



Anima Mariae

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Sisters of Mary Immaculate Queen

Dear Friends,

Praised be Jesus and Mary!

As we bewail and lament, and possibly protest and pray against all the evil surrounding us in today's world, it might help us to put things in perspective if we take a look at the history of the Catholic Church. From the time of its founding there has never been a century — hardly a decade — when the Church was not beset with enemies both within and without. Years of peace and growth alternated swiftly with times of persecution and trouble, heresy and schism. This was certainly just as true in the Old Testament as in the new. Listen to King Solomon about a millennium before the founding of Christianity:

"All things have their season, and in their times all things pass under heaven. A time to be born and a time to die. A time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted. A time to kill, and a time to heal. A time to destroy, and a time to build. A time to weep, and a time to laugh. A time to mourn, and a time to dance. A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather. A time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces. A time to get, and a time to lose. A time to keep, and a time to cast away. A time to rend, and a time to sew. A time to

keep silence, and a time to speak. A time of love, and a time of hatred. A time of war, and a time of peace..." (Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8).

It is important for us to be grateful for, to focus on and hold firmly to the things that are stable and constant in the midst of the vicissitudes of life — the objects of our Faith and Hope, and Love:

- God, Eternal and Immutable Truth, always in His heaven, and in our hearts if we wish it;
- Jesus Christ His Son, our Lord, Who redeemed us with His Death on the Cross, and Who remains with us in the Blessed Sacrament;
- The unchanging teaching of the Church which He has promised to guide by His Holy Spirit;
- The Holy Mass and the Sacraments by which He forgives our sins and dispenses His grace. "Behold I am with you all days, even to the consummation of the World."

Another most consoling and precious gift Jesus gave us from the cross: His own Immaculate Mother to be our mother. This is a gift not to be underestimated. Jesus is the Son

of God and the Son of Mary. Through her, He began and continued the work of our redemption and through her He brings to fruition the work of our sanctification. St. Bernard urges us to look to this luminous Star in all our doubts and difficulties, and to call upon her with the confidence of a child in its tender



Sr. Bernardine Marie's 4th grade class raises the flag every morning at Mount St. Michael, but raising it for the Veterans' Day observance was an even greater privilege.

mother. She has assured us that her Immaculate Heart will be our refuge and the path that leads us to God; that she keeps us in the folds of her mantle, in the crossing of her arms; that she places her own sign upon her children to protect them from the snares of Satan.

This is the valiant Woman who stood by the Cross as her Son dies upon it. She does not promise us happiness in this world but in the next, as she told St. Bernadette. She will, however inspire us with her own courage to bear our crosses following her Son. In his Ballad of the White Horse, G.K. Chesterton puts these words on the lips of Mary,

"But you and all the kind of Christ
Are ignorant and brave,
And you have wars you hardly win
And souls you hardly save.

"I tell you naught for your comfort,
Yea, naught for your desire,
Save that the sky grows darker yet
And the sea rises higher.

"Night shall be thrice night over you,
And heaven an iron cope.
Do you have joy without a cause,
Yea, faith without a hope?"



In accordance with a decree of Pope Leo XIII, the Sisters and parishioners recited the Rosary in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed daily throughout the month of October.



The novitiate Sisters admire the fountain in Duncan Garden during an afternoon outing to Manito Park in early October.



How many pumpkin pies can you make out of a 75-pound pumpkin? Sister Mary Antoinette chops up a monster of a pumpkin from the novitiate garden.



Sisters and volunteers gather at the novitiate for instructions before searching the area for our two steers that went missing. The hunt was unsuccessful, but the fugitives (Buddy and Clyde — see inset) were finally located a week later several miles away.



On the 100th anniversary of the blessing of Lourdes Grotto at Mount St. Michael, the Sisters at MIQ Parish made a "pilgrimage" to the original statue to pray the Rosary. After the statue was vandalized in 2009, and the missing pieces found, a parishioner at MIQ Parish restored it, and now lovingly keeps it to await a new grotto of its own.



Is Sr Mary Imelda carving a small pumpkin? No, it's a huge tomato!



Our four New England Sisters got together for an autumn walk at a nearby lake.



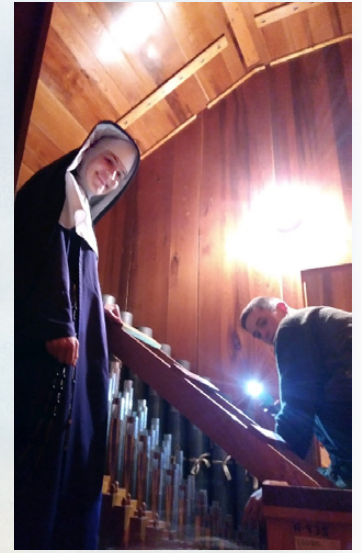
During her annual visit to our mission in New Hampshire, Reverend Mother Mary Agnes gave a morning of conferences on Our Lady of Fatima to the children.



Sr. Mary Evangeline, Sr. Maria Dolorosa pose with Rev. Mother at the monument where Fr. Sebastian Rasle, missionary to the Abenaki Indians, was killed on August 23, 1724.



Sr. Maria Dolorosa looks on while children of St. Theresa's Church (Oakland, Maine) play St. Cecilia's Musical Chairs on All Saints' Day.



Sr. Mary Evangeline can't wait to play the pipe organ being installed at St. Theresa's Church.



Sr. Philomena Marie gives the students of Holy Guardian Angels School (Olathe, Colorado) a talk on the saint of the day.



A little rain doesn't stop Sr. Mary Petra (Tacoma, Washington) from taking her students on a nature walk. Inset: Sister demonstrates just how tall berry plants can grow in a moist environment.



Meet Angelina, the newest addition to Holy Guardian Angels Convent in Olathe, Colorado! Here she and Sr. Philomena Marie explore a trail along the river in Delta.



Sr. Mary Teresita gives a math lesson to the third graders of St. Philomena's Academy in Middleville, Michigan.



Girls of Most Holy Rosary Church (Middleville, Michigan) were excited to take part in the first Children of Mary Sodality advancement ceremony in their parish.

Our Apostolate of Prayer

Are you or someone you love in need of special prayers?

Send us your intentions so that we can commend them in our daily prayers, Masses and good works.



Upcoming novenas: Our Lady of Prompt Succor (January 15)
Our Lady of Lourdes (February 11)

The Reward of Virginity on Earth

The virgin gives to God a human heart which is made for affection, and it is an undivided heart that is given... The nun who, for the love of the Savior, vows to live a virginal life has, for the sake of Jesus, given up and sacrificed the joys and delights of earthly love, the sweet contentments of home life that appeal so much to the human heart, the strong and tender affection that God sanctifies in the sacrament of Matrimony. All this she gives up for the love of the Lord Jesus, and in return she receives: (a) a special faculty for acquiring and advancing in the knowledge and love of the Lord Jesus, and (b) the special love of her Spouse, Jesus.

1) ...In the first place, those who live in virginity and celibacy receive such graces as give them a special facility for advancing in the love of the Lord Jesus. It is again the question of the undivided heart. As St. Paul expressly teaches, the undivided heart is the great characteristic of the virginal life. And the gift to Our Lord of an undivided heart is naturally rewarded by the grace of Charity, the grace of Love, the most precious of all graces — for God will not be outdone in generosity.

Our Lord tells us that He came to cast fire upon the earth — the fire of Charity — and that it is His desire that it be enkindled. And in what heart will He more willingly enkindle it than in the heart which for His sake has kept its affections undivided? It is, of course, possible for married women and men to reach the greatest heights of divine love, but it is not so easy.

2) In the second place, virgin souls are the object of the special love of the Heart of Jesus. All souls in the state of grace are dear to Our Lord, and the more they advance in His sanctifying grace, the dearer they are to Him, and there is no limit to the degree of grace to which they may ascend. Nevertheless, those who keep for Him an undivided heart are the object of special affection.

...It would seem that virginity by the singleness of its love gives to the human soul an entrancing beauty even in the eyes of the Lord. This beauty is referred to in those words of the Canticle of Canticles: "My beloved is come down to His garden to gather the lilies?... The Lord Jesus is pleased with all the virtues, but the lilies of virginity and chastity are especially dear to Him..."

—Adapted from *Follow Me*, by Bernard Fennelly, C.SSp.

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
	13	Sr. Mary Lucy's feastday
	23	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
	9	Mother Mary Dominica's feastday
	19	Feast of St. Joseph; Sr. Mary Josephine's feastday
	19-21	Vocations Weekend at St. Michael's Convent



Vocations Weekend

March 19-21, 2020 at 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 www.CMRI.org

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