



Anima Mariae

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Sisters of Mary Immaculate Queen

Dear Friends,

Praised be Jesus and Mary!

The Church begins her liturgical year during Advent with the Marian feast which celebrates Our Lady as the dawn preceding the coming of her Son. Immaculate in her conception, Mary ushers into our world the reign of God's grace.

The autumn of our solar year as well as the final quarter of the liturgical year is also preceded by a feast of the Blessed Virgin: that of her Assumption. The earthly harvest time is ushered in by the Heavenly Father gathering to Himself the first fruits of His Son's redemptive grace: Mary's Immaculate soul and body are taken up to heaven. The coming months will bring more harvest feasts, that of All Saints and All Souls, just following on the celebration of their Divine Leader Christ the King.

Anima Mariae

*Soul of Mary, sanctify me.
Heart of Mary, inflame me.
Hands of Mary, support me.
Feet of Mary, direct me.
Immaculate eyes of Mary,
look upon me.
Lips of Mary, speak for me.
Sorrows of Mary, strengthen me.
O Mary, hear me.
In the wound of the Heart of Jesus,
hide me.
Let me never be separated from thee.
From my enemy defend me.
At the hour of my death call me,
And bid me to come to thine
Immaculate Heart;
That thus I may come to the
Heart of Jesus,
And there with the saints praise thee
For all eternity. Amen.*

—The Reign of Jesus through Mary
Gabriel Denis, SMM

in his church. Yes, a saint is someone through whom the radiance of Christ shines on his fellow men. Mary, the Queen of all saints, is fashioned as the unspotted mirror of God's beauty. Like her, we too must become all-transparent, cleansed of our stains and imperfections, so that the grace of God may glow within us and illuminate the dark world around us. We too, must become saints. We must turn our aspirations heavenward, following in the train

Providentially, this issue of our newsletter also brings us to the consideration of the closing lines of our title prayer which aptly develop the theme we have begun:

And there with the saints praise thee, for all eternity. Amen.

Today Reverend Mother gave the Sisters a talk in which she referred to the theme we have chosen for our Marian schools this year: "Let your light shine before men." She told a story in which a teacher asked her students if they knew what a saint was. One literal-minded lad answered with the words, "A saint is someone the light shines through." Little did the child realize the profound truth of his simple reference to the stained glass windows



Enjoying the sunshine and the great outdoors

of our divine Master and our Immaculate Mother whose praises we shall sing in heaven "as stars for all eternity" in the crown of our Queen.

Meanwhile, as one catechist of my acquaintance told her class, "In heaven we have All Saints, and in purgatory we have All Souls. So what do we have on earth?" Answered with silence, she had to explain, "Why, on earth we have ALL SORTS!" God is wonderful in His saints. When we gaze on the variety in species of plant and animal life on earth, we have a small reflection of the amazing assortment of rational creatures, both angelic and human that He has created to proclaim His glory and to share His love. This brings us to two practical conclusions: First, let your light shine before men; let your good example and your patient love pour the light of Christ on those around you, drawing them to Him. Second, like the wise virgins of the Gospel, be sure to have your own unique lamp well lit when the Bridegroom comes, that the glory He will receive only from you may be His for all eternity.



Even walking down the street is a chance to talk about the Faith. Here the Sisters share the story of St. Philomena with a family who stopped to ask them questions.



Fr. Francisco Radecki was the retreat master for the Sisters this year.



Sr. Mary Gemma celebrates her 40th and Sr. Louise Marie her 25th anniversary of vows.



Sr. Mary Knox receives her white veil.



Sr. Augustine Marie takes her First Vows and receives her blue veil.



Now vested in her white veil, our new novice receives her name: Sr. Helen Marie!



Assisted by Rev. Mother Mary Agnes, Sr. Madeleine Marie receives the brown scapular and takes her Triennial Vows.



Sr. Michael Marie and Sr. Mary Veronica make Perpetual Profession.



In the ciborium we see the Sisters, brides of Christ, as they pronounce their vows.



"You are dead to the world, and your life is hid with Christ..." (from the Perpetual Profession ceremony).



Sr. Mary Loretta helps prepare for the Corpus Christi procession.



First Communicants drop petals along the procession route.



The guests enjoyed our lovely grounds before the concert.



Our annual 4th of July Concert and Dessert Social: good music, good food, good friends. Many stayed to watch the fireworks over the city.



Sr. Mary Petra serves guests at our summer luncheon and concert on July 2.



Sr. Mary Bernadette and Sr. Marie Emmanuel pray with Bishop Pivarunas at the shrine of Our Mother of Perpetual Help in Boston.



Sr. Mary Genevieve teaches young ladies in California.



"Suffer the children to come unto Me..." Sr. Giovanna Marie enjoys the little ones.



Sr. Mary Paula and Sr. Mary Genevieve visit with Mr. Louis Ramirez, the caretaker of the chapel in San Diego.



Sr. Mary Paula instructs the boys' catechism class.



Sr. Maria Regina leads a discussion with teenagers.



Sr. Maria Kazimiera and Sr. Marie Vianney pose with catechism students in the Berkshires (Massachusetts).



Parishioners of St. Michael's Chapel in Albany, New York, enjoy a game of Catholic Jeopardy hosted by the Sisters.



The Sisters and families visited the North American Martyrs shrine.



Praying on a BIG, beautiful outdoor rosary at the shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Massachusetts.



Sr. Therese Marie gives a class to the families of Our Mother of Perpetual Help Church in Sulphur Springs, Ohio.



The Sisters pose with their catechism students and families outside of Sacred Heart Church in Akron, Ohio.



Sr. Mary Veronica and Sr. Therese Marie enjoyed a visit with Sr. Mary Claretia in Akron.



Sr. Mary Veronica has her students get ready to act out a skit on St. Tarcisius during catechism class.



Washing the convent cars is a fun job on a hot summer day!



Sr. Maria Regina and the Grace and Loveliness Catholic Charm course host a tea party.



A group of Sisters enjoyed the lakes, rivers and mountains near Kalispell, Montana, during their summer outing.



Our novitiate orchard provides us with luscious fruits during the summer months.



The younger Sisters, Mother Mary Dominica and Sr. Mary Bridget enjoy the ocean while on their summer outing in western Washington.



Look — starfish! And they're alive!



Fr. Oswald offered Holy Mass in "Manresa Cave" near Usk, Washington, during Camp St. Philomena.



The ladies who attended the Retreat / R&R had brunch with the Sisters in their backyard after Sunday Mass.



Four traditional Catholic congregations of Sisters were represented at the First Profession of Sr. Mary Evangeline, OSCM, on August 22 at the City of Mary.



Sr. Mary Petra enjoys herself as she joins her students in a game of soccer.



Sr. Maria Kazimiera and Sr. Augustine Marie join Fr. Rissling and Fr. Heyne for ten days of catechism camp in Germany.



Fr. Rissling, Sr. Maria Kazimiera, Sr. Augustine Marie and Fr. Heyne take a moment to take a pose for a photo.

Just for Smiles...

One of our missions opened the school year on August 30 (the feast of St. Rose of Lima), and among the new pupils was a non-Catholic second-grade girl who was eager to learn. At home that night when the country of Peru somehow came up at dinner, she saw a chance to impress her family. "I know who the patron saint of Peru is," she announced. All eyes turned her way. "Really! Who is it?" "St. Rose of Lima Beans," she said proudly.

Convent Trivia

Did you know that the Sisters pick saints every month? A cup containing little slips of paper on which are written the saints and feasts of the month is passed around the dinner table and each Sister draws one. Then we take turns sharing the saint or feast that we picked, which often leads to a discussion of the lives of the saints or the beautiful feasts of the liturgical year. It is a wonderful way to become acquainted with the saints we would not think much about otherwise. As we learn how they grew in virtue and holiness and became so pleasing to God, not only do we grow in our devotion to them, but we are also encouraged in our own struggles in the spiritual life.

Vocational Questions

Dear Sister,

Since there are so many ways to serve God and to become holy without becoming a Sister, why should I pursue a religious vocation? —Kathy

Dear Kathy,

It is true that there are many ways to become holy and to serve God in the world. Still, it is much *easier* to become holy and to serve God in the religious state because it provides so many helps along these lines. Of course, one must be *willing*. But giving it a try can't do any harm, since the very purpose of the postulancy and novitiate is to provide a mutual trial for the candidate and the institute.

I can't tell you to enter. All I can do is encourage you to open your heart and soul, and to offer yourself with complete love and generosity to Christ to serve Him *whatever* way He leads you.

Perhaps the words of St. Thomas Aquinas may be helpful here: "The misgivings of those who hesitate as to whether or not they may be able to attain perfection by entering religion is shown by many examples to be unreasonable... To those who take this sweet yoke upon themselves, He provides the refreshment of the divine fruition and the eternal rest of their souls." —Sister Mary

An Apostolate of Prayer

Are you or someone you love in need of special prayers? Send your intentions to the Sisters and we will remember them in our daily prayers, Masses and good works.



Vocations Weekend

March 8-10
St. Michael's Convent



Is God calling you? How can you know for sure?

You'll never know if you don't find out what it's all about. Come and see how the Sisters live, work, pray, think and play.

Young women who are at least juniors in high school and single women 35 or under, please contact the Vocations Directress at the address at the bottom of this page.

Calendar

Sept.	5	School begins
	8	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	12	Feast of the Holy Name of Mary
	26	Sr. Renee Marie's feastday
	29	Feast of St. Michael: Titular feast of Mount St. Michael, St. Michael's Convent, and St. Michael's Academy
		Sr. Michael Marie's feastday
Oct.	3	Sr. Therese Marie's feastday
	7	Feast of the Most Holy Rosary
	10-14	Fatima Conference at Mount St. Michael: "Men Must Cease Offending God; He is Already Too Much Offended"
	13	Anniversary of the Apparition of Our Lady at Fatima (Miracle of the Sun)
Nov.	17	Sr. Maria Providencia's feastday
	19	Sr. Mary Isabella's feastday
Dec.	8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception
		Mary Immaculata's feastday
	10	Sr. Mary Loretta's feastday
	12	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
	12-13	Christmas Concerts at the Bing Theater
	25	Christmas Day; Sr. Marie Emmanuel's feastday

Anima Mariae is the free quarterly newsletter of the CMRI Sisters.

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