



Anima Mariae

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Sisters of Mary Immaculate Queen

Dear Friends,

Praised be Jesus and Mary!

As we have delighted in honoring our Blessed Mother during the month of May dedicated to her, we have also appropriately celebrated the feasts of the liturgical year which commemorate the culmination of the life of her Son on earth and the founding of His Church. Scripture tells us that Christ, after giving His apostles the commission to preach the Gospel throughout the whole world, ascended into heaven. He told them that it was necessary for Him to leave them so that He could send that Paraclete to them.

“All these were persevering with one mind in prayer with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren” (Acts I:14). And in the following chapter, St. Luke relates, “When the days of Pentecost were drawing to a close, they were all together in one place...”

It is most significant that during these nine days of prayer, the apostles were in the company of the Blessed Virgin. In his Gospel, St. Luke relates the story of the Annunciation, and tells how

Mary was overshadowed by the Holy Spirit, and as a result, the divine Seed was planted within her to grow into Jesus the very Son of God. Now, as she prays with the apostles she fulfills the same role of drawing down the Holy Spirit who will transform them into living images of Christ.

St. Louis Marie de Montfort tells us in his *True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary*, that when the Holy Ghost finds Mary

in a soul He flies there and unites Himself to that soul in order to form Jesus in it. What a marvel! Mary is the spouse of the Divine Spirit. Through her He produces the Man-God Jesus Christ, in the Incarnation, in the Church, and in each of our souls.

Our devotion to Our Blessed Lady is the nearly infallible way for us to attain

the end for which God has created us: to attain holiness through transformation in Christ. The Holy Spirit will form Jesus in each of us to the degree that we are living in and with His spouse the Virgin Mary. Let us imitate her virtues and take on her dispositions, especially her conformity to the Divine Will. Let us ask her to replace our sinful hearts with her pure heart, burning with love for God!

In his prayer at the close of the Little Crown of the Blessed Virgin, St. Louis expresses this sentiment: “Let thy soul be in me to magnify the Lord; let thy spirit be in me to rejoice in God. Set Thyself, O faithful Virgin, as a seal upon my heart, that in thee and through thee I may be found faithful to God. Grant that for love of thee I may despise all earthly consolation and ever cling to those of heaven, until through the Holy Ghost, thy faithful Spouse, and through thee, His faithful spouse, Jesus Christ thy Son be formed in me for the glory of the Father. Amen.”



Rev. Mother presents flowers to Our Lady and then kneels before her statue during the Living Rosary.



Sr. Mary Veronica directs the kindergarteners in a hymn for the program at the end of the school year.



The younger Sisters get lots of experience in card-making while in the Novitiate.



The professed Sisters had an opportunity to attend Holy Mass in the Novitiate chapel during Easter week.



Sr. Mary Josephine working on the Novitiate farm on an early spring day.



Sr. Marie Vianney and Sr. Michael Marie visited the Grotto of Our Sorrowful Mother in Portland with the Sodality this spring.



The Sisters look forward to seeing the blossoms of the cherry trees in the convent yard every spring.



Our Boston missionaries have their Easter dinner after returning from the Mass in Maine.



The annual walk in honor of St. Joseph on May 1 begins at the bottom of the hill on which Mount St. Michael is built and ends at his statue in the courtyard.



Sr. Mary Loretta was joined by two young gentlemen who were eager to help with the weeding on the grounds in preparation for the Corpus Christi procession.



The Sisters enjoyed a picnic and hiking at Riverside State Park on the feast of the Ascension.



Sr. Mary Petra directs the younger grades during choir practice at Holy Guardian Angels School in Olathe, Colorado.



Sr. Michael Marie provides moral support for St. Michael's softball team during a game.



The 6th grade class made a beautiful mosaic of Mary Immaculate Queen of tiny bits of paper as an art project to present to Sr. Mary Genevieve at the end of the school year.



After months of hard work, the Center Sisters were excited when the newly designed MIQCenter.com website was launched on June 3.

Our Apostolate of Prayer

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



Convent Trivia

Did you know that we have three Masses offered each month for our benefactors? One is offered in honor of the Holy Ghost, one is in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the third is in honor of good St. Joseph.

Vocational Questions

Dear Sister,

Okay, I'll admit it: every time I hear the word vocation I get an awful feeling in my stomach. I don't want to consider it — it's not for me! Can you imagine ME keeping silence? ME wearing a habit and praying all day long? ME not being able to go out and have fun with my friends? I don't want to leave my family or lose my friends or never get married. But I'm scared, too. Will God be angry if I don't enter the convent? —Kelly

Dear Kelly,

Your vocation — whatever it may be — is what God *made* you for; it is the plan by which He can give you the most happiness He can give you, in both this life and the next. And Kelly, *if* God is calling you to follow Him, it is because He *loves* you with a very special love, not because He wants you to have a miserable life.

It's not that God would be angry if He calls you and you choose a different state in life. Perhaps in a certain sense, though, you could say that He would be sad — remember how Christ responded to the rich young man in the Gospel. After all, He won't be able to give you all the wonderful gifts He meant to give you as His bride. And all the good that He meant for you to do won't be done by you — and this, too, will affect many other souls. The good accomplished by a consecrated soul for the Church and for souls is immeasurable. Yet you can be certain that He will continue to give you graces to help you live a good life and save your soul.

A religious vocation is a *precious gift* sent by God Himself. Can you imagine giving a special and costly gift to someone dear, only to have that person give it back to you unopened saying, "I think I know what's in here, but someone ordered me a better one for me yesterday. Thanks anyway!" I don't know for sure if you have a religious vocation, but you *seem* to have the necessary qualities

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

To join our mailing list, or to send comments, questions, prayer intentions or donations, please write or email:

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Calendar

June	7	Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Sr. Corinne Marie's feastday
	13	Sr. Mary Antoinette's feastday
	20-24	Sisters' Annual Retreat
	27	Feast of Our Mother of Perpetual Help: Silver Jubilee of Vows – Sr. Marie Vianney; Triennial Vows – Sr. Augustine Marie; First Vows - Sr. Helen Marie; Entrance into Novitiate – Sr. Theresa Peck
	29	Sr. Mary Petra's feastday
	30	Sr. Mary Paula's feastday
July	12	Sr. Mary Veronica's feastday
	16-23	Camp St. Philomena (see CampStPhilomena.com)
August	9	Sr. Marie Vianney's feastday
	15	Feast of the Assumption BVM
	18	Sr. Helen Marie's feastday
	28	Sr. Augustine Marie's feastday

Summer Catechism

The Sisters will be traveling to the following areas to teach catechism this summer:

July 13-22	Southern California
13-31	Ohio, Pennsylvania
23-8/4	Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island

Would you like the Sisters to teach catechism in your area next summer? Or would you like to help sponsor the Sisters' travels for catechism? Please contact us!

— maybe, just maybe — God is offering you this gift. Won't you at least "unwrap" it and seriously explore the possibility?

Kelly, God is not "out to get you" — except in the sense that He loves you so much that He wants your heart. If souls only knew how good God is and how much He loves us, they would be on fire with love for Him and be willing to make any sacrifice, face any hardship, overcome any obstacle to respond to that love, even if it meant standing alone against the world. If you get to know Christ as He is, you will begin to love and trust Him as He deserves. Spend time in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, and at the foot of Christ on the Cross; see how He loves you and let Him move your heart. Ask Him what He wants you to do, and if He *is* calling you, to open your mind and heart to the beauty of consecrated life. Ask Jesus and Mary to let you see the good God wants you to do for others, the light and hope He wants you to symbolize to others. A religious vocation means choosing Christ above all else with your will and heart, moved and supported by grace. He understands your fears more than you can know; trust Him and ask Him to help you do what you are afraid to do. —Sister Mary