



# Anima Mariae

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Sisters of Mary Immaculate Queen

Dear Friends,

Praised be Jesus and Mary!

People often wonder what the Sisters do during the summer. Some may think that once the school year ends, we sit back for a long extended vacation. They will be surprised to learn how packed our summer schedule really is! For a starter, there's our annual retreat and vows ceremonies, catechism missions to eight states and Canada, girls' camp, ladies' retreat, summer concerts, classes for the teachers, and vocational evenings. Summer is also the only time we can pitch in together to take on bigger projects around this huge 102-year-old building that just can't be done during the school year, such as cleaning out and re-organizing several storage rooms. Oh yes — and let's not forget the Sisters at our apostolic center, who continue their work of filling orders, mailings, printing, and running the book store throughout the summer.

Since the last *Anima Mariae*, then, we have been busy little Marthas as well as contemplative Marys. During the first week of June, the Sisters from our missions began arriving at the motherhouse, and by the 20th, everyone was home. We had classes for the teaching Sisters in mid-June, and then our annual retreat gave us the opportunity for some much

needed silence and reflection. On June 27th, the feast of Our Mother of Perpetual Help, the annual vows and jubilee ceremonies took place. Our two postulants received their religious habit and their names: Sr. Sophia Marie and Sr. Mary Cecilia. Sr. Philomena Marie took three-year vows, Sr. Mary Cabrini made her final profession, and Reverend Mother Mary Agnes celebrated her Golden Jubilee of Vows.

On July 2, we had our convent celebration of the Rev. Mother's Golden Jubilee. Throughout the day, we prayed all fifteen decades of the Rosary, and a different statue of Our Lady was crowned at the conclusion of each set of five decades. Of course, there was plenty of fun as well, with delicious meals, gifts, speeches, songs, laughter, and even a play on St. Louis Marie de Montfort.

Next came our concerts for 4th of July holiday: our dessert social and concert on the 4th itself, followed by viewing the city's fireworks from our hill-top perch. The next day we sponsored a luncheon and concert, mainly for the benefit of senior centers in Spokane, but other guests were welcome as well. Our dining hall was filled nearly to capacity that day.



Between all the mission travels, there are very few days that we are actually all home at the motherhouse. This picture was taken on one of those days, in the shadow of St. Joseph, our co-patron.



After praying the Sorrowful mysteries of the most Holy Rosary, Our Mother of Sorrows is crowned with red and violet flowers, to symbolize her martyrdom and great sorrow.



Rev. Mother shows the Sisters a gift she received for her Golden Jubilee of Vows.



"No singing at the dinner table" is a point of etiquette that the Singing Nuns just cannot follow! Here the Sisters sing *The Ring Song* for Rev. Mother's jubilee.



*The Sisters stop to recite the Angelus in St. Joseph's courtyard.*



*The Rosary prayed in procession is specially pleasing to Our Lady, so it, too, was part of the jubilee celebration.*



*The Glorious mysteries were recited in the main chapel at Mount St. Michael, as the Sisters, one by one, presented a candle to Our Lady.*



*The living Rosary, each Sister reciting a Hail Mary as she presents a gift to Our Lady, is a custom we observe on special occasions.*

Our annual outing this year took place in late July. Divided between two locations a few hours from the Mount, we spent several days relaxing and enjoying one another's company in the great outdoors.

Catechism missions this summer were spread out over almost the entire three months. Alaska, Arkansas and Alabama headed the list at the beginning of June. Next came Ohio and California at the beginning of July, with another pair of Sisters leaving for Maine several days later. The last two Sisters set out for Michigan and London,

Ontario, towards the beginning of August. Most of these catechism trips lasted from seven to ten days, and included a total of fourteen Sisters. Four of us also traveled to Denver to attend the St. Mechtilde Music festival.

Meanwhile, the Sisters back home at the Mount were certainly not idle. Camp St. Philomena broke all past attendance records with 81 campers participating. The camp days started with morning prayers, Holy Mass and a sermon, after which they were packed with catechism, games and activities, singing and skits, arts and crafts, and, of course, meals — not to mention the day trip to Farragut park for swimming, boating and ice cream! At the end of the week, both campers and Sisters were tired, but happy with the outcome of a fun-filled and grace-filled week.

About a week after the girls' camp was over, the annual ladies' retreat began, with another record-breaking attendance of 27 retreatants. On the evening of Friday, August 10, the ladies had the opportunity to meet and visit with one another, and other more social activities such as classes, projects and choir practice continued all through Saturday. Then started the three-day silent retreat, with quiet time for prayer interspersed with talks, choir practices and silent rosary-making. After the High Mass on the feast of the Assumption, the ladies and several of the Sisters went to High Tea at a local establishment known as Heavenly Special Teas. Then they went to Lake Pend Oreille in Idaho for some boating and enjoyment of the great outdoors, not to mention catching up on visiting after three days of silence!

A special joy for the Sisters as the beginning of the new school year drew ever closer was the entrance of two new aspirants to our community, one on the feast of the Assumption and the other on the feast of Mary's Immaculate Heart. Please continue to pray for vocations to further the work of Holy Mother the Church!

Well, we couldn't enumerate every visit, wedding, class and outing that was squeezed in to fill the cracks between these more outstanding events, and, of course, the orders filled, mailings sent out, pamphlets printed, articles written, and dishes washed. But you can see how things might actually seem to slow down a bit when school starts. All for Jesus! All through Mary! All in imitation of thee, O Patriarch Joseph!

In Jesus and Mary,  
The Sisters of Mary Immaculate Queen



*Rev. Mother crowns Our Lady of Lourdes in the Grotto at the conclusion of the Joyful mysteries of the Rosary.*



*Retreat conferences help to clear away some of the debris that collects on our path to sanctity, and helps us to focus our attention on life's true meaning.*



*Clothed in bridal gowns, Sarah Peck (Indiana) and Theresa Doll (Idaho), answer the call of Our Lord to renounce the world.*



*The cutting of the hair before receiving the habit symbolizes our renouncement of the world and all its vanities.*



*After renewing her vows for three years, Sr. Philomena Marie receives her Brown Scapular, which the Sisters wear on special feasts.*



*Triennial profession, three-year vows, follow the two novitiate years, and precede final vows.*



*Along with her habit, Sarah Peck receives the name Sr. Sophia Marie, and Theresa Doll will now be known as Sr. Mary Cecilia. May God grant them perseverance.*



*Sr. Sophia Marie clothed in the white veil. The "white-veiled" novitiate year is a cloistered one, with focus on studies of the religious life.*



*Having renewed her vows, Rev. Mother receives a crown of thorns trimmed with golden leaves, symbolic of the trials of the past fifty years and the reward to follow.*



*Fifty years ago, on the Feast of Christ the King, Rev. Mother Mary Agnes professed her first vows.*



*As part of the final profession ceremony, Sr. Mary Cabrini chants in response to the call of Christ.*



*In the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, Sr. Mary Cabrini makes profession of her vows "until death."*



*At the offertory of the Mass, Sister presents a bouquet to Our Lady.*



*Donning her new ring, Sr. Mary Cabrini firmly holds her beads, a reminder that it is Our Lady who will obtain the grace of fidelity.*



*Beaming faces reflect the joy and peace that come with the total gift of oneself to Almighty God. Here the Sisters pose with Bishop Mark Pivarunas, CMRI.*



At Farragut State Park, Sr. Philomena Marie launches out in a canoe with two Camp St. Philomena attendees.



The staff of Camp St. Philomena pose with the multitude of campers. In spite of the many pesky wasps, it was an enjoyable week for all.



What's for lunch, Sisters? The Sisters work diligently to serve up the plates for the annual summer luncheon concert at Mount St. Michael.



The Sisters attending the St. Mechtilde Music Festival in Denver had the opportunity to spend time with the Sisters of the Congregation of the Mother of God as well as parishioners of Our Lady of the Snow.



Tackling the overgrowth around the Mount in preparation for camp.



Several Sisters joined the lady retreatants for an afternoon tea at a local tea shop.



It's always a risky business to engage in a board game with a child. The Sisters have enough humility to take on the challenge.



*In early summer, the new calf, Zephyr, enjoys Sr. Theresa's company on a cool afternoon.*



*The Novitiate prepped the house for painting, and was responsible for the clean-up afterward.*



*On their outing to Montana, the younger Sisters visited several beautiful Jesuit churches.*



*It's all smiles when one has climbed to the top of St. Mary's Peak in Montana. Fr. Pierre De Smet once offered Mass on this mountaintop.*



*Sr. Mary Paula and the two new candidates work on training Thora, our Jersey/Red Angus heifer.*



*Sr. Giovanna Marie and Sr. Augustine Marie pose with catechism students outside of Our Lady of Victory Church, London, Ontario.*



*When in Ontario, it is worth the extra drive to visit Martyrs' Shrine in Midland.*



*Sr. Giovanna Marie lends a helping hand in sorting pickling cucumbers.*



At Our Mother of Perpetual Help Church in Sulphur Springs, Ohio, Sr. Mary Josephine and Sr. Maria Kazimiera pray with their students before catechism.



Providing catechism for the missions is a big part of our summer. The Sisters pose with Fr. Gabriel Lavary, CMRI, and their students.



Sr. Mary Teresita joined Sr. Mary Genevieve in teaching catechism to children at St. Theresa's Church in Maine.



Sr. Mary Genevieve and Sr. Mary Teresita join Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI, for a group photo with the students who attended the summer catechism classes in Maine.



Sr. Maria Kazimiera works with a group of teenagers at Sacred Heart parish in Akron, Ohio.



Sr. Mary Julianna waves from the choir loft window (inset). She inspects the progress that has been made in the renovations at the City of Mary.

## Just for Smiles

From the mother of one of the little ones who attended the Sisters' catechism classes in Maine this summer:

"My daughter enjoyed her lessons with Sister, especially those on the seven Sacraments. But, I must admit, the Sacrament of 'mini munchkins' took me by surprise. Turns out 'mini munchkins' was not the term of endearment Sister used for the children, but my child's term for Extreme Unction. It was very cute!"

## Marylikeness



During our recent celebration of Rev. Mother's Golden Jubilee, we presented her with a new arrangement of "Marylikeness." Written by one of our own Sisters to have a bit more appeal to girls today than the original tune, it

turned out quite lovely! The original song was associated with the Marylike Crusade, an apostolate founded by Fr. Bernard Kunkel in 1953 to promote purity and modesty. Rev. Mother's first assignment as a young Sister was in Bartelso, Illinois, assisting Fr. Kunkel in this work during the last few years of his life, and his dedication to this cause left a lasting impression on her.

What is Marylikeness? Very simply, it means imitating Our Blessed Mother in everything, so that, as the refrain of the song says, *Mary* shines forth in all we "think and say and do." In ages past, girls were taught to be ladies — to speak, to sit, to walk, to eat, all according to certain rules. Mary was truly a lady — "Our Lady," we call her. While particular points of etiquette change with the times, true femininity is always characterized by purity, modesty, gentleness and self-sacrificing love for others — yet how opposite are the qualities the world seeks to instill in girls and women today! What more effective way to combat the noxious influence of modern society than teaching girls and women to study and emulate the true beauty of Mary in these quiet, yet radiant virtues which wield such a powerful influence over all who see them, even in spite of themselves.



*Enjoying the beauty of God's creation at Palouse Falls.*



*A quick walk with this year's boarder girls before helping to prepare dinner for the convent.*

And so the Sisters plan to teach the song to all of our sodalities, both here at Mount St. Michael and our missions.

The song actually has seven verses, but here are the three verses we learned:

### Refrain:

In all I think and say and do,  
Let it be only You!

Marylike in soul and body,  
Marylike in mind and heart,  
Marylike in every action,  
Child of God, how fair thou art!  
Fair to Christ and all His angels,  
Fair to earth since thou art seen  
To be like her, like Mary,  
Earth's and Heaven's fairest Queen.

Marylike in thy affections!  
Loving all, excluding none;  
Loving, as you think Our Lady,  
Ever faithful, would have done.  
Marylike in every action,  
In enjoyment, work, or prayer;  
Watching Mary, copying Mary,  
Loving Mary everywhere.

Night and day, in joy and sorrow,  
Night and day, 'neath crushing care,  
Ask of Christ true Marylikeness;  
Through the year be this thy prayer,  
Christ will hear and Christ will answer  
If thy pleading but ring true:  
"Jesus, make me just like Mary;  
Mary, make me just like you!"



*Sacajewea State Park: The Sisters try out a dug-out canoe like the one used by Sacajewea in her journey with Lewis and Clark.*

## Calendar

- Sept. 16 Sr. Mary Andrea's feastday
- 17 Sr. Sophia Marie's feastday
- 29 Feast of St. Michael: Titular feast of St. Michael's Convent  
Sr. Michael Marie's feastday
- Oct. 3 Sr. Therese Marie's and Sr. Mary Teresita's feastday
- 7 Feast of the Most Holy Rosary
- 10-14 Fatima Conference at Mount St. Michael
- 13 Anniversary of the Apparition of Our Lady at Fatima
- Nov. 17 Sr. Maria Providencia's feastday
- 19 Sr. Mary Isabella's feastday
- 22 Sr. Mary Cecilia's feastday
- Dec. 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception  
Mary Immaculata's feastday
- 10 Sr. Mary Loretta's feastday
- 15-16 Christmas Concerts
- 22 Sr. Mary Cabrini's feastday
- 25 Christmas Day  
Sr. Marie Emmanuel's feastday
- 27 Sr. Mary Evangeline's feastday

## 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.

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

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

The Congregation of Mary Immaculate Queen  
St. Michael's Convent  
8504 N. St. Michael's Rd.  
Spokane, WA 99217-9333  
www.CMRI.org • Sisters@CMRI.org