

THE PRECURSOR



Vol. XI., 16th Year

MONTREAL, September-October, 1938

No. 11

Works of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

IN CANADA

MOTHER HOUSE, 2900 St. Catherine Road, Montreal, 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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Closed Retreats for ladies and girls.

(Continued on page 3 of the cover.)

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Description and prices given on request.

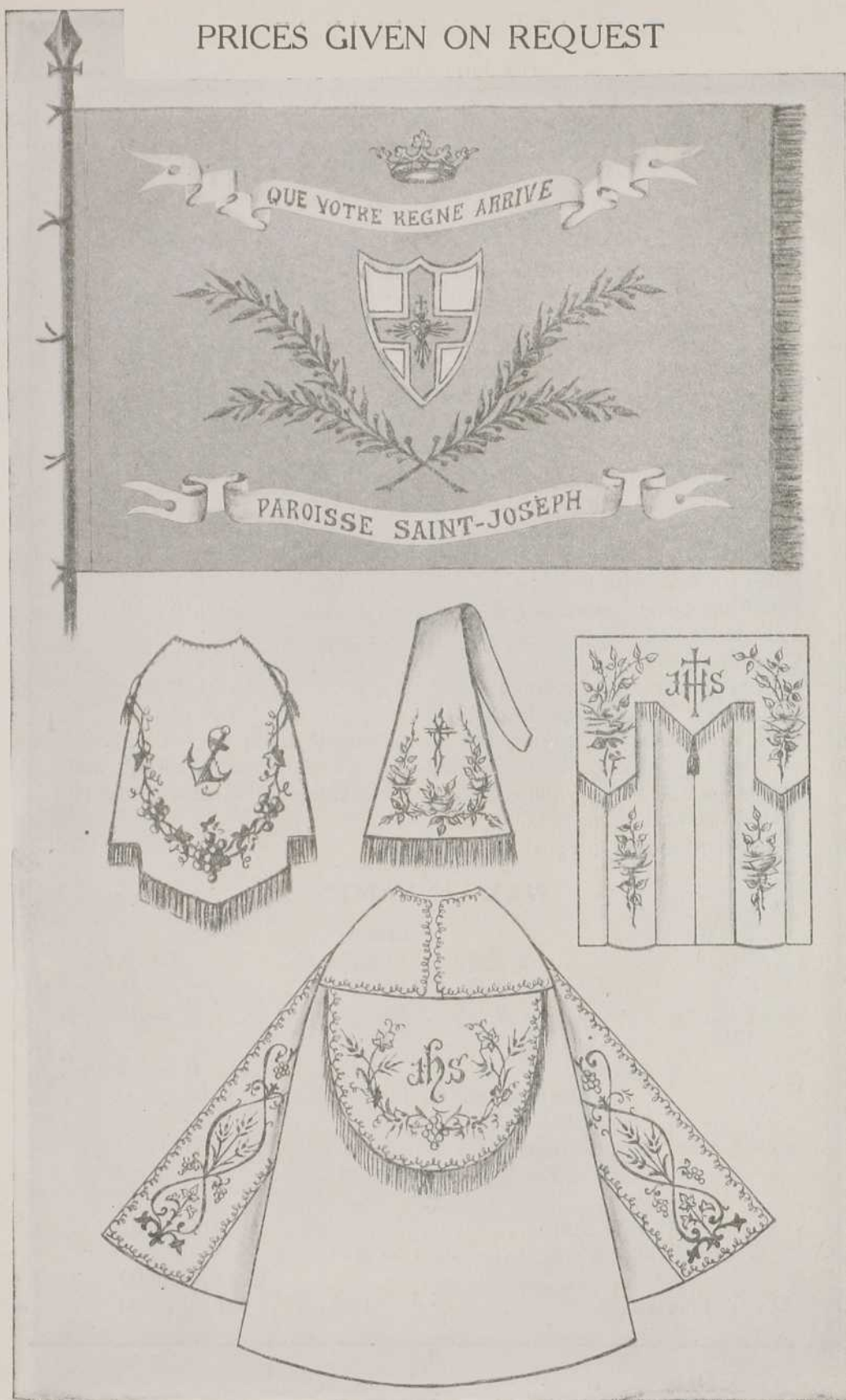
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Length		Length	
5 inches	\$ 2.50	14 inches	\$16.00
7 "	4.00	17 "	25.00
9 "	7.00	22 "	35.00
12 "	14.00		
Altar Linens	{ Amices	\$12.00 per doz.	
	" linen, second quality	10.80 " "	
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We supply *altar-breads* at the following prices:

Small	\$1.20 per 1000
Large40 " 100

PRICES GIVEN ON REQUEST







O IMMACULATE MOTHER, PROTECT OUR BENEFACTORS.

THE PRECURSOR

Published by the
Missionary Sisters
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with the approbation of the Archbishop of Montreal

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St. Michael

*When the hosts of heaven divided,
And the good and bad were known,
And the faithful ones were prostrate,
All in love before God's throne;
Then a mighty voice resounded,
Like the angry tempest's roar
As it breaks at darkest midnight
On some lonely ocean shore.*

*"Who's like to God?" that voice demanded,
And the speaker hurled his dart
Fire-tipped with heaven's own lightning,
At the faithless traitor's heart.
Down he drove the rebel Satan
To the lowest depths of hell,
And with him the craven minions,
Who had served their leader well.*

*"Who's like to God?" the heavens re-echoed,
Hear the angel chorus swell,
"There is none," each heart responded
Then upon their faces fell.
And the noble, faithful leader
Was by God rewarded well,
And from henceforth through the ages,
Bears the name of Mi-ca-el.*

*Great St. Michael, be our champion
On the battle-field of life,
Help us — when we fear or falter —
Make us victors in the strife.
When the hand of Justice strikes us
Though we tremble 'neath the rod,
Softly make our spirits whisper,
"Who is like God?"*

— MARY A. McHUGH.

Ever at our Side

DIVINE Providence has given to each one of us a particular vocation on earth and assigned us a special place in the Kingdom of Heaven. "Behold I will send my angel, who shall go before thee and keep thee in thy journey, and bring thee into the place that I have prepared."

As the Heavenly spirits in the highest ranks transmit light and love to those inferior to them, so also, our guardian angels inspire us with the knowledge of what is good and help us to accomplish it. When we feel influenced to abandon creatures in order to give ourselves entirely to God, it is an inspiration from our charitable Guide. His zeal assumes every form. Sometimes, he proposes to us the example of Christ, or of the saints whose character bore a greater resemblance to ours; now he vividly reminds us of the brevity of life, the hour of death, eternity; then, he displays to us the beauties of virtue, the charms of peace, which is the consequence of a clear conscience, the recompense of fidelity. St. Bernard represents these heavenly princes ever at our side to warn us and counsel us unceasingly. Louis of Grenada considers them as affectionate fathers, devoting themselves entirely to their children's happiness; as rich people, placing themselves at the disposal of the poor; and as doctors, teaching the ignorant.

The Guardian Angel removes the obstacles to be met with in the path of salvation. When we are in danger, he urges us to avoid it, having sometimes recourse to holy violence, as did the angels in the story of Lot. When we are depressed by spiritual languor and discouraged by sadness, he consoles us, strengthens us; he communicates to our souls a heavenly unction, which heals them. But the greatest obstacle to our eternal happiness is the war waged against us by the evil spirits. Their jealousy cannot bear to see God's love for us and the glory that He reserves for us. Fortunately, our Heavenly Protector is more solicitous for our defence than they are intent upon our loss. He does for his protégés what Raphael did for Tobias. He subdues the devils, or puts them to flight. It is for this reason that, after saying: "He hath given his angels charge over thee," the prophet immediately adds, to fortify our courage: "Thou shalt walk upon the asp and the basilisk: and thou shalt trample under foot the lion and the dragon. Because he hoped in Me, I will deliver him: I will protect him, because he hath known My name. He shall cry to Me, and I will hear him: I am with him in tribulation, I will deliver him, and I will glorify him. I will fill him with length of days; and I will show him my salvation." (Ps. XC.)

They contribute still more directly to our salvation by the means of sanctification which they procure for us, especially, by praying for us, and by offering our prayers to God.

The other blessed in Heaven intercede for us only through charity — that charity which unites all the children of God to one another. As for our Guardian Angels, it is a duty for them to pray for us. They do so, also, through the ardent zeal which God has communicated to them, in committing us to their care. Holy Scripture says that, in appointing them

to be His ministers, He gave them the ardour of the flame; their love for us is like a fire which consumes them. Though constantly in the presence of God, contemplating His infinite perfections, they are, at the same time, near us, witnessing the miseries and dangers to which we are exposed. For this reason, they unceasingly intercede for us, while offering up our prayers.

"And," says St. John, "another angel came, and stood before the altar, having a gold censer: and there was given to him much incense, that he should offer of the prayers of all the saints upon the altar, which is before the throne of God. And the smoke of the incense of the prayers of the saints ascended up before God, from the hand of the angel." (Apoc. Chap. VIII, 3, 4.) Raphael said to Tobias: "When thou didst pray with tears, and didst bury the dead, and didst leave thy dinner, and hide the dead, by day, in thy house, and bury them by night, I offered thy prayer to the Lord." (Tob. Chap. XII, 12).

"How fortunate we are," exclaimed Bossuet, "to have such devoted friends to intercede for us in heaven! They not only present our requests before the throne of God, but they also offer Him our good works: this act of charity towards the poor and the sick, this hidden alms, this injury forgiven, this fast, this mortification... They offer even our slightest desires, after enhancing them in God's estimation. With what joy, especially, do they offer Him our tears of repentance and the suffering that we have endured patiently and humbly for love of Him!"

Finally, at the hour of death, in the last struggles which are to decide our eternal destiny, our Guardian Angels redouble their vigilance to repress the fury of our enemies, to excite confidence, compunction and fervour in our discouraged hearts. Their solicitude for us continues beyond the tomb. If we are condemned to expiate our negligences and faults in the flames of Purgatory, they visit us and console us; they solicit prayers for us; they inspire charitable persons to help us; and they negotiate with God for our deliverance. What have we done, until now, to show our gratitude to God for His goodness and for the affectionate and constant zeal of the Angel whom He has given us for guardian?

R. P. CHAIGNON, S. J.

The Angelus

To gain the Indulgence attached to the recitation of the Angelus, this prayer must be recited kneeling during the week; but standing, on Sunday and on Saturday after Vespers.

Let us, also, mention an indulgenced prayer referring to the Assumption. If three *Glorias* are recited after the Angelus, morning, noon and night, in thanksgiving to the Blessed Trinity for the privileges granted to the Blessed Virgin, especially that of her glorious Assumption, 100 days' Indulgence can be gained for each one of them; a Plenary Indulgence, once a month, on any day whatever, on the ordinary conditions.

The Angel Guides Tobias

TOBIAS was of the tribe and city of Nephtali, which is in the upper parts of Galilee at the foot of Mount Libanus not far from the River Jordan. He took to wife, Anna, of his own tribe, and had a son by her, whom he called after his own name. From his infancy, he taught him to fear God and to abstain from all sin.

Now it happened one day, that being wearied with burying, he came to his house, and cast himself down by the wall, and slept. And as he was sleeping, hot dung out of a swallow's nest, fell upon his eyes, and he was made blind. Now this trial the Lord, therefore, permitted to happen to him, that an example of his patience might be given to posterity. He repined not because the evil of blindness had befallen him, but continued immoveable in the fear of God, giving thanks to Him all the days of his life. For as the kings insulted over holy Job, so his relations and kinsmen mocked at his life, saying: "Where is thy hope, for which thou gavest alms, and buriedst the dead?"

But Tobias rebuked them saying: "Speak not so: For we are the children of saints, and look for that life which God will give to those that never change their faith from Him."

Then, Tobias sighed, and began to pray with tears, saying: "Thou art just, O Lord, and all Thy judgments are just, and all Thy ways are mercy, and truth, and justice. And now, O Lord, think of me, and take not revenge of my sins, neither remember my offences nor those of my parents. And now, O Lord, do with me according to Thy will and command my spirit to be received in peace; for it is better for me to die, than to live."

Therefore, when Tobias thought that his prayer was heard that he might die, he called to him Tobias, his son, and said to him: "Hear, my son, the words of my mouth, and lay them as a foundation in thy heart. When God shall take my soul, thou shalt bury my body and thou shalt honour thy mother all the days of her life. And when she also shall have ended the time of her life, bury her by me and all the days of thy life have God in thy mind: and take heed thou never consent to sin, or transgress the commandments of the Lord, thy God. Give alms out of thy substance, and turn not away thy face from any poor person: for so it shall come to pass, that the face of the Lord shall not be turned from thee. According to thy ability be merciful. If thou have much, give abundantly: if thou have little, take care even so to bestow willingly a little." After urging his son to have great love for purity, justice and wisdom, Tobias added: "I tell thee also, my son, that I lent ten talents of silver, while thou wast yet a child, to Gabelus, in Rages, a city of the Medes, and I have a note of his hand with me. Now, therefore, inquire how thou mayst go to him, and receive of him the foresaid sum of money, and restore to him the note of his hand." And as such was all the fortune that Tobias had to leave him, he continued: "Fear not, my son: we lead indeed a poor life, but we shall have many good things if we fear God, and depart from all sin, and do that which is good."



Young Tobias and His Heavenly Guide.

Then young Tobias answered his father, and said: "I will do all things, father, which thou hast commanded me." However, he expressed his fear concerning the possibility of not finding Gabelus and making alone the journey to Rages. "But go now," replied the father, "and seek thee out some faithful man, to go with thee for his hire; that thou mayst receive it, while I yet live. Then Tobias, going forth, found a beautiful young man, standing girded, and as it were, ready to walk. And not knowing that he was an angel of God, he saluted him, and said: "From whence art thou, good young man?" But he answered "of the children of Israel." And Tobias said to him: "Knowest thou the way that leadeth to the country of the Medes?" And he answered: "I know it: and I have often walked through all the ways thereof, and I have abode with Gabelus, our brother,

who dwelleth at Rages." Then Tobias going in told all these things to his father. Upon which his father being in admiration, desired that the stranger would come in unto him. The latter going in, saluted him, and said: "Joy be to thee always." And Tobias said: "What manner of joy shall be to me, who sit in darkness, and see not the light of heaven?" And the young man answered: "Be of good courage, thy cure from God is at hand." Then he promised to conduct young Tobias to Rages and to bring him back. The old man asked him of what family or what tribe he was; and Raphael, the angel, answered: "I am Azarias, the son of the great Ananias." The angel had taken the form of Azarias; and his name, which signifies the *help of God*, perfectly expressed the heavenly envoy's mission. Then all things being ready, that were to be carried in their journey, Tobias bid his father and his mother farewell, and they set out both together.

The travellers went forward and they lodged the first night by the river of Tigris. As Tobias went out to wash his feet, behold a monstrous fish came up to devour him. And Tobias being afraid of him, cried out with a loud voice, saying: "Sir, he cometh upon me." And the angel said to him: "Take him by the gill and draw him to thee. Take out the entrails of this fish, and lay up his heart, his gall and his liver: for these are efficacious medicines for driving away all kinds of devils and for curing blindness." Tobias obeyed. For several days they continued their journey until they entered Ecbatana. Tobias said to his guide: "Where wilt thou that we lodge?" And the angel answering, said: "Here is one whose name is

Raguel, a near kinsman of thy tribe, and he hath a daughter named Sara, but he hath no son nor any other daughter beside her. All his substance is due to thee, and thou must take her to wife. Ask her, therefore, of her father, and he will give her thee to wife."

Raphael and Tobias went to Raguel and Raguel received them with joy, though as yet he only took them for Israelites. And Raguel looking upon Tobias, said to Anna, his wife: "How like is this young man to my cousin!" And when he had spoken these words he said: "Whence are you, young men, our brethren?" But they said: "We are of the tribe of Nephtali, of the captivity of Ninive." And Raguel said to them: "Do you know Tobias, my brother?" They answered: "We know him." As Raguel was saying many good things of him, the angel said: "Tobias, concerning whom thou inquirest, is this young man's father." And Raguel went to him, and kissed him with tears, and weeping upon his neck, said: "A blessing be upon thee my son, because thou art the son of a good and most virtuous man." And Anna, his wife, and Sara, their daughter, wept.

After they had spoken, Raguel commanded a sheep to be killed, and a feast to be prepared. When he desired them to sit down to dinner, Tobias said: "I will not eat nor drink here this day, unless thou first grant me my petition and promise to give me Sara, thy daughter." Raguel, following the angel's counsels, acquiesced to his desire; and, taking the right hand of his daughter, he gave it into the right hand of Tobias, saying: "The God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob be with you, and may He join you together, and fulfil his blessing in you."

Raguel caused a banquet to be prepared for all his neighbours, and all his friends. And he adjured Tobias to abide with him two weeks. And of all things which Raguel possessed, he gave one half to Tobias, and made a writing that the half that remained, should, after their decease, come also to Tobias. Then Tobias called the angel to him, whom he took to be a man, and said to him: "Brother Azarias, I pray thee, hearken to my words: If I should give myself to be thy servant, I should not make a worthy return for thy care. However, I beseech thee, to take with thee beasts and servants, and to go to Gabelus, to Rages, the city of the Medes: and to restore to him his note of hand, and receive of him the money, and desire him to come to my wedding. For thou knowest that my father numbereth the days: and if I stay one day more, his soul will be afflicted. And, indeed, thou seest how Raguel hath adjured me, whose adjuring I cannot despise." Then Raphael took four of Raguel's servants, and two camels, and went to Rages: and finding Gabelus, gave him his note of hand and received of him all the money. And he told him concerning Tobias, all that had been done: and made him come with him to the wedding. And when he came into Raguel's house, he found Tobias sitting at the table: and he leaped up, and they kissed each other; and Gabelus wept, and blessed God, and said: "The God of Israel bless thee, because thou art the son of a very good and just man, and that feareth God, and doth alms-deeds: and may a blessing come upon thy wife, and upon your parents. And may you see your children, and your children's children, unto the third and fourth generation: and may your

seed be blessed by the God of Israel, who reigneth for ever and ever.

But as Tobias made longer stay upon occasion of the marriage, Tobias, his father, was solicitous, saying: "Why, thinkest thou, doth my son tarry, or why is he detained there. Is Gabelus dead, thinkest thou, and no man will pay him the money?" And he began to be exceedingly sad, both he and Anna, his wife, with him: and they began both to weep together.

But Raguel said to his son-in-law: "Stay here, and I will send a messenger to Tobias, thy father, that thou art in health." And Tobias said to him: "I know that my father and mother now count the days and their spirit is grievously afflicted within them." And when Raguel had pressed Tobias with many words, and he would by no means hearken to him, he delivered Sara unto him, and half of all his substance in men-servants, and women-servants, in cattle, in camels, and in kine, and in much money, and sent him away safe and joyful from him, saying: "The Holy Angel of the Lord be with you in your journey, and bring you through safe, and that you may find all things well about your parents, and my eyes may see your children before I die." And the parents, taking their daughter, kissed her, and let her go: admonishing her to honour her father and mother-in-law, to love her husband, to take care of the family, to govern the house, and to behave herself irreprehensibly.

They departed. But Anna sat beside the way daily, on the top of a hill, from whence she might see afar off. And while she watched his coming from that place, she saw him afar off, and presently perceived it was her son coming: and returning, she told her husband, saying: "Behold thy son cometh." Then the dog, which had been with them in the way, ran before, and coming as if he had brought the news, showed his joy by his fawning and wagging his tail. And his father, that was blind, rising up, began to run, stumbling with his feet: and giving a servant his hand, went to meet his son. And receiving him, kissed him, as did also his wife, and they began to weep for joy. And when they had adored God, and given Him thanks, they sat down together.

Then Tobias taking of the gall of the fish, anointed his father's eyes. And he stayed about half an hour: and a white skin began to come out of his eyes, like the skin of an egg. And Tobias took hold of it, and drew it from his eyes, and immediately he recovered his sight. And they glorified God, both he and his wife, and all that knew him. And Tobias told his parents all the benefits of God, which He had done to him by the man that conducted him.

Then Tobias called to him his son, and said to him: "What can we give to this holy man that is come with thee?" Young Tobias answering, said to his father: "I beseech thee, my father, to desire him, that he would vouchsafe to accept of one half of all things that have been brought." So the father and the son calling him, took him aside: and began to desire him that he would vouchsafe to accept of half of all things that they had brought. Then he said to them secretly: "Bless ye the God of heaven, give glory to Him in the sight of all that live, because He hath shown His mercy to you. For it is good to hide the secret of a king: but honourable to reveal and

confess the works of God. Prayer is good with fasting and alms, more than to lay up treasures of gold: for alms delivereth from death, and the same is that which purgeth away sins, and maketh to find mercy and life everlasting. But they that commit sin and iniquity, are enemies to their own soul. I discover then the truth unto you, and I will not hide the secret from you. When thou didst pray with tears, and didst bury the dead, and didst leave thy dinner, and hide the dead, by day, in thy house, and bury them by night, I offered thy prayer to the Lord. And because thou wast acceptable to God, it was necessary that temptation should prove thee. And now the Lord hath sent me to heal thee. For I am the Angel Raphael, one of the seven, who stand before the Lord." And when they had heard these things, they were troubled, and being seized with fear, they fell upon the ground on their face. And the angel said to them: "Peace be to you, fear not. For when I was with you, I was there by the will of God: Bless ye Him, and sing praises to Him. I seemed, indeed, to eat, and to drink with you, but I use an invisible meat and drink, which cannot be seen by men. It is time, therefore, that I return to Him that sent me: but bless ye God and publish all His wonderful works." And when he had said these things, he was taken from their sight, and they could see him no more.

Let our Faith in the real Presence and in our privileged relations with the Divine Friend of the Tabernacle be so vivid, so realistic and so active that we will cry out like St. Paul: "Who then shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulations? or distress? or famine? or nakedness? or the sword? For I am sure that neither death nor life nor angels nor principalities nor power, nor things present nor things to come, nor might nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus" *Rom. (VIII, 33-39)* in the Ho'y Sacrament of the Altar.

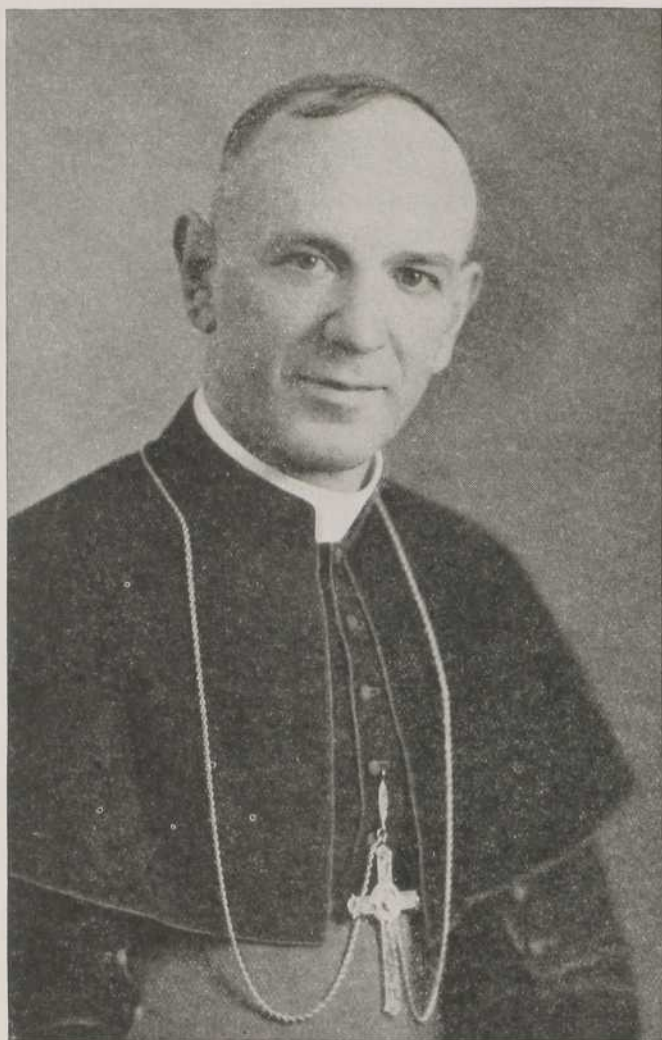
Rev. James C. McGuigan.

TO THE NEW VICAR APOSTOLIC OF THE GULF OF ST. LAWRENCE,

His Excellency
Bishop Napoleon Labrie, C.I.M.

consecrated Titular Bishop of Limata, July 17, 1938,
by His Eminence Rodrigue Cardinal Villeneuve,
at the Church of the Sacred Heart of Mary, Quebec,

THE PRECURSOR offers congratulations and best wishes.



His Excellency Bishop Albini Lafortune

THIRD BISHOP OF NICOLET

consecrated in his episcopal city, July 25, 1938,

by His Eminence R. Cardinal Villeneuve.

To this new Prelate, THE PRECURSOR offers respectful homage, hearty congratulations and sincere wishes for a long and fruitful episcopate.

Encyclical Letter on Atheistic Communism

(DIVINI REDEMPTORIS)

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

(Continued.)

Prudent and Sober Administration

76. The State itself, mindful of its responsibility before God and society, should be a model of prudence and sobriety in the administration of the commonwealth. To-day more than ever the acute world-crisis demands that those who dispose of immense funds, built up on the sweat and toil of millions, keep constantly and singly in mind the common good. State functionaries and all employers are obliged in conscience to perform their duties faithfully and unselfishly, imitating the brilliant example of distinguished men of the past and of our own day, who with unremitting labor sacrificed their all for the good of their country. In international trade-relations let all means be sedulously employed for the removal of those artificial barriers to economic life which are the effects of distrust and hatred. All must remember that the peoples of the earth form but one family in God.

Unrestricted Freedom for the Church

77. At the same time the State must allow the Church full liberty to fulfil her divine and spiritual mission, and this in itself will be an effectual contribution to the rescue of nations from the dread torment of the present hour. Everywhere to-day there is an anxious appeal to moral and spiritual forces; and rightly so, for the evil we must combat is at its origin primarily an evil of the spiritual order. From this polluted source the monstrous emanations of the Communistic system flow with satanic logic. Now the Catholic Church is undoubtedly pre-eminent among the moral and religious forces of to-day. Therefore the very good of humanity demands that her work be allowed to proceed unhindered.

78. Those who act otherwise, and at the same time fondly pretend to attain their objective with purely political or economic means, are in the grip of a dangerous error. When religion is banished from the school, from education and from public life, when the representatives of Christianity and its sacred rites are held up to ridicule, are we not really fostering the materialism which is the fertile soil of Communism? Neither force, however well organized it be, nor earthly ideals, however lofty or noble, can control a movement whose roots lie in the excessive esteem for the goods of this world.

79. We trust that those rulers of nations who are at all aware of the extreme danger threatening every people to-day may be more and more convinced of their supreme duty not to hinder the Church in the fulfilment of her mission. This is the more imperative since, while this mission has in view man's happiness in heaven, it cannot but promote his true felicity in time.

The Erring Recalled

80. We cannot conclude this Encyclical Letter without addressing some words to those of Our children who are more or less tainted with the Communist plague. We earnestly exhort them to hear the voice of their loving Father. We pray the Lord to enlighten them, that they may abandon the slippery path which will precipitate one and all to ruin and catastrophe, and that they recognize that Jesus Christ Our Lord is their only Saviour: "For there is no other name under heaven given to man, whereby we must be saved."

CONCLUSION

Saint Joseph, Model and Patron

81. To hasten the advent of that "peace of Christ in the kingdom of Christ" so ardently desired by all, We place the vast campaign of the Church against world Communism under the standard of St. Joseph, her mighty Protector. He belongs to the working-class, and he bore the burdens of poverty for himself and the Holy Family, whose tender and vigilant head he was. To him was entrusted the Divine Child when Herod loosed his assassins against Him. In a life of faithful performance of everyday duties he left an example for all those who must gain their bread by the toil of their hands. He won for himself the title of the Just, serving thus as a living model of that Christian justice which should reign in social life.

82. With eyes lifted on high our Faith sees the new heavens and the new earth described by Our first Predecessor, St. Peter. While the promises of the false prophets of this earth melt away in blood and tears, the great apocalyptic prophecy of the Redeemer shines forth in heavenly splendor: "Behold, I make all things new."

Venerable Brethren, nothing remains but to raise Our paternal hands to call down upon you, upon your clergy and people, upon the whole Catholic family, the Apostolic Benediction.

Given at Rome, at St. Peter's, on the feast of St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, the nineteenth day of March, in the year 1937, the sixteenth of Our Pontificate.

PIUS PP. XI.

*Votive Lights in Honour of the Blessed Virgin*

In the chapel of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

To comply with the desire of several pious persons devoted to the Blessed Virgin, we are pleased to quote the prices of lamps and candles that may be burned at Mary's shrine in our modest chapel at the Mother House, 2900 St. Catherine Road, Montreal, in thanksgiving or to obtain some favor from this tender Mother.

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

Reminiscences of the National Eucharistic Congress

THE National Eucharistic Congress, which has been prepared throughout all the parishes of our country, by months of prayer and work, is already a thing of the past. It has been a real success on account of the multitudes that attended it and the piety which reigned during the religious ceremonies.

The city of Quebec had assumed an extraordinary festal appearance. Almost all the dwellings were artistically decorated in red, white and yellow — the Congress colours; and the whole route of the procession which was held on Sunday, June 26, was lavishly adorned with flags, banners, escutcheons and various religious motifs, besides extensive electrical decorations. Twelve triumphal arches of diverse forms of architecture were erected at intervals along St. John Street, Avenue des Braves and St. Louis Road. Loud-speakers, placed here and there, afforded to all the City the opportunity of assisting at the public demonstrations which took place on Battle-fields Park and at the Armouries. Thus, during the great closing procession, the prayers and singing were in common by all those attending.

The principal work of the Congress was accomplished in the numerous English and French Study Sessions, which were largely attended; but nothing was spared to encourage the Eucharistic piety of the multitudes: Masses, General Communions every morning, in all the churches of the city, for the clergy and laity; then, on Saturday night, Midnight Masses and great numbers of Communions, in most of the churches.

All the open air demonstrations that had been announced on the program, took place, excepting those of Saturday afternoon and evening. The women's demonstration was omitted on account of the rain. It was replaced by the broadcasting of the singing which was to be rendered by the female choirs of the City; and Their Excellencies, Archbishop McGuigan, of Toronto, and Bishop Papineau, of Joliette, delivered their allocutions from the broadcasting station.

The rain, which marred the day for Youth, served only to occasion more enthusiasm. On short notice, an assembly was called for at the Armouries and more than 15,000 boys and girls responded and greeted the Cardinal Legate. The Holy Hour on Thursday night, and the Mass which followed it, brought to Battlefields Park 100,000 men, more than 65,000 of whom received Holy Communion, distributed by 150 priests.

On Friday afternoon, at the children's demonstration, some 75,000 persons assisted at the presentation of Henri Gheon's "*The Mystery of the Mass.*"

Despite the appearance of rain, on Saturday morning, a vast congregation of young folks assisted at the Dialogue Mass.

On Sunday, June 26, as the weather was fine, many thousands of pilgrims came to Quebec from all parts of the Province. More than 125,000 persons

assisted, on the Plains of Abraham, at the Pontifical Mass celebrated by His Eminence the Cardinal Legate. All followed with faith and attention the impressionable liturgy of the Mass. At the end of the Holy Sacrifice — it was exactly 12.00 o'clock — the pilgrims lived through moments of intense emotion, as they listened to the august and venerated voice of the Common Father of Christendom, the Vicar of Christ, His Holiness Pope Pius XI.

An English translation of the Holy Father's discourse follows:

"In this solemn hour when, veiled in the Holy Eucharist, the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords gives answer to your love with His own boundless love, and at the very moment of His triumph pours out upon you His heavenly favors, it is for Us a joy and a consolation exceedingly great to address you and to open Our paternal heart to you as though we were in your midst.

"We congratulate you cordially, because you have given Us to see the ancestral faith of your forebears so vigorously re-lived to-day and to behold the pious emulation with which you seek the revival of their excellent example.

"It is with no little pleasure that we recall that excellent example. It raises Our hope that to-day, even as in the past, the moving grace of the Divine Redeemer may, from the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, bring forth in your souls plenteous fruits of Christian piety and Christian life.

"Behold present among you from on high and taking part in this happy event those holy Martyrs of Canada whom, but a few years since, We decorated with the diadem of sainthood. They look down upon you with gladness. They invite you who follow in their footsteps to share their eternal happiness.

"Present among you, too, are many men and women pre-eminent in evangelical virtue whose causes are now being considered by the Sacred Congregation of Rites. Among them may be mentioned Francois de Laval de Montmorency, the first Bishop of Quebec; Margaret Bourgeoys and Catherine Tekakwitha, spectacles to the world of men and angels. They labored valiantly for their own salvation, for that of their fellows, and for the progress of the Christian religion. You know, indeed, whence they drew their strength and virtue, whence came the impulse and fortitude which made them enter with stout and willing souls upon the hard way of sanctity. It was from the august Sacrament of the Altar, which is indeed the corn of the elect and wine springing forth virgins.

Peace, Unity and Charity.

"With hearts aflame and with piety profound, let us all draw nigh to this heavenly banquet, to this divine mystery of love. Refreshed and strengthened by this Sacrament from Christ the Lord, Who rejoiceth the heavens and preserveth the whole world, let us implore truth, peace, concord and charity, not alone for ourselves and all the faithful of Christ, but also for those who have wandered from the right path and who are all too often blinded by cupidity or consumed by hatred and strife. In particular, let us implore for Canada, composed as it is of so many nationalities and peoples,

those gifts of peace, unity and charity which have their source in the Eucharist, to the end that there may be oneness in faith of minds and in the piety of actions.

"May the blessing of Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, descend upon you and remain forever."

The crowds responded with a powerful *amen*, the echoes of which, transmitted by the radio, must have rejoiced His Holiness Pope Pius XI.

The Congress was brought to a close by a magnificent procession, which was formed in front of the Basilica and proceeded along Fabric and St. John Streets, Avenue des Braves, St. Louis Road and the royal avenue leading to the Repository on the Plains of Abraham. It began at 3.00 P.M., and only towards 7.30 P.M. did the Blessed Sacrament, carried by the Cardinal Legate himself, reach the Repository. The route of the procession was lined with four rows of people, who united in prayers and hymns with those taking part in the procession. At the Repository, before Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, His Eminence the Cardinal Legate invited the crowds to repeat acclamations and the Act of Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This long procession through the streets of Quebec which were crowded with pious throngs, was a spectacle of incomparable beauty; and the final ceremony was an apotheosis to Our Eucharistic Lord, such as has never before been witnessed in our city.

The procession was attended by almost all the archbishops and bishops of Canada, over 3,000 priests and religious and a congregation of about 100,000 of the laity. Some 150,000 assisted at Benediction on the Plains of Abraham.

After the triumphal procession, His Eminence the Cardinal Legate addressed to the Holy Father the following message:

Quebec, Sunday, June 26, 1938.

HIS HOLINESS POPE PIUS XI,
Vatican City.

In my own name, and in the name of the entire Canadian Episcopate and Clergy, I place at the feet of Your Holiness the expression of our most lively gratitude for the august message addressed to us, this morning, and received with immense joy. The National Eucharistic Congress, crowned, this evening, by a triumphal procession in honour of Our Eucharistic Lord which was attended by the entire Episcopate, the highest Civil Authorities of the Province and Country, and three hundred thousand other persons, is really beginning to-day. Through my medium, it promises Your Holiness to work for the realization of Your most cherished desires for the glory of Christ, for the peace and prosperity of our country and of the whole world.

Cardinal VILLENEUVE.



Ballade of Pleasure

*Through all the lands of the whole world wide,
And over the broad and the boundless main,
In lowly homes and in halls of pride,
In street and square and in country lane,
In search of pleasure folk strive and strain,
Yet ofttimes fail they to understand
The truth by all ages and times made plain —
Duty and pleasure walk hand in hand.*

*Not always is learning by pleasure's side :
Sundered afar are sometimes the twain.
Some think that pleasure must still abide
Wherever riches and comfort reign.
And some who honors and titles gain
Have pleasure far from their hearthstone banned,
And learn too late, in their grief and pain,
Duty and pleasure walk hand in hand.*

*Pride in the search makes a sorry guide
For the rich or poor, for the prince or swain,
As many a searcher will testify
When the days of youth are upon the wane,
And lengthened labors are all in vain.
Men famed for wisdom in every land
With voice and pen evermore maintain
Duty and pleasure walk hand in hand.*

ENVOY

*Youths and maidens for pleasure fain,
Know that while breezes blow chill or bland,
While the grass grows green upon hill and plain,
Duty and pleasure walk hand in hand.*

— E. Beck.

Missionary Auxiliaries

With the beginning of October, the weekly reunions of the sewing-circles "Our Lady of the Holy Ghost" and "St. Teresa of the Child Jesus", interrupted during the summer season, will be continued at the new Mother House of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, 2900 St. Catherine Road, Montreal.

All the charitable workers of the past years are cordially invited to resume their meritorious work of apostolate. A kind invitation is also extended to persons willing and able to devote one afternoon a week to this work. We shall be glad to inscribe their names in one or the other of these groups. Besides being an enjoyable pastime for them, these reunions will afford them an occasion of making others happy and of sharing the missionary's merit, for "He who helps the apostle, has a right to the apostle's reward."

Two sewing-circles will also be formed for ladies and girls respectively, at the Convent of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception in St. Viator's Parish, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont.

All are welcome!

When a man dies they who survive him ask what property he has left behind. The angel who bends over the dying man asks what good deeds he has sent before him.

The glory of life is to love, not to be loved; to give, not to get; to serve, not to be served.

— S. O. S.

The Power of the Rosary

It is related in the life of the Venerable Father Thomas Cuttirez, missionary in the Philippine Islands, that he converted a considerable number of Indians, whole tribes, even. The devil, jealous on account of this, began to persecute him. He appeared to him, one day, under a form hideous enough to terrify the most courageous man. The saintly priest was reading a pious book, when he perceived the spectre; he immediately made the Sign of the Cross to chase it. The devil tried to strike him; but, hindered by an invisible power, he howled with rage: "If it were not for the Rosary you have on your neck, I would take revenge for the injuries you inflict upon me! That Rosary prevents me from doing you any harm!" He then fled.

Thomas thanked the Blessed Virgin for having protected him by the Rosary; and he never ceased, thenceforth, to urge others to wear it day and night.

A Modern Martyr

Blessed Theophane Vénard

Revised and annotated by the Very Rev. James A. WALSH, M. Ap.

Chapter I.

Birth and School Days.

ST. Loup-sur-Thouet is a little French town in the department of Deux-Sèvres, in the diocese of Poitiers, situated some miles north of Parthenay. Here begins the beautiful golden valley which gives its name to Airvault (*aurea vallis*), a busy little town built in the shape of an amphitheatre, and possessing, besides the ruins of an old castle, a very interesting Gothic church. Airvault is not more than three miles from St. Loup, which, surrounded by numerous hills, is hardly discernable even at a short distance.

In spite of the ill-natured assertions of a modern author, the population of St. Loup is too serious and religious to have imbibed any Voltairian spirit. Even should it be true that the author of "*Henriade*" was born there, St. Loup now boasts of a more glorious hero; for from its soil has sprung in these latter days, — a martyr.

Jean Theophane Vénard was born at St. Loup on the 21st of November, 1829, the feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin. He belonged to one of those patriarchal families in which religion and honor hold the first place. His father, M. Jean Vénard, whose family came originally from Anjou, filled the post of village school-master with as much ability as devotion to his duties. He gave up this fatiguing work only after thirty years of toil, to accept a position as justice of the peace in the department of which St. Loup was the chief town. There his experience in business and his good judgment made him invaluable to his townspeople until the day when his laborious and useful labors were brought to a close.

His wife, Mme. Marie Guéret, was a gentle, pious woman, simple and loving in character, entirely devoted to the care of her own home. She had six children. Two of these died as infants, but the others, Mélanie, Theophane, Henry, and Eusebius, will all play an important part in this little history. Under the direction of these good parents, Theophane Vénard made rapid progress in virtue. He combined the loving, gentle character of his mother with the firmness and resolution of his father. His contemporaries still talk of the amusing contrast between his small, baby figure and his grave, quiet manner. His greatest pleasure was to watch the goats or the cows on the hill-side, an occupation which fostered his love of solitude and his spirit of recollection. These hill-sides and pleasant fields hold an important place in the story of the future missionary, for here the first thoughts of his vocation came upon him; and the feelings then inspired remained among the sweetest of his whole life.

The country around St. Loup is very picturesque, but it owes its great fertility to the rivers, the Thouet and the Cebren, which intersect the valley in opposite directions. Between the beds of these two rivers is a hill-side called "Le Bel-Air," on account of its healthful situation and the glorious view on all sides. When Theophane was only nine years old, his delight was to pasture his father's goats on this spot with his sister or a friend. Here they would sing, or read books which they had borrowed from the pastor of the village. Among these books, the "Annals of the Propagation of the Faith" had the greatest charm for the little boy. One day he was reading aloud to his companions the life of the Venerable Charles Cornay, whose martyrdom was then recent. The account of the sufferings and death of this martyr for Jesus Christ touched him even to tears, so that at the end he cried out, "And I too will go to Tonquin, and I too will be a martyr!"

Shortly afterwards, his father joined the little group, and Theophane, turning to him with a gravity very unusual at his age, said, "My father, how much is this field worth?" "Well, I really don't know exactly, my child" replied his father. "Why do you ask?" "Because," the boy answered, "if you could give it to me, and I could have it for my share, I would sell it, and then I should be able to go to college, and study." His father, surprised at such serious thoughts in one so young, put him off with some simple answer; but he thought over these words which gave him a new light on the character and intentions of his son. He soon allowed the boy to learn Latin with one or two other children who went for that purpose to the presbytery, and Theophane succeeded so well that it was decided to send him to college for a regular course of study.

At this time, the principal of the College of Doué, in the diocese of Angers, was a brother of the venerable pastor of St. Loup, and to him young Vénard was sent in October, 1841, together with a friend whom he had known and loved from childhood. This friendship never cooled, and ten years afterwards Theophane wrote from Paris, — "Until I came to the Séminaire des Missions Etrangères, the only intimate friend I ever had was one who had been born in my own village, and who was dear to me as my own soul. The same fatherly hand baptized us; side by side we sat on our benches at school; and at the very same time we were transplanted together to a new home, where another father received us both with open arms. My friend was older, cleverer, and wiser than I, and took a higher place in the College, but our friendship was not in the least affected by this. He flew, and I crawled; but we were each quite contented. I was transferred to the "Petit Séminaire"; and there we found each other again in the same cloister, sharing the same masters, the same studies, the same companions. God, who had united us in childhood, gave us but one thought, one aim, and one object in life. But the day at last came when we were to be separated — my life seemed to be broken altogether! But I have the firm hope that we shall be reunited in Heaven."

No sooner was he fairly settled at college, than Theophane gave his whole mind to the fulfilment of his duties. He was a model to the other students, not only through the hours of study but also during recreation,

when he showed himself the gayest of the whole party. He bore all ill-nature or contradiction with such good humor that those who were at first inclined to tease him soon gave it up. The more people vexed him, or gave him pain, the greater was his kindness toward them and he rarely failed to win their hearts and make them ashamed of their previous behavior.

He gladly entered into all the little private devotions of the students, which were in harmony with his taste and affections. Even as a child he had vowed a special devotion to the Blessed Virgin. He was inscribed among the children of Mary, at Notre Dame des Victoires, and enrolled himself in the work of the Propagation of the Faith, determined to help missionaries as far as he could, until he became one himself. He tried also to lead, as much as he was permitted, a mortified life. When, on a winter's day, one of the masters, seeing him suffer very much from chilblains on his hands and feet, told him to go and warm himself by the comfortable fire in his room, Theophane refused, exclaiming, "The missionaries you were talking to us about last night, sir, suffered much more than that!"

He had a passion for reading, and delighted in the lives of children of his own age, and especially of those who had suffered martyrdom. All these holy dispositions were fostered by the thoughts of his first Communion, which was approaching, and for which, unlike the average small boy, he prepared himself with the utmost anxiety and care.

"The day has almost come," he wrote his parents, "that day which I have so earnestly desired! the most beautiful day in my whole life! Please pray to the Blessed Virgin for me, that I may receive her Son worthily, for I feel I can never prepare myself sufficiently for so solemn an occasion. I beg you, therefore, to forgive me any faults I may have committed against you, and to give me your blessing."

Great as had been his previous doubts and fears, when the time came, his joy knew no bounds. "I remember him perfectly on that day," wrote one of his tutors. "He seemed not able to contain himself for happiness." From that hour began his great devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. He would steal away for a visit during recreation. "I often used to open the door of the chapel softly to see if he was there," wrote the same master, "and was always edified by his wonderful spirit of recollection. Sometimes I forced him to go out to play with his companions, as I thought it necessary for his health; then devotion gave place to obedience."

But a great sorrow was hanging over his head, for which he would need all the strength his Lord had vouchsafed to him in the Sacrament of His love. After two happy months spent with his family, he was obliged to part with his mother to return to college, and he foresaw that their parting would be a final one. Very soon after, in fact, she expired calmly in the arms of her husband, leaving him the care of their four little children. The blow to Theophane was terrible. Nevertheless, his first thought was how he could best console the mourners at home.

(To be continued.)

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.



Sincere thanks to the Patron of Missionaries for a grace obtained through her intercession. Mrs. R., **Montreal**. — The loving Scatterer of Roses has hearkened to my prayers. Kindly join me in thanking her. Mrs. W. F., **Tasche-reau**. — I am acquitting myself of a debt of gratitude towards St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a benefit received. A. L., **Quebec**. — The "Little Flower of Carmel" has granted my desire. I thank her with all my heart and am pleased to fulfil my promise. Mrs. N. M.,

Lewiston, Me. — Grateful thanks to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for favour obtained through her intercession. Mrs. J. G., **Bic**. — My most heartfelt thanks to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for favour obtained through her intercession. A. T., **Boucherville**. — Thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for grace obtained. We beg this dear Saint to obtain other favours for us. A Friend of St. Teresa. — My most lively gratitude to St. Teresa

of the Child Jesus for the cure of a case of pneumonia. J. Picard. — Enclosed please find offering in thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for favour obtained. Mrs. M. O'N., **Ludlow, Mass.** — My most heartfelt thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. I have rented my Country House. It is

to her intercession that I owe this favour. Mrs. A. M. O'N., **Montreal**.

— Enclosed find offering of thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for another favour obtained. Mrs. M. O'N., **Ludlow, Mass.** — Enclosed please find offering for the Burse of St. Teresa in thanksgiving for a favour received through her intercession. Miss T. G., **Williamstown, Mass.** — We wish to thank St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a successful trip. Mr. and

Mrs. V. St. A., **St. Hyacinthe**. — Thanksgiving for a favour obtained through the intercession of the Patron of Missionaries. We beg of her to continue protecting us. Mrs. E. C., **St. Benoit**. — Thanksgiving for favours received through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Miss J. H., **St. Valentin**. — Kindly help me to thank St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for the favours she has obtained for me. M. E. F., **Lewiston, Me.**

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	January-February 1938.....	\$64.10
November-December ".....	7.00	March-April ".....	16.00
Year 1936.....	417.47	Mai-June ".....	12.50
Year 1937.....	\$295.01	July-August ".....	3.30



Echoes from our Missions

CHINA

*Extracts from letters of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception,
of Suchow, to their Superior General.*

Kingantsi, March 20, 1938.

VENERABLE AND DEAR MOTHER,

We are still at Kingantsi, waiting with confidence until God puts an end to the war and permits us to return to our Convent.

As you already know, we have purchased a new place in Suchow. The proprietors of this government school, having received orders to burn it if the Japanese took the city, preferred selling it to us. Sister Superior⁽¹⁾ and Sister Marie Xavier⁽²⁾ went to visit it, when they were in Suchow procuring a new supply of medicine. A beautiful M adorns the façade of this spacious house and seems to be a special sign of protection. We have made a vow to dedicate the new chapel to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, if our Heavenly Mother preserves our life and protects our belongings, in the midst of the dangers which surround us.

As we are writing to you, the noise of the bombs continually resounds in our ears. Sometimes the detonations, reverberated by the wind, seem to be nearer to us; but the battle is at Ling Tchong, a hundred *li* from here. Everybody is frightened and begs to come and stay at the Catholic Mission. In reply to the repeated entreaties made to him, the Pastor has promised to shelter the women, if the danger becomes imminent.

Since our arrival at Kingantsi, we have had many consolations which have helped us to forget a little the trials of exile. On the 20th of January, five adults, two of whom were over seventy years of age, were baptized. How much time and patience it required to teach them, not all their prayers, but only the Sign of the Cross and a little Catechism! How happy we are, however, to be able to make God known to souls! On the 6th of March, twelve new catechumens, ten adults and two children, embraced the Catholic Faith. On this occasion, they were given a more substantial breakfast, at which cream of wheat was served instead of sorghum. There was general rejoicing. Before returning home in the afternoon, they all promised to

1. ST. MARIE DE LA PROTECTION (Cécile Roberge, of Quebec.)

2. Berthe PARADIS, of Tingwick.

come again, in a month, to be prepared for Confirmation. May Our Heavenly Mother obtain for them the grace of perseverance!

On your Feast Day, dear Mother, Sister Marie Xavier baptized two little waifs that she found on the rock in front of the house. The dear little ones immediately took their flight to heaven, where they will present to the Blessed Virgin our requests for you.

We have the privilege of having Mass quite often, on week days. The Christians calculate the time by the sun and, sometimes, arrive at the church



FISHING WITH A NET AT KINGANTSI

AS THE POND IS NOT VERY DEEP, THE FISHERMEN CAN STAND IN IT. WITH GREAT DEXTERITY THEY FLING INTO THE BASKETS ON THEIR BACKS THE FISHES CAUGHT IN THEIR NET.

quite late. As the service is delayed on that account, the Priest kindly comes and gives us Holy Communion, early enough to permit us to take breakfast before Mass, so as not to freeze in the church.

Some time ago, the catechist from the village of Ihouo t'suen, thirty-eight *li* north of Kingantsi, invited us to go and visit a tuberculous patient there. At half-past seven in the morning, we were already on the way. The rising sun soon thawed out the lightly frozen earth and, the wheels of our wagons sticking fast in the mud, we were unable to advance. As we were obliged to walk in the clay, where we lost our rubbers, it was already a quarter past twelve when we reached our destination. The patient being in danger of death, we briefly instructed her and poured the Saving Waters upon her brow. A number of sick people gathered around us; and we had to make haste to treat them, so as to be able to return before night. At the moment of our departure, a poor little one suffering from a cancer in her face was given her passport for Heaven. Only a missionary can understand the joys of such a trip!...

A few days later, hearing some children disputing about a baby that had been thrown away, and learning that it was still living, we urged them to bring it to us. After a moment's hesitation, a ten year old lad went to get the waif and hid it in the folds of his dress. Never before, at Kingantsi,

was anybody seen picking up an abandoned babe; and those who had witnessed the scene wished to know what we were going to do with the child. As soon as the on-lookers were dispersed, the Regenerating Waters flowed upon the brow of the dying baby. Hearing that its twin sister had also been abandoned because she was ill, we sent Mrs. Siu to inquire about the little victim. She was told that a man, tired of seeing her suffering, had put an end to her life by throwing a stone at her. We adore the unsearchable ways of God, Who reserves a place in heaven to one of two sisters, while He refuses this favour to the other; but we cannot help wondering what has been wanting so that both might have shared the same happiness — perhaps, a little sacrifice on our part, or on the part of an Associate of the Holy Childhood or of someone else.

The dear children of Canada, how we would like to be able to make them all hear this appeal: "Be generous, very generous, so as to save your little pagan brothers! Be faithful to follow the inspirations of your Guardian Angels, when they ask you to sacrifice a word, a little vengeance, some sweets, a toy, etc. God is expecting that of you, in order to bestow graces of Baptism and conversion on pagan lands."

Now, we shall speak of our material interests. We are pleased to tell you, dear Mother, that we have a sewing-machine, at last. Having heard that a Christian had several, we sent a person to ask him if he would not

be pleased to sell one to us. According to a Chinese custom, one should not negotiate a transaction himself, so Mr. Li sent a friend to make the bargain with us. After several expressions of politeness, the agent informed us that two machines were offered to us and that we were free to choose whichever one we wished. After a trial, we found something defective about the chosen machine; once again, Mr. Li, abstaining from coming himself, sent another person to repair it. At the catechumenate and throughout a good part of the village, everybody knew that we had a sewing-machine on trial, and it was the subject of general conversation. Here, everything is done in public, nothing remains secret; it is a queer habit, but we soon become accustomed to it.

The sun has been very strong for some time. We cannot go out without a white hat or an umbrella. The people find that very strange; but we let them talk, because we know that, without this precaution, we would take the fever. It also puzzled our neighbours very much on our arrival to see us use goat's milk. They wondered how



BIG WHITE HATS WORN BY THE MISSIONARIES FOR PROTECTION AGAINST THE BURNING RAYS OF THE SUN OF CHINA.

it tasted. We suggested to one of our patients, suffering from ulcers in the stomach and unable to take any food, to try this milk; he did so and was soon on the road to recovery. The news was quickly spread among the people, and they no longer find it ridiculous to see us milking the goats.

Before terminating this letter, I must speak of the little ones of the school. All are very charming and, on meeting us, never fail to smile gracefully. Those that are not too shy timidly venture to say: "*Siau mou tche fou lea, mer yeou?*" (Sister have you eaten well?) — the usual salutation. They put their whole heart into their studies, if we may judge by the continual noise that we hear. They are also very fond of play and cannot be surpassed in liveliness, good humour and playfulness, by our Canadian children. Their favourite amusements are: playing ball, skipping, and dancing in a ring. Playing with dolls is almost unknown here. It is unnecessary, on account of the numerous living dolls to be found in every Chinese family. We very frequently see little girls carrying in their arms babies almost as big as themselves.

More than ever, we commend ourselves to Divine Providence. For two months, we have been enjoying peace, but the people are beginning to be uneasy again. They have a good reason to be so, for the rumbling sound of the cannons can be heard in the distance and the glass in the doors and windows is often violently shaken. How good it is to think that, in heaven, a Father is watching over us and that nothing will happen to us without His permission. How good it is, also, to know that, in our native country, a mother is praying and suffering for her missionary daughters. Thus protected, is it possible for us not to live in perfect confidence, even in the midst of the greatest dangers.

Expressing to you, venerable and dear Mother, our most affectionate greetings and grateful thanks for your maternal bounties, we remain,

YOUR HAPPY CHILDREN OF KINGANTSI.

Report of the Dispensary of Kingantsi for January and February, 1938, inclusive:

Baptisms.....	29		
Patients.....	769	Treatments.....	1,622
		Dressings.....	160
Homes visited.....	66	Consultations.....	288
		Injections.....	105

* * *

Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters in Tsungming.

Sunday, March 20, 1938

Our Island is terror-stricken on account of the appalling news, which is announced every minute, so to say. When it is not an attack of the enemy, it is a raid of bandits. These, goaded on by hunger and misery, assemble in bands, numbering from seventy to two hundred, and go from house to house, pillaging everybody. Very frequently, in order to force

their victims to reveal the hiding-place of their possessions, they burn one of them or stab him.

We are more and more anxious at the Mission. Some time ago, the Vicar-General, returning from a visit to a dying man whom he had anointed, saw people who seemed to be inspecting our cemetery in order to find a means of penetrating inside our walls, most probably. It is supposed that they have learnt that some rich ladies of Paochen have taken refuge at the Catholic Mission for fear of the Japanese, and that is what attracts them.

Monday, March 21

Towards midnight, an alarm was given. The guardians perceived a troop of about seventy bandits coming towards the mission. Without losing any time, they came and notified us. Immediately, we rang the Convent and Novitiate bells, thus awaking everybody and putting the bandits to flight. There had been real danger; but, once again, our Immaculate Mother has protected us.

Tuesday, March 22

Since the Japanese soldiers are in Paochen, everybody is terrified. His Excellency Bishop Tsu thought it would be better for us to leave our convent and go to Shanghai with the Teresian Sisters; but, scarcely had we begun to prepare our trunks, when the Missionary Priests told us not to leave. Besides, the Holy Will of God is quite evident, for there is no boat to convey us. There is nothing for us to do, therefore, but to confide ourselves to Divine Providence.

Wednesday, March 23

The night was quite peaceful, but the day has been very trying. Yesterday, after Mass, the Vicar General addressed a short exhortation to the professed Sisters and Novices of the Teresian Congregation. The words of this venerable priest were worthy of a minister of God and influential in calming the apprehensions of his hearers. He exhorted them to modesty, recollection, cheerfulness, and even gratitude, telling them that the occasion of offering great sacrifices to God being rare, they should be glad to have the opportunity of offering Him the present ones; that, besides, nothing happens contrary to His Will, that He loves them tenderly and ever assists them by His grace.

Fortified by these encouraging words, they resumed their respective occupations. At eleven o'clock, Japanese visitors were announced. This caused great emotion in the house; but, happily, their visit was short. Sister Superior⁽¹⁾, Sister St. Jacques le Majeur⁽²⁾, and Sister Marie de Fourvières⁽³⁾ received them. They seemed pleased on hearing the latter, who had been for some time in Japan, greet them in their own language. They were polite and reserved.

1. Sister MARIE BERNARD (Emma VANASSE, of St. Guillaume d'Upton.)

2. Emma LABRECHE, of St. Jacques de l'Achigan.

3. Lucie PARADIS, of Tingwick.

Monday, March 28

Saturday afternoon, the faithful guardian of our Dispensary at Paochen arrived here, terrified.

The Japanese had just ordered her to leave the place and fourteen of them had taken possession of it. This morning, Sister Superior, accompanied by several Sisters and the virgin catechist, went to the Dispensary, in order to claim our rights to this house, which belongs to us. The interview took place in the yard. The Japanese told us that they had taken the place because they had not been able to do otherwise; it is so near the Post Office, and the building is one of the best in that district. They promised not to touch the medicine of the Dispensary and to leave the house in four days. We understood, from this discussion, that it was useless to insist. On her return, Sister Superior urged us to pray fervently; for, closing the Dispensary of Paochen, would mean closing Heaven to many souls.

Wednesday, March 30

The Japanese paid us a third visit. This time, there were sixty of them, including a general and six officers. The general and officers only, entered the house to inspect it. Their deportment, as well as their decorum, was perfect. Before leaving, they asked the three Sisters who accompanied them to consent to be photographed. When these were placed, the Japanese came and stood behind, to be photographed with them.

Sunday, April 3

Eight children, a few months old, are brought to us from the neighbouring mission. The women who were taking care of them fled at the arrival of the Japanese, and the Missionary in charge of this district thought there was nothing better to do than to send these poor little ones to us, knowing that we would be pleased to receive them.

Friday, April 8

This evening, the Heavenly Gardener plucked one of the most beautiful flowers of the Orphanage. Gnoh Tsen, ten years old, charmed us by her cleverness as well as her quick discernment and amiability. She was very skilful at needle-work, and we had great hopes in her. She fell ill with acute pneumonia, a few days ago, and, to the very last, she cherished the hope of recovering. A few minutes before her death, feeling her strength diminishing, she said to the Sister who was at her bedside: "It is strange! Hang Tsen, who has been sick for a long time, will not die; it is I who am going to die. You know this little companion does not like maize. Do not give her any. She does not tell you, but I know it. Do not sweeten my potions, because sugar is so expensive and we are so poor..." Then, asking for her crucifix and holy pictures, she sighed: "O Mary, my good Mother, how I suffer!" But, regretting these words that had escaped her, she immediately added: "No, I must not complain. Good Mother, I am glad to suffer; I offer my merits for the conversion of the pagans and for the

cessation of the war." She expired calmly towards half-past five on the Feast of Our Lady of Pity, having received the last Sacraments the day before.

Wednesday, April 13

A few days ago, we resumed our work at the Dispensary of Paochen, where we found everything undisturbed, although some fifteen soldiers had spent several days there. The good old guardian who had been chased from there a few weeks ago, asked Sister Superior, one morning, to permit her to go and make inquiries, adding: "It seems to me that, to-day, I shall be able to continue my work." She had been well inspired, for she arrived at the Dispensary two hours after the soldiers had left. They had taken her scanty provision of rice, peas and oil, and had burned or broken her wretched furniture; but she rejoiced all the same to think that we could continue receiving the sick and afflicted. We are touched by the self-abnegation and devotedness of this poor woman who, ransomed sixty years ago by the Association of the Holy Childhood, has consecrated her life to the service of the Church. For six years, she has been staying at the Foundling-Home confided to us in Paochen. We go there every day to treat the sick, and she remains there with a companion during the night. She did not abandon the dwelling when the Japanese took possession of the town, although they entered with great clamour. At night, she came to sleep at the Mission and returned early the next morning, for fear that some "gleaners" of abandoned babies might take the risk of bringing some little ones and would find nobody there to receive them. She was obliged to abandon her post five days later, when the Japanese ordered her to leave. She arrived here very sad, but confident. She prayed fervently and offered up her sacrifices to obtain the grace that the house be returned to us and that numerous little souls may still find the grace of Baptism there. The first thing she did, on learning that our works could be kept up at Paochen, was to thank God and St. Joseph; and, together with her companion, she paid to have a Mass offered in thanksgiving.

Friday, April 29

As the Vicar General's patronal feast, which is on the first of May, coincides with the traditional pilgrimage to Sen Se Daong, the orphans celebrated it to-day.

Towards ten o'clock, in special costumes for the occasion, all assembled in the reception hall, where each one did her best in the performance of a pretty drill, "The Spring Joys", which was followed by a cantata in their mother tongue, a recitation, and the offering of a present and a spiritual bouquet. Deeply touched, the Vicar General thanked the orphans and addressed a kind word to the Sisters. He urged the children to thank God for all the benefits which He bestows upon them and, especially, for having sent them good Sisters who love them and take care of them like mothers. He exhorted them to be very grateful towards them.



SISTER MARIE BERNARD (EMMA VANASSE, OF ST. GUILAUME D'UPTON), SUPERIOR OF THE MISSIONAIRES OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, AT TSUNGMING; SISTER MARIE D'EPHESE (JEANNETE LUNEAU, OF PRINCEVILLE); SISTER ST. GERMAIN (IMELDA LAPERRIERE, OF PONT ROUGE); AND THE FIRST COMMUNICANTS OF THE ORPHANAGE, CLAD IN THE PRETTY DRESSES RECEIVED FROM CANADA.

Saturday, April 30

This afternoon, the Vicar General came to distribute candies and pretty handkerchiefs to the orphans. He then sent them vermicelli and cakes, of which they are very fond.

Monday, May 2

Despite the troublous times, we received fifteen little waifs, that we offered to Our Immaculate Mother for the opening of her new month.

Tuesday, May 10

A chubby little four-year-old lad, who arrived recently, follows the little ones to class and settles himself down very important-looking. This causes the older ones to burst out laughing; he, however, is not the least disturbed and remains very quiet.

The other day, he asked one of the Sisters: "Why do the orphans talk for such a long time in the evening, before getting into bed? What do they say?"

"They do not talk," answered Sister, "they pray."

"I also want to pray, teach me how to do so."

"Say, Jesus, I love Thee very much!"

The child has repeated these words so often, since, that they have become his usual refrain.

Our messenger, who was just going out, asked the little fellow if he wished to go to see his foster-mother. "No," answered the child, "*Momo* (Sister) loves me very much and she does not beat me, as I had been told she would. We play here, we eat biscuits and learn to pray. Listen well, 'Jesus, I love Thee'. I want to stay here always." Yeu Tching, his little companion, called him: "Come, we are going to say Mass together; and, when you will be big, you will be a priest and so will I; only, do not move and do not speak. Mass is a holy thing and you must not touch the sacred vessels. It is not a sin, because you are small and you do not know; but you must get used to it for when you will be big." The little tot did just as he was told, as seriously as one much beyond his age.

Monday, May 16

Nowadays, we hear of nothing else but bandits and their work of destruction. During the night, we are awakened by gun-shots, which terrify us. We heartily thank Our Immaculate Mother who seems to be protecting

the great Kong Sou in a special manner. We are confident that, under her maternal protection, no evil will befall us.

At present, we are taking care, not of wounded soldiers, but of victims of the bandits. Some of these have been hit; others, burnt. Many persons are seeking shelter in Pacchen, under the protection of the Japanese soldiers, who treat them even more humanely than the bandits do.

Tuesday, May 17

A fine rain began to fall towards the middle of the forenoon. The threshers of wheat were greatly disappointed, for they were hoping to finish their work this evening. The wheat harvest, as also the crop of beans, is splendid this year. We see in that another proof of the Providence of God, Who does not abandon His children, so cruelly afflicted in these troublous times, when poverty and misery prevail. Our dear orphans will not suffer next winter, unless the fierce bandits come and help themselves to our provisions, like they are doing almost everywhere. As ever, we are relying upon God to protect us from their perfidious attacks.

Tuesday, May 31

During her beautiful month, the Blessed Virgin sent us two new recruits for the Orphanage: a fourteen-year-old girl and one of five, frail victims of the war. How many others remain without help and protection! Two Chinese virgins had adopted these little ones; but, being obliged to flee at the arrival of the Japanese, they left the children at the City Orphanage. The older one cried bitterly at the thought of having to leave forever her home, which was, nevertheless, but a wretched hovel; the younger one tried in every way to console her and make her laugh.

Shortly afterwards, an old Christian, who often does us a good turn, asked to adopt the younger one. We willingly acquiesced to his desire; for, although we are greatly attached to these dear orphans, we do not hesitate to place them in good families, whenever we have the occasion of doing so.

This afternoon, Ya Pao, the elder one, was adopted by the same Christian. Though she was quite pleased to rejoin Ping Shie whom she loves dearly, she was grieved to have to leave the Orphanage, where she had already become attached to her daily task and her hours of study, prayer and recreation. To persuade her to go, a Sister had to accompany her to the door and obtain from her new protector the promise to bring her back on Sundays. The old gentleman could not restrain, his tears on seeing the child's tender affection for us.

Report of the Dispensary of Tsungming, from January to May, 1938, inclusive:

Baptisms of children.....	209	Baptisms of adults.....	19		
Patients.....	1,679	Treatments.....	2,688	Teeth extracted.....	63
Homes visited.....	174	Injections.....	47		

Report of the Dispensary of Paochen, from January to May, 1938, inclusive:

Baptisms of children.....	144	Baptisms of adults.....	27
Patients.....	2,326	Treatments.....	5,586
Teeth extracted.....	21		
Homes visited.....	220	Injections.....	91

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MANCHUKUO

Gleanings from the Diary of Our Sisters in Leao Yuan Sien.



SISTER STE. ANGELE DE FOLIGNO
(ANGELA BENOIT, OF THREE RIVERS)
TEACHING CATECHISM TO MRS. YAO,
AN AGED CATECHUMEN.

January, 1938

We have had recently another proof of God's mercy towards upright souls. One morning, Mrs. Yao, a good old sexagenarian, brought her little grandson to the Dispensary. As she was waiting her turn, she listened to the exhortations given by Sister Ste. Angèle de Foligno⁽¹⁾. Noticing how attentive she was, Sister approached her and said: "Doubtlessly, you have understood the religious instruction that I have just given?"

"Oh! yes," she replied, "how beautiful it all is!"

"It is not only beautiful, but it is true, also," added Sister; and continuing, she spoke of the existence of God, of our origin and of heaven, our eternal destiny.

"Heaven, you know, is a place of unending and ineffable happiness, that our Heavenly Father has prepared for all those who will have served Him well during life. There will be no more suffering there, no separations nor mourning, but perfect and eternal enjoyment."

"Indeed! I did not know that we could hope for so much. But have I still time to merit this happiness? I am quite old!..."

"Certainly, you have yet time to know God and to love Him and serve Him. If you wish, come again to-morrow and we shall continue our chat."

"I promise to come, and you will teach me all that I must do to become an adoptive child of God."

Since that day, Grandma has become acquainted with many truths. On account of her age, her memory is failing, but she shows invincible courage. Questioned on the effects of the Sacrament of Penance, one day, she replied: "Ah! Sister, you must not go too quick. You know, I do not know very much about it yet; little by little, I shall succeed in learning my prayers and what is absolutely necessary to be baptized. It is worth while working to obtain the beautiful reward that is reserved for us."

1. Angela Benoit, of Three Rivers.

On Sunday, after assisting at High Mass, Mrs. Yao invited us to her house. To please her, we complied with her desire, and three of us accompanied her. On our way, according to the Chinese custom, several persons asked us: "*Wi men chang na li tchu?* (Where are you going?) *Soei yeou ping?* (Who is sick?) And Mrs. Yao was very proud to answer: "*Tha men tchoan men lai.*" (These doctors are coming to pay us a visit.) Just before reaching the house, she said to us: "You know, I wish to be baptized very soon. For that reason, I must not offer incense to any god; but there is still one picture to be taken down in my house, it is that of Lao Wong Yie—the god of the household. If you wish, we shall take it down to-day."

A young woman and three little children were awaiting the grandmother's return. The daughter-in-law offered us a cigarette and tea, which we politely refused. Then, we began talking to her about religion. She told us that she had already learnt all that we had explained to her from her father, who had apostatized during the Boxers' Revolution, in 1900. "I know," added she, "that we must adore the only true God, the God of the Christians, and it is not right to worship idols."

Before leaving, they gave us, as a trophy, the hideous picture that had occupied the place of honour in the dwelling. It was not without emotion that one of the Sisters hung up, in its place, a medal of the Sacred Heart. We hope that this Divine Heart will now be considered as the only Master of the dwelling.

We returned to the Convent, our hearts overflowing with gratitude for having been chosen by God to be His missionaries in this pagan land of Manchukuo.

Tuesday, March 1

The Angel of Death visited our mission, this evening, and carried off a young girl of seventeen, matured by long sufferings endured with great patience.

The Yu family, after exhausting, in vain, every resource for the cure of this child, brought her to *T'ien Tchou T'ang* (the Catholic Mission), knowing that, here, she would receive gratuitously the treatment required by her condition. This seemed to be the only motive of their procedure; but, God had looked upon this soul with predilection.

The patient needed continual care. The Chinese Virgin accomplished this charitable work with unflinching devotedness, and the young invalid became greatly attached to her. She earnestly began to study the Catholic Doctrine and soon had the happiness of being baptized.

The disease lasted for three long months more, and the suffering this new Catholic had to endure during this period is indescribable. Her wretched body, covered with purulent sores, seemed to be rivetted to the *kang* (brick bed), and was unable to make the least movement. In spite of all that, not the least sign of annoyance or discontentment could be detected in her words or on her countenance. Whenever we asked her if she suffered very much, she answered with a pleasant smile: "Not too much."

Young as she was in the faith, she had understood that God is a kind

Father, Who sends us trials only for our greater good; and, resigning herself to His Holy Will, she patiently awaited the moment which would finally deliver her from her sufferings.

Reverend Father Bérichon, who had kindly received her here, unsparingly ministered to all her spiritual needs and encouraged her by his counsels. Whenever we had a few spare moments, we hastened to visit her, and we always returned edified and touched by the marvels of grace accomplished in this soul, until recently, a pagan.

Our Lord, at last, put an end to the sufferings of His child, after purifying her by a final absolution.

The Virgin who had been so devoted to her, performed the last duties for her and adorned her head with a white veil and the crown of virgins.



SISTER ST. ANN (MARIE LOUISE GOSSELIN, OF STE. SOPHIE, MEGANTIC CO.), SISTER STE. ROSALIE (URSULE CHARETTE, OF THREE RIVERS), SISTER ST. EUGENE (DIANA CHAINE, OF ARTHABASKA), SISTER STE. ANGELE DE FOLIGNO (ANGELA BENOIT, OF THREE RIVERS), SISTER STE. ANGELIQUE (CECILE MATHIEU, OF ST. EVARISTE, BEAUCE CO.), AND NATIVE VIRGINS OF LEAOYUANSIEN. THE ELDEST OF THESE IS 89 YEARS OF AGE.

"She is a little saint", did she like to repeat. We are confident that this dear soul will have a special remembrance in heaven for this little corner of the earth, where she suffered so much, but where she also enjoyed such pure happiness. May she obtain for her loved ones the grace which has been hers!

Wednesday, May 4

The fine weather makes it easier for the sick people to go out, so the Sister-Infirmarians are busier than ever. Every day, we receive, at the Dispensary, about two hundred patients, suffering from diseases and infirmities of all kinds.

Our labour is not so fruitful as was that of St. Francis Xavier, whose arm used to become exhausted from pouring the Baptismal Waters. There is seldom a week, however, during which we do not baptize three or four persons, or prepare some dying one to cross the threshold of eternity.

These conquests, however modest they may be, are more than sufficient to compensate for the sacrifices inherent in missionary life.

Saturday, May 14

With the twofold aim of being nearer to the Dispensary and of being instructed in our Holy Religion, one of our patients obtained permission to remain at the Mission.

All day long, he is to be seen sauntering in the yard, rolling Buddhistic beads between his fingers.

"You are kinder than the others," said he, this morning, on meeting Sister Ste. Denise⁽¹⁾, "you greet me with a kind smile each time you meet me. The other people pass by without even looking at me."



SISTER STE. ROSALIE (URSULE CHARETTE, OF THREE RIVERS) TREATING PATIENTS
AT THE DISPENSARY OF LEAOYUANSIEN.

Sister took advantage of this favourable occasion to enquire about the catechumen's devotion. "What are you saying on these beads?" asked she. Slowly, with the help of the chaplet which he has always with him, he began the "Our Father", saying one word on each bead. Two sentences were thus recited. "I do not know the rest," said he; but, stretching out his chaplet and indicating the part that remained, he added: "When I shall know all that, I shall be baptized; the Missionary said so."

Sister, who had suspected him to be still attached to some pagan practice and who was prepared to give him a good lesson, was quite edified by his eagerness to learn the Catholic prayers.

1. Odile MALBŒUF, of Sudbury, Ont

We visited a family where we had the happiness of baptizing a dying baby; and, as we were returning slowly on account of the intense heat, our hearts filled with gratitude towards God Who gives us such consolations in His holy service, we were suddenly attracted, at the turning of a road, by the cries of children, playing by the wayside. "Sister, come and see; there is a baby here." We approached, and, what did we see?... A tight bundle of filthy rags. With a pocket-knife, we cut open the package and found, rolled up in a pant-leg, an unfortunate little victim of superstition or barbarity. As soon as we perceived the head of the child, we baptized it conditionally; then, continuing to unwrap it, we noticed that the poor little one's neck was tied as tightly as possible. We were deeply moved at such a heart-rending spectacle, but the thought that we had opened heaven to this little soul rejoiced us. We hope that it has gone to live with the angels, for there seemed to be still life in this innocent little victim when we gave it its passport for Heaven. A few minutes before, the children had heard it cry, when some inhuman creature threw it there.

On reaching the Convent, we sent our servant with a box in which to put the little corpse and bury it, so as to prevent its being devoured by the dogs.

Report of the Dispensary of Leao Yuan Sien, for the year 1937:

Baptisms.....	92	Patients.....	28,185		
Treatments.....	34,258	Dressings.....	5,553	Teeth extracted....	251
Vaccinations.....	260	Homes visited....	689	Injections.....	750

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Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters in Taonan.

Wednesday, August 4, 1937

Wang Teresa, one of our helpers at the Dispensary, relates to us how she was treated for a tuberculous phlegmon on her neck, when she was small. "We had no money to buy remedies," says she, "so my grandmother, who accepted all the neighbours' suggestions, made me take whatever they advised. Thus, besides other filth, I had to eat spiders for several days. I was so disgusted, that I could no longer swallow any other food. I do not know what would have become of me if we had not heard, one day, that foreign *doctors* at the Catholic Mission were giving medicine gratis. It was at the opening of the Dispensary of Paitchengtze. By dint of crying, I obtained permission to go and stay there as a catechumen and, since then, I have found there, with the cure of my infirmities, the happiness of knowing God and of becoming His child in Holy Baptism."

Friday, August 6

What heart-rending scenes do we witness while visiting the people in their homes. To-day, we find a sixteen-year-old girl lying on a *kang* (Chinese bed), covered with rags. She is dying from the effects of neglected burns

on her foot and leg, sustained in a fire. After three long months of intense suffering, her foot fell from the leg. The latter, remaining in a horrible state of putrefaction, formed, with the knee, one big sore which, infested with maggots, became the prey of a multitude of big flesh flies buzzing around the patient. The poor victim's unfortunate mother died a few days ago, and the father, no longer willing to keep his daughter, decided to poison her; but, remembering that she had been engaged while still a child, he brought her in a cart to her future mother-in-law's. Did she find there any consolation in her terrible suffering? - Alas! no, this cruel woman loaded the poor girl with abuse, deprived her of food and, likewise, of the



SISTER MARIE DES CINQ PLAIES (BLANCHE DION, OF MONTREAL)
AND SISTER GERMAINE (GERMAINE GRAVEL, OF ST. PROSPER,
CHAMPLAIN CO.) LEAVING FOR A VISIT TO THE SICK IN THE COUNTRY
OF TAONAN.

most necessary care. She even overwhelmed her with blows. The girl's condition is most deplorable and all forebodes that death is imminent. Our first care, therefore, is to teach her the principal truths of our holy Religion and baptize her. Leaving her a miraculous medal, we confide her soul to the protection of the Blessed Virgin, convinced that this Heavenly Mother will hasten her deliverance.

Wednesday, September 1

Every day, after Dispensary hours, the Sister Infirmarian pays a visit to Mrs. Tchang, who is seriously ill. She finds her to-day in a vacant hut, situated at a short distance from the family dwelling. Her parents, annoyed by the nauseous odour of her sores, and fearing that she die under their roof, had brought her there.

"Ask God to take me," she pleads, on seeing the Sisters. "I cannot stand it any longer. I am afraid alone in this house and I am so thirsty... they do not even give me a drop of water to quench my thirst." Sister then relieves her by giving her small quantities of ripe juicy tomatoes, that she swallows quickly. Then, looking anxiously at the bag, she says: "Do

not make me eat them all now, keep some for to-night. I was so burning with thirst last night, that I cried and screamed, but no one heard me." Sister exhorts her to render all her sufferings meritorious by offering them up, and proposes to send for the priest. "Oh! yes," replies she, "immediately, I have offended God..." and big tears roll down her cheeks. Sister helps her to examine her conscience and encourages her to have confidence in the mercy of God, Who loves her enough to come to visit her in her hovel. Then, as she is about to leave, the poor sufferer begs her to return every day, until she will "*have swallowed her last breath*." (This is the literal translation of the Chinese expression meaning "to expire").

An hour later, Our Lord Himself, borne by His minister, Reverend Father Fortin, comes to comfort and console His miserable child.

Thursday, September 29

Is it the work of little Bertha who died on the third of this month?... To-day, her big brother comes to the catechumenate. "My mother will most probably come also in a few days," remarks he. We are doubly happy on hearing this, so much the more as this woman had refused to acquiesce to her dying child's entreaties that she be instructed in our Holy Religion. "No," had she replied, "I am too old to think of that."

On the 13th of August, we were called to visit a fourteen-year-old girl, dangerously ill, living twenty-five li from the Mission. She begged us to have pity on her and to save her life. Unable to cure her, we told her about God and His Holy Law. As she was in good dispositions and requested Baptism, we baptized her and named her Bertha, in remembrance of a very charitable benefactress of the Missions, the sister of our dear Superior⁽¹⁾. Which of the two do you think was the happier the humble missionary who changed, by the Sacramental grace, a slave of the devil into a child of God, or the poor sick girl, radiant with the joy of being baptized?... We attribute this conquest to the generosity of some soul far away in our native country that had offered, that day, some big sacrifice to God. Three weeks later, this new Christian expired, full of joy and gratitude towards Our Blessed Saviour.

Thursday, December 9

Who could express the joy of Sister St. Pierre de la Croix⁽²⁾ when she was told to go and visit the "Beggars' House", an earthen hut, one li from the Catholic Mission, where poverty and uncleanness reign supreme. For want of a door, a thick straw mat is hung up at the entrance of this hovel which shelters unfortunates of all kinds, lame, blind, deaf and dumb, etc. Sister visits them every week and, while giving them medicine, she speaks to them of God's infinite love and mercy. Twice already, she has had the happiness of administering Baptism there. May the Queen of the Missions obtain a place in Heaven for all these suffering members of her Divine Son.

1. Sister MARIE DES CINQ PLAIES (Blanche DION, of Montreal)

2. Sidonia ROUSSEL, of Montreal.

Report of the Dispensary of Taonan for the year 1937:

Baptisms.....	408		
Patients.....	31,254	Treatments.....	39,669
		Dressings.....	11,431
Teeth extracted...	268	Homes visited...	1,161
		Vaccinations.....	254

Report of the Dispensary of Tong Tang for the year 1937:

Baptisms.....	125		
Patients.....	12,817	Treatments.....	21,533
		Dressings.....	4,249
Teeth extracted...	89	Homes visited...	189
		Vaccinations.....	89

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JAPAN

Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters in Wakamatsu.

Saturday, January 1, 1938

Of all the pleasures of New Year's Day, the one that we enjoy the most and that we long for, is unquestionably the precious letter conveying to us the wishes of our venerable Mother Foundress. After consecrating to God the beginning of the New Year, nothing is more natural to affectionate children than to gather in spirit around their good mother to receive respectfully and lovingly her wishes for their happiness.

As most of our compatriots reserve their New Year's visits for the first of the lunar month, we spend the day in the intimacy of our religious family.

Thursday, January 6

We are invited to visit the Suto family. These good Christians never consider that they have done enough for us. For New Year's, Mr. Suto



LITTLE JAPANESE GIRLS, DANCING ACCOMPANIED BY SINGING AND MUSIC.

gave each one of us a beautiful crucifix. The black and silver lacquer-work upon it was done by himself.

Minako, their little girl, is one of our pupils. Tsuneo, their only son, is our faithful altar-boy; he was also one of our first four graduates of the Kindergarten.

Tuesday, January 11

The municipality supports a poor-house for the aged, in a quiet section of the city. We have already had the occasion of visiting these good people.



NIKKO TEMPLE, JAPAN.

This afternoon, we return to see them and bring them a bag of Japanese biscuits, which greatly pleases them.

The place is very far from our Convent, but we have decided to go and teach these poor unfortunates various kinds of work to divert them, and also the recitation of the beads, which will be the most useful of pastimes, for they do not know what to do to while away the hours. They, as well as the family that gives them hospitality, are all pagans. There seems to be a beautiful work of apostolate to be accomplished here. We confide our desires to the Immaculate Virgin.

Tuesday, January 18

Yesterday, we were in the poor section. Mrs. Tanaka, our catechist's wife, who accompanied us, introduced us to several families that were in extreme need. In Canada, we could hardly imagine with what hovels the Japanese content themselves and the destitution which is their lot. Needless to say, the warm garments that we brought them were received with gratitude. A grandmother who takes care of a baby, a few months old, that had been abandoned by an ill-natured mother, did not know how to thank us. She promised to come and weed our garden in the spring and she said that she

would pray for us. To whom will she pray?... To the gods that she knows, no doubt... We shall also pray for her and we are confident that God will, some day, make Himself known to this upright and candid soul.

Wednesday, February 2

The Blessed Virgin has a great joy in store for us on the Feast of the Purification: Doctor Susuki, the specialist who is treating Sister de l'Enfant Jesus⁽¹⁾ for a broken wrist, takes advantage of our visit to the Hospital, this afternoon, to ask if we have a Gospel. He also inquires about our way of living. The fact that we have sacrificed the family joys for the love of God and of souls, greatly astonishes him. He does not understand that at all, but he cannot dissimulate his admiration. The questions that he asks about the Gospel inspire us with the hope that he is, perhaps, seeking the truth. How happily would we not expose to him the truths of our Holy Religion; but, with the Japanese, an indiscreet zeal seldom bears fruit. We, therefore, content ourselves with answering his questions, as if they concerned an ordinary subject, and leave to the Blessed Virgin the care of preparing the way.

Sunday, February, 13

Several times, to-day, we are borne in thought to Tokyo, where His Excellency Bishop Doi is being consecrated Archbishop of that city. Reverend Father Sawade, our devoted Pastor, is assisting at the feast, with some ten Christians of Wakamatsu, many of whom were baptized by His Excellency, when he was Pastor of our Mission. In token of gratitude to Archbishop Doi, we sent him an embroidered altar-cloth and a spiritual bouquet.

Monday, February 21

Has the good Doctor Susuki awaited the absence of all strange witnesses to speak to us about the question which preoccupies him? So, we are inclined to think; for, this afternoon, when alone with his wife, after dismissing his infirmarian, he once again speaks to us of the Bible and earnestly requests us to procure one for him — not a Protestant Bible which contains only a mutilated doctrine, but a complete one. He then inquires about the number of Christians in the Mission and asks if it is difficult to lead a Christian life. He frankly acknowledges that the teachings of Christ are sublime, captivating. We promise to procure the desired book for him and we give him to understand that Reverend Father Sawade, a Japanese priest, could explain the difficult passages to him. You can well imagine how fervently we recommend this soul to the Blessed Virgin.

Thursday, February 24

We pay a visit to Mr. Hoshi, merchant of little temples for domestic altars and of all kinds of objects used in the Shintoist worship. We are

1. Florentine DANSEREAU, of Vercheres.



SISTER DE L'ENFANT JESUS (FLORENTINE DANSEREAU, OF VERCHERES) AND
SISTER ANGELE DE MERICI (MARIE JEANNE L'HEUREUX, OF LORETTEVILLE),
WITH THE GRADUATES OF THE KINDERGARTEN AT WAKAMATSU, JAPAN.



PUPILS OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL DIRECTED BY THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF WAKAMATSU, OFFERING THEIR WISHES TO
REVEREND FATHER SAWADE, THEIR PASTOR, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS PATRONAL
FEAST.

received with kindness and are quite pleased to hear the mother ask us to teach the prayers to her little boy. With her husband's consent, she wishes her dear *Achi chan* to come, henceforth, to the Sunday Catechism class, so that he may become a better child. He is, so they say, a *ki kambo* (real little rascal) at the house. We are confident that the remedy will be efficacious and that this mamma's example will be followed by those of her acquaintances who also have *ki kambos* to reform.

Saturday, February 26

Next March, there will be an exhibition of Kindergarten work in the city of Yokosuka. All the kindergartens of Japan are invited to take part in it; prizes will be awarded to the most deserving. We do not doubt that the exposition of some of the works of our pupils will be an encouragement for the children and an honour for the parents; accordingly, all set to work ardently. Our little artists vie with one another in drawing aeroplanes, automobiles, battle-scenes, side-views of houses, etc. One of their favourite drawings is to make our pictures... The features are not compromising, but the whole shows that they observe. Their first care, before tracing the outline, is to draw a big cross suspended by a blue cord; the rest of the drawing is made in proportion to these first strokes.

Saturday, March 5

Doctor Susuki's wish is realized to-day. We give him the long-desired Gospel and the Imitation of Jesus Christ, which he receives as two treasures, with a joy that increases ours. In token of gratitude, he refuses to accept any other fee for his services, considering himself well remunerated by these two volumes. Such a way of acting, on the part of a Christian doctor, would be a proof of kindness; but, what can be said of such generosity on the part of a pagan towards strangers?... How could God leave such disinterestedness unrewarded?...

Sunday, March 13

The catechism pupils are all bubbling over with joy, as they are celebrating to-day, the patronal feast of Reverend Father Sawade, our devoted Pastor. Thanks to the devotedness of Reverend Father Kainuma, who has the direction of the Catechism class, a festival song has been prepared, as well as a whole program for the little Christians. For our part, we exercised those of our pupils who attend the Sunday school. The entertainment was very much appreciated by Father Sawade, who said that he had never had such a magnificent Feast! As a remembrance of this day, we photographed a few of the most graceful scenes. Seventeen of the twenty-six actors are our Kindergarten pupils, three of whom are Christians. This is a great consolation to us.

Sunday, March 20

On coming out of the church, we had the happiness of learning from Mrs. Mori that her son, his young wife and two children will soon be baptized.

We congratulate the happy mother and breathe a fervent prayer of thanksgiving. We do not doubt that the influence of this opulent family will greatly contribute to the extension of our Holy Faith.

Wednesday, March 25

Graduation day has finally come for our oldest pupils. They arrive this morning in their best clothes: the little boys, in silk skirts and with the family escutcheons on their coats. The little seven-year-old girls look like little princesses in their long kimonos, with sleeves almost touching the ground, and rich brocade belts. The parents accompany them and assist at the ceremony, which is presided over by Reverend Father Sawade, who kindly says a few words of congratulation to our twenty-eight graduates.

Sunday, April 24

Once again we have the occasion of admiring the effects of Divine Grace and the means by which God sometimes draws souls to Himself... On Holy Saturday evening, a young pagan girl who was passing before our door, asked our teacher to conduct her to the church. The favour was immediately granted to her. On Easter, she assisted at Mass, and, since then, she attends the Catechism class at the Mission. Her only desire is to be baptized. For some time, owing to heavy trials, this young girl felt the necessity of seeking in a religion, other than her own, the consolation which she needed. But which one was she to choose?... Suddenly the idea dawned upon her to come to the Catholic Mission where, as she says, she has found what she was seeking. Who knows if this be not Heaven's recompense for the generous sacrifices of some friend of the Missions.



By baptism the foundation for the spiritual life is laid in the soul of the child. This divine life must, normally speaking, develop and unceasingly grow until the day when it flowers out into eternal glory.

DEATH OF A BENEFACTOR

Mr. Joseph Lacas, 2202 Panet St., Montreal, died after a short illness, August 15, 1938.

This fervent Christian, friend of the poor, was a great benefactor of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, who make it their duty to pray for the repose of his soul and will ever retain a most grateful remembrance of him.

They ardently recommend him to the prayers of the Subscribers to THE PRECURSOR.

Extracts FROM THE Novitiate Chronicles

Dedicated to our dear Parents

Monday, May 23

Little by little, our property is being transformed and adorned. The novices of some twelve years ago would hardly be able to recognize it. Here, a path is traced; there, a flower-bed, etc. With the first days of spring, the maple-trees and poplars along the road and around the cemetery have begun to bud and become green again; and to-day, we have received from the Government Nursery of Berthier a good number of little pine-trees. They will greatly contribute to embellish our property.

Two graceful arches, erected last Saturday over the semi-circular alley leading to the shrine and to the cemetery where our dear Sisters are resting, seem to announce the proximity of these quiet and holy places. When these rustic arches will be interlaced and covered with liana, they will have a pretty appearance; in the meanwhile, they give a bright and cheerful aspect to this part of the grove.

Tuesday, May 24

We were chatting, at noon, about the National Eucharistic Congress, which will take place next month in Quebec. The Sisters whose parents are living there have been receiving many details of the event. They have also received cordial invitations to assist at this great triumph which is being prepared for Our Eucharistic Lord.

"Let us go," proposed one of the Sisters. The suggestion was welcomed with enthusiasm, especially by those who have their homes in the ancient city of Champlain; and, immediately, as if it were a question of the most serious of projects, we began to plan the trip. The conveyance of about a hundred persons supposes some organization! However, nothing was forgotten, absolutely nothing concerning the mode of travelling, the itinerary to be followed, the fares, the dates of departure and arrival etc.; each item was discussed; everything, foreseen.

Travelling in this season will be most pleasant; and there will be agreeable stops now and then, for several Sisters suggest a little visit to their homes, which are more or less out of the way.

Our merry conversation was at its height, as we built this superb 'castle in the air', which crumbled away at the first sound of the bell announcing the end of the recreation.

Something of our gay projects will remain however; for, if we cannot go to Quebec, we shall, nevertheless, be united in prayer to the promoters and organizers of the Congress, as well as to the pious throngs that will acclaim Our Blessed Saviour.

Thursday, May 26, Feast of the Ascension

This is a joyful Feast, as our Mistress remarked yesterday. In fact, does not the Gospel say that the disciples returned full of joy to Jerusalem, after having seen their beloved Master ascend to Heaven, where He was to take possession of His throne of glory and prepare kingdoms for them? We, also, are gladdened by these thoughts.

At half past nine, a hearty welcome greeted the holiday, which permitted us to manifest our joy. Like birds that have been set free, we immediately betook ourselves to the garden! But, how few we were there to-day!... We wondered where our companions could be; what urgent task or amusing recreation could be keeping them from enjoying the beautiful sunshine and laughing nature. Like good little sisters, we were quite ready to join them, little thinking that we might be indiscreet in doing so; but they seemed to desire neither our aid nor our presence!...

This evening, we found the solution of the enigma. Foreseeing several circumstances which were to hinder the execution of the entertainment prepared for the Feast of Pentecost, Sister Superior decided to anticipate it; so we all happily assembled in the hall. Those who had distinguished themselves this morning by their absence, distinguished themselves this evening on the stage, and entertained us for nearly two hours with beautiful selections of violin and piano, a biblical song: "The Fishermen" and a drama in two acts, entitled: "The Seed of Christianity". This blessed seed was the blood of St. Ursula and her companions which, shed in martyrdom, inspired the Francs with faith in the God Whom these holy virgins adored. A brilliant tableau set before our eyes the apotheosis of these martyrs singing the praises of Christ.

A little comedy entitled: "At the Photographer's" then excited general hilarity.

We are most grateful to our dear Mistress who, despite her manifold occupations, often affords us such recreative evenings!

Tuesday, May 31

We felt almost sad, this morning, on realizing that the beautiful month of Mary was already drawing to a close. However, on this last day which was one of Our Heavenly Mother's Feasts, a very interesting surprise awaited us. Reverend Fathers Fortin and Begin, of the Society of Jesus, brothers of two of our Sisters, kindly came and gave us a moving picture entertainment.

After visiting the Indian missions of Northern Ontario, we enjoyed several interesting scenes which had been filmed in September, 1935, on the occasion of a departure for the foreign missions. We contemplated, for a few minutes, our four Sisters who were among the missionaries on the gigantic Empress. Then, a last film set before our eyes the "Jacquinot Zone", in war-stricken Shanghai, where more than 50,000 old people, women, and children, found shelter. This reminded us of the many unfortunates who are without shelter and means, a prey to all kinds of suffering; it also

made us think of our dear Sisters in Canton, Shek Lung, Suchow and Tsung-ming, exposed to so many dangers!

Too soon for our satisfaction, the hall became bright again, the entertainment was over. We heartily thanked these good Jesuit Fathers to whom we were indebted for this pleasant afternoon.

Friday, June 3

According to the custom, no recreation interrupts the silence of these days preceding the Feast of Pentecost. That does not mean, however, that we have omitted celebrating, to-day, the anniversary of the foundation of our Institute, which coincides with our triduum. Oh! no. If our gratitude has not been manifested by the exhilaration of our traditional holiday, it has been none the less lively for that. It has been expressed by prayerful accents, which have unceasingly ascended towards God and Our Immaculate Mother in fervent *Magnificats*.

Although still quite young in the religious life, we are already deeply penetrated with love for our dear Community and for the good Mother who has founded it for our happiness and the salvation of souls; and this love is continually increasing, according as we are becoming better acquainted with them.

The Annals of the early days of the Novitiate, which are being read in the refectory, are very influential in this regard.

After following the former novices to Nominingue, we have returned with them to the blessed abode of Outremont. Every page is replete with our beloved Mother's counsels to her cherished children and her maternal kindness towards them. It is a real treat for us.

Did these novices of old appreciate their happiness? Yes, their diary is a living proof of it. However, it seems to us that, if we were to enjoy the same happiness some day, we would appreciate it still more, after having been deprived of it by our dear Mother's long and serious illness. Oh! if it were only God's Holy Will to restore her to health!... Like the Cananean in the Gospel, we do not let ourselves be disheartened; we request it unceasingly. Last Saturday, we began a novena to venerable Brother André for this intention. We hope that, through his intercession, we shall obtain the miracle desired.

Pentecost, June 5

The Spirit of Love that infinitely desires to be united to us has, evidently, been pleased with our pressing invitations, and has taken possession of our hearts. Oh! yes, we believe it, for the peace and happiness with which we are filled seem to reveal His presence. We beseech Our Immaculate Mother to keep this Divine Guest ever in our hearts and to teach us to know and love Him.

Needless to say, our whole day was offered for our beloved Mother's intentions, for it was her patronal feast.

Several of our professed Sisters went to Cote des Neiges, where the Blessing of our new Mother House took place this afternoon. Some remained

here to entertain a group of friends of the missions, who came on an excursion to the Foreign Mission Seminary and who took their dinner here.

This evening, when the family was complete, our dear Mistress gave us all the details of the ceremony, which has rendered this date memorable in the history of our young Community.

The Holy Ghost, invoked by the solemn prayers of the Church, has descended upon our new Mother House to accomplish there prodigies of grace and goodness. It is, therefore, another abundant effusion of divine benefits for us. Oh! how just it is that our gratitude, like a glowing flame, should rise ever more ardent to praise the Thrice-Holy God, Who does not cease to shower His blessings upon us.

Sunday, June 12, Feast of the Blessed Trinity

We were privileged this morning: the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was celebrated twice in our chapel, thanks to the annual pilgrimage of the members of our sewing-circles of the city, who, before interrupting their weekly reunions for the vacation, came to offer their year's work to Our Lady, Queen of the Missions. May this Heavenly Mother bless our devoted friends and increase their number. More than a hundred of them assisted at the Mass, which was offered for their intentions at 7.30 A.M., and during which, we sang hymns in honour of the Blessed Trinity.

The Redemptorist Father who accompanied our pilgrims gave them a touching sermon, urging them to receive Holy Communion fervently and frequently.

After a light breakfast, taken in the open air, and a friendly chat, they returned to the chapel to recite the little Office of the Immaculate Conception, before leaving. We hope to have the pleasure of entertaining again, next year, these zealous auxiliaries of the missions.

Tuesday, June 14

Reverend Father Reid, O. P., relative of one of the novices, gave us a cinematographic lecture this afternoon.

The first reel represented a Japanese tea. This film, which took almost a quarter of an hour to unroll, represented a refectory which sometimes lasts four long hours, on account of the interminable formalities, courtesies, ablutions, and civilities of all kinds, which are imposed by etiquette. Reverend Father Reid, who is to leave for Japan next October, gave us very interesting explanations of the different scenes.

This was followed by a talking film, entitled "The Substitution". It was the touching story of a fourteen year-old boy who devoted himself, and even offered his life, for the conversion of a young man who had been led astray by evil companions and bad books. To obtain this grace he was obliged to sacrifice his cherished hope of becoming a priest. He willingly did so; nevertheless, he asked God to provide a substitute for him, so that he might be replaced at the altar. Heaven accepted both his offering and his prayer: he soon died, victim of an accident; and, oh! marvel of grace,

the wayward youth, vanquished by such sublime devotedness, took the road to the Seminary, where he replaced the little friend to whom he owed his conversion and happiness.

Wednesday, June 15

The entire personnel of the house was fraternally united in joyful festivity, and one same feeling of affectionate gratitude filled all hearts this afternoon, as we celebrated the patronal feast of our Mistress.

The principal play prepared for the occasion was "Fabiana", a drama in three acts, which recalled to us the great sacrifice of Golgotha, the glorious day of the Resurrection and, finally, Fabiana's martyrdom in testimony of her Faith in the God of the Christians. The sweet, attractive form of the Blessed Virgin, who appeared for a few moments on the scene, charmed us. What wonderful charity she portrayed! What touching solicitude! How good it is to think that all that was but a mere shadow of the riches contained in Our Immaculate Mother's Heart!

A bouquet of lilies, roses and peonies was offered to our dear Mistress, with the expression of our filial affection and ardent wishes. She heartily thanked us and assured us that the little entertainment had been a success.

From the reception-hall, we went directly to the chapel for Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament; and, there, we expressed our lively gratitude for the joys of this day.

Thursday, June 16, Feast of Corpus Christi

While paying special homage to the Blessed Eucharist to-day, we did not let the Feast of St. John Francis Regis go by unnoticed. Our prayers and work were offered for the intentions of our Mistress, and ardent entreaties unceasingly rose from our grateful hearts for the happiness of her to whom we are so deeply indebted. We are confident that our requests will be answered.

Last year, at this time, we were overjoyed by the visit of our beloved Mother. We had cherished the hope of enjoying the same privilege this year. Our Mother herself had been intending to come and spend two days at the Novitiate! Oh! how nice, that would have been, indeed!... But God had disposed all things otherwise. Our venerable invalid's failing strength has been greatly diminished by a bad fall. This is a source of grief and anxiety for us; but, in order to conform ourselves to the lessons and examples of resignation which our dear Mother Foundress has always given us and continues to give, we resign ourselves to the Divine Will.

Part of the day was spent in putting up decorations along the road and erecting a repository at our door. Towards half-past three we joined the personnel of the Foreign Mission Seminary to escort Our Eucharistic Lord, Who left His prison of love to come and receive our homage and shower His blessings upon us. The course of the procession was not long, and the attendants were not numerous; but we endeavoured to compensate for this by greater devotion.

Monsignor Larochelle, Prefect Apostolic of Lintong, carried the Blessed Sacrament, and two Princes of the Church, Their Excellencies Bishop Lapierre and Prud'homme, closed the procession.

Our Divine Saviour rested a moment on our altar and blessed us; then, again preceded by His cortège of apostles, He returned to the Seminary.

On this occasion, the sun, like a respectful vassal, paid to the King of kings the homage of all its beauty and brightness. Let us hope that, Sunday, also, it will cast its glorious rays upon the triumphal processions that are being prepared everywhere for Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

Friday, June 17

At three o'clock this afternoon, Monsignor Larochelle, Prefect Apostolic of Lintong, Manchukuo, who arrived recently at the Foreign Mission Seminary, came to speak to us of the portion of the Vineyard confided to his care. The customs of the people who inhabit that country — the Chinese and the Mongols, their written and spoken language, etc., are very dissimilar. This constitutes an abundant source of difficulties for the Missionaries. But the valiant apostle, whom the Holy See has placed at the head of this new Prefecture, knows that, there, as elsewhere, the work of evangelization will not be accomplished in a single day. His beautiful device: "Hope against all hope" shows with what intrepid faith he is determined to fight the good fight.

An hour spent in listening to him speaking about missionary work so dear to us, was quickly passed! Happily, he promised to return to give us lantern slides representing scenes of that country.

This pleasant visit has given us interesting information of the Prefecture of Lintong and of Mongolia, as well as practical counsels, a precious blessing and, finally, a lovely holiday!... In return, we shall not fail to pray still more fervently for Monsignor Larochelle's Mission field.

Sunday, June 19

Like Zachæus of old, we heard the Divine Master say: "To-day, I must abide in thy house." What good news!... At 4.00 A.M., everybody was on the go. Banderoles and flags were hastily unfurled; palms and flowers, artistically arranged. In the porch, an altar was erected for the reception of Him Whom the heavens cannot contain.

When, at six o'clock, the bell rang for the early Mass, the preparations were almost finished. At half-past nine, the different groups that were to take part in the procession, assembled in front of the Parish church. Our repository was to be the term of the procession.

We were placed just ahead of the clergy, right near Our Blessed Lord... The active Marthas who had previously been so busy preparing the royal reception, were then in Mary Magdalen's privileged place.

What an incomparable honour it was to escort the Son of God, as He proceeded towards our dwelling! From His Hands and Heart flowed torrents of graces, which we received in abundance for Holy Mother Church,

for our Community, for our loved ones, for the pagans and sinners, for the whole world, according to Sister Superior's counsel, to forget no one.

The following little incident, added to all the other benefits of this solemnity, increased our gratitude. At the repository, a banderole, pushed by the wind into the flame of a torch, took fire. What serious damage could have resulted! Nevertheless, without disturbing the order and recollection of the pious throng, it was extinguished in an instant.

Soon, the procession was again on its way. We were deeply touched by the fact that, as we approached the Novitiate, the *Ave Maria*, chanted by pious voices, greeted our Heavenly Queen, the Immaculate Virgin; and, on returning, as if regretting to leave Mary's domain, a group intoned the well-known hymn "*Au ciel, au ciel, j'irai la voir un jour!*"

How happy we would be, if the sight of our convents and white costume always evoked the thought of Our Immaculate Mother! Are we not, by our vocation, her little messengers throughout the world? Have we not the mission of making her known and loved?

As the repository seemed so lonely to us on our return, we could not help thinking that the visit of our most loving Guest had been very short; but, there, in our modest chapel, He is always with us, that Jesus, infinitely good. Oh! may we ever appreciate the real value of His inestimable gift in the adorable Eucharist!

Sunday, June 26

To-day being the solemnity of the Feast of the Sacred Heart, we had a procession after High Mass, and Reverend Father Pageau, the officiating priest, read an act of consecration to the Divine Heart of Jesus.

The altar, adorned with flowers and red lights, reminded us of Our dear Lord's infinite Love; we hope that it also recalled to Him how much His little fiancées love Him in return.

The National Eucharistic Congress, which is closing to-day in Quebec, was the subject of our conversation, at recreation. Illustrations of the opening ceremonies were passed from group to group and deeply interested us. How pleased we are with the honour that has been given to the Blessed Sacrament by our compatriots! What a pledge of blessings for Canada it is, for God is never outdone in generosity!...

This evening, we have celebrated our national feast, which had given precedence to the Feast of the Sacred Heart, on Friday. There was no parade on the program. Despite the decision made some time ago in this regard, a great desire to keep up the tradition of the past years took possession of us yesterday. Sister Superior, with her usual kindness, acceded to our childish entreaties, and we set ourselves to organizing a pageantry. The sky was overcast; there was even rain now and then; but we tried to persuade ourselves that it would not last. As it did continue to fall abundantly, we had to abandon our project. However, St. John the Baptist's day was not to pass unnoticed, and we were soon invited to a concert. Two little plays, "*Olivette's Treasure*" and "*The Mistake*", moved us to tears and, then, to laughter. One number which was particularly enjoyed, was "*The*

Maple Leaf" by Larieu. This was sung and acted by the postulants. The Eternal Father appeared on a throne of clouds; an angel, respectfully prostrated at His feet, received the order to go to the nations of the earth and tell them, in the name of their Creator, that each one should send an envoy to choose a flower, which was to be the emblem of God's great love for them. On the appointed day, St. Peter received, at the gate of Paradise, the ambassadors of France, England, Spain, Italy, the United States and Germany, clad in their National costumes. Each one had chosen his symbolical flower when the Canadian ambassador arrived, all wrapped up in furs. Alas! there was nothing left but foliage and branches. Good St. Peter, although very sad, thought that there was nothing better for him to do, than to return to his forests. All of a sudden, the Child Jesus approached and, taking our disheartened compatriot by the hand, chose, from the foliage strewn on the ground, a maple leaf, which he offered to him with a Divine smile; and ever since, the maple-tree grows everywhere in Canada.

Our old Canadian tunes had a prominent place in the opening duet, as well as in the final medley, which was enthusiastically executed by the orchestra and which was terminated with our National Hymn "O Canada".

A family song, all imbued with the remembrances of dear Outremont, was quite in its place in this patriotic entertainment; for, is there not in every country, a cherished spot which seems like a little "native land" in the heart of the big one? Our song "The Little Bridge" enumerated the beauties of the charming site, where the Mother House of our Community was for such a long time. Its accents, which recalled sweet memories to our older Sisters, aroused in us, the young ones who do not know that beloved spot, an ardent desire to see, some day, the charming brook and its little bridge; to learn from its sweet murmur, the thousand intimate incidents of which it has been the discreet witness, and the numerous benefits that it has seen showered upon our young Institute; to hear, especially, what it says of our beloved Mother Foundress; and, finally, to sing with it the hymn of gratitude. Certainly, this little brook, after so often hearing our Mother exhorting her children to the practice of this virtue, after mingling its rippling sounds to the oft-repeated strains of the *Magnificat* and *Te Deum*, must have offered the continual flowing of its waters as a perpetual act of thanksgiving to the Heavenly Benefactor, the Giver of all gifts.

Sunday, July 3

We were quite eager to know in whose honour a procession was being organized this morning. A new shrine had been erected near a big tree in our grove and it seemed to be awaiting some venerable Guest. His name was soon revealed to all, as we advanced towards this little oratory; for our voices, full of emotion, accompanied by the harmonious notes of the violin, praised our loving Father St. Joseph. Yes, it was to him that we offered this special tribute of gratitude for all the graces which he has obtained for us; and, we requested of him many other favours, especially, the recovery of our beloved Mother Foundress.



The Children's Page

MY LITTLE FRIENDS,

Come along, quick, and sit down, you have had enough of greetings and hand-shaking. Time is fleeting; let us talk of serious things, since it is for that, that we are together. The basis of our life should be serious, if we do not wish to imitate the giddy butterfly which often burns its wings.

But what is a serious child? Is it one that always has a long face and never smiles?

Not at all.

Is it one who never plays with the others, isolates himself from his companions, hides from his parents and his teachers?

Far from that.

Is it one who is always in the moon?

Certainly not.

One who is always moving and talking?

No, you know quite well.

Well, what is a serious child?

A serious child is one who reflects before speaking or acting, and who acts according to his principles, avoids evil and does good. He accomplishes each duty in its appointed time: in class, he is very attentive; at recreation, he is full of enthusiasm; at work, he is very diligent; at prayer, he is recollected like an angel. He is a dutiful child, cherished by all: by his companions, who respect and imitate him; by his teachers, who appreciate him; by his parents, who are happy to have him; by his Guardian Angel, who is pleased to inscribe his actions in golden letters; by the saints in heaven, who admire and protect him; by God, Who blesses him.

One thing to be remarked, one thing upon which we reflect little or not at all, and which, perfectly understood, would dry many tears, enlighten many minds and pacify many hearts, is that everybody wishes to be loved, to be happy and to receive heavenly blessings, but few embrace the mode of life which procures these precious advantages. Why?

Others, before us, have asked themselves that question, and the following seems to be an appropriate answer: "The land is made desolate because there is none that considereth in the heart (*Jeremias, Chap. XIII, 11.*) But how can one consider in his heart? This is what I am going to explain to you, dear Children. Listen attentively.

I have just said that the serious child, the dutiful child is loved, happy and blessed. Now, if you remark that your parents or teachers often reprove you, that you do not agree with your brothers and sisters and your good little companions, do not put the fault on the others. When alone, reflect, ask yourself why; and your uneasy conscience will answer you that it is by your disobedience, your pretentiousness, your infidelity to duty, that you merit these reproaches, and that it is by your naughtiness that you grieve your brothers and sisters and cause your little companions to avoid you. A sweet voice, that of your Guardian Angel, will whisper to you what you must do to atone for your faults and not to commit them anymore; but you will hear another voice also, a stronger and insidious one — the devil's — and there will be a struggle in your heart. Reflect again, however, and consider what will be the consequences if you yield to the temptation. You will not be loved by those around you, and you may, even, be a cause of affliction to them; for it is not beauty, cleverness and strength that render amiable, but it is kindness. You will not be happy; for happiness here below does not consist in riches, power and glory, but in peace of mind. Above all, you will lose God's friendship and blessings; and, if you do not amend, you will be deprived of eternal life, for slight faults lead to grievous ones and grievous ones, to damnation.

Then you will understand how weak you are, what little courage you have to practise virtue. Then, you will fervently implore the help of the Blessed Virgin, of St. Joseph, of your Guardian Angel, of other saints of your choice; and, assisted by them, you will rise again, strong and full of courage to do better in the future. At that moment, the devil will flee from you, ashamed of his defeat; your Heavenly Guardian will inscribe this victory to your credit, and peace and joy will once again fill your hearts. Such are the wonderful effects of reflection. If everybody reflected thus, oh! certainly, there would not be so much grief and hatred and discord on earth.



There will be a struggle in your heart.



They enclosed a very great multitude of fishes, and their net was breaking.

FISHERS OF MEN

Time is fleeting and I have not yet mentioned the topic of to-day's chat. I wish to invite you to go fishing!

The other day, as I was reading, I came across the incident in the Gospel known as The Miraculous Draught of Fishes. I considered it for a long time, in order to draw from it all the profit possible for myself and my little friends, the children.

Jesus, so it said, stood by the lake of Geresareth, and He saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing their nets.

And going up into one of the ships that was Simon's, He desired him to thrust out a little from the land. He said to Simon: "Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught".

And Simon answering, said to Him: "Master, we have laboured all the night, and have taken nothing: but at Thy word, I will let down the net."

And when they had done this, they enclosed a very great multitude of fishes, and their net was breaking.

And they beckoned to their partners that were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they were almost sinking.

Which when Simon Peter saw, he fell down at Jesus's knees, saying: "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord."

For he was wholly astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of fishes which they had taken.

And so were also James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were Simon's partners. And Jesus said to Simon: "Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt be taking men."

They brought their ships to land. On arriving, Simon and Andrew began washing their nets.

"Come after Me," said Jesus, "and I will make you become fishers of men."

Peter and his companions, immediately leaving their nets, followed Him; and the Saviour's word came true. They became fishers of men.

Shortly after the Ascension, on the day of Pentecost, Peter, on leaving

the Cenacle, made his first sermon and converted three thousand men. What a big catch! Some time later, he converted five thousand more, and so on.

"Follow me and I shall make you become fishers of men," Jesus still repeats, as He knocks at the door of our hearts; but, how many turn a deaf ear to His voice! Some listen to Him, but do not take the trouble to follow Him. Others, like Peter and his companions, abandon all that they possess and valiantly follow Him. Such are the successors of the Apostles, the Missionaries and those who devote their lives to the salvation of souls. But their number is small in comparison to the multitude of souls that are losing Eternal happiness. How can this great misfortune be prevented?

"Follow me, and I shall make you Fishers of men," says Jesus.

To whom?

To you, dear Children.

How can you follow Jesus and become "fishers of men"?

By prayer and sacrifice, which are all-powerful upon the Heart of God. You will pray for those who do not pray; you will make sacrifices to expiate their sins, so that God, in His infinite mercy, may forgive them, enlighten their minds as to the consequences of their evil actions, give them the grace of contrition for their sins and perseverance in the path of duty.

You will also love God for the thousands of infidels who do not know Him. You will adore Him, thank Him and pray to Him, in their name, so that Jesus may reveal Himself to them and that they may acknowledge Him as their Creator and Saviour.

This is how, dear children, at your age, all of you may be "fishers of men", without leaving your parents and country. The number of souls that you will save will be in proportion to the number of sacrifices that you will have made.

When you will be big, Jesus, looking lovingly at you, may invite you to abandon everything to follow Him. You will be happy then, if you answer His Call; for the consolations that He has in store for his apostles greatly surpass their crosses, and very great and beautiful will be their eternal reward!

Your Great Friend,

THE PRECURSOR.

Oh! the legend already begun!

I was forgetting it. I shall continue.

King Melchior's Little Granddaughter

Almost every evening, in fact, the Christians assembled, sometimes in one of their dwellings, sometimes in the underground cemeteries excavated outside the gates of Rome. Paul celebrated the Holy Mysteries and preached the divine word to these faithful souls that martyrdom awaited. His ardour vented itself in fervent words similar to those which abound in his admirable Epistles.

Motionless and enraptured, Myrrha listened to the great teachings of the Apostle and, confidently approaching, she told him of her trials and fervent hopes.

In the midst of his labours and the oppressing solicitude of his apostolate, Paul felt a reposeful joy on ascertaining the miracles of grace wrought in this heroic child. In a few ardent words, he finished preparing, for the supreme holocaust, this victim already offered: "Charity is patient, is kind; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things!... Do not let yourself be overcome by evil, but overcome evil by good!... Love is stronger than hatred; therefore, my most beloved child, my joy and my crown remain strong in the Lord!..."

Having received the Apostle's blessing, Myrrha left, radiant with joy, filled with divine light and armed for further combats!...

Returning hastily to the dwelling of Torculus, she slipped noiselessly to her hard bed and slept peacefully in the hands of God... Sometimes, in pleasant dreams, she lived again the beautiful days of the past; she beheld once more the Wise King, her grandfather, and before her closed eyes appeared the exquisite visions long ago evoked by him: the brilliant star, the most pure Virgin Mary, the shepherds, the kings, and the Child, especially — the Divine Child, Whose smile seemed to hover lovingly over her in her ecstasy.

Shortly after that, Romula was struck by a dreadful disease, the name of which was whispered with terror. Ships, coming from the Orient, so it was said, had brought this fearful epidemic which was rapidly carrying off many.

The servants of the young patrician, terrified at the thought of the contagion, fled far from the bed of their Mistress, whenever they were not forced, by threats and blows, to attend her.

On the very first day, however, Myrrha placed herself at the young patient's bedside and never left her.

Although she was very young, no one prevented her from doing so — the life of a slave was considered worthless.

Imploring the help of God in her difficult task, she endeavoured to do her best to follow the prescriptions of the doctors, who did not conceal their anxiety.

"There are unknown resources in youth," said they. "The child's robust constitution can overcome the disease; but the danger is great!"

In silence, Romula received the attentive and delicate care of her slave and enjoyed the benefits of it. Although, in her heart, she was deeply touched by such sincere devotedness, she quickly hardened herself against this emotion.

One evening, she had a very bad spell. All her strength seemed to be exhausted by the violent pain which she was enduring, and the most learned doctors declared themselves vanquished.

(To be continued.)

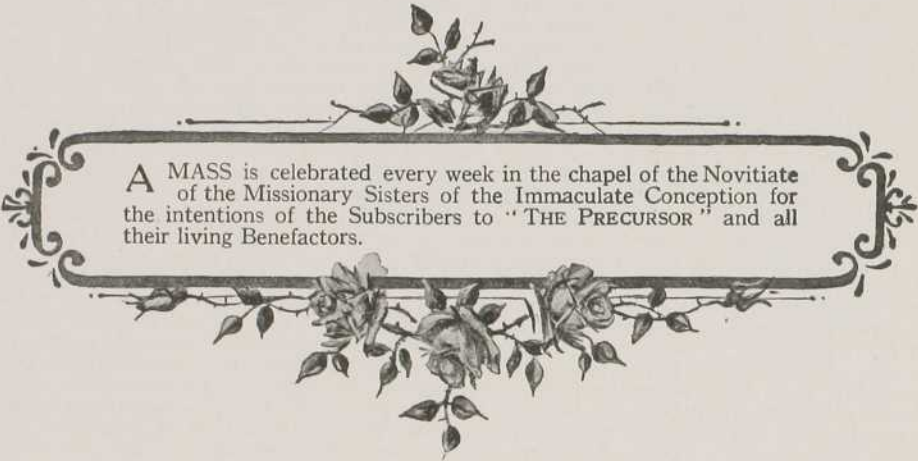
Thanksgivings to the Blessed Virgin for favours obtained



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

Enclosed find the ransom price of dying babies. I wish to thank the Blessed Virgin for the favour she has obtained for me. Mrs. A. F., **Worcester, Mass.** — I am enclosing the ransom price of a dying baby, to fulfil my promise, as I have obtained a great favour. Please pray for us, that my husband may have steady work. Mrs. R. M., **Cornwall, Ont.** — Enclosed please find offering in honour of the Blessed Virgin and in thanksgiving. My husband was called back to work; he worked for about a month, but is laid off for a while, so please continue praying. Mrs. L. D., **North Malden, Ont.** — The enclosed offering is for candles to be burnt before the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary who has granted us a big favour. We cannot thank her enough for what she has done for us. Mrs. L. P., **Leominster, Mass.** — I am glad to say there is a greater improvement in my condition, than I ever imagined there would be; but as it could still be improved I am asking for more prayers. I should also like you to pray for my husband as things do not seem to be quite so good with him. Mrs. D. M., **Worcester, Mass.** — I am enclosing a small offering. I have received several favours, success in study and promotion for my niece. Please continue to pray for my cure, that I may be able to continue my work. Mrs. C. A. M., **Aubrey, Que.** — I wish to express my most heartfelt gratitude to the Blessed Virgin who has granted me success in my examinations. Miss Madeleine Scullion, **Montreal.** — No words can express my gratitude towards the Blessed Virgin for the grace she has granted me. I am sending an offering as promised in thanksgiving for this loving Mother's powerful intercession. Mrs. M. C., **Poultney, Vt.** — I wrote some time ago asking you to make a novena to Our Lady that I get a position; so, thanks to this kind Mother and to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, I have been called to work. I am sending an offering in thanksgiving. Miss H. C., **Montreal.** — Last year I wrote and asked for prayers that my husband might be made permanent in his new position. God has granted our request and we are deeply grateful to our Blessed Mother for her intercession. I would like you to pray now for my husband's health and success in his new position and for health for my children and myself as well as happiness in this new city. Mrs. G. G. G., **Washington, D. C.** — My son has obtained a position through the intercession of our dear Lady and St. Joseph. I am therefore sending my renewal subscription in thanksgiving and hope this position will be a steady one. Mrs. P. S., **Verdun.** — I had promised an offering if I got well after an operation and thanks be to God, I have, so please find enclosed my donation to help with your work in China among the babies. Mrs. W. J. B., **Riverside, Ont.** — I am renewing my subscription in thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart and the Blessed Virgin for a very special favour received. Please pray that my husband may get work. Mrs. E. R. — Enclosed please find offering for the ransom of dying babies. I had promised this if I obtained a favour; the favour has been partly received, so I feel that I should not wait any longer to offer my thanks to the Sacred Heart and His Blessed Mother. Mrs. S. A., **Holyoke, Mass.** — Enclosed please find offering for dying babies. This was promised in thanksgiving for success at Entrance examinations. They are finished to-day, but I am buying the babies before results are announced, as we feel confident that St. Teresa has obtained our petition for us. Our most heartfelt gratitude to the Holy Family and St. Teresa for past favours and unbounded confidence in the future. Mrs. T. J. B., **North Bay, Ont.** — Kindly accept offering in thanksgiving for favour received through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. Would you please continue praying that I may obtain other favours, especially my husband's and my own health. Mrs. G. B., **Penn. No. Dakota.** — Please find enclosed offering in gratitude for favour obtained. I wish to recommend to your prayers a special intention. If I obtain this favour I promise to send a substantial offering. Mrs. E. J. H., **St. Johnsbury, Vt.** — Kindly accept offering in thanksgiving to St. Anthony for a special request, and to ask him a continuous blessing in this regard. H. M. M., **L'Ardoise, N. S.** — I thank the Blessed Virgin for the grace she has granted me, and I beg of her to continue assisting me. A Subscriber, **Longue Pointe.** — Grateful thanks to the Blessed Virgin who has delivered me of scruples. A. M., **Montreal.** — Thanksgiving for favour obtained. Mrs. E. L., **Chicoutimi.** — Homage of gratitude to the Blessed Virgin for favour received. Miss C. B., **Montreal.** — Sincere thanks for favour obtained. Mrs. I. Gill, **Montreal.** — My most heartfelt gratitude to Our Lady of Lourdes who has granted me a favour desired. Mrs. A. G., **Montreal.** — Grateful thanks to the Blessed Virgin for favour received after promise to have it published. Mrs. L. P., **Montreal.** — My husband's operation has been successful. I wish to thank the Blessed Virgin for this great favour. Mrs. H. P., **St. Isidore.** — Kindly help me to thank the Blessed Virgin. She has granted me the favour I was asking. Mrs.

N. P. — Thanks to the Blessed Virgin for her special protection. Mrs. A. S., **Charny**. — I have rented my house after imploring the Blessed Virgin's help. My most heartfelt thanks to this Heavenly Benefactress. Miss D. R. — Thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for her maternal protection. L. L. — My most profound gratitude to Our Lord and His Blessed Mother for a cure obtained. P. Laffèche, **Casselman, Ont.** — My husband has found work after making a novena to the Blessed Virgin. I thank her with all my heart and beg her to protect my son. Mrs. A. L., **Montreal Nord**. — Thanksgiving to Mary for favour received. R. P., **Howick**. — Thanksgiving for position obtained. Mrs. A. G. — Kindly help me to thank the Blessed Virgin for the favours she has granted me. Mrs. C. N. — Lively gratitude for favour received through the intercession of Our Immaculate Mother. I am asking for another favour. M. P. — My most heartfelt gratitude to Mary for all the favours she has granted me. Mrs. W. G., **Chicopee, Falls**. — My husband has been successful in his business. Thanks to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mrs. J. S. F., **Lewiston, Me.** — Thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for favour received. Mrs. A. L. — My husband has recovered his health. Kindly help me to thank Our Heavenly Mother to whom I owe this favour. Mrs. J. B., **Beauce Junction**. — Homage of gratitude to the Blessed Virgin for favour obtained. Mrs. A. O., **Brunswick, Me.** — Thanksgiving for success in study and examinations. Mrs. J. E. L. — I have found work. Heartfelt thanks to the Blessed Virgin. J. P., **Ste. Agathe des Monts**. — Lively gratitude to our Heavenly Mother for having granted the grace of perseverance to persons dear to me in the religious life. E. L. — Thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for the abundant crop of strawberries. Mrs. Z. G.



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."

Kindly pray for me that I may get a position. Mr. O. B., **Willimansett, Mass.** — Please pray for my children and myself, that God may help us to do right and keep us in good health, and that He may bless our undertakings. I should also like you to pray for the conversion of my daughter-in-law, that she may become a Catholic if it be the Holy Will of God. M. A. C. — Will you please make a novena for a young couple who were to be married in September and who, for some misunderstanding, parted a few weeks ago. Miss V. S., **Montreal**. — Please pray that I may get a steady position. Mrs. H. S., **No. Adams, Mass.** — Would you be so kind as to make a novena that I may be reunited to my wife and that I may soon get a position. Mr. J. T., **Montreal**. — Will you please make a novena to the Blessed Virgin that my son may be cured and that I may obtain another very special favour. A Subscriber. — Will you please pray to the Blessed Virgin for all my intentions. Enclosed you will find my renewal subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. P. J. O'B., **Stratford, Ont.** — I am sending my renewal subscription to THE PRECURSOR. I would like you to make a novena to Our Immaculate Mother for me, that I may obtain two special favours. Would you please make a novena also for a friend of mine that she may obtain two favours also. Anonymous, **Montreal**. — My request for obtaining a better position has not yet been granted. Please pray for this intention and for the success of my pupils and the happy issue of all my undertakings. Also remember in your prayers a dear friend of mine who is leaving soon to become a postulant. If my prayers for a better position are granted, I promise to contribute as generously as possible

to assist your Community during the coming year. Miss K. D., **Belle River, Ont.** — Please find enclosed offering for a novena of lights in honour of the Blessed Virgin so that I may be restored to health and obtain another special favour. If I obtain this favour I will send you an offering. Mrs. R. J. C., **Lorne, N. B.** — I have subscribed to THE PRECURSOR for many many years. I am now asking your prayers that my daughter may win a case in court. If this favour is granted, she will send a donation. M. R. McG., **Montreal.** — Enclosed find offering, kindly burn a votive light before the altar of the Blessed Virgin for a special intention. Mr. M. J. B., **Pineville, N. B.** — Enclosed please find offering for ransom of Chinese dying babies and pray for two very special favours. Mrs. J. A. L., **Brunswick, Me.** — I should like you to begin a novena to the Blessed Virgin Mary that I may regain my health. My eyes are weak and sore and I have stomach trouble. Pray that I may be cured, as for all my other intentions. Miss H. L., **Montreal.** — I earnestly beg that you remember my very special intentions in your prayers. Miss R. C., **St. Thomas, Ont.** — Please pray to Our Lady of Perpetual Help for a special intention. Mr. R. C., **Windsor, Ont.** — Enclosed find my renewal subscription and please pray for a dear lady who has been hurt. Mrs. G. S., **Lakewood, U. S. A.** — Please remember me in your good prayers. Mrs. P. F., **Wine River, N. B.** — I am enclosing a Postal Note for which I would ask you to pray for my intentions. I thank the Blessed Virgin from the bottom of my heart for all the favours received. Mrs. M. U. A. — Would you kindly make a novena to the Blessed Virgin so that my husband may get steady work and that my daughter may obtain a position. If my requests are granted, I shall send a donation. I should also like you to pray for another special intention, besides. Mrs. A. J. M., **Windsor, Ont.** — Enclosed find offering, please pray for a poor woman who is suffering from a cancer. She has four children, so we would like her to be cured if it is God's Holy Will. Mrs. L. D., **Windsor, Ont.** — Would you kindly say very special prayers for my dear father who is sick. Oh, please ask our Blessed Mother to cure him as soon as possible. I should also like you to pray for my mother who must work very hard, as we are a very big family. Miss E. O., **Houlton, Me.** — Would you be so kind as to pray that my husband may get work as also for another favour. My husband has worked only three weeks since the month of December and we have eight children, so please pray that my requests may be granted, if it be God's Holy Will. A Reader, **St. John, N. B.** — Will you kindly pray that if my husband is laid off from his work, it may not be for long. If my request is granted, I shall send a generous offering for the China missionaries. Mrs. H., **Montreal.** — Kindly remember me in your prayers, as I have to undergo a big operation. Mrs. A. R., **Southbridge, Mass.** — Enclosed please find offering for my deceased husband and daughter and pray that I may reset my house for it makes it hard for me to be without them. Mrs. J. McM., **Notre Dame de Grace.** — Enclosed please find offering for which I am asking the help of your prayers as my mother is to undergo an operation for a cancer and we do wish her to survive if it is God's Holy Will. Miss H. B., **Simcoe, Ont.** — I wish to obtain two favours through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. If my requests are granted, I shall send a donation. Mrs. A. F., **Worcester, Mass.** Will you please pray for my intentions. If the favour I ask for my father is granted, I promise to send you a generous contribution in thanksgiving. C. M. — I beg the prayers of you and your subscribers for a particular intention and also for my nephew who was laid off some time ago, that he may soon obtain work. Mrs. M. G., **Montreal.** — Please pray the Blessed Virgin and St. Anthony that my husband may get work. Mrs. B. H. C., **Skowhegan, Me.** — Kindly pray for my sister that she may recover her hearing, and for my deceased husband. Mrs. D. E. M., **Holyoke, Mass.** — Please pray the Blessed Virgin that I may obtain all the graces that I am asking and that my son may obtain a position. Mrs. E. H., **Caribou, Me.** — Would you kindly have special prayers said for me, that Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal may grant me the grace to recover my health. Mrs. F. C. B., **Richmond, Que.** — Will you please pray that we may sell our house, that money owed to us may be given back and that my husband may find a good position. Mrs. B. C., **Skowhegan, Me.** — Will you please pray Our Immaculate Mother for my boy that we may find a big change in him. Mrs. J. B. — Will you please say special prayers to the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph for my son that he may obtain a position soon. I promise to renew my subscription if my favour is granted. Mrs. P. Scullion, **Verdun.** — Please find enclosed offering to obtain the success of my examinations. Miss Madeline Scullion, **Hochelaga Convent.** — Please pray that my husband may get a steady employment soon. Mrs. M. E. T., **Oldtown, Me.** — Would you kindly make a novena for two special intentions of mine. Mr. M. A., **Newport, Vt.** — Please pray that things may be settled so that I may return to work soon. Miss G. T., **Northampton, Mass.** — Enclosed please find offering in honour of Our Lady and please pray that my health may continue to be good and that I may be able to continue my work. Miss M. H. — Please find enclosed offering for votive lights in honour of the Blessed Virgin for the recovery of my health. H. A. B., **Pineville, N. B.** — Kindly pray for my intentions to the Sacred Heart, St. Ann and St. Anthony. A Subscriber, **Alexandria, Ont.** — Please pray for my deceased parents and also for the following petitions: that we may get work, sell a property, obtain a special favour, a position for my brother and for health. Miss B. P., **Viauville, Montreal.** — Will you please make a novena asking Our Heavenly Mother and St. Joseph to grant me a very special favour. If my request is granted, I shall send a five years' subscription and an offering for votive lights. Mrs. J. L., **Waterville, Me.** — Please pray the good St. Teresa that my daughter may find a good position. Mrs. LeB., **Verdun.** — Please pray the Blessed

Virgin for two special favours one of which is for the good of my soul. Mrs. E. N., Windsor, Ont. — Kindly pray that I may retain my present position. If my request is granted, I shall send a donation monthly, for the remainder of the year. Miss S. S., Montreal. — Would you please pray to the Blessed Virgin that I may get employment in order to provide for my two boys and also that I may regain my health. Should my request be granted, I shall send a donation. J. A. L. McDonald, Tilbury, Ont. — Kindly remember me in your prayers. Miss K. M., Vancouver, B. C. — Will you please pray for my intentions as well as for those of my people. G. L., Northfield, Ont. — Please pray to the Blessed Virgin that my husband may soon find a position. If my request is granted, I shall renew my subscription and send an offering. Mrs. F. L., Cornwall, Ont. — Kindly pray that my son and daughter be successful in their examinations. I should like you to have a special intention for my son that an important favour may be granted him. Mrs. B., Windsor, Ont. — Please find enclosed offerings for two special intentions. Mrs. W. A. K., Brunswick, Me. — Please pray for me that I may get financial help in some way, and that I may soon find a steady position, for our present home condition is frightful. Do beg Our Blessed Mother to come to our help. — Enclosed, please find money order and kindly remember my intentions. Miss E. F. S., Holyoke, Mass. — I should like you to start a novena to St. Joseph that my daughter may secure a position within three weeks. If my favour is granted, I shall renew my subscription and send a donation for the upkeep of a crib. Mrs. B. S., Timmins, Ont. — My husband is suffering from an infected lip and it worries me very much. Kindly remember him in your prayers to the Blessed Virgin. Mrs. F. R., Prairie Siding, Ont. — Kindly remember my deceased parents in your prayers and have a special intention for me. Miss B. P., Montreal. — Enclosed you will find my renewal subscription and if a special favour is granted, I will send an offering for the ransom of Chinese dying babies. Please pray for my request. Mrs. W. L. R., Worcester, Mass. — Will you kindly pray to the Blessed Virgin that I may obtain a favour by the end of August or the beginning of September. If my request is granted, I will send an offering. Mrs. G. B., Terrace Vinet. — Enclosed please find my renewal subscription. Please pray that I may be cured of heart and gall trouble and that my husband and I may be protected from our enemies. Mrs. J. C., Watford, Ont. — Kindly make a novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal that a person dear to us may stop drinking, that he may find a position, that we may sell our house and farm, and that we may receive some of the money that is due to us. If these favours are granted, I shall send an offering according to our means. Mrs. B. H. C., Skowhegan, Me. — I am pleased with the result of the novena, but I still could be a little better so would you kindly start another novena for this intention. Mrs. R. C. D., Millbury, Mass. — Will you please make a novena to the Blessed Virgin Mary that I may obtain two special favours. I promise to send an offering if my requests are granted in a short time. L. L., Duparquet, Que. — I am subscribing to THE PRECURSOR to obtain a special favour for my son. J. H., Barton, Vt. — Will you please make a novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and to the Blessed Virgin that I may be restored to health. C. T., Montreal — Kindly pray for me that I may recover my health. Mrs. R. A., Ville Marie, P. Q. — Would you kindly say special prayers for me that I may get a position as Immigration Inspector. W. G., Cornwall, Ont. — Please offer prayers for my sister who has been sick for ten years and the doctors say they cannot cure her. If she should cure it will be a miracle. — Will you please pray for a special intention of mine. Mrs. R. P., Dexter, Me. — Would you kindly remember "intentions for spiritual and temporal favours" in your prayers to the Precious Blood, to St. Anthony and St. Ann. A Client, Alexandria, Ont. — Please pray for me that I may obtain a great favour for September. Miss L. B., Ste. Justine, Que. — Would you kindly make a novena to the Blessed Virgin for two special favours. These are of the utmost importance to me. Mrs. P. M., Montreal. — Will you kindly make a novena to the Blessed Virgin and St. Elizabeth for two favours. If these are granted, I shall send an offering and subscribe again to THE PRECURSOR. A. C. D., Holyoke, Mass. — Will you kindly pray for my little grandson that he may be able to go to the University. I would also ask prayers for his mother and my daughter-in-law that they may be restored to health and strength, and please remember my other little grandson that he may soon find a good position with reasonable wages. Mrs. M. M., Viauville, Montreal. — Pray for help of soul and body of my husband and myself, also, the means to put roof and basement in our church; the successful sale or exchange of property; kindly remember all our intentions both spiritual and temporal if they are pleasing to God. I am pleased with what I have obtained through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. Mrs. J. L., Englehart, Ont. — I am coming to ask the help of your prayers that I may become stronger, and that we may succeed in purchasing an automobile at the city auction as my brother and I both work in the city and my father's work is out of town most of the time. Miss R. C. LaR., Montreal. — Will you please say a prayer for my son that he may obtain a position with a reliable firm. Mrs. C. S., Montreal. — I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR and ask you to pray that I may obtain a good employment, the cure of my nerves, and that my brother may be called to Holy Orders if it is the Holy Will of God. A faithful Client of Mary, Belle River, Ont. — Would you kindly make a novena in honour of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus that my children may be successful in their examinations. Mrs. J. C. M., Kenogami, Que. — Will you please pray that my husband may get a position and that money that we have lent may be returned to us. Mrs. B. H. C., Skowhegan, Me.

The Unlimited Power of Prayer

The Gospel has proclaimed nothing more certain than the unlimited power of prayer. *Believe that you will receive all that you request in prayer, and you will obtain everything, even the precipitation of mountains into the sea.* "Jesus Christ makes use of these comparisons", says Bossuet, "purposely to show that all is possible to him who prays." And he adds: "Behold the prodigy of prodigies: man invested with the omnipotence of God."

Moreover, if the efficacy of our prayers sometimes meets with obstacles in the souls of the persons in whom we are interested here below, it will not encounter any in the Souls of Purgatory, that are so pleasing to God and inflamed with His Love.

The most efficacious prayers, those that come first in order, are the Liturgical Prayers. How well inspired was the piety of our ancestors who liked to recite the Office of the Dead and the *De Profundis* for their deceased relatives and friends. Fortunately, there are still to be found many families where the *De Profundis* is recited after the meals or during night prayer.



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



NECROLOGY

Reverend Father J. E. V. Geoffrion, Pastor of Notre Dame du Mont Carmel Parish, **Lacolle**; Reverend Sister Mary Anselm, Sisters of St. Joseph, **Toronto**; Miss Albina Dion, **Montreal**, sister of our Sister Marie des Cinq Plaies; Mr. Henry Lusignan, **Belœil**, brother of our Sister Sainte Aglae; Mr. Jules Legrand, **Saint Jacques le Mineur**, grandfather of our Sister St. Rita; Mr. Alphonse Langevin, **Montreal**, brother-in-law of our Sister Marie Paule; Mr. H. J. Bartlett, **Orillia, Ont.**; Mrs. Hilda Gramer, **Richmond, Mich.**; Mr. Dennis J. Flinn, **Buffalo, N. Y.**; Mrs. Ann Ort, **Port Huron, Mich.**; Mr. Dan Kelly, **Port Huron, Mich.**; Mr. Richard Kerwin, **Port Huron, Mich.**; Mr. S. R. Best, **London, Ont.**; Mr. René Beaudoin, **Cornwall, Ont.**; Mr. Emery Plante, **Albertville**; Mr. John G. Mc Guire, **Allumette Island, Que.**; Mr. Henry Picard, **Chichester, Que.**; Mrs. Martha Landon, **Chichester, Que.**; Mr. Geo. Harpes, **Sheenboro, Que.**; Mr. Shelton Warren, **Demers Centre, Que.**; Mr. John Warren, **Demers Centre, Que.**; Mr. Silas Perrault, **Sheenboro, Que.**

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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, 2900 St. Catherine Road, Montreal, 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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Dispensary. Native Novitiate " Our Lady of the Rosary ".

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Procure for the Missions.

Benefactors of the Society

of the

Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

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

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

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

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

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

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

Privileges Granted to Benefactors

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

Besides, Benefactors are entitled to the following spiritual advantages:

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

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

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

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

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

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