



# Anima Mariae

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Sisters of Mary Immaculate Queen

Dear Friends,

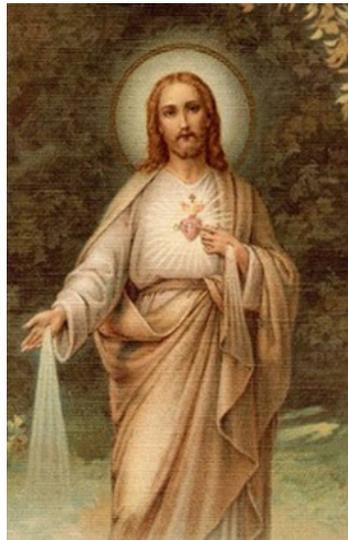
Praised be Jesus and Mary!

Having just concluded the beautiful month of May in loving praise of our dear Heavenly Mother, we now turn our attention to her Son. God's greatest gift to the human race was in its prototype, Jesus Christ, God-made-Man. We often view Christ as an afterthought on the part of God. We see a sequence like this: First God created man, then man fell, and lastly, God became man in order to redeem us. However, since God is eternal, all-present and all-knowing, He knew before He ever created us that we would fail the test and before anything ever went wrong, He had a plan by which to fix it. Forever in God's mind, the image of His Son was united with a perfect human nature, and in the image of that human nature each of us is created.

Within the Trinity, the Holy Spirit is the personification of the love of God. In the human soul of Jesus the Holy Ghost dwelt in the fullness of sanctifying grace, also known as the life of God or the love of God. The human Heart of Jesus then, burned with a love both human and divine, which flowed out upon every one of us poor human creatures, and was not content until that Heart was pierced and every drop of His Blood had been poured out for us in proof of that love.

This is the meaning of the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. St. Paul in his Epistle to the Ephesians says, "... walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath delivered Himself for us, an oblation and a sacrifice to God for an odor of sweetness." Jesus has taken our sins upon Himself; in His infinite love and mercy, He has paid the price of our redemption. And in His mercy He wishes each sinner to receive His love and forgiveness. Let us trustingly confess to Him our sorrow for the sins by which we have wounded His Heart, and allow His love and forgiveness to heal the wounds we have inflicted on our own souls. The Heart of Jesus, the God-Man, is then the perfect symbol of God's love for us. During this month of June, let us offer to Jesus our poor love in return for His. After all, that is what He is searching for. He created us out of His magnanimous goodness that we might share His love.

In the face of such infinite bounty of our God, we feel so small and unable to respond adequately. But once more He has forestalled our need. He has also shared with us the spotless Mother who gave



Him birth, who formed His body from her own pure substance. Let us ask her, "our tainted nature's solitary boast" to teach us how to love her Son.

## The Fatima Centennial

During this Centennial year of Fatima, we can show our love and gratitude to Our Lady in many ways for the wondrous graces she gave to the world in 1917. And while we certainly should be fervent in taking part in celebrations held in her honor, we must remember that what she wants most is that we *live* according to her requests, which are more urgent today than ever, and may be summed up as follows:

- above all, true contrition for our sins and amendment of life;
- to do penance, especially by offering up the sacrifice of daily duty;
- prayer, especially the daily Rosary;
- consecration to her Immaculate Heart;
- reparation for the sins by which God is offended;
- prayer and sacrifice to save souls from hell.

One way to spur ourselves to greater generosity is to review Our Lady's words, and those of the Angel of Portugal, and to consider them as spoken to ourselves. Sometimes I close my eyes and picture myself kneeling with the three children before Our Lady. I listen as she tells Lucia that she and Jacinta will go to Heaven. "And Francisco?" Lucia asks. "Yes," she answers, "*but he will have to say many rosaries.*" Then Lucia, glancing at me, asks Our Lady if I will go to Heaven too. Will she say that "Yes" — but that I also "will have to say many rosaries"? She very well might. Then let me imitate the example of little Francisco and pray "many rosaries"!

Now Our Lady is speaking again: "*Will you offer yourself to God, to endure all the sufferings that He may please to send you as an act of reparation for the sins by which He is offended, and to ask for the conversion of sinners?*" The three little ones at my side quickly say Yes. Our Lady's eyes rest on me as she waits for my answer, full of love and reassurance, yet almost pleading: "*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.*" How could I say No?

Yet, apparently, many who know the message of Fatima do not live it. In an interview in 1957, Sister Lucia said that "the Most Holy Virgin is very sad because no one has paid any attention to her message, neither (*cont'd on back page*)





Rev. Mother Mary Agnes and Sr. Mary Bridget travelled to Mexico to visit the shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The Sisters in Mexico were wonderful hostesses.



The Sisters participate in the beautiful ceremonies of the Easter Vigil, joining the Church in celebrating the triumph of Christ the Light of the World.



It is such a joy and privilege for Sisters to prepare the children for the coming of Jesus into their hearts for the first time in Holy Communion.



On Mother's Day, the Sisters pay special homage to our Heavenly Mother. This year, we had a living Rosary, with a presentation of roses to Our Lady.



The Sisters' May devotions include the crowning of Our Lady every evening before dinner. The ceremony wouldn't be complete without a Marian hymn.



To honor the Fatima Centenary the Sisters hosted a breakfast for St. Michael's parish along with a slideshow of their Fatima Pilgrimage.



Sr. Mary Andrea, a Korean native, poses with Rev. Mother and Officer Bawden after being sworn in as an American citizen.



Every Memorial Day, the Sisters from Mt. St. Michael's travel to the City of Mary in Rathdrum to join in their Queenship ceremonies and procession. Inset: The procession stops at the Marian shrine to present flowers to our Queen.



Work continues on the new St. Joseph shrine at Mount St. Michael. Sr. Maria Kazimiera stops to ask some questions as the men prepare to move St. Joseph to his new pedestal.



On our patronal feast, Mary Immaculate Queen, the Sisters were presented with a newly bound copy of their Holy Rule.



"Heave ho!" Students at St. Michael's Academy participate in a field day on May 8. Athletic skills, coordination and muscle were all put to the test.



On a visit to the New England Mission, Rev. Mother joined Sr. Mary Bernadette and Sr. Maria Ines on a pilgrimage to the La Salette Shrine in Enfield, NH.



The students at St. Mary's Academy in Tacoma, WA, make a visit to the outdoor shrine on May 8 to honor Our Lady with prayers and flowers.

## 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.



the good nor the bad...” It isn’t enough to live our Faith and be virtuous; we must look into our hearts to see if there is anything in her message that we have not taken seriously enough: amendment of life, prayer, sacrifice, reparation, consecration to her Immaculate Heart...

The daily Rosary Our Lady repeatedly asked for at Fatima is to be the source of the graces we need to fulfill her other requests. In her July apparition, she said to pray the daily Rosary because *only Our Lady of the Rosary will be able to help you*. These are striking words, all the more so in light of Lucia’s explanation in 1957 that God has given two last remedies to the world — the Rosary and devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary — meaning that there will be no others.

The Sisters invite you to join us in giving Our Lady the 100th anniversary gift that will please her most: a whole-hearted resolution, with the help of her grace, to do all we can to fulfill her requests in our own lives.

## Yes, Nuns Do Have Fun!

Recently I heard a line in a school play in which Camelot’s Queen Guinevere was said to have “entered a convent where she lived for the rest of her life and never smiled again.” Immediately I thought, “Oh dear! That’s no way to think about convent life!” How wrong they are who think religious life is miserable! Even one who enters the convent to do penance for her past life will find peace and joy — and yes, even merriment — if she lives her vocation with generous love. After all, the religious life is all about love, and a Sister who believes in God’s boundless love for her has much to smile about. In fact, a postulant or novice who never smiles would probably be told that she doesn’t have a vocation. The truth is that nuns have the ability to laugh and take delight in the simplest things in life.

Not only that, but the convent schedule includes periods of recreation, during which the Sisters occupy themselves with games, crafts, walks, singing or playing instruments, etc. There is wisdom in that old saying that the bow that is always bent will break. On feastdays, the Sisters sometimes put on skits, which could be inspirational, humorous — or both. During the warmer months, we make time for picnics and outings, and outdoor recreation might include volleyball or other lawn games, or even pickleball.



*Ascension Thursday found the Sisters at the lake, some of them on the lake, and unfortunately, some of them in the lake (all are well)!*

## Calendar

June	1	Sr. Mary Angela’s feastday
	13	Sr. Mary Antoinette’s feastday
	23	Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Sr. Corinne Marie’s feastday
	21-25	Sisters’ Annual Retreat
	27	Feast of Our Mother of Perpetual Help; Sisters’ vows ceremonies
	29	Sr. Mary Petra’s feastday
	30	Sr. Mary Paula’s feastday
July	12	Sr. Mary Veronica’s feastday
	13-17	Classes for the teaching Sisters
August	6-11	Camp St. Philomena (see CampStPhilomena.com)
	9	Sr. Marie Vianney’s feastday
	11	Sr. Philomena Marie’s feastday
	13-20	Ladies’ Retreat & Get-away at Mount St. Michael
	15	Feast of the Assumption BVM
	18	Sr. Helen Marie’s feastday
	22	Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
	28	Sr. Augustine Marie’s feastday

## Summer Catechism

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

California	Oregon	western Washington
Texas	New England or New York	

## Just for Smiles

A few weeks ago two of our Sisters were traveling down a freeway when the driver noticed flashing lights in the rearview mirror. “Oh no! Is he after me?” she asked her companion Sister, who had been reading to her from a spiritual book. “I can’t imagine what I could have done!” she said as she moved to the side of the road.

The Sisters waited nervously as the officer approached, only to breathe a sigh of relief when he reached the window: “I’m sorry! You’re all right; just pull back into traffic,” he said. Then their relief turned to amusement. Pointing to the Sister on the passenger side, he explained: “I thought she was a dummy — sometimes people put dummies in the front seat so they can use the carpool lane.”

## Sisters’ Summer Support



The Sisters have no income from tuition during the summer while our schools are closed.

As this is our main means of support, in your charity, please consider sending a donation to help us with our needs over the next few months.

*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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