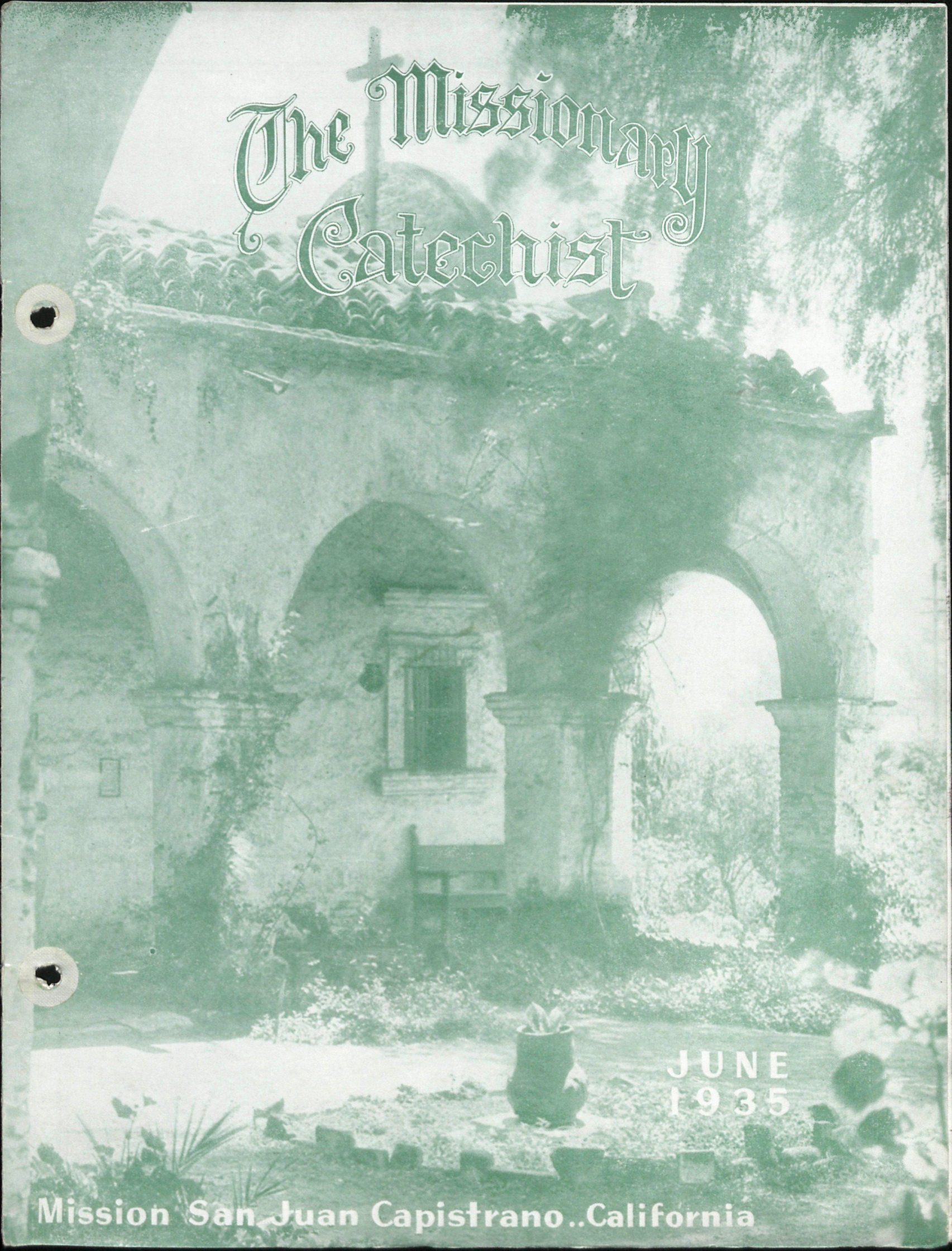




The Missionary Catechist

JUNE
1935

Mission San Juan Capistrano..California



*The Most Reverend John F. Noll, D. D., Bishop of Fort Wayne, who will
celebrate the tenth anniversary of his consecration on June 30, 1935.*

The Missionary Catechist

Volume XI

Victory-Noll, Huntington, Indiana, June, 1935

Number 7

Bishop Noll, Bishop of the Missions

“**D**O you promise to be kind and merciful to the poor, the strangers, and the unfortunate in the name of the Lord?”

These words, taken from the Pontificale Romanum, are addressed by the Church to him who is about to receive episcopal consecration. Perhaps few prelates realize so well all that the promise implies as did the Most Reverend John F. Noll, D. D., who made his solemn promise on June 30, 1925 when he was consecrated Bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne. Certainly none have more perfectly fulfilled this promise as has Bishop Noll.

Long before the Holy See appointed him Bishop, Monsignor Noll had sought out the poor, the strangers, and the unfortunate. Characteristically he had sought out the poorest of the poor, strangers in a strange land, those who were the most unfortunate because they were deprived of spiritual, as well as bodily succor. Realizing the urgent need of missionary work among these poor, unfortunate strangers in our country, Monsignor Noll established a number of Catholic schools on the Mexican border. These he supported by means of OUR SUNDAY VISITOR, of which he is the founder and editor.

MEANWHILE a young religious Society was beginning its struggling existence. Its work was exactly the work in which Monsignor Noll had for some years been vitally interested—the saving of the souls and bodies of the poor in the most destitute mission settlements particularly in the southwest portion of the United States. This community, known as the Society of Missionary Catechists, had already trained and sent its first two members to New Mexico in 1922. At this time through the courtesy of Mother Aquinata and the School Sisters of Notre Dame five were making their novitiate at the Academy of Our Lady in Chicago and many more were seeking

admittance. Through the columns of his weekly paper, OUR SUNDAY VISITOR, Monsignor Noll made known the work of the new Society. Nor did his interest stop there. Realizing the urgent need of a Motherhouse and Novitiate for the Catechists, he set about to secure a suitable site for them. OUR SUNDAY VISITOR owned a tract of land just outside the city of Huntington. This would be an ideal location for the future Motherhouse. It would, however, be impossible for OUR SUNDAY VISITOR to bear the burden of building it without

THE MOST REVEREND JOHN FRANCIS NOLL, D. D., fifth Bishop of Fort Wayne, was born in Fort Wayne, January 25, 1875. After studying the classics at St. Lawrence College, Mount Calvary, Wisconsin, he entered Mount St. Mary Seminary, Cincinnati, for his course in philosophy and theology. He was ordained to the Priesthood in the Cathedral of Fort Wayne by the late Bishop Joseph Rade-macher on June 4, 1898.

During the next twelve years Father Noll held pastorates in several cities in the diocese. He was then appointed to St. Mary's church, Huntington, where he remained until he was elevated to the Episcopacy in 1925. It was during his stay in Huntington that he founded OUR SUNDAY VISITOR in May, 1912. In 1921 he was made a Domestic Prelate and in 1924 he erected Victory-Noll, the Motherhouse and Novitiate of the Society of Missionary Catechists.

Bishop Noll is a member of the Administrative Committee of the N. C. W. C., and holds the chairmanship over the N. C. C. W. and the N. C. C. M. He is also Treasurer of the American Board of Catholic Missions and is a member of the committee of four which launched and successfully promoted the Legion of Decency.

help from other sources. How the future Bishop received that help was by a direct intervention of Divine Providence.

In June, 1923, Monsignor Noll celebrated the silver jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood. As a fitting testimonial to the editor of the paper, its readers presented him with a purse for a trip to the Holy Land. The Monsignor, however, felt that his duties as pastor of a large parish and editor of an ever-growing Catholic weekly would not permit him to take an extended trip, so he sent one of his associate editors to the Holy Land, while he himself, a few months later, went to Hot Springs, Arkansas, for a brief, though much-needed rest.

IT was during his stay at Hot Springs that Monsignor Noll met Mr. Peter O'Donnell of Long Beach, California. Mr. O'Donnell had long been a great admirer of the editor of OUR SUNDAY VISITOR and had done much to spread the work of his little paper in southern California. While still in Chicago, where he had been for years a member of the police force, he had been actively interested in works of charity. Before leaving his native city for his future home in California, he, together with his good wife, had made a promise to Our Blessed Mother that if She would bless their investments, he would give half of whatever he would make to a worthy, charitable cause. Our Blessed Mother, never outdone in generosity, blessed this beautiful, religious pledge. Graciously She made known to him in a wonderful way the charitable cause they were to sponsor.

Impressed by the sad plight of the Mexicans in California and realizing the necessity of securing religious instruction for the children of these destitute and suffering people, Mr. O'Donnell could conceive no higher form of charity than to bring our holy religion into the lives of these poor people and their still poorer children. The opportunity came when Monsignor Noll made known to Mr.

(Continued on page 10)

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR BELOVED BISHOP!

WHO has not had the pleasure of going home, or of returning to some place dear to you, after an absence of many years? You found many changes and when you left again, you carried away with you new impressions.

Such was my experience last March when I visited Victory-Noll and attended the Catechists' profession and investiture ceremonies on the Feast of the Annunciation and the departure ceremonies the following day. Many times during my brief visit and many times since, I found myself marveling at the Providence of God that has constantly been working in the Society of Missionary Catechists of Our Blessed Lady of Victory.

Much might be written about Victory-Noll itself and its beautiful surroundings. Even the most casual visitor will agree that it is an ideal Motherhouse and Novitiate. But perhaps my outstanding impression was the tremendous growth the Society has enjoyed. Thirteen years ago there were seven Catechists; today there are 170. At that time there were but two in the missions; today there are 104. And all this, in spite of many trials and difficulties, for the work of the Society was a new work, and Father Sigstein and the first Catechists had to feel their way. Hitherto, most religious communities had confined themselves to institutions of charity and education. The ideal of the Catechists was to be the ideal of Jesus Christ Himself, that is, to go out among the poor, to live among them, and to work among them.

THE spiritual development of the Society is no less remarkable than its material development. In fact, the latter is wholly the result of the former. The spirit of the Catechists is summed up in the words of their beautiful motto: "All for Jesus through Mary." Humility naturally flows from such a spirit and God operates when His missionaries divest themselves of self. It is this spirit that is noted and favorably commented upon by both priests and people.

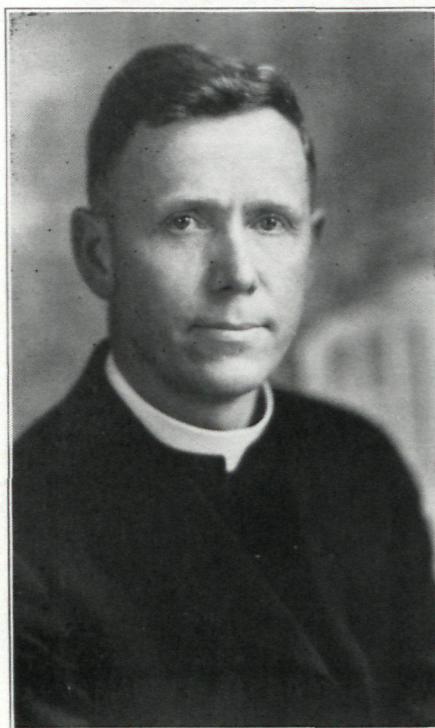
Another feature that accounts largely for the spiritual growth of the Society is that in all things its rules are in strict accordance with the spirit and law of Holy Mother Church. This harmony between the Church and the Society was evident on March 25 in the ceremonies themselves and in the choice and perfection of the music. According to the desire of the Church the various blessings were taken from the Roman ritual and



Bishop Noll and Father Sigstein with a Class of Newly-Professed Catechists.

Thousands Arise to Bless Them

Very Rev. Anthony J. Blaufuss,
Topeka, Kansas



Father Blaufuss

consequently were given in Latin. Yet, when the Bishop conferred the veils, medals, rosaries, and crucifixes upon the Catechists he used the English form so that all present might understand.

The beauty and simplicity of the Catechists' life is manifest in their various devotions. Every day at their Motherhouse they take part in the Missa Recitata. They recite the Mass prayers and their own community prayers slowly and attentively, and devoutly. It is a real inspiration to the listener, and priests especially remark it. As one Father said, after spending a day at Victory-Noll, "It was like a retreat."

THE Providence of Jesus and Mary has shown itself during these difficult days of financial distress. In spite of desperate conditions the work of the Society continues. Many times the last dollar is gone but the Catechists, although they do not know where the next one will come from, place all their trust in Our Lord and Our Blessed Mother Who have never yet failed to provide. This proves that God is working not only in the hearts of the Catechists themselves, but also in the hearts of the friends of the Catechists.

In ever widening circles the uplifting, cheering, and spiritualizing influence of the Missionary Catechists is being felt. Thousands arise to bless them. Like Elias at Sarepta they have stood between the widow, the orphan, and starvation. In dark hearts, full of bitter rebellion and sullen despair, they make the light of faith and hope to shine again. The sin-laden, lost sheep they have sought out to tell them of the mercy and love of the Divine Shepherd.

What joy this must give to the Catechists themselves and what cause for thanksgiving to Father Sigstein, Founder of the Society; to the Most Reverend Bishop Noll, always the true friend and generous patron of the Catechists; and to all benefactors who even in these hard days save their dollars, dimes, and pennies that the Society might grow in numbers and undertake new and greater tasks for the glory of Jesus and Mary!

Yes, I feel better for having visited again dear Victory-Noll. The world is not doomed when it can produce a Society of Missionary Catechists.

PASS "THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST" ON TO OTHERS

The Missionary Catechist

Huntington, Indiana

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The Society of Missionary Catechists, Editor.

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Worthy Representatives of a Great Catholic Organization

RECENTLY it was our privilege to have as our guest at Victory-Noll Miss Irene Gilhooley of Jeffersonville, Indiana, state regent of the Daughters of Isabella. It was largely through Miss Gilhooley's efforts that the 1934 state convention adopted the resolution to support a Missionary Catechist.

No organization has done so much for our Society as have the Daughters of Isabella. The national circle has not only founded a bourse, but, encouraged by its grand regent, Mrs. Minerva Boyd, has sponsored our new mission at Carmel-by-the-Sea in California. As for Our Lady of Good Counsel Circle of Huntington, it would be hard to estimate all that Mrs. Fred Wiley, Miss Ruth Kindler, and their generous co-workers have done to assist us in our strenuous missionary and charitable labors.

Welcome Easter Bouquets

WE are grateful to our friends and subscribers who responded so wholeheartedly to our appeal for funds with which to open a new mission-center on the Mexican border. Although most of the donations came from our faithful old friends, yet there were offerings from new friends, too. The letters we are publishing are typical of the many we received.

Fidelity, Kansas

Reverend and dear Father:

I am very sorry that this check could not be more. I know you need it badly. May God bless you and the wonderful work you are sponsoring! Although I cannot give more at present, I do promise to remember your Catechists in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass which it is my privilege as a priest to offer daily.

My sister, I am sure, was assisted by Our Lady of Victory and the prayers of your Catechists. Doctors gave her up over a year and a half ago and she is better and alive today.

Asking Our Lady of Victory to bless your efforts in opening this new mission, I am,

Sincerely,

REV. W. J. L.

Cheviot, Ohio

Dear Father Sigstein:

Enclosed please find one dollar to help you in preserving the Faith of the Mexican Catholic children. I am very sorry that I cannot send more to help you in this great cause.

Incidentally, I wish to tell you how much I appreciate your monthly magazine. A recent accident has incapacitated me for several months now, and the reading and re-reading of both old and new issues of "The Missionary Catechist" has helped me through many a lonesome hour.

Although my financial assistance to you in this undertaking is small, you may be assured that my prayers are not.

H. K.

Racine, Wis.

Dear Father Sigstein:

I am sending you my little bit toward helping the Catechists in their work. I think very much of their work and I wish you would send me more information about them.

For a part of this offering could I be privileged to receive your magazine?

Wishing you success in your work, and God's special blessing, I remain

REV. H. J. W.

What a lamentable fact that there have been, and that there are even now some who, while professing the Catholic faith, are well-nigh unmindful of that sublime law of justice and charity which binds us not only to give each man his due, but to succor our brethren as Christ Our Lord Himself.—Pius XI, "Forty Years After."

† In Memoriam †

Miss Anna Bosiger, Chicago
M. T. Hennebery, Chicago
Mrs. Leo Behl, Chicago
Philip Kraus, Chicago
Peter Miller, Chicago
John Rudolph, Topeka, Kansas
Mrs. Barbara Spohn, Butler, Pa.

To these, O Lord, and to all that rest in Christ, grant we beseech Thee, a place of refreshment, light, and peace.

READ SOMETHING
WORTHWHILE

THE DOCTRINAL MISSION AND APOSTOLATE OF ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX, VOLUME III, THE RELIGIOUS STATE, by Rev. Benedict Williamson; B. Herder Book Co., St. Louis. \$1.25.

This is not another book on the life of the Little Flower, but is, as its subtitle indicates, an exposition of the religious state. The writer, an admirer of St. Therese, quotes from her autobiography in order to illustrate various phases of the religious life.

Father Williamson touches upon every point of importance to religious: the call, the postulancy, novitiate, the vows, and the duties of the novice-mistress and superiors. The book is a practical handbook for Sisters and for directors of religious communities.

THE JUDGMENTS OF FATHER JUDGE, by Joachim V. Benson, M. S. S. T.; P. J. Kenedy and Sons, 12 Barclay St., New York. \$1.30.

The late Father Judge was the founder of the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity and the Missionary Servants of the Most Blessed Trinity, two religious communities that are doing excellent work in the home mission field.

The author has compiled this sketch of Father Judge from his letters and conferences. We could not help wishing that there were more chapters like the last five which are devoted to a detailed account of his life.

THE WORK OF THE PADRES

THE story of the Franciscan Missions in California is all the more wonderful when we consider that the California Indians, when found by the friars in 1769, were little above the level of the most degraded physical beings and the most mentally slothful human creatures on the face of the earth. So ignorant were they that many of them covered themselves with mud to keep out the cold. A different tongue was spoken in every village. Yet, it was from this seemingly hopeless mass that the padres brought forth skilled artisans, husbandmen, painters, craftsmen, and musicians.

WHY NOT ADOPT A MISSIONARY CATECHIST?



Modern transportation in the mountains of New Mexico.



On the road to Hermit's Peak, a beauty spot in New Mexico.

THE SODALITY GIRLS AND MICKEY MOUSE MAKE THINGS LIVELY IN THE CATECHISTS' HOUSE

What do the members of the St. Agnes Sodality say on Saturday? More! More what? Sewing!

This sewing class was organized to keep the girls busy on Saturday afternoon until confession time the day before their general Communion. Now it is a weekly affair. It was while we were trying to keep them happily occupied that Mickey Mouse arrived on the scene. All had seen Mickey's picture, but they had never seen him on cloth before, and here he was in quilt blocks.

Some wanted to put him on their apron pockets, others thought the blocks pierced together would make an attractive summer hat. But after awhile all settled down to work on the quilt. One day, when everyone had been quiet for some time, little Josefitita said, "Catechist, may I bring my little kitty over tomorrow and show him Mickey? Maybe he'd try to eat him. He is two months old."

What to do with the quilt was the question until someone suggested that we give it to the poorest baby we could find with the name Maria or Agnes. The girls themselves were to find the poor baby and tell the class at the next meeting. On the Sunday before Easter the president asked for the reports of the search each one made. There were five babies under six months bearing the proper name, but after all heard Florita's story they decided that Mickey should go to the baby she had found.

"Do you know the Marquez family by the hotel?" she began. No one seemed to know them. "Last week this family came from the mountains. The father, he is sick, and the doctor don't think he will get well. You know Agnes only has two dresses and she sleeps on a coat. Mama gave her. I am sure she would be happy with Mickey Mouse."

The quilt was tied in a white wrapper and they all set off to find baby Agnes. The baby was such a happy, smiling one that the girls felt Mickey Mouse has a good home and will make the baby's smile last for many days.

Catechist Helen Sullivan
Grants, New Mexico

TRYING TO RESTORE SIGHT TO THE BLIND

Out here on the lonely mesas of New Mexico we have found a young man totally blind. He was blinded in one eye while he was still a boy working in the cotton fields. A few years later he met with another accident which destroyed the sight of the other eye.

We could not stand idly by while he groped about so helplessly, if by some effort on our part we could get expert medical attention for him. We found a doctor who believes that a delicate operation can restore the lost sight.

We hope and pray that all my good benefactors will read this and respond to my appeal for help. We have estimated that fifty dollars will be sufficient to secure hospital care and the necessary glasses for the boy. Those who cannot help financially will, I am sure, pray for the success of the operation.

Catechist Julia Doyle
Anton Chico, New Mexico

HOW THEY CELEBRATED SAINT PATRICK'S DAY

Would you like to hear how Catechist Montoya and I celebrated St. Patrick's Day? We had always wanted to sing High Mass in Calipatria but could not do so, for on Sunday we are scattered throughout the whole Imperial Valley teaching. At last our wish was fulfilled on the patronal feast of the church. Calipatria used to be an Irish settlement but there are few Irish living there now. We sang the Mass "Cum Jubilo" that is dedicated to Our Blessed Mother. On the way home our gas tank went dry. A good Samaritan pushed us into town to a filling station, a distance of about two miles.

Catechist Juliana Schmitt
Brawley, California

IN THE HOME FIELD

THE SAND-STORMS YOU HAVE BEEN READING ABOUT

In spite of sand-storms our Forty Hours' Devotion was very successful. The people filled the church to overflowing every night and morning, and the number of adorers constantly before the Blessed Sacrament during the three days was more than edifying. Best of all was the large number who received our Eucharistic Lord into their hearts during those days of special grace.

On Saturday morning, the day before Forty Hours opened, a sand-storm broke out in full force. The girls came three separate times during the day to clean the church, but it was useless to attempt it. Finally, after supper we decided it had to be cleaned regardless of sand, but we had the pleasure of cleaning it all over again before Mass on Sunday morning. Sunday was a perfect day but on Monday morning the sand started blowing again and what we consider here a terrific sand-storm continued throughout the day. Tuesday dawned bright and beautiful but immediately after Communion of the Solemn High Mass, without any warning, such a sand-storm came up that we decided Monday's had been extremely mild. It was all we could do to stay on our feet going from our house to the church. We could not see two feet ahead, and this continued during the entire day and evening.

Catechist Helen Srill
Lubbock, Texas

USHERING A POOR SOUL INTO ETERNAL HAPPINESS

Mr. Hampton, a colored man, had been sick for several months with tuberculosis. We visited him and talked to him about the necessity of baptism and the happiness of heaven. We also gave him a crucifix and told him about our dear Lord dying on the cross for love of us.

One day we visited him and found him very ill. When we asked him if he wished to be baptized, he said he would think it over and let us know. That evening he sent his sister to us asking for baptism. Father was out of town and, since the man was dying, there was nothing else to do but baptize him ourselves. Catechist Byrne was the fortunate one. Before she baptized him she held the crucifix before him and he repeated after her the act of contrition. Then she asked his sister for the things she needed to administer the sacrament. The woman washed a towel and held it in her hands near the stove to dry. Then she brought a big pitcher of water and a platter. While Catechist Byrne poured the water from a cup, Catechist Turnis held the platter to catch it. The man's sister held the kerosene lamp.

Mr. Hampton died the next day. We hope that he is in heaven praying for the Catechists who helped him to attain his eternal salvation.

Catechist Carmen Montoya
East Chicago, Indiana

THEIR CLASS ROOM— THE PUBLIC HIGHWAY

One of the drawbacks of our open-air classrooms is that it is hard to keep the children from being distracted by all the passing cars on the highway.

At times I have difficulty with one of my girls who is a little roly-poly and who occasionally slides down from her seat. The children sit on the side of an embankment and it is not easy to remain firmly fixed on such an uncomfortable seat, especially if you are inclined to be plump.

At Tularcitos we teach in the school, but at Carmelo objections were raised almost before we started, so when we teach there we have to borrow somebody's back yard.

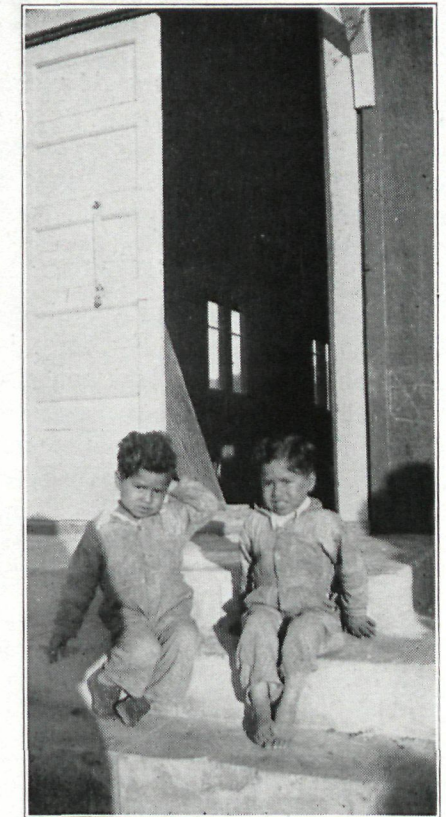
Catechist Viola Wopperer
Carmel, California

SHEPHERDS WHO TURNED OUT TO BE SHEPHERDESSES

On our regular trip to Ojitos Frios, Las Lagunas, and El Rito last week we stopped to eat our noon meal in a spot two or three miles from a house or habitation of any kind. While we were admiring the snow-covered mountains on one side of us and the towering pines on the opposite side, we were startled by the arrival of a flock of goats. After the goats had slowly gone on their way, two tiny boys followed. We called the children and asked them their names, and spoke kindly to them of Jesus and Mary. But to our surprise we learned that the two "boys" happened to be two girls. They were indeed a picture and we were very sorry we did not have our camera with us.

It was not an unusual experience for us. Still we never seem to get used to seeing these poor little tots, five and six years old, dressed in faded and worn overalls, an old ragged sweater and cap, their feet wrapped in gunny sacks, tramping from morning until night watching the goats. Many of these children receive very little schooling because they take turns watching the goats and attend school only a week or two out of a month.

Catechist Josephine Penning
Blessed de Montfort Mission
Las Vegas, New Mexico



The Redlands Catechists are spoiling these twins. Do you blame them?

THEIR CONFIRMATION PLEDGE

Confirmation is the order of the day here in California. At Fillmore Bishop Cantwell confirmed children from Sespe, Piru, and several other camps. Religion classes have just been organized in some of these places, so we were wondering how many new forms of heresy would be discovered when the Bishop questioned these children who as yet know very little about their religion. But the Bishop only said: "I know you are not well instructed, and therefore I am not going to ask you any questions. But now the good Catechists are going to teach you, and I want every boy and girl here to promise to attend catechism classes. I will not confirm anyone who is not willing to make this promise." Then all the children gave their word always to attend class, and the confirmation ceremonies went on.

I do not know exactly how many were confirmed but it was a large number because we sang all the verses of "Veni Creator Spiritus" twice for the boys and twice for the girls. Besides that Catechist Siegfried had to play it several times without singing until all were confirmed.

Catechist Magdalene Lenges
Santa Paula, California

SWEET HEART OF JESUS, BE MY LOVE

SWEET HEART OF MARY, BE MY SALVATION

Mary's Little Helpers

Getting Acquainted

Dear Catechist Supervisor:

In your April magazine you said you would print our letters so that other Little Helpers could know about us. I think that is fine, and I am going to read all the letters you put in.

My name is Rosario Martinez and I am 10 years old. I like to go and pray on Sunday at the church so God would help me. My home is in Sombrillo, New Mexico, and it is the last house at the west. When I am old enough I want to be a cowboy to take care of cows and horses, and also a ranger to take care of the government forest. Your little friend,

Rosario Martinez

(Your letter is very nice, Rosario, and I hope for more letters from you. I am sure the Little Helpers will enjoy reading it.—Catechist Supervisor.)

Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Catechist:

I would like to be one of Mary's Little Helpers. My Sister Loretta is one. She has got a Mary's Little Helper pin, which she received for getting subscriptions for "The Missionary Catechist."

I am fourteen years of age but I guess I am not too old to be one of Mary's Little Helpers. I am in the First Commercial at St. Peter's School.

Two weeks ago we sent a box of clothing to Gary. It weighed 25 pounds. We received a letter from the Catechist and she said most of the clothing went to a father of seven black-haired girls, who were almost out of clothing.

Well I will close now, hoping to hear from you.

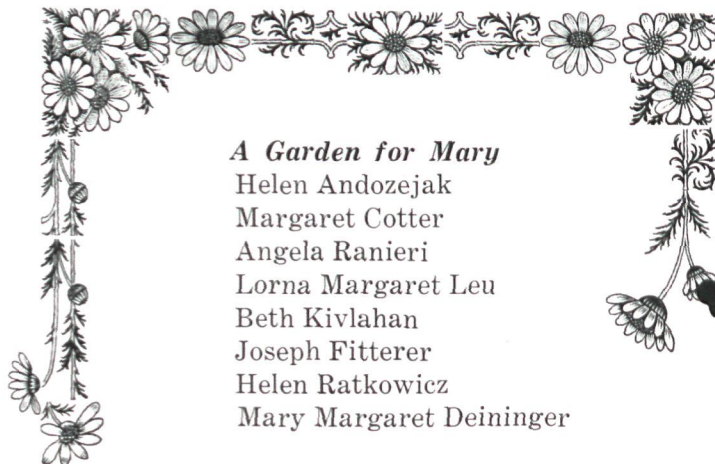
Mary Margaret Deininger

(I am delighted to have another Little Helper from your family. Your sister, Catechist Helen Deininger, will also be very happy that you are going to help Loretta fill more mission boxes. I hope you will write again soon, and that I can also send you a pin for selling five subscriptions.—Catechist Supervisor.)

Friends

Cecil is Bud McGuire's pet kitten. Cecil has good manners and never worries the little birds that play in his yard. And when Bud lets his canary out of the cage to take a hop around the sun room, Cecil keeps real quiet so as not to frighten it.

If there are other Little Helpers who have pets, they can send me a picture of them to be published.



A Garden for Mary

Helen Andozejak
Margaret Cotter
Angela Ranieri
Lorna Margaret Leu
Beth Kivlahan
Joseph Fitterer
Helen Ratkowicz
Mary Margaret Deininger

Mary's Garden of New Little Helpers

If any little boys or girls would like to be flowers in Mary's garden, they may write to the Catechist Supervisor that they wish to be enrolled. They will then receive a membership card, a lovely medal of Our Blessed Lady of Victory, and a mite box in which to put their spare pennies. Their names will be the flowers for our next garden.

What are Mary's Little Helpers? They are little boys and girls that Mary, our Heavenly Mother, chooses for Her special friends. These little friends She guards with tender care and helps to be good. To show their love for their Holy Mother, the Little Helpers do all they can to help the Catechists save the souls of poor children.

Mary's Little Helpers can help in ever so many ways. With the money they save and send for the poor, the Catechists buy food, clothes and medicine. Some make money by selling subscriptions to this magazine for fifty cents a year. Others collect from their friends good old clothes, toys, musical instruments, or religious articles such as rosaries and prayer books. Then they pack it all in a box and ship it to one of our poorest missions.

If any of our Little Helpers have brothers or sisters or playmates who have not yet joined, be sure to tell them to send their names, so that we can have a great big garden before the summer is over.

TAKE my body, Jesus
Eyes and ears and tongue;
Never let them, Jesus,
Help to do Thee wrong.

Take my heart and fill it
Full of love for Thee.
All I have, I give Thee—
Give Thyself to me.



VACATION TIME WILL SOON BE HERE

The Associate Catechists of Mary

Sacred Heart Band No. 3

This New Orleans band was organized early in 1934 by Miss Sophia Webster to help our mission at Anton Chico. While on a vacation trip last summer, Miss Webster stopped to visit us at Victory-Noll. She returned home with an increased interest in catechetical work among the poor, and under her enthusiastic leadership the eight members of her band did wonders. But, although Miss Webster devoted so much of her time to charitable activities, she decided that it was still not enough. On April sixth we rejoiced to receive the following letter from her:

"I want to share my happy news with you. Very soon, if it pleases God, I shall be entering the convent, and working for God's poor, as you are. . . . I am sorry it means I shall no longer be working with the Sacred Heart Band for Anton Chico, and that I shall not be able to seek subscriptions and help for you. Please remember me in your prayers, dear Catechist, and ask God to make me a 'profitable servant,' and I shall always remember you, too."

We could hardly forget such a friend; and it is our fervent prayer that her faithful co-workers will show their gratitude by carrying on the work which she has left for a higher call.

Victory Mission Circle

As a little treat to ourselves in celebration of the tenth anniversary of one of our very first A. C. M. bands, we read over a letter received in 1925 from the Secretary of Victory Mission Circle, Huntington. Again we felt a thrill of gratitude as on the day we received that welcome pledge to help us through the first trying years, when friends were few. That letter expressed their ideal, and during all these years they have kept it before them. It is no wonder that their work has been blessed.

"We organized a Circle," it read, "and in order to bring the spirit of sacrifice into it, decided we would not serve refreshments, but spend the time sewing for the needy.

"Our real joy will be when we mail you a box containing neat white dresses for little Mary to wear when she makes her First Holy Communion, and some of the skilful sewers have promised nice blouses and pants for Joseph for this happy day.

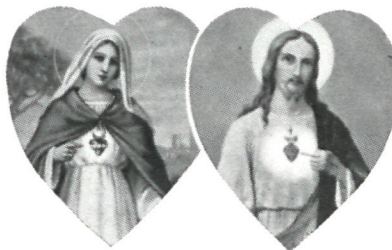
"What a glorious opportunity these mission bands offer our busy Catholic women—pleasant evenings with others; small dues; charity in assisting the needy; a share in the good works of the Catechist whom they adopt; and best of all, a share in the merits of the Holy Sacrifice which is offered every Saturday for the Associate Catechists of Mary."

At present there are twenty-five active members. Two hundred articles went to New Mexico to supply Santa. And since the beginning of this year they have fur-

BAND CONTRIBUTIONS

April

St. Mary's Mission Society, Fort Wayne, Mrs. Theresa Ankenbruck	\$301.00
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Band, Chicago, Mrs. McHenry	82.35
St. Sabina Band, Chicago, Miss Marie Dwyer	62.00
Little Flower Band, Chicago, Mrs. Garrity	34.62
St. Jude Band, Fort Wayne, Mrs. Mary Noll	27.00
St. Luke Band, Chicago, Mrs. W. Maxwell	25.00
St. Anthony Band, No. 2, Chicago, Mrs. K. Mayer	14.00
Blessed Virgin Sodality, Turkey Creek, Indiana, Miss Laura Lennertz	12.00
St. George Band, Chicago, Miss Hazel Bock	12.00
Wm. F. Boyle Mission Club, Berwyn, Ill., John McGovern	10.00
St. Philomena, Chicago, Miss Mary Schaefer	9.00
St. Valentine Band, Chicago, Mrs. S. Rauwolf	6.00



O Heart of Jesus, we ask You, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, to fill with holy joy and consolation those who have helped us bring to You the many souls for which you are ever pleading.

Grant them, especially during this month consecrated to You, that peace which is the reward of work done for love of You. Increase in them the supernatural zeal which knows no discouragement in difficulties, and bestow upon them in fullest measure the spiritual and temporal graces they need.

Bless them with the goods of this world, which they have so generously shared with others, and give them the health necessary to continue their sublime work, so precious in Your sight. Amen.

nished First Communion outfits for twenty girls and twenty boys, and have completed six beautiful surplices.

Many and varied are their activities; but especially pleasing to Our Lord must be their love for His little ones who are to receive Him for the first time. Gratefully will these children remember their "day of days," when dressed in spotless white, a prayer book all their own, and with honest-to-goodness shoes on their little brown feet, they asked their Divine Guest to bless the devoted workers of Victory Mission Circle of Huntington who made it the happiest day of their lives.

The Marion Dillon Band

To the wearied business woman, a change of activity is often more restful than idleness. During the hot months of last summer, while pleasure-seekers were taking long, hot trips looking for cool spots, the Marion Dillon Band of Chicago ignored the Weatherman's humors and continued to enjoy their regular semi-monthly parties.

But what is the mental recuperation when compared with the spiritual refreshment and the treasure laid up in heaven!

If these girls will but try to visualize the disheveled, desperately sick mothers, with their still sicker babies, as they shyly await the administrations of our Catechists—then picture their tear-stained faces transformed with the light of gratitude, as, relieved and hopeful, they walk with lightened burden from the clinic—we feel that they will be partly repaid for their hard labors and encouraged to continue their support of this much-needed work.

Remarkable as is the improvement, socially, brought about through medical treatment and the tactful instilling of hygienic habits, the accomplishment of the chief purpose of cleansing and healing immortal souls, can be fully known and valued by our Heavenly Father alone.

THROUGH the courtesy of the Sisters of Mary Reparatrix, our Catechists had the opportunity of meeting new friends at an exhibition held at Mount Mary Convent, Detroit, last December.

Among those who have kept this event a pleasant memory, is Miss Florence Mary Cahill; her boxes having been a constant reminder. A day or two after the exhibit her enthusiastic letter was received, telling that she was sending a box of mounted pictures and medals to reach a California mission in time for Christmas.

Nothing escapes her eye, if it serves as a hint to what is needed in the missions. Catechist's letter of acknowledgment looked rather dim. So her next box carried much-needed typewriter ribbons, which though having been discarded for general office use, served our Catechists for some time.

Miss Cahill and several other friends of Detroit would like to find a few more girls interested in organizing a club. They may get in touch with her at the League of Catholic Women, 100 Parsons Street, Detroit, Michigan.

BISHOP NOLL, BISHOP OF THE MISSIONS

(Continued from page 3)

O'Donnell that the work he wished done in California was already being done in New Mexico by the Society of Missionary Catechists.

It is not difficult to imagine the eagerness of the future Bishop as he unfolded to Mr. O'Donnell his plan for providing a Motherhouse for the Catechists at Huntington, Indiana. Nor is it hard to picture the joy of Father Sigstein, Founder of the Society, when Monsignor Noll told him that the munificent donation of Mr. and Mrs. O'Donnell, together with the contributions of the readers of OUR SUNDAY VISITOR, would soon make the Motherhouse a reality.

WHAT more fitting spot could be selected than the beautiful knoll overlooking the far-famed Wabash valley! Contracts for the building were let, ground was broken, and erection began immediately. Fourteen months later, on the eve of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 7, 1924, eight Catechists moved into their new home. The dedication was deferred until the following July, for it was fitting that one of Bishop Noll's first public acts after his consecration should be the solemn dedication of Victory-Noll whose erection he had made possible.

The work of our good Bishop did not stop here. The erection of Victory-Noll was merely a beginning. Realizing that the object of the Society of Missionary Catechists was to labor exclusively among the destitute and poor who are able to support neither priests nor parochial schools and that its members would receive neither salary nor remuneration for their services, the Bishop immediately made provision for the support of the Catechists during their first year's training period at Victory-Noll. With his characteristic generosity he provided also that OUR SUNDAY VISITOR should defray expenses for the maintenance of the Motherhouse. In the very beginning he had established an OUR SUNDAY VISITOR bursar for the perpetual support of one of the first Catechists in the field.

From the inception of this providential work, Bishop Noll has been more than a sponsor: he has been both a protector and a father to the Society. With paternal interest he has watched over its growth and development. He has noted every single activity. He has counselled the best means of developing the different phases of the work of the Society. Through the wonderful medium of OUR

TRUE DEVOTION TO TO MARY



The Child of Mary
and

Her Devotion to the Blessed Sacrament

"**G**OD with us." Dear Emmanuel, how good of You to come and dwell with us for all time. You are our consolation in sorrow, our never-failing Friend, the very Food of our journey through life. You are our All here and if we stay close to You in time, You will keep us with You for all eternity. Dear Jesus, how can we ever love You enough for Your abiding with us. I want to love You ever so much more in the Blessed Sacrament and in Holy Communion. I want to visit You more at Your tabernacle; I want to receive You daily with much love in Holy Communion; I want nothing to come between my soul and You. Is there someone, good Jesus, who will help me to be more loving to You in the Blessed Sacrament, someone who will help me to be more faithful, more grateful? Yes, it is Your own dear Mother and mine.

SUNDAY VISITOR and through his public talks he has made the Society of Missionary Catechists known far and wide. For him it has always been a source of deep spiritual joy to preside at the profession and investiture ceremonies at Victory-Noll and to rejoice with the Catechists in the high and holy privilege that is theirs of extending the kingdom of Jesus and Mary in the hearts of the underprivileged little ones in the vast mission field at home.

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament will make your heart more loving, more faithful, and more grateful. Mary is the Mother of Jesus. From Her pure and immaculate flesh, Jesus took His adorable Body. Jesus is our Emmanuel and it is through Mary that we have received Him. It is She, then, to Whom we must turn in order that we may love the Blessed Sacrament more. Have Mary prepare your heart for Holy Communion and ask Her to thank Jesus for His coming to you. Mary will make you more loving and faithful to Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Our free pamphlet, "To Jesus Through Mary," tells how to consecrate yourself to Jesus through Mary. Write for one today.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

GOD'S HEROES

IT has been the privilege of the Catechists to meet many priests who have been exiled from Mexico. Although most of these padres speak very little of the great hardships they have suffered for the Faith, several of them have given us permission to publish their experiences in THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST. For obvious reasons the names of these heroic priests cannot be mentioned.

"When I was a student," said one, "with only the Minor Orders, the hordes of Carranza seized Guadalajara, the capital of Jalisco state, on July 8, 1914 and on July 23 they raided the parish houses and private residences of the city. I was that afternoon helping a priest during a special novena. Just as we were about to receive Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament the soldiers invaded the church, causing among the faithful a real panic for everybody knew the atrocities they had committed everywhere before.

"Trying to restore peace was my only crime, but I was placed under guard and given my choice between being considered as one of the 150 clergymen, or as one of the three hundred Catholic laymen already imprisoned. I chose to be considered a clergyman. Consequently I was kept in jail seven days, the first three of them incommunicado. After a farce of a trial the accusers demanded from the Archdiocese one hundred thousand Mexican pesos for the release of the prisoners. This amount represented fifty thousand dollars at that time."

OUR LADY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT, PRAY FOR US

Something to Tell You

The Ways of Divine Providence

IN this fast age of ours the average American Catholic expects every newly established work to make a rapid growth and reach a phenomenal development in a short time. He is willing to concede, however, that a newly founded religious Society ordinarily makes a slow growth. And generally it does. But the Society of Missionary Catechists of Our Blessed Lady of Victory is an exception to this rule. The reason for this exception is that through the Providence of God and the powerful help of God's holy Mother, it was blessed and privileged, shortly after it began its work, in having as its sponsors, those who could give it all that was needed for a successful material beginning and a remarkable growth within a short period of time.

It is not that this newly founded Society in its early days did not have its painful struggles, its heavy trials, its disappointed hopes, and its disheartening opposition. The Catechist movement was an entirely new movement in the Church in America. It was different. Catholics knew of Catechists only in connection with the foreign missions. Even those whom this movement was designed to help most showed a cold or indifferent attitude toward it. Only one priest, the Reverend A. J. Blaufuss, a personal friend of the Founder of the Society, believed in it and the tremendous possibilities for good it held for the salvation of the souls of the poor in the destitute missions of our country. The grade seemed long and steep and rugged. There were no friends. There was no money. There was no support.

But since this Society and its work, from the very beginning, were dedicated

to God's own Mother, under Her title of Our Blessed Lady of Victory, it was destined to succeed. For, no sooner was the movement under way and the apostolic work begun than She raised up three friends who were destined to become its most powerful benefactors and patrons.

On another page of this issue of THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST there is told the simple story of the Providential espousal of our cause by the Editor of

ity of a Bishop who looked beyond the confines of his own diocese and, like the Divine Shepherd, saw and loved those other sheep besides his own, who were to be brought into the sheepfold. Victory-Noll likewise stands as a tribute to the burning zeal of two lay apostles who looked beyond the confines of their own parish and saw countless numbers of souls languishing and dying for want of religious instruction.

Had it not been for the unstinted support and generous

patronage of Bishop Noll and Mr. and Mrs. O'Donnell the Society of Missionary Catechists could never have made the remarkable start it did: a start equivalent to fifty years of ordinary growth of a new religious Society in the Church; a start which has resulted in the establishment within the past thirteen years of our seventeen mission-centers where there are now 12,000 children

being instructed by 103 Catechists out of a total membership of nearly two hundred in the Society.

And so, on this occasion of the tenth anniversary of the consecration of our beloved sponsor and patron, of him who has ever been a true spiritual Father of the Catechists, we offer not only our heartfelt congratulations, but also our tribute of affection in our Masses, Holy Communion, and prayers, while at the same time praying most fervently that Jesus, the Great High Priest, may, through His Blessed Mother, grant him many years of fruitful labors and abundant spiritual blessings.

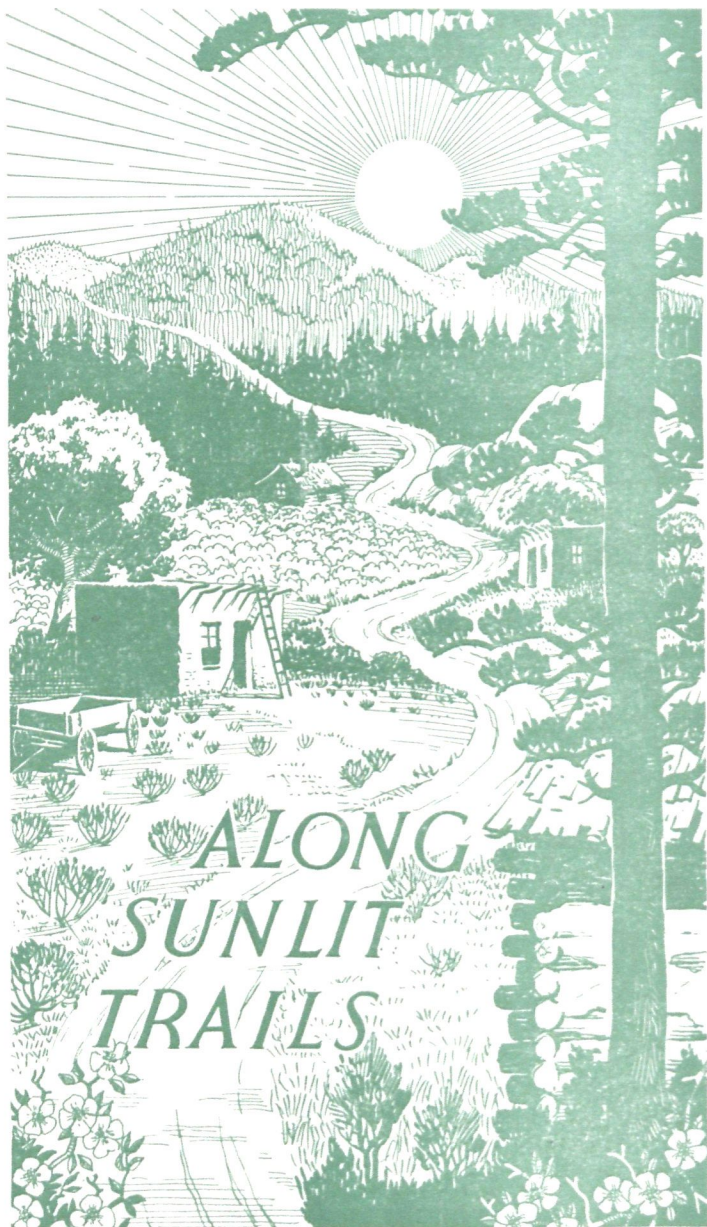
Father Sigstein



"It was Bishop Noll who, with Mr. and Mrs. O'Donnell, erected the Motherhouse and Novitiate of the Society at Victory-Noll."

Our Sunday Visitor, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. John F. Noll, D. D., and of two charitably disposed and sincere friends of Our Sunday Visitor, Mr. and Mrs. Peter F. O'Donnell of Long Beach, California. It was Monsignor Noll, now the Most Reverend Bishop of Fort Wayne, who first generously placed at the disposal of the Society of Missionary Catechists the columns of Our Sunday Visitor for much-needed, nation-wide publicity; and then, together with Mr. and Mrs. O'Donnell, erected the Motherhouse and Novitiate of the Society at Victory-Noll, and maintained it after its erection. This beautiful home,—the training institute where young Catechists are formed into apostolic missionaries and then sent into the destitute mission field at home,—stands a priceless memorial of the char-

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