

The

# MISSIONARY CATECHIST



*Most Reverend Robert E. Lucey, D. D. Archbishop of San Antonio*

Volume XX

November, 1944

Number 11

# A Birthday Visit

by L. A. Nugent, C.S.S.R.

**M**OTHER, I'm your Mary Ellen  
Come to kiss your tears away!  
Shouldn't we be happy, Mother?  
Jesus took me home this day.

**O**H, I've always loved you, Mother!  
You've been good to me and sweet.  
But an earthly home is passing,—  
Here is where we all shall meet.

**I**T WAS nice of God to give me  
This new home all made of sky!  
Now I play with lovely angels,—  
On the moon we "rock-a-bye."

**O**FTENTIMES I gather flowers  
In the fields of starry blue,  
Give them to our Mother Mary,  
Ask her to be good to you.

**A**LWAYS does she smile upon me;  
She's so beautiful and mild.  
Mother, I'm your Mary Ellen,  
But I'm also Mary's child.

**D**O NOT think of me, dear Mother,  
Just as if I'm far away.  
When you talk to me, I listen;  
I can hear your voice today.

**B**UT I'm waiting for you, Mother,  
And for Daddy and the boys;  
Our new home is ready for us;  
It is filled with dolls and toys.

**W**OULD you want your Mary Ellen  
To return again to earth?  
I would hate to leave this heaven!  
What is death but only birth?

**S**INCE the day the angels took me  
In their arms and brought me here,  
I've been happy! oh, so happy!  
Why, oh, Mother, why the tear?

**A**RE you lonesome for me, Mother?  
That is why I'm here today.  
Jesus let your Mary Ellen  
Come to kiss your tears away.

# The Missionary Catechist

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**A**N IMPORTANT phase of the work of a Missionary Catechist is the study club for mothers. For who has more influence on the home, and ultimately on society in general, than the mother?

**T**HE ABOVE picture shows the study club at St. Margaret Mary's parish, Brawley, California, which it was my pleasure to conduct during the past year. The class was organized by the Catechists several years ago and the interest of the women has increased from year to year.

**T**HIS YEAR 52 women were enrolled in the class, which met every Monday afternoon at 1:30. This gave the mothers ample time to

prepare the noon lunch for the children and see that they left for school before coming to class. The babies and pre-school children always accompany the mothers.

**D**URING the past term we studied the ten commandments, and included special instructions for mothers on child care. As a project, the ladies made layettes for the new babies of the class members, and also for poor babies in the parish.

**A**T CHRISTMAS and at the end of the term, the women presented us with a lovely Spiritual Bouquet, token of their appreciation.

Catechist Brohman

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# Victory-Noll Catechists Assigned to San Antonio

*Most Reverend Robert E. Lucey, D. D. Archbishop of San Antonio*

DRIVING southwest about five minutes from the business section of the city, one finds himself in the midst of San Antonio's most thickly populated Latin-American district—the parish of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Although only about one mile square, it contains a population of approximately 17,000 souls, with over 4,000 children of school age.

IT IS a district of contrasts. Churches and schools are interspersed with moving picture theatres, dance halls, pool rooms and beer parlors. Modern customs are blended with those inherited from Mexico, even though many of the residents are native Texans. The colorful religious pageants, "Las Posadas" before Christmas, and "Las Pastorelas" (similar to the miracle plays of old) are traditional in the parish.

THE housing conditions also offer a contrast. Within a block or two of the parish Church, row after row of old dilapidated shacks suddenly give place to block after block of concrete dwellings, one of the new Government housing projects known as the Alazan-Apache Courts. These extend for many blocks across the western end of the parish, and house 5,000 people. The pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Rev. Carmen Tranchese, S.J., was instrumental in paving the way for this project in order to improve the living conditions of his people. However, there are still large sections of the parish where the housing conditions offer a real problem.

ON MOST of the streets and alleys, many houses and shacks are built on each lot, with serious overcrowding. In peace times, the poverty has been acute. Even this past year, a priest making a sick call one cold winter night had to ask the other members of the family living in the same room to go outside while he heard the dying man's confession.

THE public school enrollments in this district will give some idea of how thickly populated the parish is. In one elementary school, two blocks south of the Church, there are 1441 children; at the combined Senior and Junior high school, a few blocks north, there are 1725 stu-

dents; on or near the north, south and west borders of the parish are four other schools with enrollments ranging from 759 to 1231 children, a large number of whom live within the parish boundaries.

THE various Protestant sects have dotted over this district with their missions. Efforts to proselytize are widespread. There are nearly a dozen Protestant churches, including three Baptist, two Methodist, two Churches of Christ and one Christian Church. Even the Jehovah's Witnesses and the Mormons have been active in this section. One Presbyterian Community Center is drawing the young people through its recreational program.

THE Jesuit Fathers at Our Lady of Guadalupe are bending every effort to care for the souls in the parish. In addition to the religious instruction for the children, they conduct an evening club for the boys and young men of the parish, with 120 members, and there is also a boys' band which plays for parish festivals and makes a tour of the parish each Sunday morning to waken the children for Mass.

THE Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word have been giving valuable help. They teach the parochial school children, and in addition, six Sisters from Incarnate Word College and Convent come to the parish twice a week to conduct catechism classes. They are assisted by College and High School students who are Junior members of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.

I HAVE assigned to the Victory-Noll Catechists a large section of the parish which will be under exclusive care of the Catechists. They will find in this section more than 6,000 souls, the majority of whom are in great need of spiritual ministrations. Father Tranchese is just completing a very comfortable Convent for the Catechists located in this particular part of the parish, and a hall will be added, so that the Catechists will be free to conduct a broad program of religious and social activities. The need for this is very great. The faith of thousands of children is in jeopardy. Home visiting

is a dire necessity in order to arouse indifferent parents who themselves have never had sufficient religious instruction. Young boys and girls must be given not only religious training, but also opportunities for wholesome recreation.

**WE ARE** indeed happy and grateful that the Missionary Catechists have come to this missionary field, where the harvest is great but where the laborers are all too few.

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## Christ's Little Ones

by Catechist M. Murphy

**NEVADA** could not be called a Catholic state. Its population is small and scattered, yet in every town and settlement there are churches of various denominations. It is less than fourteen years since Nevada was made a diocese and a Shepherd came to care for these scattered sheep. With distances so great and Priests so few, one wonders how the people kept the faith at all.

**WE MIGHT** be tempted to discouragement at the sight of so many fallen away Catholics, so many unbaptized children, invalid marriages, and the many Catholics who are Catholic in name only. But this possible discouragement is offset by the encouragement we receive in our work



Tiny members of the Mystical Body—the future hope of the Church in Nevada.

with the children. Especially has our work with the preschool children been a source of inspiration to us. We realize that on these tiny members of the Mystical Body depends the future of the Church in Nevada.

**IN THESE** preschool classes we enroll children three, four and five years of age. Too small for religion classes? Perhaps, but listening to their conversation we do not think so. They speak of matinees, of last night's show, of superman, of what they are going to do when they are in high school. They take music and dancing lessons. They broadcast love songs over the radio. They look forward to school with longing plans to be the majorette in the band. These little ones are far advanced in the things of the world, but they can grasp their religion just as well. Moreover, they carry the lesson home to mother and daddy, who very often have had little religious instruction.

**AS WE** take them home in the station wagon, we hear them repeating to each other the things they are going to relate at home. "God sees us and watches over us" says Barbara over and over again. "Angels are spirits without bodies" Jerry repeats. "Jesus was a little boy like me" says Dickie, still a bit awe-struck at the thought.

**AFTER** a lesson on the Guardian Angel, little Anne made this aspiration as we drove toward her home: "We are going over a bump now, Angel, take care of us."

**WE ARE** happy to bring a knowledge of their faith to these little minds before they become wholly absorbed in the things of the world. The children will be prepared to receive their God in Holy Communion at an early age, and strengthened by this life-giving Sacrament will be better able to withstand the assaults of the evil one. May our Divine Saviour keep these little ones close to His Sacred Heart in life and in death.

Catechist M. Murphy

**TRUE** to his mother's fears, little Tommy was putting on a show during Mass. All her efforts to make him behave were fruitless. The situation became critical when Father began to preach. Each time Tommy started to talk his mother refused to listen, and said firmly, "It is wrong to talk in Church." The fourth time, Tommy laughed aloud and pointing triumphantly to Father, said in his clear baby voice, "No, it isn't, because that man up there is talking."

Catechist M. Ruth Lindenschmitt

# City of Many Churches

by Catechist Elizabeth Clifford

AS early as 1897 Redlands was calling itself the City of Churches. And well it might, for it then had eleven houses of worship—one for each year since its incorporation. Today it boasts thirty-three. That, for a population of 17,000, is quite a record. At one intersection there is a church on each corner; beautiful buildings, all of them. How well these churches are attended we cannot tell you. About the two Catholic churches, and their beginnings, we have gathered a bit of information.

IT WAS the intrepid Franciscan Fathers who brought Christianity to this eastern part of the San Bernardino Valley, as they did elsewhere in California. Early in the nineteenth century the priests from Mission San Gabriel visited the territory and ministered to the few scattered Mexican families living there. In 1830 an *Asistencia*, a branch Mission of San Gabriel, was built. This was short-lived, for the Act of Secularization went into effect in 1834. During the four years of its existence, however, much good was accomplished. The padres taught the Indians the truths of our holy religion. They also taught them how to get water for the arid soil, how to plant and harvest their crops and how to raise cattle.

LIKE the other California Missions the San Bernardino *Asistencia* would have been self supporting, but for the ruthless laws that were enacted when Mexico assumed power in California, dispersed the Indians, and took the lands that had been developed and cultivated under the guidance of the Franciscan Fathers.

THE priests continued to come here, however, to minister to the converted Indians and the scattered ranchers. Holy Mass was offered in the various ranch houses until about seventy years ago when the Mexicans built a little adobe church in the San Timeteo canyon. At that time the City of San Bernardino had a resident pastor. He celebrated Mass for the little community at Redlands twice a month.

IT WAS in 1880 that two Easterners, Frank E. Brown and E. G. Judson, saw the tremendous possibilities of the East San Bernardino Valley, and demonstrated that water could be secured for it, contrary to an already well established opinion that it was impossible. The Redlands Water Company was organized in 1881 and from that time the growth of the town was phenomenal.

A NUMBER of Catholics were among those attracted to the new and promising settlement. Soon the number became sufficient to warrant their having a resident pastor, and Reverend Thomas J. Fitzgerald was appointed to this district by the Most Reverend Francis Mora, D.D., fourth Bishop of Los Angeles.

THE little canyon church soon became too small. Besides it was necessary to have Mass closer to town where most of the people now lived. Only a few ranchers remained in the canyon. On April 1, 1894, the first Mass was offered in what is now the City of Redlands by Father Fitzgerald. For a year and a half the Catholics assisted at Mass in a makeshift chapel in



Sacred Heart Church

a business block on the corner of Orange Street and Colton Avenue. Meanwhile, they were at work under Father Fitzgerald's leadership, building their own Church of the Sacred Heart in the residential section. It was blessed on January 5, 1896.

FATHER FITZGERALD served as Pastor for many years. In 1921 the historians wrote of him: "The Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart has been wonderfully fortunate in having Father T. J. Fitzgerald as its head for a period covering many years, almost during the life-time of the city. He has been faithfully interested in the life of the community and has been a power

for good."

INCIDENTALLY, citizens of Redlands used to point to Father Fitzgerald as an example of the therapeutic powers of their mild climate. It is said that he arrived in California on a stretcher, a victim of tuberculosis! He died in Los Angeles on January 15, 1930.

THE present Pastor of Sacred Heart Church is the Reverend Peter A. Connolly. The grade school is conducted by the Sisters of St. Dominic from Springfield, Illinois. Today Father Connolly's congregation is sprinkled with Uncle Sam's Bluejackets and Marines who are studying at the University of Redlands.

AS THE citrus industry developed, more and more Mexicans came to Redlands to work in the groves and in the packing houses. Every Sunday a priest from Sacred Heart Parish offered Mass for them in a school building in that part of the town where most of them lived. That was the arrangement when the Catechists arrived in Redlands to work among them in 1932. Several years later a resident pastor was appointed, but the school building continued to serve as parish Church.

IN 1939 the Reverend James Gray came to Redlands as Pastor of St. Mary's parish. He saw



Mrs. Romero in front of St. Mary's Church



Queen of the Missions Convent

the great need for a church and determined to build one. With the permission and encouragement of His Excellency, the Most Reverend Charles F. Buddy, Bishop of San Diego, he carried out his plans for the erection of the new church. The Catholic Church Extension Society was generous with its assistance, and today St. Mary's is one of the most beautiful churches in the Diocese of San Diego.

IN AUGUST, 1943, Bishop Buddy gave public recognition to Father Gray's accomplishments by appointing him Pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Brawley, and making him Dean of the Imperial Valley district. But Father's work was done, and in two months his untimely death occurred. He was only thirty-four years old.

UNDER the leadership of the Reverend Michael O'Day, Father Gray's zealous successor, the people of St. Mary's are paying off the debt on their church.

MANY years have passed since the Mexicans assisted at Mass in the adobe Church in San Timeteo Canyon. Mrs. Romero can tell you about those early days. Eighty-two years of

(Continued on page 14)



# G.I. Joe's Letter to Mary

by Lt. John J. Frawley, Chaplain,  
A.U.S.

Dear Mary:

Mother, may I, one of your sons, talk with you about myself? You ought to understand men better than anyone in the world. You understood Jesus, and He was the finest of all young men and our eldest brother. A young man learns his goodness from his mother. If that's the case, I ought to be fine, for I have two perfect mothers to watch over and inspire me. There is my own mother, and you know all she means to me. (I don't seem to be able to tell her, so won't you please be good to her, just because I find it hard to talk?) And there is you, my heavenly Mother. I'd like a lot to live up to what my mother expects of her son, but that will take a lot of strength, and you will have to get it for me.

It takes courage to be good nowadays. Sin is easy and comfortable and it often seems to pay. Your Son got His first lesson in courage when He saw you smiling gallantly one wintry night in spite of poverty and cold and the fact that people had refused you a house and given you a stable. No wonder He was gaily brave when later hunger and loneliness gnawed, and was smiling in the face of blustering men and roaring tempests, and gallant under the weight of a cross. May I have a little of His courage, Mother, I need it so.

Purity is something you understand as no one else does. We young men learned to love it first in the eyes of our own mothers, and then in yours when we were lifted up to kiss the Madonna. Purity and motherhood are so closely linked that we can't be unclean without implicit contempt for motherhood and scorn for our own mothers and you. And, of course, I couldn't feel that way toward my mother or you.

Women, I've been taught, are your daughters. Sometimes it is easy to remember that. Sometimes it is mighty hard. But you've got to help me always to remember. When the girl is sweet and fine, I want to leave her just that way. When she isn't, perhaps my respect for her will make her feel a little different. In any case, good or bad, they are your daughters, and I'll try to see your features in theirs.

They tell me you made a great act of faith when you held your child in your arms and believed He was the God of heaven and earth. You were His mother and yet you believed He was your God. I like to feel that faith wasn't just a simple, easy thing for you. It isn't for me. It is often a struggle to say "I believe." You know a young man's doubt and unbelief. But you can help me. What, as a child, I heard my mother say, I believed. What, as a man, I hear you say, I'll believe, too. And if, to the shivering Infant you bore, you made a prayer "My Lord and my God," I can make it too.

You know I need guidance and help in these first years of manhood's struggle. More than that, I need a leader whom I can trust and follow with inspired loyalty. And Mother, the one I need is your eldest Son and my brother, Jesus Christ. You gave Him to the world. Give Him to me for my Companion, Friend and Leader. Or, more correctly, give me to Him and ask Him to be good enough to take me into the select group of His friends and close followers. Whatever my life, I want to walk through it at the side of your Son.

Mother, men outgrow many things, but they never outgrow their mothers. Mothers are al-

**Our Lady of Victory,  
bless and protect the mem-  
bers of our armed forces  
at home and in foreign  
lands.**



ways there, as close to the mature man as they are to the little boy. And so I want you always to be very close to me. If I'm a success, I'll need my Mother to take the conceit out of me and yet leave me my confidence in my powers. If I'm a failure, I'll need to come back and bury my head in my Mother's lap. And at the end of my life I want my Mother at my side to keep me from being frightened at the gathering shadows, just as my other mother sat beside me when I, as a little boy afraid of the dark, went to sleep.

In life or death I am your son,  
G. I. Joe



We give Thee thanks, Almighty God, for these and all Thy benefits.

**D**URING the past year thousands of our young men have made the supreme sacrifice on the battlefields of the world. In the vigor of youth, far from their native land, they have died that we might continue our American way of life.

**A**RE we mindful of these young men as we enter the month of November which Holy Mother Church has set aside for devotion to the Holy Souls? Many of these boys may now be depending on our prayers and sacrifices, and especially on the fruits of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, for their speedy entrance into heaven.

**A**RE we grateful? Do we really appreciate the sacrifice they have made for us? "Greater love than this no one has, that one lay down his life for his friends." (John XV-13.) Are we making a return of that love and devotion?

**T**HERE is no better way of proving our gratitude to these men in the armed forces who have given their lives for us, than to have the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass offered for them as frequently as possible. We should also give them a memento in the Masses at which we assist, remember them in our prayers, our sacrifices, and in trials and sufferings of daily life. Thus only can we hope to give them some return of love for love.

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

## Coin of Happiness

by Catechist Dorothy Oehler

Thanksgiving and almsgiving are twins. When I see the one I think I am seeing the other.

In every alms giving I see the overflow of gratitude for the abundance of God's gifts even though the thought is not expressed at the time of the almsgiving. Each thank offering has the character of an alms, for it is given to the less fortunate in gratitude for one or other benefit received.

In fact, it could be said that thanksgiving and almsgiving are the two sides of the same coin. This coin buys happiness here, when cashed in the Natural Bank, and insures an eternal recompense when paid into the Supernatural Bank of the Love of God.

Thanksgiving day was not inaugurated to be merely a day of feasting. Our Pilgrim Fathers understood well the two sides of the Coin of Happiness. They made a banquet, indeed, and shared their abundance with the poor, the unfortunate, and the uncivilized Indian. Their thanks-(alms)-giving established peace and contentment which radiated far and wide, even down the years. May God preserve our modern mind, lest we pervert their trend of thought and make Thanksgiving Day a day of selfish feasting. Let us follow instead the poet who writes:

Says Grandfather Gay:  
"On Thanksgiving Day,  
If you want to be happy,  
Give something away."

IN OUR house to house visiting we found many families who had come to Nevada from New Mexico to work in the copper mines. Many of these families knew the Catechists in New Mexico and were happy to meet Catechists so far from "home."

YES, they all agreed, Nevada was very different from New Mexico. I was amazed, though I should not have been, at how homesick adults could get for their home state. If that was the case with grown up people, how did children feel? I was soon to find out.

MARIANO, nine, and his brother Alphonso, seven, came to catechism classes as soon as they arrived in Ely. They had been in the Catechists' classes in New Mexico. Both boys were naturally quiet and shy, and new acquaintances and surroundings made them doubly so. Neither boy ever spoke unless spoken to, but they knew the Catechists were their friends.

ONE day Mariano and Alphonso were not in class. The children informed us that the father had gone to work in a neighboring town and the family had moved there. As it happened, we also taught class in that town, and it was not long until we found the mother of the children and told her where we were having classes.

CLASS time came and we were watching for the children. Suddenly I saw Mariano and Alphonso emerge from behind a shed. As soon as they saw us, they came running, smiling broadly. I was amazed to hear Mariano say: "Catechist, I am so happy to see you." That was all, but the look in his brown eyes told us much more. It told of loneliness for his native New Mexico; it told of happiness at seeing someone he knew.

TO MARIANO we were old friends, not because he knew us personally, but because he had known Catechists when in his beloved New Mexico. It made us realize that to the children we are not so much individuals, as we are representatives of the Church, teachers who bring to the little ones the knowledge and love of God. For such is our vocation.

Catechist M. G. Skupien

ONE day, while taking census, we met a young mother who told us that although they were not Catholics her husband had been baptized in the Catholic Church. He had not had any subsequent religious instruction. She invited us in and asked many questions about our Faith.

## In The Home Field



He'ping Catechist

A WEEK or so later, her little eight-year-old daughter came running up to us in the market and asked if she might come to our classes. We told her that since she was not Catholic she would have to have the written consent of her parents before we could enroll her in our classes.

NEXT day, armed with the written permission of Mother and Daddy, Rose Anne and her little sister, Marjorie, came to class. From then on they were among our most faithful pupils. Four months later, Rose Anne, Marjorie and their little brother, Dickie, were baptized. Marjorie was enrolled in the First Communion class.

SHORTLY before First Communion day, the mother came to us and said: "The girls keep after me to go to Church with them. But I don't like to go because I don't know what it is all about. What would I have to do to become a Catholic?"

WE TOLD her she would have to take a course of instructions and that we would be very happy to introduce her to our pastor.

THE instructions were begun immediately, and not only the mother but the father attended them. Not long after the mother was baptized. She and the father made their First Holy Communion together, with Rose Anne kneeling between them at the Communion Rail.

L YING in his bed in the old peoples' ward of the County Hospital, an aged man, paralyzed from the hips down, recounted to us his many blessings.

"Here at the hospital," he said, "we have always many reasons for giving thanks. We have plenty to eat, a nice bed in which to sleep. The doctors and nurses are very good to us. When it is hot we have a fan; when it is cold we have heat. We haven't any money, but we don't have to pay for anything. We have everything we need. Even when we die we are given a decent burial, and it doesn't cost us anything. Should we celebrate Thanksgiving only once a year? No, each day we must give thanks to the good God for all He does for us. Yes, here we have always Thanksgiving Day."

Catechist M. Louise Perl

IT WAS time to say the prayers before class, when Vera in a loud voice exclaimed: "Look, Catechist, those two girls that ran behind the fence on the other side of the street are Catholics, but they won't come to class."

YES, Vera was right, the girls were Catholic and should be coming to class. But it was impossible to talk to them as they always managed to be within "seeing" distance, but not within speaking distance. As for a visit to their home, well, this was just another case of

both mother and father working on the ranches, or picking dates, from early morning until five-thirty in the evening. While the parents were working the children were left to roam the streets and take care of themselves as best they could.

GLANCING across the street I could see that the little girls were still hiding, waiting for an opportunity to slip away unnoticed. As we were ready to start the prayers before class once more, I asked the children to offer their prayers for a special intention,—the intention, of course, was that I might find some way to approach the two girls.

THE lesson for the day was on the Annunciation. I held up the large picture of our blessed Mother and the Angel Gabriel for all to see, and you can imagine my surprise when I saw the two "would-be-rebels" emerging from their hiding place. They came across the street and quietly sat down in class. After class was dismissed they came up and asked to see the picture again. This was just the opportunity I had been waiting for. The girls promised to come to class and they have very faithfully kept their promise.

Catechist M. Dooley

WHILE I told the story of Jesus fasting for forty days in the desert, little Michael listened attentively but with a tense, questioning expression on his face. Finally, without asking permission to speak, he blurted out, "Catechist, why didn't Mary put something to eat in Jesus' pockets before He went out into the desert?"

—Catechist M. Dooley.





# Associate Catechists

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Catechists,

Enclosed is check for \$50.00, a gift from the Twelve Apostles Mission Club of Chicago.

Due to conditions we did not run a party this year. We hope in the future we may again be able to run a successful affair so that we may be able to help you in your fine work.

With best wishes.

Herman J. Dressel

## THE STORY OF THE QUILT

MRS. STEVENSON of the Little Flower Band of Chicago donated a beautiful homemade quilt to be raffled for the benefit of the missions. Chances were sold at 1c each and the amount realized was \$25.00.

The lucky winner kept the quilt for some time, then returned it to the Band. It was again raffled off, this time at 2c each, (prices have gone up.) Thirty-eight dollars was the amount this time. All told, the quilt brought to us \$63.44 for our work.

The latest report we have of the quilt is that it will be returned to the Band for its third "appearance." This quilt will soon be a famous "landmark" in the history of the Little Flower Band.

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Catechist,

I am enclosing herewith check for \$15.00 which is a donation from the members of our Band. They have been very faithful this year, and we meet regularly once a month. We hope we can keep together, but it is a hard job. With the help of Our Blessed Mother, and the prayers of yourself and our associates, I know we will succeed.

Miss Mary Perkins (Promoter)

*In spite of many difficulties, Immaculate Conception Band is again functioning. Our Blessed Mother is undoubtedly pleased with the good spirit of Miss Perkins and her Band members, and will reward their efforts by giving them the help they need to persevere in their missionary work.*

Dear Catechists,

Thank you for your information about Perpetual Membership in Associate Catechists of Mary, Victory Noll Band. I am now able to enclose the required fee of Ten Dollars.

I am most grateful to share in all the benefits of membership.

Perhaps you would like to know that I am becoming a perpetual member in thanksgiving for a favor granted me.

Sincerely,

H. K.

Prayers are requested for the following A.C.M. friends who are serving in the Armed Forces:

Cpl. Donald Bock  
Pfc. Robert Bock  
Cpl. William Davi  
Pfc. Frank Davi  
S/Sgt. J. S. Dasso  
Pfc. James R. Janisch  
Lt. Harry T. Kenney  
Pvt. Anthony G. Kenney  
Cpl. J. J. Malone  
Capt. Edward S. Meyer  
Ensign Frank McNichols, Jr.  
Frank W. Neveling, M.M.M. 1/C  
Sgt. John J. Neveling  
Capt. A. F. Rus  
S/Sgt. John J. Vaughn  
Cpl. A. C. Weber  
N. A. Weber, R.T. 2/C

# of Mary

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Catechist,

I am enclosing herewith \$50.00 to be credited to St. Joseph Band No. I.

With best wishes to all the Catechists.

Miss Anna M. Knusman (Promoter)

Our St. Joseph Band of Chicago, of which Miss Anna M. Knusman is now Promoter, has been one of our most faithful groups, over a period of many years.

Organized almost simultaneously with the Society of Missionary Catechists this Band, under the splendid patronage of Mrs. Service has been of great help to the Catechists. Although Mrs. Service herself has not been able to continue her office as Promoter because of ill-health, her spirit and encouragement have been the means of accomplishing untold good.

We owe many thanks to Mrs. Service, to Mrs. McNamara who succeeded Mrs. Service, and to Miss Knusman, the present Promoter, who is now ably fulfilling her duties. May God reward these noble women.



Juanito, who broke his leg, looks longingly at the children as they pass on their way to class. Pablo, his younger brother, who is too small to attend class as yet, keeps Juanito company.



St. Justin Martyr Band has been breaking all records by "going over the top." Their latest achievement was a party at which Mrs. F. Kiefer entertained ninety women. The large sum of \$70.00 was the result of this successful affair. May God grant this zealous Band His choicest blessings.

## A. C. M. BAND DONATIONS

August 9 to September 16

Archbishop Stritch Band, Chicago, Miss Helen Gaethke .....	\$10.00
Charitina Club, Chicago, Miss Katherine Hennigan .....	6.00
Child Jesus Band, St. Louis, Mo., Miss A. Fitzpatrick .....	3.00
Dolores Band I, Chicago, Mrs. Anna Klingel .....	14.75
Good Will Mission Band, Carrollton, Ky., Mrs. Casper Hill .....	3.00
Les Petites Fleurs Band, Chicago, Miss Elsie Jachmann .....	2.50
Our Lady of Guadalupe Band, Dayton, O., Mrs. E. C. Bollinger .....	1.75
Our Lady Queen of Angels Band, Los Angeles, Calif., Mrs. M. Sauthier .....	10.00
Our Lady Queen of Poor Souls, Los Angeles, Calif., Mrs. A. Meng .....	10.00
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Band, Appleton, Wis., Miss H. Ahrens .....	100.00
Our Lady of the Snows Band, Elkhart, Ind., Miss Kathryn Hall .....	5.00
Poor Souls Band, Berwyn, Ill. ....	6.50
St. Anthony's Band, Los Angeles, Calif., Mrs. Anna Meng .....	5.00
St. Bridget's Band, Bellevue, Ky., Miss Grace Kern .....	2.50
St. Gemma Galgani, Band, Chicago, Mrs. J. Vogt .....	20.00
St. George Band, Chicago, Miss Lucille Dea .....	23.75
St. Irene Band, Chicago, Miss May Walsh .....	3.50
St. Irene Auxiliary, Chicago, Miss M. A. Sebraska .....	12.50
St. Joseph Band I, Chicago, Miss Anna M. Knusman .....	51.00
St. Joseph Mission Club, Baldwinsville, N. Y., Mrs. M. Bucci .....	10.00
St. Justin Martyr Band, Chicago, Mrs. F. Kiefer .....	65.00
St. Katherine Band, Chicago, Mrs. K. Hammer .....	25.00
St. Raymond Nonatus Band, Chicago, Mrs. K. Quinlan .....	3.00
*St. Sabina Band, Chicago, Miss Marie Dwyer .....	20.00
Strillians of Our Lady of Sorrows Band, Cheviot, O., Miss M. Gadzinski .....	1.00
*St. Sabina's Band also sent a \$20.00 donation earlier in the year, which was overlooked in this column.	

# "Florecitas, Madrecitas?"

by Catechist M. A. James

"BUENOS dias, Don Pedro, como esta V.?"

DON PEDRO'S usually cheerful, round face, peered rather glumly from behind his small cart with its tempting array of sweets, nuts, etc. He gestured significantly and we turned to look.

THERE, standing not very from us, was Don Pablo, surrounded by tin cans filled with colorful spring blossoms, rosebuds, sweet peas, and lilacs. He was looking expectantly at the large swinging doors of the Jesuit Church of San Ignacio. Stepping a little to the side, we waited for a scene which takes place quite often on Sunday morning during springtime in El Paso.

THE grownups came out first, then the children. Little hands clutched the precious penny for the Sunday treat. Its companion had clinked its way into the collection box with many others.

DON PEDRO'S thin, small voice began its chant: "Dulces, Dulces!" (candy.)

DON PABLO said nothing, but smiled cheerfully.

THE children's voices caught up the song: "Dulces, dulces!" Then a small lad spied the flowers. His cry of "florecitas" (flowers) was the signal for a general rush in the direction of Don Pablo. The children hopped among and around the cans like a flock of excited sparrows. Pennies were quickly exchanged for a rosebud peeking out of wet leaves, sweet peas tied in a tiny bunch like miniature boutonnieres, or a spray of lilac and fern. And the delighted murmurs rose and fell at each exchange: "las florecitas, las florecitas."

AS THE group began to thin out, little Federico caught sight of us. He hesitated only a second. Then he was at our side, his two wee rosebuds held aloft: "Florecitas, Madrecitas?"

WE KNEW what those rosebuds would mean in the poor home of Federico, so we shook our heads: "No, thank you, Federico, we are going to this Mass and the poor roses would die before we could get them home."

QUITE satisfied, he skipped away. We took a last look at our two old friends. Don Pedro disgustedly counted several pennies into his small pocket; Don Pablo, smiling even more broadly, arranged his remaining flowers for the next onslaught of little ones.

WE DID not feel too sorry for Don Pedro, because another Sunday, when the flowers would be gone, all the pennies would be his. And the vision of the poor little adobe homes of the children was before us. In some a bed-ridden old man or woman would nod contentedly at the few flowers near the bed, or a tired, hard-working mother would smile delightedly as small hands lovingly offered her the flowers. In many of the homes the flowers would replace the paper ones usually adorning the homemade shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of Mexico, Beloved of the Mexican people.

AND over and above all the Creator would smile at the happy murmurs of His poor little ones as they repeated "las florecitas, las florecitas!"

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## *City of Many Churches*

(Continued from page 7)

age, she still attends Mass at St. Mary's every morning. Her mother was a Mayo Indian, her father a Mexican. She was born in a wagon while the family was enroute to California from Arizona. Mrs. Romero is justly proud of St. Mary's, but her mind often goes back to the days of the little church in San Timeteo Canyon. She likes to tell of the days when Redlands was nothing but cactus and sagebrush, and no one ever dreamed that it would one day be a thriving city of picturesque homes and beautiful orange groves.

THE little church in the canyon is in ruins now. In the spring it is overgrown with wild roses; at other times it is almost covered with tall grass. But the Holy Sacrifice is still being offered daily in the East San Bernardino Valley at Sacred Heart Church, at St. Mary's Church, and at Queen of the Missions Convent in Redlands.

# Out of this World

by Reverend James E. Quinn

Copied from *The Sword*\*

OUR adolescents today use the expression "out of this world" to designate the feeling they experience when they hear a very warm recording, or when they meet someone quite out of the ordinary as far as charm and personality go.

LAST Sunday, a group from this parish were taken "out of this world," but not by the latest disk from Tin Pan Alley. As one approaches Huntington, Indiana, from the southwest, one sees high on a hill a group of buildings of definite Spanish architecture. This is Victory Noll. Victory Noll is the motherhouse of the Missionary Catechists. It was built by our present Bishop, the Most Reverend John Francis Noll, D.D., back in 1923, aided by a certain Peter O'Donnell. The Missionary Catechists, themselves, were founded by a Father Sigstein. Since their foundation they have grown far beyond the dreams of those connected with their beginnings.

THE primary work of the Missionary Catechists is work among the Spanish speaking people of the South and West. Nevertheless, they have missions here in our own diocese. One way they have been an aid to the Church here is their efforts in census taking. Due to this thankless task, they have uncovered many fallen away Catholics, and have been instrumental in setting in motion proceedings which resulted in many marriages being validated. Consequently, they deserve our appreciation and support.

FROM their picturesque but still modern habit of blue and white to their cheerful dispositions, the Catechists leave one with a wonderful impression. Their hospitality is amazing.

THE secret of their success, their dispositions, their hospitality, and the peace that pervades that fortress of virtue on a hill, is really not a secret at all. If just for a moment you could have slipped into their chapel during the Holy Hour, if just for an instant you could have heard their voices raised in song, if just for a second you could have glimpsed the love in their eyes as they were focused on the Sacred Host, you would have known. It is simply this. They love God, and in Him, and through Him and with Him, they love their fellow men.

ONE could not help but make the application as he passed the Catechists at recreation,



Victory Noll Motherhouse and Novitiate of the Missionary Catechists

that our soldiers, when they finally plant the Stars and Stripes on their "Victory Knoll," will realize, like the Catechists, that the way to peace is the way to love, love of God and love of man.

If we wish to be sent "out of this world" by the peace plans, than we as the peacemakers must go "out of this world" to Jesus and Mary, to find the models around which we must rebuild our lives. That is what those who live on Victory Noll did.

\**CYO Bulletin, St. Joan of Arc Parish, Kokomo, Ind.*

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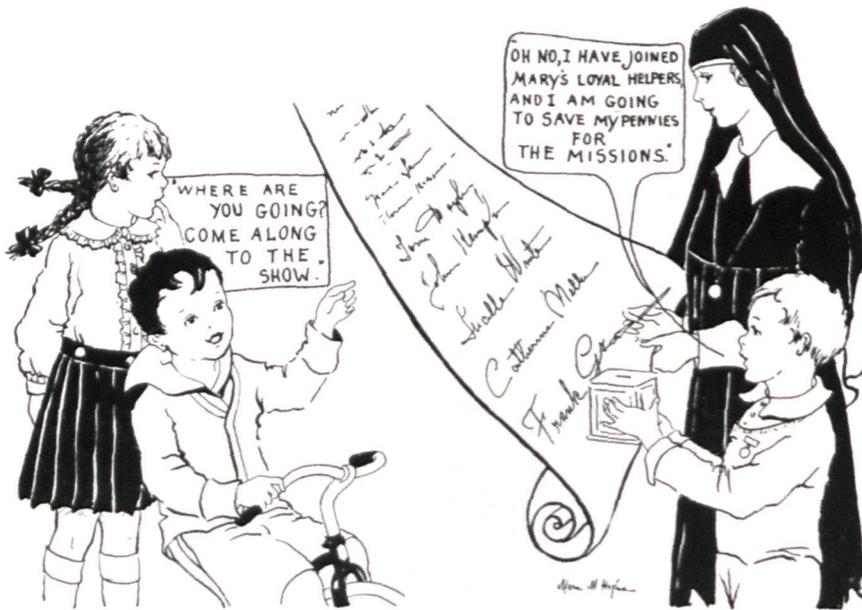
We must fear God; He is the Lord. We must love Him; He is our Father.—St. Anselm.

Who fears men will do nothing great for God.—St. Ignatius Loyola.

Death can never take a wise man by surprise. He is ever ready to depart.—LaFontain.

By devotion to the Souls in Purgatory we perform the most excellent work of mercy, or rather, practice in a sublime manner all the works of mercy together; it is to visit the sick; it is to give drink to those who thirst for the vision of God; it is to feed the hungry, to ransom prisoners, to clothe the naked, to procure for poor exiles the hospitality of the heavenly Jerusalem; it is to comfort the afflicted; in fine, to practice all the works of mercy in one.

—St. Francis de Sales



# Mary's

This month we are letting Mary's Loyal Helpers speak for themselves. We are sure you will enjoy their letters as much as we did on opening them.

Once Our Divine Lord sat by the roadside receiving children. They came empty-handed, it seems, to *get* something (something very precious)—His blessing.

Mary's Loyal Helpers most assuredly will receive Our Lord's blessing, too, and we feel it will be a *double* blessing because each one carries in his (or her) hands shining coins hidden in a Sunshine Bag to help poor children with fewer opportunities for knowing the saving Truths of our Holy Religion.

Dear Catechist Supervisor

I would like very much to get a Sunshine Bag for my pennies and then send it back when it is full.

Please send me the sunshine bag so I may start right now.

I am eleven years old, and I would like to become a member of Mary's Loyal Helpers.

Bernadine Wollner (Park Falls, Wis.)

Dear Catechist,

I am sending in my donation for "Mary's Loyal Helpers." I am very sorry I did not send it in before, but I just saved a few more pennies this time, so here is my donation of \$5.00 for Mary's Loyal Helpers.

Cecelia Marie Amer (Detroit, Mich.)

Dear Catechists

I received your letter and I most certainly would like to join your "Sunshine Club."

I am fifteen and am in the second year high school at St. John's here at Loogootee.

Barbara Arnold, Loogootee, Ind.)

Dear Catechists

Thank you for the pamphlet, I enjoyed reading it. I am ten years old and go to St. Mary school, and am in the 5th grade.

I have three sisters and five brothers. My sisters are: Anna, Mary and Rita. My brothers are John, Walt, Ed, Ray and Father Dan. Ed and Ray are in the Army. Ed is stationed in England and Ray is stationed at Baltimore, Md. Father Dan is a priest in the Precious Blood Society and he is stationed at Cleveland, Ohio.

Your sunshine friend.

Betty Raible (McKeesport, Pa.)

Dear Catechist

You will find enclosed 100 Sunshine pennies, also a few stamps, that I happened to have.

With best wishes to all the Catechists.

Richard Mourey (Monroeville, Ind.)

Dear Catechist

I would like to join your Club. I have blonde hair and blue eyes. I wear glasses. I will put as many sacrifices as I can in my Sunshine Bag.

Karen Hogenkamp (Minster, Ohio)

# Loyal Helpers

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Dear Missionary Catechists

I know I am rather late in sending my sunshine pennies, but I'm sure they will be appreciated just as much.

I was glad to receive your gay little sunshine bag and determined to go about filling it. Although I had 100 pennies all saved I failed to send them right away. But at last I am sending them to bring a ray, though it be a very small one, of sunshine into some child's life. I comfort myself with the old saying "better late than never."

Antonetta Romano (Springfield, Mass.)

—o—

Dear Catechist,

I am enclosing five dollars which I saved up for "Mary's Loyal Helpers" of which I am a member. I have already started another Sunshine Basket with a new collection of pennies.

Eileen Saltus (Burlington, Vt.)

—o—

Dear Missionary Catechists,

I am nine years old and I will be in the fourth grade.

It took a long time to get \$5.00.

Vacation time will soon be over and we will soon have to go to school.

Therese Stadler (Topeka, Kansas)

P.S. I will keep my Sunshine Bag and try again.

—o—

Dear Catechists,

Enclosed you will find \$1.00 which I saved for the Feast Day of Our Lady.

Saturday my sister that is in the Waves is coming home for a sixty two hour liberty and so we are going to visit Sister Agatha my other sister. I am wondering how surprised Sister Agatha will be since she has not seen Anna Marie in her uniform yet.

I am going to try to go to Holy Mass every day and I will remember you in my prayers.

A Mary's Loyal Helper,

Regina Jackson (Westwood, N. J.)

Dear Missionary Catechists

I am enclosing the money which I have saved in my Sunshine Bag. It amounts to \$1.00.

Dorothy Felczak (Hamtramck, Mich.)

—o—

Dear Missionary Catechists,

We would like to tell you how we save the money for our Sunshine Bag. We receive money for running errands. Our Daddy sells all the old paper and rags to the junk-dealer and turns the money over to us. When Mother returns home from shopping, she gives us all the pennies she received in change. Whenever any money is given to us by anyone we put it into the Sunshine Bag. In this way we spread sunshine among God's poor and we hope others will do the same.

Your devoted Helpers,

George and Rita Hammes (Chicago, Ill.)



George and Rita Hammes

# Music Reviewed

The following music reviewed is published by J. Fischer & Bro., 119 West 40th St., New York City.

*The Parish Organ Book, Part 1*, Preludes, Postludes and Processionals. Composed and arranged by Philip G. Kreckel, \$1.00. Melodious but liturgical music, suited for the various functions and services of the Church year. Simplicity and devotion characterize the majority of the pieces, and the material is of unusual interest.

*Organ Accompaniment For The Responses At High Mass, Asperges Me, Vidi Aquam, Pontifical Blessing and Benediction*. Arranged by Philip G. Kreckel. Price \$1.00.

*Wedding Music*, also music for other Festive Occasions, Volume II. Arranged by Carlo Rossini, \$1.50. Part I contains ten Processionals; Part II contains twenty Melodic Pieces—for pipe or reed organ (Pedal ad libitum.) A fine collection of liturgical music by noted composers.

*Organ Pedal Technic* by Pietro A. Yon, \$1.00. This work contains principles of brilliant pedal playing.

*They Call Him Jesus* by Pietro A. Yon. High, F, sixty cents; Low, D, sixty cents; for mixed voices, sixteen cents; S.A. with A-II ad. lib., fifteen cents.

*Missa "Rosa Mystica"* unison with organ accompaniment, by P. Griesbacher, organ, sixty cents; voice parts, eighteen cents.

*Cantate Domino* by G. O. Pitoni for S.A.T.B., price fifteen cents.

*Tantum Ergo* by T. L. Vittoria for S.A.T.B., price fifteen cents.

*O Jesus Christe* by R. DeMelle for S.A.T.B. fifteen cents.

*Ave Maria* by Molitor-Kreckel for S.A.T.B., fifteen cents.

*Lovely Lady Dressed In Blue*. Words by Mary Dixon Thayer, music by Reverend Francis P. Schmitt. Unison or mixed voices, ten cents.

*Carol Of Drifting Snow*—a Christmas Carol with English and Latin words by John Rathbone and Joseph Bluett. Music by J. McCauley Dougherty and Cyr de Brant. For unison, S.A. or T.B., fifteen cents; S.S.A., or T.T.B., sixteen cents; for S.A.T.B., eighteen cents.



SEVEN WORDS TO THE CROSS, by Rt. Rev. Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen, Ph.D., D.D., LL.D, Litt. D. Publishers, P. J. Kenedy & Sons, New York, \$1.00.

JEWISH PROBLEMS BY A CHRISTIAN ISRAELITE, David Goldstein, LL.D. Order from RADIO REPLIES PRESS, 500 Robert St. Room 203, St. Paul 1, Minn. 15 cents.

HALT! Hearken to the Cry of the Children. A religious vocation pamphlet for girls. Order from RADIO REPLIES PRESS, St. Paul 1, Minn. Ten cents, 100 at seven seven cents each.

TARHEEL APOSTLE, biography of Father Thomas Frederick Price, Cofounder of Maryknoll, by the Rev. John C. Murrett, M.M. Order from Longmans, Green and Co., Inc. 55 Fifth Ave., New York. \$2.50.

*The Way Of Peace*—Thoughts from the Teachings of the Little Flower and the Venerable Francis Mary Paul Libermann, by a Holy Ghost Father. *The Miracle Of Fatima* by Joao Da Cruz, C.S.Sp., translated from the French by Robert L. Heim, C.S.Sp. *Another Paul—Libermann*, taken from a book by Father Leon Leloir called "The Great Missionary Orders." These three booklets may be ordered from Holy Ghost Fathers, 1615 Manchester Lane, N.W., Washington 11, D. C.

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## IN MEMORIAM

Rt. Rev. Msgr. P. M. Whyhoven, New Orleans, La.

Clarence Cooper, Chicago, Ill.

Helen Sullivan, Terre Haute, Ind.

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All that we offer to God in charity to the dead, is changed into merit for ourselves, and we shall find it increased a hundredfold after our death.

—St. Ambrose

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YES, we are glad to get cancelled stamps. Please send them to Victory-Noll, Huntington, Indiana.

# Addresses of Our Mission Centers

Please send your mission boxes directly to the Catechists in the mission centers. Address THE MISSIONARY CATECHISTS and add 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.

Infant of Prague Mission, 2321 Opal Street, Los Angeles, 23, 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.

St. Peter the Apostle Mission, 563 O'Farrell St., San Pedro, California.

Precious Blood Mission, 222 South Eighth St., Santa Paula, California.

St. Joseph Mission, 120 South F Street, Tulare, California.

Regina Angelorum Mission, 306-14th Ave., Greeley, Colorado.

Mount Carmel Mission, 3868 Block Avenue, East Chicago, Indiana.

Sacred Heart Mission, 4860 Olcott Avenue, East Chicago, Indiana.

St. John the Baptist Mission, 1401 W. Washington Blvd., Fort Wayne, 2, Indiana.

Holy Ghost Mission, 416 S. Third St., Goshen, Indiana.

All Saints Mission, San Pierre, Indiana.

St. Anne Mission, 1009 E. Dayton Street, South Bend, 14, Indiana.

Holy Trinity Mission, Ida, Michigan.

St. John Bosco Mission, 290 Arden Park, Detroit, 2, Michigan.

Our Lady of Lourdes Mission, Box 671, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Blessed de Montfort Mission, 514 Valencia Street, Las Vegas, New Mexico.

Our Lady of Victory Mission, 435 Guadalupe Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Visitation Mission, 403 North Williams Street, Paulding, Ohio.

Immaculate Conception Mission, 1001 East San Antonio Street, El Paso, Texas.

Queen of Angels Mission, 27 West Avenue N, P. O. Box 1125, San Angelo, Texas.

Mary Queen of Peace Mission, 1206 West 2nd South, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Mission, 704 Court Street, Elko, Nevada.

Ave Maria Mission, 551 Murray Street, Ely, Nevada.

Our Lady of the Snows Mission, 338½ Melarkey Street, Winnemucca, Nevada.

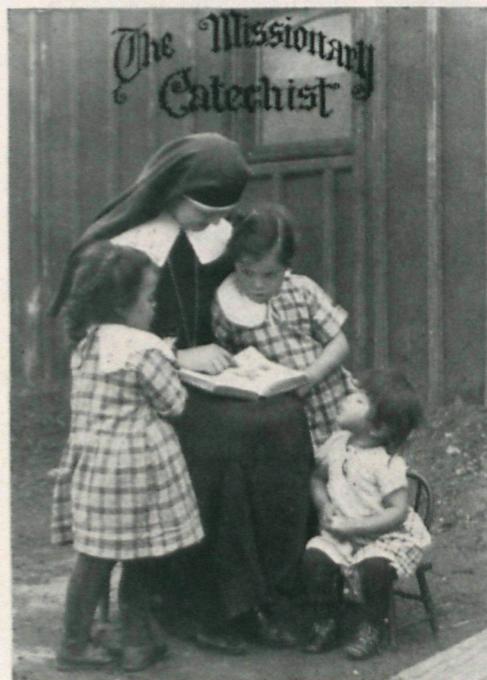


In order to be more centrally located, the mission center for the Catechists in the Gallup diocese has been moved from Grants, New Mexico, to Flagstaff, Arizona. We have also opened houses at Big Springs, Texas, and San Fernando, California. The Catechists at Big Springs will take care of work formerly handled from

San Angelo, Texas, and those at San Fernando of work formerly handled from Santa Paula, California. We hope to have these addresses, together with the address of the Catechists at San Antonio, for the next issue of our magazine.

1924

== 1944



With this issue **THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST** completes the twentieth year of its existence

Yes, for twenty years, **THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST** has carried to its readers the messages of the Missionary Catechists themselves. It has told of their joys and sorrows, their trials and difficulties, their successes and failures, as they labored year after year in the missions of our own country.

**THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST** has helped finance the work of the Catechists; it has gone into home and school seeking young women eager to give their lives to God in the mission field.

**THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST** is justly proud of its readers, for it knows that only with their cooperation has it been able to accomplish so much for the glory of God and the good of souls.

**THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST** is grateful to its readers and asks their continued support and cooperation. It begs God's blessing on them all.

Sincerely in Our Blessed Lady of Victory,  
**THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST.**