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Society of Missionary Catechists of Our Blessed Lady of Victory

Volume I

Victory-Noll, Huntington, Indiana, December, 1924

Number 1

Victory Noll Archives

The Missionary Catechist

(Lines dedicated to the Missionary Catechists by Rev. Dr. William Shearin, LL.D.)

Forward she goes to sow the Gospel seed
And strengthen Faith by many a shining Deed
When April gilds the faces of the rocks
And stony meadows light with blaze of phlox
And pearly dew, so bright and clear and pure,
Inlaid by Heaven on moss and mead and moor,
For Summer loves to linger and to trace
The flush of loveliness upon her face.

Forward she goes to sow the Gospel truth;
Upon her lips and cheek the flush of youth,
The Mesa spreads new beauty at her feet,
The mountains bow in homage and repeat
An echo of that song divinely old—
“The love of Christ for men can ne’er grow cold.”
Winter or Spring, she marches bravely on
When snows are here or when the Summer gone
Trails past the Autumn fields the hues of dawn.

Forward she goes, all seasons of the year,
And speaks to children Christ hath held so dear:—
“Suffer the little child to come to me
And learn the wisdom of the Life to be,
Learn of the Kingdom far beyond the sky,
Learn of the joy that was not born to die,
And all the glory God hath kept in store
For those that love His Son forevermore.”

Society of Missionary Catechists

A New Apostolate

The Society of Missionary Catechists of Our Blessed Lady of Victory, holds a unique place among the Missionary Societies of our Country. It does not profess to be a strict Religious Order, nor is it, by any means, an aggregation of individuals engaged in a Missionary endeavor where each one may have an independent mode of life.

On the contrary, it is composed of a body of devout, zealous, self-sacrificing young women, having,—under Ecclesiastical Authority,—a real Community Life. The lofty ideal, which forms at once the inspiration and the very soul of their life, is the Ideal of that first great body of Religious Teachers in the early Church,—the Catechists. These primitive Catechists, trained in the great Catechetical Institute founded by the Fathers of the Church, four hundred years before the existence of the first Religious Orders, confined themselves exclusively to the religious instruction of "Catechumens," or beginners in the Faith.

It is the special vocation of the Missionary Catechist to give Religious Instruction to the poorest and most needy little ones of the flock in the outlying, churchless Missions of our Country. In these Mission-districts, actually too poor to support Priests, Sisters or a Parochial School, and seldom or but irregularly visited by the Missionaries, our Catechists confine their labor to those souls outside the sphere of the ordinary means of Religious Instruction. They teach no secular branches: they conduct no schools: they engage in no institutional work.

They are given a two year's course of the highest Spiritual and Catechetical Training. They receive also a highly specialized training in Nursing, Hygiene, Social-Service and Tabernacle work. Upon completion of their training course, they make simple vows for one year. Then garbed in a neat blue uniform and veil they are sent, in bands of two or more, to the district assigned them by the Bishop. This is their Mission-center. From this Mission-center they go out each day in a little car, gather together the children and conduct Catechism classes, generally in the district school.

As Trained Nurses, they effectually combat the activities of non-Catholic



missions by visiting and caring for the sick poor in their humble homes. As Social Welfare Workers they dispense food, medicine and clothing to the poor; teach the children cooking, sewing and singing, and instruct mothers how to care for their new born sickly babes. Finally, in the Mission Chapels under their care, they look after the Tabernacle, train Altar-boys and conduct lay services during the absence of the Missionary. An important adjunct to the work of the Catechists is the training of competent lay-teachers to conduct Sunday-school classes after they leave the Missions, thus giving a permanent Religious Character to their work.

The Society of Missionary Catechists is the only Missionary Society in this Country engaged in this work. At the present time there are twelve Mission-centers under the care of the Missionary Catechists in New Mexico, and hundreds of needy Missions extending from Brownsville, Texas, to Los Angeles California eagerly looking forward to their coming. During

the past year the Missionary Catechists conducted more than two thousand Catechism classes, prepared large numbers of children for their First Holy Communion, gave hundreds of medical treatments and made daily visits to the homes of the poor.

On the far-flung Mission Line of the Church among our Spanish-speaking people of the great Southwest, a decisive battle is now being fought for the mastery of the Souls of the descendants of the old Spanish pioneers. On that battle line will be decided the fate of a vast body of Catholic people. Owing to the lack of Priests and of organized Missionary endeavors on our part, Protestant missionaries backed by millions of dollars have succeeded in robbing thousands of our children of the Priceless Heritage of Faith.

The Missionary Catechists receive neither salary, nor remuneration of any kind from the people among whom they labor. They have left all—relatives, friends and the comforts of home—to endure the hardships of Missionary life in response to the command of Him Who has said, "Suffer the little children to come unto Me, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."

Correspondence invited. Information about vocations to Missionary work will be gladly furnished. Address Spiritual Director, Society of Missionary Catechists, P. O. Box 109, Huntington, Ind.



The Activities of the Catechists—1. Catechetics. Teaching Catechism in "Nature's own Forum."

Why "The Missionary Catechist"?

The Justification of *Another* Magazine

"What! Another Missionary magazine in this already overcrowded field?"

Well, dear Reader, we can hardly blame you for putting to us this very pointed question. It is, undoubtedly, true that there are a great many mission-publications now in the field. But we believe that after we have given you our reasons for undertaking the publication of THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST, you will readily agree with us that there is still room for one more.

Our aim is, first of all, to publish a magazine with a distinctive mission and a message. This message is a clarion call to Save the Faith of our Spanish-speaking America First. It is a call directed to our Catholics in the East and central West. It is a ringing appeal to their Faith and to their Charity to save to God and Church the more than two million Spanish-speaking people within our borders, "Who are", today, "lying like sheep that have no shepherd."

Instead of trying to supplant other mission publications now in the field, our little magazine will occupy a place which has heretofore been unoccupied in this particular field of mission literature. This journal,—published for the greater honor of the Most Blessed Mother of God,—will broadcast the work now being done by The Society of Missionary Catechists of Our Blessed Lady of Victory in the great mission fields of our Catholic Southwest. It will likewise serve as a greatly needed medium of publicity for the various activities,—religious instruction, nursing, social welfare and other works,—now being carried on by our Missionary Catechists among this most neglected and destitute portion of our population.

Thus this little monthly messenger will serve as a bond of connection between the consecrated laborers in "The Field at Home" and their loyal friends and generous benefactors. Finally, THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST will fill a long-felt want in "RE-DISCOVERING" to our Catholic people in the East, New Mexico, Arizona, Texas and the other States of our glorious Southwest country.

Because of its wonderful Catholic history, this vast territory to the South and West should hold a fascinating interest for Catholics through-

out the Country. It is a history of which we may justly be proud. But, alas, it is a history which to the great mass of American people has been, until now, a closed and almost unknown book. Now to an ever-widening circle of readers, THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST will make known the intensely interesting story of the daring Spanish Conquistadores with all the charm of a romance in the age of chivalry.

In every one of the pages of this magazine,—both in story and in picture,—you will have an opportunity of accompanying the Missionary Catechist today as she follows the trail of the saintly Spanish Padres of yesterday. Every picture will tell a story. So strong will be the personal contact between yourself and the Catechist that in reading her published letters, you'll find that you are in reality spending a day in the Mission fields of the most picturesque portion of our country. You'll certainly enjoy reading these personal messages. And we know that you are going to look forward with joyful anticipation to these "mission letters" from month to month.

As it is the aim of the publishers to make this a journal of real merit, and not a mere medium of cheap advertising or of hard begging, we shall publish only such articles as will prove instructive, interesting and

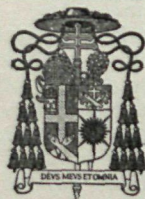
helpful to our readers. In every one of its issues there will appear articles on the history and geography of our scenic Southwest; the customs and habits of the Spanish-speaking people living there; their deep faith and their intense love for and devotion to the Blessed Mother of God. Personal narratives of the Catechists in their missionary labor among the poor will appear regularly as well as the story of their sacrifices and of their success in saving to the Faith of their fathers the poor little ones of the flock under their care. All this will undoubtedly be of compelling interest to yourself as well as to all those generous souls, who rejoice in seeing God's Blessed Kingdom established and preserved in the hearts of men.

Some of the departments of our magazine will, no doubt, prove attractive to certain classes of readers. Prominent among these will be simple and popular expositions of the spiritual life; of the "True Devotion", as practised by the Missionary Catechists; and other articles of timely interest.

"A rather ambitious program", you will say. "Yes, ambitious, but not presumptuous." We have been exceedingly fortunate in securing the service of some of our best known Catholic writers,—such authors as Mr. Benjamin Read,—the "Historian of New Mexico,—Rev. Wm. Howlett,—author of several historical works,—and others whose biographical sketches appear in this issue. These writers have already contributed some very interesting and inspiring historical sketches of the Southwest.

With the timely aid of such writers we hope to "put across" our message. We are going to broadcast the work of our Missionary Catechists. And this, with God's help, we shall do through the medium of our little monthly messenger,—a little magazine costing the reader the modest sum of fifty cents a year, compressed within the narrow limits of eight bright, "newsy", pages. Hence is it obvious that subscriptions must be sent to us direct, as at this price we cannot afford to employ agents.

Has not the child of Spanish descent living in New Mexico or Texas, as much right to the blessings of our holy Faith as the heathen over in China?



APPROVAL
OF
ARCHBISHOP
DAEGER

Nov. 26, 1924.

It was indeed a great pleasure for me to co-operate in establishing in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, The Society of Missionary Catechists of Our Blessed Lady of Victory. I am now pleased to give my hearty approval to the publication of its Official Organ—THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST. This magazine will, no doubt, serve not only as a greatly-needed medium of publicity for the excellent work now being carried on by the Missionary Catechists among the destitute portion of Spanish-speaking people in the Southwest, but should also prove interesting reading by disseminating information about this too little known section of our Country.

I wish THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST every success. May God bless those who help the Catechists by subscribing for their little magazine.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

ALBERT T. DAEGER, O.F.M.,
Archbishop of Santa Fe.

THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST
Huntington, Ind.

Devoted to the Greater Honor of Our Blessed Lady of Victory and the dissemination of information concerning the Catechetical and Social Service Activities in the Mission Field at Home.

Published monthly with ecclesiastical approbation by the SOCIETY OF MISSIONARY CATECHISTS OF OUR BLESSED LADY OF VICTORY, as its Official Organ, and the organ of its Lay Auxiliary, the Associate Catechists of Mary. Articles of interest to non-members.

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Rev. J. J. Sigstein, Spiritual Director,
Society of Missionary Catechists
Editor

S. Cyril Hettich
Business Manager

Of Interest To All

The Missionary Catechists pray that the Infant Jesus will shower an abundance of blessings upon you and those dear to you at Christmas time and throughout the coming new year.

While THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST is the Organ of The Society of Missionary Catechists and The Associate Catechists of Mary, it will most certainly contain many articles each month of interest to all. The Reverend Clergy, we believe, will be interested in the work itself because of its Missionary character and its strict application to the poorest of the poor; because it fosters a vocation heretofore undeveloped, it is unique,—a new apostolate. For the good Sisters and teaching Brothers will appear each month timely articles on New Methods of Teaching Christian Doctrine, and also a Popular Exposition of the Spiritual Life. Then for the other readers, who may also be interested in the articles mentioned above, the pages of THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST will be teeming with stories of the romance of old Spain, and many little novelettes with plots laid in the Romantic Southwest of our own Country. Historical Sketches not to be found in other per-

TRUE HEROINES

One of the marvels of the Church is the little money her more devoted workers need to accomplish their ends. It costs only twenty-five dollars a month to support, clothe and shelter a missionary catechist, working among the poor Mexican people of New Mexico. She labors only in the scattered, neglected fields and deliberately turns her back on the comforts of civilization, facing the hardships of the desert out of love for Christ.



The Activities of the Catechists—2. Nursing and Social Service. "All in a Day's Work." The Catechists make daily visits to the sick-poor in their humble homes.

iodicals and many, many up-to-the-minute pictures of an almost unknown land will appear each month. Special features by prominent writers will fill the rest of the space. Above all, we will endeavor at all times to please our readers; to give you what you want, to make this your magazine.

While it is very well to start a magazine, more important than this is its continuation. We have made the start, but must depend entirely upon you for its continuation. That will be governed by the number of subscriptions you send us. To quickly insure the life of THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST we are offering it one year to three different persons at the usual price for two. Please don't lay this aside until you have sent us at least one subscription. Thank you!

SEES GREAT DAY FOR CHURCH IN COMING OF CATECHISTS

Diocese of Monterey-Fresno, Fresno, California.

My dear Father Sigstein:

Your letter fills me with hope for the future of the Mexican problem in this diocese. It will be a great day for the Church when your first band of Missionary Catechists sets foot in California, and the diocese of Monterey-Fresno awaits their coming with joy.

I wish I could convey to you the gladness of Bishop MacGinley on reading your letter. He asks me to send you his heartfelt thanks for

your promise of Catechists, and to assure you and your co-workers of his blessings and his prayers. When you are sure of the number of Catechists you can allot us, and the date of their coming, please let us know so that the Bishop may assign them to the places most sadly in need of their ministrations.

Until then be assured of my remembrance and gratitude.

Yours sincerely in Christ,
REV. JOHN J. CROWLEY,
Chancellor-Secretary.

SAYS THEODORE J. THOMA:

There is enough to do down here to inspire anybody who has a Catholic heart. Every day we see brand new evidence of more activity by the Pro-selytizers. New Mexico seems to be their Mecca. God will surely bless the work which you have undertaken.



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NOTICE THIS FIRST!

THAT THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST has the approval of the proper Ecclesiastical Authorities.

THAT THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST has no agents or solicitors, but gives you the benefit of this saving through its low subscription price. (We are depending upon you sending in your subscription direct).

THAT The Society of Missionary Catechists is not working for a single mission or a single class of missions, but is for ALL poor missions. The extent of Poverty is the only criterion by which the S. M. C. judge a mission appealing to them for Catechists.



1. Catechists Boden, Bennis, and Doyle.—2. Catechism Class at Ocate.—3. Box Car Homes at Optimo, N. Mex.—4. Another Catechism Class. This scene could be repeated many hundred times if—5. "Monday Morning" at the Mission Center of a band of Catechists.

The Service of the Queen

A Story of the Romantic Southwest

By Constance Edgerton.

Sometimes a stroke of fate changes our path in life. Mary Garvey, bound for California on a visit to her Aunt, had no idea as she gazed from the Pullman window at the beauty of the snow capped mountains, what lurked around the corner for her. With the joyful anticipation of youth, she was looking forward to three long months of pleasure. Dinners, parties, dances, afternoon teas, motor trips; perhaps, too, she might be so fortunate as to be invited for an "air trip" by some of the wealthy friends of her Aunt.

She was lost in the glory of the scenery about her. A view of sheer gray walls of magnificent height, mysterious shadowy depths; great blue spaces flecked with green and gold; a stretch of dry sand dotted here and there with sage brush. The world to the West—skies, peaks, rocks, mesas—lay spread before her like a vast panorama in the rose-tinted afterglow of a typical New Mexican sunset.

There was a grinding of brakes and

passengers were thrown forward in their seats—

Editor's Note: The space allotted for

ON THE ROAD TO SANTA FE

Historical Sketch

By Rev. Wm. J. Howlett.

John Baptist Lamy and Joseph Projectus Machebeuf were life-long friends. They were born in neighboring villages in France, and only two years separated their birthdays. They may have known each other in their earlier years,—certain it is that they studied in the seminary together and labored for a time together in the Diocese of Claremont where they were born. Together they came to America in 1839, and cemented their friendship by a mutual promise that they would, as far as lay in their power, always remain together. Their missions in Ohio were not widely separated, as missions were measured at that time; Father Lamy being located in Knox County, with a wide sweep of territory to attend, and

this story was given to the introduction, but the next issue will contain it all. Watch for it! Learn what happened to Mary Garvey in the twenty-four hours following.

Father Machebeuf was sent to Tiffin, with a mission that reached from there to Lake Erie on the north and almost to Indiana on the west. Later Father Lamy was sent to Covington Kentucky and it was here, in 1850, that the news reached him that he had been named by Pope Pius IX, Vicar Apostolic of New Mexico.

As far as his knowledge of the country went, and of its people, and their language and customs, the appointment might just as well have been to Mesopotamia or Timbuctoo. How would he get there? Who would go with him? Where would he find means to begin his work?

Read how Bishop Lamy and Father Machebeuf made the six hundred mile journey from San Antonio to El Paso in a wagon across the arid plains—how they met the untamed savages who considered all pale-faces their legitimate prey—in the next issue.

Victory Noll Archives

A Galaxy of Contributors For The Missionary Catechist.

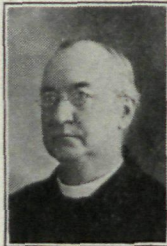
FATHER YOUNG.

The Reverend Francis C. Young, whose verse appears in more than two hundred secular newspapers, is nationally known as "Chicago's Poet Priest." During the war he wrote "We March to Victory" for which he was commended in personal letters from Woodrow Wilson, forty-three governors, and many other notables. His poem "In Memoriam," occasioned by the death of President Harding, was published in all parts of the country. Only recently he

returned from Washington where he was received in conference by President Coolidge, who, like his predecessors, gave his unequivocal approval of "Our Nation's Prayer." Father Young's masterpiece. We have arranged for future publication of some of Father Young's best.

FATHER HOWLETT.

The Reverend William J. Howlett, the well known historian of the Catholic Church in Colorado, will contribute to the pleasure of our readers by his many interesting historical sketches and anecdotes of Missionaries. The first of these sketches will have as its subject Bishop Machebeuf, the first Bishop of Denver.



DOCTOR SHEARON.

The late Rev. Doctor William Shearon, LL. D., was by many competent critics acknowledged as one of America's foremost English scholars. His text books in English are used extensively today not only in our own country, but in England and Canada as well. Six months before the death of this gifted writer, he became intensely interested in the aims and work of our Missionary Catechists. During this time he devoted his literary efforts to this noble cause, and these sketches will appear in subsequent issues of THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST.

ANNE BRADLEY.

Miss Anne Bradley is an author well known to readers of Catholic literature in Chicago and the Central West. She held the position of Chairlady of the Catholic Writer's Guild. Among her noted contributions to literature are the verses of the popularly known Gold Star Mothers Song. Miss Bradley has been vitally interested in the new apostolate of Missionary Catechists and has promised a number of interesting articles for THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST.

THEODORE THOMA.

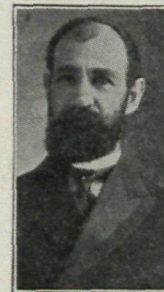
Mr. Theodore A. Thoma is another well known writer who will contribute a number of informative articles on conditions in our Southwest. As editor of the Southwest Catholic, he was in a position to gather valuable statistics of conditions in Texas, Arizona and New Mexico. At present Mr. Thoma is one of the associate editors of the Catholic Telegram of Cincinnati. He conducts the sprightly interesting column entitled "Tittle Tats" read with pleasure every week by thousands.

ELIZABETH SWEENEY.

Miss Elizabeth Sweeney, Secretary of the Social Action Department of the National Catholic Welfare Council, has prepared a number of articles for publication in the early issues of THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST. This gifted and zealous young woman has recently made an extensive survey of the "Mexican Situation" in the United States. Her report formed the basis of the appeal broadcasted by the conference of Bishops recently held in Washington.

BENJAMIN READ.

Mr. Benjamin M. Read, "The Historian of New Mexico," is one of the noted contributors to the columns of THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST. In addition to his monumental History of New Mexico, he has written several historical works and we are sure that the readers will enjoy many sketches from the facile pen of Mr. Read.



CONSTANCE EDGERTON.

Miss Constance Edgerton, successful author of short stories whose plots are laid in the Southwest, will be among the writers for THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST. She contributes articles regularly to the Survey and other magazines.

THIS IS ONLY A FEW; THERE ARE MANY OTHERS.

First "Aides" of The Society of Missionary Catechists.

ARCHBISHOP DAEGER.

At the conference of Bishops of the U. S. in 1919, the Most Rev. Albert T. Daeger, O. F. M., Archbishop of Santa Fe, N. M., met for the first time Rt. Rev. Bishop Wehrle, O. S. B., of Bismarck, N. D. They discussed missionary conditions, both lamenting the difficulty of securing enough Sisters for their poor missions. It developed that the first Missionary Catechists had been promised to Bishop Wehrle, but after his conversation with Archbishop Daeger he said, "Since Your Grace is poorer than myself in this respect, I cheerfully yield my claim to the first band of Missionary Catechists to you." Thus the first band of Catechists was sent to Archbishop Daeger, who welcomed them in person and furnished them with quarters in Santa Fe. He gave his hearty approval to the Constitution and Rules of the Society and gave it the standing of a Missionary Religious Society in his Archdiocese. He is the Honorary President of the Society.



MOTHER AQUINATA.

There is a religious Superioress in Chicago who is looked upon as a mother by many outside of her cloistered walls. This, not only because her mind is big and broad enough to take in interests outside of her own Community, but also because she has a heart of gold—the gold of pure charity. It is a charity which is ever manifested towards those who are seeking to extend God's Kingdom in the hearts of the poorest among the children of men. The Reverend Mother Aquinata, Superioress of the Academy of Our Lady, Chicago, has been to the Missionary Catechists, a mother in the truest sense of the word. She it was who opened her big heart and her big home to the members of this Society when they had no home of their own. Generously, too, she offered to

shelter and to mother them. The Convent over which she so graciously presides she made the "cradle" of the Society of Missionary Catechists. For four years it was the "little Bethlehem" where its members were formed and forged into an organized Society. This generous Religious Mother taught the Catechists their first lessons in Spanish. She likewise delegated some of her most capable Sisters to instruct them in music, sewing and other branches necessary to fit them and equip them for their life-work in the missions among the poor.

MR. ECKERT.

Mr. Charles J. Eckert has been the Acting Secretary of the S. M. C. in Santa Fe from the time of its activities in New Mexico. Though the father of a large family, he is one of the most active laymen in the Archdiocese. He is Secretary of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and is also prominent in the Council of the Knights of Columbus at Santa Fe. Mr. Eckert came to Santa Fe from East St. Louis, Ill., years ago. He was educated at St. Mary's College, St. Mary's, Kan. On his arrival at Santa Fe he entered the employ of the First National Bank as messenger and from that position he worked himself through the various grades to the position he now holds as Assistant Cashier. For the past three years he has been of great assistance and has done much to make the work of the Catechists known in the Southwest.



FATHER TINAN.

Second only to Mother Aquinata in his interest in this young Missionary Society, in promoting its best interests and tracing out its course by wise and prudent counsel, was the learned and venerable Chaplain of the Academy of Our Lady, the Rev. P. T. Tinan.

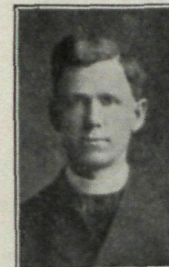
MONSIGNOR NOLL.

Three years ago a Priest-Editor—Rt. Rev. Msgr. John F. Noll—wide-visioned and of consuming zeal, saw the wonderful possibilities of the recently-established Society of Missionary Catechists among the poor. To this new apostolate he gave his whole-hearted support. He has just completed the erection of the Victory Training Institute at Victory Noll, Huntington, Indiana, where the Catechists will receive the first period of their probationary training course. Msgr. Noll, Editor of Our Sunday Visitor, is a figure of National Importance in the Church of America. He needs no introduction. Timely articles from his pen will appear in THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST.



FATHER BLAUFUSS.

The Reverend A. J. Blaufuss has been intimately associated with the Society since its inception, and has during the seven years of its existence been as "a pillar of fire to light the way in the night of adversity." It was he who conducted the first band of Catechists to their newly-appointed mission field in New Mexico three years ago. He preached to the Catechists their first Spiritual retreat and acted as their spiritual guide in their difficulties. Today his zeal continues unabated. His talents, his labors, his money, have all been placed at the disposal of the Society, and to him belongs, humanly speaking, the fullest measure of credit for its successful establishment.



The Associate Catechists of Mary

The Lay Auxiliary

Each Missionary Catechist is supported by means of a Foundation or Burse. A complete Burse amounts to Six Thousand Dollars, which when securely invested, draws enough interest to PERPETUALLY provide for the support of one Missionary Catechist. Each Burse is named in honor of our Divine Lord, Our Blessed Mother, some particular Saint, or the Souls in Purgatory. Donations no matter how small are gratefully accepted and applied towards whichever Burse the donor may designate.

In order to provide by means of a regular income for the financial support of the Society of Missionary Catechists, The Associate Catechists of Mary was formed. It is composed of zealous, practical Catholics, both men and women. Children of both sexes as well as deceased relatives may be enrolled. In order to facilitate the work of this Association, its membership is made up into various bands. Accordingly, with permission of Superiors, entire societies, sodalities, clubs, and even whole classes in a school may be enrolled. The work of the Catechists among the poor on our Home Missions, offers a fertile field for the self-sacrificing zeal manifested by the various Units of the wonderful "Catholic Student's Mission Crusade," now active through the country.

How to Organize a Band.

Any zealous Catholic may organize privately and supervise a band of Associate Catechists. Having selected a certain Burse which appeals most to the individual members of the band, the organizer or promoter, will urge them to work for this Burse exclusively. In this manner they will help to support that Catechist laboring under the patronage of the Burse they have selected. Surely it is a high and holy privilege for the Associate Catechist of Mary to adopt one of their own sisters—an American girl—as their own Catechist; one in whom they are particularly interested and whose Missionary labors and prayers will be offered in their behalf. It costs only \$25 a month to support a Catechist. Some bands, as well as individuals, are entirely supporting one, by donating this amount regularly every month.

Various Means Employed by Bands for Raising Funds.

It is left to the judgment of each promoter to select whatever means she deems most satisfactory for raising funds for her Burse. The mem-

bership dues are ten cents per month or one dollar a year. Regular monthly meetings of the Band should be held. Some promoters have been very successful in arranging for periodical entertainments, card parties, luncheons and other affairs. On these occasions a small sum is usually charged for admission. The most satisfactory results, however, are obtained by the promoters providing every member of her band with a small pocket savings bank, wherein they may deposit their self-denial offerings for the benefit of their Catechist.

Benefits.

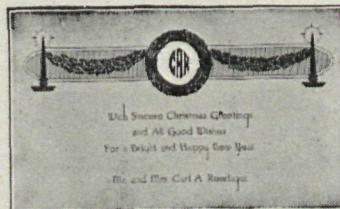
Upon payment of dues, each member will be entitled to a copy of THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST, the official publication of the Society. They share in all the Spiritual benefits of the Society. First of all, a direct share in the Missionary labors, merits, prayers and good works of the Catechist adopted by their band. Their intentions are remembered at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass offered every Saturday in honor of Our Blessed Lady of Victory. Each day a special memento is made for all the members in the Masses offered by the Missionary Fathers connected with our So-

ciety. The intentions of the members are likewise included in the Daily perpetual Novena made by the Poor Clare Sisters, who are vitally interested in this work. Each Associate Catechist is asked to offer up a little invocation for the success of the work of her Catechist, and thus, by her prayers and alms, she will be the means of gaining Heaven's choicest blessings for herself, and for all those dear to her, whether living or dead. Further information gladly furnished. Write the Associate Catechists of Mary, P. O. Box 109, Huntington, Indiana, today. No obligation.

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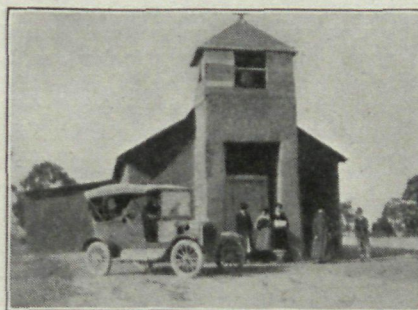


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The Activities of the Catechists—3. Tabernacle Work. In such Chapels as this, the Catechists care for the Altar. They sew and repair the linens and vestments, bake the Altar-Breads, train Altar-boys, and lead in public devotion during the Priest's absence.

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Our prayers
and our help
will follow
them that their
sacrifice be not
in vain.



For many
Catholics our
Great South-
west has been
the land of
spiritual trag-
edies.

A Leaf From The Diary of a Missionary Catechist

The father of a twelve year old boy, living thirty miles away, hearing of the arrival of the Catechists, brought him to us for Instruction. He is now boarding only three miles from the Mission Center, and walks in and back over the hills and dried-out river beds, for instruction. Don't you think we find much happiness in telling this little boy about the Blessed Virgin and the Holy Child Jesus? Pretty soon he will go back to his home and be a shepherd in the depths of the Valley.

In the Sacristy of the Mission Center here are to be found the remnants of an old benediction cope and veil, exquisitely hand-embroidered in the most delicate tints, brought to this country, from Spain, no doubt more than a century ago.

To-day a man was brought to us from Ojo Felice ten miles distant. He was in the last stages of tuberculosis. He had running sores all over. We felt so badly because we could not help him, except to dry up the infected parts, and give him some medicine to take home. His cough echoes in my ears yet! Just think, he has suffered thirteen months without a doctor! Then, hearing of us, he came full of hope.

IT CAN BE PAID MONTHLY
My dear Father Sigstein:
I am enclosing \$25.00, and I would like to have a Catechist all my own to take care of monthly; so you had better pick one out for me, and then I can specify for this particular one in sending monthly check. \$6,000.00 looks like a fortune to me, but I will try and spare \$25.00 a month for this

wonderful cause, and I think a great many others could do this if it could be paid monthly, and it would answer the same purpose.
(Signed) "A. W."

3-4-2
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