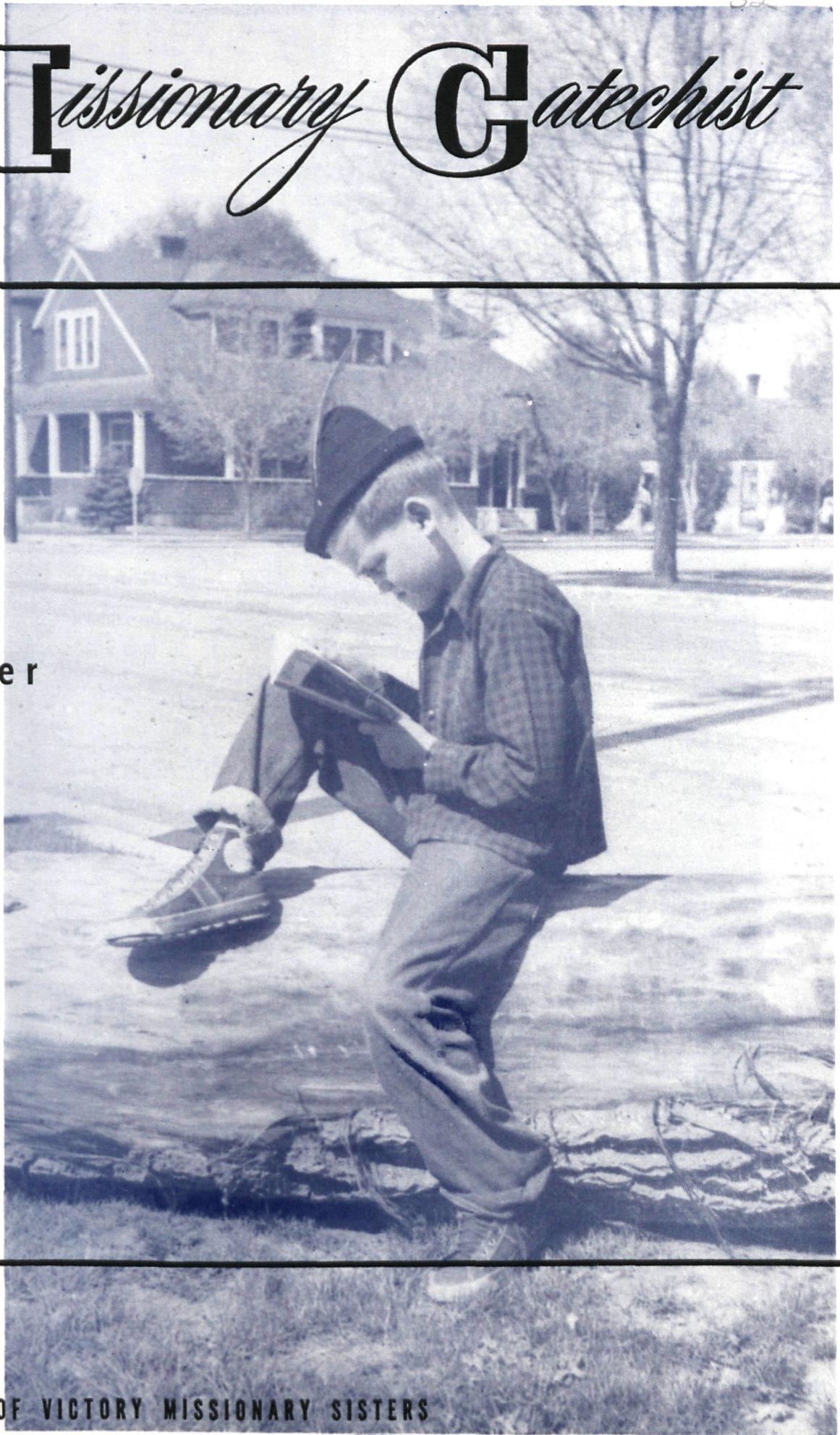


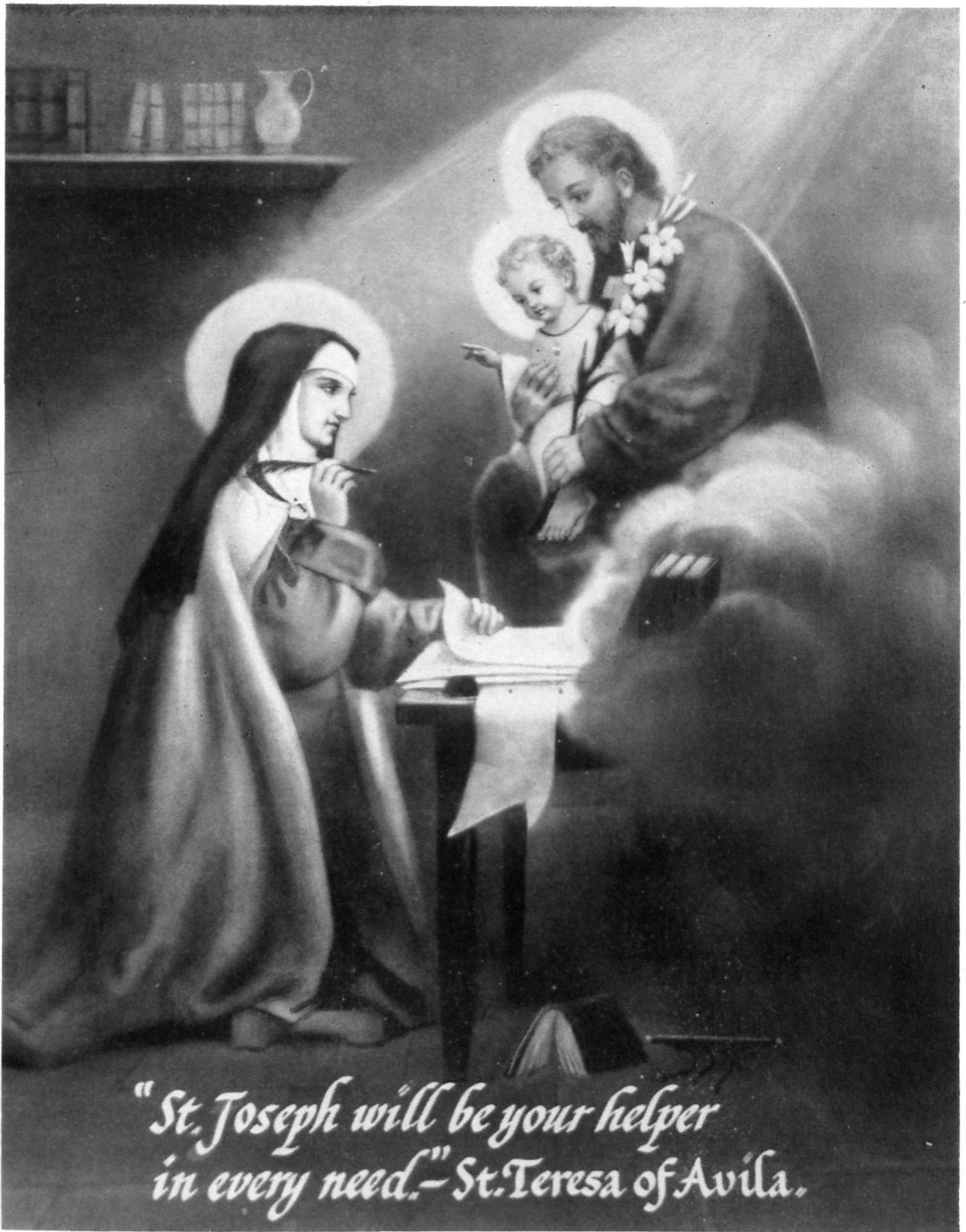
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the **MI** *ssionary* **G** *atechist*

October

1952



OUR LADY OF VICTORY MISSIONARY SISTERS



*"St. Joseph will be your helper
in every need."—St. Teresa of Avila.*

The Missionary Catechist

Volume XXVIII

October, 1952

Number 10

St. Joseph

by Fr. Aloysius, O.F.M., Cap.

GO TO JOSEPH and do all that he shall say unto you. (Gen. 41:55)

The words of my text were first spoken by Pharaoh, King of Egypt. He had raised Joseph, son of the patriarch Jacob, to be second in his kingdom. He had made Joseph overseer of the food supply during the famine. To everyone who came for food, including Joseph's own brothers, the king directed: "Go to Joseph, and do all that he shall say unto you."

THE FIRST JOSEPH was merely a type and forerunner of the second and better Joseph, the guardian of the Holy Family. The Old Testament Joseph fed bodies; the New Testament Joseph feeds souls. The first had a limited range of activity; the second provides for the Church throughout the world. The first was honored during his lifetime; the second, centuries after his death, is still increasing in fame. Comparatively, the first Joseph helped only a few; the second Joseph helps everyone. The first was the trusted agent of King Pharaoh; the second, the trusted agent of the King of Kings. His influence with the Almighty has been the delight and wonder and comfort of countless millions.

WHY should we honor St. Joseph? Devotion to St. Joseph is based on the truths of our holy religion. Our faith teaches us that St. Joseph was truly the spouse, the husband, of the Blessed Virgin. There was a true marriage—though a virginal one it is true—between Joseph and Mary. This marriage took place before the Incarnation of the Son of God, before the Annunciation; and it was ordained by God for the purpose of protecting the good name of the Blessed Virgin. Joseph was really and truly the husband of Mary and possessed all the rights of a virginal husband.

ST. JOHN DAMASCENE says that God bestowed so great a dignity on Joseph that human tongue cannot express it. The words "Spouse of Mary" comprise everything that can be said of the high position of St. Joseph. No other person ever possessed so lofty a dignity.

POPE LEO XIII declares in an encyclical: "Certain is it that the dignity of the Mother of God is so great that after God there can be nothing more exalted. As St. Joseph was united to the Blessed Virgin by the bond of matrimony, there is no doubt that he approaches the exalted dignity of Mary more nearly than any other creature."

SECONDLY, St. Joseph was given the name "Father of Jesus." He was looked upon as such by his neighbors. "Jesus . . . being, as was supposed, the Son of Joseph." (Luke 3:23) "Is this not the Son of Joseph?" (John 6:42)

But, Joseph was not only called the father of Jesus by the Jews who did not know the mystery of the Incarnation but also by the Blessed Mother herself. When Mary and Joseph found Jesus in the Temple, Mary said to Jesus: "Behold thy father and I have sought Thee sorrowing." (Luke 2:48) Therefore we must conclude that the name, "Father of Christ" was bestowed upon Joseph by the will of God. Pope Leo XIII rightly concludes: "St. Joseph, in his all-surpassing dignity, is above all the saints because he was, according to the will of the Most High, the guardian of the Son of God and in the eyes of men, his father."

THIRDLY, Joseph not only received the name "Father of Christ," but also was given and assumed the rights and duties connected with this title. He possessed all the sentiments of a father towards Jesus. Look at his solicitude, his

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care of Christ. He also exercised the authority of a father over Our Lord. St. John Damascene says: "God appointed St. Joseph to take His place as father of Jesus. St. Joseph willingly took upon himself the duties of a father towards our Savior, and our Divine Lord surrendered Himself entirely and with child-like confidence to Joseph's paternal care." Besides, St. Joseph had the rights of a parent over Our Lord because in every family there is a common possession of goods. As St. Joseph was the rightful husband of Mary, who was the true Mother of Jesus, he also shared with her the right of possessing, commanding and disposing of her Divine Son.

FOURTHLY, Joseph was the head of the Holy Family. He was the superior of Mary and also of Jesus in His human nature. St. Paul says: "The husband is head of the wife." (Eph. 5:23) Mary recognized this authority of Joseph over her. She looked upon him as her superior with the right to command her in all things that did not pertain to the knowledge of God's mysteries and the special graces with which she had been privileged. In all else she showed him due respect and submission. For instance, she was subject to St. Joseph in all exterior and domestic affairs for to him belonged the duty of caring for the family. Our Divine Savior, too, showed a childlike obedience to St. Joseph. This also shows the great dignity of Joseph.

THESE are the main and profoundest reasons for honoring St. Joseph. Another motive we can have for honoring him is his exceptionally great sanctity. God gives to every person a degree of sanctity fitting the position in life to which he has been called. The dignity and position of St. Joseph was of so sublime a nature that the highest degree of holiness and virtue was required to be worthy of it. What immense holiness, wisdom, prudence, and purity can we be sure were in St. Joseph from the very fact of his being chosen head of the Holy Family. To him apply the words of the Bible: "Can we find such another man that is full of the spirit of God? . . . Can I find one wiser and one like unto thee?" (Gen. 41:38) These words were spoken of the prototype of St. Joseph, Joseph of Egypt. Even before his marriage to Mary, the Holy Ghost called Joseph a "just man." (Matt. 1:19) This has a special significance. To be called "just" in the Bible means that one is pleasing to God. No one can be pleasing to God unless his soul is adorned with sanctifying grace and all the virtues. Because this justice of Joseph is specially emphasized in the Bible, St. Jerome concludes that St. Joseph possessed the perfection of all virtues. Theologians go even further and say that St. Joseph possessed all the virtues in a more excellent degree than all the saints.

AFTER his chaste espousal to Mary, a mighty impetus was given to the sanctity of Joseph so that from then on he led a truly heavenly life on earth. After the birth of Christ, his perfection rose still higher. He was given a deep interior knowledge of the divine mysteries. The continuous presence and companionship of Jesus excited in St. Joseph frequent and ardent acts of faith and love. The words and example of Jesus exercised a profound influence over him so that he increased in sanctifying grace constantly. Mary, likewise, obtained for her virginal spouse an abundance of graces for his sanctification. If devotion to Mary is the most effective means for obtaining graces from God, to what degree of sanctity did not St. Joseph attain, who was so deeply devoted to Mary and whom the Blessed Virgin loved so tenderly.

THE great faith and blind obedience of Joseph to the commands of God were made manifest on several occasions when difficult orders were given him by angels. From the Gospels it is apparent that he willingly and promptly did what was commanded. He obeyed at the least sign and joyfully underwent all trials which the command entailed.

WE conclude that next to Jesus and Mary, Joseph was the most perfect of all creatures and that he deserves the highest possible honor after Jesus and Mary.

ST. JOSEPH'S POWER of intercession must be very great—greater than all other saints or angels. Excepting the Blessed Virgin, who can plead more effectively, more powerfully, than St. Joseph? If Jesus was obedient to him during life, will He not now all the more delight to listen with a special readiness to the pleadings which St. Joseph offers on our behalf?

JOSEPH OF EGYPT was a prototype, or a foreshadowing, of St. Joseph. Pharaoh raised Joseph from a humble position to the highest dignity in the land. He directed all his subjects to apply to Joseph in all their needs saying: "Go to Joseph." (Gen. 41:55) In the very same words Holy Church directs the faithful to have recourse in all their spiritual and temporal necessities: "Go to Joseph."

ST. TERESA had great confidence in St. Joseph. She said: "I do not remember that I have ever asked him at any time for anything which he did not obtain for me. It fills me with amazement when I consider the numberless graces which God has granted me through the intercession of this blessed saint, and the perils both of body and soul from which he has delivered me."

(Please turn to page 15)



Bill Smyth Photographers, Englewood, Colorado

The Mary Maids is the name of our 4-H club at Holy Ghost Youth Center in Denver, Colorado. As one of our members said on our radio broadcast, "It sounds like we say "M-e-r-r-y" Maids; why we spell it M-a-r-y is our secret." Seeing it in print you can easily guess the secret. For Our Blessed Mother, of course.

After we re-organized our club this year, the Denver County Demonstration Agent called us and asked if our group would like to appear on the 4-H News, a radio program which is on the air fifteen minutes every day. It sounded exciting. The girls were all in favor.

As for the script—we chose the general theme that the second year in a 4-H cooking club is more exciting than the first. We developed this idea by recalling some of the activities of the club in the past year, such as, election of officers, the various demonstrations each one had given, the serving of a club breakfast, and exhibiting at the County Fair.

When we had finished writing the script all of us were surprised at how much we had actually accomplished.

The Program comes on the air at 7 o'clock in the morning; a much-too-early hour for ten and eleven year olds to be at a radio station, so we went one afternoon after school to make a recording. The radio station's Farm Reporter is the host on the program and he gave us a kind welcome and a nice little "plug" for Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters and Holy Ghost Youth Center.

Because it was such an outstanding event in the life of our club we had our picture taken. It was a new experience for the girls and it has stimulated their interest in the club work which in turn keeps them coming to the religion classes where they learn spiritual house-keeping that will make them happy here and hereafter.

Sister Mary Rose
Denver, Colorado

Alleys and Garages

by Sister Mary Millicent

"Say, what are those Sisters doing in our alley?"

The rest of the gang of boys looked up from their model airplanes to follow the line of inquiry. "Yes, what *were* they doing in their alley?"

"Mebbe they're lost!" ventured one.

"No, I've seen Sisters like that in alleys before—over around Twenty-second Street."

"They teach about God and religion and stuff," one said, remembering what a Catholic school friend had informed him.

Just then a little girl went by on her way to her own back yard. "Hey, Marjie, you're a Catholic; do *you* know what those Sisters are doing?"

"Why sure! They are looking for "Catechism Garages."

"Catechism garages!" Like those boys you will perhaps wonder what they are, and like us where they can be found. "A garage," says the dictionary, is "a building for housing automobiles." Now a "Catechism garage" has a slightly longer definition, something like this: "A building near one of our public schools, originally meant to house at least two automobiles, but temporarily lent a few hours a week for the sublime purpose of sheltering those who desire a knowledge of the Kingdom of God. The imparting or receiving of this knowledge is commonly known as 'catechism.'"



Owners of this garage are not Catholic, but graciously consented to let Sister Priscilla and high school girls use it for catechism class once a week.



Sister Margaret Ann and sixth graders on released time from Cabrillo School.

"Why a garage as place to teach?" Several reasons: Usually in modern residential districts around a school, it is the only available place large enough for our classes. Modern houses are often small, filled with fine rugs or furniture, or cluttered up with knick-knacks. Whereas, a garage is more spacious and has fewer things around to be upset or damaged by a group of lively public school children. Of course, we are not particularly partial to garages if we can get a better place



Sister Barbara Ann teaches fifty-five seventh grade boys behind the outdoor fireplace in this patio.

for a classroom. An old store, a hall, a club house, a family's front room (if it is big enough and they willingly offer it,) or even a pool room can serve the purpose if it is available. We have one Sister who is teaching in a patio which has three walls surrounding it with a foot of ventilation before the walls meet the roof. This "open air classroom" is not the typical place, though.



Sister Mary John with seventh grade girls studying for Confirmation.

The typical place is the "catechism garage," which has the benches stacked against the wall during the time of the week they are not in use. On class day they are hauled down and set in place (usually by the Sister) after she has roused the family and politely asked them if they could have their car out in time for her to get ready for class. Then charts, pictures, and portable blackboard in order, one has the typical "catechism garage."

Of course there are such things as flies and queer alley smells to contend with. These are not always the case, but when they are, we have to take them in stride. When Our Lord



These 8th and 9th grade boys bought a crucifix for their garage classroom and gave it to Sister Mary Alice "for helping us with our catechism."

taught the same doctrine we are teaching from a smelly old fishing boat, out in the open where God's "creeping creatures" had full sway, or on the crowded city streets of Palestine's towns, He probably had to put up with much the same conditions.

A wholesale search for "catechism garages" was inaugurated by us this past year. We were given an "eviction notice" from one

of the two large buildings which served as a center for teaching over 350 Junior High School pupils. The building was an abandoned High school building, quite neglected, but still serviceable as classrooms for us, and as meeting places for various other local clubs. The results of neighborhood vandalism gave us quite a bit of janitor work, such as sweeping up rocks and glass from broken windows, and the like. But we suddenly discovered we didn't mind that when we found ourselves without a place to teach. It happened in this wise:



Sister Augustine with 8th and 9th grade girls to be confirmed.

One day early in the fall, "our" building suddenly began to take on a "new look." The floors were sanded so that one could actually see the wood, the ceilings were plastered, the leaks in the roof were fixed and the whole place was getting brightened with paint. A square dance club had started to renovate the place in order to have their parties there. They assured us we could still use it too. So the blow came suddenly—the night before we were scheduled to teach the Release Time Classes. The Fire Inspectors had been there. The building was of frame construction and was considered a fire hazard and no one was allowed in there. With several thousand dollars worth

(Please turn to page 18)



Sister Mary Millicent with Dana Junior High School boys studying for Confirmation.



The graduating class of St. Francis Xavier's parish, East Gary, Indiana, pictured with their pastor (center) the Rev. Clemens L. Koors, and their teachers (left) Sister Justine, and (right) Sister Mary Agatha.

by Sister Justine

Just mention graduation and high school youngsters glow. This year graduation time was an especially happy one for our seniors in religious instruction classes. Those who attend the public high schools came as a group in cap and gown for a Sunday High Mass several days before school graduation. In single file they walked down the aisle with reverent dignity. Their proud families were on hand to gaze attentively on as they knelt in a body before Our Blessed Mother's May Shrine. After Mass and the recessional, the graduates, twenty in number, assembled in the Church basement for a tasty breakfast served by the Ladies' Sodality. We wouldn't have thought it possible, but surprisingly the young people were thrilled to take part in a church ceremony and be feted afterwards. Because the graduates represented more than one school, the color scheme in decorations were chosen to honor Mary with blue and white. We venture any teacher can sense the possibilities such a yearly event will bring about. Surely more regular attendance plus co-operation on the parents' side who won't want their youngsters to be omitted should be the least one may hope for. Diplomas were conferred by the pastor

in token of the completion of twelve years of catechetical instruction. Everyone agreed that next year's plans should include an invitation to the parents of the graduates also. That would overcome the biggest objection to Communion breakfasts—namely, that they are divisive.

One incident seemed a large enough wave to overthrow the bark of smooth sailing. At least twelve of the graduates were away on a class trip which brought the boys and girls home tired but happy the evening before the Sunday morning program. To their dismay, they were unable to get their caps and gowns from the school building at that late hour. Telephones buzzed and excitement prevailed until the school authorities nicely sent the principal himself down to the school to dole out the coveted treasures.

One mother commented, "Sister, this affair will help a lot to set a parish tradition. So many of us hardly know the other Catholic families. I know the newcomers will welcome the opportunity to send down a few roots toward parish unity and group spirit." We, the Sisters, sincerely hope the yearly occasion will do just that.

OUR FRONT COVER

A boy and a book!

This particular boy is studying a catechism. Many boys and girls throughout America are being taught the truths of Faith in preparation for one or other of the Sacraments.

On the next two pages you will find a brief explanation of the Sacrament of Confirmation.



Right: A small group of First Communicants found in the heart and heat of the Imperial Valley.

THE SEVEN SACRAMENTS

1. In the Sacrament of **Baptism** we are "born again" to the divine life.
2. The Sacrament of **Confirmation** strengthens the divine life within us.
3. The Sacrament of **Penance** (Confession) restores the divine life when it has been lost by mortal sin.
4. The Sacrament of the **Holy Eucharist** (Holy Communion) supplies daily nourishment to the divine life.
5. The Sacrament of **Extreme Unction** sustains the divine life within us in the hour of our death.
6. By the Sacrament of **Holy Orders** the line of those who transmit the divine life is maintained.
7. By the Sacrament of **Holy Matrimony** the line of those who receive the divine life is maintained.



Courtesy—David's Studio, Santa Fe, New Mexico

A First Communion class at Cristo Rey (Christ the King) parish, with their teacher, Sister Margarita.



In solemn procession the Confirmation class at St. Jude's parish, South Bend, Indiana is being led into church by the cross-bearer and acolytes.

CONFIRMATION, as its name indicates, is the Sacrament which Our Lord instituted for the purpose of strengthening the supernatural life within us. One cannot long remain a true

In the Home Field

follower of Christ unless he is prepared to endure hardship because of his faith and fight for the life of his soul. Life here on earth is a self indulgence. Man must be prepared and strengthened for this battle just as a soldier is prepared and strengthened for war. Consequently, it is the Bishop who ordinarily administers this Sacrament, because it is fitting that one of the chief officers of Christ's army should enroll the Christian under the standard of the Savior. Only in extraordinary cases does the priest have the power to administer Confirmation. Since it is the special mission of the Holy Ghost to preserve the light of supernatural truth and to strengthen the weakness of human wills, the Bishop, as he begins to administer this Sacrament, extends his hands over those to be confirmed and asks the Holy Ghost to impart

to these Christians His sevenfold gifts: namely, wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. These gifts are to help us acquire the necessary knowledge of our holy faith, and also to make us determined to do the will of God in all things throughout life.

Reprinted with permission from ST. ANTHONY MESSENGER

An excellent booklet containing explanations and illustrations of the Sacraments may be obtained by writing to the St. Francis Bookshop, 1618 Vine Street, Cincinnati 10, Ohio. The price is 50c for paper cover; \$1.25 for cloth binding.

Ask for A Pictorial Explanation of THE SEVEN SACRAMENTS by Rev. Victor Drees, O.F.M., Ph.D. Franciscan Fathers of the St. John Baptist Province

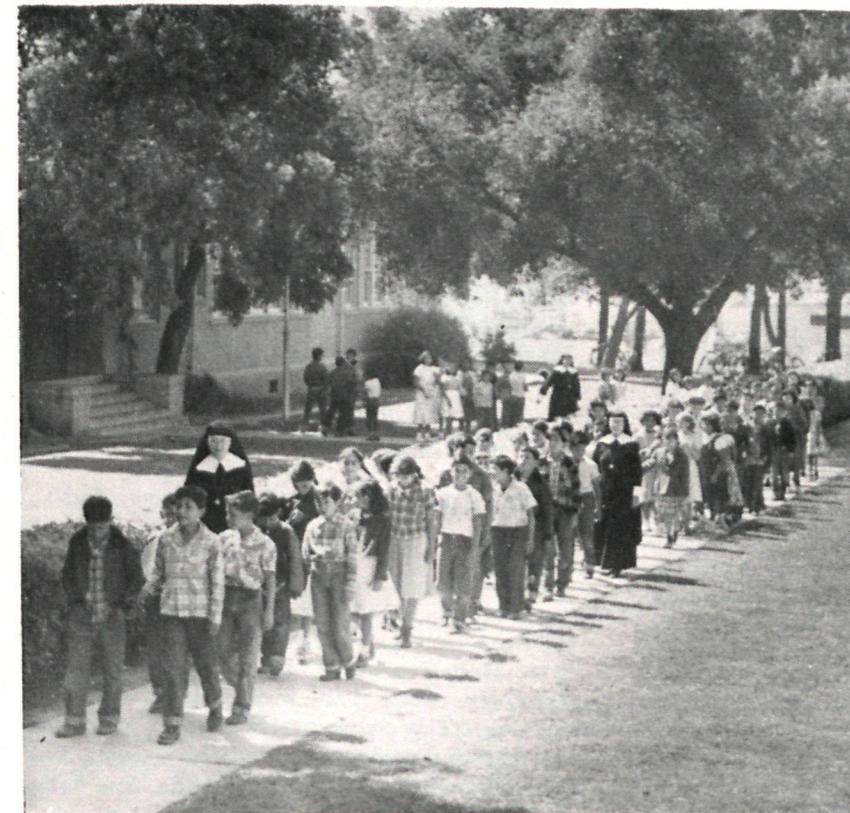
A priest wipes off the holy oil after the anointing by the Bishop.



Holy chrism is removed with cotton from the forehead of the little girl confirmed.



A Confirmation group at Our Lady of Guadalupe church, Santa Paula, California, confirmed by His Excellency, Bishop McGucken, Auxiliary of Los Angeles.



Before receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, children must know the main doctrines of our faith, and also the duties of a Christian.

Public school children receive religious instruction after school hours or during released time.

Left: Children at Santa Paula, California on their way to catechism class during released time from school.

News Items About



**Join or start
- new
Mission
Bands**

**To aid our
Sisters
In Mission
lands!**

Attend Benefit Party!

A CORDIAL invitation is extended to all our Associates who live in the Chicago Area, by the members of *Good Shepherd Mission Club*, of which *Mrs. H. F. Staley* is President, to attend their Fall Benefit Party, which will be given on the near North Side.

Place of Meeting: "At the Milk Foundation which is just about next door to the Holy Name Cathedral, 700 N. Wabash," writes Mrs. Staley.

Time: Promptly at 12:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 21, 1952.

Features: A complete luncheon, tickets \$1.00, is to be served, followed by a 15-minute radio program, in which the guests participate. On the following day they can hear themselves in a transcription of the proceedings over Station WAIT. A short talk on diet and health is given by the management at the conclusion of the luncheon. The room is ours to use until four.

Transportation facilities: It is easily accessible from all parts of the city, either bus, L, street car or subway.

Conveniencies: The luncheon will be served in an attractive Colonial room on the street level.

Only eighty-four women can be accommodated, and therefore reservations should be made early. Phone or write Mrs. H. F. Staley, 4724 W. Fulton Street, Chicago 44, Es-8-1505. She will write you personally to ask your co-operation in the special raffle to be held in connection with the luncheon. Mother Cecilia and Sister Juliana donated a lovely quilt sometime ago for this affair. It was quilted by their mother. (The Club sponsors Sister Juliana and offered to raise funds for her Burse through a

raffle). There will also be a beautiful 16 inch statue of the Infant of Prague and a Filtron Coffee Maker as additional awards.

It is hoped that each Promoter of our forty Chicago Bands will attend, as this will be the first "get-together" in a long time, for those interested in our mission work.

If each Promoter would take just one book for her entire Band so that each might sell a ticket, the grand sum of \$400.00 could be raised very easily. The entire proceeds of the party are to go to Victory Noll.

Two Sisters from Victory Noll expect to attend the party and this sum would be presented to them on that occasion. A complete record will be kept of each Band's contribution and the list forwarded to Victory Noll.

SISTER SUPERVISOR, ACM.

THE FAMILY ROSARY



Above are pictured the members of Sister Dolores Ann's family, of Dubuque, Iowa, as they recite the Family Rosary.

ST. ANNE BAND (*Fort Wayne, Ind.*)

THE members of St. Anne's meet faithfully every month for a social evening of cards. Each member takes a turn as hostess. After each meeting we receive a short friendly letter from *Mrs. George M. Deininger*, Promoter, in which she encloses the proceeds collected at the meeting. The check varies in amount, depending on the number of members present, but it is always close to, or even exceeds, five dollars. God bless them for their continued support.

Our Associates

ST. CLARA BAND OF ST. MARY'S (Ft. Wayne, Indiana)

THIS Mission Band is one of several which comprise St. Mary's Mission Society, in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The members held a party for us in the late Spring which netted \$23.50. The Promoter of the Band is *Mrs. William F. Ryan*. Other members are *Mrs. Greg Lauer*, *Mrs. Herman Gerhardtstein*, *Mrs. Joseph Bell*, *Mrs. Ray Aurnetz*, *Mrs. George Barth*, *Mrs. Clarence Huber*, *Mrs. G. Huber* and *Mrs. Frank Reig*.

OUR LADY, QUEEN OF ANGELS, BAND (Los Angeles, Calif.)

OUR California Band, named above, sent us a total of \$147.00 by the end of 1951, and we hope their annual total will reach these proportions this year. Each hostess always serves an attractive and appetizing luncheon whenever the group meets. *Mrs. C. D. Drew* had this to say about her party last year: "Mrs. Miller and I have been concentrating on "non-fattening" luncheons. This time I served several salads, hot rolls and sherbert and fruit juice drinks with pink-colored ice cubes in the latter. The table decorations consisted of yellow flowered napkins and tall yellow candles. Summer colors were worked out in the general scheme as my home is opposite Douglas Park which was filled with summer beauty. We played the piano and sang for a time, but the afternoon ended with each one bringing out her bundle of outing flannel for layettes. (The ladies make layettes for poor babies on East Side Los Angeles. The completed layettes are given to our Sisters to distribute.)"

OUR LADY OF SORROWS BAND (Chicago, Ill.)

EVER alert to make new friends for our Missionary Sisters, the members of this Band, at the suggestion of *Miss Anne Malone*, Promoter, distribute back numbers of *THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST* among guests at their annual card party.

Last year's party netted \$80.00—and this in spite of a steady downpour of rain on the night of the party. It is too early for us to give the returns for the current year, but we are sure, with such zealous workers behind the event, the figure will be a good one.

The Sisters are
on
The receiving
end,
But you will be,
too.
At journey's
end!



ACM BAND CONTRIBUTIONS

July 7, 1952 to August 14, 1952

Charitina Club No. 1, Chicago, Katherine Hennigan	6.00
Good Shepherd Mission Club, Chicago, Mrs. H. F. Staley	98.90
Immaculate Conception Band, Chicago, Mary A. Perkins	25.00
Poor Souls Band, Berwyn, Ill., Mrs. J. V. McGovern	12.00
Sacred Heart Mission Society, Newark, N. Y., Mrs. Sue Albanese	50.00
St. Anne Band, Fort Wayne, Ind., Mrs. Geo. Deininger	7.60
St. Catherine Band, Los Angeles, Calif., Mrs. M. McMannamy	30.00
St. Helen Band, Dayton, Ohio, Helen Melke	14.90
St. Joseph Band No. 2, Chicago, Mrs. Aloysia Naumes	54.25
St. Joseph Mission Club, Baldwinsville, N. Y., Mrs. Mary Luke	17.75
St. Jude Mission Society, Fort Wayne, Ind., Mrs. Fred Potthoff	47.00
St. Jude Mission Club, W. Allis, Wis., Mrs. E. J. Polakowski	50.00
St. Margaret Mary Band, Omaha, Nebr., Mrs. Fred Shields	30.00
St. Mel Band, Chicago, Mrs. Norean Lopez	11.00
St. Michael Mission Guild, Palos Hts. Ill., Mrs. John McCann	5.00
St. Philomena Band, Chicago, Mary Schaefer	21.00
St. Theresa Band, Los Angeles, Calif., Mrs. J. C. Burch	15.25
Seven Dolers Band, Bellwood, Ill., Mrs. John J. Murphy	9.00
Sisters of Our Lady, Cincinnati, O., Eleanor Hanekamp	3.00

ST. IRENE AUXILIARIES (Chicago, Ill.)

WE do not hear from our "Auxiliaries" very often. On the other hand, they never disappoint us but always let us hear from them with a check, before the year runs out.

The Band has been in existence for eleven years, and *Miss Madeline Sebraska*, the organizer, holds the office of Promoter.

Peace through Sacrifice



Our Lady delivered a wonderful message at Fatima, and made wonderful promises, but she also made some requests.

"If these requests are answered," she said, "Russia will be converted and there will be peace."

Our Lady has asked that the rosary be recited. Indeed, the Rosary movement has grown popular and universal; it is recited in families, in parishes, over the radio, and in private.

Our Lady has asked that the Five First Saturdays be observed and that Holy Communion be received frequently. It is gratifying to note how these practices are on the increase.

Our Lady has asked that prayers be offered for the Holy Father. Universally, Catholics pray for the Pope; the Collect for him is said often at Mass in many dioceses.

If, then, we have answered Our Lady's requests, why does she delay to convert Russia and grant world peace?

But wait! There was another request; *the request to perform sacrifices and to bear sufferings.*

Would you say that we, the children of the Mother of God, have understood that request—much more, carried it out?

Do we know the meaning of Our Lady's words: "SACRIFICE YOURSELF FOR SINNERS"? How can we put into practice this important counsel of our heavenly Mother?

There are two ways—First: *we can impose sacrifices upon ourselves.* Surely, if the little children of Fatima did, we too can endure deprivations in eating and drinking, in rest and recreation; we too can bear up with heat and cold. And why should we hesitate to imitate them even in their afflictive penances, according to our state of life and generosity?

Secondly, if we would do penance, we must *accept the trials God sends* in His divine Providence. These trials are a more perfect penance because they are unsought for; they are more effective, more crucifying, because they are often constant and irremovable; they are safer, being proofs against vanity and illusion; they are the end of all the other sacrifices, the real purpose of the penances we inflict upon ourselves. Voluntary restraint paves the way for voluntary acceptance of everyday trials;

—*Trials through bodily sufferings:* sickness, accidents, infirmities, age; even the inclemencies of weather and climate constitute an annoying cross;

—*Trials on the economic side:* in business, in the raising of crops, reverses, losses, failures, poverty and stress.

—*Trials in the family:* from the rearing of children, the insubordination of youth; the inevitable frictions, quarrels, differences, separations, the death of loved ones—all heavy crosses.

—*Trials in intellectual and vocational pursuits:* mental sufferings, worries, the hardships of learning, the tests and trials that are examinations, the anguish of the vocation problem, disappointments, heartbreaks, bitterness. . .

—*Trials in the apostolate:* the pastor toils and wears himself out only to reap indifference, forgetfulness, ingratitude.

—Trials even in the spiritual and interior life: trials in prayer, dryness, temptation, apparent abandonment by God . . .

The Litany is long—as long as life. Yet, to be of value, these trials must not only be endured, they must be accepted:

- 1) *With resignation*, since they come from heaven, even if they are the result of the ill will of men, even if they are distasteful and repugnant, even while we endeavor to rid ourselves legitimately of them. "Not my will, but Thine be done," should be the watchword.
- 2) We should endure our God-given trials with *love*. The prayer of the children of Fatima before making or accepting a sacrifice can well be our prayer too: "O my Jesus, I offer this for the love of Thee, for the conversion of sinners, for the Holy Father, and in reparation for all the wrongs done to the Immaculate Heart of Mary."
- 3) We should receive our trials with *gratitude*.

"Yet more, O Lord, yet more," was the fervent reaction of the saints in the midst of sufferings. They realized that no better lot can befall the disciple and the child than that of resembling his Master and his Mother.

- 4) We should bear our trials with the *intention* of applying the satisfactory merits of our sufferings to souls, to beg graces for them; we should offer our sacrifices for specific intentions, for the specific intentions recommended by Our Lady. This counsel is as sound theologically as it is simple in practice. *It is sound*, for in complying with it we can imitate the Divine Model and unite ourselves with Him, offering Himself and His life and Passion for the expiation of sin. *It is simple*: even little children can understand and practice it. Parents and teachers fulfill their sacred missions when they teach their little ones to "offer it up."

"He who prays is saved. He who does not pray is damned."—St. Alphonsus Liguori

(Continued from page 4)

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS said: "Some saints are privileged to extend to us their patronage with particular efficacy in certain needs, but not in others; however, our holy patron, St. Joseph, has the power to assist us in all cases, in every necessity, in every undertaking."

"GO TO JOSEPH." If obedience is difficult, go to Joseph—most obedient. If purity is troublesome, go to Joseph—most chaste. If patience is painful, go to Joseph—mirror of patience. If you feel weak, go to Joseph—most strong. If you are sick, go to Joseph—hope of the sick. If you are tempted, go to Joseph—terror of demons. If you are afraid of death, go to Joseph—patron of the dying.

IN every need, in every care, in every worry, in every trial: Go to Joseph!

LET US, therefore, have unshaken confidence in the intercession of St. Joseph and strive to imitate his sublime example, especially by leading an interior life in God. May we always remember the words addressed by Our Lord to St. Margaret of Cortona: "If you wish to please me, let no day pass without praising and glorifying St. Joseph, so dear is he to My Heart."

A PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

St. Joseph, the "Just Man,"
The perfect man of Nazareth.

The Spouse of Mary
The Foster Father of Jesus,
The Patron of labor,
The Patron of a happy death,
The Patron of the Whole Church
Sinless, selfless

Unflinchingly generous,
I am a poor beggar,
I am in need,
My tale is against me,
I am very disappointing,
I have no excuse,
I deserve nothing,

Even for the future, how much can I promise?

I cannot be sure of myself,
But I would it were otherwise,
I would become true,
And you can help me,
For Jesus hears you,
Ask Him to forgive,
Ask Him to forget,

Ask Him to make me sinless like yourself,
To make me selfless like yourself,
To make me generous,

Take me as your companion, and Mary's and His.

—Archbishop Goodier, S.J.



Mary's Loyal

Dear Loyal Helpers:

OCTOBER is such a beautiful month! Why? Because two lovely events occur at this time. First, there is the Feast of the Holy Rosary which falls on October 7th, but which will most likely be more widely observed on the following Sunday.

Our Heavenly Queen loves the Rosaries offered up by children. Did she not ask little Bernadette to say the Rosary in her presence at the cave of Massabielle? Later at Fatima, did she not plead with the three children to say the Rosary slowly and devoutly for the conversion of sinners? Each Christian in his sphere and state of life—even little children—can save the world from all the calamities which threaten it, if only he says the Rosary each day and means every word of it. In the spirit of the large beads (those on which the *Our Father* is recited), he will walk reverently in God's Presence because God is everywhere. He will try

to win others to a more devout life and be forgiving in the matter of personal injuries. In the spirit of the small beads (those on which the *Hail Mary* is recited) he will beg Mary, our Heavenly Mother, to watch over her children during their sojourn on earth and to bring them safely to paradise at the hour of death. We are saved from the danger of becoming absorbed in the cheap pleasures and vanities of this world, if our thoughts dwell frequently on "Our Father who art in Heaven" and on Mary, our Heavenly Queen.

Secondly, there is the event known as Mission Sunday which occurs on the third Sunday of October. As *Mary's Loyal Helpers*, this day should have a special significance for you. It is a day on which to remember the two promises you made when you joined our Mission Club for boys and girls. The first promise was that of offering a daily Hail Mary for our Sisters that they may bring many souls to God, and the second promise was that of making little sacrifices, especially of candy, chewing gum and an occasional show, in order to send the money saved as "Sunshine pennies" to aid our work.

As you pray for us, remember that we, too, pray for you.

Mary-ly yours,
SUNSHINE SECRETARY, MLH.

DIANNE EGANEY AND BARBARA KAVANAUGH, TRENTON, N. J., ON MISSION SUNDAY



Every year on Mission Sunday a Mission Pageant takes place in Trenton, New Jersey. Eleven-year-old school children of the area walk in procession, wearing the habits of the religious communities of men and women working in the Trenton Diocese and in the mission fields. There are two representatives for each community.

It fell to the happy lot of Dianne Eganey and Barbara Kavanaugh to wear the habit of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters in the Mission procession last year.



The Missionary Catechist

Helpers Page

LETTERS O' THE MONTH

Dear Sisters:

It has been some time since you heard from us, but we haven't forgotten you. Enclosed is a dollar to help your wonderful work. Our whole family enjoys your little magazine. We continue to pray for you; don't forget us in your prayers.

*Jean, Barbara and Mary Pounder,
Savannah, Georgia*

Dear Sister:

How are you? I am going to try to earn the money that I put in the Sunshine Bag because it is better that way. I was sick a couple of days. It is not fun to be sick.

*Donna Erickson, age 7,
Hampton, Minn.*

Dear Sunshine Secretary:

I am enclosing a dollar in dimes in the dime card. I am sorry that I have not sent it sooner but I have been putting some of the money that I saved in the school savings bank.

*Anna E. Silvia,
Middletown, Rhode Island.*

OCTOBER PUZZLE

At the right is a very easy dot puzzle which even our smallest Helpers can work. Have a good time and send the completed drawing to Sunshine Secretary for a holy card.

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLE

Mandolin, tuba, piano, cornet, saxophone, piccolo, French horn, bells, bull fiddle, violin, oboe, fife, harp, trombone, mouth organ.



BROTHER AND SISTER ARE NEW AND EAGER LOYAL HELPERS OF MARY



We are happy to introduce, through this page, two Helpers who have recently joined our Mission Club. They are Julia Aragon, age 6½ years, and her brother, Ernest Aragon, age 4½ years. They live in Vaughn, New Mexico.

The children are the niece and nephew of Sister Margarita of our Order.

We hope that many boys and girls will want to join Mary's Loyal Helpers by Mission Sunday.



In Memoriam

Mary Oehler, Mt. Healthy, Cincinnati, Ohio
mother of Sister Theodora, O.L.V.M.
Esquipula Baca, Santa Fe., N. Mex.,
father of Sister Carlota, O.L.V.M.
Jeremiah Corcoran, Chicago, Illinois
father of Sister Mary Colette, O.L.V.M.
James Houston, County Donegal, Ireland.
James Mulhalland, Burlington, New Jersey
E. Loretta Zinsmeister, Pittsburgh, Pa.
John Skivington, New Rochelle, New York
August Braun, Chicago, Illinois

ALLEYS AND GARAGES

(Continued from page 7)

of fire proofing, we might be allowed to use the room downstairs. Needless to say, our search for new places to teach began right then.

"Too small!" "Too far from school!" "Fish nets!" "Storage!" "Nerves—can't stand noisy children around!" These were some of the reasons our search went on for quite a while. It was most heartening when we would hear such things as, "It's a real privilege to have catechism taught at my place, Sister!" or "I'll be glad to put your benches in order and keep the garage clean for you, Sister," or "The garage will be yours to leave everything set up in as soon as I call the salvage to remove the junk that's there." When things like that are said we feel the spirit of Faith and Charity are still very much alive.

One day in the midst of a class it began to rain. The downfall on the tin roof of one of our garages made quite a racket. Visible signs of dampness appeared through a crack or two in the wall. Then one little boy interrupted with "Gee, I'll bet this is the way Mary and Joseph felt in the stable at Bethlehem!"

That's just it! There is perhaps more of a similarity than that little boy realized between the actual physical life of Our Lord and the life He again relives in the members of His Mystical Body. Like Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem seeking shelter for the Holy Child God entrusted to their care, we seek for shelter for His other children to teach them how they can become holy. In the designs of Providence they found only a stable which was a bit worse than our garages. They knew what it meant to be turned down, to have to try and try and try again. The King of Heaven and Earth begged through His dearest friends for shelter at people's doors. And He is still doing it, but this time, we are privileged to do that begging for Him.



"We confess that we feel a special paternal affection, which is certainly inspired of Heaven, for the Negro people dwelling among you; for in the field of religion and education we know that they need special care and comfort and are very deserving of it. We therefore invoke an abundance of heavenly blessing and we pray fruitful success for those whose generous zeal is devoted to their welfare."

Pope Pius XII, Sertum Lactitiae
(To the Bishops of America)
November 1, 1939

Dear Readers:

During the past two years it has been my privilege (and a pleasure!) to keep you acquainted with the work of our Sisters in the home mission field. With this issue of THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST my work as editor comes to an end. (The mission fields are calling!)

The succeeding issues of our magazine will be edited by **Sister Elizabeth Ann**, who is already known to you as a regular contributor to its pages. Many of you will remember Sister as former editor of THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST back in 1934-39.

God love you! Keep us all in your prayers,

Sister Eugenia

The Missionary Catechist

Margarita

by Sister Marie

"*Esta la Superiora aqui?*"

This Spanish question greeted me as I opened the door and found myself face to face with a tiny, wizened Mexican lady.

I managed to answer in a broken Spanish and motioned for her to be seated while I called the Superior.

After describing her to the other Sisters, I found myself listening to a beautiful love story. Each Sister had something to add to it and out of it came a tremendous story of generosity.

Margarita, the old Mexican lady had for many years lovingly nursed her sick mother in their little two-room house . . . a shack on the exterior and a church within, for it housed a little altar with many statues and the heart of Margarita who offered daily sacrifice of devoted service and love.

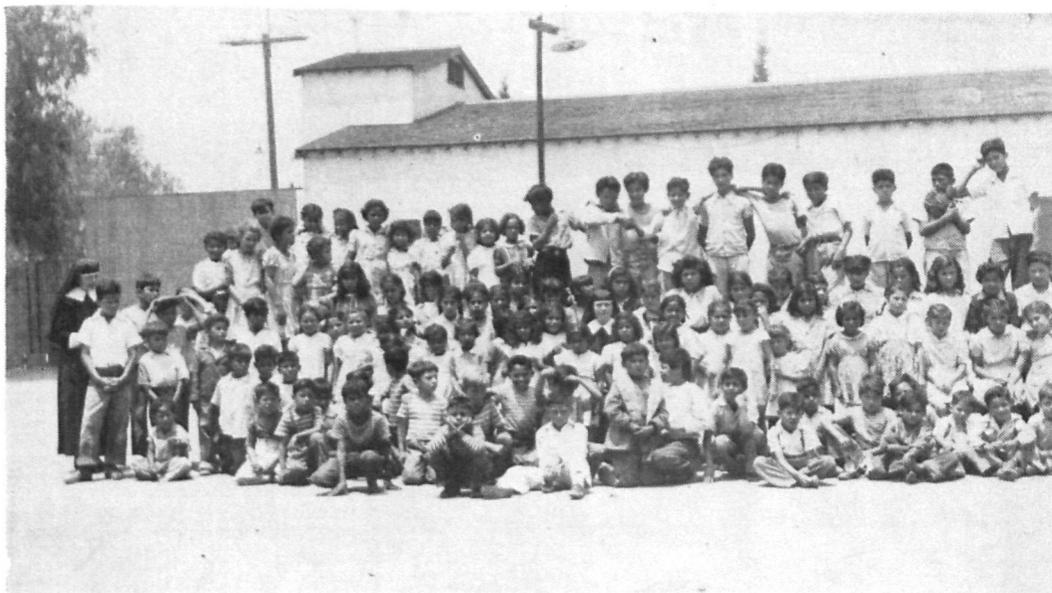
After her mother died, Margarita gave all her time to God. Like the Divine Exemplar Himself, Margarita set afire the hearts of all with whom she comes in contact by instilling in them a desire to make reparation to the Sacred Heart by Night Adoration. Not content with getting individuals to make these nocturnal holy hours, she visits families and encourages them to have the Sacred Heart enthroned in their homes. Between these activi-

ties Margarita is often seen in the little kitchen of the church hall laboriously cooking *pan dulce* (sweet bread) for the week-end *jamaicas* which help to pay the debt on the new hall.

On Monday mornings, Margarita is seen visiting the poor and the sick bringing them anything which may have been left over from the *jamaica*. In her spare time, besides spending much time in prayer before her little home altar, she makes Scapulars to be used at First Communion time, orders and distributes prayer books, cleans the church, runs many errands for the pastor, brings the names of fallen-away Catholics to his attention, and many other things—all *por amor de Dios* (for the love of God).

Recently when we were desperate for someone to meet a release-time class, Margarita offered, "If you cannot find anyone with a car who is able to go, I myself will walk there." (The "walk" was a three-mile hike down the busy highway.)

And so she goes . . . from her two-mile walk across town in the early dawn to Holy Mass . . . to her nocturnal visits with Jesus in the black of night. Seventy-two years old, frail in body, her soul on fire, Margarita spends her days bringing Christ to others and others to Christ. How soon the world would be changed if there were more "Margaritas"!



A summer school group at San Fernando, California.

*October 7 is the Feast of
the Most Holy Rosary*



Sister Josephine and a group of second-graders at the Settlement House in Gary, Indiana.

These first Communicants delight in learning how to lead the prayers of the Rosary. They love to make simple meditations on the Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious Mysteries of Our Lord's life in the recitation of the Rosary.

Each child is also taught how to make the Way of the Cross privately and to reflect at

each Station on the particular suffering that Our Savior endured for love of us.

Anyone who happens to visit St. Anthony's church (Gary) of a Saturday afternoon, is indeed edified to see the children, little and big, who are following the Way of the Cross, after their weekly Confession.