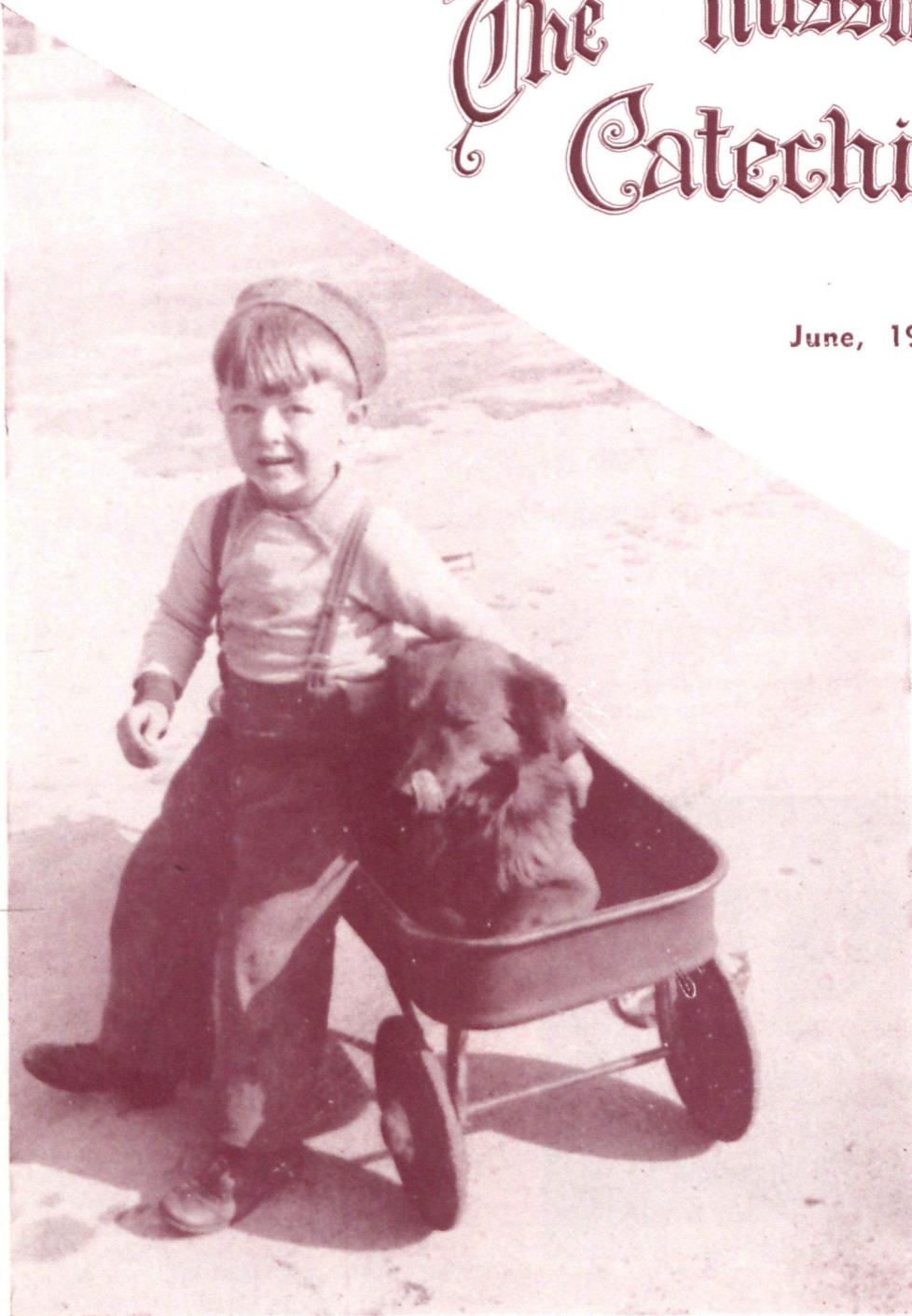


June 42

The Missionary Catechist

June, 1942



Priest of Jesus Christ

- TO live in the midst of the world without wishing its pleasures;
- TO be a member of each family, yet belonging to none;
- TO share all sufferings; to penetrate all secrets;
- TO heal all wounds; to go from men to God and offer Him their prayers;
- TO return from God to men to bring pardon and hope;
- TO have a heart of fire for charity; and a heart of bronze for chastity;
- TO teach and to pardon, console and bless always;
- MY God, what a life; and it is yours,
- PRIEST of Jesus Christ.

Lacordaire

* * *



NINETEEN hundred years ago, during the very institution of the Blessed Sacrament, the first priests of the New Law were ordained. Ever since the Church has been ordaining priests, Christ's representatives before the world of men.

AS Catholics we owe our priests a debt of gratitude which we can never repay. Yet many of us take their ministrations for granted, and do little to show our appreciation or lighten the burdens of their exacting office.

THE month of June is associated in our minds with ordinations. Let us make it a month of prayer, not only for the young ordinandi throughout the world, but for all who are called to embrace the holy state of the priesthood. And let us continue our fervent prayer for our priests throughout the year—always.

All for Jesus through Mary

The Missionary Catechist

Volume 18

June, 1942

Number 7

*A Prayer
For Peace and Victory*

O PRINCE of Peace, in this hour of great sorrow and trial, we humbly petition Thee to protect all our service men everywhere, and to give unto them unflinching courage to defend our country with honor, dignity, and devotion to Thy Holy Will.

GUARD our churches, our homes, our schools, our hospitals, our factories, our buildings and all therein from harm and peril. Protect our land from enemies within and without. Grant unto us an early peace and victory founded upon justice, and instill into the hearts and minds of men everywhere a firm purpose to live forever in peace and good will toward all.

Amen.

Imprimatur:

✠ Francis J. Spellman, D.D.
Archbishop of New York



● Letters like the following received at Victory-Noll encourage us to believe that our friends will not decrease their contributions toward our missionary work despite the great demands necessarily made upon them by America's urgent defense requirements.

Victory-Noll
Huntington, Indiana

Dear Catechists,

Having once been a resident of the southwestern part of the United States, I know well what needed functions your Society provides in that area, and I am fully acquainted with the poverty of the Mexican people and the hardships they bear because of nationality, distinction and prejudice.

In my humble opinion, your Society is carrying out an outstanding effort in Catholic welfare work as well as of the propagation of the faith.

It has been some time since I last contributed to your worthy cause, but the past year has been more kind to me than some of the preceding years, and it, therefore, affords me much pleasure to enclose my check in the amount of \$100.00 as a contribution towards your work.

Sincerely yours,

THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST is a monthly magazine published with ecclesiastical approbation by the Society of Missionary Catechists, Victory-Noll, Huntington, Indiana. Subscription rates: \$1 a year; \$2.50 for 3 years; \$4 for 5 years; \$25 for life, payable in monthly installments; \$1.50, Canada and Foreign. Entered as second class matter December 30, 1924, at the post office at Huntington, Indiana, under the act of March 3, 1879.

The Power of the Priest

by the Reverend Francis E. Gasbarre

"SHOW me yet other worlds to conquer," was the cry of Alexander the Great, as he surveyed his already vast conquests—the entire world lay at his feet. Caesar too, a powerful man, controlled the might of the wonderful, the great—but now legendary—Roman Empire. Napoleon subdued the power of nations by his sheer personality and indomitable will. Countless men have ruled empires, governed countries, managed immense businesses. But is there in this world one who possesses the God-given power of the priest?

"What shall I render to the Lord for all the things He hath rendered unto me?"

THE priest at Mass has just devoutly consumed the Precious Body of our loving Lord. He prays a little. Solemnly, and with a feeling of awe and confusion, he thinks of the power he possesses over the real Body of Christ and over Christ's Mystical Body.

"For this is my Body."

"For this is the chalice of my Blood. . ."

THESE sacred words are no sooner said than bread and wine are changed into Christ's real Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity. Neither doctor nor scientist can give life to a lifeless body. But at Mass the priest not only gives life to the inanimate bread and to the still wine, but actually he changes the bread and wine into the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ. Even the angels do not have this tremendous power.

CHRIST gives His priest power over His Mystical Body—power over the members of His Church, and a certain power over those not of His fold. He gives the priest power over the devil who is supremely jealous of those who are working to win the Prize, the Mansion in our Heavenly Father's House, the Kiss of Peace, the Beatific Vision. The devil is the fallen angel with whom few reckon. There is no enemy more vicious and venomous, no evil more destructive and devastating than the devil.

THAT Good Friday afternoon when Christ died on the Cross was a sad day for Satan. Then his might was crushed, the price of Adam's sin was paid, the gates of Heaven were opened, and power over Satan was given to Christ's priests.

THE sinner weighed down, fettered by his sins, no matter how many or how serious, finds consolation and the renewed friendship of God in the Sacrament of Penance. Through what great power is this effected? Through the absolute power of the priest to absolve in Christ's Name. At birth we are lost children, we have no right to the kingdom of Heaven. This, of course, was caused by the shrewd planning of the devil. The priest, through Baptism, serves the first crushing blow to our enemy, Satan. In the strong words of the baptismal ritual, the priest damns him. In the Name of the Blessed Trinity we are made children of God, and granted the right to enter the kingdom of Heaven.

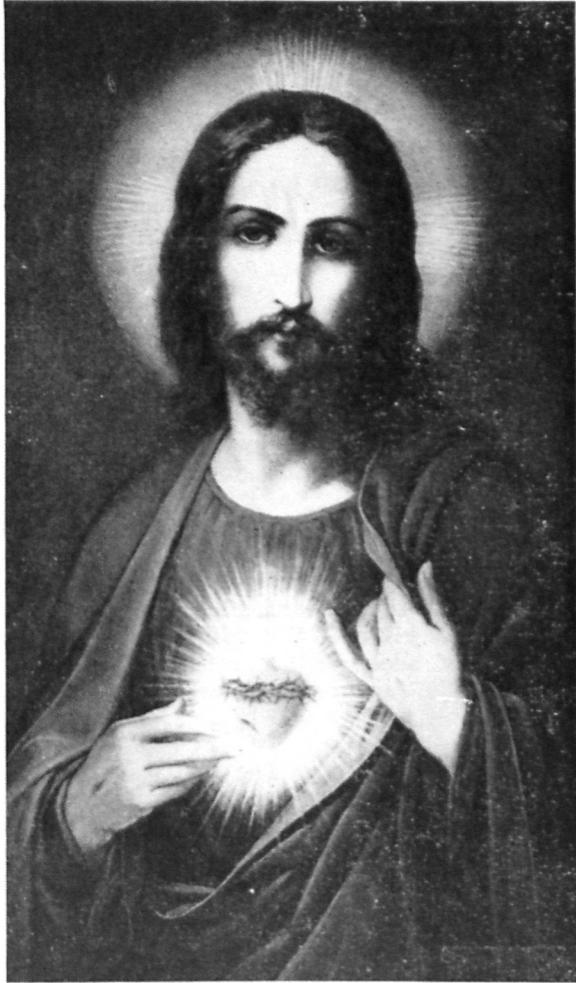
AS is Baptism, penance, the Mass, so is each Sacrament another proof of the tremendous and unending power given to Christ's priests.

THE priest at Ordination receives the Holy Ghost in a special manner. It is through His divine guidance that the priest brings relief and help, consolation and joy, light and peace to millions of downhearted, unfortunate, desperate, sad and listless, broken-down Christians and non-Christians. Troubled and confused hearts, querulous and contentious lives have been settled to peace at the "Pax vobis" of the priest.

THE priestly power is not to subdue and to hold anyone in slavery, unless it be Satan. His power is to give life to dead souls, to restore to health sick souls, to nourish militant souls, to forgive sins, to make peace, and to teach others to know and to love God.

ALEXANDER the Great, Julius Caesar, Napoleon, had great power and yet they had none. Not one of these men, nor anyone before or after them who was great in the eyes of the world, could do what a priest does. These men touched the pinnacle of glory, and descended into the depth of disgrace; they experienced triumph and defeat; they held power in their grasp and felt it slip through their fingers. But a priest is a "priest forever according to the order of Melchisedech," and his power is as great and as lasting as his priesthood.

"What shall I render to the Lord for all the things that He hath rendered to me."



Preface

for the Feast of the

Sacred Heart

IT is truly meet and just, right and availing unto salvation, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto Thee, O holy Lord, Father almighty and everlasting God. Who didst will that Thine only-begotten Son should be pierced by the soldier's lance as He hung upon the Cross: that from His opened Heart, as from a sanctuary of divine bounty, might be poured out upon us streams of mercy and grace; and that in His Heart always burning with love for us, the devout may find a haven of rest and the penitent a refuge of salvation. And therefore with the angels and archangels, with the thrones and dominions, and with all the heavenly hosts, we sing a hymn to Thy glory, saying without ceasing:

HOLY, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna in the highest.

BLESSED is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

HOSANNA in the highest.

MANY years ago when the weary explorer Coronado led his dusty troops into New Mexico he found strange villages of mud-walled homes. These pueblo villages, or "cities of the soil" as they are often called, have not changed with time. "Warm in winter, cool in summer" has long been, and still is, the slogan of the 'dobe dwellers.

Adobe is merely New Mexico mud mixed with straw. The process of making adobes or mud-bricks is as easy as pie—mud-pie.

Boards are nailed together to form moulds of the desired size for the bricks. Adobe is shoveled into the moulds, tamped and leveled. When the mud is packed the form is lifted and the bricks are left to



Mixing adobe and shaping the bricks

'Dobe

Dwellers

by Catechist M. Elvira Vigil

dry in the sun. The form is then used for additional bricks. In erecting the walls the same kind of adobe that is used for the bricks is used as mortar. When the home is completed the outside is given a finishing coat of adobe mixed with a little sand and applied as plaster. Such plaster is also used over the inside walls which are finally given a coat or two of calcimine, a wash made with natural colored clay found in New Mexico. The most popular finishing material is a white wash made of gypsum. Thus, out of the good earth itself, rise these adobe walls.

Visiting among the 'dobe dwellers of New Mexico gives one the thrilling sensation of being in a foreign land, so different, quaint and close to peasant life are these humble people.

No matter how many rooms there are to an adobe dwelling, each room has an outside door which opens either upon a long portal or flush with the hard packed clay ground of the outdoors. And no matter on which door you happen to knock, be it bedroom, parlor or kitchen-dining room, it is opened to you and you are cor-

dially invited to enter and seat yourself.

Unless you have a specific purpose and definite business to transact, it is difficult to make conversation with the quiet lady of the house. She answers questions briefly and then is silent.

The native women of New Mexico are a hard-working group. Harvest time is the busiest season and the most interesting to visitors. As you approach the house you will see mothers and daughters variously occupied. One may be cutting open squashes or peaches to be spread on the roof where they will be left to dry in the unfailing, blessed sunshine. Others may be husking corn or stringing pungent red chile peppers and hanging them on the house to dry. Freshly butchered mutton or beef is also strung up to dry into "charque" and thus preserved for lean winter days. Still other workers might be giving the house a fresh coating of mud as protection against the wintery blasts, washing raw wool for the family mattresses, or putting freshly cut wheat through one of its many primitive harvesting processes:—gathering it into sheaves, spreading it on the thresh-

ing floor, winnowing the grain by throwing it up in the air from a basket. I have seen wheat being threshed on one of those circular floors by goats, sheep and sometimes horses, who tramped the kernels free from their hulls.

Within the house one woman is preparing the meals for the family. Needless to say she is always busy. When you visit her she will welcome you graciously, give you a chair and then quietly go back to the task at hand. It may be cleaning dry beans to put on to boil; spanking balls of dough from hand to hand into flat tortillas, or roasting chile peppers and placing them in a damp cloth where the tough membranous-like peel is steamed off. And how delicious these green chiles smell while steaming!

If you are clever and can bring forth the leads, the good mistress of the house talks charmingly as she works. She may tell you about her work as a lay catechist among the few scattered families living on small ranches. Or, if you remark about the tempting desert spread out upon the table, she may explain with pardonable pride that it is panocha, delicious but requiring much work in the making. It is made of wheat. The grain is first moistened and left to sprout. This, she says, brings out the sugar contents. The sprouted kernels are then ground into flour from which the pudding is kneaded. The batter is finally put into an Indian pot and placed in an outdoor adobe oven where it bakes slowly for hours and hours.

June, 1942



Catechists try laying adobe bricks



Often the wealthier people in New Mexico also build charming homes of adobe.

Happily you think of mentioning the annual Fiesta and this draws forth an enthusiastic response. The Fiesta, ah, yes. It is in honor of the patron saint of the community, you know. Once a year it is held but the people think of it and plan for it the year 'round. The mission church is re-plastered and re-decorated for the occasion, the musicians and the music is the best procurable and every thing is grand!

The religious ceremonies are truly inspiring, your hostess will repeat. They are accompanied by the spontaneous expression of childlike devotion manifest in the prayers, hymns processions and decorations. The religious services are followed by a day of feasting and dancing and mer-making. It is a happy time of general get-together for the whole community.

(Continued on page 14)

Way Down South West

by Catechist M. Alice James

EL PASO with its large Mexican population provides sufficient work for the Catechists in our mission here; and yet as we passed through certain sections of the town going to and from our various centers, the question just would recur: What about the colored people? For there are quite a number of them in El Paso. Near their districts one sees the familiar signs of the Protestant sects: Baptists, Methodists, Evangelists, Jehovah Witnesses, etc.

IT was a consolation then, to find that under the leadership of their zealous pastors, a group of young lay women had banded together to help convert the colored people by means of home visiting and classes for the children. Their work, in spite of difficulties, has been blessed. Their fervent converts form a nucleus for future success among the colored by leaders of their own race.

A REQUEST to open a center in a part of town near the school for colored children, led the lay catechists to ask our assistance, and two Missionary Catechists are now teaching regularly at Douglass Center. The people, with warm Southern courtesy, welcomed us, and incident upon incident multiplies to show their gratitude for our interest in them and their children.

ONE gentleman came to the car where Catechist was teaching and told her: "Ah cain't tell yo' what it means to me to see yo' all trying to help us cullad people. Ah sho'ly appreciates it, and Ah wants to help too." The help was in the form of a donation which he insisted that Catechist take.

AN old colored lady lies bedfast with paralysis on the second floor of a home in Douglass Center. When it is time for our little people to have their games, her daughter places a large mirror at one side of the bed. The old lady smiles contentedly as she watches us. When we visited her we were edified at the patience and resignation she is practicing in the midst of great suffering. She too had to tell us of her happiness: "When Ah sees yo' all playing wif de children and knows yo' am teaching them all about de good God, Ah feels so glad. Ah used to go to de Catholic church when Ah first came to El Paso, and den, somehow Ah got started wif

de Baptists, and Ah jist kept on, but Ah sho'ly loves yo' church, Ah sho'ly does."

HER story is typical of others among her neighbors. At one time or other they had gone to the Catholic church, some at the invitation of a Catholic neighbor; others out of a desire to get religion somewhere. This encourages us in our efforts among these good people, and we pray that some may receive the grace to enter the true Church as faithful colored converts.

THE humor of the colored people comes to the fore among our children at class time, and we enjoy it to the utmost.

"Who yo' all callin' black boy. Ah lak to know who am blacker than yo'." And Frankie and Rae roll their eyes threateningly.

"Catechis', Ah sho' does want to sit down, but Ah cain't, my maw done tole me to be careful of mah Sunday britches," and the small owner of the plum-colored Sunday breeches stood manfully until class was ended.

Their attraction to things religious is evident in their responses to the stories and little practices given in class.

"Catechis', when mah maw done tole me to do de dishes, Ah said, 'All fo' Jesus,' and Ah did 'em."

And again, "Boy, yo' don't know what yo' am sayin'. Dat ain't a picture of Jesus. Dat am a picture of Mary. Mah Mother, Ah loves yo'."

The picture of the Crucifixion brought the following: "Den dey put stickers all round His Head, and pinned Him to de cross wif big nails. De sho'ly was mean to po' Jesus."

The story of our colored people wouldn't be complete without an account of the antics of four of the blackest little folk of all. Several weeks ago, as I finished dusting in our chapel, three sharp peals of the door bell sounded. I went down the long flight of steps. Pressed against the glass of the hall door were four black faces grinning a welcome. The McShanes! For the hundredth time I tried to figure out where they got the name. I also tried to look rather stern. It was difficult because Henry and Willie were doing a combination cake walk and hornpipe on

the sidewalk, eyes rolling and long legs flying, while Susie and Bonnie applauded encouragingly.

After the customary greetings, and assurances that class was only on Sunday afternoon, and not at a quarter to eight in the morning, I explained that it was almost time for the Catechists to go to chapel for prayers, and if a Catechist had to come down stairs to answer the door bell, she might be late for prayers, and so forth. Solemnly they promised that they would not ring the bell again, and goodbyes were said. Down the street went the McShanes.

The next morning we went through the same procedure; they assured me they had forgotten all about the Catechists having to pray, "And honest to goodness, we won't do it again." I had my misgivings.

The third morning I finished dusting chapel; went on with some other work; noticed that the clock said five to eight and decided that the little black folk had learned their lesson, when five peals of the bell brought the Catechists from various parts of the house to see what had happened.

"It's the McShanes," I assured them and started down the steps. The nearer I got to the bottom the higher my just wrath mounted. Just wait and see what I wouldn't do to those McShanes!

There was no one at the door. I went out into the yard. No one! A slight movement at one side of the yard caught my eye. From behind some old empty white-wash cans four black heads reared cautiously.

"Good mawnin', Catechis', did yo' all heah de bell?"

I tried to look my sternest. They hurried on:

"If yo' all would be waitin' fo' us heah in de yard to say 'good mawnin' we sho' wouldn't ring de bell. We all jes' laks to visit yo' on de way to school."

That took me by surprise and I smiled, forgetting to be stern. They were encouraged. White teeth flashed as they smilingly continued. "Dat am de honest to goodness truf, and now we has to be a gwine to school. Goodbye, Catechis'."

I found myself humming "Dixie" as I went up the stairs. At the landing I looked out the window. Down the street they went, lickety-split, long legs flying, pigtailed bobbing, not a care in the world.



The community was already in chapel. I slipped into my place. There was just time to make my resolution: "Dear Lord, from now on I'll be waiting for the McShanes. It's the only thing to do."

*Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, I believe in
Your love for me.*

* * *

*Christ has gone before, Christ has given us
an example that we might follow His steps. Now
it is our turn, and all ministering spirits keep
silence and look on. Oh, let not your foot slip
or your eye be false, or your ear dull or your at-
tention flagging! Be not dispirited; be not
afraid; keep a good heart; be bold; draw not
back; you will be carried through.*

Cardinal Newman

Rained In

NO, the roof did not leak; the rain did not come into our home. But we were rained in. It happened this way.

WE went to teach religious vacation school at Marquez, a village way up in the mountains about seventy miles from Grants, New Mexico. With us we took food and other necessities sufficient for one week only, as we hoped to return to Grants for over the week-end in order to replenish our supplies, and what was more important, to assist at Mass on Sunday. Our plans were well laid but we had not considered the weather as a prime factor in the working out of our schedule. It rained every day during that first week. This did not interfere with our vacation school but it did tie up travel on the mountain roads. As a result, no one could come for us on Friday afternoon and we could not go to Grants according to schedule. That meant missing even our Sunday Mass which was a great sacrifice. Our insufficient food supply did not cause us concern for we knew that our good Lord always provides. He did in this predicament also. Every day more than enough food was brought to our table by the good people of Marquez.



Watermelon Time

In The Home Field

ANOTHER problem presented itself, however, which did cause us some concern. The people could not leave Marquez because the roads were impassable and hence they could do no shopping. That meant no white dresses and no veils for my First Communicants. Although this seemed an unimportant matter to us, our poor people felt differently about it. They are very particular about their children's attire when these little ones are to receive the Sacraments.

ON Monday of the second week the little girls came to me and said that their mothers would not permit them to make their First Communion because they were not ready. Upon inquiring what they needed one said, "I do not have a white dress," another, "I do not have shoes," another, "I do not have a veil," and so on.

TRYING to change the parent's decision was useless unless we could provide the desired garments, and so we promised white dresses and veils. Uncle Sam's mail manages to get through somehow, despite bad roads and rainy weather. This was our hope. An urgent note was sent to Grants asking Catechist to send white dresses and veils with Father when he would come up to Marquez for the First Communion ceremony the following week-end.

THE children were to receive on Saturday because the Missionary had to offer the Sunday Mass in some other, larger place. Father was due at four o'clock on Friday to hear confessions. Four o'clock came but no Father. Five o'clock and still no sign of Father. At five-thirty we sent the children home to supper, telling them to return when the bell rang. That would mean Father had arrived.

IT grew dark and, disappointed, we also went home for refreshments. While we were at table we heard a car drive up. Father at last! though we did not recognize him at first for he wore no hat, coat nor collar, and his shirt sleeves were rolled up high. His story was not an unusual one for missionaries. Father had spent two and a half hours trying to dig his car out of the mud. He had just decided that the best thing to do was to sleep all night in his car, when a man from the only farm in that vicinity came by in a truck and gave Father assistance.

EVERYTHING was ending happily after all. Father handed us a suitcase full of First Communion outfits and then asked us to ring the bell and assemble the people for Rosary and confessions. He was very tired after such a hard trip. However, he would only stop long enough to take a bite to eat. Then he hurried over to the church where the congregation was joyously assembling.

Catechist M. Lucille O'Brien

Worth Waiting For

SUMMER school for the children of St. Mary's Parish, Redlands, was over. The reward for perfect attendance was a trip to the "Plunge" and a more enticing reward could not have been promised at this time when the weather is uncomfortably hot. Our pastor made reservations for the pool from nine until eleven o'clock on the Saturday morning of the last week of summer school. Trucks were to transport the children. But this was the busy orange-picking season and no trucks were available at the scheduled time. That was tragedy to the youngsters. Father would not have them disappointed so he scouted about town and finally procured a truck which arrived at 8:45 a.m. The children cheered and eagerly piled in, but there was not enough room for all; some had to be left behind. Father left hurriedly in search of another truck while the group of disappointed boys sat dejectedly on the curbing. We suggested a visit to the church.

"WOULD that help, Catechist?" one asked dubiously while three others arose and hurried in to pray. Their prayers were very short indeed. Almost immediately they returned and searching the quiet street muttered, "Catechist, it's not coming."

"GIVE God a little time. You just asked Him," one lad remarked, not too hopefully. Just then a truck came swinging around the corner. Father was driving. He managed to get a truck although no drivers could be spared and so he himself drove the boys to the "Plunge" where the anxiety of waiting was quickly drowned in pleasant waters.

Catechist M. Dorothy Radler

Ways and Ways

WHEN we asked directions to the public school of Lourdes, N.M., we were told that it was a mile down the road but that we could not reach it by car because it was on the other side of the river. Surely, we thought, there must be some way of getting across the river. But no matter where we went the river was always between us and the school. At last we tried to find stepping stones in the narrowest part of the stream. The teacher, seeing us in such a dilemma, took off her shoes and waded across to us. Then we sat on stones beside the river and discussed the problem of religious instruction for the children of that school.

Catechist Susanna Michels.

BILLY was telling the story of Adam and Eve to the other kindergarten tots: "... Then Adam and Eve hid themselves and God called Adam and said to him, 'Adam, why did you mess everything up?'"

KNEELING beside her mother at Mass, little Mary was using neither prayer book nor rosary. The mother whispered, "Look at your book, Mary." "S-h-h, Mother, I'm praying." came the quiet answer.

THREE-year-old Ann is now an enthusiastic member of our pre-prayer class. Her one regret is that her baby brother is missing everything. "Stephen is too young," the father explained to Ann. "When he is three you may take him along." Ann stood quietly, lost in thought. "What's the matter, Ann?" asked the father. "I'm asking God to hurry up and make Stephen three."



This lovely shrine of St. Anthony near the parish church of St. Anthony in San Jacinto, California, is a favorite place for devout prayer, inviting in its artistic beauty.

Fort Wayne, Ind.

THE meeting held on Easter Monday, April 6, was a real event for St. Jude Mission Society. It marked the Tenth Anniversary of their organization, and Mrs. Mary Noll, chief promoter, wrote us the details of the celebration. The report read by Mrs. Fred Pott-hoff at the meeting shows what fruitful years they have been for the benefit of our mission work. The amount contributed during that time is \$1740.15. The following articles have been sent to Mount Carmel Mission, Indiana: 4125 pieces of clothing; 320 pairs of stockings; 59 pairs of shoes; 189 hats and caps; 18 blankets, and 40 lbs. of candy. Also a large number of rosaries, medals, other religious articles, and layettes. To each St. Jude member, our sincere grateful thanks for her share in this generous help for our people and missionaries during a decade of years.

Chicago, Ill.

EVER faithful are the members of Mary Band, who donate regularly each month toward the support of the Catechists in the mission field. Miss Helen Pidgeon is promoter, and though really a social club the members turn their evening's pleasure "into heavenly treasures" by contributing at the same time towards the mission cause.

A. C. M. BAND DONATIONS LIST
March 25 to April 29

Adrian Club, Chicago, Miss Florence Dietz	\$25.00
Annunciata Band, St. Louis, Miss Florence Dwyer	4.00
Archbishop Stritch Band, Chicago, Miss Helen Gaethke	12.00
Charitina Club I, Chicago, Miss Katherine Hennigan	12.50
Dolores Band I, Chicago, Mrs. Anna Klingel	20.00
Ellen Lemm Circle, Chicago, Mrs. Johanna Schweihs	15.00
Good Will Mission Circle, Carrollton, Ky., Mrs. Casper Hill	6.00
Holy Family Band, Chicago, Mrs. Wm. J. Murphy	7.35
Holy Ghost Band, Elkhart, Ind., Miss Mary E. Nye	30.00
Little Flower Mission Circle, Pittsburgh, Miss Catherine Lippert	4.00
Mary Band, Chicago, Miss Helen Pidgeon	3.50
Mother of Perpetual Help Band, St. Louis, Mrs. K. Krueger	5.00
Our Lady of Guadalupe Band, Dayton, Miss Rose Marie Heier	15.75
Our Lady Queen of Angels Band, Los Angeles, Mrs. C. J. Sauthier	5.00
Our Lady Queen of Poor Souls Band, Los Angeles, Mrs. Anna Meng	5.00
Our Lady of Snows Band, Elkhart, Ind., Miss Kathryn J. Hall	5.00
Our Lady of Sorrows Band, Chicago, Miss Bertha Collins	15.00
Our Lady of Victory Guild, Omaha, Mrs. E. H. Kenny	4.00
Sacred Heart Mission Society, Newark, N. Y., Mrs. Sue Albanese	10.00
Srillians Band, Cheviot, Ohio, Miss Rita Busche	3.00
St. Agnes Band, Martinsburg, W. Va., Miss Gertrude I. Atkinson	2.00
St. Bridget Band, Bellevue, Ky., Miss Grace M. Kern	1.00
St. Irene Band, Chicago, Miss May Walsh	4.00
St. Irene Auxiliary, Chicago, Miss Madeline Sebraska	3.00
St. Joseph Band, Baldwinville, N. Y., Miss Margaret Bocchino	10.92
St. Jude Mission Society, Fort Wayne, Ind., Mrs. Mary Noll	24.00
St. Jude Thaddeus Band I, Chicago, Mrs. Charles Fiala	25.00
St. Justin Martyr Band, Chicago, Mrs. Fred Kiefer	12.00
St. Katherine Band, Chicago, Mrs. Katherine Hammer	5.00
St. Mary's Sodality Band, Detroit, Mrs. Ann Schramm Pink	5.00
St. Thomas Aquinas Band, Chicago, Mrs. M. Brogi McDonald	30.00

Berwyn, Ill.

IT was a pleasure to welcome among our A. C. M. Band leaders Mrs. Dorothy Arend, newly elected promoter of Mary Queen of Peace Band. The members have been doing their part to raise funds for our missions by social meetings since their organization three years ago. However, realizing the need for clothing, layettes and other articles, they have decided to make their club a sewing group as well. We wish them every success, and assure them of our gratitude expressed in daily prayer for their intentions.

Chicago, Ill.

"OUR box was sent on its way to Azusa Mission only last week. Truthfully we can say that the articles it contained were the loveliest the members have ever made." It was Miss Marie Dwyer, promoter of St. Sabina Band, who thus praised the efforts of her co-workers. In addition to this help, donations are sent to us from time to time for St. Sabina Burse which the members are sponsoring.



Fort Wayne, Ind.

IT was with sincere regret that we learned of the death of Mrs. Catherine Dietrich, promoter of St. Catherine Band. This is one of the largest Bands in St. Mary's Mission Society, and Mrs. Theresa Ankenbruck, chief promoter, wrote that Mrs. Dietrich has been a zealous worker since their organization about ten years ago. We extend our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Clara Ryan, Mrs. Carl Burlage, and Mrs. Vandegrift, daughters of Mrs. Dietrich. Mrs. Ryan has kindly offered to take her mother's place as promoter of St. Catherine Band.

A REPORT of St. Mary Mission Society's activities during the past year was recently submitted by the treasurer, Mrs. John Rissing. Besides the financial help so kindly given us by the members of all the Bands, seven boxes of clothing were sent to the missions. St. Clara's Band again sent a large shipment of childrens' stockings, and St. Anna's Band contributed towards the Medicine Fund and other charities.

Though it is a simple matter to make a report of these activities sponsored for the benefit of our missions, who can tell the graces and blessings merited by the members during just one year's effort to make our responsibility for the people under our care an easier one.

The A.C.M. Reception

MORE than two hundred and fifty friends of the Missionary Catechists gathered in the Roosevelt Room of the Morrison Hotel on Sunday afternoon, April 19. The majority were Promoters or members of the Associate Catechists of Mary; but we were happy to welcome many new friends of our Society as well.

It was a beautiful spring day, cool and pleasant. We marveled that so many resisted the call of the great outdoors to spend an afternoon with us, getting better acquainted with the work of the home missions. The cooperation which each one gave simply by attending, to say nothing of their friendly spirit and encouraging interest, is deeply appreciated. By it the Second Annual A.C.M. Reception was crowned with success.

THE program was planned by Mrs. H. F. Staley, General Chairman, and Mrs. L. J. Owens. It opened with a beautiful Ave Maria—"for our organization is dedicated to Our Lady"—sung by Miss Isabel Ryan. She was accompanied on the piano by Miss Dorothy Eitzkorn. This was followed by two selected numbers.

The Promoters who made the Reception possible by their cooperation with the Chairman were then introduced to the guests. Mrs. M. Brogi McDonald, A.C.M. Social Chairman, was the gracious hostess for the afternoon. She likewise made all arrangements for the refreshments and decorations. Mrs. Johanna Schweihs sent out the very necessary tickets, a task generously accomplished before the Reception. The raffle which was sponsored entirely for the benefit of the mission work of our Society, was handled by Mrs. Fred Kiefer.

Further details will be given regarding this in a later issue of **THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST**.

Mrs. Alice Cleary was responsible for the lovely songs which opened and closed the program, for it was at her request that Miss Ryan and Miss Eitzkorn took part in the Reception. Miss Florence Kuenster had charge of distributing the cards which enabled the guests to enjoy a few games after the close of the program. Publicity and press notices were the responsibility of Miss Marie Knuth, who is likewise secretary of the A.C.M.

Mrs. Catherine R. Service, who truly deserves the title so graciously bestowed upon her by our Chicago Associates, was presented as the mother of the A.C.M. She received a spiritual bouquet as a token of the filial regard which all

feel toward her, a truly loyal member and organizer in the A.C.M.

HIGHLIGHT of the program was the showing of moving pictures taken at Victory-Noll and in the Texas, Nevada and New Mexico missions. Father Skupien, whose sister Catechist Gabrielle Skupien is in the Ely, Nevada Mission, very kindly offered the use of his projector. What is more, Father sacrificed an afternoon to show the pictures for us. It was preceded with a short talk by the A.C.M. Catechist Supervisor, describing the foundation of the Society and explaining the aims and methods of our home mission work.

THE Catechists wish to express their heartfelt gratitude to Miss Mary Perkins, president, and to everyone who worked so hard and willingly to prepare the Reception. It was a means of making our missions more widely known, and gave us an opportunity to become better acquainted with those who are working together with us for the glory of God and the salvation of souls.



Our Lady of Victory Band —
by Mrs. Henrietta Newton

We had the pleasure of holding a Reception for our missionary, Catechist Mary Anna Binz, on Saturday afternoon, January 24. It was held at the home of Mrs. Newton, and about twenty-five friends attended. We were so pleased to have the opportunity once again of seeing our Catechist, and hear-

Brooklyn, N. Y.

ing about her mission work. Her devotion to her calling is an inspiration to us all.

Miss Catherine Binz is promoter of Our Lady of Victory Band. Among those who attended the Reception were the following Band members: Mrs. Ballentyne, Mrs. Dee, Mrs. Delancey, Mrs. Edler, Mrs. Failey, Mrs. Foley, Mrs. Forbes, and Miss Geigle; Mrs. Hohorst, Mrs. Maddin, Mrs. McNulty, Miss O'Shea, Mrs. Pollock, Mrs. Shannon, Mrs. Stubeigh, and Miss Tierney.

To Jesus through Mary

Mary is called the Gate of Heaven because no one can enter that blessed kingdom without passing through her.

—St. Bonaventure

Take courage, you who are fearful, the powerful Virgin, who is the Mother of your Judge and your God, is also the advocate of mankind; the skillful advocate, who knows all the means of appeasing the divine anger; the universal advocate by whom no suppliant is sent away without having received some consolation or assistance.

—St. Thomas of Villanova

Mary is never weary of defending us before God.

—St. Germanus

To be the Mother of God is the greatest grace which can be conferred on a creature. It is sure that God could make a greater world, a greater heaven, but He cannot exalt a creature more than by making her His Mother.

—St. Bonaventure



This divine Mother, is the ladder of sinners by which they re-ascend to the height of divine grace.

—St. Bernard

Prayer

O Almighty and Merciful God, who for the defense of the Christian people has in a marvelous manner raised up a perpetual help in the most Blessed Virgin Mary, mercifully grant that we, being protected by her defence in the warfare of this life, may in death obtain the victory over our malignant foe. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who with Thee liveth and reigneth in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE spirit of Mary is a spirit so delicate and so profound that it can only be acquired by long-continued prayer and reflection. Were it rightly understood, it would change our earthly life into the life of heaven itself.

—Venerable J. C. Colin, Founder of the Society of Mary

There is no one who is thy equal, O Mary, for all are either above or beneath thee: God alone is above thee, and all that is not God is inferior to thee.

—St. Anselm

'Dobe Dwellers

(Continued from page 7)

Sometimes a young couple is married on the day of the Fiesta and then the celebration is grander than ever.

In the early days a New Mexico bridegroom, if he were wealthy, would make a trip to Chihuahua or to Mexico City to buy a handsome chest for his bride. This he would fill with materials,—silks, brocades, linens, laces; a Spanish comb, white satin for the wedding dress and a wedding veil. A young man of lesser means found the trousseau nearer home, but he always went the limit to make his gift to the bride as elaborate as possible.

Today the trousseau is still the gift of the groom although it is purchased at stores in the nearest town. The bridegroom accompanies his bride and her mother or sister to the general

store where he finds it much more embarrassing to pass judgment upon the ready-made garments displayed and fitted, than his brothers of old did in ordering yards and yards of this material and that.

After the wedding the bridal party walk in procession to the bride's home. Musicians accompany the party gaily "fiddling tunes" upon a fiddle and guitar. The elaborate wedding breakfast awaiting all develops into an all day feast accompanied by dancing and song.

There are no theaters or places of amusement near many of the settlements in New Mexico and so the poor natives have pleasures that are "home made" but genuine and wholesome. The grandest day of the year, the annual Fiesta, begins with Mass. The entertainments of the afternoon and evening are enjoyed by the entire family and are characterized by that innocence and abandon natural to humble, simple life.

Vacation School Triumph

by Catechist Margaret Miller

IN one of our out-missions on the Southwestern plains where we conducted a religious vacation school, we could not find a suitable place to stay so we brought the Bishop's trailer with us and parked it in the field behind the country school.

ORDINARILY we conduct our classes during the day but in this place all our people worked on ranches and were busy shearing sheep, so in order to accommodate them we had to give our instructions in the evening. During the day we visited the ranches.

THESE poor people had to make many sacrifices in order to attend our classes. Many of them came a great distance over bad roads and in broken-down cars. One and all, however, were eager to learn everything possible during our short course. This made our part unusually pleasant. One of us taught the children from six to eleven years of age, the other took all the rest, ranging in age from twelve to past fifty.

THERE was no church in this vicinity and few of those attending our vacation classes had ever had an opportunity to receive religious instructions. As a result there were several young men and women, as well as children, who had not received their first holy Communion. Half the adults had been married before a Justice of the Peace.

AFTER our instructions each evening we showed and explained a number of religious slides, using the car battery to supply the electricity for our projector. Each evening, also, we concluded with chorus practice for all. The Latin-American people love to sing and so they learned new hymns readily.

ON the evening of our final instruction an impressive ceremony took place in the country school house. Our pastor stood on the platform behind the gas heater on which was a large lantern. In front of him were four young people. One of these couples had come to have their marriage validated. The school room was crowded with children and adults. Everyone was silent and reverently intent upon the words of the ceremony and Father's clear instructions and admonitions. The beauty and significance of the Sacrament of Matrimony was being disclosed to many as they had never comprehended it before. Three weeks later, as a direct result of this cere-

mony, an elderly couple had their marriage rectified. They in turn induced two other couples to do the same.

ON the last day of our stay in this community our pastor celebrated the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on an improvised altar which the ladies covered with embroidered sheets. Behind the altar they hung another sheet to which they pinned small clusters of fresh flowers. I am sure our Dear Lord was happy to come down upon this lowly altar, arranged as it was with loving care, so that He might visit the hearts of these faithful, underprivileged people.

THIRTEEN of our pupils, ranging in age from ten to nineteen, received Our Lord for the first time. During the Mass the congregation sang with all their hearts the beautiful Spanish hymns they had learned during the religious vacation school.

IT was with genuine sadness that we bade adios to our people after Mass, but it was a consolation to know that from now on they were to have the Holy Sacrifice once a month.

SEVERAL weeks later a Protestant minister came to this mission place and invited all to attend his services. When the time came for services not one person appeared. The minister had to close up and move to another town.

May our Blessed Mother keep these good people faithful to the end.



THE present hour is all we have. Tomorrow must be today before we can use it, and day after day we squander it in the hope of a tomorrow; but tomorrow shall be stolen away too as today and yesterday.

Cardinal Manning.

Dear Loyal Helpers,

June is an exciting month. It is a family month, for during June's perfect days many big events in the history of every family take place. It is in June that each son and each daughter is graduated in turn, first from the grades, then from high school, and finally from college. Big sister selects a sunny June day for her wedding, and it is in June that big brother is ordained a priest of God. Yes, June is an exciting month for you and your family. But it is an eventful one for missionaries too.

IN many missions First Communion time comes in June. It is a happy time for Catechists as well as for boy and girl First Communicants. In June there are Religious Vacation Schools, held in distant places which could not be reached by the Catechists during the year. And, oh yes, there are weddings in the missions too. We enjoy lending a hand to make it a happy, memorable day for bride and groom. There is nothing like giving them a good start on the rough path that lies ahead!

First Colored Wedding

THE Catechists at one mission had such an opportunity not so long ago. Rosalie, pretty eldest daughter of a large Colored Catholic family, was the bride-to-be; James, a recent convert who was baptized and made his First Com-

ment, divided into rooms which serve as living room, bedrooms and kitchen, can be. It is not the healthiest home, either. One of our aged colored Catholics suffers throughout the winter with rheumatism. Once she said when Catechist visited her, "I wonder what it would be like to live in a home instead of a basement." We who have such nice dry, comfortable homes have much to thank God for, haven't we.

BUT the poor are not always able to make their dreams come true. Rosie and James knew they could not afford a home on the first or second floor—not even an apartment of a room or two. They would be content to live in the attic. But an attic home was not to be found. They waited and searched for several months throughout the district where our colored people live. All attics were already occupied. At last they had to give up trying, and rented a basement, three tiny dark rooms which they now call "home."

"Here Comes the Bride. . ."

THE day for the wedding drew near, but the bride had no white dress and veil. Nor were the prospects of obtaining one promising. Rosie confided her worry to Catechist. A prayer was said, a search was made; and not in vain. There was the lovely dress and veil that the May Queen wore each year when she placed a crown of flowers on the statue of the Blessed Virgin. Surely our heavenly Mother would not mind a bit if Rosie wore the May Queen's dress and veil on her wedding day . . .



munion only last year, was to be bridegroom in the new parish's first colored wedding. The date had been set but was postponed twice; first, because of the bride's illness, and then because they were determined to find an attic home.

ROSIE has lived in the same dark basement all her life. I have visited it often. You could never imagine how dreary and dank a base-

AND so it was that Rosie walked up the aisle of new St. Jude's Colored Church early one sunny morning, dressed all in white. One dream at least had come true. Catechist played "On This Day, O Beautiful Mother" as the wedding march. Rosie's Catholic uncle who had come up from the deep South for the wedding gave the bride away.

ROSIE and her husband are both members of the choir, and so the attendants were choir members too. The colored choir sang the High Mass and a lovely Ave Maria instead of the common "I Love You Truly." The majority of those who witnessed the wedding were non-Cath-



olics. Not even the fact that the ceremony was held in a Catholic Church could keep them from carrying out one custom of their own. A young lady dressed in blue acted as usher, meeting each guest at the door of the church. All handed her a tiny gift gaily wrapped, which she placed in a large box. Afterwards these were given to the bride; and so the first colored wedding at St. Jude's was a "shower" too.

BEFORE leaving the church, Rosie placed her bridal bouquet on the altar of the Blessed Virgin, to remain there as her gift to Mary. A wedding gift from the choir members was then presented to her. It was a miniature statue of the Immaculate Conception. Rosalie and her husband are the colored mission's ideal Catholic married couple. And the statue of our Blessed Mother looks right at home in one corner of their tiny basement home.

June, 1942

June Graduates

WE are proud to have several high school graduates among Mary's Loyal Helpers, and one graduate from college. But for most of my Helpers, June simply means the beginning of a long twelve weeks' vacation from school. For all of you there is no need even to mention that there is no such thing as a vacation from being a loyal Catholic, a true soldier of Christ. Maybe though it would be well to give you a little reminder about something else I have in mind. Can you guess what it is?

The Missions!

SUMMER time brings to the Catechists in the missions the opportunity to help many boys and girls on ranches or in distant, hidden-away places who know nothing about the Catholic Religion. To you it brings the opportunity to share this important work. Pray for its success; gather Sunshine Pennies to help us reach our goal before school time comes again. You would never guess how much your pennies can do. They might even help the Catechists go to missions that would otherwise be neglected entirely.

AMONG the children enrolled in the catechism classes, there are five who are not Catholic, all from different families. Their parents are not Catholic, nor do they have Catholic friends or relatives. They came to class of their own accord.

Planning for the Future

ONE of these children is Emma Lou, who is just twelve years old. The first time she walked into class she informed Catechist that she was not a Catholic but wishes to be one. How long would it take before she could be baptized and make her First Communion?

A FEW days later she let Catechist in on the secret of her ambitions for the future. In June she graduates from the eighth grade. She is then going to high school, and after that will go into training for a nurse. Then she is entering a convent. Emma Lou is very serious about it all, and no one smiles at her big plans. We just hope and pray that with the help of God's grace she reaches her goal. At the rate she is studying she will have memorized the whole catechism in a few weeks. Where there's a will there's a way—to help the missions too!

God bless you.

Catechist Schneider

MOST Sacred Heart of Jesus, protect our families.

Books Received

Missionary Catechists

THE Society of Missionary Catechists of Our Blessed Lady of Victory is a religious community of women devoted to active missionary works. Its purpose, after the personal sanctification of its members, is the religious instruction of public school children.

FURTHER information about the Society of Missionary Catechists may be obtained by writing to Catechist Catherine Olberding, Superior General. Address, Victory-Noll, Huntington, Indiana.

OUR Catechists in the missions welcome mission boxes. Heading the list of requests from our centers are Catholic books and pamphlets, and school supplies for religious vacation schools. Send your box to THE MISSIONARY CATECHISTS at one of the addresses listed below:

- Refuge of Sinners Mission, 512 Soldano Avenue, Azusa, California.
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission, Box 1356, Brawley, California.
- Good Shepherd Mission, Box 336, Coachella, California.
- Little Flower Mission, 1143 Fifth Street, Los Banos, California.
- Mary Star of the Sea Mission, 598 Laine Street, Monterey, California.
- Immaculate Heart of Mary Mission, 537 East G Street, Ontario, California.
- Queen of the Missions, Box 46, Redlands, California.
- St. Peter the Apostle Mission, 563 O'Farrell Street, San Pedro, California.
- Precious Blood Mission, 222 South Eighth Street, Santa Paula, California.
- St. Joseph Mission, 120 South F. Street, Tulare, California.
- Mount Carmel Mission, 3868 Block Avenue, East Chicago, Indiana.
- Sacred Heart Mission, 4860 Olcott Avenue, East Chicago, Indiana.
- Our Lady of Victory Mission, 435 Guadalupe Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- Holy Ghost Mission, 416 S. Third Street, Goshen, Indiana.
- All Saints Mission, San Pierre, Indiana.
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help Mission, 720 Court Street, Elko, Nevada.
- Our Lady of the Snows Mission, Box 172, Winnemucca, Nevada.
- Ave Maria Mission, 551 Murray Street, Ely, Nevada.
- St. Coletta's Mission, Grants, New Mexico.
- Blessed De Montfort Mission, 514 Valencia Street, Las Vegas, New Mexico.
- Our Lady of Lourdes Mission, Box 671, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Holy Family Mission, Box 1317, Lubbock, Texas.
- Queen of Angels Mission 27 West Avenue North, P. O. Box 1125, San Angelo, Texas.
- Mary Queen of Peace Mission, 524 West Fourth South, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Holy Trinity Mission, Ida, Michigan.
- Immaculate Conception Mission, 1001 East San Antonio Street, El Paso, Texas.
- Holy Rosary Mission, Box 209, Bingham Canyon, Utah.

NOVENA For PEACE AND VICTORY. the prayers for a Novena and a selection of approved prayers for peace and for people in time of war. Compiled from approved sources by N. C. Cassidy, with Foreward by a Paulist Father. Five cents single copy, \$3.75 the 100, prepaid. Order from THE PAULIST PRESS, 401 West 59th St., New York, N. Y.

ARE WE BEING DEFEATED? by Rev. Daniel Ehman, C.S.S.R. A pamphlet which describes the plan of action as carried on by the League of St. Gerard against birth control, or *anti-life*, as it is aptly branded in the pamphlet. Order from THE LEAGUE OF ST. GERARD, 131 McCaul St. Toronto, Ont. Canada. Price, five cents.

THIS IS MY BODY and NO POPE CAN BE WRONG TEACHING DOCTRINE, two pamphlets by Rev. Martin J. Scott, S.J. Order from THE AMERICA PRESS, 70 East 45th St. Ten cents single copy, fifty for \$3.00, 100 for \$6.00.

"I PRAY THE MASS." SUNDAY MISSAL, Hoever Edition. 448 Pages. Catholic Book Publishing Co., New York.

This is the handiest, most practical, most up-to-date Sunday Missal that we have ever handled. The reasons for our preference are that the type is really legible and will not hurt one's eyes; that the Revised English Edition of the New Testament has been used throughout; also, that the book, prepared by a professor of Notre Dame University, has the approbation of Bishop Noll of Fort Wayne, who is our foremost expert in religious literature. Other advantages and improvements are these: the Hoever Missal contains fourteen Prefaces, much different from any other missal; each Mass begins with a "Thought for Today" taken from the Mass, which may help the people to a good Sunday meditation or the priest to a good sermon; a "Thought for the Week" follows almost all Masses; the "Treasury of Prayers" contains religious instructions on devotions dear to all Catholics, and the devotions themselves. Last, not least, there is a liturgical calendar good for the next ten years which is a marvel of practicalness and accuracy.

Popular priced, \$1.10 postpaid. Gold edges, imitation leather binding. Can be purchased from your Church Goods Dealer or Catholic Book Publishing Co.

by Father J. M. Lelen, Ph.D.

The Promises of Our Lord

To Saint Margaret Mary
For Souls Devoted to His Sacred Heart

1. I will give them all the graces necessary in their state of life.
2. I will establish peace in their homes.
3. I will comfort them in all their afflictions.
4. I will be their secure refuge during life, and above all in death.
5. I will bestow a large blessing upon all their undertakings.
6. Sinners shall find in My Heart the source and an infinite ocean of mercy.
7. Tepid souls shall grow fervent.
8. Fervent souls shall quickly mount to high perfection.
9. I will bless every place where a picture of My Heart shall be set up and honored.
10. I will give to priests the gift of touching the most hardened hearts.
11. Those who shall promote this devotion shall have their names written in My Heart, never to be blotted out.
12. I promise in the excessive mercy of My Heart that My all-powerful love will grant to all those who communicate on the First Friday in nine consecutive months the grace of final penitence; they shall not die in My disgrace nor without receiving their Sacraments; My Divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in this last moment.

Just this once ---

Will you do it?

Our activities in the home mission field continue to increase and expand.

We need a proportionate increase in the circulation of THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST.

You have been faithful about renewing your own subscriptions and so we really hesitate to ask more. But we have no paid agents.

We must depend upon YOU for new friends and subscribers.

Will you send us one new subscriber this month?

—Just this once!

If you do—if all our subscribers do—we won't need to ask again in a long time.

The intentions of our friends and benefactors are being remembered by the Catechists in the special prayers and devotions in honor of the Sacred Heart conducted at Victory-Noll during the month of June.



Victory-Noll
Huntington, Indiana

Dear Catechists:

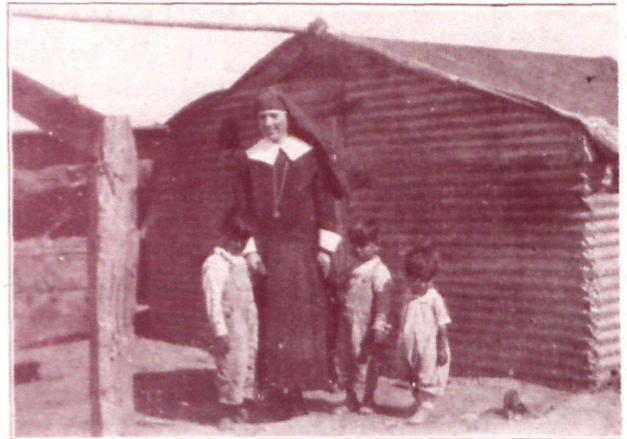
I wish to do my part; here is one new subscriber:

Name

Address

My name is

Address



Your subscription helps the Catechists bring Christ to spiritually needy little ones in our own country.