithful disciple, a favourable reply!..."

Father Damien always cooked his own meals and washed his own clothes. He it was who washed the altar linens, and he allowed no one to touch any of the objects in the sacristy. But he did not take any other precautions, and it is a wonder that he was able to remain among the lepers for thirteen years without contracting their terrible disease. The miracle, however, was not to last forever, and the missionary was to be asked to lay down his life for his little flock.

We are unable to give a detailed account of all that Father Damien endeavoured to do. As I have already stated, the Hawaiian Government did not delay in responding to his appeal. Besides having grants made in his favour, the holy missionary was allowed to act freely, and he often went to Honolulu in order to tell the people there of the needs of his lepers and of what he had planned to do for them. It was only after he had become a leper himself that he was forbidden to leave Molokai.

(To be continued.)

# Indulgences

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Our Lord, in dying on the Cross, has satisfied for the sins of all men. The penance of many saints has exceeded their debts towards Divine Justice.

These superabundant satisfactions of Our Lord and of the saints form the treasury of the Church. By the Communion of Saints, that mysterious tie which unites all holy souls in Christ, the Church disposes of these accumulated riches as of a family fortune.

Wishing to encourage her children to pray and to do good works, Our Holy Mother the Church adds to the personal merit attached to every pious action a satisfactory value which is taken from the common treasury. Thus, the rich help the poor to pay their spiritual debt.

Indulgences are, therefore, a source of expiation. They remit, by means of the treasury of the Church, the temporal punishment due to actual sins already forgiven.

There are two kinds of Indulgences: Plenary and Partial.

A Plenary Indulgence is so called because it remits all the temporal punishment due to sins which have been forgiven. One who has had the happiness of gaining a Plenary Indulgence is like a newly-baptized person. If he were to die in this state, he would go straight to Heaven without passing through the flames of Purgatory.

Lack of preparation or negligence in performing the good works prescribed for gaining an Indulgence, may be the cause of a Plenary Indulgence being gained only partially.

Partial Indulgences must be reckoned according to the customs of the primitive Church. An Indulgence of a hundred days, or of a year, for instance, is the remission of the temporal punishment that would have been cancelled, in the primitive Church, by a hundred days, or by a year, of canonical penance.

Certain practices and prayers have been enriched with numerous indulgences on account of their immense spiritual value.



## Votive Lights in Honour of the Blessed Virgin

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*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



# 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 have obtained a great favour through the intercession of the Little Flower of Jesus and am enclosing an offering, as promised. Mrs. L., **Verdun**. — Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving to dear St. Theresa for a favor received. M. L. F., **Marlboro, Mass.** — Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving for a favor received from St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. A Friend, **Indian Orchard, Mass.** — I have obtained a great favour through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus.

Mrs. G. C. — The little Patroness of Missionaries has come to my aid. I am truly thankful for all that she has done for me. Mrs. T. — A very special favour has been obtained through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Mrs. A. C. — The Little Flower of Jesus has heard my prayers, and I am asking her to intercede for me again. A. M. — I am grateful for the favour I have received from St. Teresa of the Child Jesus.

Mrs. L., **Montreal**. — I have obtained a favour through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, and I am enclosing an offering, as promised. Kindly unite with me in thanking my loving Protectress. Mrs. N. M. — I have obtained a wonderful favour through the intercession of the Little Flower of Jesus. A Subscriber. — A cure has been obtained through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Mrs. T. — I have obtained a favour through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Kindly unite with me in thanking this dear little Saint. L. L. — I have obtained a great favour through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Mrs. C., **Verdun**. — I wish to thank the Little Flower of Jesus for the many favours she has obtained me. Mrs. L. — Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Mrs. D., **Montreal**. — Several favours have been obtained through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Anonymous. — I have obtained a favour through the intercession of the little Patroness of Missionaries. Miss H., **Montreal**. — The enclosed offering is in thanksgiving for a favor obtained through the intercession of the Little Flower of Jesus. B. C. L., **Indian Orchard, Mass.** — The Little Flower of Jesus has come to my aid. Please ask her to obtain me another favor. Miss P., **Anthony, R. I.** — I wish to thank St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for the favour she has obtained me. Mrs. S.

## 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	September-October 1936.....	16.50
November-December ".....	7.00	November-December ".....	6.00
January-February 1936.....	159.42	January-February 1937.....	162.80
March-April ".....	45.70	March-April ".....	4.50
May-June ".....	\$ 37.60	May-June ".....	48.10
July-August ".....	152.25		





SISTER MARIE DE LOYOLA, M. I. C. (ORPHISE BOULAY, OF COATICOOK, QUE.), SISTER MARIE IMMACULEE, M. I. C. (ALICE VANCHESTEIN, OF ST. MICHEL DE NAPIERVILLE, QUE.) AND THE MANY LITTLE ABANDONED CHILDREN OF THE FOUNDLING-HOME IN CANTON, CHINA.



## Echoes from our Missions CHINA

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

*Canton, February 28, 1937.*

DEAREST MOTHER,

We are not sowing in vain on the Cantonese soil. Work and trouble are not lacking, it is true, but we have our share of consolation. At the Foundling-Home, it consists in the daily renewed happiness of opening Heaven to a number of little souls. At the Orphanage and at the School, good is being done every day, but we shall be obliged to wait a few years before being able to fully appreciate the fruits of our apostolate. Just lately, we had the occasion of seeing for ourselves the good one of our former pupils of the Holy Ghost School has done to those around her. The following shows the zeal of this apostle of our holy religion.

As you know, there is in Canton, a college for young men, the Sacred Heart College, which before the passage of the Bolshevists, ten years ago, was directed by the Marist Brothers. These religious, in giving their pupils a good education, seem to have won their affection, for often enough do we meet men who are happy to recall their years of study under the wise direction of these devoted masters.

In 1922, a student of the Sacred Heart College, convinced that the Catholic Church is the true Church, asked to be baptized. A short time afterwards, his parents engaged him to a pagan girl. One can easily imagine how this young man had to struggle. He required that the bride should be baptized before getting married. The girl's parents were formally opposed to this, but the new Christian was relentless, and the father finally decided to take his daughter to our Holy Ghost School, where she was taught the truths of our holy religion. A few months later, she received the Sacrament of Baptism. These days spent at our Convent were, for her, unforgettable ones.

After her wedding, the new housewife stayed at her father-in-law's, as most of the young Chinese women generally do. She kept herself busy



while her husband, employed as station agent in a place not far from Canton, earned a living for the two. Thanks to their fervour, they succeeded in winning over all those around them; first of all the young man's people and then the wife's. The mother of the latter was the hardest to convert. She was an inveterate pagan. Her eldest sister, an unmarried nurse, acts as



SISTER MARIE CELINA (GRACIA BLANCHETTE, OF DRUMMONDVILLE, QUE.) AND A FEW LITTLE TOTS OF THE ORPHANAGE IN CHARGE OF THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, CANTON, CHINA.

midwife in the city of Thing-Yune, which is two hours and a half by train from Canton. The inhabitants of this part of Kwantung are poverty-stricken. Last year, the rice crop was destroyed by the flood; the actual harvest is very poor. The majority of the population must be satisfied with rice soup instead of good boiled rice; or they must eat either sweet potatoes or roots of trees taken from the mountains. These unfortunate people are no better supplied with quilts than they are with food. What fate is awaiting the baby arriving in such poor homes. It will be thrown away if no charitable person is there to bring it to a foundling asylum, and thus prevent it from being the prey of famished dogs. If the child falls into the hands of a Catholic midwife, happy will it be, for she will confer on it, among other favours, that of Holy Baptism. This is what the woman whom I am speaking of does.

The Government requires that every prefecture have its charitable institutions. For this end, taxes are imposed; but it is a pagan charity, and it is only by means of money that it is carried on. Where missionaries would ask for \$100.00 to support a work, the pagans exact \$1000.00, if not more.

In the city of Thing-Yune, there was a foundling-home where babies were received. The directors, however, were far from being philanthropical. The new Christians' people went every day to comfort the poor children. They bathed them and gave them something to eat, but above all they strove to procure these little ones the grace of Baptism. Within six years, hundreds of dying children have left this pagan refuge for heaven without anyone knowing of their happiness. These fervent Christians have not only sent to heaven legions of little angels, but have persuaded the directors of different works of charity to look favourably upon the Catholics.

Last year, the Civil Authorities replaced the directors of the Foundling-Home, in favour of the little guests. Better care was given to the poor outcasts, but on account of lack of funds, the number of babies received

was reduced to twenty. The rest were refused, and the poor people were vexed. One day, they tied a living baby to a branch of a tree in order to inspire pity. On seeing what had happened, the directors of the Foundling-Home asked the Christian family if the extra babies could not be sheltered elsewhere. It was to us they had recourse. We were quite embarrassed, and we had more reason than they to be so, for we had so little funds, and no room to put the children. Within the last four months, we have received 1,200 babies in a room measuring 15 x 30 ft., which means that there are from ninety to a hundred in the cradles. It is heart-rending for the missionaries to see themselves obliged to refuse entrance to Heaven to innocent little creatures. We hope that our great Provider St. Joseph will be touched by our prayers and will send us through the medium of some kind benefactors the means to shelter these abandoned waifs who are stretching out their little arms to us. In Canton, a mite as well as a substantial offering, is received with gratitude, for here, like everywhere else, pennies make dollars...

As you see, beloved Mother, a great deal of good has been done by this former pupil. May all those sent to us by Divine Providence, follow her example, and like her become fervent apostles among the throngs of pagans all around us. If flowers are culled to adorn our Eternal Father's throne by the Association of the Holy Childhood, at school, soldiers are trained to struggle for Christ and His Church.

Before closing I have something to ask you: I should like to have a spinning-wheel so as to be able to make use of the thread which is given us, and to do other useful work. Whom could I ask for one?

Several months ago, our work began to increase, and six more Sisters



AT THE FOUNDLING-HOME OF THE MISSIONARIES OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, CANTON, CHINA. SISTER MARIE DE LA MISERICORDE (BERTHE DUFRESNE, OF STE. HELENE DE BAGOT, QUE.), ABOUT TO SERVE BREAKFAST TO THE DEAR LITTLE ORPHANS.



could be kept busy at our Mission in Canton. Well may we say: "The harvest indeed is great, but the laborers are few," and pray the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into His harvest.

I must now leave you, dear Mother. Please do not forget to pray for the success of all our works.

Your loving and grateful daughter,

Sister MARIE DE LA MISERICORDE, M. I. C. (1)



SISTER ST. JOHN OF CALVARY (DORIS HAGUE, OF MONTREAL) AND THE PUPILS OF THE ENGLISH CLASS OF THE SCHOOL DIRECTED BY THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, HONG KONG, CHINA.

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

### **Tuesday, November 3, 1936**

All the priests of the Island have met at the Mission to celebrate Bishop Tsu's seventieth birthday. There was a Solemn High Mass at eight o'clock with a wild flare of trumpets, drums and firecrackers, after which Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given.

At nine o'clock, the boys of the school offered their best wishes to His Excellency, and at twelve, a Chinese dinner was served. The Canadian Missionary Sisters were not forgotten... What minuteness in these Oriental banquets! From half-past twelve to two o'clock, forty dishes were brought to us and eight more were still to come, but we were unable to stay until the end, as the Teresians were to put on a play that afternoon, and we had to see to the final preparations.

1. Berthe DUFRESNE, of St. Helene, Co. Bagot.



A LITTLE CHINESE BOY  
EATING RICE.

After His Excellency's reception at the Native Novitiate, the orphans, the workers, and the girls of the school, expressed their gratitude and affection to their revered Pastor.

The place being much too small for the crowd, it was impossible to admit the outsiders, who were vexed and could not help from grumbling a little. We had invited the servants to come and look through the windows; they would have come just the same, but the invitation made them feel more at ease, and not one was missing. The members of the different groups who appeared on the stage vied with one another to make the little entertainment a success. His Excellency was deeply touched by the marks of respect and filial love he received.

### **Saturday, November 7**

One day, on going to visit a sick boy, Sister Marie de Sion<sup>(1)</sup> is informed that the child has been brought to a pagan ceremony during which the children are to be offered to Buddha. Without losing any time, Sister makes her way to the place. She has the happiness of baptizing not only one little waif, but ten, for many of those offered to the idols are in a dying condition. What a pleasing gift for our Holy Queen on this first Saturday of the month!

### **Monday, November 16**

One of our orphans, Van Yen, twelve years old, took her flight to Heaven yesterday, after being fortified by the Last Rites of the Church and assisted by the prayers of her teachers and companions.

The white lawn dress she wears and the daisies with which she is crowned make her look like a little queen who is resting, and Death does not seem to be so sad.

The interment takes place at half-past one. Having died of a contagious disease, according to a custom, she is not allowed to be taken to the church. The liturgical prayers are recited in the infirmary of the Orphanage, and the corpse is then borne to the cemetery to be put into a grave strewn with roses, chrysanthemums, and bind-weed. The Chinese are astonished on seeing with what reverence we surround the mortal remains of a humble twelve-year-old girl.

### **Friday, November 30**

Before she died, little Van Yen promised that she would help us to save the souls of her fellow-countrymen. Since she has left this world, five adults have received the grace of Baptism.

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





MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION,  
TSUNGMING, CHINA, LEAVING, IN A CHINESE WHEELBARROW  
TO VISIT THEIR PATIENTS.

### **Friday, December 11**

The sun seems to be pouting behind the dark clouds, and we are obliged to go a long distance to visit some sick persons who have asked to see us. We leave towards eleven o'clock, in spite of the fact that it has begun to rain. As we travel over 30 *li* in a wheelbarrow on an unknown part of the island, the drivers lose their way.

After going out of our way a few times, we are put on the right path again by Divine Providence, and we arrive just in time to baptize three adults, who die the same evening. Darkness soon spreads over the earth, and it is in the company of four men who have come to our help that we reach the convent. However

eventful these apostolic journeyings may be, they always are the source of much consolation for the Missionaries.

### **Friday, January 15, 1937**

Before leaving for the Eucharistic Congress which is to take place in Manila, Bishop Tsu pays a visit to his Teresian family, after having called to see Reverend Father Lieu, V. F., Director of the Native Novitiate, whose health is not improving in the least. This long illness makes one realize how few priests there are. The entire responsibility of the sacred ministry falls upon the one missionary priest in Tsungming.

### **Sunday, January 24**

At eleven o'clock this morning, Reverend Father Lieu breathes his last. The sad news, which reaches us towards one o'clock this afternoon, deeply grieves the Teresians, who have always looked upon this good priest as a kind father. Thus, it is with heavy hearts, that they commence their annual retreat this evening. Their four Sisters from Haimen have come to attend the Mission exercises, which will be preached by Father Wang, a Chinese priest.

### **Thursday, January 28**

Owing to the bad condition of the roads, the translation of the earthly remains of Reverend Father Lieu had to be delayed until yesterday. On the arrival of the corpse, towards half-past one, the band played a plaintive

melody and the customary fireworks were exploded. The entire personnel of the Mission went to the church, where the choir chanted the Office of the Dead. The sealed coffin was left there over night, and this morning Father Wang celebrates the Requiem Mass. As the priests' retreat is going on in Haimen, not one ecclesiastic of the Island is present at the funeral.

Another Mass will be sung when Bishop Tsu returns from Manila. Until then, the casket will remain in the parlour of the presbytery. A strange custom, but one commonly practised in China. The corpse sometimes remains a year, and even two, in the house of the dead person. This explains the necessity of having the coffin well sealed.

### **Tuesday, February 2**

At the Native Novitiate, five postulants receive the Habit of the Teresian Congregation. Reverend Father Wang presides at the ceremony.

### **Wednesday, February 10**

The Chinese calendar indicates the last day of the year, while the Gregorian calendar marks Ash Wednesday. Our Holy Mother Church, always



CONDUCTED BY THEIR DIRECTRESS, SISTER MARIE D'EPHESE M. I. C. (JEANNETTE LUNEAU, OF PRINCEVILLE, QUE.), THE ORPHANS CARRY TO THE BAPTISMAL FONT THE LITTLE ONES RECENTLY BROUGHT TO THE FOUNDLING-HOME IN TSUNGMING, CHINA.

lenient to her children, grants the Catholics two weeks' delay. According to the custom, the Chinese have a feast on the days that follow New Year's, and this way of living is not in accordance with the Lenten diet. At the church, however, ashes are distributed to the faithful.

A fervent Chinese woman proves that she is animated with the spirit of the Church. Meeting one of the Sisters at the convent door, she says to her: "I know I'm going to die very soon, for I'm eighty years old, and I've had so much trouble all my life, that I hope I'll go to heaven; but I'd



like to meet someone I know when I get there, and that's why I've brought this." She takes from a creased piece of paper three coins, which she gives to the portress, saying: "When dying children are brought to you, would you kindly baptize three in my name." It is really very touching, for this poor woman is giving all she has, and she earned this money making straw shoes. She was kept busy for two weeks.

### Thursday, February 11

An eagle preys upon a little thrush which is hovering over the roof of the Orphanage. In two movements of its sharp claws, it mangles the poor little bird, whose shrill cries frighten the orphans, who are playing in the yard. The Sister in charge says to them: "It's terrible, isn't it? Well, let this be a lesson for you. *Momo* forbids you to pass through the big gate, which she keeps closed, it is so that the bad men may not come into the yard. The day a little girl disobeys, who knows but what a bandit may be right on the spot to catch her and carry her off."

During recreation that evening, *Ya Sieu* sits nearer her teacher than usual. "Move back a little," says the latter, "it will be easier for you to work." "I'm afraid of the eagle," answers the trembling child. The others are frightened too. The Sister reassures all the little folks, by telling them that the doors are well locked, and that they need not fear, as God always protects the children who are good. We are inclined to think that the little ones will not soon forget the lesson, and that they will profit by it.

Report of the Dispensary at Tsungming from November, 1936, to February, 1937, inclusive:

Baptisms of children.....	238	Baptisms of adults.....	8
Patients.....	1,754	Treatments.....	4,344
Homes visited.....	73	Teeth extracted.....	28
		Injections.....	27

Report of the Dispensary at Paochen from November, 1936, to February, 1937, inclusive:

Baptisms of children....	229	Baptisms of adults.....	21
Patients.....	2,164	Treatments.....	4,371
Homes visited.....	203	Teeth extracted.....	28
		Injections.....	85



Little children have always on their lips the word "mother," and in all the dangers to which they are exposed, and in all their fears they cry: "mother." Ah, most sweet Mary! Ah, most loving Mother! this is exactly what thou dost desire; that we become little children, and always call upon thee in our dangers, and always have recourse to thee, for thou wishest to aid and save us, as thou hast saved all thy children who have had recourse to thee.

*St. Alphonsus De Liguori.*

*A Letter from a Missionary Sister of the Immaculate Conception of Suchow,  
to the Directress of the Missionary Circles.*

*Suchow, February, 1937.*

VERY DEAR SISTER,

The cases arrived from Canada brought us great joy, and filled our hearts with a profound feeling of gratitude. All contained longed for and very useful articles.

We are deeply touched on seeing the interest our benefactors take in our work. For my part, tears come to my eyes as I take out the gifts of their untiring charity. Each case tells us in its own way how the people at home are thinking of us, and also how they are striving to help us. But many things are still lacking. If someone were to have the great kindness to offer to give things for our chapel, I would be tempted to make a few suggestions. We have only one ciborium, and that is not very handy. Here as in Canada, a Communion plate is required, and we have none. If one prefers sending the money for these articles, we can get them in Shanghai for ten dollars, Canadian money. The exchange is actually very advan-



CATHEDRAL ERECTED AT SUCHOW, CHINA,  
BY THE CANADIAN JESUIT FATHERS.

tageous, and we would be obliged to pay neither shipping charges nor duty. These objects attract the attention of the customs officers, who are becoming more and more strict.

With fifteen dollars, Canadian money, we could have a good, solid vestry made with American wood. The labourers are paid a very low salary. May I express another desire? If we only had a clock that strikes, it would be very useful, and would facilitate the regular recitation of the hourly prayer.

Our new companions enjoyed their first New Year's in the mission field. Great was their surprise at recreation time when I showed them the picture of our revered Mother Foundress, which had been brought to us by the





AN ORPHAN OF THE MISSION  
OF SUCHOW,  
IN ITS WADDLED CLOTHES.

Sisters who arrived in September. The desire we had many a time expressed is at last realized. This beloved Mother seems to talk to us, and it does us good to gaze upon her dear features, which are so expressive.

On New Year's afternoon, Bishop Cote, S. J., came to give us his blessing and to speak to us about the works in his Vicariate, in which we are very interested. He was accompanied by Reverend Father Gariepy, S. J.

At the Cathedral, on the 19th of December, the Sacrament of Baptism was administered to sixty catechumens of every age and state, which proves that the beautiful Mission of Suchow is advancing in spite of numerous difficulties.

His Excellency has complied with our request by permitting us to have the Blessed Sacrament exposed in our chapel, on the first Sunday of every month and on certain feast days. We certainly owe a debt of gratitude to our kind friends, for, if this favour was granted us, it was because they had supplied us with the necessary liturgical objects, and we make it our duty to kneel before the Tabernacle to pray for them.

The Dispensary is beginning to attract the Chinese, but they still seem to be afraid of us. A sick woman looked at us very distrustfully when we



SISTER IMELDA DE L'ECHARISTIE (SIMONE BOISCLAIR, OF ALMAVILLE, QUE.),  
SISTER STE. ANGELIQUE (CECILE MATHIEU, OF ST. EVARISTE, CO. BEAUGE, QUE.)  
AND SISTER ST. AMEDEE (EMILIE Vezina, OF QUEBEC), MISSIONARIES OF THE  
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF SUCHOW, STUDYING THE CHINESE LANGUAGE.

visited her for the first time, and she watched our every movement. However, the second time we were to see her, we found that she looked more confident and we now cherish the hope of doing her some good. At the

Dispensary, many objects make us think of the kindness of our Canadian friends.

The last Sisters who arrived: Sister Imelda de l'Eucharistie<sup>(1)</sup>, Sister St. Angélique<sup>(2)</sup>, and Sister St. Amedée<sup>(3)</sup> have experienced their first great missionary joy, that of giving Baptism to little pagans. Our dear companions have ardently set to work, and they are trying to get ahead of one another in the study of the language. Mrs. Tchao, a very intelligent pagan lady who taught in a pagan school formerly, is their teacher.

Kindly accept, dear Sister, the expression of our heartfelt gratitude for your devotedness towards your humble Sisters.

Sister MARIE DE LA PROTECTION<sup>(1)</sup>, Superior.

Report of the Dispensary of Suchow from December, 1936, to February, 1937, inclusive:

Baptisms.....	7	Patients.....	646
Treatments.....	668	Dressings.....	293
Homes visited.....	26	Teeth extracted....	8
		Injections.....	87
		Consultations.....	219

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## MANCHUKUO

LEAOYUANSIEN

*Gleanings From the Diary*

### February, 1937

Last October, the director of an institution in Leaoyuansien gave us permission to visit the establishment as often as we liked. This Refuge harbours old folks, delinquents, and a number of morphinomaniacs whose passion has become inveterate, and whom the leaders hope to cure by keeping for a time. They have chains on their feet, and they are given just enough food to be kept from dying of starvation. However, they do not seem to



SISTER MARIE XAVIER, M. I. C.  
(BERTHE PARADIS, OF TINGWICK, QUE.) POURING THE SACRED WATERS  
FOR THE FIRST TIME AT THE DISPENSARY OF SUCHOW, CHINA.

1. Simone BOISCLAIR, of Almaville.  
2. Cecile MATHIEU, of St. Evariste, Co. Beauce.  
3. Emilienne VEZINA, of Quebec.  
4. Cecile ROBERGE, of Quebec.





SISTER MARIE GERMAINE, M. I. C.  
(GERMAINE GRAVEL, OF ST. PROSPER, CO. CHAMPLAIN, QUE.)  
TREATING A SICK PERSON AT THE DISPENSARY OF LEAOYUANSIEN,  
MANCHUKUO.

take things too badly, and they are humanely treated by the wardens. As soon as they are let free, they passionately return to their old habit, in which they wallow till they are locked up once again. Such is their life...

What can we do for these outcasts? We bring a certain amount of medicine, and Mr. Liou, a fervent catechist, who has been visiting the poor unfortunates for quite a while comes with us. We stop

to see each of the old men, who are about twenty in number. We encourage them a little and give them medical attention. We also pay a visit to the penitentiary... Eighty sick men are there, all of whom are fettered. As many more are well, and they do outside work, while guarded by soldiers. As in the other place, we bandage sores and give medicine. A number have sore eyes, and about thirty have the itch. When we approach the last group, we are almost disgusted, but lifting our thoughts heavenwards, we remember that they are brothers of ours, and that their repulsive bodies hide immortal souls which are to be won to God. Strengthened by this thought, we set to work, I should be tempted to say, with animation. The boxes of salve and of different medicaments are emptied one after the other. While we are treating the patients, Mr. Liou, who is not the least disturbed, gives the patients a good Catechism lesson, to which they listen very attentively. He has won their confidence. Such visits are like a ray of sunshine for these poor captives, who are still able to smile.

The morphinomaniacs form another class of the guests at the Home. They are seventy in a ward which could reasonably contain thirty. One day, near the entrance door, we found one of them who had just expired frothing at the mouth. We drew back on noticing him. Before dying, he had begged for an injection of morphine, which naturally was refused.

Many sad things are to be seen here, but we also experience great joy. A few patients have been baptized, and have died in the best dispositions possible for new Christians. How happy we feel after visiting these centres, which have so little attraction for nature! Our convent, however modest it may be, is like a peaceful paradise. At recreation time, the poignant scenes of the day disappear from our minds, or if not entirely, they afford us the opportunity of rendering more fervent our acts of thanksgiving. With what deep feeling do we repeat in our night prayer: "O my God, what shall I render Thee for all the gifts Thou hast bestowed on me!"

Want is severely felt in this region this winter, Reverend Father Berichon

supplies the famished people with food; on certain days, over two hundred persons come to the Catholic Mission for their pittance.

The visit of Mgr. Lapierre on the occasion of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception brought gladness to the Leaoyuansien Mission. On the eve, after Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, His Excellency came himself to speak to us about the virtues of our Immaculate Patroness. The following day, he celebrated Mass and conferred the Sacrament of Confirmation on fifty persons. After the religious feast, he kindly assisted at a little play which was put on by the girls of the workroom.

Another of our family joys was that of having for a few days one of the Sisters who arrived in September, Sister Eustelle de l'Eucharistie,<sup>(1)</sup> who had come to replace those who had to go to Szepingkai for their retreat. Very often did we speak of Canada! During her stay, while the Sister-Nurse had gone to visit a sick woman, a few persons, who had come from a distance, asked to be received at the Dispensary. It was closed that day, but could we send the poor people away like that? Sister Ste. Denise,<sup>(2)</sup> the second nurse, was in bed with the grippe. Our new companion was obliged to see to them, and to make herself understood the best she could



MUSICIANS HIRED FOR A WEDDING IN MANCHUKUO.

with the little knowledge she had of the language. On her return she resolutely said: "I am going to learn Chinese, it is so useful!"

Many of the Chinese customs surprise those of our companions who have just arrived from Canada. Lately, one of them could not help from telling us about her astonishment on seeing the couple Father Sarrasin had just married, setting out in opposite directions after Mass, according to the etiquette of the country. The young lady came to our workroom.

Another one waited in vain for the bridegroom on the morning the wedding was to take place. He had come in on the night train, and had fallen asleep while awaiting daybreak. When he came out of dreamland,

1. Eustelle SAMSON, of Lauzon.

2. Odile MALBEUF, of Sudbury, Ont.



Mass was over. The wedding was postponed to the next day. This way of acting is gradually disappearing, especially in large centres, where the Chinese are adopting our customs. Nine years ago, when our Sisters arrived in Manchuria, not one of the girls had her hair cut. Very few have a long braid now, and it is the same for all the other customs.

The Sister in charge of the Dispensary often says that her forceps are not very good, she even is afraid of losing her patients. When the teeth are loose, these pincers do, but when they are well rooted in the gums, the patients need to be brave, and the Sister resolute... What a pleasant surprise it would be for her to receive a kit of forceps for the painless extraction of teeth.

Report of the Dispensary of Leaoyuansien from September, 1936, to February, 1937, inclusive:

Baptisms.....33		
Patients.....7,764	Treatments.....9,525	Dressings.....1,593
Teeth extracted... 89	Homes visited... 348	Injections..... 192

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

### **Tuesday, August 11, 1936**

Our Chinese teacher travels twenty-five *li* to pay a visit to her grandmother, who is very sick. When she comes back, she tells us about her trip. There was an enormous coffin for the dying woman, in the cart that took her there, and in this coffin, there were about twenty-five pieces of unbleached cotton for the making of mourning clothes for all in the family. It also contained the necessary provisions for the banquet which is generally given on an occasion of the kind. Now and then, the poor woman, who had a baby in her arms, was obliged to get out of the cart, and wade knee-deep in the water. Every country has its own ways and inconveniences.

### **Sunday, August 16**

At the beginning of Mass, a Christian brings us a baby girl that he has found in a garbage pit. The poor little thing, who is but a few weeks old, is frozen, and what is more pitiful still, its body is bruised and covered with soot. Doubtless this child is another victim of superstition. The pagans, who believe in metempsychosis, generally act as follows: they try different treatments, and when they realize that the child cannot get better, they cover its body with soot, so that the evil spirit which is believed to be in it may be frightened, and not be tempted to come back to harm the other members of the family. Some leave the child die in a corner of the house and, before throwing away the dead body, the father splits its head with an axe. A horrible detail: if the blood flows and stains its garments, the father will rejoice, for he believes that it is a sign that there will be many

boys among the descendants. If the dear associates of the Holy Childhood could only see for themselves the misery of the poor Chinese children, how they would put their whole heart and soul into the beautiful work which is entrusted to them, and which gives them the privilege of sharing directly in the salvation of their pagan brothers.

A few Chinese among our numerous patients, procure the Sister-nurses great joy, by asking to be enrolled as catechumens. The young missionaries sometimes wonder how it is that the Chinese are not always eager to embrace our holy Faith, which is so beautiful. But experience teaches that the conversion of a soul is often the reward of many years of labour, patience, and charity.

#### **Friday, August 21**

We have been treating a new patient for a few days past. He is twenty-five years of age. To-day, his father accompanies him, and asks for a *ling si ti p'ai* (Baptism medal). We do not quite understand what he means, but after a moment's reflection, we imagine that it must be a miraculous medal the man desires. We are very pleased to give him one, and sending a swift arrow of prayer to our Heavenly Mother, we ask her to reward the confidence this poor pagan has in her protection, by granting him very special graces which will help him to find the path of salvation.

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

One hundred and sixty patients are being treated at the Dispensary. Needless to say, we hear the babies crying now and then!... But, we have the happiness of baptizing four little ones, who will soon be rejoicing in Heaven.

#### **Friday, September 25**

Mrs. Tchang, a patient we have been treating for a while, was baptized last night, "If before baptizing me," she remarked, "Father questions me on things I don't know, I'll tell him that I'm too sick, and that I couldn't learn very much, but that I believe, and that I want to be baptized so as to save my soul."

This morning, the new Christian makes her First Communion. She asks Sister Superior to give her a pair of beads, red ones if possible... The Chinese are very fond of bright colours.

#### **Tuesday, September 29**

We receive different gifts, for to-morrow is the feast of the moon, the fifteenth day of the eighth moon. Fruit, a goose, and even a calf's tail prepared in European fashion are given us. The last present comes from Mr. Wang, a renowned doctor of Fakou, who is actually being treated at the Dispensary. We also receive some *yue ping* (moon cakes), which are made of chopped fruits and almonds.



**Friday, October 2**

At present, the Chinese of Fakou are busy working on the earthen roofs of their huts. A stranger who is not used to the Oriental customs, would be inclined to think the Chinese have kitchen-gardens over their houses. The long weeds which grow there in the summer, are pulled up in the autumn,



THE STREET IN FRONT OF THE CATHOLIC MISSION OF FAKOU, MANCHUKUO.

*To the right: A SHOEMAKER BUSY AT WORK.*

*To the left: A TRAVELLING MERCHANT.*

they are tied in bundles and carefully put aside to be used as fuel. Every one in the family does his share of the work. The pumpkins which are still green are brought up on the roof to be ripened by the hot rays of the sun. It is also on the roofs that the children run and play and watch all that the neighbours are doing.

**Monday, October 5**

The wind is cold, and the poor are beginning to think of the winter garments they cannot buy. A little girl four years old, seems to envy her seven-months-old sister, who, thanks to the Holy Childhood Association, is being cared for at the Orphanage. She often cries out: "Mamma give me to the nuns, my little sister has good dresses, and I'm so cold." It is heart-rending to see such poverty, and we often ask ourselves, if those who are wealthy and do not think of the poor were to witness but once what we witness every day, could they remain insensible, and not give part of their superfluity to help the suffering members of Christ?

**Saturday, October 17**

We never implore the help of the Blessed Virgin in vain. To-day, thanks to this merciful Mother, we have the happiness of baptizing a Chinese, thirty years of age, who is an opium fiend. His evil passion has made him look so old that he could be taken for a man of fifty. Being a scribe at the

Mandarin's Yamen, he was obliged to work very late at night. Fatigue and especially the bad example of certain companions little by little made an opium-smoker of him. A month ago, he resolved to give up his bad habit, but he fell dangerously ill. The man is dying, and yet he hopes to recover. This afternoon, in spite of continual hemorrhages, he sums up all his courage and has himself taken to the Dispensary. One cannot be mistaken, death is rapidly approaching. Again we speak of Baptism and of the eternal happiness it procures, and upon our patient's request, we baptize him and give him the name of Paul. Before night comes, the happy man enters eternity.

### **Wednesday, October 21**

Two labourers of the eleventh hour are to-day admitted to the Lord's vineyard. One is seventy-eight years of age, and the other seventy-two. They do not know very much about the Catholic doctrine, for at this age, one has a poor memory, but the Pastor was very lenient. During the examination, the good old women corrected each other's mistakes. Then came the time to receive Baptism. When the priest asked: "Do you renounce Satan?" one of the women, raising her arms to heaven and letting her cane drop to the floor, said in a loud voice: "I renounce Satan, and never, never, will I have anything to do with him, etc." It was not without



REVEREND FATHER BOISVERT, P. M. E., EN ROUTE TO TONGKIANGKEOU,  
WHERE HE WILL FULFIL MINISTERIAL DUTIES.

difficulty that all those present remained recollected! After the ceremony, this happy old lady made a deep prostration to God, and she had to have her godmother help her to get up again... May this lively faith soon burn in the hearts of the thousand pagans surrounding us.

The Missionaries' situation is becoming more and more critical, as those who are invested with authority only too often look upon us as spies sent by the Canadian Government. We are always closely examined, and



seldom do we pass a day without receiving a visit from some civil officer who wishes to ask for information, which is always the same. We must practise patience, and always be on our guard if we do not wish to compromise our Works, which are becoming more and more difficult.

### **Tuesday, November 3**

We are informed that a baby twenty days old is offered us, and that it will be thrown away if we do not call for it at once. A servant is given clothes for the child, and is sent immediately to get it. To whom does this poor little creature owe its salvation? Doubtless to a generous soul who, in some part of the world, has made a sacrifice for the salvation of the heathen... We trust that, on hearing this, the zealous friends of the Missionaries will send their Guardian Angels still oftener towards the pagan countries, so that they may guide the gleaners to the places where the abandoned waifs are perishing.

### **Friday, November 13**

A pagan woman relates that her seven-year-old boy prays to the *Lao T'ien ye* (Supreme Being) in his sufferings. He says: "*Lao T'ien ye*, if my pains cease, I will make a *ko tow* (prostration) before you." A number of pagans, in spite of their numerous superstitious beliefs, are convinced that there is a Supreme Being; they turn to Him when they desire rain or sunshine. The poor ask Him to give them their daily bread. The pagans easily admit the existence of God, for they have the perception of this truth from intuition.

### **Sunday, November 15**

Two little catechumens, one of eight, and the other ten, pay a visit to their grandmother, who lives twenty *li* from Fakou. The little girl has a big blister on her heel, but she does not complain, the result of the trip has made her and her little brother so happy. "You're already seventy years old," did they say to their granny, "it is high time to become a Christian, if you only knew how nice it is at the Catholic Mission!..." And the dear children told her all they knew about God and Heaven. The grandmother, charmed by the childish exhortations, comes back with the children, and asks to be accepted as a catechumen. May our dear Heavenly Father grant these little apostles the grace to persevere in their zeal for the salvation of souls.

### **Sunday, December 27**

Among the catechumens who receive the Sacrament of Baptism to-day, the members of one family owe their conversion to the Holy Childhood Society. The father's illness rendering them extremely poor, the mother has brought us her baby, a month old, and has asked to be kept herself, so that she may care for the child. The proposition is accepted. The mother sees to her little girl, and we pay her the salary we give to the other

women who take care of the children adopted by the Association. Moved by her motherly love, she soon asks to be admitted to the Catechumenate with the rest of the family, so as to keep in touch with her child when the latter is grown up. All, except the eldest girl, who was betrothed to a pagan, when she was young, have the happiness of being received into the Catholic Church to-day.

### **Thursday, December 31**

Report of the Dispensary of Fakou, from July, 1936, to December, 1936, inclusive:

	Baptisms.....	107			
Patients.....	15,655	Treatments....	23,151	Dressings.....	2,627
Teeth extracted..	262	Homes visited..	139	Injections.....	276

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## **JAPAN**

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

### **Tuesday, December 15, 1936**

The first meeting of the *Haha no Kai* takes place this afternoon. This association is composed of Japanese women who wish to favour the development of our Kindergarten. Forty are present and all seem to be eager to help on the work. Each member will make a small contribution every month to assist in the recruiting of the pupils.



PUPILS OF THE KINDERGARTEN OF THE MISSIONARY  
SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
PERFORMING THEIR PART IN A LITTLE PLAY.

Our new hall for poor children was blessed by the Reverend Pastor on the 8th of December, and we have commenced therein the rehearsal of the Christmas concert. It is an event for our wee tots to go up on the stage to practise the little plays and pieces which they are to recite. The dear children, who are all pagans, come in growing numbers, and they put their whole heart into the singing. Oh! if we could only speak to them about the Infant Jesus, how they would love Him! They look forward to Christmas, chiefly on account of the goodies it brings them, but we hope that the impression made upon them at the approach of this beautiful festival will later fill them with the desire of knowing the One whose gifts





HIS EXCELLENCY BISHOP LEMIEUX, O. P., OF SENDAI, JAPAN,  
PAYING A VISIT TO THE KINDERGARTEN OF THE MISSIONARY SISTERS  
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, KORIYAMA.

they love. A number of children come to our school because we have a Christmas celebration.

#### **Friday, December 25**

The Christians from the outstations, as well as those living near, fill the little church of Koriyama on Christmas night. The sweet notes of the Christmas carols which have been translated into Japanese, seem to us as an echo of those of our native land. But, everything outside reminds us that we are among pagans. A dismal silence reigns in the sleeping city, as it did in the town of Bethlehem when Jesus became one of us. Distressing reality: after nineteen centuries, millions of men have never heard of this mystery of love!...

In the course of the day, the children arrive. So lively are they that their parents cannot keep them at home any longer. When they have gracefully said their pieces, Santa Claus makes his appearance in the hall with two bags full of toys flung over his back, and every little face lights up with a smile. The personage, dressed in red, gives a little talk to the children, after which he hands to each one a Christmas stocking. All seem to be so happy that one would think that Santa Claus has guessed and satisfied their childish desires. With regret, we must leave the dear Child Jesus in the shadow, for fear He should be looked upon as a sign of contradiction by the pagans.

#### **Saturday, January 30, 1937**

Yesterday, we had the honour and pleasure of receiving a visit from Father Provencher, of Chicoutimi. He was accompanied by Mr. Wilson.

Both are on their way to Manila where they will assist at the Eucharistic Congress. This morning, Reverend Father says Mass in our chapel and takes his breakfast at our convent. He urges us to pursue our work for the salvation of Japanese souls by being faithful to duty. He also speaks to us of our dear Canada. Oh! one must have lived in a foreign country to understand how it does good to hear someone talk of that little corner of the world known as our "native land"!...

### Sunday, January 31

On our Reverend Pastor's request, we leave for the country to give treatment to a Christian who has hurt his foot. The different members of the family, who also belong to our Faith, bow to us repeatedly and prove to be very grateful to us for having come from so far to help them. Sister St. Rose de Viterbe, (1) newly arrived from Canada, accompanies the Sister Infirmarian, and tries to adapt herself to the Japanese ways and customs. She listens most attentively to the catechist's explanation of the Parable of the Vineyard.

Once the dressing is over, the traditional cup of tea is served along with some muffins and prunes covered with sugar and fermented in *sake* (the national liquor which is obtained by the fermentation of rice). Our hostess kindly invites us to help ourselves, saying that it is the custom of the country people.

### Wednesday, February 3

A movable zodiacal-feast is celebrated at the end of January or at the beginning of February; this year, it happens to fall on February 3rd. On this day, the Japanese toss beans all about the house, screaming: "Devils, go out!" and the devils are supposed to leave the dwelling for the rest of the year. Then, the master of the house sows a bean in a corner of the garden; the other members of the family eat one more bean than the number of years they have lived.

Since yesterday the children have been wondering who is to sow the bean and perform the ceremony at our convent. Sister Superior tells them that having no devils to chase away, they will bake some beans and will eat them with a few sweets which she will give them. The parents are pleased to see that we celebrate the feasts of the country; however, we are careful to set aside all the superstitious practices.

In Japan, the chief national feasts are as follows: On the 1st, 2nd and 3rd of January, the New Year celebrations; on January 30th, the anniversary of the death of the second last Mikado which occurred in 1867; on February 11th, the origin of the Japanese Empire; on March 21st, the feast of Spring; on April 3rd, the traditional anniversary of the death of Jimmu Tenno, the first Mikado; on September 23rd, the feast of Autumn; on October 17th, the first fruit of the season are offered to the Shinto divinities and, on No-

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1. Annette TOURIGNY, of Trois Rivières.





*From left to right : SISTER ST. HEDWIGE (BLANCHE ROSS, OF FALL RIVER, MASS.); SISTER ST. MARC (ALIDA TALBOT, OF CACOUNA); SISTER AGNES D'ASSISE (LUCIENNE RENAUD, OF MONTREAL); SISTER ST. ROSE DE VITERBE (ANNETTE TOURIGNY, OF TROIS RIVIERES), MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF KORIYAMA, JAPAN, AND THE TWO TEACHERS OF THE KINDERGARTEN.*

vember 23rd, the Mikado tastes the fruit which have been offered to his ancestors.

Besides these civic holidays, there are other feasts celebrated in Japan, such as the one established to chase away the devil from the dwellings. On March 3rd is a celebration in honour of the little girls; it is also called the dolls' feast, for, on that occasion, the shops are filled with dolls and their miniature furniture. A display of these toys is also made in every home where there is a little girl under seven. It is the custom of the people to drink a very sweet liquor on that day.

The Buddhist equinoctial festivities begin on the 17th of March and last seven days. There is another feast on the 8th of April intended to celebrate the birthday of Buddha.

June 5th is the little boys' holiday. In the stores are displayed children's toys, such as bows, arrows, clubs and swords. A long bamboo pole is placed in front of each house where there is a little lad under seven. Large bright-coloured paper carps, filled with wind, flutter gayly at the top of each pole. As the carp is a fish that swims up a river, it is presented to the Japanese boys as an emblem signifying that they must triumph over all difficulties if they wish to succeed later on in life.

The *Tanabata* is celebrated on July 7th. It is a feast which recalls the love of two stars: Bootes and Vega; they meet but on that day.

The festal period in honour of the dead begins on August 14th and lasts three days, during which the ancestors are believed to visit their descendants' dwellings. The people abstain from eating meat and try to take as little space as possible in the house so as to leave more room for their dead relatives.

Members from each family carry lanterns to the cemetery in order to invite the spirits of their ancestors to come to their homes. On the third day, a fire is made and little boats, on which are placed tiny lights, are floated down the river.

The feast of one of the gods of happiness, Ebisu, is celebrated in October. This month, during which the different deities honoured by the people are supposed to assemble in a large temple, is known as the godless month. Ebisu is the only god who does not join the others. His deafness has prevented him from hearing the call.

A Shintoist feast takes place on the 8th of November. Fires are made in the courts of the temples.

On the 13th of December, the preparations for the New Year rejoicings begin: the beating of the rice for the cakes, house-cleaning, decorating of the homes, etc.

### **Sunday, March 7**

To the joys of *Lætare* Sunday is added the one of greeting our revered Pastor, Bishop Lemieux, who has arrived to-day at Koriyama, accompanied by Very Reverend Father Bibeau, Provincial, and Reverend Fathers Dionne, V. G., and Bissonnette.

### **Easter Sunday, March 28**

The church of the Mission is filled to capacity. A number of High School girls, all of whom are pagans, come from a distance to take part in



MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MAKING ALTAR-BREADS  
IN JAPAN.



the singing. Most of them had to start out very early this morning in order to be at the Mission by nine o'clock.

After Mass, a Japanese dinner is served to the young ladies, who, in company with the two teachers of the Kindergarten, spend part of the afternoon at the convent, singing and playing the piano. One of the students who lives in Koriyama, asks us, after her classmates have taken their leave, how long it takes to become a Christian, adding that she intends to embrace our Holy Faith. "At first, it was the singing that attracted me," she says, "but now I want to do exactly like you." Her little sister attends our Kindergarten.

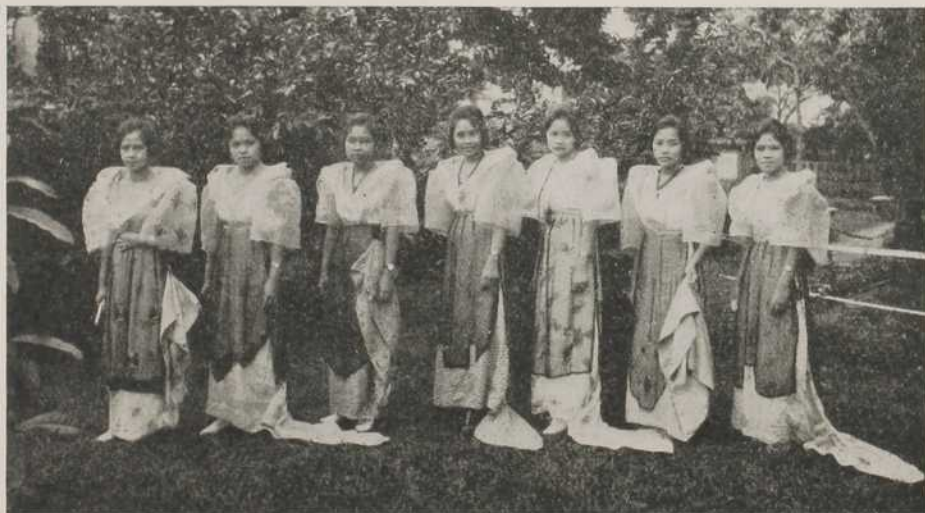
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### The Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception in Manila, P. I.

In the month of August, 1921, the little Colony of Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception (religious who have their Mother House in Montreal) arrived in Manila, P. I. Their first thought was to pay their respects to His Excellency Archbishop O'Doherty and to ask him for his blessing before going on duty at the Chinese General Hospital. His Excellency was very kind and fatherly.

Dr. Tee Han Kee, Director of the Hospital, was eagerly awaiting the arrival of the Sisters, for he expected that the work of charity which had been confided to him by his fellow-countrymen, members of the Chinese Community of Manila, would have very happy results.

On October 20th, of this same year, the Government of the Philippine Islands authorized the Director of the Hospital to open a Nurses' training



STUDENT-NURSES OF THE CHINESE GENERAL HOSPITAL OF MANILA, P. I.,  
IN THE NATIONAL COSTUME.



A GROUP OF NURSES OF THE CHINESE GENERAL HOSPITAL OF MANILA, P. I., AT STUDY.

The Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception strive to make of these students competent nurses, women of Catholic Action, and zealous apostles.

school where a hundred and twenty-six young people have graduated from its inauguration up to the year 1936. Besides the training necessary for the exercising of the delicate functions of infirmarians, the students receive a good knowledge of our holy religion, which renders them capable of doing apostolic work in the provinces to which they are sent on finishing their course. They also become members of the Blessed Virgin's Sodality, and before leaving the Hospital, they solemnly promise Our Lady that they will always strive to fulfil their duty. At the present time the student nurses number fifty-seven.

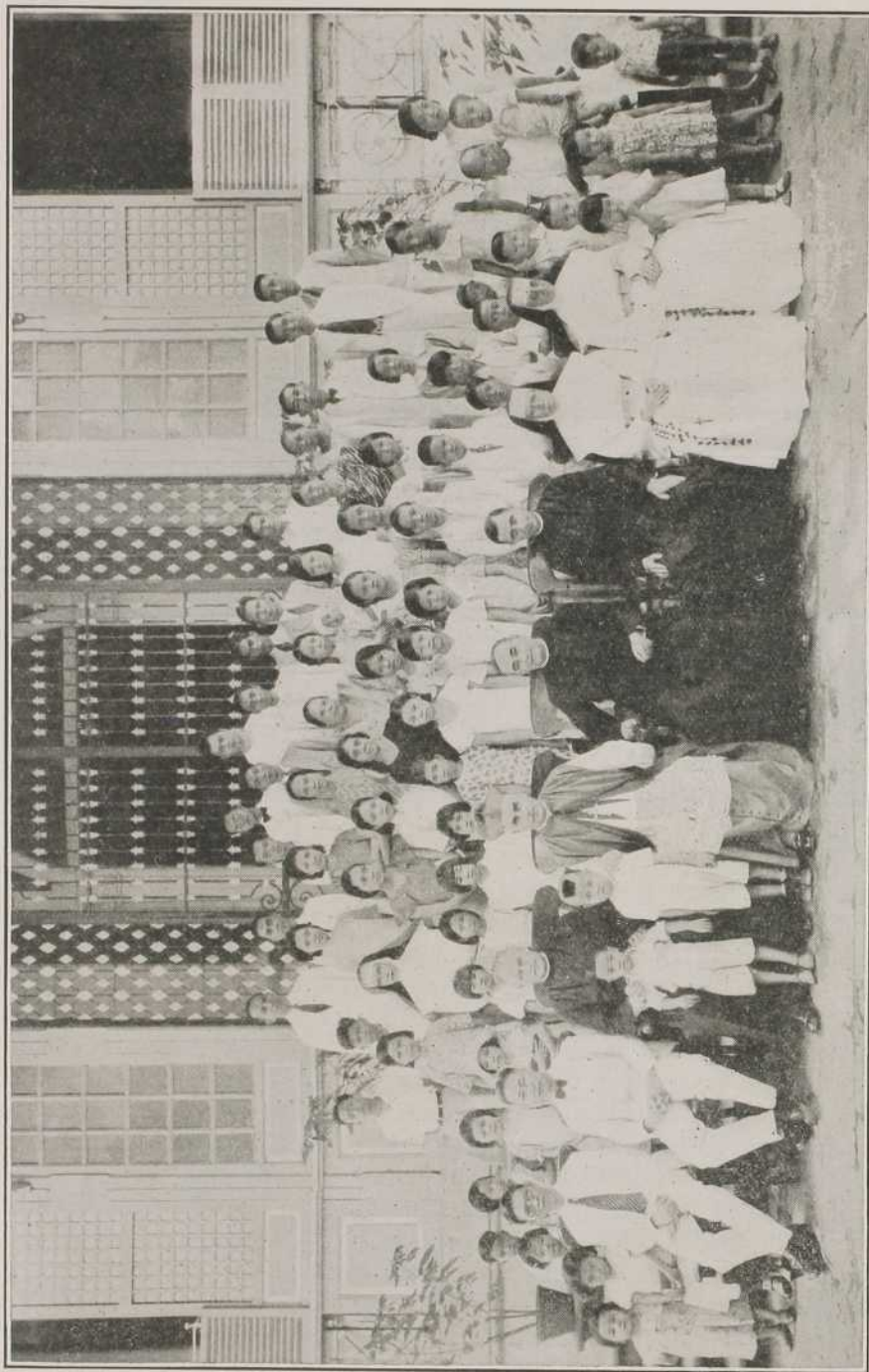
Since their arrival in Manila, the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception have given medical care to 25,780 sick Chinese and procured Baptism for 2,442 patients, a number of whom were adults.

An institution for the children was lacking in the locality. Under the patronage of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, and with the approbation of His Excellency Archbishop O'Doherty, the Sisters inaugurated the Little Flower Patronage in 1933 for the purpose of grouping the children and even the grown-ups, to teach them Catechism, and prepare them for Baptism or First Communion. The courses commenced in 1933, with five pupils only, the following year there were seventy in attendance. Numerous deceptions counterbalanced the joys of the Missionary Sisters. Many souls they wished to gain had slipped from their hands. Satan also had been hard at work.

However, on December 8th the same year, a Baptism Ceremony took place at the Hospital. As early as two o'clock in the afternoon, some good Chinese families began to arrive. All were delighted to meet for the same purpose, in this establishment which is common to all.

At three o'clock, Reverend Father Dusemond of the Society of the Divine Word, administered Baptism to twenty catechumens. His Excellency Bishop Finnemann, Director of the Blessed Virgin's Sodality, blessed the livery of Mary for nineteen privileged ones, after which he received their





AT THE CHINESE GENERAL HOSPITAL OF MANILA, P. I.  
A GROUP OF PERSONS WHO WERE BAPTIZED OR CONFIRMED, OR WHO MADE THEIR FIRST COMMUNION AT THE LITTLE  
FLOWER PATRONAGE. THE CEREMONY WAS PRESIDED OVER BY HIS EXCELLENCY BISHOP FINNEMANN, AUXILIARY BISHOP OF MANILA.

promises of fidelity. Forty-three persons to be confirmed then knelt before the Prelate. Most of these had attended the Catechism lessons given at the Patronage. They had been baptized and had made their First Communion during the year.

The year 1934 witnessed the opening of happy days at the Little Flower Patronage. Forty children were baptized on the 27th of December. Three days later, His Excellency Archbishop O'Doherty conferred the Sacrament of Confirmation on a hundred and one Chinese, all of whom had been won over to our religion in the course of the year. The group comprised men, women, girls, and children.

The new converts are still weak in the Faith, and the greater number receive little or no encouragement from their friends and from those around them. They need to be given very particular attention and to be encouraged to do good. Consequently, on the eve of every First Friday, a Missionary Sister of the Immaculate Conception invites them and the others to go to Confession and to receive Communion. Numerous are the children and adults who respond to the monthly call.

In order to enable the Sisters to instil the Christian Doctrine into the minds of the children, the Immaculate Conception Academy was opened on June 15th, 1935. Forty pupils were enrolled, twenty-four of whom were soon baptized.

The Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, who have laboured arduously for the establishment of this educational work, greatly rejoice on hearing the dear children reciting their morning and night prayers and singing the praises of their Heavenly Mother. A short time ago, these little ones did not even know how to kneel down.



SISTER MARIE DES VICTOIRES, M. I. C., (JOSEPHINE BOLDUC, OF ST. VICTOR, CO. BEAUCE), TEACHING PRAYERS TO THE CHILDREN ATTENDING THE LITTLE FLOWER PATRONAGE, MANILA, P. I.



# Open Your Hearts to Kindness

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**O**PEN wide your hearts to kindness, so that your whole life may be imbued with this virtue. Do not distrust it, for it will never do you any harm. You may be sorry for having been harsh or weak, but never for having been kind. Even though your intentions be judged unfavourably, or your kind deeds forgotten or repaid by ingratitude, you will still have the consolation of feeling that you have not been lacking in kindness.

Kindness is the source of peace and joy. Nothing charms the mind as kind thoughts; nothing soothes the will like acts of kindness; nothing touches the heart as much as pity; nothing vivifies the soul like noble and devoted affection. You will always be happier and holier after performing an act of kindness.

One revolts against force and argues with science; but to kindness everyone yields, for this virtue wins all hearts. If you have apostolic ambitions bear well in mind that it is by kindness only that you will be victorious, like Christ Who is King because He is peaceful, Who wished to reveal but the meekness and humility of His Heart, and Who accepts as apostles only men who are like "sheep among wolves".

If you appreciate kindness, never be bitter and never let a day go by without bringing joy to some weary heart.

Religion and kindness are closely united. Such is their mutual dependence, that there is no kindness without God, and God is not where kindness is lacking.

Are you in quest of kindness? Seek it in its source, which is the Heart of God. You are kind and you think God is a stranger to you? Look deep into your soul: He is hidden there, and the day will come when you will find Him. You flatter yourself with possessing God and you have no compassion, no benevolence, no meekness? Your religion is illusive; for, as long as kindness is absent from your heart, God is not with you. Charity is the basis of Christianity.

What a treasure is kindness! Besides implying devotedness, this virtue involves a humble and obliging way of giving oneself, which pleases and inclines one to prefer it to genius.

Kindness adds a charm to one's features; it renders one's smile more graceful, one's look more gentle, one's countenance more serene.

Kindness, the daughter of strength, is to be found only in souls accustomed to subduing their passions.

(Translated.)

LACORDAIRE.

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We must make our way towards eternity, never regarding what men think of us or our actions, studying only to please God.

*St. Francis Borgia.*

# 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.*

## Friday, March 19, 1937

This morning, we assist at a High Mass in honour of St. Joseph, and, at nine o'clock, we sing a few hymns. During the day, we shall take turns in going to pray before the statue of our holy Protector.

Just after learning that we are to have recreation all day long, we are requested to be seated, and baskets filled with white wool are placed in front of us. We immediately settle down, and, as it is not intellectual labour we have been given to do, we do as much talking as work. After this wool has been spun, it will be greatly appreciated by the Sisters who weave, knit, and mend.

At the Novitiate we learn to make good use of everything, and we are very glad, for, later in life, we shall certainly have many an occasion of putting into practice all that is being taught us.

## Saturday, March 27

This is the last day of Lent. The Holy Week ceremonies have been very impressive. There has not been any recreation or study for us, and we have had a longer time for spiritual reading, which has been about the Passion of Our Lord. This reading along with the hours of prayer at the Altar of Repose on Holy Thursday, and before the statue of Our Lady of Seven Dolors caused us to enter into the spirit of the Church while the great mysteries were being commemorated.

We are eagerly awaiting the great Feast of Easter. Before coming to the Novitiate, we had but a faint idea of the solemnness of the Holy Week ceremonies.

## Easter Sunday, March 28

Our hearts overflow with gladness on this beautiful festivity, and everything around us is gay. The Novitiate rings with *Alleluias*, which we triumphantly chant.

During Lent, we saw for ourselves how consoling it is to think only of God, and, to-day, some of us have the happiness of going to the parlour to greet our beloved parents, while the others find it very pleasant to read the letters they have received from their dear ones.

## Thursday, April 1

To-day being April Fool's Day, we do not fail to sportively impose upon



one another. We *go fishing*. What a pleasure it is to take by surprise a few of those who have just declared that there is no way of taking them in a net.

This amusing game lasts only a day, but we reflect that, being missionaries, it is our duty to fish for souls. We must aim at catching the biggest sinners, not by devising means of our own, but with God's grace. It is indeed a miraculous draught of fishes that we must procure. We earnestly desire to labour with the greatest zeal for the salvation of souls.

#### **Sunday, April 4**

This evening, we receive an unexpected visit from Reverend Father Lafleur, O. M. I., and we are greatly pleased with the lantern slides he shows us.

We first gaze at a number of people making a pilgrimage to the shrine at Notre Dame du Cap, and afterwards, at the impressive ceremony which takes place when the Oblates leave for South Africa.

When this series of slides has been shown, pictures of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, which have been taken by French artists, flash before us. We have already been told much about our dear little Patroness, but we love her so dearly that we are always happy when we learn a little more about her. As the pictures are being shown, Father gives us an account of the little things that made up the hidden life of the dear Saint, little things that are admired by Catholics all over the world.

In union with Father Lafleur, we trust that this representation will animate us with the spirit of sacrifice possessed by the Little Flower, and that it will cause us to love the little and big things that we may be asked to do.

#### **Wednesday, April 14**

For more than one reason do we find touching the Feast of the Patronage of St. Joseph, which is being celebrated to-day. St. Joseph is the Patron of the Universal Church, and, over three hundred years ago, he was chosen as the patron of our country. And we may rightly say that the City of Montreal is his domain, since he deigned to establish therein his favourite shrine and to there prove himself a miracle-worker to whom everyone has recourse. This great Saint has always been a real father to all in our Community, and our beloved Mother Foundress has urged her spiritual daughters to have a great devotion to him.

We feel that it is a duty for us to pay more homage than ever to our loving Protector, and gladly do we lay our praises and prayers at his feet.

#### **Monday, April 19**

We are overjoyed this morning on being told that His Eminence Cardinal Villeneuve has planned to pay us a visit.

Deeply touched are we on seeing how condescending this Prince of the Church is. He kindly takes an interest in us, and again gives us the greatly

appreciated happiness of extending him a welcome and of listening to his precious words of advice...

It is about half-past eight when we receive the Distinguished Visitor, who is accompanied by His Excellency Bishop Prud'homme, Very Reverend Canon Roch, Superior of the Foreign Mission Seminary of Pont Viau, and Reverend Father Gariepy, our chaplain.

In a few words, Very Reverend Canon Roch introduces the Professed Sisters, novices, and postulants, who have assembled to greet the great prelate.

While pointing to the postulants, His Eminence tells Bishop Prud'homme that they are like the Souls in Purgatory: their costume is black, and they are obliged to wait. His Eminence is pleased to see that there are a number of them and a number of novices also. Very proud is he to think that as many as thirty of us are from his diocese. He tells us that God has been very good to direct so many subjects to our Institute, and that the recruitment is a proof that alongside those who are leading reckless lives there are many good Christian families to whom, after God, the numerous religious vocations are due. Then the revered Primate of the Church in Canada gives us some precious advice, which is of a nature to help us to attain the summits of perfection. The following is a summary of the lengthy discourse:

In the religious life, one must not be too enthusiastic in the beginning. The interior life is not made up of consolations, as folks sometimes imagine. Before entering the convent, you dreamt of fasts and rigorous severities, in the midst of which you would experience the sweetest consolation, and when you arrived at the Novitiate, you were surprised to find that you often had less consolations than you had had while out in the world. Instead of mortifying your flesh, you have discovered that you must mortify your judgment, which is not any easier.

You will also experience heart-sorrow, which will at times be caused by the ingratitude of those you are striving to help. Instead of being hard-hearted, you will be obliged to show great strength of mind.

You must give your love to our divine Lord. Those who really love this sweet Saviour find that He is all-in-all to them, and they discover that happiness is strewn along their way. Once a person has learned to love God with his whole heart, he begins to live a mystical life. After reading the lives of certain saints, we perhaps came to the conclusion that the mystical life is made up of visions and revelations. A life of the kind, however, simply consists of a great love for a Father who is continually urging us to do His Will in all things.

In order to show us just what our spiritual life should be, His Eminence then gives us an example. On a very hot day in summer, we are on a river, and there are high mountains on either side of us. The sun beats down upon us, and there is not even a slight breeze to refresh us and to push our boat along. If we wish to advance, we must row vigorously even though we are hot and tired. In order not to grow discouraged, we must keep thinking that very soon there will be no mountains to be seen, and that



the river will soon flow into a beautiful lake, where we shall be able to put up our sails and be driven along by a refreshing breeze. We must advance in the religious state in the same way, and, if we try our best to get rid of our corrupted nature, it will not be long before we reach the great lakes of the inner life. There, the Holy Spirit will breathe into our souls, and direct them towards the port beyond the skies. But, if we refuse to labour with energy, it will take us a long time to reach our destination, and perhaps we shall die before we have done what we have set out to do.

In the mystical life, one must follow divine inspiration. The Holy Spirit acts in us, and, if we let Him act freely, He will continue to urge us on.

When it is time to leave us, His Eminence smiles, and remarks that fervent religious never wish to divert themselves, but, without affectation, we declare that we always appreciate the hours of relaxation that are given us, and, in the end, we are given a nice holiday.

We afterwards kneel to receive the blessing of our kind Cardinal, and we do not fail to ask God to help us to follow the precious advice that has just been given us.

### **Sunday, April 25**

For the first time this Spring we go outside to take our evening recreation. We hasten to the cemetery to breathe a fervent prayer at the grave of dear Sister St. Virginia.<sup>(1)</sup> We then go to see two little lambs but a few days old. It is something new for us, especially for our companions who have been brought up in the city. On leaving the little animals, we direct our steps towards the flower garden, and there admire the work that has already been done. Very soon it will be the month of May, and, on seeing the earth getting ready to greet its Queen, we reflect that we must not delay in preparing our hearts to honour our heavenly Mother.

### **Monday, April 26**

His Excellency Bishop Prud'homme, who is staying at the Foreign Mission Seminary, to-day replaces Father Rondeau, who comes every week to give us a spiritual talk. His Excellency speaks to us of the beauty of a faithful soul, which is called the temple of the Holy Ghost.

The work of our sanctification may be compared to the erecting of a temple, and our Distinguished Visitor reminds us that such a temple must be built on four corner-stones: 1. — God the Father, whom we should always think of; 2. — Our Lord Jesus Christ, whom we should take for a model; 3. — The Blessed Virgin, a most powerful Advocate, through whom we receive all graces, and whom Dante calls "The Empress of Heaven"; 4. — Ourselves when we dedicate our lives to God.

After having compared each of the parts of a temple to the duties and virtues which enable us to construct our spiritual edifice, His Excellency exhorts us to labour with zeal for the conversion of sinners and for the

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1. Berthe BONVOULOIR, of Iberville.

salvation of souls. He tells us to transform our cells into transmitting stations, reminding us that all our good works will be caught up by the power of the Holy Ghost, who will scatter the seeds of truth all over the world.

Once again, God has been generous in enlightening our souls. We are grateful to Him and to the one through whose instrumentality we have been thus favoured. We hope that we shall profit by what has been told us.

### Sunday, May 2

The little belfry which surmounted our convent until last fall, was, no doubt, ill at ease up so high. Gladly did it change its honourable position for a more modest one in a corner of our grounds, and it seemed to be quite happy in the shade. But ropes were put around it yesterday, and it was drawn away from its hiding-place. The workmen had a hard time dislodging it, and we thought that all their efforts would be in vain. Was the dear belfry afraid that it was going to be taken back to its old place, where it would be exposed to the wind, rain, hail, and snow? It was really surprised when it saw itself being brought to the garden, and it seemed as though it wanted to become lighter and more docile. Before long, it was set up at the corner of the little grove and the new cemetery, under the budding trees, and it did not seem to bother about what was going to become of it.

To-day, it must have been very glad to see the Sisters coming to adorn it like a little shrine, to see us walking in procession while singing the praises of the Queen of May, and to see a statue of our loving Mother being placed close to it.

The dear little belfry seemed to smile to us to thank us for having found it a quiet spot in our little grove, one that it prefers to all its past greatness.

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## Plenary Indulgence to be Gained the First Saturday of Each Month

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His Holiness Pope Pius X, in order to increase the devotion of the faithful to the most glorious and Immaculate Mother of God, and to favour the pious desire for atonement which inspires the faithful to offer some reparation for the abominable blasphemies which sinful men utter against the most august name and the high prerogatives of the Blessed Virgin, grants to all those 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, a plenary Indulgence, applicable to the Souls in Purgatory. (*Acta Apostolicae Sedis*, September 30th, 1912.)





# The Children's Page

DEAR CHILDREN,

I have just been... I am going to let you take a guess.

— Around the world?

— No.

— To the city?

— No.

— In the garden?

— No.

— Feeling our pockets?...

— No, not that at all. I see that you have not the least idea of what I have been doing. Well, I am going to tell you. I have just been to your classrooms.

Before going to find you at play, I made my way to the school you have just left. Yes, I went there to listen to *what the different things had to say*.

Perhaps you do not know that things have a language of their own, one which, without falling on the ear, goes straight to the heart. This mysterious, persuasive, and impressive language is to be heard only where silence reigns. It was just after gazing at the beautiful firmament that holy King David cried out: "The heavens proclaim God's glory." A saintly woman once stopped to admire a rose; its beauty and perfume told her of the power and love of her Creator, and she was filled with delight... How often has one said in your presence: "This object speaks to my heart..." And if you have already found yourself alone in a room with nothing to do, what did you think of? First of all, you began to gaze at the things around you, and then, all of a sudden, perhaps, you felt that the walls, the pictures,



THE PRAYER OF THE  
CHILD JESUS

the furniture, etc., were speaking to you. They were making you think of all kinds of things. Is this not true?

Things speak in many different ways, and you should listen to such language when it is of a nature to inspire you with charitable thoughts.

I HAVE JUST BEEN TELLING YOU.

Yes, I have just been telling you, Children, that before going to find you at play, I went in spirit to your classrooms. The many voices there told me about you, about your conduct during ten long months, about your



OH! WHAT A PLEASANT RECREATION IS SPENT IN THE PRESENCE  
OF THE CHILD JESUS!...

work, about your success, and about your failures. I saw the different desks, some of which said that they were expecting to see you again, and some others, that they knew that you would never return.

The Crucifix and the holy pictures on the wall kept saying: "Do not forget, Children, when it is time to take your rest after a day of pleasure and when you wake up the next morning, do not forget, do we say, to kneel down to pray fervently to your heavenly Father, and to ask the Blessed Virgin, St. Joseph, and your Guardian Angel to protect you. And, when the little birds, the green fields, the lovely woods, and the rippling waters make you think of going out to amuse yourself, do not forget to invite the Divine Child to come along with you to keep you from harm." Oh! what a lovely time you will have in the company of this dear Friend!

The charts hanging on the wall, and the books in the desks took turns in crying out: "Children, do not forget what your teachers have told you. Each day, there is no reason why you should not read a good book during



your leisure time, do a little addition, and look over your history. The flighty butterfly is attracted by everything that is bright and it often burns its wings, the heedless grasshopper often suffers from want, but the child that is in earnest always remembers to act wisely. Yes, every serious-minded child keeps thinking of the future, and he daily endeavours to do something that counts."

My attention was attracted by still another sympathetic voice, which came from your desks. "Children," they said to those who were expected back, "take a good rest and return in the autumn, for we are waiting for you." And to those who had said good-bye to their books, these same desks sadly murmured: "Children, you who will soon be struggling on the stormy sea of life, in all your joys, sorrows, worries, and enterprises, do not forget your prayers, all that you have been taught at school, your kind teachers, who have done so much for you. Children, do not be ungrateful..."

The clock on the wall also got ready to speak, but as it reminded me that time was gliding away like the waters of a stream, I made up my mind to hurry back to tell you all about my visit, like one who keeps nothing secret from those he loves.

*Your Great Friend,*

THE PRECURSOR.



## The Children and the Angels

When little children wake at morn  
To greet once more the day newborn,  
The angels take each tiny hand  
And lead them forth from Slumberland.

When little children laugh and play  
'Mid snares and perils of the day,  
The guardian angels stand between  
Each lure and pitfall dark, unseen.

When little children sink to sleep,  
Above them white-winged angels keep  
A loving watch from dark to light,  
All through the terrors of the night.

And when in dreams they softly smile  
With hearts and lips that know not guile,  
Their souls forsake the haunts of men  
And wander back to heaven again.

*Mary E. Mannix.*

# Thanksgivings to the Blessed Virgin

## for favours obtained



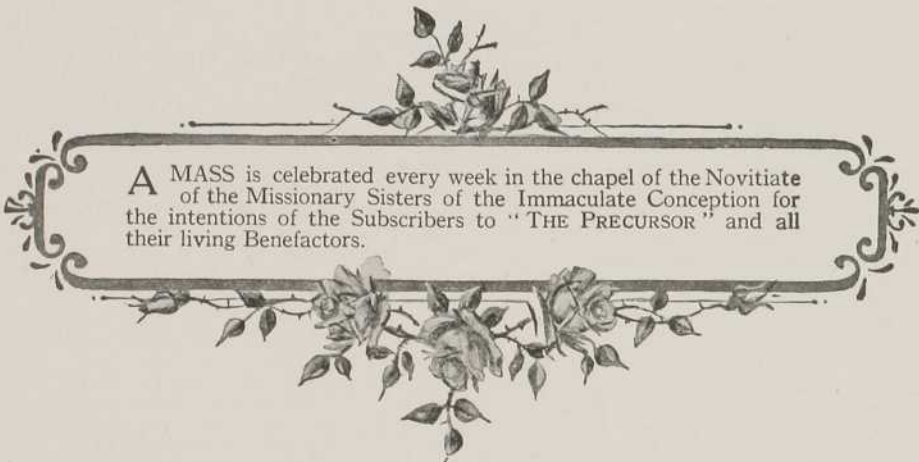
*"O MARY, the entire universe would perish before you refuse your assistance to those who, with all their heart, implore your help and protection."*

BL. HENRY SUZO.

I have obtained a favour, and would ask you to publish my thanksgiving. Please pray that my other requests may be granted. **M. H., Johnstone, Scotland.** — Enclosed please find an offering for a Mass, in thanksgiving for a position obtained. **M. A., Montreal.** — We have received a very great favor through the intercession of Our Blessed Mother. Would you please publish our thanksgiving. **Mr. and Mrs. E. J., Mc A. Benedicta, Me.** — Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving for a favor received through the intercession of our Immaculate Mother. **Mrs. W., Lewiston, Me.** — My request has been granted, and I am enclosing an offering. Please remember me in your prayers. **F. M.** — The enclosed offering is in thanksgiving for favours received. **Miss K. M., Vancouver, B. C.** — I am enclosing an offering in thanksgiving for a favour obtained through the intercession of our Blessed Mother. Please pray that I may obtain the favours I am now asking for. **C. A. M.** — I have received a favour, and am sending you my renewal subscription. Please pray that I may be restored to health. **Mrs. B., Edmundston, N. B.** — I am writing to let you know that I am feeling much better. Please pray that I may obtain two favours. **L. C., Blizzard Valley, Ont.** — The Blessed Virgin has helped my husband to find employment and I am sending you an offering, as promised. Please pray that this position may be a permanent one. **Mrs. N., St. Albans, Vt.** — I have received a great favour. Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. **Mrs. C., Peterborough, Ont.** — I am enclosing an offering in thanksgiving for favours received from our Blessed Mother. Please pray that two other requests may be granted. **Mrs. C., Southbridge, Mass.** — I have received a favour through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin and am sending you an offering, as promised. **Mrs. J., Tecumseh, Ont.** — My request has been granted. May I ask you to pray for me again. **L. D., St. Johnsbury, Vt.** — Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving for a favour received. Kindly make a novena for me. **Mrs. M., Kenogami, Que.** — I have obtained a cure through the intercession of our Blessed Mother. Please publish my thanksgiving. **Mrs. M. G. B., St. John.** — I wish to thank the Blessed Virgin for the many favours she has obtained me. I hope this loving Mother will continue to intercede for me. **Mrs. R., Sutton, Que.** — Lively gratitude to the Blessed Virgin for a favour obtained. Please pray for my intentions. **Mrs. J. F. L., Springfield, Mass.** — The Blessed Virgin has granted my request. Please unite with me in thanking her for her great kindness and in asking her for the cure of my husband and also that we may pay our debts. **A Friend, St. Eugene, Ont.** — My request has been granted. I wish to return heartfelt thanks to God and to our dear heavenly Mother. Will you please pray I will be able to do my housework and go to Mass every morning, my health is so miserable. **Mrs. T. C., Belleville, Ont.** — My most grateful thanks for a favour received. **Mrs. R. Theoret, Valleyfield.** — I have obtained a position through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. I wish to thank this loving Mother for all that she has done for me. **A Subscriber.** — May I ask you to unite with me in thanking the Blessed Virgin for helping my husband and my two sons to find work. **Mrs. T.** — I am grateful for the favour that has been granted me. **Mrs. R.** — I have obtained a great favour through the intercession of our Immaculate Mother. **Mrs. M., Montreal.** — I have obtained a favour and am enclosing an offering, as promised. **Mrs. G., Montreal.** — The Blessed Virgin has obtained me a favour. Kindly publish my thanksgiving. **Mrs. L.** — I have obtained a great favour through the intercession of our dear heavenly Mother. **Mrs. E. A.** — I am very grateful to the Blessed Virgin for the favour she obtained me after I had promised to publish my thanksgiving. **A Subscriber.** — Our dear heavenly Mother has obtained me a favour. Please unite with me in thanking her for what she has done for me, and in asking her to again come to my assistance. **Mrs. C.** — I have obtained a great favour through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin, and I am now asking this dear Mother to obtain a cure. **A Subscriber.** — The Blessed Virgin has obtained me two great favours, and I would ask you to unite with me in thanking her, and in entreating her to continue to watch over all in our family. **Mrs. C. N.** — Kindly unite with me in thanking the Blessed Virgin for assisting me in time of need. **Miss F.** — Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving for a favour obtained through the intercession



of the Blessed Virgin. Mrs. R. L. — I have obtained a very great favour through the intercession of our Immaculate Mother. Mrs. L. — The Blessed Virgin has obtained me a favour and I am enclosing an offering, as promised. Mrs. J. L. — I wish to thank our Blessed Lady for all that she has done for me. I am asking her to continue to help me. Mrs. B. — I have obtained some wonderful favours through the intercession of our dear heavenly Mother. R. B., **Montreal**. — My request has been granted, and I am enclosing an offering, as promised. Please remember me in your prayers. Mrs. P., **Montreal**. — Our Blessed Lady has hearkened to my prayers. Please unite with me in thanking her. Mrs. A. L., **Montreal**. — I have received a great favour through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. Mrs. C. D. — I am grateful for the favour that has been granted me. Please remember me in your prayers. A. L., **Montreal**. — I have received a favour through the intercession of our Immaculate Mother, and I am now asking her to help me to obtain a position. Mrs. C. — I wish to return thanks for a favour obtained through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. C. L. — Our Lady has hearkened to my prayers. I entreat this tender Mother to grant me some other favours. A. C., **Plympton, N. S.** — Some time ago, I asked you to make a novena for my daughter, who met with a serious accident. She is perfectly well again, and I thank Our Immaculate Mother from the bottom of my heart for such a complete recovery. Mrs. B., **Montreal**. — I have obtained a favour through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin, and am sending you my renewal subscription, as promised. Mrs. C., **Belleville, Ont.** — I wish to thank the Blessed Virgin for the great favour she has obtained my mother. Miss G., **Pineville, N. B.** — Enclosed please find the ransom price of a Chinese baby, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Mrs. R. T., **Valleyfield, Que.** — I have obtained a favor, and wish to have lights burned in honor of the Blessed Virgin. Please pray for my intentions. Mrs. J. L., **Springfield, Mass.** — A cure has been obtained through the intercession of Our Blessed Lady and St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Please publish. J. P., **Van Buren, Me.** — I wish to return thanks for a favour received. Miss R. — I am enclosing an offering in thanksgiving or favours received from St. Joseph. Mrs. S., **Tecumseh, Ont.**



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

## Petitions

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

Please make a novena to Our Immaculate Mother for me, that I may get relief from a nose and throat trouble. If my request is granted, I will send you a small offering each month. Mrs. H., **Montreal**. — I am asking Our Blessed Mother to grant that my daughter may live up to her religion, that my son may persevere at the novitiate, and that I may live to see him ordained. Mrs. McG. — Will you please make a novena to our Immaculate Mother for a little girl who is dangerously ill. I will send an offering if my request is granted. Mrs. K., **Outremont**. — Please pray that I may obtain a desired favour. Miss B. P., **Montreal**. —

Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. I have been very sick with pneumonia. Kindly pray that I may get strong again. Mrs. J. W., **Boiestown, N. B.** — Will you please make a novena to Our Blessed Lady that I may obtain two favours if it is God's Holy Will. H. C., **Montreal.** — May I ask you to pray that I may obtain the many things I need. I promise to renew my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. L., **Bangor, Me.** — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. May I ask you to pray that my daughter may obtain a position. Mrs. E. C., **Webster, Mass.** — Please make a novena to our Blessed Mother for me. If my request is granted, I will publish my thanksgiving. Mrs. D., **Sangerville, Me.** — I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Please pray for me. Mrs. R., **Bridgeville, Que.** — I wish to obtain a few favours. Please pray for my intentions. Mrs. B., **North Bay, Ont.** — If I obtain a desired favour, I will send you an offering. Mrs. A. B., **Capreol, Ont.** — Enclosed you will find my renewal subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Please pray that I may obtain at least one of the favours I am asking for. Mrs. W., **Edmunston, N. B.** — I would ask you to make a novena to our Blessed Mother for me. If my requests are granted, I will send an offering. E. McG., **Ste Therese de Gatineau, Que.** — I am writing to ask you to pray for my recovery from a nervous breakdown. Last year, I was ill for months, and now I dread having to go through it all again. Would it be asking too much if I asked you to make a special novena to Our Immaculate Mother for me. Miss E. — I am renewing my subscription. Please pray that I may obtain a desired favour. Anonymous. — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. Kindly remember me in your prayers. Mrs. M., **Holyoke, Mass.** — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. Please pray for me. Mrs. D., **Dashwood, Ont.** — Please pray that my son may get work soon. Anonymous. — I have not been well for some time past. Please pray for me. Mrs. F., **New Bedford, Mass.** — May I ask you to commence a novena for me. Miss G. T., **Northampton, Mass.** — If I obtain the favour I am asking for, I will subscribe to THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. L., **Campbellton, N. B.** — Please pray that my husband may be restored to health and that I may obtain two great favours before long. Mrs. T., **Stockholm, Me.** — Kindly make a novena, asking that I may obtain three very special favours. A Subscriber, **Dresden, Ont.** — Please pray that I may be successful in an important undertaking so that I may pay my debts. Mrs. A. B. — Please pray that my request may be granted. A Child of Mary, **Southbridge, Mass.** — I want you to pray for the following intentions: that I may walk again, that my husband and sons may get work and that we may get better tenants. Mrs. M. S., **Rosemont.** — Kindly make a Novena for me that I may secure a position as I am in great need of financial assistance. Miss P., **Springfield, Mass.** — I am asking our Blessed Lady to cure the pain in my head. M. J. B., **Pineville, N. B.** — Please make a Novena to our Immaculate Mother for me that I may obtain two special favours soon. Mrs. M. J. M. K., **Lancaster, Ont.** — Kindly ask the Blessed Virgin that my mother may soon enjoy better health and that we may be more successful in our undertakings. M. D. B., **Mull, Ont.** — I would ask you to pray that I may be successful in all my June examinations. Miss M. R. C. — Would you be so kind to remember me in your prayers. I am asking for a special favor and also that my husband may get a steady position. Mrs. E. J., **St. Cesaire.** — May I beg the assistance of your prayers in order to obtain a position for myself and some other favours for my family. Miss D., **Tecumseh, Ont.** — Will you be kind enough to make a Novena for me to our Blessed Mother that I may obtain the great favor I am asking for. J. McN., **Pittsfield, Mass.** — Please make a Novena for my niece that she may regain her health, through the intercession of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. G. F., **Thomaston, Me.** — Will you please ask the Blessed Virgin to grant me a very special favor. Miss B. C., **Newport, Vt.** — I wish to obtain the following favours: success in our undertakings that we may pay our debts; peace and happiness in our home; success in examinations for my son and daughter; the vocation of one of my children. Anonymous, **Sebringville, Ont.** — Please entreat our Immaculate Mother that I may see the light. Mr. M., **Notre Dame de Grace.** — I asked that a Novena be made for my daughter who met with a serious accident. I return heartfelt thanks to the Blessed Virgin for my daughter is perfectly well again. Now I would like another Novena to secure her a good position and also that Our Lady may come to our assistance for I am a widow with seven children. Mrs. B., **Montreal.** — Please ask the Blessed Virgin to grant health to all the family. A Subscriber. — I would ask you to pray that my brother Robert be restored to health, through the intercession of our Blessed Mother. Miss Pollock. — Please pray for me. I am living alone and am in poor health. Mrs. C. — I stand in need of special favours and would ask you to kindly remember me in your prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help. E. K., **Chatham, Ont.** — Please make a Novena to our Immaculate Mother for me that I may obtain the special favor that I am praying for. O. F., **Bangor, Me.** — Kindly make a Novena to our Blessed Mother for me that I may obtain two special favours. G. W. D., **Upper Nelson, N. B.** — Again I appeal to you for a special novena for my intentions, spiritual and temporal. I am sure your earnest prayers will win from the Sacred Heart, through the intercession of our Blessed Mother, the immediate help I am pleading for. H. M., **Montreal.** — I would like you to pray to the Sacred Heart for the following favours: my mother's cure; the means to pay our debts; work for my father and brother. B. P., **Montreal.** — Will you please ask our Blessed Mother that my husband may be cured of cancer if it is God's Holy Will. Mrs. F., **Wine River, N. B.** — Kindly say a few prayers to the Sacred Heart that I may be cured, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin, and also that I may obtain



two special favors. M. C. L. — I ask the Sacred Heart to grant my requests. R. D. — I wish to obtain a very special favour. Please ask the dear Sacred Heart and His Blessed Mother to come to my aid. Mrs. H., **Montreal**. — Please make a novena to our Immaculate Mother, asking that we may soon obtain the settlement of some business. Mrs. Logan. — Will you be kind enough to make a novena for me for two special favours. M. McE., **St. Johnsbury, Vt.** — I am asking the Blessed Virgin to give my husband good health and a change of position. Mrs. J. C., **Cornwall, Ont.** — Please pray for me and for my father's health also. Miss Y. T., **Portland, Me.** — Please pray for me; I need your prayers. Miss M. H. D., **Albany, N. Y.** — Kindly make a novena to our Immaculate Mother that my eye, which has been bothering me of late, will be entirely cured soon. Miss A. R. G., **Springfield, Mass.** — We want to sell our house. Will you please make a novena to the Blessed Virgin asking her to grant us this favour. G. C., **Timmins, Ont.** — Please make two novenas for two special intentions. If the favours are obtained, I will send a donation to the missions in thanksgiving. A Friend, **North Bay, Ont.** — Please pray for the father of a large family that he may be restored to health. Also pray that my parents may have a good crop. A Friend, **Leamington, Ont.** — My family and I are very much in need of extra financial assistance. Please pray that I may receive the amount I am asking for. "Worried", **Goderich, Ont.**



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## NECROLOGY

Reverend Father Joseph Alfred Roy, C. S. V., P. P., St. Viator's Parish, **Outremont**; Miss Therese Bedard, **Quebec**, sister of our Sister St. Roch; Mrs. Louis George, **Claremont, N. H.**; Mr. and Mrs. Z. Panneton, **Montreal**; Mrs. M. L. Vincent, **Linwood, Mass.**; Mr. James Chester O'Connell, **Tetreatville**; Mr. Alfred Latour, **Spencer, Mass.**; Mrs. H. McCarthy, **Montreal**; Mrs. Eva Potvin, **Linwood, Mass.**; Mr. J. Hugh Cuthbert, **Alexandria, Ont.**; Mrs. Mary L. Crowley, **Worcester, Mass.**; Mr. Henry Deslauriers, **Montreal**; Mrs. Florence Sorel, **Adams, Mass.**; Miss Helen Payne, **Montreal**; Mrs. Denis Meloche, **Windsor, Ont.**; Mr. Charles McGlynn, **Montreal**; Mr. W. Downy, **Montreal**; Mrs. John Groves, **Montreal**; Mr. Gerald Smith, **Montreal**. — Mr. Lawrence Page, **Montreal**. — Mrs. L. N. Cassidy, **Fort Fairfield, Me.**

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prayers and alms.



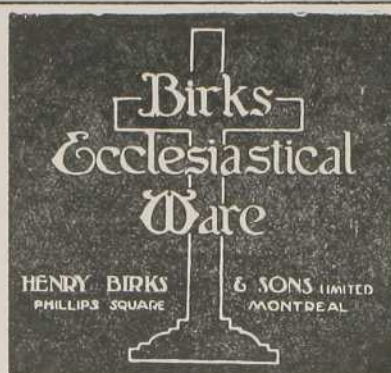
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School for catechists. Catechumenate. School for Christian and pagan pupils. Orphanage. Foundling-Home. Workrooms.

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

Lazaretto.

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

Procure and School.

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

Orphanage. Foundling-Home. School.

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

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

Training of native virgin catechists.

---

## IN MANCHUKUO, VIA JAPAN

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

Dispensary.

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

Dispensary. Orphanage. School.

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

Dispensary. School.

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

Dispensary. School.

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

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

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

Dispensary. School.

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

Dispensary.

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

Dispensary.

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## IN JAPAN

### KORIYAMA, 96 Toramaru, Koriyama Shi, Fukushima Ken (Founded in 1930)

Kindergarten.

### WAKAMATSU (Founded in 1933)

Kindergarten.

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## IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

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

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

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## IN ITALY

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

Procure for the Missions.



# Benefactors of the Society

of the

## Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

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

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

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

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

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

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

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## Privileges Granted to Benefactors

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

Besides, Benefactors are entitled to the following spiritual advantages:

1. — A special intention in all the Masses heard and Communions received by the Sisters.

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

3. — Every Friday and Sunday in the year, the Sisters offer, for their Benefactors' intentions, their hours of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament exposed in the chapel of the Mother House. (The names of Founders and Protectors are placed on the Altar of Exposition).

4. — For the same intentions, the members of the Community make, every day, the Guard of Honour to Mary, which consists in the continual recitation of the Rosary before the altar of the Blessed Virgin. This Guard of Honour is also made at the Shek Lung Lazaretto. There, the poor leper women, in successive groups of fifteen, continue the Rosary for the intentions of the Society's Benefactors.

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

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