

The Missionary Catechist



Volume V

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Number 3

What of Mexico's Future?

By a Parish Priest of Jalisco, Mexico

ALTHOUGH the writer of this article comes from the state of Jalisco in Old Mexico, and, consequently has a very lively interest in Mexico's future, yet it is very difficult for him to say just what will be the fate of his native land. His opinion is not only different but also contrary to that of many people.

The cause of the present situation in Mexico is, no doubt, an infernal hatred towards Christ, whose Faith the real Mexico, now and ever has professed before the world; the Mexico that labors and produces; the Mexico that although it constitutes the immense majority, groans, nevertheless, under the oppression of the well-organized but tyrannical minority. The latter armed with all the power of strength; the former disarmed and consequently defenseless, even though they have in their favor all the strength of right.

As to what may be expected or feared of the actual President or of the candidates to the presidency, well, in the writers's opinion, nothing ought to be feared nor expected that will decide the final result. All of the aspirants to the presidency, incited by their unbridled love of riches, have fought under the banners of different tyrannical leaders who since 1911 have disrupted and dishonored the country, and, consequently none of them are worthy to occupy the first place in the Republic. Whatever the result of the election (?) it shall be only the stepping stone and the footstool of Christ the Conqueror: "I shall make Thy en-

emies Thy footstool." Ps. CIX, 1.

The thing to be feared is the inconstancy of the common people, but, there is good reason to expect that they too will remain constant in the hour of trial. For, as the Mexican Government multiplies its fiendish crimes against Almighty God, so too the common people multiply their proofs of Christian fortitude. Every fresh act of cruelty from their ruthless leaders only tends to strengthen their trust in God. For instance, the cruel martyrdom of Father Miguel Pro and his three companions only fanned the flame of their Faith. "Long live the martyrs! Long live the Pope! Long live our Bishops! Long live our Priests! Long live Religion! Lord, if you wish

martyrs, here is our blood, here are our lives!"

It is precisely on the prayers, sacrifices and sufferings of this poor defenseless Catholic people wherein lies Mexico's hope of salvation. The common people are neither organized nor armed to defend their liberties and the rights of the Church. Excepting for a few straggling bands of patriots in the hills of Jalisco, in the western part of Mexico, the common people have no means of securing redress for their wrongs and of throwing off the yoke of oppression.

Yet, even though the greedy and impious have prepared and developed their plans very ingenuously, and, humanly speaking, everything seems to indicate that the enemies of the Church will triumph and that the ruin of Mexico is inevitable, still, as long as Mexico remains faithful to Jesus Christ, their King, to His Holy Mother and to the Church, "The Great One, the Doer of Great Things, the one True God" will be with Mexico and Mexico will be saved.

The writer does not venture to assert when or by what means Mexico's salvation shall be wrought, but even as the Lord in order to save the Israelites, miraculously opened for them a passage through the Red Sea, and then converted the very Sea into an instrument of death for their enemies, even so in this their hour of trial He shall again work a miracle if necessary to save the Mexican people who have chosen and ac-

(Continued on page 2)



CATHEDRAL OF MEXICO

YOUR "SELF-DENIALS" WOULD SUPPORT A CATECHIST — WRITE FOR A MITE BOX



They Also Serve

By Lida Coghlan
PART I



DR. HADLEY had been looking up some notes and comments on old cases, some of them as far back as his student days. He had just settled himself in his big arm-chair for a comfortable mental review of the case when his daughter tapped at his door.

"Are you busy, papa?"

"Not just now," he answered. "I am at your service."

Grace drew up an ottoman and seated herself at his feet. Leaning her head against her father's knee she clasped her hands in her lap and gazed into the fire. The doctor laid his hand on her head. "Well, pussy, what is it?"

"I want to study medicine."

The doctor drew a quick breath which was very like a sigh. "Why?" he said.

"Because I feel that I must do something with my life," she answered earnestly. "I am sick of society, of bowing and scraping to people for whom I don't care a straw. I am sick of idleness, of dress, of vanity. I will soon be thirty; if God were to call me tomorrow I would go to Him with empty hands. He gave me a healthy body and a vigorous mind; you have given me a good education, yet here I am eating the bread of idleness; a wax figure on which to display the latest Paris fashions. I cannot stand it, papa; this kind of life is killing me."

Dr. Hadley answered her gently. "You will soon be thirty. That is not half the allotted time, dear, and I am sure you have 'done what you could'. You have been a loving dutiful daughter to your mother, a beacon light to your father, and a kind friend to many persons whose burden was made lighter by your cheerful help. If God were to call my Grace now I think He would not find her hands empty, for the little things of life ever count with Him. I, who know your high spirit so well, can understand how hard this frivolous life is for you. But it is the only life for your mother, dear. She could no more live in the rare atmosphere of an ideal life than a canary bird could live in an eagle's nest. It would grieve her sorely for you to take up one of those 'unladylike professions.'"

"I know it would; that is why I have waited so long to speak of it. This is no new idea, papa; I have been fostering it for years. I must have an active life. I wish that God had found me worthy of a religious vocation; I would have been a Sister of Charity. Those noble women who spend their talents, their strength, their very lives for the suffering ones of God have always been my ideal. But of that I am not worthy," she said, humbly.

"And there is many a Sister of Charity who sighs for work on the battle-field yet teaches stupid children the first rudiments

of music. Many another longs to devote her life to those outcasts of humanity, the lepers, yet she sits patiently, day after day, darning and mending for the orphans. Do you think that they will go to their Master with empty hands? That He will count their tasks less than those others?"

Grace was crying softly. "No, I am sure not; they will be counted greater rather than less. But don't you see, papa, they are doing God's work, no matter how menial or distasteful the task. I am not. I am simply pampering my body and starving my soul. If I am thrown back upon myself this way I will grow cynical and narrow-minded. I



have prayed earnestly for light and I tell you, papa, I must do something with my life."

"You may marry."

"I may, that is true. If I should marry my knowledge of medicine will not be lost. If not, which is probable, I will have some aim and object in life. Should I ever wish to marry, my profession will not prevent it."

Dr. Hadley stroked the dark head caressingly, and both were silent for a while, each busy with their own thoughts. At last the doctor spoke. "Suppose we compromise. I am thinking very seriously of opening a children's hospital in connection with the sanitarium. You take a course of training, making a special study of the diseases of children and I will put you in charge of the hospital, subject of course, to my supervision. How would you like that?"

"Very, very much. I could ask for nothing better. I love children and I know that I should like to work among them."

"I think we might win your mother's consent to such a course. This will give you the life you wish and yet you will not be stepping out of your 'natural sphere.'"

"But I cannot study in Chicago, papa; I should have to leave home in any case."

The doctor thought for a moment. "Larry's sister Kate is head nurse at one of the Boston hospitals. You might go there for training. Your mother would be better satisfied to have you with friends."

"I have an idea, papa." Grace spoke eag-

erly. "Ask Aunt Marian to let Claire come to you for a long visit. She is both pretty and stylish. Mama can introduce her into society. She will be the success that mama vainly hoped I would be. Claire is really a dear little thing and it would be a great thing for Aunt Marian to have some one bring her out. The pleasure of chaperoning and matchmaking will keep mama from missing me."

"But I shall miss you sorely, Grace. No one can take your place with your busy old father."

"I will stay with you, papa, if you really wish it."

"I have no wish but for your happiness, my daughter, but we need not decide today. Give me time to think about it."

(To be continued)

WHAT OF MEXICO'S FUTURE?

(Continued From Page 1)

claimed Him as their King. Satan and his disciples shall shake from fury when they see that CHRIST CONQUERS, CHRIST REIGNS, CHRIST RULES.

Even though Mexico may not deserve a miracle, nevertheless, the Glorious Queen of Heaven may merit this favor for Her devoted Mexican people. For did She not when appearing miraculously to Juan

Diego at Guadalupe in 1531 promise the people in his person: "My very dear son whom I love as tenderly as a small, frail child, I, your Merciful Mother, shall show you and your fellow-countrymen my loving clemency and compassion. I shall not forget your tears and prayers and shall give you consolation and relief."

Mexico has braced herself heroically under her acute suffering and has started to mount towards Calvary amidst mockery, contempt, insults and martyrdom and . . . when Satan expected to see her overcome, Catholic Mexico seems to answer him in those immortal words of St. Paul, "I can do all things in Him Who strengthens me." Vain efforts of the enemies of God; the secret of the inflexible resistance of Mexico lies in her pure love towards CHRIST her KING.

Mexico shall walk the way of sorrows until she reaches the summit of Calvary; perhaps there yet remains a journey as long as the one she has already travelled, or perhaps, if God so wills, it will be shortened; but the present generation shall behold the prodigy. "This my hope is laid up in my bosom." Job XIX, 27.

Christ Crucified arose gloriously the third day. Likewise, this martyr people, chosen by the Blessed Virgin, and who are now suffering for Christ, shall prove to all nations of the earth that CHRIST IS THE OMNIPOTENT KING, and that GOD STILL REIGNS AND LIVES.

YOUR "SELF-DENIALS" WOULD SUPPORT AVESTMENT MONEY CAN BUY

The Call of the Southwest



The heroic feature of Missionary work appeals to many of our best Catholic young women. Many are attracted by the charm and romance of the Missionary life. They would win entire nations and peoples to Jesus Christ and His Church.

Today our Catholic Southwest sends out the call for service in its vast Missionary fields already "white unto the harvest." All along the far-flung Mission line the cry goes

out not only for Priests but for Missionary Catechists.

The Missionary Catechists, laboring in the needy outlying districts of the Southwest, offer to zealous Catholic young women, the lofty ideals of service in behalf of God's poor and neglected little ones.

Our Divine Savior, gazing over this vast harvest field of souls, compassionates the poor because "they are distressed and lying like sheep without a shepherd. 'The Harvest, indeed,' He says, 'is great but the laborers are few.'" Perhaps He calls you



TWO SISTER-CATECHISTS

The above Spanish Catechists come from New Mexico where they completed their preliminary training at the Victory-Mount Preparatory School.

One of Victory-Noll's most cherished ideals is gradually being realized—the training of native Spanish-speaking Catechists. The Institute now has twelve Spanish Catechists.

It is a well-known fact that native missionaries wield a potent influence among their own people, consequently, as well-trained and efficient Missionary Catechists they will be able to save countless souls to the Faith.

as He called the Apostles of old: "Come follow Me, be a harvester of Souls."

Is it not a most wonderful thing to be called to be a Missionary: to be associated with Jesus Christ in saving immortal souls? "Of all Divine works, none is more Divine than that of co-operation in the Salvation of Souls."

Why not respond to this call and join the ranks of the Missionary Catechists? They

extend a hearty welcome to all those called to this glorious Missionary life and invite them to enter the Training Institute of the Society, Victory-Noll, Huntington, Ind.

Questions concerning Vocations to the Missionary life gladly answered. Address all communications to:

The Reverend Spiritual Director, Victory-Noll, Huntington, Ind.—Box 109.

A VOCATION CATECHISM

What is a Missionary Catechist?

A Missionary Catechist is one sent out in the name of the Church to give religious instruction and a Christian training to those who are deprived of the ordinary means of Catechetical instruction.

What does a Missionary Catechist do?

A Missionary Catechist engages in missionary work exclusively among the poor. According to her Rule she may go only to those districts actually too poor to support Priests, Sisters or Parochial schools. Here she teaches Catechism, visits and cares for the sick poor in their homes, does tabernacle work and engages in various welfare activities.

Do the Catechists teach school or conduct hospitals?

The Catechists teach no schools, conduct no hospitals, engage in no institutional work.

Do the Catechists receive a salary?

They receive neither salary nor remuneration of any kind from the poor amongst whom they labor.

How are the Catechists supported and for how long?

Each Catechist is supported perpetually by means of an individual Burse. The Society begins to support her when she becomes a Probationary Catechist.



A CATECHIST CLIENT OF ST. CECILIA

The value of music in connection with religious teaching cannot be over estimated. By means of hymns the children are taught the Commandments, and even many doctrines of the Church. In no other language may so many beautiful and instructional canticles be found as in the Spanish.

To prepare them for this phase of their missionary labors the Catechists study both vocal and instrumental music during their training course at Victory-Noll.

FROM ONE INTERESTED

I received a letter from one of my friends who has been visiting near Victory Noll. She states that it is a most wonderful community.

I surely would love to go right this minute, Father.

I am constantly looking forward to the success of your mission hence would do everything in my power to spread its work. Don't you think it would be a good idea to send either a representative or a letter to every pastor of several dioceses asking them to speak about the Catechists and their noble work? I am sure that many girls would love such an Order as yours

but the poor souls remain in the darkness as far as your Order is concerned. Many people do not buy the Sunday Visitor or perhaps, like in our case, our Church has run out of copies several weeks. I started to read your little story which was to be continued this Sunday, when I found to my sorrow, there were no more copies obtainable. So you see, Father, different things like those heretofore mentioned could take place.

Some Lenten Thoughts

We are again in the holy, earnest and quiet season of Lent. I am reading again the daily exhortations of Holy Mother Church as they are found in the Missal and in the Breviary, especially in the beautiful and ever varying orations. Although I have prayed these orations and read these lessons many a time in the past, yet they always seem to convey new thoughts and new suggestions to the reader.

If we examine the orations of the Mass and the Breviary we shall find that their keynote is an ever repeated, ever varied exhortation to penance. There is no doubt about it, Lent is for the Church "the" season of penance. Why is Holy Mother Church so much concerned about the spirit of penance? The following lines contain the the answer that I found for myself:

We are surrounded by the material world of sense. That term does not only cover the inanimate creation, but everything outside of our soul or ourselves. We know how this visible world reacts on us, our senses, our passions, our natural likes and dislikes, yes even on our spiritual self. It captivates us in a hundred and one different ways and casts its spell over us almost at every step. We know likewise from our own experience that this relation to the world is not always a favorable asset. Today we lose out in one point, tomorrow in regard to another. Today the world has fettered us, perhaps slightly only, by one of her pleasures, tomorrow another shackle is forged. And the sum total of this multiple relation to, of this varied dependence on the visible world is a gradual surrendering of our independence to the world. This succumbing to the influence of the world will naturally vary with the individual, but all of us do feel at least the difficulty of maintaining our liberty of action in the performance of our duties, and cannot help noticing how the world obtrudes itself on us, forces itself in between us and our duty, our God.

The Church also knows this state of affairs and so she comes to the rescue in the season of Lent and her means of rescue, her life-buoy, her weapon is—penance. Lent should be for all her children a time of spiritual warfare undertaken for the regaining of our spiritual liberty. Clad in the armor of penance and with the sword of penance in our hands we are bidden to go forth and roll back the lines of the enemy, so that we may be free again to pursue our God-Given ideal. We must break the fetters which the world has forged for us and break the spell that she has cast over us.

The main point of this consideration is however not the necessity of penance but the application of the truth during the season of penance to our daily lives. The Church considers penance as a kind of panacea or an all-around medicine. We all know that such medicines require a judicious application, if they are to produce the desired effect. We have read about a patient who was supposed to take an application of (wood-)alcohol externally. He thought it would get nearer to the seat of ailment by taking it internally. It was a wrong application with fatal results. People are guilty of a similar lack of discretion in regard to things where even weightier interests are at stake.

The forms of Penance may vary. Some

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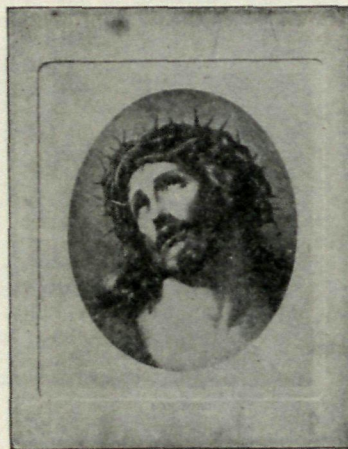
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Rev. J. J. Sigstein, Spiritual Director of
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Editor

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THE HOLY FACE

*With longing eyes once more I turn to
Thee*

*Thy Holy Face and Light again to
see,*

*Grant, me, O Lord, the everlasting
Grace*

*That I may ne'er forget Thy Holy
Face,*

Give me contrition, help me to amend

*O Christ, Lord God of Hosts, be Thou
my Friend.*

Peter O'Donnell.

who are strong and robust are able to impose very severe mortifications upon themselves, such as fasting and abstaining; others on the contrary, who are not physically able, to fast and abstain, can likewise perform meritorious works of Penance by denying themselves certain lawful pleasures and by giving alms to the poor. Now days when our Holy Father is earnestly exhorting His spiritual children to give according to their means to the cause of needy missions, both at home and abroad, every good, practical Catholic will, therefore, do all he possibly can to assist the impoverished missions and thereby gain priceless heavenly merits and a full measure of happiness as a reward for his charity.

Brevities

During the Holy Season of Lent the spirit of penance is an imperative necessity for all those who would be true friends and disciples of our Blessed Lord.

In the Holy Gospels we find that only on five occasions did our Divine Lord use the word UNLESS: Whenever He does so, however, this word has the greatest power and significance. "UNLESS you do penance, you shall all likewise perish." There are some Catholics who may be lawfully dispensed from fasting as a Lenten penance, but few there are who can exempt themselves from the duty of giving up some luxury as a penance during Lent and of devoting the money thus saved as an alms to God's poor in the missions.

During Lent the Catechists at Victory-Noll will include the intentions of their friends and benefactors in their beautiful Lenten Devotions.

We feel quite certain that the Infant Jesus and His Blessed Mother were quite pleased with the large number of those who sent in their petitions to be included in our Christmas Novena. We should urge all our subscribers who wish us to include them in the Novena we shall offer during February in Honor of Our Lady of Lourdes, to send in their intentions as soon as possible.

At various times we have been asked by subscribers if there is a Burse towards which donations may be made for the benefit of their deceased relatives. We are pleased to state that we have three incomplete Burses in Honor of the Souls in Purgatory, and that all those who contribute an amount, no matter how small, in memory of their dear departed, will have the consolation of knowing that the deceased will have a share in the many Masses, Novenas and prayers offered for their benefit.

During the course of the ecclesiastical year Holy Church celebrates two Feasts in honor of Our Lady of Sorrows, one on Friday of Passion Week and the other on the 15th of September. The first Feast in Honor of the Sorrows of Our Blessed Mother will be celebrated this year on the 22nd of March. All true lovers of Mary never fail to compassionate Her in Her sorrows. There is nothing that will please Our Lady of Sorrows more than to have these devout souls assist in supporting the Catechists laboring under the patronage of "Our Lady of Sorrows Burse" in saving the souls of the poor in the missions.

It is true that we have many fervent souls who practice devotion in honor of the Five Holy Wounds of Our Lord. This devotion is truly commendable. Still there are comparatively few who have devotion to ALL the Sacred Wounds of Our Divine Lord. "These wounds", say the Saints, "are so many tongues that speak to us of the love of Jesus." We have two Catechists laboring in the poorest missions of New Mexico, who are striving to propagate the devotion in honor of All the Wounds of Our Lord among the poor for whom they are laboring. A practical way of expressing our devotion in honor of All the Sacred Wounds is to assist in supporting these devoted Catechists who are laboring under the patronage of the Holy Wounds Burse.

Mission Echoes

"BOY THAT SURE WAS A COLD MASS!"

With the thermometer registering 12 below zero last Sunday, coming to Mass at the Gary Settlement House called for a lot of grit in our children, natives of balmy New Mexico where snow is unknown. Without gloves or goloshes and with insufficient clothing, many of them braved the bitter cold to attend Mass, and an edifying number received Holy Communion. The pipes had frozen and burst, consequently the church was so cold that even we Catechists were shivering before Mass was over, while some of the little ones were crying. To let them walk home would have been heartless, so in spite of a pressing engagement elsewhere, we loaded those who lived farthest away into the car and made trips back and forth with the car packed to its utmost capacity until all were safely delivered. The sentiments of all present were well-expressed by little Juan who was heard to remark on reaching the street: "Boy, that was sure a cold Mass!"

To further prevent monotony, the cold brought a severe attack of asthma on one poor lady. Although not well for some time, she had insisted on coming to Mass because she felt that she had no longer to live and she wanted to visit the Blessed Sacrament, go to Confession and receive Holy Communion once more before her death. She, however, became so very ill that she was unable to receive either Sacrament, in fact, we feared that she would die in church.

After Mass a poor old man came to us weeping. He wanted to know how soon we could place his four-year-old grandson, Jose, in an orphanage. His son-in-law had told him that this was the last day he could keep him and his sick grand-son.

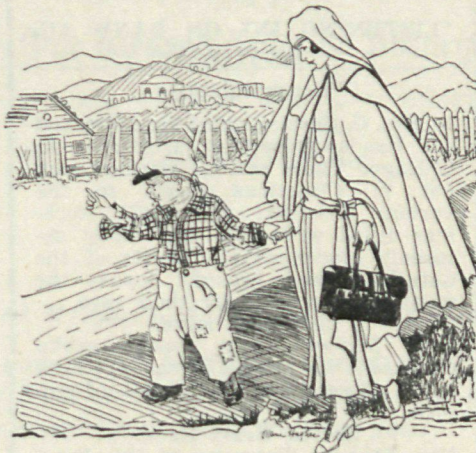
Three families, besides the old man and Jose, the orphan,—sixteen persons in all,—live in four small rooms and only one of the men has work. Rent, fuel, groceries and clothing for sixteen people, all have to be paid from one man's salary of four dollars a day! In such desperate circumstances, is it any wonder that the poor are almost forced to drive their own out into the streets in mid-winter! Their only alternative is to face starvation with them.

We had taken Jose to the doctor on Thursday and the doctor had ordered him to stay in bed as he is in the last stages of tuberculosis. His grandfather said: "He has no bed, but sleeps on the floor with me and the other children." This was no place for a sick child and now that the old man had to look for a new home for the two of them we had to act quickly. After taking the other children home from Mass, we went for Jose and took him to St. Catherine's Hospital. The good Sisters kindly offered to keep him until he can be received into the T. B. Sanatorium. Monday we reported the case of the destitute grandfather to the city authorities and immediate action will be taken to send him to the County Home at Crown Point.

Cold weather is attended with much misery and suffering amongst the poverty-stricken Mexicans in the Calumet District and such sad cases as these we have just related are the rule and not the exception.

FIVE DOLLARS AND TEN CENTS TO DEFRAY FUNERAL EXPENSES!

The sun had just gone to rest when Catechist R. and I returned to our Mission Center in Lubbock from a Santa Fe Railroad



Section house on the Texas plains where we conducted classes and visited the sick.

Another sad story awaited us. Catechist S. had stayed at home for choir and acolyte rehearsal. She now told us that late in the afternoon a grief-stricken, penniless Mexican had come and asked if we could help him. His wife had just died. He had no money with which to bury her. He had appealed for County aid, but was refused because he has been in the county a very short time. He and his wife had come from the South seeking employment on the cotton ranches. His wife was stricken with a fatal illness which took her life before medical aid could intervene. The lady was brought here from a ranch thirty miles away.

A poor family living in our Mexican colony here offered an empty shack beside their own humble dwelling.

Catechist S. had called a funeral director who, though not a Catholic, has taken other charity cases for us. He most courteously and generously offered his services.

That evening when darkness had enveloped the dilapidated huts and hovels of the Mexican Colony, a dim candle light issued through the open door of a rickety house immediately back of our Mission Chapel. A worn, heart-broken man stood within, looking upon the still face of his dead wife. "Only a Mexican," yet, a man with a human heart, a broken heart. His young wife was dead because he could not give her proper care. The flickering candles lighted the rough board walls partly covered with old newspapers.

To see these poor Mexicans trying to aid each other appears as "the blind leading the blind." As we have no funds for this poor wayfarer's funeral the Mexicans here tried to collect enough to defray the burial expenses. They managed to collect five dollars and ten cents!

"CAMP MEETINGS"

Just because you have not heard from the Little Flower Mission at Dos Palos for quite a while does not mean that we have been idle. Far from it!

We have just finished two weeks of open air mission out in the camps. How we wish you could have seen us! We are like the Salvation Army workers. We started for the camps about three-thirty in the afternoon. We always took our portable organ with us and placed it in the center of one of the camps and played and sang. All the children would come running out from their tents to join us and they had a merry old

time. We would keep this up until all the people would be in from the fields and then the Padre would give a sermon, and we would go around getting the people to go to confession, etc. In the first camp we went we were instrumental in getting four marriages fixed up in just a little while. Each mission was ended by having a Mass in the camp the last morning.

During the last five weeks we have had five missionaries here giving missions for the Americans, Italians and Mexicans. There is still to be one more for the Portuguese. Sunday morning two missions ended at Firebaugh—one given for the Americans,—the other for the Italians.

Last Friday Father O. took one of our classes for instruction. As yet the children do not know much, but they are proud of what they do know and did not hesitate a minute to let Father O. in on their knowledge. As soon as they were all seated the class informed Father that their lesson was "On the Church." Then Father proceeded to ask them to name the four marks of the Church, and why the Church was Holy, Catholic and Apostolic. They answered beautifully. Then he asked: "Why is the Church called Catholic?" One little fellow shouted: "I know, I know."

Father said: "All right, why?"

"Because it is baptized!" said the boy.

After Father had corrected the answer he asked: "Can anyone tell me when the Church was started,—was it last year or the year before?"

"Why, M-A-M," came a reply from someone in the rear, "don't you know that God started the Catholic Church in the year one?"

Needless to say, Father O. enjoyed the class immensely.

Coming from Catechism class in a slight flurry of snow one afternoon last week, Catechist F. expressed her delight at the pure white loveliness. One of the ninos, a slender lad with big, serious brown eyes said to her: "Why do you like the snow, Catechist?" The question rather took her by surprise, however, she answered: "Because it is so beautiful and white. Juan, don't you like it?" The boy was silent for a moment and then he replied: "It's pretty,—but it's cold!"

Looking down at the tattered blue overalls and the "out at the toe" shoes, the Catechist could readily understand why the beauty of the snow was lost on the poor little fellow and only its coldness considered.

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

1. Holman, New Mexico.
2. Anton Chico, New Mexico.
3. Los Cerrillos, New Mexico.
4. Box 30, Montezuma Route, Las Vegas, New Mexico.
5. 620 W. Fifteenth Ave., Gary, Indiana.
6. Dos Palos, Calif.
7. Lubbock, Texas, Box 1658.
8. Catechist Blanche Richardson, Supervisor of Archconfraternity of Christian Doctrine, Victory-Mount, Las Vegas, New Mexico.

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

YOUR "SELF-DENIALS" WOULD SUPPORT A CATECHIST — WRITE FOR A MITE BOX

The Associate Catechists of Mary

THRILLS! THRILLS!

GIVE thy heart's best treasures
From fair nature learn;
Give thy love—and ask not,
Wait not a return.
And the more thou spendest
From thy little store,
With a double bounty
God will give thee more.

Thrills! Thrills! such is the quest of the world today. Each action whatever it may be must have a thrill attached to make it worth the effort it takes to do it. But do these thrills satisfy? Experience shows that they do not. For as soon as attained are then not lightly thrown aside because they do not give genuine satisfaction which every heart craves? Our dear Associates I know have all found the genuine thrill of this life, namely; "the thrill of giving oneself for others." After a dollar has been sent to the poor in the missions, or applied to the support of the Catechists who have given their lives to the service of Jesus and Mary, after some articles of clothing, or after some time spent in sewing or doing something for Jesus' poor, does not a Thrill of peace and contentment surge through the soul leaving it serene and restful, no matter what tumults may be around us in this world?

One Catechist in the missions writes, "We gave out about 800 stockings this year, and Oh! it was just loads of fun to go into those camps with them. In some of the camps all the men and women came out too, so we gave them all a stocking and the oldest was just as tickled as the little two-year old. Oh! it's great fun! I watched one little girl who was just about big enough to toddle along—Catechist gave her her stocking and she toddled over to a little stump, sat down and cooed over it and smiled and

"LISTENING IN" ON BAND ACTIVITIES.

Congratulations

to Mrs. C. Service, chief Promoter and the Bands under her jurisdiction in Chicago. These zealous workers sent out 71 Christmas Boxes to the various Missions! The 2471 stockings filled with nuts and candy assuredly gladdened the hearts of the Catechists and brought joy to the many little ones under their care.

St. Joseph Band.

Mrs. Service's own ardent group alone sent 455 pounds of candy, \$26.00 worth of nuts and \$6.00 worth of pop corn.

Sacred Heart Band.

Mrs. Scheuer, Promoter of this Band reports 5 boxes and 300 stockings sent to the Southwest.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, and Tuesday and Saturday Night Clubs. As yet we have received no minute account from the Promoters of these Bands, Mrs. Wainwright, and Mrs. Robinson, concerning their Christmas contributions. However, we know that these loyal supporters are right "there" when it comes to doing for the Missions.

Victory Circle No. 1.

Mrs. J. Kline, President, reports 7 boxes containing a large assortment of useful articles, toys, etc. sent to the several mission centers.

Our sincerest thanks to the above mentioned Bands and to all the others who have so generously contributed to the Christmas joy in our missions.

turned it over and over, her eyes almost popping out of her head. She was all amazement; she wanted to get some of that candy but she didn't have the slightest idea of how to get it out. Then she would lay the stocking in her lap and pat it; but Oh! that smile! And when you see eight hundred such sights I tell you it well repays you for any sacrifices you have had to make throughout your lifetime."

Surely this Catechist had a greater thrill in the giving than the children had in the receiving, and I know that all the Associates who supplied the means of giving and who have given so generously to us—especially at Christmas—felt a wonderful peace and contentment in their souls which could only come from the Thrill of giving of oneself.

During this season of Lent we commemorate and meditate more intently upon the sufferings of Our Dear Lord. Was not His whole life one of giving? Did He not empty Himself of His all for us? Was it not His one desire, His goal, to suffer for us so as to prove His love? How anxiously had He waited for His hours of suffering and finally His death upon the Cross, so much so that He was obliged to say, "How I am straitened until My hour shall come." With this loving example before our eyes how can we help aiding His poor needy little ones in the Missions. Surely all our dear Associates who have already felt the Thrill of giving will continue their good works, while those who are still searching for the one great thrill of this life will find it and clasp it tightly and place it in Mary's hands to keep secure for them, begging Her to ever keep before them the Suffering Saviour who was not satisfied until He had shed His last drop of blood for love of mankind.

Dear Little Helpers:

Well! Well! it seems as though it were only yesterday that we were wishing each other "Merry Christmas" and "Happy New Year" and now the Lenten season has already started! Doesn't time just fly when we are all busy?

Dear Helpers, did you ever stop to think what a wonderful thing it is that Our Dear Saviour Jesus left His Home in Heaven to come down upon this earth of ours as a little babe, how He endured the cold and hunger, how He lived unknown for thirty years, and then died upon a cross all to give us a share in His Home in Heaven?

During Lent, don't you think that each one of us should try to make Our Dear Suffering Saviour a little return for all that He endured for us? Any little sacrifice that we make for Jesus will be most pleasing to Him—especially if the things we sacrifice are things that we like very, very much.

Perhaps you are wondering what you can do to show your sorrow for what our Saviour suffered. Have you read the poem that one of our Catechists wrote? You will see it on this page right near the picture of the children. And I think when you have read it you will know what you can do to lighten Our Saviour's Sufferings. Let us each try then to help make the Catechist's poem come true by denying ourselves little pleasures, by saving our pennies and filling our Mite Boxes, so that on Easter morn-

Mary's Little Helpers

we may bring the light of joy to the Catechists' eyes and so that we may bring comfort and pleasure to the poor little Mexican children.

Don't you think then that it would be a good idea to make this daily offering to Our Suffering Saviour? "Dearest Jesus, in return for all you have suffered for me, each day during Lent I will sacrifice some little

pleasure of mine in order to bring happiness to those who are less fortunate than myself."

Praying that Our Dearest Jesus will give you the grace necessary to make and keep your daily offerings each day of Lent, I am

Missionarily yours,

Catechist Supervisor

Mary's Little Helpers.



Little boys in tattered clothes
And little girls with cold bare toes,
Stand a-shivering in rows
Before their teacher Catechist.
Tears of sadness fill her eyes;
"How can I," she softly cries,
"Get clothes and needy food supplies
For each child upon my list?"
She then recalls, to her delight,
A box that came just Monday night!
Filled with clothes and bound up tight;
Sent by children from the east.
Now, each boy dressed in nice new clothes
And all the girls with warm pink toes,
Stand praying happily, in rows,
For the Little Helpers of the east.
By a Catechist.

Address all A. C. M., or Little Helpers communications to:
CATECHIST SUPERVISOR,
Associate Catechists of Mary,
Victory-Noll Huntington, Ind.

"ALL FOR JESUS THROUGH MARY"

Society of Missionary Catechists

of

Our Blessed Lady of Victory

Honorary President
MOST REV. A. T. DAEGER, O. F. M.
Archbishop of Santa Fe

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Las Vegas, New Mexico

Jan. 11, 1929

To our dear Promoters and the devoted Members of The Associate Catechists of Mary:

At first I was going to address you as our very dear friends, but Associate Catechists of Mary sounds more mutual, more sisterly, doesn't it? And certainly you have been our big sisters during the past season. How much we owe you! How little we could have done without you!

It was a great pleasure to us to distribute the stockings, candy and nuts and clothing to the poor little ones, as well as to the needy parents in our Missions. Some of our poor children, scantily clad, stood shivering but happily excited over receiving Christmas gifts. Recently we had opened two new Missions which are quite large, and the children of these Missions had never received from your bounty before. It was a new and wonderful experience for them. I only wish it might have been your great pleasure and satisfaction to distribute these gifts, since you labored so lovingly in preparing them for our poor children. Well, I believe a double portion of merit will be yours. You labor tirelessly for our poor people in the Missions, but do not get the consolation of personally handing the gifts to them, and seeing the flash of joy and gratitude in their eyes.

How I wish I might warmly clasp the hand of each one of all the dear ladies who worked so valiantly before Christmas to bring cheer to the poor of our Mission Country. Chicago may bear the newspaper reputation of a city notoriously bad, but we have never found a more loyal group of friends and helpers than our dear Associate Catechists of Mary in that city. What firm Faith, what love of God and His Holy Church is manifested in the generous support you have given His workers in the Southwest!

We are always so happy to receive things to give our poor, but we were touched by the fact that you did not forget the missionaries, either. The hams, sides of bacon, tea, coffee, cookies, cakes, etc.,—the very best to be had in Chicago,—certainly tasted good. You see here in our Mission Centers we do not have meat very often,—usually when somebody happens to butcher a cow. During the warmer months nobody butchers and so all are vegetarians through necessity! For that reason, we consider such meat as sent from Chicago a real, holiday treat. Best of all it is the kind that keeps.

The Missionary Priests whom you remembered during the holiday season are deeply grateful, too, and you may be sure many are the mementos for you and your loved ones during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. It is a strange and unusual experience for our Missionaries to find bands of Catholic ladies who think of them and their wants. They left their native country and dear ones to bury themselves in the mountains and prairies of the Southwest,—all for the sake of bringing souls to Christ. They made their sacrifice to God. They expected neither help nor encouragement from anyone. But it is a hard life, and you have no idea what comfort you are bringing into their lives. It lends them added zeal and zest in seeking out the strayed ones of the flock. After all, they are human beings, and human beings are apt to get discouraged once in a while, when efforts seem unappreciated or all in vain. There are three little chapels in which the Sanctuary lamp sends out its rosy glow day and night,—a perpetual prayer to our Eucharistic Lord, hidden there, for your intentions. They are the chapels in which the eight-day candles, you so generously provided for the Sanctuary lamps, are being burnt. One of our first prayers of the day,—recited at six A. M.,—is the Perpetual Novena Litany to Our Blessed Lady of Victory, offered for dear benefactors and friends. You see we cannot repay you for all you have done in the past, or are doing for us at the present time, in a material way, but we leave it to Our Blessed Mother and Her Divine Son to bless you and reward you as only They, who are richer and more powerful than the mightiest ones on earth, can do. We are sure They will bless you abundantly, not only spiritually, but materially too.

Commending you and all your spiritual and temporal interests at the beginning of this New Year to Their Loving Hearts, permit me to subscribe myself,

Your devoted and deeply grateful co-worker in the Missions,

Catechist Blanche Richardson

Reading Something Worth While

By Rev. A. J. Blaufuss

HAIL HOLY QUEEN—A New Prayer Book and Sunday Missal for Women and Girls, by Rev. C. J. Callon, O.P., and J. A. McHugh, O.P., 720 pp., P. J. Kenedy & Sons, N. Y., \$2.50 to \$6.00.

Multiplication of prayer books does not always mean a proportionate increase of devotion, however, it offers variety. Perhaps the perfect prayer book has not been written; and then, tastes differ. Some like to carry their religion in a vestpocket; others are satisfied only with a bulging overcoat. **HAIL HOLY QUEEN** is a book of generous proportions whereas **SHOWER OF GRACES** is a midget in size.

The Authors of the first had in mind the liturgical movement which invites the laity to draw nearer to the Altar. The Sunday and Feastday Masses follow the Missal (closely) but very useful explanatory footnotes accompany the Ordinary of the Mass. More than a Sunday Missal, it is a book of wholesome counsel to married and single ladies with many original and striking thoughts. As a prayer book it is quite complete. It is a prayer book such as a devout Catholic would like to choose as a life-companion. Even the ceremonies of Baptism, Penance, Holy Communion and Matrimony with its Nuptial Mass, are not forgotten. However, the Reviewer is at a loss to see why Extreme Unction and the sick-room should have been overlooked. He has found beautiful and consoling prayers for the sick in many prayer books of other tongues. Such an addition would surely not detract from the merit of a manual in every way so excellent and complete.

The smaller book, written by a Father of the Society of Mary, breathes warm with love of Mary. One of its Masses illustrates the method of assisting at Mass with Mary. To hear Mass with Mary and to do all things with Mary is the work of true devotion to our heavenly Mother which was taught and practiced so well by such great clients of Mary as St. Bonaventure, Bl. De Montfort and Father Chaminade. The prayers of the first Mass are brief but interspersed with explanatory notes. A new Communion Mass will prove very welcome with the increasing number of frequent rather small, necessitated, no doubt, by the Communicants. The print is clear but smallness of the little volume.

Cheer-O-Grams

Archbishop's House Santa Fe,
New Mexico

Rev. J. J. Sigstein
Huntington, Ind.

Dear Rev. Father & Director:

Just to thank you and your good Catechists,—at this time of the year, for all you have done and are doing, for poor New Mexico! A great deal has been done and we expect you and the Catechists to do still more for the honor and glory of God, His Blessed Mother, for the salvation of souls, and for the Catechists' own sanctification and salvation. May the Christ-Child shower down on you all His very best and choicest blessings,—for many more years of useful and fruitful work! And, may He give all real good and sound health for many years,—since that is indispensable for the work to be done. And be assured of our humble prayers and Mementos at Holy Mass.

Thanking you for all past favors,
I remain, Sincerely yours in Christ,

Albert A. Daeger, O. F. M.

†Archbishop of Santa Fe.

Cincinnati, Ohio

Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Father Sigstein:

We feel that we would like to do all in our power to aid the noble work of the Catechists. Our Fathers cannot praise their work in New Mexico enough. They are a wonderful aid on our scattered missions out there. I hope and pray that God may continue to bless your noble undertaking and the present spirit among the Catechists may continue in its splendid fervor and zeal.

Respectfully in Xto,

Rev. Symphorium Weiner, O.F.M.

My dear Friends:

Enclosed I am sending you a check for 100 subscriptions to "The MISSIONARY CATECHIST". The names are to be chosen by yourselves. No doubt somebody can supply you with a list of 100 names of people who will read your little paper and perhaps be inspired to send you new names or offerings.

If this scheme does not meet with your approval, make whatever use you wish of the enclosed check—it is yours without any strings attached.

With best wishes, Rev. G. J. D.

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