



# Anima Mariae

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Sisters of Mary Immaculate Queen

Dear Friends,

Praised be Jesus and Mary!

Once again November has eased quietly into December, and the new liturgical year has begun with little external fanfare. While the world has plunged into a mad rush of shopping, a reverent hush has settled upon those who remember what Christmas is truly about. It began when the Gospels of these recent Sundays presented to us with the earth- and soul-shaking scenes of the end of the world and the Second Coming. Our Lord Himself tells us that no one knows the day nor the hour, and that we must always hold ourselves in readiness — which, of course, has not stopped people from endless speculation about the last days. What can *I* do to be ready for the Christ's second coming? But perhaps more importantly, do I make sure He is *always* welcome at every moment of my life, in every aspect of my life? After all, Christ ought to be a constant living Presence in my life, in my soul. And during Advent, our Mother Mary is more than ever a model in this regard.

The 18th of December is a devotional feast referred to as Our Lady's Expectation. Think of how Our Lady's internal gaze was constantly fixed on the tiny Babe growing within her womb. If Mary and Joseph were not already on the road to Bethlehem at that

time, they must certainly have been preparing to leave. Those simple external preparations for the journey and the birth of the Christ Child were nothing compared to the interior preparation of prayer and surrender to God's Will that Mary and St. Joseph had been making ever since the Incarnation of the Son of God was revealed to them. And now they had to leave their home for Bethlehem, and then from there to flee into Egypt, where they lived in exile for some years. But because *He* was with them, nothing else mattered. As for us, we may live comfortably enough in our homes, but we must remember that this life is but a journey to our heavenly homeland, and that if *He* is always with us, we will make a fitting preparation for the life that really matters — eternity. If Christ is welcome in every aspect of our lives, our homes, our activities, He in turn will one day welcome us into His heavenly kingdom.

Remember, too, that at times, we, like Mary, have Jesus physically within us when we receive

Him in Holy Communion. And each time, He comes to us through Our Lady. This is not only because it was from her that Christ received the human nature in which He visits us, but also because He has given her all the graces He gained during His life and through His Passion to distribute according to the Will of God, for the good of His Mys-



*Sr. Marie Emmanuel prepares an Advent wreath for display in the gift shop.*

tical Body. This includes the graces we receive from the sacraments, and especially from Holy Communion.

St. Louis de Montfort says that as Our Lady was the path which Jesus took to come to us in His Incarnation, that she will also be the way by which He comes in what is commonly referred to as His second coming: His victorious advent as our Judge at the end of the world: "It was through Mary that the salvation of the world was begun, and it is through Mary that it must be consummated." He goes on to call Our Lady the dawn which precedes



the Sun of Justice. Mary must be known and loved in these latter days, in order that people may come to a proper knowledge of Jesus. So as we prepare for the coming of Christ, in whatever way or time He chooses to come for us, let us join with Our Lady's expectation, asking her to help us make our hearts ready for Him.





*In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Miracle of the Sun at Fatima, the Sisters helped to organize and participate in the candlelight Rosary procession at Mount St. Michael during the annual Fatima Conference.*



*Ave, Ave, Ave Maria! For the first time in many years, the candlelight procession on October 13 was blessed with perfect weather, no wind nor rain. Our candles stayed lit, making for less distraction during our prayer.*



*O blessed St. Joseph, how great was thy worth! On the day before Thanksgiving, we showed our gratitude to good St. Joseph by our presence at the dedication of his new shrine at the Mount.*



*To honor Christ the King on His special feast, the Sisters carried the Infant of Prague statue in procession around the courtyard.*



*Advancement ceremonies of the Marian sodalities on the feast of Our Lady's Miraculous Medal at Mount St. Michael. The Sisters at the Mount oversee three levels of sodalities with a combined membership of over 50 girls from grades 2-12.*



*Sr. Theresa looks on as Sr. Philomena Marie finishes salting the freshly made tomme, preparing it for a 90-day aging. Several Sisters were treated to a raw milk cheese-making class by River Valley Cheese.*



The Novitiate Sisters took one last summer outing to Riverside State Park for a Labor Day picnic and hike.



Bears, caribou, musk ox, what won't you see in North Idaho? Sr. Mary Julianna took her students from Mary Immaculate Queen Academy on a field trip to Cabella's.



At our newest mission Sr. Mary Josephine works with her students at Immaculate Heart of Mary Homeschool Co-op in Rosamond, California.



Sr. Maria Regina brought along newly-adopted Stella on a field trip with her students from St. Mary's Academy in Tacoma.



What's that on your sleeve, Sr. Bernadine Marie? The Sisters at Holy Guardian Angels Academy brought several students to the Fatima Conference. They took some time to learn new skills in St. Joseph's Wood Shop from Mr. Tim Murry.



At Holy Guardian Angels Academy in Olathe, Colorado, Sr. Mary Imelda works with her students to prepare for the All Saints' Day celebration.

## 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.



## Exhortation During the Kissing of the Feet of the Holy Infant

Each year during the Twelve Days of Christmas, the Sisters honor Our Lord in the ceremony of the kissing of the feet of the Infant Jesus mentioned in *The Incarnation, Birth and Infancy of Jesus Christ* by St. Alphonsus Maria Liguori. His discourse for Christmas Day provides the following invocations to be read during the ceremony:



“Now then, O all ye devout souls, does Jesus invite you to come and kiss His feet this night. The shepherds who came to visit Him in the stable of Bethlehem brought their gifts; you must also bring your gifts. What will you bring Him? The most acceptable present you can bring Him is that of a contrite and loving heart. Let each one then say to Him before He comes:

“Lord, I should not have dared to approach Thee, seeing

myself so deformed by my sins; but since Thou, my Jesus, dost invite me so courteously, and dost call me so lovingly, I will not refuse. After having so many times turned my back upon Thee, I will not add this fresh insult, namely, that of refusing this affectionate, this loving invitation, out of distrust.

“Thou must know that I am poor, and that I have nothing to give Thee — nothing but this heart, which I now offer to Thee. It is true that it has offended Thee at one time, but now I bring it to Thee penitent. Yes, O Infant! I repent of having offended Thee. I confess that I have been a traitor, cruel and ungrateful; that it is I who have caused Thee to suffer so much, and who have made Thee shed so many tears in the stable of Bethlehem; but Thy tears are my hope. I am a sinner, it is true, and I do not deserve to be pardoned; but I come before Thee, who, being God, hast become a little child to obtain pardon for me.

“Eternal Father, if I merit hell, look at the tears of Thy innocent Son; they invoke Thy pardon in my behalf. Thou dost deny nothing to the prayers of Thy Son. Listen to Him, then, now that He asks Thee to pardon me on this night, the night of joy, the night of salvation, the night of pardon.

“Ah, my Infant Jesus, I hope for pardon from Thee; but the forgiveness of my sins alone is not sufficient for me. On this night

*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

Dec.	8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mary Immaculata's feastday
	10	Sr. Mary Loretta's feastday
	12	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
	16-17	Christmas Concerts at Mount St. Michael
	22	Sr. Mary Cabrini's feastday
	25	Christmas Day Sr. Marie Emmanuel's feastday
	27	Sr. Mary Evangeline's feastday
Jan.	1	Feast of the Circumcision
	3	Sr. Mary Genevieve's feastday
	15	Feast of Our Lady of Prompt Succor
	21	Rev. Mother Mary Agnes' feastday Sr. Maria Ines' feastday
	31	Sr. Giovanna Marie's feastday
Feb.	1	Sr. Mary Bridget's feastday
	5	Sr. Mary Agatha's feastday
	11	Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes
	18	Sr. Mary Bernadette's feastday
	20	Sr. Mary Jacinta's feastday
March	4	Sr. Maria Kazimiera's feastday
	16-18	Vocations Weekend at St. Michael's Convent
	9	Mother Mary Dominica's feastday
	19	Feast of St. Joseph; Sr. Mary Josephine's feastday

## Vocations Weekend

**March 16-18, 2018**  
**St. Michael's Convent**

*Is God calling you?*

*How can you know for sure?*

*Do you sometimes wonder if you might have a vocation?*

You'll never know if you don't really look into what it's all about. Come and see how the Sisters live, pray, work and play. Find out what motivates them, and learn about the special mission of the Congregation of Mary Immaculate Queen.

*Young women who are at least juniors in high school and single women 35 or under are welcome. There is no admission fee.*

\* Register by calling the Sisters at (509) 467-0986x103 or online at:  
<http://www.cmri.org/sisters-news.shtml>



Thou dost grant great spiritual graces; I also desire that Thou shouldst bestow a great grace on me — the grace to love Thee. Now that I am about to approach Thy feet, inflame me wholly with Thy holy love, and bind me to Thee; but bind me so effectually that I may nevermore be separated from Thee. I love Thee, O my God, who didst become a little child for my sake; but I love Thee very little; I desire to love Thee very much, and Thou hast to enable me to do it. I come, then, to kiss Thy feet, and I offer Thee my heart; I leave it in Thy hands; I will have it no longer; do Thou change it, and keep it forever; do not give it back to me again; for if Thou dost, I fear lest it should betray Thee afresh.”