

The Missionary Catechist



The value of music in connection with religious teaching cannot be overestimated. By means of hymns the children are taught the Commandments, and even many doctrines of the Church. To prepare them for this phase of their missionary labors the Catechists study both vocal and instrumental music during their three-year period of training at Victory-Noll.



“Come”

School day dreams! School day ideals!
—and a growing desire to follow the Call of
Divine Love and the Ideal of Service to the
poor, the sick, and the suffering!

—o—

School days over, her dreams and ideals
smothered in ambitious hopes, Ruth de-
voted her talents and time to affairs of
business—and pleasure.



From over the dancing figures, out of
the whirl of music and song, came the Call
once more. Beyond it all Ruth saw the
Crucified Jesus beckoning, and in her heart
she heard again the thrilling Voice of the
Bridegroom, “COME.”

Without hesitation, without reluctance,
without doubt, her answer came at last:
“My Jesus, My Saviour, I will.”

And, as a Missionary Catechist, teaching
the neglected little ones of the Missions,
forming tender hearts to virtue, bringing
relief to the homes of the poor, strengthen-
ing the weary and comforting the weak, and
serving her Eucharistic King in lonely chap-
els, Ruth found happiness, contentment and
that peace that surpasseth human under-
standing.



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The Diocese of Monterey-Fresno, California

Rt. Rev. J. B. MacGinley, D. D.



Why must California always suggest children throwing snow balls amidst the orange groves, or languid movie actresses sipping iced tea under the palms at Santa Monica? Why, when the missionary magazines appeal for the dusty priest who battles across the desert in a car of ancient vintage, holding his breath because of the sand storm and his fear of another blow-out, must this always suggest to the "gentle reader" Texas or New Mexico? There are sections of the Diocese of Monterey-Fresno where a priest can travel for days and not meet a human being, and where he can pause to pray beside the shallow graves of men who have died face downward in the sand digging for the water that they saw in their delirium. Why must the picture of the padre struggling through the blizzard to reach some soul that is hovering on the brink of the Great Divide always mean Montana or Nebraska? There are Catholics in Monterey-Fresno who are snowed in for five months of the year.

"GOD'S COUNTRY"

We read with sadness of the great percentage of Catholics who have been deprived of the opportunities of practicing their religion in the South and we gaze with pleasure upon a photograph of Yosemite Falls and ejaculate, "Ah, that's God's country!" Yet almost within reach of the spray of this mighty torrent of water, a Catholic father and mother had to wait eight years for a priest to baptize their three youngest children, and even now, with as many as fifteen thousand people entering Yosemite, on Sunday a priest says Mass fifty miles away in his little mission church, then drives fasting to offer the Holy Sacrifice in a dance hall beneath the shadow of Yosemite's "Cathedral Spires." The lovely shrine of Carmel moves us almost to tears when we think of Serra sleeping there in a spot where he labored so long and so well, but we do not know that between Carmel and the next mission southward in the Santa Lucia Range, San Antonio de Padua, where the owl and the bat are the only dwellers, there are many souls that never see the face of a priest save when by horse and mule they find their way to the settlements.

We dream of endless rows of vines glistening in the sun and orchards heavy with their freight of fruit and say "this is paradise now;" and if we could see the colonies of Mexicans squatted in corners of these vast orchards and vineyards, in tents, in battered Fords, in lean-tos made of gasoline cans, burlap sacks and pieces of corrugated iron, their little camp traversed by little open drains across which tawny babies toddle while father and brothers and sisters work from dawn to dusk to earn their meagre pittance, we might begin to understand the problems of California.



Rt. Rev. John B. MacGinley, D. D.

OUR PROBLEM

There are probably as many Portuguese in the San Joaquin Valley as in one of the Azores, and there are but two Catholic schools in the heart of this vast colony. There are enough Italians in Central California to make the Church invincible in the West if they could all be brought to the practice of their religion. These people are scattered in groups and singly, lost either in the midst of colonies of strong anti-Catholic or at least religiously indifferent peoples throughout an area of forty-four thousand square miles, or one and one-third times the size of all Ireland.

Thinking non-Catholics have become rightly alarmed at the problem that these immigrants present. They point out that in one or two generations the children of

these races, allowing for the difference in the ratio of their multiplication to that of non-Catholic stock, will control California. With these we, too, agree and shudder at our responsibility. For unless we can keep these people and their children Catholic we are but hastening our own destruction. There is but one element that they have in common, differing as they do in language, customs and occupations, and that is the Faith. Through that alone may they be brought to their proper place as a valuable contribution to the California that Serra claimed for God and country.

ITS SOLUTION

Because of the rural nature of the problem and because of the shifting character of much of the population, our problems must be solved in ways that are new. The necessity of carrying the Church to these people instead of bringing them to the Church is evident. Priests and Sisters and other tutors must go where the people are, since indifference, distance or poverty prevents them from coming where we are.

To aid us in this work the American Board of Catholic Missions assigned a gift of \$10,000 for the construction of a motor chapel car in 1927. Mounted upon a standard truck chassis, this modern church on wheels contains sleeping quarters for priest and driver, kitchenette, lavatory and all that is necessary for a home in the field. The doors in the rear of the car open, revealing the complete altar and sanctuary with a predella which drops down to enable the worshippers to receive Holy Communion. Self-contained, it is independent of any parish, and under the direction of Rev. Leo J. Kulleck, C. S. S. R., has already been instrumental in bringing the Sacraments to thousands of souls. Picture if you can the joy of these poor abandoned exiles from Mexico who behold this strange vehicle drive into their camp, park under a spreading oak or between the tents and see the doors thrown open to reveal the familiar sanctuary, the crucifix and the tabernacle which they have not gazed upon perhaps for years.

THE CATECHISTS METHOD

The Missionary Catechists discovered, during their labors in the vicinity of Dos Palos, where they have made their first California foundation, that many of the children found it impossible to come to Christian doctrine classes because of lack of transportation. Through a friend in the East they secured a Ford truck and bus and now one of the Catechists drives sixty or seventy children to catechism in this striking azure-hued vehicle which serves as both transportation and in some cases as a classroom. There is a touch of sardonic humor in a Missionary Catechist waiting outside a public school at

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HOME MISSIONS NEED YOUR SUPPORT

Juan Wears a Little Medal

GRACE KEON

(Concluded)

Just then Panchita was gazing up at Catechist with trouble on her face.

"What is the matter with my merry little bird?" Catechist asked in her winning way. "You seem to be carrying a heavy load just now. Has anything happened at home, Panchita?"

"Oh, no," she sighed. "It is about Juan. Everything is settled. Don Teodoro Morrison, the American, has just offered him a nice house and he is to have steady work as a vaquero, with good wages. My father and Uncle Bartolo have made up their minds. My mother says she will do her best. She says even if Juan does not go to church he is good—"

"And you, Panchita?"

"I suppose I shall marry him. Every one would laugh at my family if I refused him because he did not go to church. Yet what if Juan became a real pagan like Loro Toreno?"

"He could not be like Toreno, Panchita."

"Who knows? Toreno beats Felicia and Antonio if they pray.

Catechist looked troubled. The Torenos, a big family, as big as the Cuyas!—but she had not been able to reach them—Loro's hand was too heavy.

"Juan seems kind, Panchita."

"I have seen him laugh at the processions of our Mother Mary. There can be no luck in the home of such a man."

"You must pray."

"Surely I pray. But Juan's heart for religion is wrapped in hard stone, like a mountain, and all my prayers beat against it in vain."

"Never mind," consoled the Catechist, "Put your prayers in the hands of Our Mother. She will break through the stone for you, Panchita." She took a tiny medal from her bag. "See, dear. Give this to your Juan. Tie it about his neck. If he wears it—you need have no fear."

"Our Lady's," she murmured. "Catechist, what shall I do if he will not let me tie it about his neck?"

The Catechist smiled.

"Let's not talk about that. Just tell him it is your wish," she said.

Panchita held it tightly.

"I think my dream has frightened me. I saw Juan so plainly—on the very edge of a high, high mountain. Then he fell, over and over." She shuddered. "Three times I dreamed it."

"There is nothing to dreams, Panchita. God cares for every one of us—and for Juan most particularly. Juan is God's dear son—a little dearer because he

thinks he does not need God. Do not worry, Merry Bird."

Panchita's eyes were misty. She caught at Catechist's fingers.

"Please give me a medal for myself, too," she murmured. "When Juan sees mine he cannot refuse to wear one like it—for me."

Again the Catechist smiled. Panchita, though but a child in years, was a woman in guile! She gave her the medal, and afterward said a fervent prayer that this young life might be happy, and that both she and her Juan would find safety and comfort beneath the protecting shelter of Holy Mother Church.



Panchita showed her mother the two medals, and Martha watched the girl as she put each on a piece of stout green cord and slipped the two over her head. Of course it was a good match even for Panchita—but—

"You see, Juan," and her voice trembled, "I told the Catechist my dream. Three times, Juan, it came."

"Catechist laughed, too, Panchita?"

"Oh, no. She just said God had care for us all, and of you as well."

The vaquero was silent; his handsome young face was grave. These new sisters were very sympathetic and tender. He had avoided them, so lately come to his homeland, but he could not avoid hearing tales of their kindness to young and old; of their visits to, and care for, the sick and the aged; of their teaching the children. Missionary Catechists of Mary they were called. Of course his Panchita and her mother were their friends. Poor Juan, however, had been without religion a long time—he had been ashamed to tell Panchita the truth

—that he had never made his first communion. Tonight, however, he had half-promised her that he would go to the padre and talk with him. This was enough, vague as it might seem, to allay the worst fears in the young girl's heart.

"Well," he began, they were conversing in low tones in the doorway while Martha Cuyas drifted in and out of the room occasionally, keeping a gentle eye on her daughter, "at least it is agreed that you and I marry when I return from this trip."

Panchita sighed.

"So my father says. But, Juan?"

"You do not care for me—is that it?"

"Oh, I do. Indeed, I do! Only—I am afraid. The dream has made me afraid, even though I know how foolish it is. And I have something for you—a little gift. See! It is Our Mother's. I am wearing one, too, and asking her to take care of you every day while you are gone. Please, Juan."

She held it toward him. He hesitated—but a look at her anxious face decided him and he bent while she put it around his brown neck.

"Now I shall have no more fear," she said. "Our Mother will have you in her keeping. Go with God."

The month went by. Juan had driven Don Teodoro's cattle to the city and had carried out his trust. Now, with the purchase money safely stored in an inner belt, he turned his face toward home. The weather was hot and trying, but the promise of what was coming at the end of his journey was like a rainbow in the heavens luring him on. Just one night and one day more, and he would be with Panchita, his beloved!

The darkness fell, he hobbled his horse in the bowl-shaped depression between two mountains,—a place which had often sheltered him in his search for stray cattle, and prepared to rest. A blanket on the ground, with a saddle for a pillow, was his bed—and soon, with tired limbs outstretched, he fell into a deep slumber. Gradually the moon arose. All the wild creatures of the night began to stir. One bird was awake. It alighted close to the sleeping man, its little ears catching that heavy, exhausted breathing. "Cheep, Cheep," it sang, in pleasant, friendly fashion. But Juan was too tired to hear. He had spent many hours in the saddle under a torturing tropical sun and his limbs were as if chained to the ground.

"Cheep, cheep," whistled the little bird. "Cheep, cheep!" it cautioned. Juan threw

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All for Jesus Through Mary



"All for Jesus through Mary"

It is well to understand that the practice advocated by Blessed de Montfort is not a mere habit of piety that can be taken off and resumed at stated times. It is a consecration, constant and ungrudging, of ourselves and of all we

possess to Mary, in order that we may belong entirely to her Son. Let its blessed author explain: "All other congregations, associations, and confraternities erected in honor of our Lord and His Holy Mother, which do so much good in Christendom, do not make us give everything without reserve. They only prescribe to their members certain practices and actions to satisfy their obligations. They leave them free for all other spiritual occupations. But this devotion makes us give to Jesus and Mary, without reserve, all our thoughts, words, and actions and sufferings, all the time of our life in such sort, that whatever we eat or drink, whether we do great actions or little ones, it is always true to say, that whatever we do, even without thinking of it, is by virtue of our offering, done for Jesus and Mary."

It is, therefore, termed a true devotion, not that others are false, but because it places us in a true position before God, and is nothing more or less than a perfect renewal of the vows and promises made in the reception of holy baptism. It is a simple devotion, inasmuch as it demands no change of life, no sacrifice of duty, no addition to burdens already assumed.

FAVORITE HYMN OF THE MISSIONARY CATECHISTS

We have a holy Mother,
Unseen but yet so near,
A Mother that the angels
Adore and love, revere.
We kneel before her altar
And pray that she may be
A mother to her children—
Our Lady of Victory.

Our Mother shines in glory,
Victorious on her throne,
And millions yield allegiance—
Her help, protection, own.
We kneel before her altar
And pray that she may be
A mother to her children—
Our Lady of Victory.

—A Sister of the Atonement.

Enclosed find membership fee of \$1.00. I wish to be enrolled as a member of the Confraternity of Mary, Queen of Our Hearts:

Name _____
Address _____

There are thirty-nine dioceses in our country that are real mission dioceses with small, poor, struggling missions.

God's glory, the spreading and saving of our Holy Faith, demand that all Catholics in prosperous parishes in the East should help their less fortunate poor brethren in the struggling missions of the West, South, and Southwest.

Turn not away thy eyes from the poor. (Eccus. iv, 1).

Have you considered investing in Our Annuity Plan whereby you not only insure yourself of a regular income during your lifetime and the charitable use of your money after death, but also of a continual remembrance in the prayers and good works of the Missionary Catechists laboring among the neglected poor in the mission districts?

These six things have made Our Annuity Plan appeal to Catholic Business men:

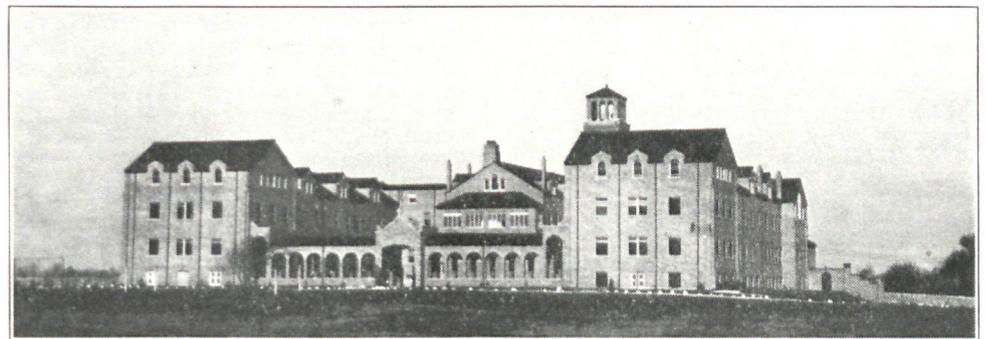
1. Absolute security of investment.
2. Good rate of interest—payable semi-annually.
3. Freedom from legal complications.
4. Return of money, in cases of necessity, upon 60 days' notice.
5. Acceptance of sums as small as \$50.
6. Certainty that after death the principal will be applied for the charitable purposes intended.

Read Something Worthwhile

By Rev. A. J. Blaufuss

"GOD'S MOTHER AND OURS," by Sister Marie Paula, Ph. D., Benziger Bros., Chicago. \$1.75.

If you are looking about for a suitable gift for your Convent-friend or for the sweet girl who is seriously debating the matter of vocation, send her a copy of "God's Mother and Ours." In the seven chapters of this little volume the authoress not only entertainingly tells the Gospel-story of the Mother of God but displays her power of deduction: in all her vicissitudes of life Mary is the Teacher and Model of womanhood and, in particular, of the Religious. Many more of our good Catholic girls would enter Religion as adorers, as teachers in schools, as nurses or as Catechists in the far-flung mission fields, but they hesitate on the threshold; they lack the courage for the fatal (?) step. Prayerful pondering of these talks would do much to end such indecision.



ST. FELIX MONASTERY

The Capuchin Fathers of St. Joseph Province erected this new monastery at Huntington, Indiana, during the years 1928-29. This building at present serves as the training school for Capuchin Novices which had hitherto been located at 1740 Mt. Elliott Ave., Detroit, Michigan.

On Easter Day, March 31st, 1929, the people of Huntington had the privilege of viewing the interior of the monastery which would hereafter be closed to the public according to the requirements of Church Law.

On March 21st, the monastery was dedicated by the Very Rev. Benedict Mueller, O. M. Cap., Superior of the Province.

On the 2nd of April, His Lordship, Bishop Noll of Fort Wayne, dedicated the Chapel in the presence of the Capuchin Community and over eighty visiting priests.

The rugged appearance of the monastery and surroundings presented to the people on that day has been transformed since then through the diligence and capable management of the friars into an attractively peaceful spot of holy retirement.

These followers of the Poverello of Assisi, 30 in number, 7 of whom are priests, 3 professed lay-brothers and the rest cleric and lay-novices, have left the hustle and bustle of worldly activity to serve their Divine Master in the peace and quiet of this cloistral enclosure. The Reverend Fathers leave their monastery only to give missions, to conduct Forty Hours' devotions and to assist the secular clergy. The lay-brothers render substantial aid to the Fathers by doing the manual labor about the monastery thereby making it possible for the priests to devote their time exclusively to their spiritual duties. The Novices are carefully instructed in the Rule of the Order and in the method of chanting the Divine Office receiving at the same time a thorough training in the mode of life led by the Capuchin friars.

The duties of each and every friar alternate between work and prayer. In this way they follow most closely the ideal of the "mixed life of contemplation and missionary activity" expressed in their Rule as the closest imitation of the earthly life of our Divine Savior.

EL CENIZO

From "Folk-Lore of the Texas-Mexican Vaquero"

By Jovita Gonzalez.

It had been an unusually cold, dry, hard winter on the South plains of Texas. But the coyotes had in the fall announced that it would be so, for their fur had been heavy and thick, and they stayed close to the ranches, not daring to go to the hills. All vegetation had been killed by the black frost (el hielo prieto). Even the cactus, the ever-reliable food of the cattle, had wilted.

Spring came, and with it new hope. But whatever young green things sprang up died for need of water. The mesquites were mere ghosts; the huisaches hid their leaves; the waterholes had dried up; and death and starvation ruled the prairie. The buzzard was lord of the plains, and as it flew over the trees, was a constant reminder of death. The cattle once so sleek and plentiful had diminished to a few and those few looked at the world with sad, deathlike eyes. ("Por que no lueve, Dios mio!") "Why do You not make it rain, my Lord!" the vaquero exclaimed, looking up at the sky. In this extremity there was only one possible way and that was prayer—prayer to the Blessed Virgin, the Mother of God. The cowmen gathered together and reverently knelt on the plain to beg Her help. As the last decade of the rosary was said, the laguneno, a soft breeze, blew from the east. Soon drops began to fall and all night the rain fell like a benediction upon the land. Filled with new hope the people rose early the next morning to see the blessing that had come from heaven. And such a blessing! for as far as the eye could see the plain was covered with beautiful pink, lavender, and white flowers. It was a gift of the Blessed Virgin; and because the day was Ash Wednesday the shrub was called El Cenizo.

Charming, indeed, was the interpretation given by the vaquero to the ash-colored shrub—the gray leaves signifying the Passion of Christ; the white flower, the purity of the Blessed Mother; the pink, the new dawn for the vaquero, and the resurrection of life.

Your LIFE SUBSCRIPTION—\$10.00—will help to support a Catechist in her labors among the neglected little ones of the Missions. It is payable in installments of \$1.00 per month.



—AND THEY CAME

"Yes, if Sunday is a nice day St. Augustine's Council intends to visit Mt. Carmel Mission." So came the word to Indiana Harbor Catechists.

The weather kept its share of the contract and so did St. Augustine's Council for about twenty-five Ladies of Isabella managed to crowd into our home. The house was full to overflowing. However, everybody good-naturedly took the shoves and jostles remarking: "Oh, coming from crowded Chicago we don't mind this in the least."



"Holy Name" Boys—The few who would pose for the picture, Indiana Harbor, Ind.

Some of the Ladies of the Council had called on us before, but for most of them, it was their first visit. Numerous were the questions with which they plied us. Nevertheless, we were delighted to answer them for their queries showed that they were intensely interested in our work, keenly alive to its necessity, and very desirous for its success. Nor did their interest end there. They left a substantial proof of their good will,—a fifty dollar check and approximately twenty-five dollars' worth of groceries for our poor.

It goes without saying that a fervent "Magnificat" was uttered and the very next morning we took the groceries to needy families. When we left home on our errand of mercy it was drizzling rain; but on our return the sun was shining. One of the Catechists exclaimed: "See, what a little charity does! It brings the sunshine to those who give as well as to those who receive."

Pray for our Catechists and the poor under our care.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY ORGANIZED IN MEXICAN PARISH

Rev. Jose Lara, pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Indiana Harbor, recently enrolled thirty young men in the Holy Name Society.

This group of Mexican lads was efficiently organized by the Missionary Catechists who realize the great need of just such a Society amongst the young men of this parish.

All members are filled with enthusiasm and, besides the usual promises made by those affiliating with the Holy Name Society, they have pledged themselves to do a certain amount of charitable work among their own people here in Indiana Harbor.

HELP COMPLETE A BURSE

IN THE HOME FIELD

WHEN DEATH COMES TO THE POOR

To all Catechists in the Missions experiences are ever new, varied and oftentimes sad. We, who are still new in the field, are, perhaps, most deeply impressed by the sad ones. That is why I chose to tell you about my first contact with sorrow and death.

Early Saturday morning Catechist U. and I started for our little Mission at San Antonio. The strong winds blowing across the mountains made walking difficult but we arrived at our destination in good time. Our first duty was to ring the chapel bell and announce our arrival. While the sweet notes still sounded through the quiet village, a young girl, who had evidently been awaiting us, came begging us to visit the home and conduct burial services for a poor old lady who died the previous night.

I consulted my watch and re-assured myself that it would be some time before the children came for Catechism instructions, so it was safe for us both to go.

Wrapping the child in my cape St. Vincent De Paul fashion, for she was scantily clad, we hurried to make our visit of condolence.

A brisk five-minutes walk brought us to a small two-room adobe hut. I asked myself why the door stood wide open, for the weather was cold; and found my answer upon entering. The size of the room made it necessary to place the coffin just a few feet away from the stove. A fire was needed for various purposes but, at the same time, the room had to be kept cool. The fees for the services of an undertaker are prohibitive.

Hence the necessity of burial in twenty-four hours.

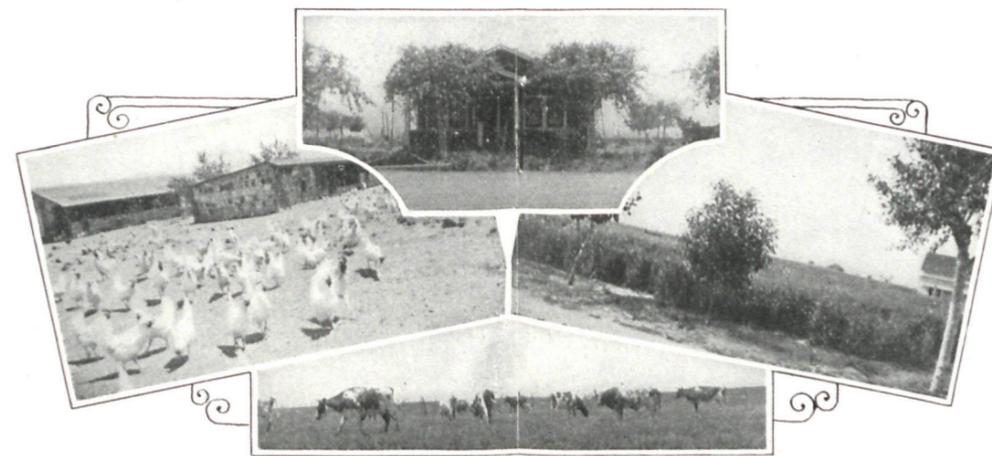
I could scarcely suppress my emotion when I saw the coffin. I had never before seen one of its kind. You remember I am still recording "first experiences." It was a long, extremely narrow, crudely constructed box. One end of it rested upon a backless chair and the other upon a small bench. Kind women had lined this plainest of coffins with coarse white material arranged so as to cover the entire body and head of their late neighbor, leaving only the face visible.

The funeral was to be held at ten o'clock if the grave was dug at that time. The son-in-law was obliged to help dig the grave.

We led in prayer at the house until the children arrived for Catechism classes. Then we left but promised to be at the chapel in time for the funeral. And we were.

The remains were brought to the chapel in a dilapidated wagon drawn by burros. Catechist U. led the Rosary in Spanish and that was the extent of the funeral services. Silently the narrow coffin was removed from the House of God and replaced in the crude conveyance. The men then climbed in and drove off to the little cemetery.

I shall never forget the picture of the grief-stricken daughter—the only surviving relative—as she stood apart from the other mourners, clutching her small baby, and watched the disappearing wagon. (Cruel death?? No—but cruel poverty which would rob one at death of every consolation. CATECHIST DENZIG.



Courtesy of "The Earth," Santa Fe R. R. RANCH SCENES—YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA

OUR TEMPORARY (?) CHURCH

I say "temporary" but we are beginning to think it is permanent. Almost a year ago our church burned down. Since then we have Mass in what was formerly a store building. It is now quite dilapidated. The front

is painted red while the rest is yellow. The window panes on both the first and second floor are partly broken and have assumed various shapes. A small plot of ground in front of this building is surrounded by a high wire fence which serves to keep out intruding animals. On



Some of our Sodality Girls

Sundays the men are forced to stand in this enclosure for the church is too small to accommodate all the faithful.

Inside there are two rows of benches set too close to each other for comfort. On leaving the church it is not an uncommon occurrence for some one to accidentally turn over a bench. When this happens all the benches in that row fall in succession. The aisle is so narrow that one has to walk sideways. To genuflect is impossible. The stairway which leads to the second floor has been converted into a confessional. The show window is now being used as a choir loft. Since the old organ takes up most of the space there is only standing room for our few singers. Often they are obliged to stand during a High Mass and a long sermon.

Rebuilding of the burnt church on the same foundation was begun last fall. At Christmas time, however, the work was discontinued because of insufficient funds and the severity of the weather.

—Catechist Julia Wathen, Anton Chico, New Mexico.

JUST NOTES

A few notes from our center at Lubbock, Texas:

Our mission for the Mexicans was well attended. There were 400 Communions distributed. We visited the homes urging people to attend. Our most difficult cases we reported to the Missionary and our Pastor who also visited the homes.

Last week we rushed a little diphtheria patient to the hospital. I feared she would die in my arms but, thanks be to God, she did not. The doctor performed a tracheotomy on her and now she is getting along very well.

We attended two other cases of surgery: One of our girls had her tonsils removed and another had an operation on her ear.

Several children had to be taken for diphtheria anti-toxin injections.

—Catechist Lo Rang.

JUAN WEARS A LITTLE MEDAL

(Continued from Page 4)

up his hand toward his throat and his fingers caught in a bit of green cord.

A large, ugly, flat-headed snake came crawling sinuously on the cattle trail. Its body slithered along the dusty road.

"Cheep, cheep, cheep!" cried the little swallow, excitedly, as it reached the spot where Juan lay. He stirred again and the snake's head reared. Emitting an angry whirr, it approached the sleeping man and began to coil its body to strike.

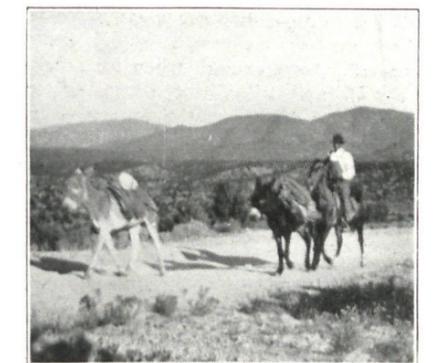
But just a few feet below, where the trail curved, another actor appeared upon the scene—a dreaded one—an old boar, with little red eyes twinkling wickedly. The big snake paid no attention, until, with a half-grunt, half-squeal, the animal launched itself upon its enemy. At that sound,—terrifying, and unexpected,—the vaquero roused. In the moonlight his distended eyes saw the struggle. The angry and frightened serpent twisting and lashing desperately, the strong white teeth of the boar fastened in the back of its neck just below the head. Juan, unable to stir from very terror, lay silent. Soon that wicked-looking head was severed from its body and the boar relinquished his hold with a grunt, snapped savagely two or three times at the body of his foe, and then backed off the trail and was lost in the underbush.

"Mother of God!" whispered Juan. "Mother of God!"

He moved his stiffened limbs and threw out his arm. The green cord snapped, and looking down into his closed hand he saw that he was tightly holding a medal. Incredulously he stared at it. What had Panchita said to him? Mary would take care of him. He cast himself upon his knees and raised his arms to Heaven.

"Mother of God—"

It was the first prayer Juan the vaquero had said in many years. Panchita would never have to plead with him again.



Along the Santa Fe Trail

HOME MISSIONS NEED YOUR SUPPORT

Mary's Little Helpers



Dear Little Helpers:

Cerrillos is the name of a town in New Mexico, where the Catechists work among the poor miners and their children. It is a Spanish word meaning "Little Hills." Cerrillos is twenty-five miles from Santa Fe, the capital of New Mexico. Do you know what Santa Fe means? It means "The City of the Holy Faith." The Spaniards named all the cities, mountains, rivers and places in honor of Our Blessed Mother, some Saint or our Holy Faith.

The first time I went to Cerrillos, we went on a picnic. We hiked up a mountain and stopped at a little place named Dolores. This is a very interesting town because there is an old gold mine there. Hundreds of years ago the Spaniards used to work this mine and took out lots of gold. But now, the mine is not working any more and the town is just a rickety place with old tumble-down shacks.

On our way to the mountain we crossed what looked to me like a dried-up creek. I asked my little Spanish friends if it was a creek. "Oh no!" they said. "This is an arroyo." Now, you know, arroyo is the Spanish word for little river, so I thought they were joking, because there wasn't a drop of water in this arroyo. It seemed funny that what they called a river looked like nothing more than a gully or ditch. I didn't say any more about it, but, on our way home, I found out something about the arroyo. When we were quite a distance away from it, suddenly I heard a roaring sound like a waterfall. Sure enough when we reached the place that had been a dry ditch in the morning, it was now a raging river. Then I began to understand. These arroyos are made by the water that comes down from the mountains. You see, in the mountains there is no place for the water to go and it rushes right through the town. If it doesn't rain for a long time, then, of course, there isn't much water, and the arroyo dries up. The funny part is, no one knows when the arroyo will fill up, and it is always unexpected. Sometimes the water comes

down with such a sudden force that it sweeps everything before it. Just think, last summer they had a cloudburst up in the mountains. The water came tearing down the mountain side and swept away a whole passenger train, engine, coaches and all the passengers. Over thirty people were killed when the water struck the arroyo. That just shows that out there they never know what will happen when the arroyo comes up.

Anyhow, while it was the nicest picnic that I ever went to, the biggest thrill of all was watching the water rushing down the arroyo and wondering when we would get home.

Ever your friend,
WEE WILLIE WINKLES.



Mary Lanning of New Orleans is eight years old, and is one of our faithful Little Helpers. Mary is always willing to give up a treasured toy or any of her clothing for the poor little Mission children.

Little Peggy Cassidy is only ten years old, but for the past four years she has been helping the poor Mission children. She saves her pennies and makes money in lots of ways. Peggy is the first Little Helper to win a Little Flower statue for sending in a Life Subscription.

This is Our Blessed Mother's own month—the beautiful month of May. I am sure all of our Little Helpers are going to work extra hard this month. I wonder how many will win a Little Flower statue or a statue of Our Blessed

Lady of Victory before the month is over?

We have enrolled forty-seven new Little Helpers since the beginning of 1930, but we want to make it one hundred by the first of June. Will you all help? Ask all of your little friends if they wouldn't like to be Little Helpers, too. Many of these new Little Helpers are saving their pennies for Wee Willie Winkles' Fund. Some of them are getting new subscriptions for THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST and several already have their statue. Others are sending clothes and toys to the Missions. Let's have a race and see who can send in the most names.

Dear Catechist:

I am eight years old and in the third grade. Will you send me one of your little mite boxes and one of your little pins? I want to be one of Mary's Little Helpers and I will do all I can as I am the only Catholic child in this town.

I am sending you a dollar for two new subscriptions for THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST, also 50 cents for Mother's renewal.

Yours truly,
JOSEPH OSBORNE.

We still need Communion Outfits, Little Helpers, so don't forget to save your pennies for Wee Willie Winkle's First Communion Outfit Fund.



Two Little Helpers from Stanley, Wis.

DID YOU WIN YOUR STATUE YET?

The Associate Catechists of Mary

WHAT RORFIRIO THINKS OF THE CATECHISTS AND THEIR BENEFACTORS.

Dear Catechists:

Thank you Catechist for all the pretty things and cloths that you gave me. My Daddy he es dead and we are pur. I live with my granma and granpa. Are you always going to stay with us? We don't want you to go away. I am going to Church and pray to little Jesus and ask Him to tell the gud peoples to send us summar nice cloths candi and a rosarie two. Doz peoples where you use to live licke us por childrun. Goodbie Catechist. I com to Catesism neets wieck.

Yours bouy,

RORFIRIO MONTANO.

I am eith years old.

Many of our friends write to us, asking "What can be used to best advantage in the Missions." We can reply in one word "everything," but to be more specific, we would say—food, first of all, and clothing—medical supplies including bandages of all kinds, medicated cotton, old soft white cloth, gauze, etc.,—sheets, pillow cases, blankets, bedding of every kind. Any of these articles are always welcome, but food and clothing are two things that are absolutely necessary.

From one of our Missions we learn of the unselfishness of the little children. One little girl who is only five years old comes to Catechism class regularly. She is very bashful and talks very little. However, one day she brought a little boy with her, who was about the same age. Overcoming her bashfulness, she told the Catechists that this little boy was cold and needed a coat. Catechist told her to wait until after class and then she would get one for him. Quina, however, couldn't wait that long, so during class, she took her coat off and put it on the little boy. After class they departed quite happy—both wearing coats.

We are very grateful to Mrs. Gutmann and Mrs. Blanz of Chicago for the successful card party held recently at Blank's Hall for the benefit of the Catechists. The result of this party was approximately \$55.00 which is providing food, clothing and medicine for many of the poor little ones in the Missions.

Mrs. Jos. A. Klein of Chicago sent us three dozen beautiful First Communion rosaries for our poor children.



Promoters of St. Francis of Assisi Band
Hamilton, Ohio

BAND ACTIVITIES

We wish to acknowledge and to thank the following.

St. Mary's Band, Fort Wayne, Ind., (Mrs. Ankenbruck and her faithful promoters) for \$300.00.

The Sacred Heart Band of Chicago, (Mrs. J. Scheuer, Promoter), for \$50.00.

Katherine Hennigan's Band, Chicago, (Party held at Miss Mary Griffen's home), for \$10.00.

St. Francis of Assisi Band, Hamilton, Ohio, had a very successful card party which was held in St. Stephen's Hall. They made \$85.00 and then raffled off a ten dollar gold piece, which brought the sum up to \$100.00. Miss Adeline Rauch is the promoter of this successful band.



May is Mary's
Mary is Ours.

Our Blessed Lady of Victory Mission Circle, New Orleans, La., of which Mrs. S. S. Ogden is Promotor, is to be congratulated upon its splendid missionary spirit and work. In spite of the fact that the secretary of this Band, Mrs. Manion, lives in Washington, D. C., and that their president, Miss Harriet Scott, died last November, these faithful and loyal workers have carried on their good work. During the past year they sent twenty-four large boxes to the Missions. These boxes included clothing, medicine, toys of every description, china, candy, etc. Their chief aim is to supply clothing, food, etc., for the poor at Christmas time, and also to provide the little ones with First Communion Outfits. Our Dear Lord and His Blessed Mother will surely bless these good women for their noble generosity to the poor.

Miss Anna Heaney, promoter of The Immaculate Conception Band, and Sacred Heart Band No. 2, is visiting in the South with her father. During her absence Miss Mary Perkins is successfully conducting the work of these two Bands. The members of these Bands have worked very faithfully ever since they organized, and regularly each month, a check for \$25.00 is sent in for the support of a Catechist.

Our Lady of Lourdes Club, Chicago, is, as usual, busy working for the Missions. In their last shipment to our Texas Mission, they had difficulty in securing a barrel large enough to hold their assortment of clothing, toys, etc.

The Little Flower Club of Chicago gladdened the hearts of many of the poor in the Southwest by the large supply of clothing, etc., which they recently sent.

Reverend and dear Father:

I am glad, in my small way, to aid your noble cause. I wish that I could do more. I shall continue to help along. I derive real joy from so doing. I ask God to bless you, all the Catechists and all the clubs; in fact, all your co-workers.

Always sincerely,

REV. X. Z.

Enroll your departed loved ones as ASSOCIATE CATECHISTS OF MARY members, thereby insuring them of a continual remembrance in our prayers. The dues are 50c a year or \$10.00 for perpetual membership.

PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONS

DIocese OF MONTEREY-FRESNO

(Continued from Page 3)

which she has been refused the privilege of teaching catechism even after school hours and receiving the children into a class room on wheels parked beside the building in question. It is daring and ingenious, but it works. The children are thus gathered before they scatter to their homes and after class can be carried to their respective dwellings.

The Missionary Catechists, in addition, drive their own car to the camps, there to teach the little ones and prepare them for the Sacraments.

Where distance, isolation and migration would seem to render all ordinary methods futile, gasoline, plus the zeal of Catechists and Sisters and Priests, is winning the day. It is, or should be, an incentive to others, not only to aid with their means but also with their service.

Mother's Day—the second Sunday of May—is the day set aside by the Sacred Congregation of Rites for the observance of a new ecclesiastical feast known as "Mater Generis Humani," under the title "Behold thy Mother". This beautiful feast was established upon petition to His Holiness, Pope Pius XI, by the Servite Fathers, Portland, Oregon.

A Solemn Novena in honor of Our Blessed Lady of Victory will be offered at Victory-Noll for the spiritual and temporal welfare of all our benefactors and subscribers. Do you desire some special favor from Our Lord and His Blessed Mother? Then send us your name and intention and we shall include your petition in this Novena which begins May 15th.

In Memoriam

Unite with us in prayer for the faithful departed: Miss Mariana Velazquez, Mrs. John Dublin, Mrs. Anna Luby, George Herbig, Mrs. Joseph Murphy, John Sheil.

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

Read

"HOME MISSIONS OF THE SOUTH-WEST"

A Paladin Book
written by
Catechist **Blanche Richardson**,
published by
Catholic Students Mission Crusade.

It may be ordered from:
C. S. M. C.
Crusade Castle, Shattuc Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio.

or:
S. M. C.
Victory-Noll,
Huntington, Indiana.
50 cents per copy—3c postage



Assistant Catechist Directress at Victory-Noll

Among the recent guests at Victory-Noll were: Rt. Rev. Monsignor B. Biegel, Schererville, Ind., who also presided at the Investiture Ceremonies held here on the feast of the Annunciation; the Rev. H. C. Adrian, St. Louis, Mo.; the Rev. H. J. Gramann, Hamilton, Ohio; the Rev. Joseph Srill, O. S. M., Hillside, Ill.; the Rev. Peter Biegel, Schererville, Ind.; the Rev. B. Hilgenberg, Beske-meyer, Ill.; and the Rev. Father Otto, O. M., Cap., Huntington, Ind.

We take pleasure in announcing that, every day during the month of June, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and special devotions will be offered in our chapel at Victory-Noll for particular intentions. At the same time we invite all our subscribers to send in their petitions for spiritual and temporal favors from the Sacred Heart as early as possible.

During Our Blessed Mother's own beautiful month of May, the Catechists at Victory Noll find great joy in adorning the lovely May shrine of their Heavenly Mother with the first flowers of Spring. Frequent trips are made to the woods to gather the wild roses and other wild flowers which are laid as tributes of love at Mary's feet.



PRAY TO MARY FOR OUR MISSIONS

"Thanks to Jesus and Mary"

Our Poor Fund for aiding the needy children under our care is a worthy cause towards which many of our loyal friends have already contributed. We thank them and appreciate their splendid co-operation with us in all things.

May others also respond to our plea in proportion to their means and reap the reward of charity to God's poor.

Dear Father:

In thanksgiving to Our Dear Lord, through Our Lady of Victory, in honor of the Annunciation, I am sending \$5.00 for your "Poor Fund".

Sincerely, MRS. A. M. S.

Indianapolis, Ind.

Dear Catechist:

Please accept a widow's mite for your poor. Remember me in your prayers.

Respectfully, MRS. C. S.

Newark, N. J.

Dear Father:

I am a perpetual friend of the Missions. I am an old woman working in a factory. Sorry I can not do more. Inclosed find a small offering for the poor (\$2.00).

Sincerely, L. B.

St. Joseph's College
Collegeville, Ind.

Dear Father Sigstein:

In answer to your appeal, we the Dwenger Mission Unit, C. S. M. C., send five dollars as a donation to help the Catechists take care of destitute families.

Yours truly, THE D. M. U.
Per F.A.W.

Dear Father,

The Stephen Vincent Ryan Unit of the C. S. M. C. of St. Mary's Seminary, Perrysville, Missouri, wish to help your Catechists take care of destitute families. We are poor, but not too poor to help, just a little bit, in so worthy a cause.

Enclosed find five (5) dollars for your "Poor Fund". Hoping you meet with the greatest success, we are,

Sincerely yours in Christ,
THE CRUSADERS.

DO IT NOW

Here is an opportunity for every Catholic of good will to co-operate in saving the souls and bodies of our poor in the Missions.

Join the 2500 CLUB. Your only obligation is to contribute \$1.00 each month for one year toward the support of a Catechist.

The Missionary Catechist

Huntington, Indiana

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Rev. J. J. Sigstein, Spiritual Director of The Society of Missionary Catechists
Editor

Printed by Our Sunday Visitor Press,
Huntington, Indiana

A Novena

in Honor of

Our Blessed Lady of Victory

Lord, have mercy on us.
 Christ, have mercy on us.
 Lord, have mercy on us.
 Christ, hear us.
 Christ, graciously hear us.
 God, the Father of Heaven, have mercy on us.
 God the Son, Redeemer of the World, have mercy on us.
 God the Holy Ghost, have mercy on us.
 Holy Trinity, one God, have mercy on us.
 Our Lady of Victory, pray for us.
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant daughter of the Father,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant mother of the Son,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant Spouse of the Holy Ghost,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant choice of the Most Holy Trinity,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in thy Immaculate Conception,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in crushing the head of the serpent,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant over all the children of Adam,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant over all our enemies,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in the embassy of the Angel Gabriel,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in thy espousal with St. Joseph,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant at the scene of Bethlehem,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in thy flight into Egypt,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in thy exile,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in thy humble dwelling at Nazareth,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in finding thy Divine Child in the temple,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in the earthly life of our Lord,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in His Passion and Death,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in the Resurrection,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in the Ascension,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in the descent of the Holy Ghost,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in thy sorrows,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in thy joys,



LET US PRAY

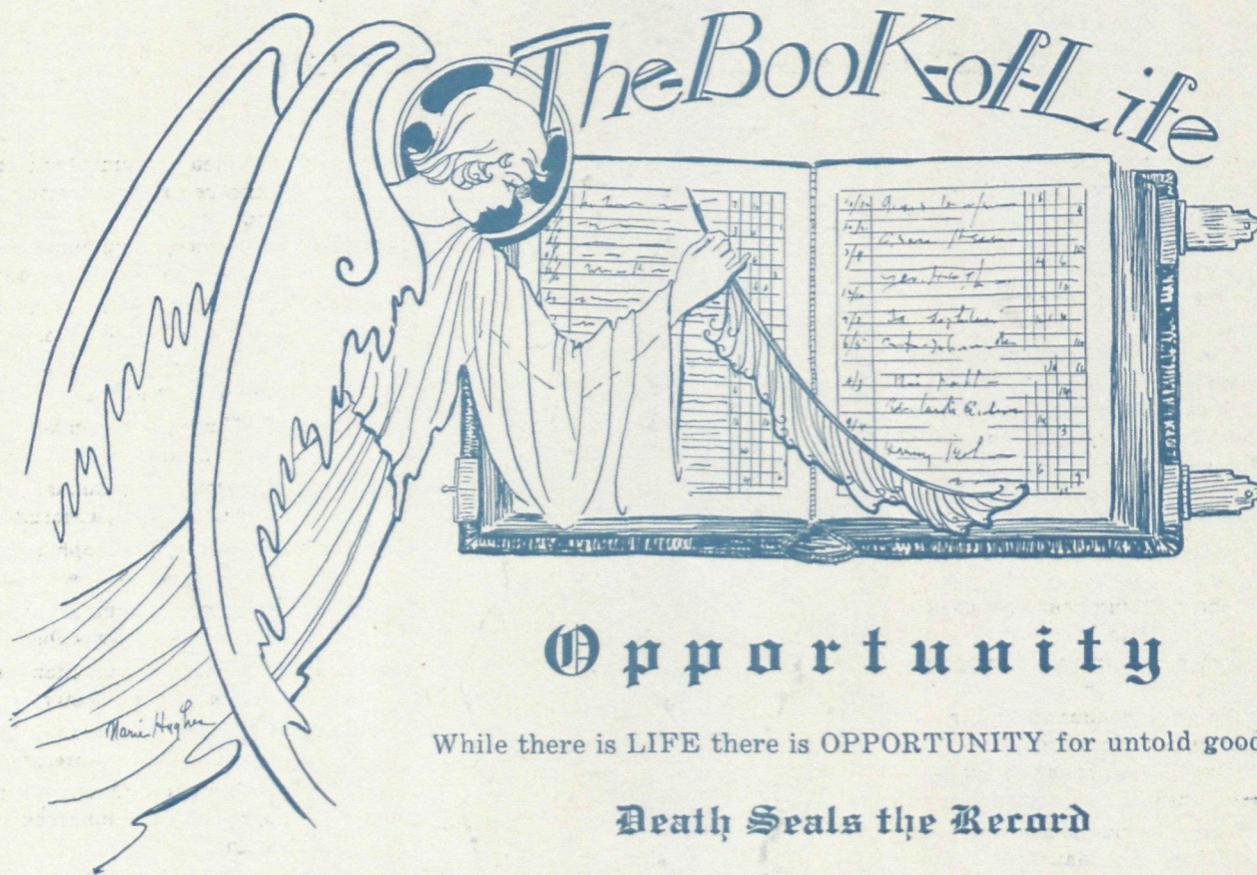
O Mary! Dearest Mother! Show Thyself to us in our necessities; for Thou art more willing, more powerful, more amiable, more gracious, than all others. Thou art the Mother of Him who imparts grace. Give me strength, then, to supplicate Thee in humility. Thou canst obtain from Thy Divine Son whatever Thou wilt. Therefore, do I turn to Thee, O Mary, in my needs! Pray for me; hear me; bless me; comfort me. Present me to Thy Divine Son, and in virtue of the grace Thou didst find, obtain for me, through Thy intercession, to partake of His grace and glory.
 Amen.

Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in thy entrance in the heavenly Jerusalem,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in the angels who remained faithful,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in the felicity of the blessed,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in the graces of the just,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in the announcement of the prophets,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in the desires of the patriarchs,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in the zeal of the apostles,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in the light of the evangelists,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in the wisdom of the doctors,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in the crowns of the confessors,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in the purity of the numerous band of virgins,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in the triumphs of the martyrs,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant in thy all-powerful intercession,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant under thy many titles,
 Our Lady of Victory, triumphant at the hour of our death,
 Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
 Spare us, O Lord.
 Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
 Graciously hear us, O Lord.
 Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
 Have mercy on us.

V. Pray for us, O Blessed Lady of Victory!
 R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

PRAYER

Almighty and merciful God, who for the defence of the Christian people didst in a marvellous manner establish a perpetual help in the Most Blessed Virgin Mary: mercifully grant that we, who in life do battle protected by such a help, may, in death, obtain the victory over our malignant foe. Through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.



Opportunity

While there is LIFE there is OPPORTUNITY for untold good.

Death Seals the Record

Welcome this opportunity by meriting great graces for Life Everlasting

Support a Missionary Catechist

By supporting a Catechist you enable her to labor, unhampered by financial worries, among the poorest of God's poor; you make it possible for her to provide food, fuel, medicine and clothing for the needy in our home Missions.

Each Catechist is supported by means of a Burse.
A Burse, when completed, amounts to \$6,000.00.

The annual interest on a Burse is sufficient to support a Catechist in the field for one year.

These Burses are made up of small contributions.

Any amount, no matter how small, received for the support of Catechists, is applied to a new or to an already existing Burse.

The Catechists labor only among the poorest and most neglected of God's children.

They depend entirely upon charitable contributions for the means to carry on their work.

Here's a real OPPORTUNITY for practicing true Christian Charity!! Back a Catechist financially by contributing regularly toward the completion of one of the following Burses:

Mary, Mother of Pure Love.....\$	Our Blessed Lady of Victory.....	\$319.50
The Little Flower.....\$640.05	St. Jude.....	\$ 34.00