



Anima Mariae

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Sisters of Mary Immaculate Queen

Dear Friends,

Praised be Jesus and Mary!

The Catholic Church has always been a missionary Church, but the words mission and missionary have called up different images throughout the centuries. We talk of the missionary journeys of the Apostles, particularly St. Paul sailing to the various lands around the Mediterranean, of St. Patrick laboring to convert the druidic Irish, of Ss. Cyril and Methodius journeying into eastern Europe, of St. Francis Xavier working among the heathens in India and Japan. Who can forget the Jesuits and numerous other priests and religious who were savagely slaughtered in the midst of their endeavors to spread the Faith?

When we say the word missions, we often think of the string of churches left by the Franciscans along the Pacific Coast or the

Jesuit “reductions” among the natives of South America. In fact it is rare to pass through any area of our country without finding evidence of the work of zealous missionaries who sought to bring the truth to those who were “sitting in darkness.”

Then there were the missions among Catholics, preached by St. Louis Marie de Montfort, St. Alphonsus Ligouri, and their followers. These zealous priests would spend a week or two in a particular parish or area, preaching several times a day, leading special devotions, hearing confessions for hours on end, thus reviving the fervor of the faithful. Not content with that, they often sought out the straying sheep, the lax Catholics who neglected their religious duties, to bring them back to the practice of their religion.

Certainly we cannot end a consideration of the missionary activities of the Church without considering the many orders and congregations of religious Sisters who have spent their lives instructing and caring for God’s little ones, as well as the poor and sick, after the example of our Savior Himself. Our own American saint, Frances Xavier Cabrini comes powerfully to mind, with her indefatigable travels for the founding of schools and hospitals in both the Americas.

In more recent times, religious Sisters sent in small groups to work in a particular parish have referred to their assignments as missions. This would be the case with most of the missions of the Sisters of CMRI.

The oldest CMRI foundations are now considered missions, consequent upon the migration of large numbers of our parishioners to Spokane after the purchase of Mount St. Michael. Mary Immaculate Queen parish in Rathdrum was the primary location of the CMRI schools for many years; it still boasts a small but thriving school



Sr. Mary Bernadette meets with parishioners who wish to help oversee church maintenance and repair.



Left: Sister accompanies a priest on a sick call. Right: Sr. Maria Ines assists as a First Communicant is enrolled in the Brown Scapular.



Sisters and students of Holy Guardian Angels School (Olathe, Colorado) attend the first school Mass of the year. Top: Sr. Maria Regina helps shovels gravel alongside parents and students in a work party to improve the school grounds.

operated by three of our Sisters alongside St. Joseph’s Minor Seminary.

Beginning in the 1990’s, Sisters traveled every weekend with a priest from Mount St. Michael who went to offer Mass at St. Mary’s parish in Tacoma. Eventually, a priest and Sisters moved in permanently. St. Mary’s Academy was already in full swing under the guidance of capable (*cont’d on back page*)



Play time is learning time, too! In Rathdrum, Idaho, Sr. Mary Josephine supervises the kindergarten class.

Vows Ceremonies on June 27, Feast of Our Mother of Perpetual Help, at Mount St. Michael



Silver jubilarian Sr. Marie Janae solemnly renews her vows. Every jubilarian is presented with a wooden cross, a token of the years of her fidelity.



After formally processing into the church with lighted candles, the Sisters conclude the chanting of the solemn Salve Regina from their places.



After making their first profession of simple vows, the four white-veiled novices receive the blue veils of the professed.



First Vows: Sr. Mary Lucy, Sr. Maria Goretti and Sr. Mariana wear crowns of red and white roses, symbolic of the life of purity and martyrdom they have chosen.



Triennial Vows: Sr. Maria Dolorosa and Sr. Margaret Mary received their brown scapulars.



Sr. Philomena Marie prepares to chant her responses to the divine Bridegroom.



After having made profession of perpetual vows, Sr. Philomena Marie receives a gold band, a symbol of her eternal union with Christ Crucified.



Group picture of Camp St. Philomena campers and staff at Mount St. Michael, Spokane.



Camp St. Philomena's activities included Mary's Tea Party (left), time at the lake (center), and a lot of music (right), choral and instrumental.



Sr. Mary Teresita and Sr. Mary Evangeline pose with the campers of Camp St. Theresa, held in New England. It was the first annual camp, filled with fun, games and catechism, of course.



Mother Mary Dominica and Sr. Madeleine Marie travelled to Alabama for a catechism mission. While there, they joined a Rosary March on June 13th [inset] to honor Our Lady of Fatima.



Every quarter, young ladies in the Inland Northwest are invited to spend an afternoon or evening with the Sisters.



In Tacoma, Sr. Mary Cabrini and Sr. Mary Angela paint the garden house. Mother Mary Dominica takes a break from school preparations.



Um, Sister, there is something creepy behind you. During their outing in Oregon, the Novitiate Sisters visited a fish hatchery. Sr. Maria Dolorosa poses with 11-foot-long, 70-year-old "Herman the Sturgeon."



The Novitiate Sisters also had an opportunity to visit the peaceful Sorrowful Mother Shrine in Portland, Oregon. After exploring the beautiful grounds, they made the Stations along the outdoor Way of the Cross.



Sr. Margaret Mary and Sr. Mary Cabrini helped children prepare for their First Communion at a camp in Lewiston, Idaho.



Sr. Philomena Marie arranges flowers for an upcoming feast. Sisters on mission often help with sacristy work and preparing the altar for Holy Mass.



In addition to instruction and stories, catechism camps, such as the one in Lewiston, Idaho, also involve some hands on learning through arts and crafts.



Sr. Mary Bernadette uses her vast music skills to direct, to sing, and to teach the choir in New England. On most missions, the Sisters lead the choir.



In Tacoma, Sr. Mary Veronica assists with adult catechism and convert instruction, a very important part of parish life.

lay teachers, and the coming of the Sisters added a new dimension to the school and parish.

Sisters of Mary Immaculate Queen also labor for souls in school and parishes in Olathe, Colorado, and Middleville, Michigan. A new school is opening this fall in Oakland, Maine. Though not involved with a school at this time, two of our Sisters also live in New Hampshire where they assist in parish work, and other apostolic activities at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish.

At a mission, teaching is not the only responsibility of the Sisters. One may be asked to play the organ or direct the choir, instruct adult catechumens, arrange flowers for the altar or do other sacristy work, or act as moderator for various parish organizations.

There are also missions of a more temporary type. Many of the CMRI priests and their associates travel on weekends to offer Mass in other locations. Often Sisters accompany them to help with setting up for the Mass, or to instruct the children and prepare them for the sacraments. Week-long summer catechism “camps” are often held in locations where there is no school.

No matter what external work a Sister does, her motive is the love of God, which she fosters through the daily prayer of her sacramental life. For His glory she strives to lead souls to His Love by every action of her day.

Calendar

- Sept. 12 Sr. Mariana's feastday
- 15 Sr. Maria Dolorosa's feastday
- 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
- 6-10 Fatima Conference at Mount St. Michael
- 13 Anniversary of the Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima
- 18 Sr. Margaret Mary's feastday
- Nov. 14 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
- 13 Sr. Mary Lucy's feastday
- 22 Sr. Mary Cabrini's feastday
- 25 Christmas Day
- Sr. Marie Emmanuel's feastday
- 27 Sr. Mary Evangeline's feastday

The Sisters' Apostolate of Prayer



Are you or someone you love in need of special prayers? Send us your special intentions and we will commend them in our daily prayers and Masses.



Daily Mass was an important part of St. Dominic Savio Summer Camp in California.

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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