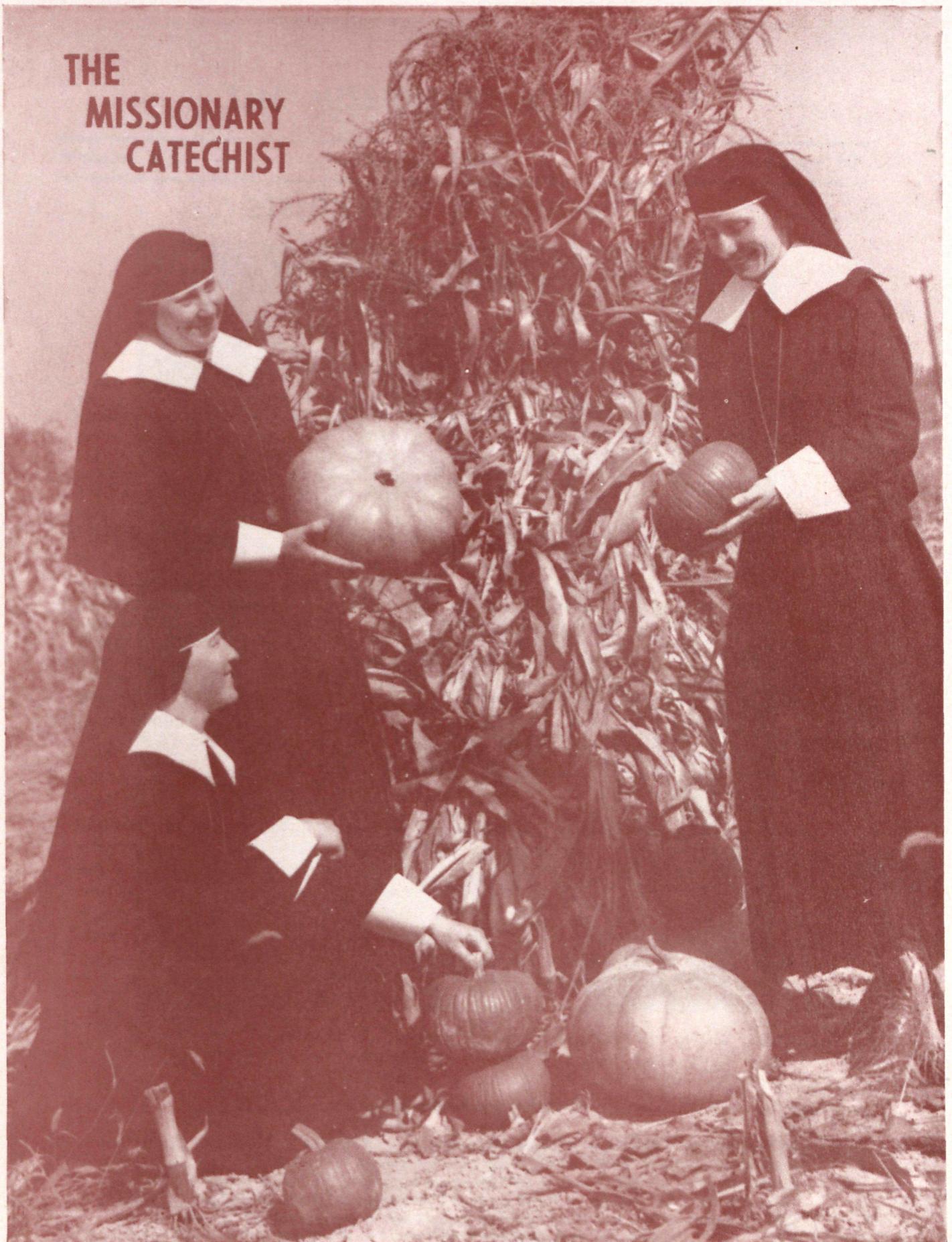


**THE  
MISSIONARY  
CATECHIST**



# Missionary Catechists at Greeley, Colorado

*by the Most Reverend Urban J. Vehr, D.D.*

**G**REELEY, Colorado is a picturesque town of 16,000 population in mid-northern Colorado, the seat of the Teacher's College of Colorado University, and center of an extensive farming area. It had long been felt that the large Spanish-American population, working in seasonal labor in the district and many of whom reside permanently there, could be best cared for, spiritually, by a church of their own with social and recreational facilities that would tend to raise their lot. As elsewhere in the West and Southwest, the condition of the Spanish-American worker is not an enviable one. Entire families work in the beet fields at subnormal wage. Poverty and prejudice influence their fate.

**A**BOUT four years ago a sizable plot of ground, nicely situated near the homes of the Spanish-American colony, was purchased as the site for a new church and complete parish plant when conditions permit. A small brick house, of about fifty year vintage, serves as the present residence of the pastor until something better can be provided. Father Dominic Morera, of the Society of the Holy Family, is in charge of the parish and missions.

**P**LANS for a lovely Romanesque church were drawn, and bids were about to be

accepted for the construction, when the war came. Since then, because of the difficulty of securing the necessary priorities, it has been deemed advisable to postpone the building of the church for the duration. The new parish has been called "Our Lady of Peace." Under the present circumstances the Spanish-American people worship at the Church of St. Peter in Greeley.

**W**HEN it was assured that the Missionary Catechists could spare some of their number to labor in the Greeley area, a small home was purchased for them directly across the street from the church site. Some missionary lay societies in Denver, notably the Archbishop's Guild, have taken special interest in furnishing the house for the coming of the Catechists.

**T**HIS new mission venture begins with a handicap of not having a church or a social hall of its own. Several hundred Spanish families live and work within a radius of many miles. There are a few small chapels within the area, but the people are very widely scattered. There is real enthusiasm on the part of the people for the Catechists and we anticipate splendid results in this new mission field.



# THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST

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*The Most Reverend Urban Vehr, D.D.  
Archbishop of Denver*

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Our Blessed Lady of Victory Press, Victory-Noll, Huntington, Indiana

# Exterior Practices of True Devotion

By the Rev. Thomas J. Kelley, S.M.M.

THE spirit of True Devotion to Mary as taught by Blessed Grignon de Montfort consists in living from day to day the solemn consecration which one makes to Jesus through her; in other words, doing all our actions by, with, in, and for Mary.

BUT being faithful to this spirit does not imply that we should abandon all exterior practices of devotion to Mary, on the contrary the interior spirit supposes them and even depends on them for its normal growth. Blessed de Montfort makes this point very clear in his little treatise; "We must not fail to unite to the inward practice *certain* external observances." Notice he does not say all or any external observances but *certain* ones; those highly recommended by the Church, such as the Hail Mary and the Rosary.

THERE are three reasons why these exterior practices are indispensable to the interior spirit. First of all "the outward practices, well performed, aid the inward ones." How is this brought about? Take the recitation of the rosary for example. How can we say the five joyful mysteries without at the same time increasing our inward love for Mary? Reflecting on the sorrowful mysteries we will be determined to suffer in union with her and for her. The glorious mysteries will animate us with greater perseverance in her service.

SECONDLY, exterior practices of devotion to Mary "remind man, who is always guided by his senses, of what he has done or ought to do." Since we are not pure spirits like the angels but human beings, composed of body and soul, all our knowledge must come to us through our bodily senses. And if there were no such thing as the practice of exterior devotions perceived by our senses we would never know whether Mary was loved by mankind or not. Happily, however, certain exterior devotions to Mary do remind us of the fact that she is well loved by certain nations and individuals. Shrines and pilgrimages tell us of a nation's love for her. The familiar rosary beads tell us of the individual's love. And, contrariwise, if these familiar signs are lacking, we know that there must be little or no interior spirit. "The mouth speaketh from the abundance of the heart."

FINALLY, external practices of devotion are "suitable for edifying our neighbor who sees them." How can one, then, condemn or set aside exterior practices under the false pretext that they lead to vainglory or pride. Our Lord Himself has said "Let your good works shine before men that they may glorify your heavenly Father." St. Gregory commenting on these words of Sacred Scripture reassures timid souls, saying that we perform our good works before others not to please men and get praise—that would be vanity; but we do them with the idea of glorifying God and edifying our neighbor. Many a soldier, for example, has been inspired with knowledge and love for our Lady through the good example of his buddies. How edifying it is to see the rosary recited every evening by the whole family in many of our good Catholic homes!

NEVER, then, should faithful slaves of Jesus and Mary imagine that because the interior practice of True Devotion is the essential and most important, they should therefore leave aside the approved exterior practices. The relationship between the interior and exterior practices is so close and so important that Blessed de Montfort says of them both, appropriating the words of Sacred Scripture "We must do the one, yet not leave the other undone."



## Familiar Refrains

"ANN, how can you be so utterly selfish after all your mother has done for you?" This particular tune came from a doting aunt who was really fond of me but loved my mother—her only sister—still more. "Why on earth don't you enter the Sisters of Charity right here in New York so that your mother could visit you often?" "I thought you were very fond of the Sisters of Providence. You could not see enough of them when you were in high school!" "Why don't you take advantage of the scholarship you received? A college education will always make you a better teacher and your mother will have you for a few years more." "Why do you have to go running across the country? Can't you settle down in one of the religious orders right here in New York?"

MOTHER was giving a farewell party for me and these were some of the more prominent tunes that were whirling around my head. Yes, around, for they had no power to penetrate.

EVER since I had been a little girl I had had dreams of being a cloistered nun. Yes, I dearly loved the Sisters of Charity to whom I had gone to grammar school; also the Sisters of Providence who had taught me during my cherished high school days. However, I discovered that God's ways are certainly not always our ways; and, disregarding my dreams and the ambitions of my friends for me, He was desirous that I follow a different pathway. Within the week I was leaving for Huntington, Indiana, to become a postulant in the Society of Missionary Catechists at Victory-Noll.

LOOKING back now I smile when I think of how worried some well meaning friends were. The two objects of all this consideration, Mother and myself, were perfectly happy. Although I was an only girl, Mother still had Dad and Junior, and I knew that in calling me from them He would well compensate for the sacrifice.

HAD the party been one to announce my engagement to an ordinary mortal, the tunes would have gone something like this: "Ann, why delay your marriage? Think how happy your mother will be to see you settled." "Even though there are many nice boys from around here, Bill is a fine boy and after all, Massachusetts isn't so far from here to live." Why go through college, Ann? It isn't every girl has the marvelous opportunity of marrying into such a wonderful family as Bill's."



Postulant days are happy days.

YES, I miss Mother, Dad and Junior—miss them very much and they miss me. I wouldn't be true if I pretended that when one leaves cherished ones to become a religious, God gives a special grace to forget the million and one little things to reminisce over on the long winding pathway of memory's lane.

THE very first visiting day after my arrival at Victory Noll found my family trio ringing the convent bell nervously, anxious to discover for themselves if my letters of enthusiastic ravings about Victory-Noll were a genuine portrayal of the happiness found in the life I had chosen. It did not take many hours for them to establish in their minds as a certainty that I was very happy. Partings have to come, and although the four of our faces resembled miniature niagara falls (Junior's was caused by a sudden case of hay fever!) it was difficult to know if I was the happiest or if they were the happiest rejoicing in my holy vocation.

JUST two more months now (but it seems like at least two years) and I will be received as a novice and wear the habit of a Catechist and oh, just thinking of the moment when the white

(Continued on page 15)

# Mary Star of the Sea Mission

by Catechist M. Hazel Sullivan

THIS FALL, Mary, Star of the Sea Mission will celebrate its tenth anniversary. It was in September, 1934, that four Missionary Catechists made this foundation at Carmel, California. Catechetical centers were established in the Carmel Parish for the children of the following schools: Sunset, Tularcitas, Bay and Carmel Valley.

FEBRUARY, 1935, marked the beginning of classes in St. Angela's parish, Pacific Grove. Classes in New Monterey were conducted in the old fire hall. The first year's work was completed with religious vacation school in Pacific Grove.

FOR TWO years, as the Catechists waited for the children at the school in New Monterey, they were observed by the late Mrs. George, a wealthy non-Catholic. In 1937 she donated her beautiful, spacious home at 598 Laine Street, New Monterey, to the Bishop of the Monterey diocese for a convent for the Catechists. This enabled them to accommodate more Catechists, thereby extending their catechetical fields to Oak Grove, Del Monte, Seaside, Marina, and Coral de Tierra, all in San Carlos Parish, Monterey.

THE following year four out-missions were opened in the Castroville Parish, and in 1943

two more were added for the Monterey Parish.

MANY amusing events occurred while opening these centers and it is interesting to recall some of the first classes, especially those in Seaside. The classroom was an old goat shed with wide cracks in the wall which served to let in the sunlight. This was a source of temptation to the older boys, who to provoke the Catechist, inserted a knife through the crack, cutting her chart in two.

HAVING accomplished this feat, they then proceeded to throw in heads of lettuce from the field nearby. Still receiving no reprimand, they darted through one window and out the next one.

DISCOVERING that nothing serious happened, they came back in and sat down in class. The class was about to recite the Rosary. As the beads for general use were passed each boy took a pair, then some proceeded to twine the rosaries around their toes, or to hang them from their ears.

THE LAST misdemeanor caused Catechist to give an inspiring lesson on the Rosary for the benefit of the culprits. This made a deep impression on the boys and formed the basis

(Continued on page 7)



Catechist visits a clam digger's home

# After Vacation

By Catechist M. Joan Ginsterblum

"CATECHIST! When did you get back? Did you have a good time?"

IT WAS the first Sunday in September and the girls had not seen us since our return to San Pedro. As I came down the church steps after Mass several of them were waiting for me. I glanced quickly over the little group. Bonnie and Frances were a little taller; Mary Lou and Gloria were a wee bit heavier. Their girlish enthusiasm and winning smiles had not changed.

"WHAT about your vacation girls? Have you had a nice summer? Were you good girls?" I asked, after the first happy greetings were over.

THE GIRLS had been faithful in coming to class for several years, so they knew where my first and greatest interest lay. They knew I would listen attentively to their chatter of happy days at the beach and park. But they knew that before everything else I would want to know if they had been faithful in attending Sunday Mass and receiving Holy Communion.

"WE WENT to Mass every Sunday, Catechist," the girls chorused.

"I WENT to Holy Communion last Sunday." This from Bonnie.

MARY LOU and Gloria chimed in with "We did, too, Catechist."

FRANCES said nothing, and as she looked a bit wistful, I said: "What about you Frances? You didn't let your soul starve all summer did you?"

SHE LOWERED her head and her eyes followed the circles which her right toe was tracing in the grass. "Catechist," she answered slowly, "you know every time I go to confession I go home and do the same things again. So I'm trying real hard to see if I can be good before I go to confession any more."

"YES, CATECHIST, that's true, I have the same trouble," agreed Mary Lou.

"GIRLS," I explained, "if you were very thin and no matter how many vitamins you ate you didn't gain weight, would you be sensible in not eating anything to see if that would help?"



Arriving hand in hand, ready with tablet and pencil for class to begin

THEY laughed. "No, Catechist, we would die."

"BUT ISN'T it the same with your soul?" I continued. "Just because you think you aren't getting better when you go to confession and Holy Communion, you say: 'I'm not going any more until I stop committing sins.'"

FRANCES smiled sweetly and voiced her resolution in courageous words: "I'm going to confession and Holy Communion next week, Catechist, and you're going to see me there every Sunday."

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## MARY STAR OF THE SEA MISSION

(Continued from page 6)

for a lasting friendship between them and their teacher.

A SHORT time ago two Catechists were stopped by a young man who said, "Good morning, Catechists. I used to go to classes in Seaside and I'll never forget how mean we were to Catechist and she never even got mad." After asking all about his former teacher he said, "When you see her tell her I am married in the Church, and go to Mass every Sunday."

TIME has wrought quite a change in Seaside. The patience and efforts of the Catechists have been blessed. Now the children are attentive and well behaved, and the Catechists who teach there are frequently heard extolling the excellent deportment of their charges.

# Visiting Confraternity Teachers

By Catechist A. Kozla

**O**UR DESTINATION was Questa, a little town high in the Sangre de Cristo mountains, about a hundred miles north of Santa Fe. We planned to make a number of stops at Confraternity units along the way, so we left early that bright October morning. It was a crisp autumn day. New Mexico, always beautiful, is especially so during the fall, and we were to drive through some of its most delightful scenery.

**O**UR FIRST stop was at the public school at Alcade. The teachers, members of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, conduct catechism classes for the children after school hours. We talked with them a few minutes, left some literature and other supplies, and continued on our way.

**S**HORT STOPS were made farther up the highway at Velarde, Embudo, Rinconada, and Pilar. At all of these places we visited with the confraternity teachers, and gave them what material we could for their work.

**A**BOUT noon we came to the beautiful canyon cut from the earth by the rushing waters of the Rio Grande river. Here we stopped and ate our lunch, while enjoying the breath-taking beauty of the canyon.

**I**N THE early afternoon we arrived at Taos, where there is still a vestige of the frontier. Indians wrapped in their colorful blankets from head to foot, give a western atmosphere of mystery and adventure to the town. These Indians come from the San Juan de Taos pueblo, two miles from the town of Taos.

The Sangre de Cristo mountains had been in view ever since we left Santa Fe. At Arroyo Hondo we began the steady ascent. Pine and spruce trees became more abundant. Finally we arrived at Questa, the scenic little village which was to be our center for the next month.

**W**E ARRANGED classes for the confraternity teachers at Questa, Cerro, La Lama, and Molly Mine. We also took over the religious instruction of the children for the month, at the request of the Pastor and the teachers.

**L**A LAMA is situated in the midst of the highest peaks. The road to the church and school was impassable at most seasons of the year. We parked our car some distance from the school, put on our galoshes and climbed. The snow was knee deep at the side of the road, but the road was muddy. I lost my balance in the deep snow, falling partly on the snow and partly in the muddy road. Needless to say, I was not very presentable when we reached the school after that long and laborious climb.



Rocky Mountains. In many places railroads and highways are cut through solid rock.



In the remote mountain districts of Northern New Mexico the Confraternity teachers help solve the problem of religious instruction.

**M**OLLY MINE, the most beautiful spot in the state of New Mexico, is in the heart of the Red River canyon. There is a two-room school there with about thirty children. Quite a few of the older children had not made their First Communion. Some of them did not know what, if any, religion they practiced. One girl, thirteen years old, had never been inside a Catholic church, though her parents are supposed-to-be Catholics, and the church is but a few steps from the school.

**W**E BEGAN a house-to-house visit at Molly Mine. The log cabins of the miners nestled comfortably at the foot of the mountain peaks, or were built right into the side of them. We talked with the mothers and persuaded them to send their children for instructions. We also took the census of Questa.

**B**EFORE leaving for our home at Santa Fe we had the happiness of preparing sixty children for First Communion in these little villages located far up in that mountain range which has been named in honor of the Blood of Christ.



#### MISSION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22ND

**I**N THE problem of post war planning the question of mission aid is one that brooks no denial. It is a need which must be met, not alone in the future, but in the immediate present as well. For this reason we wish to announce to our readers the importance of Mission Sunday observance held on October 22nd at the request of His Holiness, Pope Pius XII, under the auspices of The Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

The men and women in our armed forces have viewed first hand the glorious achievements of our missionaries at home and in the foreign field. Now we realize, as perhaps never before, the need for spiritual as well as monetary aid if our bishops, priests, brothers and sisters are to continue their gallant role of "Soldiers of Christ." They must be sustained by our prayers

for the conversion of souls, the strengthening of the missionaries, themselves, and the fostering of vocations for this apostolate among the youth of America. Finally they must be aided by help which will make it possible to rebuild the thousands of stations which have been destroyed during these long years of devastating warfare. Therefore on Mission Sunday, October 22nd, we ask our faithful people in prayer and alms giving to answer this universal call to help the missions of the Catholic Church at home, in the Far East and in the Near East.

For further details contact the Diocesan Director of The Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

#### THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION FAITH

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Thomas J. McDonnell  
National Director  
109 E. 38th St., New York

## In The Home Field



NO, HE isn't the proud uncle; he is the big brother and a very devoted one, too. Seferino loves his little twin brothers and takes care of them a great deal. It's an amusing sight to see him pushing the double buggy down the dirt road. The contrast in size between him and the twins causes many a smile.

THE FIRST time Seferino brought the babies to Mass, all the children gathered around them and exclaimed over the "hombrecitos" (little men). They were dressed alike with overalls and white shirts.

Catechist M. V. Hiryak

### MUST BABIES WAIT FOR FURLOUGHS?

IT IS not uncommon to see babies toddling into Church these days, walking to the Baptismal font instead of being carried. With them come the proud parents and the god-parents, one of whom is a soldier, a sailor or a marine. Although the children might not be of an age to talk, one cannot help but think that if they could express themselves they would ask, "Must babies wait for furloughs in order to become God's children?"

Catechist Marie Murphy

ONE DAY after class was dismissed a group of children came up and asked: "Catechist, is there a church called Holy Rollers?" "Yes," I replied, "there is such a sect." As I continued packing my brief case, I heard the girls in lively discussion. Suddenly one of them left the group, came over and inquired seriously: "Catechist, I am a Catholic, aren't I?" "Why, of course, you are," I answered, "you belong to the Eastern Rite." Heaving a big sigh of relief, she said: "Oh, they told me I was a Holy Roller."

Catechist Saltus

QUESTION: Where is God?

FIVE year Old: Well—He's in you and He's in me, and everybody that's good. Then He's in Heaven, in the Church, and in every place.

MARY and her little three year old friend, Helen Ann, spent most of their time trailering Catechist while she was making an outdoor shrine for a small statue of our Blessed Mother. After the shrine was finished they returned often to pray to their little Mary, as they called her.

FREQUENTLY they rang the door bell and asked if they could pray to Jesus in our chapel. Quietly they would tiptoe to the foot of the altar.

ANSWERING the door bell one evening the Catechist was greeted with, "We brought these flowers for Jesus, Catechist, can we come in to pray?" Since it was getting dark Catechist told them they had better come back in the morning. Looking up questioningly at Catechist, little Helen Ann asked, "Is Little Jesus asleep?"

NO WONDER that both little ones have succeeded, after two years of regular visits to "Baby Jesus" and "Little Mary," to induce their mothers to accompany them to Mass on Sundays. Mary has her Daddy's promise that he will receive Holy Communion with her when she makes her First Communion.

Catechist Julia Manternach

THE sale of "Timeless Topix," the Catholic substitute for the comic strip, was one of the projects of our Junior sodality. In order to enkindle enthusiasm, we offered several small prizes to the boys and girls selling the most copies.

THE first prize was a small statue of the Child Jesus. When this prize was displayed at one of the meetings, one little girl said: "Catechist, I'm going to win that statue. My Mom would just love to have it."

"FINE, Louise," I answered, "but there is a small crack in the statue."

"MAKES no difference, Catechist," was the quick rejoinder, "I want it anyway. Mom's going to like it."

ABOUT half an hour after the meeting, Louise returned with two little friends. "Catechist, here are Helen and Richard. They're not Catholics, but they are going to help me win that statue."

HELEN and Richard were the best little sales people we have seen this year. Indeed, one might almost say they used "high pressure" salesmanship, as the following incident would indicate. A man told them to move out of his way. He didn't want their paper and he wouldn't read it if he had it.

RICHARD was not to be daunted. He said: "Look, Mister, you see this little girl? Well, she wants to win a statue by selling the most copies of this paper, and we're out to help her win it . . . so how about you helping us?"

THE man's attitude changed. "So she wants to get a statue, eh? O.K. here is my nickel. Now let's make this official and shake hands on it."

RICHARD told us this story, ending it with: "Yeah, he shook hands with the girls all right, but he sure squeezed mine too hard. Look, it is still limp."

YES, Louise, with the aid of her supersalesmen won the statue for her Mom.

Catechist Margaret Urhausen

SONNY received a whole dollar on his fifth birthday. To the surprise of his parents, he announced, "I'm going to give it to Jesus!" The Mother was over-joyed. "Fine, Sonny," she said, "We'll get dressed and go to Father Paschal right now so you can give your present to him yourself." But Sonny didn't agree. "Oh, no, Mommie. I want the angels to bring Jesus right down here, and I'll give it to Jesus in His own little Hand."

FATHER handed out gifts and candy to the children and then spoke beautifully about the goodness of God and how grateful we should all be for His benefits. One boy raised his hand and, when called upon to speak, said earnestly, "But YOU have been good to us too, Father!"

Catechist Susanna Michels

Are you moving?  
Please notify us. Send us your old and your new address. Thank you.



Sucking oranges



# Associate Catechists

*We agree with Mrs. Fiala when she states that it is a privilege to work with such a grand group as the A.C.M. members. Under the patronage of St. Jude, Mrs. Fiala with the generous and loyal assistance of her members, has accomplished much for the honor and glory of God.*

Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Catechist,

Yesterday we had our big party and it certainly was a success. We had 38 ladies. A nice luncheon was served, for which we charged 50c. \$20.75 was cleared on the luncheon. We made \$56.45 on the centerpiece which was raffled, and the additional \$12.80 is the balance we had in the treasury. We are all so proud and happy for this wonderful success. We also have four complete layettes for the Catechists' Mission here. It does give one such a good feeling to accomplish so much. Our Lady, Queen of Angels, certainly has never failed us in our efforts. All our success is due to her kind intercession.

Mrs. Margaret Sauthier (Promoter)

*The true spirit of Devotion to Mary united with active missionary work is displayed by the Promoter and members of Our Lady Queen of Angels Band. We join with Mrs. Sauthier in thanking Our Blessed Mother for her gracious assistance in all their undertakings.*

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Catechist,

I want you to know again how much I enjoyed visiting with you Saturday. I consider it a privilege to be one of such a lovely association of ladies (the Associate Catechists of Mary.)

We want to be of help and are sending \$20.00 from St. Jude's Band. With so many women working, it should swell the funds. I started a penny a day with my Band, and figure on a nice amount by Christmas.

Praying hard for the continued success of the Bands, and for better love and understanding of God's love for all.

Mrs. C. J. Fiala, (Promoter)

St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Catechist,

The enclosed letter will explain what the money is for. The girls from the Legion of Mary group to which Edna (Catechist Butler) belonged, brought me \$2.75 and our family added \$1.25.

I do not know if it is customary to have the Catechist select the Band's name, but it seems the girls think she would like it to be named "Child Jesus Band." Will you please advise if there is anything further I should know in regard to this?

Mrs. J. Butler

*We take this opportunity to welcome the "Child Jesus Band," and to congratulate all those responsible for its organization. Miss Adelaide Fitzpatrick has been chosen Promoter. Several contributions have been received since the above letter was written, and all indications point to a long active life for this Band.*

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Catechist,

I am enclosing herewith \$100.00, the proceeds of our card party. The net proceeds were \$92.50, however, we have added the difference to bring it up to an even \$100.00.

The attendance at our party was not as large as usual, but as we charged a little more for our tickets, the net results were satisfactory.

Veronica Foertsch (Promoter)

*This splendid contribution came to us from the Little Flower Mission Circle, and is another proof of the generous and loyal support of all our Associates, in spite of present-day difficulties. Their zealous activities have extended over a period of many years.*

# of Mary

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Catechists,

Here is a money order for \$50.00, just a small gift, with our best wishes, to be used by you in whatever manner you wish.

Marie Cummings (Promoter)

*The sum of \$50.00 is by no means a small gift, but rather is a big help in these trying days. Such a contribution means a great deal, and we are grateful to the members of the Juanita Club for their generosity.*

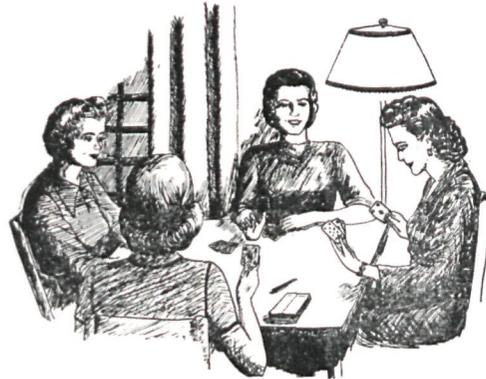
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Catechist,

The Charitina Club, of which Miss Katherine Hennigan is Promoter, held their last meeting at my home. I am enclosing herewith a money order for six dollars to be applied to Catechist Durkin's burse.

Miss Helen Ford

*With unfailing regularity we receive similar contributions from the Charitina Club I. We*



*are indeed grateful for such faithful friends whose continued assistance can be counted upon.*

Marshfield, Wis.

Dear Catechist,

I am sorry to be so late in sending you the money we have collected in our little Band. We have been having some very nice meetings. Have sold chances on articles donated by some of the members at the meetings, so have collected \$28.29 which we are sending you herewith.

We always pray for you, especially at our meetings. With sincere good wishes to all.

Mrs. J. J. Huebl (Promoter)

*The combination of material and spiritual aid which our Bands are contributing to our work is a source of joy to us. We have much to be thankful for in having Associates who, while giving generously of temporal means, do not fail to assure us of their spiritual help at the same time.*

## A. C. M. BAND DONATIONS July 1 to August 7

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Archbishop Stritch Band, Chicago, Miss Helen Gaethke              | \$ 5.00 |
| Charitina Club I, Chicago, Miss Katherine Hennigan                | 6.00    |
| Child Jesus Band, St. Louis, Mo., Miss A. Fitzpatrick             | 7.00    |
| Dolores Band II, Chicago, Mrs. A. Bechtold                        | 6.00    |
| Ellen Lemm Band, Chicago, Mrs. J. Schweis                         | 15.00   |
| Florentine Mission Society, St. Louis, Mo., Mrs. K. Krueger       | 13.50   |
| Holy Family Band, Chicago, Mrs. Wm. Murphy                        | 22.00   |
| Immaculate Conception Band, Chicago, Miss M. A. Perkins           | 16.00   |
| Imm. Conception Band, Detroit, Mich., Miss Lillian Dunn           | 15.00   |
| Les Petites Fleurs Band, Chicago, Miss Elsie Jachmann             | 10.00   |
| Mission Club, Chicago, Mrs. Anna Diebert, Mrs. Hattie Ferris      | 13.00   |
| Our Lady of Guadalupe Band, Dayton, O., Mrs. E. C. Bollinger      | 3.25    |
| Our Lady Queen of Angels Band, Los Angeles, Mrs. M. Sauthier      | 5.00    |
| Our Lady Queen of Poor Souls Band, Los Angeles, Mrs. A. Meng      | 5.00    |
| Poor Souls Band, Berwyn, Ill.                                     | 8.50    |
| St. Ann Band, Ft. Wayne, Ind., Miss Ann Brink                     | 4.25    |
| St. Bridget Band, Bellevue, Ky., Miss Grace Kern                  | 4.50    |
| St. Helen Band, Dayton, O., Miss Margaret Karas                   | 6.75    |
| St. Irene Band, Chicago, Miss May Walsh                           | 5.50    |
| St. Jude Thaddeus Band, Chicago, Mrs. C. J. Fiala                 | 10.00   |
| St. Justin Martyr Band, Chicago, Mrs. F. Kiefer                   | 29.50   |
| St. Justin Martyr Men's Auxiliary, Chicago                        | 13.00   |
| St. Katherine Band, Chicago, Mrs. K. Hammer                       | 10.00   |
| St. Mary Philomena Band, Stevens Pt., Wis., Mrs. P. Levenduske    | 6.75    |
| St. Mary Sodality, Detroit, Mich., Mrs. P. Pink                   | 25.00   |
| St. Mel Band, Chicago, Mrs. James Egan                            | 46.50   |
| St. Philomena Band, Chicago, Miss Mary Schaefer                   | 42.00   |
| St. Raymond Nonatus Band, Chicago, Mrs. K. Quinlan                | 3.50    |
| Strillians of Our Lady of Sorrows, Cheviot, O., Miss M. Gadzinski | 2.00    |



Cleta Schneider, Y.3C, former Promoter of St. Elizabeth's Band, Dearborn, Mich., who is now stationed at the Naval Air Station, Cape May, N. J.

# Militant Children

By Catechist M. Regina Foppe

AMONG the children who attended our religious vacation school in a small country parish was little eight-year-old Norma.

NORMA had come to class faithfully the preceding summer and this year was enrolled in the First Communion class. She came from a home broken by divorce. Her mother had gone through a civil ceremony in an attempt at marriage with the man Norma now called "Daddy."

DURING the first week of the vacation school Norma informed us, in all simplicity, that her mother told her she should not believe all that was taught her during summer school. "Mommie said: 'Most of it is superstition.' What is *superstition*, Catechist?"

OUR explanation must have satisfied her, for she attended classes regularly and studied diligently. After the first week, in addition to the morning classes for all the children, we had special classes in the afternoon for the First Communicants.

A FEW moments before the first afternoon class, Norma asked, timidly: "Catechist, how long will class be this afternoon? Mother wants to know."

DIDN'T you give Mother the note I gave you with the time of the afternoon classes?"

"YES," she replied, "but Mother still wants to know."

I WENT out to the car where Norma's mother was waiting a reply. She was very gracious and said Norma might stay if she wished.

WHEN I returned to the class and told Norma her mother had given her permission to stay for the afternoon class, tears came to her eyes, as she said: "Now, I won't get to ride that horse!"

"WHAT horse?" I questioned.

"MY COUSIN has a horse rented from three to five, but Mommie said if I stayed for class, I would miss all the fun of riding."

BY THIS time tears were falling in abundance.

"NORMA," I asked, "do you think a horseback ride is of more importance than getting your heart ready for little Jesus?"

"No, Catechist."

"MAKE this sacrifice for Jesus, now, Norma, and on your First Communion day He will give you a special reward. But it will not please Jesus if you sit and cry about it, and fail to learn the lesson you should today."

SHE made an effort to control the tears, and to put her heart and soul into the afternoon's lesson. But now and then her thoughts flew to that horseback ride.

HER mother, a nominal Catholic, realizing what a strong source of temptation horses were to the child, had taken this means to try to dissuade her from attending religious instruction. Norma's newly acquired father, who had no religion at all, helped in the conspiracy.

THE next morning the child seemed to have something on her mind.

"IS ANYTHING wrong, Norma?" I asked.

"CATECHIST, last night Mother and Daddy promised to buy me a horse of my own, if I would never mention about going to Mass on Sundays after my first Holy Communion!"

AFTER a moment's silence, I said: "What are you going to do about it?"

"I TOLD them I didn't want a horse, and that I am going to Mass every Sunday and holy day of obligation. But when I said that, it made Mother very angry and she said: 'I'm going to lock you up on Sundays unless you quit believing these superstitions.' Will Jesus be hurt if she locks me up and I can't get to Mass?"

I ASSURED her that Jesus would love her all the more because she was trying so hard to please Him.

EVERYTHING went along nicely until the day before her First Communion. The moment I saw her I knew something else had happened, and said: "What is the matter, Norma? Can I help you?"

SHE burst into tears. "Catechist, do you think I can receive Jesus tomorrow? Mommie says I must quit all this stuff after my First Communion. She's going to force me."



Catechism class or horseback riding? A big temptation for a little girl.

"DO YOU want to receive Jesus, Norma?"

"YES, Catechist, more than anything in the world."

"THEN don't worry. Jesus wants to come into your heart, too. He will make you strong. Do all you can to please Him."

"BUT IF Mother locks me up?" she continued.

"YOU cannot hurt Jesus unless you do it on purpose. If Mother keeps you locked up so you cannot get to Mass, Jesus will be with you to comfort you and to help you suffer for Him."

NORMA was silent a moment, but I knew she had something more to say. Soon she went on: "Catechist, yesterday (Friday) Mother took me to a steak dinner at the home of one of her friends. Everybody ate meat, Mommie too. I passed up both the meat and the gravy. Mother scolded me in front of all the guests and tried to force me to eat it by putting it on my plate. But I didn't eat it. Catechist, do you think if I asked Jesus on my First Communion morning to make my mother a good Catholic, He would do so?"

WHAT could I tell her? Only that Jesus would hear all her prayers and that in His own way and in His own time He would answer them. I assured her He would be especially attentive to her on her First Communion morning and that she should remember her mother then and every time she received Holy Com-

munion.

JESUS must have listened to her even before He came into her heart, for her mother was present in church on First Communion day. Even this was a little miracle. And who knows but that in His great love for little ones, our Divine Saviour will accept Norma's sacrifices and sufferings, and work that still greater miracle—her mother's conversion.

I SHALL never forget Norma as she returned from the altar, Jesus in her heart, her face radiant. My thoughts turned to the many children in our country, victims of broken homes, who must struggle along the road of modern martyrdom as Norma had done. My prayer was that they might be strong and valiant as she had been.

#### FAMILIAR REFRAINS

(Continued from page 5)

veil will be placed on my head makes my heart do double duty.

HAD I refused the grace when God first offered it, and heeded those well meaning relatives who advised me to delay a few years, what assurance would I have that the discarded gift would again be proffered to me?

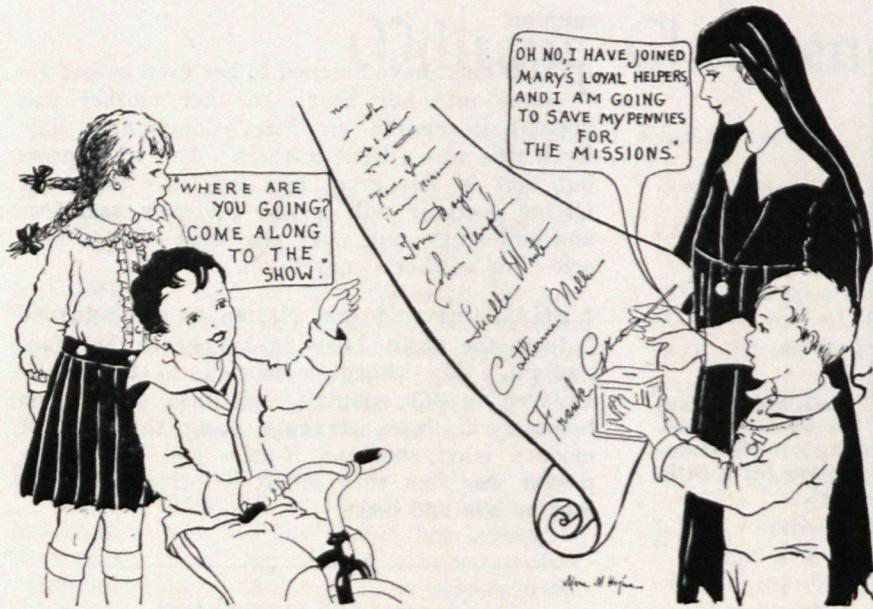
I OFTEN used to ponder and wonder just what was signified by the words of my Spouse to be: "And every one that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for My Name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold." I no longer wonder, I know. There is the hundredfold even in this world.

WE ARE taught that three sacraments put an indelible mark on the soul. I think there is a fourth way of receiving a similar mark: that is the religious life, and the mark is a three lettered word: Pax. Yes, a peace that disturbances of all kinds can flutter around but not penetrate. The hundred-fold reward on earth is the peace of soul with which nothing can compare.

I SHALL, after a little more time wings its way into eternity, be espoused to the King of Kings. He has given me His own royal Mother for my constant companion.

AT VICTORY NOLL we often sing a hymn beginning: "We have a holy Mother, unseen, but yet SO near." I have found these words to be a charming reality.

*Just a Postulant*



# Mary's

THE Catholic Church is constantly trying to encourage good reading on the part of her members, both old and young.

Many people claim that you cannot interest boys and girls in good reading, that all they want is "funnies" and "supermen" stories. This is not always true as we have found out by experience.

The following incident occurred in one of our missions not long ago, which proves that a child really wants something worthwhile if it is within his reach.

A little boy, who boasted of Arabian and Mexican parentage, came to our door. We had started a children's library and Raymond had come for a book. After looking at all the books he finally exclaimed "Catechist, I want that big book." I looked, and saw that he was pointing to a book entitled "The Life of Christ"—a very old volume and extremely large.

"Are you sure you want that one?" I asked rather dubiously. "Yep, that's the one I want," replied Raymond.

Some weeks later he returned carrying the book.

"Well, Raymond, did you go all through the book?" I smilingly asked.

"Yep, and I read every page too," he replied. Had Raymond been very observant, he might have noticed my "doubting Thomas" expression as I asked the question, "Oh, you did? Did you like it?" He paused a moment, then said thoughtfully, "Yes, Catechist, and gee, Jesus was good to people when He was here on earth, wasn't He? Curing people, giving them things to eat and everything. Those stories are the best I ever read, Catechist."

This little incident shows that all boys and girls will read and enjoy the right kind of books if given a chance to do so.

THE following letters are evidence that our Loyal Helpers did not take a vacation from their missionary activities during the summer months.

During this month of October, which is dedicated to Our Blessed Mother and the Holy Rosary, we beg her, and ask all our Loyal Helpers to join with us in praying that many new members may come to the front and join the ranks of Mary's Loyal Helpers.

\* \* \* \* \*

Dear Catechist,

Enclosed find \$5.00 which I have saved. This is my second contribution and I hope to continue to help you in your noble work.

I graduated from St. Margaret's school the 15th of June and I was especially blessed by receiving the Valedictorian speech.

I hope to enter Quigley Preparatory Seminary in September.

Will you please include me in your prayers.

Edward Corcoran (Chicago, Ill.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Dear Catechist,

I received the sunshine letter. I sure appreciated it.

As for myself I don't make anything because I am only eleven years old. But I would like it very much if you would send the Sunshine Bag,

# Loyal Helpers

---

and I will put my offering in it.

I am in the 6th grade. I used to go to public school about a half mile from my home. But now that my brother goes to High School, my sister, brother and myself go to St. Anthony's school. I like it a lot better.

I have three brothers in service, and the fourth one is going pretty soon. There are six boys and six girls in our family.

Thank you for having me as your "Sunshine" friend.

Anna Mae Pritzel (Park Falls, Wis.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Dear Catechist,

I am enclosing \$5.00 to help your work. Of this amount \$2.00 is from Miles' Sunshine Bag and the rest is made as a thanksgiving offering in honor of St. Anthony.

This time Miles wanted to wait until he had \$2.00 before sending it to you. I believe you will be interested in a little incident which I want to relate to you. He was playing on the sidewalk with his wagon when a lady came along carrying a large sack of groceries. She asked him if he would haul them home for her, which of course he was glad to do. For this she gave him a penny, the first money he ever earned. He ran home all excited and breathless and said, "Mama, a penny for my Sunshine Bag!"

Mrs. F. McShirley (Detroit, Mich)

\* \* \* \* \*

Dear Catechist,

I received your pamphlets and Sunshine Bag. I should like to know if I am supposed to put a penny in every day that the sun shines, or put the pennies in whenever I have them.

I am honoring the Blessed Mother this month and am honoring all the other saints in their own months.

Erma Yester (McKeesport, Pa.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Dear Catechist,

Please send me a sunshine bag. I am nine years old. I am in the third grade and I go

to Sacred Heart school.

Theresa Mary Stadler (Topeka, Kans.)

\* \* \* \* \*

I received your most welcome letter with the information about your Society. Thank you very much.

Enclosed is a request for a Sunshine Bag. I'll save my pennies so as to help others less fortunate than me.

Thanking you again for your kindness in sending me the information and also The Missionary Catechist, I remain,

Susan Mikula (Elwell, Mich).



Lily Mae waiting expectantly for "her" Catechist to come and start religion class.

DEAR Catechist Olberding:

Thank you for your kind letter. I have studied the pamphlets carefully, as well as the copies of "The Missionary Catechist" for which I am very grateful. The more I learn of the life and work of the Catechists, the more interested I become.

It is indeed true that the fact that you practice the "True Devotion" means a great deal to me as a Legionary of Mary; so much, in fact, that I had previously resolved never to take any step which would necessitate my abandoning it. But I had not hoped to find a Society which practices it as a body, and I was overjoyed to note your mention of it.

Sincerely, M.M.



#### PRAYER TO CHRIST THE KING

○ CHRIST JESUS, I salute Thee as universal King. All that has been made has been created for Thee. Exercise on me all Thy rights.

I renew my baptismal promises in renouncing Satan, his works and pomps, and I promise to live as a good Christian. And I pledge myself especially to render triumphant, inasmuch as I am able, the rights of God and of Thy Church.

Divine Heart of Jesus, I offer Thee my humble actions to obtain the recognition of Thy sacred Royalty by all hearts, so that the reign of Thy peace may be established throughout the universe. Amen.

(A plenary indulgence once a day under usual conditions)

## Devotion to the Rosary

*The following paragraphs are taken from the first Encyclical Letter of Pope Leo XIII on the devotion of the Rosary. So aptly do they fit present day needs, they might well have been written in our own day. The Encyclical, however, is dated September, 1893, more than sixty years ago.*

"Venerable Brethren, the more you have at heart the honor of Mary and the welfare of human society, so much the more apply yourselves to nourish the devotion of the people towards the Holy Virgin, and to increase their confidence in her. We believe it to be in the designs of Providence that, in these times of trial for the Church, the ancient devotion to the august Virgin should live and flourish.

"May the Christian people, excited by Our exhortations and inflamed by your appeals, now seek the protection of Mary, with an ardor growing greater day by day. Let them betake themselves more and more to the protection of Mary, and trust in her. Let them cling more and more to the practice of the Rosary, to which our ancestors had recourse as an ever-ready refuge in misfortune, and as a glorious pledge and proof of Christian faith and devotion.

"The heavenly Patroness of the human race will receive with joy these prayers and supplications, and will easily obtain that the good grow in goodness, and that the erring repent and be brought back to salvation; that God, Who is the avenger of crime, shall deliver Christendom and civil society from their present dangers, and restore to them that peace which is so much desired."

#### IN MEMORIAM

Rev. Felician Wachendorfer, San Antonio, Texas.  
Father Lucey, Chicago  
Mrs. Blaufuss, Westphalia, Kansas.  
Joseph Hauser, Burlington, Iowa.  
Miss M. Bernardy, Marinette, Wis.  
Miss Eleanor Doyle, Buffalo, N. Y.  
Mrs. Nell Mathieu, A.C.M., Chicago.  
Anna Meyer, Clinton, Iowa.  
John J. Johannes, Indianapolis, Ind.  
Miss Prindiville, Chicago  
John W. Cremerius, Chicago  
Robert Murphy, Chicago

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.  
—Amen.

# Say It -- Pray It

By Phil Guidt

WHILE leafing through a certain periodical I came upon a striking illustration. It was a drawing of innumerable hands about which were entwined rosary beads of various sizes.

THE writing under the picture admonished Catholics to "SAY the rosary daily."

THIS drawing was impressive, but it seemed to me, as I studied it, that "SAY the rosary," is far too common among us Catholics, whereas, "PRAY the rosary" is scarcely understood.

THIS year's First Communicant will tell you, correctly, that prayer is "talking with God." Now, conversation implies at least that degree of attention of mind and custody of heart which assures one's observing the ordinary laws of etiquette for intercourse with another.

THESE common rules of politeness are often shamelessly disregarded in our relations with God and His Holy Mother. Praying, particularly praying the rosary, in too many cases has become a mere mumbling of words, or a gymnastics that aims solely at excelling in speed of articulation, be that articulation ever so poor!

TRUE, spiritual writers tell us that the essential element in prayer is the intention to pray, and to pray well. Nevertheless, in such an all-important matter, quality is an excellent substitute for quantity. One decade of the rosary said reverently and meditatively is of far more value

than fifteen decades chattered off in a thoughtless manner.

FOR praying the rosary should become a following in the footsteps of Jesus and Mary—a following which will continue after we have slipped the beads back into our pockets and resumed our daily routine of duties.

THE rosary is a combination of mental and vocal prayer. While saying the words One is to meditate upon the mysteries "according to one's capacity." A very limited *capacity* is not a good excuse for making the rosary exclusively a prayer of the lips. Most of us will be surprised at the size and elasticity of our "capacity for mental prayer" if we apply ourselves to that exercise earnestly and perseveringly.

BESIDES, God withholds from no one the gift of prayer. It is ours if we will! but make the effort to take it from His generous Hand.

THE arms of Our Blessed Mother are loaded with choicest graces which she will freely bestow for the sincere asking.

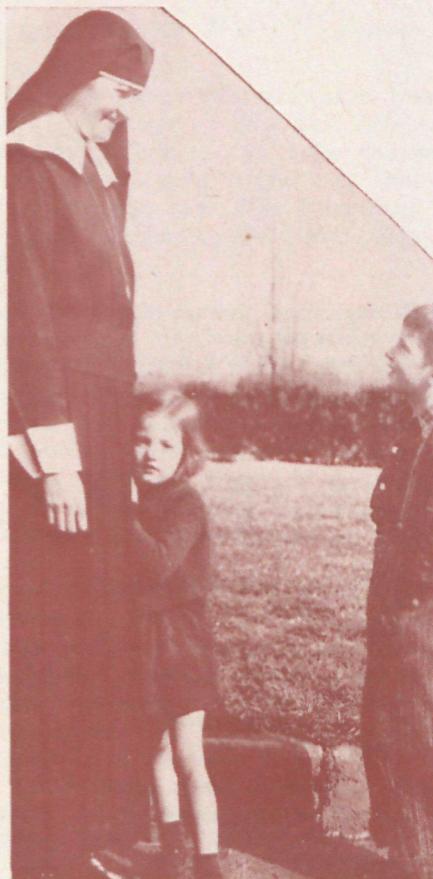
TOO frequently, alas, if Mary were not in truth a mother, our manner of asking would draw down a punishment rather than a blessing.

FORTUNATELY for us, her maternal goodness overlooks much, but her loving heart must often be sorely grieved, and she might well make her own the touching complaint once uttered by her Lord and God: "These people honor me with their lips but their hearts are far from me."

# 200

## MISSIONARY CATECHISTS

under the patronage of Our Blessed Lady of Victory, are now laboring in the mission fields of our country.



**YOU** can find no better way to honor *Mary, Queen of the Holy Rosary*, than by helping these Catechists save the immortal souls for whom her Divine Son suffered and died.

**MAKE** your love and generosity extend throughout the year by joining our **2500 CLUB**.

---

The 2500 CLUB is an association of persons who contribute \$1.00 a month or \$12.00 a year toward the support of the Missionary Catechists who work in mission districts of the United States.



### Membership Application

Victory-Noll  
Huntington, Indiana

Date .....

Dear Catechists:

Please enroll me in the 2500 CLUB. I am enclosing \$..... dues for ..... months.

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... Zone number

State .....