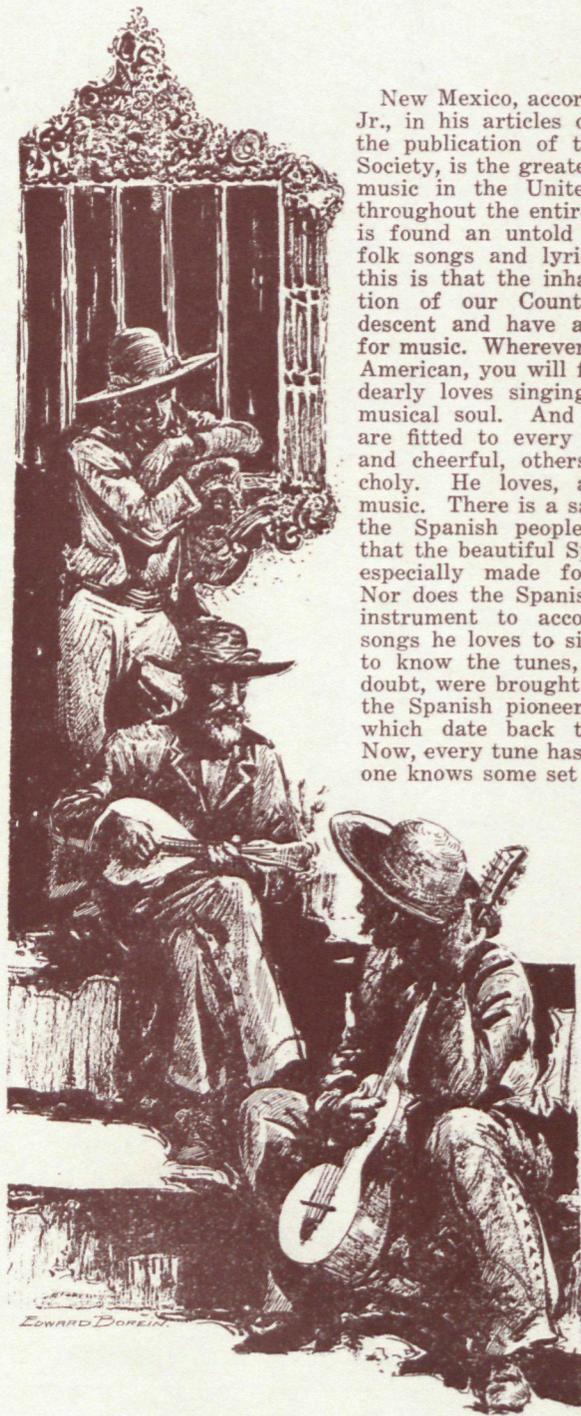


# THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST



The Popular Anton Chico Rhythm Band

## A Singing People



New Mexico, according to F. S. Curtis, Jr., in his articles on Spanish songs in the publication of the Texas Folk-Lore Society, is the greatest center of Spanish music in the United States. In fact, throughout the entire Spanish Southwest is found an untold wealth of beautiful folk songs and lyrics. The reason for this is that the inhabitants of this portion of our Country are of Spanish descent and have a natural inclination for music. Wherever you find a Spanish-American, you will find him singing. He dearly loves singing. His is, indeed, a musical soul. And the songs he sings are fitted to every mood,—some happy and cheerful, others grave and melancholy. He loves, above all, Religious music. There is a saying current among the Spanish people of the old school that the beautiful Spanish language was especially made for Religious hymns. Nor does the Spanish-American need an instrument to accompany him in the songs he loves to sing. Everyone seems to know the tunes, many of which, no doubt, were brought to the Southwest by the Spanish pioneers; and a number of which date back to the middle ages. Now, every tune has its words, and every one knows some set of words that fit the

melody, so there are almost as many versions of a song as there are singers. And so it happens that whenever an original version of words is lost, new words are introduced to fit the old tunes.

The genius of the people is such that the native of New Mexico does not have to depend for his songs upon fixed versions or professional song writers. Practically every village in New Mexico has its own poet, who composes the words of the songs that are sung,—sometimes even as he

goes along. It is no unusual sight to find this village poet acting as the village fiddler at a wedding or a dance. It does not require much urging on the part of the dancers for him to mount a chair in the middle of the dance floor, especially after a wedding, and improvise for the moment a tune in which he chants the exploits of the dancers and, in a very natural and good natured manner, tells, not only their virtues and good qualities, but their faults and weaknesses as well. This village poet and composer is never at a loss for a song and will continue to sing and play and make poetry as long as his audience wishes to hear him.

Taking advantage of the fondness of the native people of New Mexico and their children for singing, our Catechists have utilized many Spanish Religious hymns in teaching the great Truths and practices of our Holy Religion to the children of their Christian Doctrine classes. Fortunately for the Catechists, many of these hymns are really the Catechism set in verse. Some of these hymns contain the Ten Commandments of the Church, the chief duties of our state of life: others teach the beauty of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, of the love of Our Eucharistic Lord in giving Himself to His children in Holy Communion; and others, again, of the life-giving graces imparted to our souls by the reception of the Sacraments. The hymn, "Al Cielo Quiero Ir," for example, gives an excellent explanation of the Ten Commandments, and since it is set to appropriate music, the children, in the Catechism classes, learn it quite easily when taught by the Catechist.

It is the prayer of the Catechists that this love for Religious music, which plays such an important part in the life of every Catholic Spanish-American, may never be lost sight of or slighted by contact with his more matter of fact, prosaic American neighbor.

# The Missionary Catechist

Volume VIII

JUNE, 1932

Number 7

## Champions of Charity

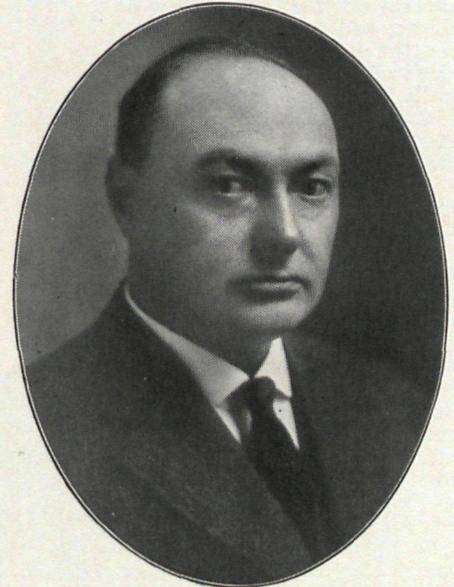
Catechist Blanche Richardson

Hidden away on a narrow little street, a stone's throw from the ancient plaza of Las Vegas, the unpretentious Ifeld home has been standing for half a century. The dwelling is a modest one of adobe, built Colonial style and brightened with a cheerful outer coat of yellow cement. True, within there are costly rugs upon the floor and rare, old paintings on the walls, but even these are of subdued colorings which do not flaunt their worth. The home, then, speaks eloquently of the character and tastes of its occupants,—past and present. Apparently they have cared little for show and pomp, but have fixed their attention on those truly great things in life which bring genuine joy and contentment to the soul,—practical charity figuring largely among these.

A few years ago, a white-haired gentleman who had passed the 80th milestone of life, yet who carried himself with the erect bearing of a much younger man, might have been seen in and about the dwelling. He was affectionately saluted as "Don Carlos" by the Spanish-

speaking people, and "Uncle Charlie" by the Anglo-Americans. He enjoyed a wide acquaintance, as might naturally be expected, since his residence in Las Vegas dated back to the early seventies. His residence in the state itself was of an even remoter period. This, no doubt, accounted for his intense love for New Mexico. His travels carried him far and wide. Many were his trips to Europe, on which occasions he doubtless visited his natal place of Badhomburg, Germany. Still, a few weeks' absence from New Mexico made him impatient to return to its hazy, blue mountains, its rarified air, its sunshine, its people,—to all that had endeared itself to a man grown old with the country.

What was it that endeared Mr. Charles Ifeld to his fellowmen, rich and poor alike? He emanated a spirit of fraternal charity and of public-mindedness which one rarely encounters in these days of greed and graft. No worthy individual in impoverished circumstances ever appealed to Mr. Ifeld in vain. No building program for the common good, was



Mr. Louis Ifeld

ever stopped for lack of funds to carry it to completion, once Mr. Ifeld learned of its need. Mr. Ifeld gained the happy distinction of putting a roof on every church in town, regardless of creed.

It is but natural that the children of such a father should not fail to imbibe that same spirit of charitableness which characterized the father. And so, when "Don Carlos" peacefully slept in death, and was widely mourned at home and abroad, his same generous spirit was perpetuated in his three sons. It was his greatest legacy to them. The large auditorium on the State Normal grounds, begun by the late Mr. Ifeld in memory of his dear wife, was completed by the sons in memory of their father. When the parochial school funds did not justify the purchase of much-needed playground equipment, the Ifelds promptly installed the same at their own expense. Both Ifeld money and influence have been expended again and again for the common good of their fellow-citizens. If the poor have been benefited in the past by Ifeld charities,—never have they experienced greater succor from the three

(Continued on page 10)



Distributing food to the poor.—Las Vegas N. Mex.

PLEASE RENEW PROMPTLY

## Trail Blazers

REV. THEODOSIUS MEYER, O. F. M.

In these days of autos and auto-ways, airplanes and air-ways, our mental horizon must not be limited by the backyard fence or the town limits. We must keep step with the march of progress and learn to think in terms broader than the community, the county and the state in which we live. In this we may learn a lesson from the Indians, the conquistadores, the early settlers, the pioneers, the frontiersmen, hunters and trappers, cowboys and cattlemen. They were not rivetted to a little ten-mile square.

Long before the advent of the explorers and conquerors, the Indians had their well-worn trails. The Indians of Zuni, Acoma, and of the Rio Grande Valley in New Mexico went several hundred miles to the "land of the cow;" (the plains east of the Pecos River where innumerable buffaloes roamed) to get meat and buffalo hides; the Plains Indians followed the buffalo and depended almost entirely upon them for their livelihood. At times they made a trip to the pueblo Indians for the purpose of trading, more frequently they traded on their own terms, or rather, simply took what they wanted.

The pueblo Indians made long trips to the Salinas Lakes in the neighborhood of Willard, N. M., or to the Salt Lakes to the south of Zuni, N. M., to get their supply of salt. Thus they became familiar with the best routes from one pueblo to another, and with the routes to the plains. They were not always the most direct routes, for they had to take the water supply into consideration.

Since time immemorial roads, waterways, railroads and highways have played an important part in the development, progress, civilization, comfort and happiness of the people. It is interesting to note how the early Indian trails later on became the trails of the Spanish conquistadores, cattle-trails, wagon-trails, railroads, highways and super-highways.

In the early days the Indians, conquistadores, settlers and Missionaries were content to make fifteen or twenty miles a day. Nowadays, if citizens, tourists and Missionaries cannot cover double that distance in an hour, they make life miserable for the state officials, politicians and the Highway Department, or throw their auto on the junk-pile if they do not accidentally run it into an arroyo or over a precipice in the attempt to beat a record.

After the ill-fated expedition of Narvaez from Florida along the coast to

Texas in 1528, Cabeza de Baca and three other members of the expedition survived. After seven years of wandering among different tribes along the Gulf Coast and farther inland they managed to meet, and started westward across Texas. Indians accompanied them and guided them along their trails to the neighboring tribes. After they had reached the Rio Grande River somewhere near the junction of the Concho and the Rio Grande Rivers, they heard glowing descriptions of a people farther

swung westward and reached a point on the Colorado River some distance north of the junction of the Gila and Colorado Rivers.

This latter became the trail over which the Jesuit, Fr. Kino, made several journeys, over which Anza led his military expedition into California as far as San Francisco in 1776, in which same year the Mission Dolores was founded. It was approximately the route followed by Fr. Garces in his several trips to the present Yuma and Mohava Indian Country about the same time.

Many Indians came to meet them and gave a wonderful account of the cities of Cibola farther inland, which said cities had many-storied houses. This proved to be the present Zuni country. They also spoke about "other nations who live beside a river carrying much water (Rio Caudaloso)." They, no doubt, meant the tribes along the Rio Grande River.

These reports of the Friars were handed to the Comisary General, Fr. Marcos de Niza. He himself set out in 1539. Estevanico,

the Negro, who had been with Cabeza de Baca, was chosen guide. Indians pointed out the trails generally used. They may have been good for Indians on foot, but were extremely difficult for men on horseback and for pack-animals. Accordingly, the main group lagged behind, while Estevanico pushed on ahead although he had been instructed not to advance too far. He reached Hawikah about twelve miles southwest of the present Zuni. Being over-confident, he overplayed his hand and became unreasonable. His demands for food, clothing, presents and women were resented and he was put to death, whereupon his companions fled and returned to the main group. As a result, Fr. Marcos de Niza could not enter the cities and had to content himself with viewing the place from a height in the distance.

Keen was his disappointment; brown, weatherbeaten, foot-sore and heart-sore, he stood on the height, yearning to spread the Gospel, but frustrated in the attempt because a fickle, unfaithful, selfish Negro guide had listened to the siren voice of passion and flung caution to the winds.

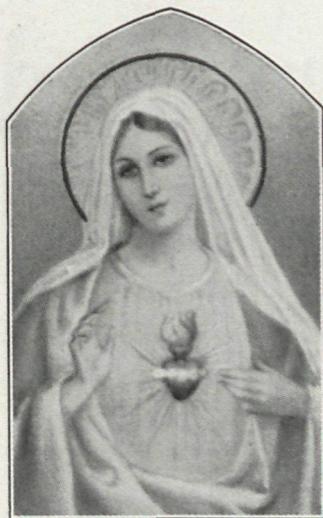
The members of the expedition had become panicky and there remained nothing to do but to return and report the results. However, before leaving, he planted a cross on the hill, took possession in the name of the king, and called the newly-found land "The New Kingdom of St. Francis"; and such it proved to be for centuries.



north,—people with wonderfully rich towns, six and seven storied houses, and stores of food, clothing, precious stones and gold. Continuing westward they reached the "Valley of the Hearts" near Ures in Sonora, Mexico. Thence they proceeded southward and reached Mexico City on July 25, 1536.

The report of riches to be gained and souls to be saved caused quite a flutter of excitement. The Viceroy was anxious to get more direct information and turned to the Franciscans for help. These Franciscans were already well established in Mexico. Most of them were true sons of Saint Francis, equipped with poetic fancy, a love of Nature and its beauty, and zeal for the salvation of souls. Withal, they were gifted with practical turn of mind, plenty of enthusiasm and an adventurous spirit.

Fr. Antonio de Ciudad Rodrigo chose Fray Juan de Asuncion (de Olmeda) and Fr. Pedro Nadal for the task. They left Mexico in January, 1538. Mota Padilla says: "They proceeded along the coast, turned north, and then to the left." Arricivita in his "Prologue" has it that "They proceeded till they came to a river they could not pass." Most probably they followed the route over which Cabeza de Baca had travelled from Sonora to Mexico City, then continued north from Ures, Sonora, through the settled portion of Sonora, Mexico, passed near the present Tucson, Arizona, and



MARY, THE SAFEGUARD OF DIVINE LOVE

June, the month of roses, is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The rose is the emblem of charity and from the Sacred Heart comes all charity. With the love that overflows from this Adorable Heart into our own, we strive to love Our Dear Lord. The greater our supply of love, the more we can love.

The Heart that receives the greatest love from God is the Immaculate Heart of Mary. All that Our Blessed Mother receives She refers back to the Giver. Not so with us, for we are prone to bestow the love that God gives us to creatures. Thus Our Dear Lord is often bereft of what is rightfully His.

Mary, Our Mother, will save Her children from this evil if we but give Her all we possess for the Sacred Heart of Her Divine Son. Then, and only then, will the Charity of Christ be returned to Him.

Who would not like to practice this safe and salutary devotion to the Sacred Heart? It is known as "The True Devotion to Mary." If you have not heard of this beautiful practice of giving yourself and all you have to Jesus through Mary, we will be glad to tell you more about it. Happy will be the day when you make your holy consecration to the Queen of Hearts for the King of Hearts.

A beautiful pamphlet explaining "The True Devotion" will be mailed on request.

Please send me the pamphlet on "The True Devotion to Mary."

Name .....

Address .....

**The Missionary Catechist**  
Huntington, Indiana

Published monthly with ecclesiastical approbation by The Missionary Catechist Publishing Co.

Subscription Rate: In U. S., 50c per year for single copies. Life subscription \$10.00. Canada and Foreign, 75c per year. Payable in advance.

Entered as second-class matter December 30, 1924, at the postoffice at Huntington, Indiana, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

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

Printed by Our Sunday Visitor Press.  
Huntington, Indiana

THE DAWN

Another day has dawned. It is for me! With a smile of welcome on my lips I hurry forth to meet it. There is joy in my heart and courage for I am young and I am brave. Yesterday, the day before, and a hundred yesterdays before, I have done this self-same thing:—gone out with gladness to live another day.

But somehow, today, there is a lull, not in the ceaseless activity all around and about, but within,—in my heart, in my soul. And that strange quiet reveals in me a potential possibility for loving, heroic service. It presents in a new light the truth that I am Christ's. In a flash I comprehend! I am Christ's and He is calling me to live my days for Him alone. He wants me to be His Missionary. I am surprised, astounded, but I understand,—though I almost wish I did not. For the world about me is so pleasant and so fair. The tantalizing fingers of success and fortune beckon, albeit from afar. Everywhere I am welcomed and loved. I am happy and I am well satisfied with life. But I cannot refuse the responsibility Christ is offering me! It is a challenge and I am too noble to disregard it. I am too noble? I discover now that I am also weak, weaker than I care to admit. Half ashamed, I question:

"Lord, why me?"

He understands. His answer is gentle: "I have need of many souls aglow with love who will revive, with their living spirits, the souls that are dead."

"There is no doubt about it. He wants me. I long to be heroic but again I am the coward: "Lord, it will be hard—?"

He does not reprove, He explains, for He will not have me deceived.

"My chosen ones must know that they are heralds of The Man of Sorrows. They must feel the wounds if they are to heal them. Their hearts must pity and weep if they would understand the gospel of my Broken Heart. They must be victims of sacrifice, struck even until they bleed, or how can they be ministers of my Precious Blood?"

I am filled with apprehension: "Forgive me, Lord, but is it worth the sacrifice?"

Softly, sorrowfully comes the answer: "Child, do you decide:—I Myself am the reward!"

My heart is filled with an intense longing and I cry out: "O then, Lord, take me, I come! However hard the way, it is the road I seek for it leads to You! But wait! Alas, do You not know, Lord, that I am a weak one? In a glorious mission such as this, I can only fail. Dare I, then, accept?"

He holds me close: "Fear not, My Own! Remember this is My work. When you are tempted to weaken and to doubt, trust in Me and the victory is Ours!"

Another day has dawned. With a smile of joy upon my lips I hurry forth to meet it. It is for Christ!

R. P. T.

The Missionary Catechists go about among the poorest of the poor, instructing the little ones, feeding the hungry, clothing the needy, nursing the sick and guiding the prodigals back to their Father's House. Every Catholic should desire a share in their Christ-like labors. The Catechists depend entirely upon Charity for their support and the means wherewith to carry on their work. This is YOUR OPPORTUNITY. \$1.00 will support a Catechist in the field for one day; \$25.00, for one month. Make your contribution to-

ward the completion of the Sacred Heart Burse as an act of loving gratitude to the Sacred Heart of Jesus for making you a member of the Catholic Church.

NOVENA

Are you praying for some special spiritual or temporal favor? If so, include your intentions in the Perpetual Novena in honor of Our Blessed Lady of Victory which the Catechists are making at Victory-Noll.

PRAYER

O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and earth, we humbly beseech Thee with our whole heart to assist us now in our necessities. There are none who can withstand your power. Show us herein that You are our Mother. Sweet Mother we place this cause in Your Hands.

Fort Collins, Colorado.

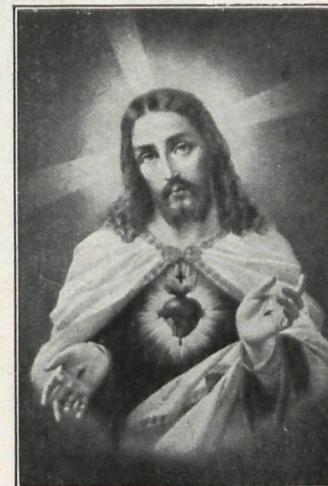
Reverend and Dear Father:

It seems to me that the time is not far off when Colorado shall be blessed with the presence of the Missionary Catechists. The Secretary of our Most Reverend Bishop expressed in my presence the thought that the Catechists would fill a great need in this Diocese.

The Protestants are very active in their propaganda with our Mexican people. They are determined to take them away from the Catholic Church.

That the Catechists may come out and help us is the wish of

Yours very gratefully in Christ,  
FATHER TRUDEL.



LET US PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

O Jesus, Eternal Priest,  
Keep these Thy holy ones  
Within the shelter of Thy Sacred Heart  
Where none may touch them.  
Keep unstained their anointed hands  
Which daily touch Thy Sacred Body.  
Keep unsoiled their lips  
Purpled with Thy Precious Blood.  
Keep pure and unearthly  
Their hearts sealed with the sublime  
mark  
Of Thy glorious Priesthood.  
Let Thy holy love surround them  
And shield them from the world's contagion.  
Bless their labors with abundant fruit,  
And may all to whom they minister  
Be here below their joy and consolation,  
And in Heaven their beautiful  
And everlasting crown. Amen.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF RHYTHM BAND



The adolescent boys at Anton Chico were quite a problem to the Catechists there. As usual, the Catechists had resource to Our Blessed Mother and she inspired them to start a rhythm band for the smaller boys and a drum and bugle corps for the larger boys.

took the children to the Domestic Science room in the basement of the Santa Rosa school house and there we served them sandwiches, hard boiled eggs, oranges and hot cocoa. The children then went to the auditorium where the rhythm band had a chance to go through a number or two before the program which was scheduled for one o'clock.



The drum and bugle corps which is enjoying unexpected popularity in the vicinity of Anton Chico, New Mexico.

Several Sundays ago, a Junior Holy Name Rally was held. For a week before, the Catechists had worked on a beautiful banner for the occasion. They had, prior to this, received three old banners from a parish church in the East.

When I arrived in Anton Chico, the Glee Clubs were putting the final strokes to an elaborate program which they had been asked to give at Santa Rosa, the county seat, some thirty-five miles away.



Ten autos had been chartered to carry the group of forty-five school children taking part in the program, to Santa Rosa. One of the Catechists conceived the idea to trim each car with a red banner, bearing the name "Anton Chico" in white letters, and we straightway started to make them.

By nine o'clock on the following morning, the last car had left Anton Chico for Santa Rosa. At 11:15 we



Here and There In the field at home



THE TRIUMPH OF HERESY

Little Gregoria Rosas came to class in a troubled state of mind. Next door an Alleluia baby was dying and it had not been baptized.

So Catechist went to see the family but the father was firm. No, he did not want his child baptized. Gregoria was not satisfied. That evening she got Lorenzo to go over and see if they would let him baptize the dying infant.

Several days later we met the parents in Santa Paula. They had come in for another child's funeral. The father triumphantly informed us that "it had not been baptized either!"

Catechist Catherine Olberding, Santa Paula, Calif.

BACK TO THE FOLD

Two families who had been attending the Protestant church for the past five or six years are now attending all our services regularly. Tonight Father is going to have them

make the Profession of Faith in the church. He certainly "laid down the law" to them last night when they came to see him and told him they wished to come back to the Catholic Church!

Catechist Josephine Penning, Grants, New Mexico.

Nashua, N. H.

Rev. Dear Father: Enclosed find my check for \$10.00 for a LIFE SUBSCRIPTION to your magazine. I hope that every Priest will give the same, if not more.



To enjoy happiness is a great blessing, but to confer it on others is a greater.—Charles Kingsley.

MASS IN THE OPEN

One day Father Dumarest asked us to sing a High Mass at Ojo del Media, Ojo del Media is about six miles off the highway leading to Anton Chico and about fourteen miles from Las Vegas. The people living there usually go to Teckalote for Mass.

Catechist Sophie Renier, Las Vegas, New Mexico.

The 2500 Club is especially for you,—you who can not give much at one time but who can give a little often. Its aim is to get 2500 persons to contribute \$1.00 each per month for one year.

On Saturday, March 12th, ninety-nine of our children at Brawley, California, received their First Holy Communion. In the class were five members of one family ranging in age from nine to eighteen years.



munion in the new church for the Mexicans which is being built here. It is to be finished in June.

Catechist Genevieve Vasquez, Calipatria, California.

Dear Catechists:

Your work in the Home Mission Field is an inspiration to me. I am enclosing a small check for your poor. I wish it were more for I understand your needs. My fervent prayers go with it.

Sincerely, J. M. C.



Class of ninety-nine First Communicants taken in front of the Sacred Heart Church, Brawley, California. The pastor, Father Joseph Fitzgerald, is in the group.

Please ship all items intended for the needy missions direct to our mission centers. Address: "Society of Missionary Catechists" at:

- 1 Anton Chico, New Mexico.
2 Los Banos, Calif.
3 Grants, New Mexico.
4 1385 Van Buren Street, Gary, Ind.
5 Holman, New Mexico.
6 3868 Block Ave., East Chicago, Ind.
7 Box 30, Montezuma Route, Las Vegas, New Mexico.
8 Lubbock, Texas.
9 Cerrillos, New Mexico.
10 Catechist Blanche Richardson, Victory-Mount, Las Vegas, New Mexico.
11 Calipatria, California, Box 533.
12 Santa Paula, California, 222 8th. St.
13 Tulare, Calif.

Express and freight shipments for Holman and Anton Chico are sent via Las Vegas, New Mexico.

THE BLESSINGS OF A FREE CLINIC



A little experience in private detective work could be used to advantage here. Many of the poor who come for help cannot tell where they live. We need this information because we never give regular assistance until we visit the home and get detailed information.

Friday is a Red Letter Day at Our Blessed Lady of Victory Clinic, for the doctor is here that morning. All week we invite those of our poor who are in need of a doctor's attention but cannot afford it to come to us on Friday. They readily respond to the call. Last Friday when we arrived at the Clinic early in the morning we found several patients already awaiting us.

Many of the children who come to us have teeth badly in need of attention. Others are unable to attend school because their eyes are weak and they need glasses. We have no funds to take care of these cases and so must tell the children that perhaps, later, we shall be able to do something for them,—an expression we have used so often lately that it is about worn out.

Catechist Catherine Leven, Las Vegas, New Mexico.

OUR GROWING "BUSINESS"

The depression has certainly boosted our "business." Our grocery book shows a record of over 100 orders given out weekly and the amount seems to be increasing. We now have a regular bread line every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday in the basement of the Church— and between times at our house. We issue bread tickets to over 500 families.



Catechist Sophia Renkey,

# Mary's Little Helpers

Dear Little Helpers:

I suppose the most popular word with all the Little Helpers these days is "Vacation." Gee, not long ago it was Christmas, and now it is vacation again. Do you know that vacation really means work to the children in New Mexico? It does, and especially to the poor little boys because they have to work from early morning until night. Sometimes the schools have to be closed early in Spring because most of the boys herd sheep. Do you know what that means? You see, there are many big sheep ranches in New Mexico, but they are nearly all owned by Americans. Sometimes one man has thousands of sheep and hires these poor men and boys to take care of them. Early in the spring the men and boys of the different little towns drive the herds out into the prairie. They pitch tents and camp in the prairie all summer. They get up early every morning and take the sheep to a fresh pasture. They stay out all day and then in the evening they drive the sheep back to camp. It is a beautiful sight to watch the sheep coming back in the evening just as the sun goes down. There is always a leader among the sheep and the rest all follow him. When the sheep have eaten all the grass around in this one place the men break up camp and move to one farther away. It sounds like it might be lots of fun camping out all summer, doesn't it? It isn't much fun, though, to be working out in the hot New Mexican sun all day long, and many times not having very much to eat. Then, too, out in New Mexico they have very severe hail storms. I always thought it hailed when it was cold, but I found out different. Out there it may be very hot, and all of a sudden a hail storm will come up and last for maybe fifteen minutes. And you should see the hail. It isn't tiny balls like we see, but big balls, sometimes as big as an egg. Oftentimes it kills a great many of the sheep. Sometimes the poor little boys get so frightened that they pick up a sheep and hold it over their heads to protect them from the hail. So you see, the life of a poor little shepherd isn't a picnic at all. As soon as the weather starts to get cold, the boys come back to their homes and start to school, and that's the end of their vacation. I shouldn't think they would be as anxious for vacation time to come as we are. I don't think I would like to live in a tent all summer without seeing anything but sheep, and not have any fun. I guess we are all pretty lucky, don't you think so?

Your pal,

WEE WILLIE WINKLES.

## ONLY A LITTLE BOY

I'm only a boy, a little one;  
I'm Mother Mary's boy,  
But still I work just awful hard  
To bring poor children joy.

I love my Mother Mary's poor  
And I'm doing all I can,  
But then some day I'll do lots more  
When I'm a great big man.

Till then I must be satisfied  
To save my pennies and my toys,  
And say just lots and lots of prayers  
'Cause I'm one of Mary's boys.



This is our Little Flower Club of Topeka, Kansas. These Little Helpers under the guidance of their promoter, Lillian Staab, recently started a drive to secure one hundred new subscriptions to THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST. In less than two months they secured forty-one subscriptions, almost half their goal. How many Little Helpers are willing to compete with Lillian and her Little Helpers?

## VACATION RESOLUTIONS

Even during vacation,—  
I am still a Little Helper,  
I must help the Missions,  
I must not forget to pray for them,  
I must try to get some new Little Helpers,  
I must read THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST,  
I must make little sacrifices and save my pennies.

I will keep my resolutions all during vacation, because I am a real little missionary of Our Blessed Mother.

## THOUGHTS FOR LITTLE HELPERS

School is over, and now, what am I going to do? I have been a faithful Mary's Little Helper. Is Our Blessed Mother satisfied with me? Or does She want me to do still more? Maybe now I can be a big helper, a real missionary! Maybe a missionary priest, or a Missionary Catechist! When school days are over, it is time for me to decide. What shall I do? I will pray, and pray hard so that I may do just what Our Dear Lord and His Holy Mother wish me to do.

Dear Catechist:

Kindly send me eleven mite boxes because the Helpers of my Band need new ones. The others soiled and are getting old so they told me to write for new ones.

You will receive our offering in a few days. I am glad to say that we are getting along fine. We now get THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST and it is more interesting than any book.

We are working very hard to help the Catechists support the little neglected children in the Southwest.

Yours truly,

GEORGE LACKNER,  
Promoter.

Do you know, Little Helpers, that Wee Willie Winkles feels very badly because you aren't working as hard for First Communion outfits as you did last year? Last Year so many of the Little Helpers wrote to Willie and sent him a dollar to help buy First Communion outfits for the poor little Mission children. This year, however, I suppose the poor little kiddies in the Missions will have to receive Our Dear Lord for the first time in their old raggedy overalls, and with their toes peeping through their shoes, if they have shoes. Isn't that sad? I am sure that many of you could make a little sacrifice once in awhile and do without candy, or ice cream, and maybe a movie, and save these pennies for Wee Willie Winkles. You don't want Wee Willie to be disappointed in the Little Helpers, do you?

DON'T FORGET THE POOR CHILDREN DURING YOUR VACATION, LITTLE HELPERS.

# The Associate Catechists of Mary

Dear Catechists:

Several days ago I sent you three complete First Communion outfits. You have probably received them by this time. I hope the dresses will be all right for some poor little children who are to make their First Communion this spring or summer, and who are too poor to buy the clothes. I made them in honor of the Sweet Infant Jesus Who comes to them, and also as a Lenten sacrifice. Give them wherever they are most needed. I have a very sick mother at home and as I am trying to work at the store and take care of my mother, too, it keeps me busy, but thanks to God I am able to do it for His poor.

With the best of wishes for your work, I am,  
Very sincerely,  
C. H.

How about the new member you were going to get? Perhaps there is one waiting to be told about the ASSOCIATE CATECHISTS OF MARY.

The Rosary Society of St. Jude's Parish, Fort Wayne, Indiana, has organized a very promising Mission Society. These good women, recognizing the ever-increasing needs of the poor under our care in the Missions, have nobly offered to do their bit and help bring relief to our suffering poor. We are very grateful to good Father Dapp, the Pastor, for his splendid encouragement and cooperation, which have made this new band possible.

Mrs. S. S. Ogden, promoter of Our Lady of Victory Circle, New Orleans, reports that despite the depression, her faithful members have been able to continue their Mission work, and once every month a box containing many useful articles finds its way to the Missions. Our Dear Lord will surely continue to bless these noble women for their good work.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Band, Chicago, conducted a very successful party under the management of our good friend, Father Lescher. As a result of this party, \$62.00 was added to "Jesus, Father of the Poor" Burse. Miss Betty Zech is the president of this Band, and deserves congratulations for her splendid work.



We are happy to enroll St. Ann's Slovak Ladies' Guild of Wilkinsburg, Pa. These good friends have been working very hard to supply the needs of our poor in the Missions, and have also sent a contribution to help support a Catechist. May their good work continue and prosper!

Mrs. Koglin and Mrs. Gibbons of The Sacred Heart Band (Mrs. Gallagher promoter) sponsored a successful party and realized \$40.00 for the Sacred Heart Burse.

We wish to thank Miss Helena Stamm, president, and all the members of the Sacred Heart League of St. Benedict's Parish, Chicago, for their generous check in the sum of \$20.00. We hope that many more promoters will follow Miss Stamm's good example and encourage their members to work for our missions.

The Precious Blood Band, Lafayette, Indiana, of which Mrs. G. Gates is the promoter, is keeping busy, trying to provide clothing for our poor children and babies. One shipment alone contained thirty-one baby comforters, six blankets, eighteen gowns, twenty-six petticoats, ten jackets, seventeen girls' dresses, fifteen petticoats, and many other articles. We would welcome many more ambitious bands like the Precious Blood Band.



Members of the Blessed Virgin Society of St. Philip Neri Church, Indianapolis, Indiana, who recently visited Victory-Noil. These girls are all enthusiastic mission workers and have adopted their own Mission Center. In addition to this, they have also sent us a check to support a Catechist for one month.

The Friendly Club, Chicago, of which Mrs. Sabina Gordon is the promoter, is a good example of how much can be accomplished with very little effort. There are only eight members in this little club and none can afford to devote much time to working for the Missions. Each member, however, was interested in God's poor, and felt that she had her share to do. As a result, they organized their little club to meet once a month, or once every two weeks, to play cards and donate the proceeds to help support a Catechist. In a very short time, those zealous members had contributed enough to support a Catechist for one month. This proves how easily a small band can be organized and still be a great help.

The "Alleluias," or Pentecostals,—a new Protestant sect,—have a custom of calling each other "Sister" or "Brother." One day one of them stopped little Maria, aged three and a half, smiled very sweetly and said, "Good morning, little sister." Little Maria drew herself up to her full height and answered, "I'm not your sister. I'm a Catholic," and walked away.

On March 17th, Mrs. E. H. Potter of St. Luke's Club, Chicago, conducted a very successful afternoon meeting and St. Patrick's party at the Admiral Hotel. This zealous club added \$86.00 to St. Paschal's Burse.

Cerrillos, New Mexico.

Dear Friend:

I don't know how to thank you, but I will thank you one thousand times for the clothes you sent me because I have seven sisters and one little brother and mother and father only works two days a week. The work is very slow. And I wish you years of health and success, you and all of your parents, and I hope God will help you.

Yours friend,  
RAMONA.

We are very grateful to the following friends for their successful parties which added \$72.00 to Our Lady of Mercy Burse: Mrs. Gillett, Mrs. Eickelberg, Mrs. Tinnen, Mrs. Duffy, Mrs. Parthun and Miss Martin, all of Chicago.

## Read Something Worthwhile

By Rev. A. J. Blaufuss

"OUR BEST FRIEND," by Christian Pesch, S. J., trans. by Bern. A. Hausmann, S. J. The Bruce Publishing Co., Milwaukee, Wis. \$2.25.

Here we have thirty readings or chapters of sermon material on the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The name of Father Pesch spells solidity and thoroughness. His fame as a theologian has been carried with his books beyond the confines of the Fatherland. Father Pech's mental acumen has not lessened in the running years, for in this work on the Sacred Heart he happily combines warmth of devotion with thoroughness. Those who cast about for sermons on the Sacred Heart, which they want to be different, will find ready help in "Our Best Friend." It is a rich mine of inspiration. He has loved us with an everlasting love! this is the great thought which, like a musical theme, runs through all the chapters. True devotion to the Sacred Heart means a return of love for love. May "Our Best Friend" receive a glad welcome and make human hearts glow with a warmer love!

Our ANNUITY PLAN appeals to good practical Catholics because it not only insures them of a regular income during their lifetime and the charitable use of their 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.

Write today for particulars.

There are, unfortunately, some Catholics who when solicited for charity in behalf of God's poor ask: "Must I be giving again and again for charity?" To all such Jesus Christ, "The Father of the Poor," will say: "Give and give to My poor, until I stop giving to you." God loves the generous giver and rewards those who give at the cost of sacrifice. He always matches your generosity with even greater generosity.

Rev. and Dear Father Sigstein:

I am writing at the earliest possible moment to tell you what a pleasure and source of edification it has been for me to give the retreat to the Catechists at Santa Paula. We had twenty-one present, which was twice as many as I expected, and twenty-one more earnest, more pious, more edifying Religious I have never met. The enthusiasm of Father Conlon, as well as of Father Sheahan of Oxnard, for their work and their influence in the community was unbounded. This morning at Holy Mass nine of them renewed most solemnly their holy Vows, and all renewed their Consecration to their Patroness, Our Lady of Victory. What excited my admiration was the close resemblance of their Apostolic work to our own,—the most abandoned souls. I told them that I felt they could well be called the "Ladies' Auxiliary" of the Redemptorist Order, in the nature of their work. Not only Father Conlon, but also Father Lanctot, of Los Bancos, was present for the Mass and the renewal of Vows.

I know all the places where the Catechists are located in California and can appreciate the possibilities in these various places. Be assured this work was one of the greatest consolations of my priestly career, and I shall never forget your Society in my prayers and Masses.

I expect to be back in Santa Paula and Oxnard in the Autumn to give Missions, and I shall then have the pleasure of seeing the Catechists again.

With sincerest regard for your admirable work and praying the blessing of God and His Blessed Mother's intercession upon it, I remain,

Very sincerely in J. M. J. A.,

Your devoted Servant,

REV. F. H. ROMER, C. SS. R.

Whittier, California

## CHAMPIONS OF CHARITY

(Continued from page 3)

brothers than during the present era of depression.

The soup kitchen conducted by the Missionary Catechists for the relief of the needy poor of Las Vegas is one of the Ilfelds' pet charities. Mr. Louis Ilfeld, the eldest of the three brothers, bought the necessary utensils and has not ceased to add to the ever-diminishing supplies. He has likewise taken an active interest in Our Lady of Victory Clinic for the relief of the sick poor in Las Vegas. In short, he has manifested a remarkable degree of interest in all those charitable works to which the Catechists have dedicated themselves. With that keen sense of penetration which values things at their true worth,—the inherent quality of the successful business man,—Mr. Ilfeld has grasped the significance of their work. If one wishes to invest in some security from which a safe and profitable income is to be derived,—that is one thing. But if one wishes to give to charity so as to realize nearly one hundred per cent on one's investment, then what better medium of dispensing same could be found, than the Missionary Catechists, who, unlike high-salaried social workers, give their services gratis to the poor. When a beneficent individual wishes to endow a charitable or educational institutions, he realizes that a large portion of his money goes to the payment of individuals or to the general upkeep of immense establishments. The Missionary Catechists conduct no institutions and consequently, the donations received by them are expended primarily in the service of the poor, as the donors intend. It is true that the Catechists must live, and hence must be supported,—but they live very frugally in order to be able to share more abundantly with the poor under their care, the alms given them.



O THOU FRIEND IN EVERY NEED,  
PRAY FOR US!

O God! Let the votive commemoration of Blessed Anthony, Thy confessor, be a source of joy to Thy Church, that she may always be fortified with spiritual assistance, and may deserve to possess eternal joy. Through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

## Wise and Otherwise

Catechist: "Why do we go to Confession?"

Tomas: "Because we're Catholics."

Catechist: "Suppose you stole one hundred dollars, how would you get rid of that sin?"

Felipe: "I would go to confession and pay the money back."

Catechist: "Very well. But suppose you no longer had the money. What would you do then?"

Felipe: "That's a MYSTERY."

Catechist: "What sacrament do Catholics receive when they marry, Maria?"

Maria (brightening after a moment's serious thought): "Oh, Catechist, my mother knows that!"

It is in view of these and like reasonings, that the Ilfeld brothers have become staunch friends of our Society. Not content with placing a high estimate on our works, they are most zealous in propagating among their friends, to the best of their ability, their own lively sense of appreciation of our labors for the poor. The Missionary Catechists, on their part, feel greatly indebted to them for taking such a great interest in the charitable works of The Society of Missionary Catechists.

May the generous spirit of the Ilfelds diffuse itself more and more, so that our charitable works, now quite limited due to lack of sufficient funds, may abound more and more to the glory of God and the relief of His suffering poor.

## Victory-Nall Notes

Dear Esther:

Your old prophecy came true; I actually had the honor of crowning a "real Queen!" After it was all over, I was amused at the remembrance of how—when we were youngsters—you consoled me with this promise while I lay sick in bed with the measles at the very time I was to have been crowning the most popular girl in town as Queen of the May. You didn't expect the thing ever to happen any more than I did, I know. It was just a timely bit of childish comfort drawn from the fairy tales you read to me. And it all came true! But let me tell you about it.

Every evening during the month of May we have special devotions in honor of Our Blessed Mother. These devotions close with the touching ceremony of the crowning in which I had such a prominent part. The reason for my getting the "lion's share" of happiness that evening was because I happened to be the youngest according to vocation in the Society. This it is which determines who is to have this great privilege.

The last day of May was warm and pleasant. We were spending our evening's recreation period in the woods near by picking flowers when the bell rang for devotions. We hurried home as fast as we could but when we reached the building the Catechists were already lined up in front of the chapel for procession. We all took our places and soon the services began. The opening number was a hymn to Our Dear Mother during which we filed into the chapel. Then followed the procession. Catechist Directress and our Novice Mistress led and the rest of us followed in order of vocation:—the Seniors first, then the Juniors, next the Probationers, then the Consecrates and the Candidates. After the Candidates,—my classmates who had no special part in the function,—marched the Candidate who carried the crown on a beautiful blue and white pillow. I followed her and immediately preceded the four Consecrates who carried Our Blessed Mother. Last of all came Father vested in cope and biretta.

We chanted the Litany of Loretta while we made our way from the chapel, out doors, around the building and back again to the chapel. At the chapel entrance the double lines parted to make way for us who were to take part in the crowning ceremonies. We passed between the waiting lines of Catechists and entered the chapel first. I forgot to mention that each Catechist carried a spray of flowers and now, after Our Blessed Mother was returned to her place of honor in the sanc-

tuary, everyone came up and placed her floral offering at the Queen's feet. I could almost see the hearts attached to these little bunches of flowers. It seemed to me that any moment Our Dear Mother would stoop and gather them all in Her outstretched arms, and I was too happy to be disappointed in not actually seeing Her do that, because I knew that She was, in truth, gathering the hearts and pressing them close to Her Queen-Mother's bosom. This was, I thought, the most fitting time in which to again renew our act of Consecration; which we did, with great love and fervor.

What else could follow this sublime act but a glorious hymn of praise to our Queen and our Mother, in which the choir and chorus joined? And how they did sing! To me kneeling in the sanctuary, it was the most beautiful music I ever heard. I could picture Our Blessed Mother hushing the angel's exalted songs and bending down from Her heavenly throne to catch the words of love as they fell from the lips of Her poor children upon earth. In fact I was so busy marveling at the sweet benevolence of Mary who, surrounded as She is with the glories of Heaven, is still pleased to accept our homage, though it must be mean in comparison,—I was so busy, I say, that I almost forgot to do the crowning. Now wouldn't that have been like me to spoil the program? But my guardian angel must have nudged me because I remembered just in time.

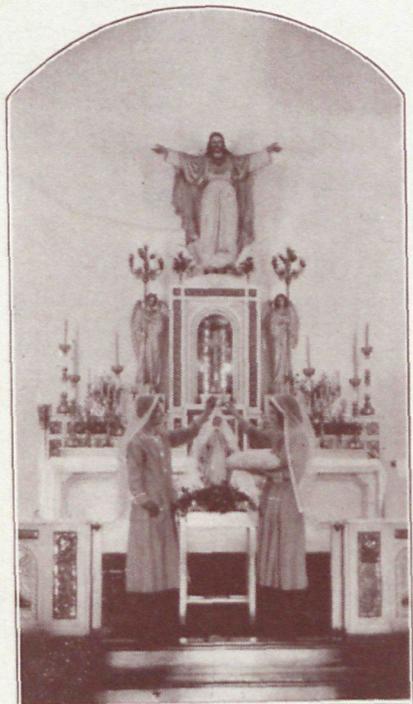
After kneeling before our Sovereign, the Candidate who carried the crown stepped to one side of the throne and I stepped to the other. She then proffered to me the pillow from which I took the crown and placed it upon the head of the Queen of May and of Our Hearts.

Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament followed.

Like all our ceremonies, this one was very simple, but to me it was more beautiful than anything I can ever hope to take part in again,—except, of course, my profession for which I still have three years to wait. Perhaps I appreciated this honor of crowning Our Heavenly Queen the more because it was the fulfilment of a hope which had been thwarted in childhood. But anyway, the last of May was one of the happiest days of my life and I keep it fresh in my mind by often reminding My Mother that She has permitted me to crown Her on earth so I do not doubt but that She will make me a part of Her glorious crown for all eternity.

Your loving sister,

MARY.



We greet Thee, Mary,  
Queen of May,  
And at Thy feet  
Our Hearts we lay.  
O, guide us with a  
Mother's love,  
And lead us home at last  
To Heaven above.

# "HOPE I'LL GET TO THE TOP SOMEDAY"

—Little Dimer

Brave Little Dimer will not give up. He is still hoping to get the balance of those 50,000 DIMES for Saint Joseph's Poor Fund.

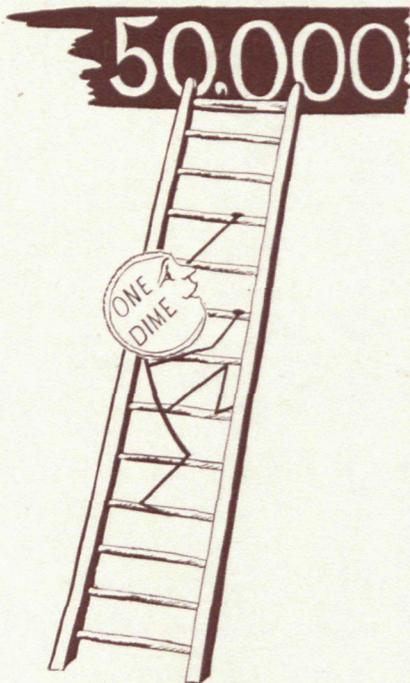
---

50,000 DIMES, THE GOAL.

20,036 DIMES received to date  
and expended for the  
necessities of the poor.

29,964 DIMES MORE TO GO!

---



Will he reach the top?

## WHY

Should he be disheartened?

He asks for little.

He asks that "Little" of the friends of dear St. Joseph to whom the Catechists must turn for the means necessary to feed, cloth and nurse God's suffering poor.

Every one who sends a dime or more in honor of St. Joseph for God's poor becomes a member of ST. JOSEPH'S POOR FUND FAMILY and shares in the Masses, prayers and Novenas of the Catechists as well as in the Mass offered every Wednesday in honor of this dear Saint.

---

Victory Noll,  
Huntington, Indiana.

I wish to become a member of St. Joseph's Poor Fund Family. Enclosed find ..... Dimes in honor of good St. Joseph for the poor.

Name .....

Address .....