



Anima Mariae

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Sisters of Mary Immaculate Queen

Dear Friends,

Praised be Jesus and Mary! As it says in the words of Ecclesiastes, "To everything, there is a season..." And it was time for summer. Summer! ... Visions of long quiet days, now that the children have left the classrooms for vacation...

Such a thought lasts only a minute in the mind of a CMRI Sister, for when she sends her last student out the door in June with a bright smile and a prayer, she knows the days ahead are not going to be long and quiet. They are in many ways just as full and lively as the school year... but with a different sort of activity.

Our Sisters began the summer with the annual religious retreat — but what a special retreat it was! By God's Providence we were able to have it at a nearby retreat center. This two story building was a quaint structure from the turn of the 20th century, complete with wrap-around balconies and window seats! We turned one of the big meeting rooms into a chapel (it was truly beautiful with all the statues, the altar, even Stations of the Cross!) and assigned rooms in the various dorms. Everyone took a turn cooking. Between the retreat conferences and common prayer, we had acres and acres of forest and lake front property in which to walk and reflect and pray. It was truly a week for contemplation with God in His beautiful world!

When that week was passed, with renewed spirit we returned to the motherhouse for the annual vows ceremonies. Our postulant became a novice, taking the name of Sr. Mary Andrea. Our two novices took their first vows, and another Sister made her triennial profession of vows. Sr. Madeleine Marie made her final profession. These beautiful ceremonies were attended by visitors from the local parish and around the country. Truly, it



In late July, four Sisters traveled to sunny California to teach catechism in a week long "camp." It is wonderful experience for both the Sisters and the children, who come from very diverse backgrounds. It never takes long for the little ones to win over our hearts!



is an amazing privilege to give oneself to Christ, and a joy to be surrounded by family and friends on such a special day.

The Sisters had an opportunity to spend a day or two visiting their families during the summer, and soon after we were together again rehearsing for our summer concert. The summer concert is always held on the 4th of July, and right here at Mount St. Michael. Our hill-top property provides a beautiful view of all the fireworks around the city. Visitors this year found the event bigger than ever, as it was combined with the ongoing Centennial celebration of our building. There were quite a variety of outdoor games, tours of the building, food, prizes, even a zip line for extra excitement throughout the afternoon. As dusk fell, the concert began, ending just in time to enjoy the fireworks.

Next on the summer agenda was a week of meetings and classes for the teaching Sisters. These are always a treat, for with everyone home for the summer, it is an opportunity to learn from one another, and to share ideas. The Sisters had outside educators come to share their expertise, and participated in a number of additional conferences via audio recording. Armed with new ideas and skills, we all looked eagerly to planning lessons for another year teaching God's children.

But as it was not yet time to return to the classroom, we enjoyed a week of outing. Divided between two locations, the Sisters spent time enjoying one another's company in relax-



Having said "forever" to Jesus, Sr. Madeleine Marie is joined by the other Sisters who took steps the same day, in cutting the cake.

ing surroundings, with opportunities for hiking and canoeing, handicrafts and hobbies, reading, singing, extra prayer — and lots and lots of laughter!

After these weeks of attention to soul, mind, and body, it was time to get back to work — and work we certainly did! Within hours of the end of the outing, Sisters were setting out to teach catechism in various locations where there are not convents or schools. The Sisters that went to California taught the largest group — nearly 100 young people over the course of a week! Another group of Sisters headed east to teach in two locations in Ohio. A third group went to Michigan and Canada. These catechism trips are very important to our Sisters, as we have the opportunity to reach out to help those who have so much less than we have at home. It is a wonderful opportunity to fulfill Our Lord's injunction to "Go forth and teach all nations..." We only wish we could go more places, and stay even longer!

As the catechism missions were ending, over 50 young ladies from around the United States converged at Mount St. Michael for the 10th annual Camp St. Philomena. This is a week of quite varied activities and events for girls between the ages of 10 and 18. It is a joy to meet so many wonderful young girls, and to give them the opportunity to meet and enjoy the company of other Catholic girls as well as the Sisters. A few of the girls remained for a couple of days after Camp ended for a mini "Vocations Week" at the convent, learning more specifically about religious life.

Just after the girls headed home with a store of memories to share with their families, a group of ladies began arriving at Mount St. Michael for the 4th annual Ladies Retreat. This event includes several days of a silent retreat, talks or classes for the ladies on various topics, extra prayer in common, time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, and some enjoyable recreation — even rafting down the Clark Fork River in Montana! One highlight of this event is singing a High Mass with the Sisters on the feast of the Assumption.

Some time between the Camp and the Ladies' Retreat, those Sisters assigned to the various missions around the country began preparing to

Right: Sr. Louise Marie takes Sr. Mary Gemma to visit with the campers.
Below: The girls and staff of Camp St. Philomena.



The teaching Sisters took the role of student as they attended classes by outside educators who came to share their expertise with them.

return to their assigned convents and duties. Those at the motherhouse had more than enough to do, especially at the Center, which doesn't really get a "vacation" in the sense that the school does. Mid-August found us all stationed in our various convents, busily putting to use not only the skills we learned during the summer, but also the renewed enthusiasm for this work for God and souls, which is so integral to our lives as religious Sisters.

Summer has passed, and now it is fall. "All things have their season, and in their times all things pass under heaven..." (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

Devotion to Mary's Immaculate Heart

As autumn rolls around each year, we call to mind the anniversary of the stupendous miracle worked by Our Blessed Mother at Fatima in 1917, the Miracle of the Sun. Thousands of people saw the sun throw off various colors, dance around the sky and plunge toward the earth. The purpose of this miracle was to confirm and bring to the public eye the message Our Lady had given to the three shepherd children over the preceding six months. The pith of the message? Pray the Rosary; cease offending God; consecrate yourselves to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.



This was not the first time in the 20th century that heaven had asked for devotion to the Heart of Mary. In the early years of the century, Jesus spoke to a holy mystic in Belgium Berthe Petit. Here are some of the things He said to her:

"You must think of My Mother's Heart as you think of Mine; live in this Heart as you seek to live in Mine; give yourself to this Heart as you give yourself to Mine. You must spread the love of this Heart so wholly united to Mine."

"The world must be dedicated to the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of My Mother as it is dedicated to Mine. Fear nothing, no matter what suffering and obstacles you may meet. Think only of fulfilling My will."

Jacinta, the youngest of the Fatima seers was given special messages by Our Blessed Mother as she lay (*cont'd on back page*)



Retreat this year was both a change of scenery and a change of pace. Here, the Sisters listen attentively to the retreat master's conference.



Retreat is a time to get away and spend some time in stillness with God, reflecting on the past year, and preparing our souls for the coming year.



In becoming a novice, Sunmee Wee, a native Korean, took the name Sr. Mary Andrea, after Bl. Andrew Kim, the first Korean priest to receive the crown of martyrdom.



Sr. Mary Teresita and Sr. Mary Angela, after taking First Vows, exchange the white veil of the strictly cloistered novice for the blue of the professed.



A crown of red & white roses is given to the newly professed as a symbol of the purity and sacrifice of the religious life.



Having renewed her vows for three years, Sr. Mary Cabrini receives the Brown Scapular, worn by the Sisters on Sundays and special feastsdays.



The lighted candles are symbolic of the wise virgins of the Gospel who kept their lamps trimmed in expectation for the Bridegroom, whom we are called to imitate.



Sr. Mary Andrea is given a copy of the Rules and Constitutions, which she will study throughout her cloistered year.



Sr. Madeleine Marie chants the responses to the call of the Bridegroom, as her brothers look on.



In the presence of Our Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament, Sr. Madeleine Marie makes profession of her perpetual vows. "To Jesus, my heart, my all, forever."



The funeral pall is placed over Sr. Madeleine Marie as a symbol of that she is now dead to the world, and will forever more live in and for Christ alone.



A crown of thorns is received at Final Profession, to remind us that we must be willing to share the sufferings of our thorn-crowned Spouse.



The Sisters who took steps on the feast of Our Mother of Perpetual Help pose with His Excellency, Fr. Casimir, Fr. Anaya and Rev. Mother Mary Agnes.



Sr. Mary Veronica looks on as children ride the zip line at the 4th of July celebrations at Mt. St. Michael.



With hand over heart, the Sisters sing the National Anthem on July 4th, during the Presentation of Colors by the VFW Color Guard



Getting away from it all... twice. After renewing their spirits on the annual retreat, the Sisters enjoy a week of rest and relaxation for mind and body on their outing.



Sr. Mary Agatha and Sr. Maria Kazimiera sing "The Holy City" with Sr. Mary Catherine, CMD, at the St. Mechtilde Music Festival in Denver, CO.



Three seminarians from Omaha visited Mt. St. Michael this summer to help with the windows project. A feastday provided an opportunity to join the Sisters for dinner.



"Here, piggy, piggy, piggy." The Novitiate's six newest additions were not to sure about this farmer garbed in blue.



Rev. Mother traveled to Boston to be with Sr. Maria Ines when she was sworn in as an American citizen.



The Sisters say goodbye after a catechism mission in Utica, New York. Whether there are five souls or fifty, no class is too small when it comes to teaching the Faith.



The children at Our Lady of Victory parish in London, Ontario, take a quick break from coloring their Ten Commandments booklets to pose for a picture with Sister.



"Maybe we'd better get inside." Sr. Mary Petra looks on in wonder as a massive storm cell moves in off of Lake Huron.



What a privilege to stand on the stairs that St. Joseph built!



After teaching catechism in Akron, Sr. Mary Cabrini teaches a smaller group in Wheelersburg, Ohio.



Between catechism missions in Ohio, Sr. Marie Vianney takes time for a cheery visit with a parishioner's mother.



"Speak, Lord, for Thy servant heareth." During the annual Ladies' Retreat held at Mt. St. Michael, the participants had the opportunity to pray with the Sisters.



"Not so scary after all." Now that all is set right between God and the soul, whitewater rafting is a good activity choice after a ladies' retreat!



On the hunt for red starfish. The Novitiate Sisters enjoy searching Pacific tidepools on their outing.



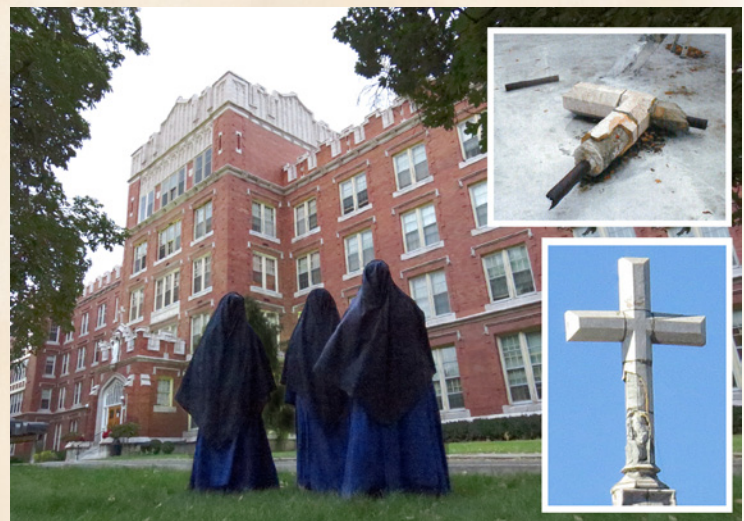
A part of the Novitiate outing includes visiting with and catechizing the extended Golbeck family in Sequim.



And this little piggy went to market... someday. Sr. Mary Josephine helps to unload the piglets.



Faculty and students of St. Michael's Academy held a special memorial on September 11, praying for all who lost their lives at the tragedies of 9/11.



Three Sisters look up sadly at the top of Mount St. Michael, now missing three of its four crosses. One had fallen due to severe deterioration and two others remaining, in like condition, were removed for safety reasons. The nuns are trying to raise funds to finance this and other badly needed restoration projects underway at the Mount.

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.



(cont'd from p. 2) dying in the hospital. These she passed on through her nurse: "Tell everybody that God gives graces through the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Tell them to ask graces from her and that the Heart of Jesus wishes to be venerated together with the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Ask them to plead for peace from the Immaculate Heart of Mary, for the Lord has confided the peace of the world to her."

Then in 1946, near the little German town of Pfaffenhofen, the pastor and a few parishioners went out to locate a site on which to build a chapel to thank Our Lady for preserving their town from destruction during the war. An angel appeared to one of the women, announcing the entrance of the thrice admirable Queen, Mother and Mediatrix of all graces. Similar in many ways to the Fatima messages, these communications were also filled with the spirit of the DeMontfort consecration to Mary.

"I am the powerful Mediatrix of Graces. As the world can find mercy only through the sacrifice of the Son with the Father, so can you only find favor with the Son through my intercession. Christ is so unknown because I am not known. Because the nations rejected His Son, the Father poured out His cup of wrath upon them. It is true that the world was consecrated to my Immaculate Heart, but this consecration has become a fearful responsibility for many men. I demand that the world live this consecration..."

"Have unreserved confidence in my Immaculate Heart! Believe that I am able to do everything with my Son. Substitute my Immaculate Heart in place of your sinful hearts. Then it will be I who will draw the power of God, and the love of the Father will renew the fullness of Christ in you. Fulfill my request so that Christ may reign as the King of Peace..."

"Pray and offer sacrifices through me. Pray always; pray the Rosary. Make all your entreaties to the Father through my Immaculate Heart. If they are conducive to His honor, He will grant them. In your prayers ask Him not for things of temporal worth, but implore graces for individual souls, for the community, for the nations, so that all may come to love

Calendar

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| Sept. | 8 | Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary |
| | 16 | Sr. Mary Andrea's feastday (day of the death of Bl. Andrew Kim Taegon, Korean martyr) |
| | 29 | Feast of St. Michael: Titular feast of Mount St. Michael, St. Michael's Convent, St. Michael's Novitiate, and St. Michael's Academy Sr. Michael Marie's feastday |
| Oct. | 3 | Sr. Therese Marie's and Sr. Mary Teresita's feastday |
| | 7 | Feast of the Most Holy Rosary |
| | 7-11 | Fatima Conference at Mount St. Michael: "The Triumph of Mary's Immaculate Heart" |
| | 13 | Anniversary of the Apparition of Our Lady at Fatima (Miracle of the Sun) |
| Nov. | 19 | Sr. Mary Isabella's feastday (St. Elizabeth of Hungary) Sr. Maria Providencia's feastday (Our Mother of Divine Providence) |
| Dec. | 8 | Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mary Immaculata's feastday |
| | 10 | Sr. Mary Loretta's feastday |
| | 12 | Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe |
| | 18-20 | Christmas Concerts at Historic Mount St. Michael |
| | 22 | Sr. Mary Cabrini's feastday |
| | 25 | Christmas Day Sr. Marie Emmanuel's feastday |
| | 27 | Sr. Mary Evangeline's feastday |

and honor the Divine Heart. Keep the Saturdays, which have been dedicated to me, as I have requested."

In the light of these revelations, let us each ask ourselves, first of all, what is my devotion to the Heart of Mary? Do I honor her sorrows and her sinlessness? Do I pray to her with confidence? Do I meditate on her mysteries and strive to imitate her virtues? Do I offer my day to God through her?

And what am I doing to promote devotion to Mary and her Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart? Does my example of Christian living radiate her spirit? Do I speak of her when I have the opportunity?

Let us close by reading these words addressed by Our Lady to Lucia at Fatima; let us hear them as if Our Blessed Mother were speaking to each of us personally:

"Jesus wants to use you to make Me known and loved. He wishes to establish the devotion to My Immaculate Heart throughout the world. I promise salvation to whoever embraces it; these souls will be dear to God, like flowers put by Me to adorn his throne."

"Are you suffering a great deal? Don't lose heart. I will never forsake you. My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way that will lead you to God."

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

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