A black and white photograph of a mountain lake. The lake is calm, reflecting the surrounding forested mountains. In the foreground, three people are sitting on a rocky shore, looking towards the water. The title 'The Missionary Catechist' is written in a large, elegant cursive font across the top of the image. The date 'July-August 1957' is printed in a bold, sans-serif font in the lower right quadrant.

# *The Missionary Catechist*

**July-August 1957**



**Work**

**Play**

**Study**

Victory Noll's broad terraces require much work in the summer months. Sister Effie keeps them trim.

After teaching religious vacation school during June and most of July, the Missionary Sisters travel to the convent nearest them in which the annual retreat is to be held. Retreats are held simultaneously at Victory Noll and in nine convents throughout the United States. At the close on the feast of Our Lady of the Snow, August 5, the Sisters follow a program of work, play, and study for the rest of the month.



Do you like yours rare, medium, or well done? Sister Francesca and Sister Carol grill them just right.



Studying outdoors at Victory Noll are (from left): Sister M. Joan Louise, Sister Martha Mary, and Sister Mary Kathleen.

# The Missionary Catechist

Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters

Huntington, Indiana

Volume 32-33

Number 8

July-August 1957

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## COVER

The sisters enjoy the beauty of Lake Mary, near Brighton, Utah.

## CREDITS

Cover by the Very Rev. Alphonse Heckler, O.F.M. Cap., Baraga, Michigan; inside front, W. Wesley Klopfer, Azusa, California.

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## **Where Do They Go?**

“**W**AS Juanita Ramos in school today?”

“No, Sister, she’s gone.”

“What about Jose Gutierrez? Does anyone know why he didn’t come to class?”

“They left yesterday, Madre.”

Such answers to our inquiries meant only one thing to us sisters in Brawley, California. The families were on the move again, had gone north with the crops.

These same families had only arrived in Brawley in November or December, and now in April they were gone again. Consequently, the children received very little religious instruction. The life of a migrant is a very hard one. These people need a strong faith, but we know that a strong faith is not a product of ignorance.

Some years after leaving Brawley I was stationed in Michigan where I could see for myself what happens to at least some of our migratory families. Last summer Sister Cecilia Marie and I were asked to take a religious census of the migrants in and around Lennawee County, Michigan. This county is in the Archdiocese of Detroit. It attracts many migrants because of the abundant tomato crops.

It had been noticed that most of the Mexicans returned to the same farms where they had been employed during the previous summers. A permanent census record would be valuable. With the information that we would gather, it would be much easier for priests and



Maria says, “Thank you, Sister,” with a gift of flowers.

social workers to give spiritual and material help in the future.

The Archdiocese has long been interested in the needs of the migrants. Centers have been established throughout the countryside in areas where the crops are hand picked. A priest is in charge of each center, and the sisters and lay organizations work under him. The National Council of Catholic Women do much to help with this work.

It is not our intention in this short article to describe the whole program. Rather, we would take you with us on a typical day of visiting. Then we will find out the answer to those questions we used to ask ourselves in California: Where do they go? What happens to them?

Early every morning we started out

armed with a map showing where the Mexicans were employed. Our first stop was at the farmhouse to pay a call on the farmer and his wife and explain the purpose of our visit. Most of these farmers were very friendly. The first one came out to the car and pointing down the road, said, "See that little group of homes? That's them."

We bounced down the narrow, rutted road made muddy by recent rains. As we neared the houses the children spied us and ran in to tell Mama. Immediately women and children with beaming faces began to appear. Before us we saw a huge, soupy puddle, but the smiling faces encouraged us and despite the spinning tires, we kept on. We knew our shoes would get very dirty on the muddy path, but we couldn't feel sorry for ourselves when we noticed that the feet coming eagerly to meet us had no shoes to get dirty.



Pedro felt at first as if he did not belong, but after a few days he took his turn at it and was "one of the boys."

With gracious hospitality one of the mothers offered us the one chair in the room. Others scurried around to find a stool for the other sister. After greeting all in Spanish or English we began to take the census.

"How many families live here?"

"Four, Madre, and Fernando and Joaquin stay with us."

As Sister Cecilia Marie continued with the questions I found myself wondering where they all fit. The house had four rooms, fairly large, but certainly not adequate for so many. Then I heard the names of the children and I began to count: four in one family, seven in the next, three small children in the next, and five in the last.

A look of sadness crossed their faces when we asked about the crops. They were very late. The men were out trying to find some work to tide them over until the tomatoes would be ready to pick.

Noting the bare feet and poor dresses we asked whether they could use some clothing. With grateful looks they said they would be glad for anything, especially shoes. We made a note of their needs and at the end of each day turned these in to the local chairman. To supply them was one of the charitable works of the NCCW.

We had learned that one of the children had not been baptized so we urged the parents to take the boy the following Sunday. After encouraging all to go to Mass Sunday we left. However, when we got in the car we found that it didn't like being left in the mud and refused to budge. Some of the men had come home in the meantime so they pushed us, bare feet slipping in the mud. Finally they got us on solid earth and we moved by our own power.

At the next stop the farmer had his migrants living behind his barn in temporary shacks. There were no screens on doors or windows. Neither were there chairs, but the beds served our

purpose. We were welcomed with the same graciousness we met everywhere.

As the mother went down the list of children we learned that nine-year-old Maria had not made her First Communion. With tears in her eyes her mother explained that the child had been ready to make it, but a week before the day scheduled, they had to leave. "Just like Brawley," I thought. How happy we were to tell her that there would be classes during the summer and the bus would come and pick up the children. Then, if Maria was ready, she could still make her First Communion.

As we continued on our way we noticed a group of Mexicans working in the field. They were busy hoeing, but when they saw the sisters, off came

their hats and a big smile lighted their faces. Pointing to a group of make-shift homes they told us that their wives would give us all the information.

So each day went on. While we were taking the religious census, our other sisters were busy helping the migrants too. In one of the rural parishes a number of Mexican children attended summer school. The little Mexicans were shy at first and rather self-conscious, but it was not long before they were competing in games with the other children and were much at home with them.

It is good to know that at least some of our Juanitas and Josés, though dropped from our roll calls in California and Texas, are receiving religious instruction "up north."

## ***Meet My Friend John***

SISTER MARY PATRICK

IT was a good Catholic woman who told us about John. She knew he had been baptized a Catholic, but he never attended church. When we heard that he was almost seventy and in poor health, we decided it would be wise to call on John the very next day.

Vivid still is the memory of that visit. There stood John tall and stately, with eyes as blue as the Pacific. His manner was reserved, his words few. In fact, he seemed more than a little shy. But oh, when he looked at you with those piercing blue eyes, you felt like an open book.

Quietly we explained the purpose of our visit. We tried to make our sales talk as appealing as possible, adding that we would be so happy to help him return to the Church.

Again his blue eyes were raised. Then very softly he asked, "Sister, will you help me make my First Communion?"

After assuring him that we would not only help him, but would make it as easy as possible, he seemed relieved. Then he told us that he was baptized a Catholic and had been confirmed. "Fifty-five years ago, at the age of thirteen, I made my first confession but did not receive my First Communion," he told us. This was the extent of the information he gave us that first day. We arranged for him to come for instructions every afternoon from five to six Monday through Friday.

The next afternoon exactly at five our friend John arrived. He looked like one of the patriarchs of old, dressed in his Sunday best. His greeting was pleasant but his words few. With the preciseness of a novice he removed his overshoes and put them in an inconspicuous place outside the door. Neatly folding his overcoat, he placed it across the back of a chair. He did express his gratitude for our interest.

In response to our request that he attend Holy Mass each Sunday he promised willingly. As the weeks went by we were happy to notice John kneeling toward the back of the church several mornings each week at the eight o'clock Mass.

Before we got too deep in our instructions we taught him how to say the Rosary. His cooperation and good will were amazing. We knew there was someone who was praying for him or else paying the price of his conversion.

Gradually his story unfolded. It was his mother who was his guiding star. John came from a fine German family. They lived in an isolated district where Catholics were few and the nearest church many miles away, but the mother instructed John, taught him his prayers and the commandments, and instilled in him beautiful Christian principles.

It was a happy day for his mother when thirteen-year-old John received the sacrament of penance. Before Sunday dawned, however, John met with an accident and was unable to attend Mass or receive Holy Communion as planned. Shortly afterward a still greater sorrow came when God called the beloved mother to Himself. This was a severe blow to John. The devotion between mother and son was very deep. Perhaps this was the reason why John, young though he was, left home and began to live his own life in the world.

All through the years John kept fresh the memory of his mother. He never married, seems to have led a good life, but never attended church. Strange as it may seem, he told us of his strong desire to be a practical Catholic; yet he could not get himself inside a church.

One day when he was sitting in a park, a priest passed by, sat down on the bench beside him and talked to him. John secretly hoped Father would

ask him about his religion, but he didn't, much to his disappointment.

When John began his instructions we gave him a copy of "Father Smith Instructs Jackson," a catechism, and a bible history. When he came for class, we told him, all he need bring was the catechism. But no, for John it was imperative that he bring all his books.

He had a ritual all his own. Each book had a special rubber band, exactly the correct size. With great ceremony John would remove the rubber bands and place the books on the desk. One day after class I noticed that he was looking all over the desk. I asked him whether he had misplaced something. Yes, his rubber bands! Embarrassed, I recalled that I had toyed with them. I picked up my books and charts and looked high and low, but succeeded in finding only one band. Poor John, you would think he had lost a million dollars. Very humbly I offered him our box of rubber bands, but I knew they were only second best.

John received his First Communion on the vigil of the Immaculate Conception. Just before Christmas he became seriously ill and had to be taken to the hospital. As soon as we learned the news we went to see him. The hospital chaplain and the priests of the parish visited him frequently and gave him their blessing. It was a comfort for him to receive Our Lord each morning.

We arranged to see him a few times each week. The blue eyes had become softer now and we were really good friends. John was always so grateful.

One morning the nurse stopped to see him on her rounds. He seemed all right, but she must have just stepped out of the room when John closed his eyes and went to heaven. He was buried two months from the day he returned to the Church.

# *Busman's Holiday*

SISTER NOREEN

THE busman on a holiday, the saying goes, takes a bus ride. So teachers on a vacation go to school!



Consultation between classes: from left, Sister Jeanette, Sister Miriam, Sister Noreen, Sister Mary Regina.

In New Jersey, Michigan, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, New Mexico, California, and Texas, as well as at Victory Noll, our sisters employ their time after the summer retreat, in study. Last year the special subject was the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine and its organization. This year the sisters will review teaching methods recommended by the national office of the Confraternity.

Founded in 1539, the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine received a new impetus in the twentieth century under St. Pius X and has been highly

recommended by the succeeding Holy Fathers who have called it "the choicest field of Catholic Action."

The Confraternity is a lay organization whose purpose is the religious education of all those outside the Catholic school system. In many of our centers lay teachers instructed by our sisters, assist in teaching religion. In others, lay teachers are "on their own" under the supervision of our sisters.

It is often astounding to persons to hear that fifty-five per cent of our Catholic boys and girls of elementary grades are in public schools. In high schools the percentage tops seventy-five per cent. In other words, more Catholic children are not in Catholic schools than are attending the parochial schools. The shortage of teaching sisters is well known; the shortage of catechetical sisters is not so well advertised.

It was to reach these children and those above school age in order to instruct them in the saving truths of the Catholic Faith that the Congregation of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters was founded. Its members are now teaching over 90,000 children throughout the United States.

The sisters, eager to reach the hearts of the children under their care and to bring them to love their religion and live it, each year intensify their own study of doctrine and teaching methods and enthusiastically devote their vacation to this aim.



Teacher (Sister Noreen) and pupils look alike.



Sister Noreen points out the place of teachers in the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.



We move outdoors!



"Mama, aren't you going to stay too?"

## *First Day of School*

### PICTURE STORY

by Sister Mary Martha

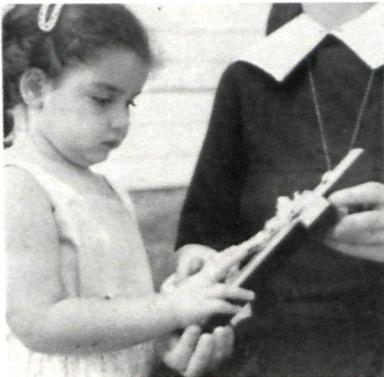
Cecilia DeSapio, Flemington, N. J., attends Religious Vacation School for the first time.



Cecilia makes friends with Sister.



Are two little girls plotting mischief?



"Jesus died on the cross for us, Celia."



Sure enough, at recess the grass cart is missing. Celia is giving Janie a ride.



Celia and Janie spend the rest of recess time on the porch with Sister.



"Bye, Sister; Summer school is fun."



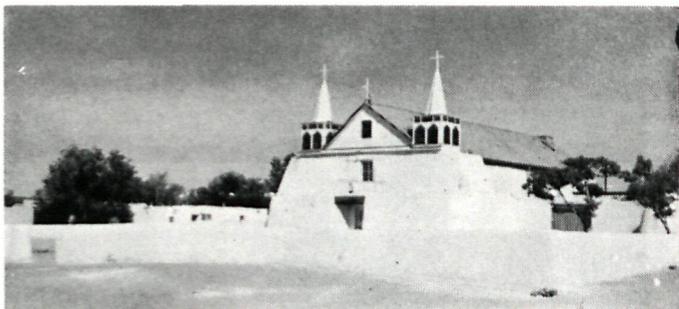
Big brother admires her color book.



"See you tomorrow!"

# ***Mission to Isleta***

SISTER KATHLEEN



Picturesque Isleta Mission in New Mexico

**N**EW Mexico, the Land of Enchantment, is also the land of surprises for us sisters who staff our convent at Santa Fe. Our work here differs from that in many of our missions. Most of us go out two by two into various towns for a month or for several months at a time to carry on our work according to the wishes of the pastor of the particular parish to which we are sent. We feel, I think, as the apostles must have felt when they were sent out, not knowing just what lay before them.

My own first assignment, after arriving in Santa Fe, read: "Isleta for one month, preparation of lay teachers in the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine." Sister Josephine was to be my companion.

Isleta, one of the oldest of the Indian pueblos, is the center of the parish of St. Augustine. Several mission churches are attached to it. The zealous pastor, Father Stadtmueller, had announced the teachers' course and arranged for meetings to take place on our arrival. It was gratifying to see the response to Father's request and the eagerness of these good people to do their part in the teaching of religion.

The potential teachers were divided into two groups, those from the north and those from the southern part of the scattered parish. We gave an accelerated CCD course to each group. A month seemed very short with so much to be done, but it was surprising to see what was accomplished. Often they would stay overtime in order to get all they possibly could in the way of instruction.

During the month remarks such as the following were a reward in themselves for all the effort expended in the teacher training.

"Sister, I thought that with my six little children I would not be able to give the time required to teach, but since you told us that sacrifices would bring blessings upon the work, I am ready to volunteer." This was from a mother who sacrifices to send her own children to a Catholic school some miles away.

"Sister, I am a working man and do not feel I can give the time to teaching classes, but I have four children and I would like to take the course in order to help them." By the end of the course

he was so interested and enthusiastic he wanted to teach a class on Sunday and was assigned one.

"Sister, in the course I am learning many things that will help make me a better school teacher." This teacher has two sisters, also school teachers, and now all three are Confraternity teachers.

Our second Sunday in this district was designated as Catechetical Sunday in the Archdiocese. It was appropriately observed with sermons on the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine and later in the day with exhibits of catechetical materials, posters, etc. to acquaint the parishioners with the many ways in which they could be of help in the organization.

During the preceding months some of the women had instructed the children for their First Communion. We worked together with them in the final preparation for that great day. On the last Saturday and Sunday of the month First Holy Communion was given to three different groups.

Before we returned to Santa Fe at the end of the month, a School of Re-



Confraternity Teachers at Los Padillas with Sister Josephine (left) and Sister Kathleen.

ligion had been set up at the parish church in Isleta and in the three mission churches at Los Lunas, Los Padillas, and Pajarito, for children through the grades, with thirty-three Confraternity teachers and an enrollment of 353 children.

It was with joyful and grateful hearts that Sister Josephine and I returned home, confident that with God's help and under the guidance of the pastor as Confraternity Director, the work would continue in this scattered parish.



Before Sister Kathleen and Sister Josephine left for Santa Fe, the CCD teachers wanted their pictures taken with them and their pastor, Father Stadtmueller. Those on the left are Isleta Indians. On the right are the teachers from Los Lunas.

# In the Home Field

It was a class day shortly before confirmation was to be administered in the parish. Two girls were having an earnest discussion in front of the church. As I approached, one of them said, "Sister, Pope Pius isn't coming to confirm us, is he? The archbishop is, isn't he?"

I said yes, that the archbishop would be here and explained that the Holy Father does not leave Rome. I added that he could not possibly go around confirming all the boys and girls in the world.

The girl who had asked the question turned to her companion and said, "See, I told you."

The other one only sighed and said, "Oh, I wish he could at least come to confirm us."

SISTER KATHLEEN



Little girls can play better without hats so Sister Gertrude Marie obligingly makes a collection.

## WHO'S AFRAID?

One of the sisters teaches in a wash house whose owner keeps white mice there. When the first mouse made his appearance Sister jumped up on a bench although she protested afterward that she wasn't really afraid. The woman who owns the wash house and its occupants insists that the mice are nice little pets. "Why, they even run over our feet all the time, and they never bite us."

SISTER CAROL

## SISTER WOULDN'T

I wrote a note to Pedro's father urging him to speak to his boy about his conduct in class. After the first Mass on the following Sunday the father was waiting for me. With him was a smiling Pedro. The father explained that when he tried to talk to the boy, Pedro only insisted, "I don't think it's true. Sister couldn't have written that. She loves me too much."

SISTER MARY CATHERINE

## IDENTIFICATION

"Sister, can you help me out? I'd like to get one of these big candles (indicating a seven-day candle) for St. Anthony."

"Are you praying to him for a special favor?" I asked, just for something to say.

"Oh no, I already received it. Now I want to keep my promise."

When he came from the rectory a few minutes later, he stopped me again. "Sister, er . . . I have another question. Which one is St. Anthony?"

SISTER MARITA



Raymond and his horse.

## HORSE PLAY

Raymond Torres comes to class on horseback. One day I asked him how much he wanted for his horse. All the other boys crowded round to hear the answer. Raymond asked, "How much can you give, Sister?"

I said, "Maybe I can find a dime."

Raymond gallantly answered, "Sister my father paid eighty dollars for this horse, but since it is you, you can have it for a dime."

"All right," I said, and turned to the boys. "Boys, let's see if we can get a dime."

Arnold, who knows very little English, kept saying, "It isn't worth it, Sister. It isn't worth it." What he meant was, "It isn't enough."

They all dug into their pockets and produced five pennies and a nickel. Arnold, jumping up and down, kept shouting, "That isn't a dime. You said you wanted a dime."

After that, at every class, they wanted to know what I was going to do with my horse. Would I take it with me to Santa Fe or give it to one of the boys?

SISTER MARTINA

## POOR FATHER

Father was going to give the instruction to the children during the first period of class. He had left word for us to send for him when all had assembled.

I said to Nancy, "Will you please go and tell Father the children are here."

Nancy returned from the rectory with a puzzled look. "Sister, the lady answered the door and said Father can't come because he is busy with a heart attack." Then she added quickly, "I don't know, but I think that's what she said."

I wondered whether Father was ill or had gone on a sick call. I thought it might be well to make sure so I myself saw the housekeeper. "Oh, Sister," she said, "poor Father has been busy for hours with the architect."

SISTER CARLOTA



Be sure to come back, Sister

## ***Around Victory Noll***

IT'S a long time since we reported the doings Around Victory Noll. It's not that nothing has happened. We just haven't got around to telling you about it.

We were especially privileged the past few months to have some nationally known visitors. One of the first of them was the Rev. Joseph H. Fichter, S.J., author and sociologist. Father is now a visiting professor at Notre Dame.

His talk to us was especially interesting in that he emphasized the need for a Congregation such as ours. There is a constantly increasing overflow from the parochial schools to the public schools, for the expansion of the parish school cannot possibly keep pace with the expansion of the Catholic child population trying to get into these schools. Father Fichter predicts that within the next decade the proportion of Catholic children in public schools will increase to about two-thirds. These boys and girls will need to be instructed in their religion; hence there must be more and more sisters who devote themselves to this work.

### **Eastern Rites**

Father Fichter was followed by another famous Jesuit, the Rev. Feodor Wilcock, S.J. Father Wilcock is one of fifty or more Eastern Rite Jesuits who now work among Russian exiles and will be ready to go to Russia itself when the Iron Curtain is lifted. Father gave us a most interesting explanation of the various rites of the Church and made us appreciate more his own rite. He enlivened his remarks with wit and humor.

Father Wilcock's talk was just the preparation we needed for the illustrated lecture on the Divine Liturgy and the administration of the sacraments in the Byzantine rite, given us by the Rev. Hermes Kreilkamp, O.F.M.Cap. Father Hermes is a professor at St. Felix Capuchin Seminary here in Huntington. He is a graduate of the Pontifical College of Oriental Studies in Rome, and though a priest of the Latin rite, has the privilege of celebrating the liturgy in the Slav-Byzantine rite.

Father Hermes has on several occasions celebrated the liturgy at Victory Noll. Every day during the summer months and at least once a week at other times of the year Father celebrates in the Eastern Rite chapel of the Capuchin Friary. Since the chapel is not in the cloister we are able to take our own visitors there to see it and, when possible, assist at the liturgy. It is a wonderful opportunity to acquaint them with this beautiful rite. The seminarians have an excellent choir.

Many of the slides Father Hermes used in his lecture were actual photographs taken at the friary by the Rev. Edward F. Geiskopf of Milwaukee, Sister Mary Eva's brother.

### **Father Serra's Cause**

When he came to the diocese to give several lectures and retreats, the Rev. Eric O'Brien, O.F.M., Vice Postulator for the Cause of Father Junipero Serra, spent several days Around Victory Noll.

Father Eric told us of his work for the canonization of Father Serra and illustrated his talk with slides that he himself made in Rome, Spain, Mexico, and California.

### Good Fishing

There is a lake now Around Victory Noll. We heard someone irreverently refer to it as a pond, but it is a lake, a bona fide lake. It is stocked with fish and is an attraction for water fowl. So far as we can discover, it has no official name yet, but the State of Indiana has dignified it with "No hunting or fishing allowed" signs. The signs do not apply to the natives. We had some of its good fish one Friday.

### Archbishop's Memorial

At this writing work is going forward on Archbishop Noll's memorial in our cemetery. The grave itself is covered with a marble slab. In the center of the mound on which the Archbishop is buried will be a marble altar and crucifix. Holy Mass will be offered there on certain days of the year.



July 31 is the first anniversary of the death of Archbishop Noll. Please remember him in your prayers that day.

### Jubilarians

This year there will be a large group of sisters to celebrate their silver jubilee of profession. Most of them will come to Victory Noll for a month's spiritual renovation before our annual retreat. This period of recollection will not be so strict as the eight days of retreat, but will give the sisters an opportunity for spiritual rejuvenation, as it were.

The silver jubilarians and the towns from which they entered the community are:

- Sister Mercedes Gutierrez, Dilia, N. M.
- Sister Carlota Baca, Santa Fe
- Sister Eleanor Marie Gerhart, St. Louis
- Sister Viola Wopperer, Hamilton, Ohio
- Sister Regina Torzewski, Wausau, Wis.
- Sister Mary Louise Perl, Mansfield, Ohio
- Sister Mary Blanche Lawler, Dekalb, Ill.
- Sister Mary Elisabeth Wengritsky, Lombard, Ill.
- Sister Aurelia Jane McMahan, Milwaukee
- Sister Benedicta Reinersmann, Pittsburgh
- Sister Sophia Renkey, Pittsburgh
- Sister Catherine Marie Ganse, Lancaster Pa.
- Sister Lourdes O'Reilly, Dublin, Ireland
- Sister Marian Frances Weyenberg, Appleton, Wis.
- Sister Mary Bernadette Wade, Washington, Ind.
- Sister Juliana Schmitt, St. Louis
- Sister Mary Loretta Srill, Chicago

Sister Margaret Murfield, deceased, was in this class also. Sister became ill during her second year in the community and had the privilege of pronouncing her religious vows on her deathbed.

We congratulate the jubilarians and wish them many more years in God's service.



# our Associates'

## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, Chicago

These members, headed by *Miss Mary Perkins*, lived in the same neighborhood twenty-five and more years ago when they organized. The same ladies are now scattered all over the city and Chicago does cover quite a bit of territory. However, thanks to THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST which they receive monthly, their interest never lags and there are get-togethers a few times a year when the members make voluntary offerings toward our mission work.

Dear Associates:

AS we scan the six months total of our various bands, clubs and guilds, we are pleased with your showing at this halfway mark. We hope when fall parties are in progress you will do equally well so that the year-end totals will reach an all-time high.

Meanwhile, enjoy your brief respite from money-making ventures. May each one of you enjoy your vacation whether this be spent at home, at a nearby resort, or at some distant point.

SISTER SUPERVISOR, ACM

### ST. RAPHAEL'S, Milwaukee

This Band, a daughter band of St. Anne's, same city, will soon be one year old. The first meeting of members, headed by *Mrs. Olive Schrimpf*, Promoter, was held on October 24 of last year. Inasmuch as it was the feast of St. Raphael the Archangel, it was decided that the Band should be named in his honor. The group sponsors Sister Marie Celine, missioned at our Infant of Prague convent, Los Angeles.

There were, at last writing, thirteen ladies in the Band and all live within two blocks of one another. Meetings start at 7:30 p.m., ending with refreshments at 10 p.m. This gives our Associates two and one half hours to work on some pet project. Last year the members covered religious pictures with film, crocheting around the four sides with colorful thread. They also made chains of yarns to which they attached medals, and mounted medals on cards.



### INFANT OF PRAGUE, Chicago

New officers are elected at the beginning of each year. *Miss Josephine Tasch* is currently serving as president. The ladies keep busy all the year with various projects for Sister Mary Genrose at our Grove Hill, Alabama convent. Besides the huge cartons sent to the South, these Associates are generous in their donations to Victory Noll.

# Club Mention



## ST. JOHN GUILD, Chicago



The good people who comprise this mission group struck a bargain with us a long time ago which amounted to this: "Pray for us, please, and we

will help your mission work to the best of our ability." They do not forget *their* part—or *ours*! Every letter from the Promoter, Mrs. A. Bechtold, carries a substantial check and a plea for prayers. We would be ungrateful indeed if we failed them.

## CHRIST THE KING, Dearborn, Mich.

The promoter, Mrs. Joseph Brusch, through voluntary offerings solicited from her friends and relatives, tries to make the Burse of her sister, Sister



Mary Regis, grow yearly until it reaches completion—she hopes! Mrs. Brusch has also been instrumental in procuring many enrollments of deceased persons in our Associate Catechists of Mary.

## MARY, QUEEN OF ALL HEARTS Lombard, Ill.

The members of this Band have a special reason for rejoicing this year because Sister Mary Elisabeth, whom the Band sponsors, celebrates the silver jubilee of her religious profession. The "backbone" of this little group are Sister Mary Elisabeth's two sisters, Misses Wilma and Wallie Wenzitzky. Without their persistent ef-

## BANDS, CLUBS, GUILDS DONATIONS

April 11 to May 21, 1957

Bl. Martin, Lewiston, Minn., Mrs. Irene Lehmann .....	\$55.00
Holy Souls, Berwyn, Ill., Mrs. J. V. McGovern .....	9.00
Les Petites Fleurs, Chicago, Mrs. Peggy Kusmerz .....	26.00
Little Flower, Chicago, V. Foertsch .....	50.00
Our Lady of The Bl. Sacrament, Oak Park, Ill., Marian Turek .....	10.00
St. Anne, Milwaukee, Mrs. Karnitz .....	10.00
St. Augustine, Marshfield, Mass., Mrs. Jas. A. O'Brien .....	10.00
St. Catherine, Los Angeles, Calif., Mrs. M. McMannamy .....	57.30
St. Clara of St. Mary's, Ft. Wayne Mrs. Wm. F. Ryan .....	14.75
St. Clare, Omaha, Mrs. Hamilton .....	135.00
St. Helen, Dayton, O., Miss Melke .....	52.00
St. Irene, Chicago, May Walsh .....	11.00
St. John, Chicago, Mrs. A. Bechtold ..	50.00
St. Joseph, Chicago, Mrs. Naumes .....	126.25
St. Jude, Miss. Soc., Ft. Wayne, Mrs. Helen Horstmann .....	146.00
St. Katherine, Chicago, Mrs. Hammer	27.00
St. Luke, Chicago, Mrs. E. Potter .....	35.10
St. Margaret Mary, Omaha, Neb., Marie Egermier .....	100.00
St. Martin, Omaha, Mrs. Wentz .....	233.89
St. Mary, Orlando, Fla., Mrs. Lehman	15.00
St. Michael, Chicago, Mrs. Dowling .....	5.00
St. Omer, Cincinnati, Mrs. Hurlburt	10.00
St. Philomena, Chicago, M. Schaefer	26.00
St. Raphael, Milwaukee, Wis., Mrs. Olive Schrimpf .....	10.00
St. Rose, Marshfield, Wis., Mrs. Hueby	70.00
St. Vincent de Paul of St. Jude's Ft. Wayne, Mr. A. P. Carl .....	25.00
Seven Dolors, Chicago, Mrs. Murphy	6.00
Strillians, Cincinnati, L. Willenborg	121.00

forts and contributions to Queen of All Hearts Burse, this Band would no longer be in existence. A salute to their courage and perseverance.



# Mary's Loyal

WILLARD, OHIO, HELPER

Dear Loyal Helpers:

ON July 9 we celebrate the Feast of St. Mary Goretti. She is called the twentieth century Saint Agnes and died at the age of twelve rather than offend God by sin. Our little saint is the patroness of the Fighting Sixty-Ninth, a youth organization, whose members pledge themselves to observe the sixth and ninth Commandments of God with the utmost fidelity. Invoke her daily asking her aid to avoid sins of impurity in thought, word and deed. Honor her by modesty in dress and behavior.

Happy vacation days to all!

Mary-ly yours

SUNSHINE SECRETARY, MLH



To the left is Beverly Hay, of Willard, Ohio. Beverly was eleven years old and in the sixth grade when this picture was taken. We think she has had a birthday and was promoted to the seventh grade since that time. Beverly is an enthusiastic Helper.

I joined the Boy Scouts and got my Tenderfoot Badge last Thursday. Mother had to pin it on me upside down until I did a good deed. She got a miniature of my badge which I pinned on her. I can't think of anything more except that I painted a bird house this morning. Pray for our family. We pray for you.

Daniel Condon, Holland, Ohio.

## THESE ALTAR BOYS ARE LOYAL HELPERS OF MARY



To the left is Daniel Condon, of Holland, Ohio. He visited Victory Noll last summer in the company of his parents and sister. See his letter, elsewhere on these pages.

To the right is Edward Renier, of Chicago, Illinois. He finished the eighth grade in June and plans to enter a high school conducted by Brothers in the fall. He is the nephew of Sister Madeleine Sophie.



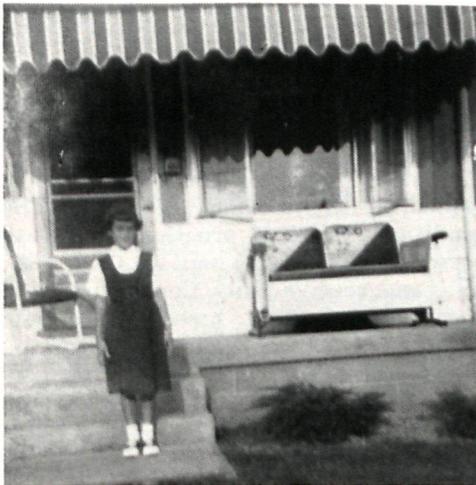
# Helpers' pages

JULY-AUGUST QUIZZIE DOT PUZZLE



Ginger, the cocker spaniel, doesn't know whether to bark at or run from this stranger who strayed into the backyard while he was taking a nap on the doorstep. Draw a line from dot to dot and tell us what animal the drawing turned out to be. We will send you a holy card for the worked puzzle.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, HELPER



Above is Donna Jean Hess of Columbus, Ohio. Donna is ten years old and in the sixth grade. She joined our Helpers last September and likes to work our puzzles.

Thank you for the mite boxes. I will save up my money and put some in each day. I want to help you all I can for I hope to be a Missionary Sister some day, too.

*Ardis Nerland, Langford, S. Dak.*

I read your "Catechist" every month and enjoy it very much. I am the sister of Sister M. Clement, a novice at Victory Noll. I am in the fifth grade. My sister's name (at school) is Sister Mary Thaddeus. She is a very nice nun. I am sending you five dollars for the missions.

*Colette Marzen, Stacyville, Ia.*

Enclosed is a dollar for my subscription. I enjoy the magazine very much. Seventh grade and work around home keep me very busy.

*Therese Lehner, Beaver Dam, Wis.*

# ***True Devotion to Mary***

## Questions We Are Asked About the Confraternity of Mary Queen of All Hearts

What is the Confraternity of Mary Queen of All Hearts?

The Confraternity is an association of Mary's children who practice total consecration to her.

What obligations do the members assume?

The members undertake to live and to propagate the Marian life according to the teaching of St. Louis Marie de Montfort, in order to sanctify themselves with greater ease and security. They try to do all things with Mary, in Mary, and for Mary in order that they may more perfectly live and act with Jesus, in Jesus, and for Jesus. They should renew their consecration faithfully and frequently.

Is it necessary for those who practice True Devotion to belong to the Confraternity?

No, there is no obligation to belong. It is a privilege. By joining the Confraternity you may gain many precious indulgences.

What are the indulgences that may be gained by becoming a member of the Confraternity?

The latest rescript on indulgences granted to members of the Confraternity reads as follows:

Members of the Confraternity of Mary Queen of All Hearts need only fulfill the usual conditions stipulated in the Code of Canon Law in order to

gain a plenary indulgence. These conditions are confession, Communion, and one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be to the Father, said for the intentions of our Holy Father.

On July 2, 1956, the Sacred Penitentiary granted to all members of the Confraternity of Mary Queen of All Hearts the indulgences listed here.

Members who fulfill the usual conditions (mentioned in the foregoing paragraph) may gain a plenary indulgence on the following days:

1. On the day of one's official inscription in the Confraternity and on its anniversary.
2. On all feasts of Our Lord and of His Blessed Mother listed in the general calendar of the Church.
3. On St. Louis de Montfort's feast day, now celebrated on April 28.
4. On the first Saturday of each month.

Another plenary indulgence can be gained at the moment of death. The conditions required are that the dying person commend his soul to God, confess, and receive Holy Communion; or, if it be impossible, having a contrite heart, invoke the Name of Jesus by pronouncing it if he can; otherwise by devoutly invoking it in his heart; and that he accept death from the hand of God as the wages of sin.

Partial indulgences are also granted to the members of the Confraternity.

1. An indulgence of 300 days may be gained every time they repeat with contrite heart the short formula of consecration: "I am all thine, and all I have is thine, O most loving Jesus, through Mary, thy most holy Mother.

2. An indulgence of 100 days may be gained each time that being contrite of heart they accomplish some work of piety or charity in the spirit of the Confraternity.

When was the Confraternity first established?

The Confraternity of Mary Queen of All Hearts was first established on March 25, 1899. St. Pius X erected it as an Archconfraternity in Rome on April 28, 1913. There are many branches of the Confraternity throughout the world. One of them is at Victory Noll, the Motherhouse of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters, Huntington, Indiana.

What must I do to become a member?

You must be registered where the Confraternity has been canonically erected. Send your name to Victory Noll giving the date on which you made your act of consecration. A certificate of membership will be mailed to you.

Is an offering necessary?

No. A small offering is commendable, if one is able to make it, but it is by no means a requirement for membership. The most important thing to remember is that only those are eligible for membership who practice True Devotion as explained by St. Louis de Montfort.

May priests and members of religious orders belong to the Confraternity?



I am all thine, and all I have is thine, O most loving Jesus, through Mary, thy most holy Mother. (300 days)

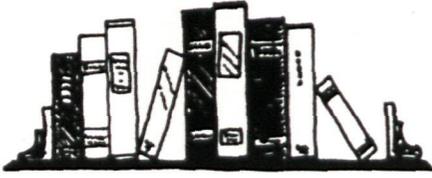
Priests and religious may certainly belong to the Confraternity. The Confraternity at Victory Noll is privileged to number bishops, priests, and religious from all parts of the world among its members.

Do you have any literature explaining True Devotion?

Yes. One of the most cherished works of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters is helping to spread the knowledge of True Devotion as taught by St. Louis de Montfort. The sisters themselves practice this devotion and teach it to others. Correspondence is invited. Address all inquiries to:

Sister Mary Agnes  
Confraternity of Mary  
Queen of All Hearts  
Victory Noll  
Huntington, Indiana

## BOOKS



*Jesus y Yo* by Rev. Aloysius J. Heeg, S.J. The Queen's Work, 3115 S. Grand Blvd., St. Louis 18, Mo. 25 cents. Special prices for quantity lots.

Some years ago a Spanish translation was made of Father Heeg's *Jesus and I*, but it was not nearly so attractive as the English edition. Now a revised Spanish edition has been issued. It is in full color and identical in format and content with the English edition. Best of all it incorporates the new regulations concerning the Eucharistic fast.

This is good news for those who know and love *Jesus and I* and want to use it with the Spanish-speaking.

*Jesus and I* is, without doubt, the best text that can be found to prepare children for First Communion. We have used it successfully also in instructing adult migrant workers. With the new Spanish edition it should be twice as valuable as it was before.

The Priest of the Plague: Henry Morse, S.J., by Philip Caraman, Farrar, Straus and Cudahy, New York. \$2.75

It is always fascinating to read of the English priests who worked during the severe persecutions of the Church. This well-written biography of Father Morse is especially inspiring. He was arrested and imprisoned on four

different occasions. Finally he was executed at Tyburn, but even the brutal execution seemed preferable to the long years of imprisonment in England's foul jails.

Father Morse was born in 1595 and executed in 1645. He was a convert to the Catholic Faith, the conversion having taken place when Morse was a law student at Cambridge.

He began his studies for the priesthood at Douai but found it necessary to return to England to settle his affairs after the death of his father. Hardly had he arrived when he was imprisoned for refusing to take the oath of allegiance and supremacy. His newly found faith was tested for four years until finally he was released and exiled.

After his ordination in Rome, Father Morse expressed the desire to join the Jesuits under whom he had studied. Because of a technicality, however, he had to return to England and work for awhile. Then if he still wished to join the Society, he would go back to the continent and make his novitiate.

Again shortly after he reached England he was imprisoned. At the end of his first year in jail he made his thirty-day retreat under the direction of a Jesuit imprisoned with him. During his four years in prison Father Morse ministered to other prisoners and made numerous converts. Released at last he went to Flanders, made his formal novitiate, and pronounced his vows in the Society of Jesus.

Although a marked man, Father Morse begged to return to his own country. There he distinguished himself for his heroism ministering to victims of the plague. Arrested and imprisoned once again, he went into exile for five years but returned to England, this time to martyrdom.

# *Learning by Doing*

LAVADA WARD STRONA

*Mrs. Strona is an enthusiastic Confraternity of Christian Doctrine teacher in Pomona, California.*

I STILL can't teach religion with some of the approaches the sisters have. Once I thought maybe if I had a habit like theirs, I could. But after due thought I decided I would still be myself even if I robbed the sisters' clothesline. So, in part, I worked out my own approach.

At first I had a little difficulty with it, and at a Confraternity of Christian Doctrine Workshop I took it up with our chaplain. Father and Sister Mary Eva (one of the CCD supervisors for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles) told me I had developed a pure Montessori method of teaching religion. They looked at me with awe. I had to go look up Montessori to find out what I'd developed.

In teaching the sacraments, we dramatize them whenever possible.

We baptize a doll, a durable rubber doll that some child is only too happy to bring. Everyone of us baptizes that doll. We have godparents. The children know they are not really baptizing. They are learning by doing.

The sacrament of penance we do not dramatize. After one try at that it was out.

We prepare a sickroom for the visit a priest. We meet him at the door

with lighted candles if he is carrying the Blessed Sacrament.

Marriage and Holy Orders entrance children. By breaking down the vows to their simplest form, children I taught five years ago still remember, in essence, how important such things are in the Church.

When the time came for teaching the Mass, I came across the most delightful book for a convert teacher, Father Ellard's *The Mass of the Future*. Its opening chapters were devoted to the Mass of the past.

We first did the Mass of St. Paul's day. We created in our garage teaching center an "upper room" to which we went very secretly one by one, carrying the food for the community meal. One brought dried beef, another olives, a third dates or figs, and bread and wine. We ate. We recited some of the psalms of David. We sang. Then missals appeared and we read the canon of the Mass.

I have found, with that foundation, that children of the nine to twelve age group grasp the Mass in its essentials. I gave a written examination on the Mass to a sixth grade group just before Christmas that netted two 100 papers, some 90, some 80, two 70, and one 20. That last was the grade of an emotionally disturbed thirteen-year-old boy. He knew most of the answers, but the examination scared him badly. Grading on the ten questions was done by one of the priests.

## Editor's By-Line

Someone wrote us suggesting we call this column "Editor's 'Bye Line," a la Bishop Sheen's "'Bye now!"

It's a good suggestion, but I can also see some drawbacks. Do you suppose somebody would think I couldn't spell? As if I never make mistakes in spelling! Then again, once in a while an article comes in filled with puns. After reading it I never, never want to see another play upon words. So maybe we'll just let the title stand.

Not long ago we attended a concert at a Catholic college nearby. Afterward, as we were leaving the hall, two women came up to me and asked whether they might go backstage and congratulate the artists. I didn't bother to explain that I had nothing to do with the college, but told them to go ahead.

That is not a new experience. Every sister has had it, I'm sure. We go to a Catholic hospital, for instance, to visit a patient. We are hardly in the door when another visitor hurries up to us and asks where the pediatrics department is, or where Mrs. So-and-So's room is. Just because we wear a habit, we are taken for the sisters who own the hospital.

In a railway station someone confidently asks us whether we know Sister Mary who taught eighth grade in Seattle some twenty-five years ago. Honestly, I'm not exaggerating. It happens. It has happened to me. People think that a sister is supposed to know all the sisters of every community in the United States.

I met a woman once, a non-Catholic, who said, "You probably know my sister. She is a Catholic." I asked what her name was and where she lived. She mentioned a town I had never

seen in my life. In that case, sisters are supposed to know all Catholics.

All of this makes me wonder whether people notice a difference in habits. We're just all sisters.

On the other hand, we have been asked lately whether we just changed our habit since the Holy Father's now famous "modernization suggestion." When we tell the inquirer that we always wore this same habit and veil, we realize how far-sighted Father Sigstein, our founder, was. We not only adopted a modern habit, but we drove cars more than thirty years ago when it was unheard of for sisters to drive.

The very nature of our work was an innovation at the time we were founded. We were to conduct no institutions, but confine ourselves to teaching Catholic children in public schools and to home visiting. These ideals have not changed throughout the thirty-five years of our Congregation's existence. SEA

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## In Memoriam

Most Rev. Michael J. Ready, D.D., Bishop of Columbus

Most Rev. Frank A. Thill, D.D., Bishop of Salina

Frank Thompson, Baldwinsville, N. Y.

Mrs. Barbara Monix, Crown Point, Ind.

Margaret Stegmaier, Chicago

William Hendron, Villa Park, Ill.

James K. Baier, Campbellsville, Ky.

Mrs. Frances Herrick, Chicago

Charles Cherno, Chicago

Mrs. Joanna Horne, Chicago

Mrs. Anna Molloy, Chicago

John Powers, Las Vegas

Raymond F. Adams, Evanston, Ill.

Thomas P. Ryan, Chicago

Patrick Phalen, Omaha

Josephine Jautz, ACM, Chicago

Mrs. Marguerite B. Florio, Del Mar, Calif.

Katie A. Shiel, Chicago

May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

# What One Person Can Do

SISTER ADELLE



Mrs. Biggy's Studebaker can be crowded.

LAY helpers are a *must* if we are to reach the majority of our Catholic children. This is true in our fast-growing Coachella Valley of California, as it is true in other parts of the country. Here too we have members of the laity who are outstanding for their achievements.

Mrs. M. Biggy is such a one. Mrs. Biggy is a widow and lives twenty miles from the nearest Catholic church. Knowing her to be a very devout Catholic, we invited her to join the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine. Her answer was an enthusiastic affirmative. Later we heard her remark: "Now I have something to live for."

The first work she undertook was the transportation of several children who could not otherwise get to Mass. Now the number who wish to come with her has grown so large that there is not always enough room in her Studebaker.

Early in the school year three brothers registered in the release time classes. They ranged from the second to the sixth grades, knew very little English, and had not received their First Communion.

Since they lived about a half mile from Mrs. Biggy's home, we gave them to her as her second assignment. She

went to their home every day after school and helped them. After two weeks it was remarkable how much they had grasped because of Mrs. Biggy's patient help.

The next scene of her efforts was at the home of a family whose father had his own ideas about baptism sponsors. As a consequence, two of his sons and daughters were baptized; the other two were not. Their mother was very willing, but she knew very little about her religion, not having so much as made her First Communion. The husband was lord and master of the home and the wife could do very little.

The children had attended class fairly well and wished to receive Holy Communion. On two different visits Mrs. Biggy spent two hours convincing the father that his children had a right to the sacraments. Then she helped them with their lessons. This resulted in the baptism of two more in the family, and four made their First Communion.

This past year Mrs. Biggy taught the girls in the prayer class and so released one of the sisters for other work. We cannot help but add that she would make a good member of the Holy Name Society, too, for she never hesitates to tell any man of his obligation to use good language.

**The Giving of Self  
is the  
Greatest in Giving**



**Can you give yourself to the Mission Apostolate?**

If not, here is an opportunity to be a "missionary in spirit." Enroll in our 2500 CLUB and unite with our zealous co-missionaries who help our sisters carry on their work for God and souls in the home mission field.

*Members contribute as dues, twelve dollars a year or one dollar a month. There are no binding obligations. Membership may be discontinued at any time.*

Members are entitled to many rich spiritual benefits. A Novena to Our Blessed Lady of Victory is offered daily for their intentions; they share in the Masses offered every Saturday throughout the year; on the first Wednesday of each month a Mass is said in honor of St. Joseph for the 2500 Club members only; preceding the feast of Christmas a Novena of Masses is offered for all our benefactors.

**JOIN TODAY and share in all these blessings and also in the spiritual joy which comes to all who participate in the sublime work of winning and saving souls.**

Dear Sister:

**Please enroll me in your 2500 CLUB. I will send a dollar a month, or more, toward the support of your sisters and their work.**

Name .....

Street .....

City ..... Zone ..... State .....