



**The
Missionary
Catechist**

**Volume XXIII
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Number 4**

Mission Intention For March

by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. T. J. McDonnell

CHRISTIAN TREATMENT OF WORKERS IN THE MISSIONS

"IT IS We who are the chief guardian of religion, and the chief dispenser of what belongs to the Church, and We must not by silence neglect the duty which lies upon us. Doubtless this most serious question demands the attention and the efforts of others besides Ourselves—of the rulers of states, of employers of labor, of the wealthy, and of the working population themselves for whom We plead." These words taken from the renowned encyclical on *The Condition of Labor*, penned by the great Pope Leo XIII, show clearly how deeply the treatment of workers concerns each and every one of us.

HOWEVER, nearly nineteen hundred years before Pope Leo wrote his famous encyclical, the longed-for Messiah had sounded the death knell of those who had oppressed the poor and outraged the inalienable rights of those whom they had conquered and oppressed. As a matter of fact, the birth of Christ presaged a totally different outlook on the rights and prerogatives of all mankind, whether bondmen or free. Thus "the Carpenter, Son of Mary" restored to the downtrodden slaves of the pagan world their rightful places in the brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God.

A CHANGE OF VALUE

WITHOUT the recognition and understanding of that unalterable truth, human life has never been held sacred. Thus with the denial of the true God, the idolatry and license of paganism opened the floodgates of oppression and tyranny. Even at the present time the mighty pyramids, the seemingly endless and torturous route of China's wall, the lofty sacrificial altars of the Aztecs are the evidences of the depths of

degradation to which man, without the knowledge of Christ's teaching, may be plunged. Since there was nothing cheaper than human life, it was squandered like the chaff tossed in the air to single it from the worthwhile wheat.

WITH the coming of the Redeemer we find that according to Pope Leo XIII's document, "civil society was renovated in every part by the teachings of Christianity; that in the strength of that renewal the human race was lifted up to better things—nay, that it was brought back from death to life, and to so excellent a life that nothing more perfect had been known before or will come to pass in the ages that are yet to be."

THE present holds a definite menace to the workers in mission lands, particularly in those areas where Christianity has not penetrated too deeply. In such areas the far seeing eye of communism has discerned the unsettled state of the underpaid and underprivileged native, and is ready to offer him the panacea of collectivism, godlessness, and the overthrow not only of the rights of the individual, but of the family, the bulwark of human society. This then is our concern and one which should receive our immediate attention. If we are in a position to take an active part in according Christian treatment to workers in mission countries, let our conduct be marked by a forthright justice which is an echo of Christ's own action. If we are remote from mission territory, let us storm heaven that those leaders, whether lay or clerical, be guided by the Holy Ghost to exercise that prudence and charity which has always been the mark of the true Christian since the Carpenter of Nazareth restored labor to its rightful place in the divine plan.

CATECHISTS CHANGE TITLE TO
"SISTER"

On January 1, 1947, the Missionary Catechists of Our Blessed Lady of Victory adopted the title *SISTER* to replace that of *CATECHIST* by which the members of the Community had been known since its inception twenty-five years ago.

It was not without a tinge of sadness that we said good-by to the *CATECHISTS*. However, casting aside all regrets, we heartily welcomed the *SISTERS* on New Year's morning, fervently praying that God's blessing might rest upon them as abundantly in the coming years as it had upon the *CATECHISTS* during the past quarter century.

In this issue of the magazine we are using the new title only for the authors of the various articles. We have made no attempt to change the title in the content of the articles, which, of course, were written some time before we assumed the new title.

We should like very much to print a list of the new names for you, so that you would know by what name your favorite Catechist is now called, but the list is much too long. However, perhaps it will help you to know that the majority of the Catechists retained their baptismal name, so that your favorite Catechist is probably now called Sister, plus her baptismal name.

You will very likely meet the Catechists on and off in the various articles during the coming months, as on account of the Jubilee year we have many articles ahead. Nevertheless, the *SISTERS* have supplanted the *CATECHISTS*, and officially the latter have ceased to exist.

THE EDITOR.



Have

you

heard?

SANTA FE—GALLUP EDITION

This issue of the magazine tells of the work of the Missionary Catechists in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe and the Diocese of Gallup.

Most of the work of the Missionary Catechists in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, and all their work in the Gallup diocese, is the establishment and supervision of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, under the direction of the Reverend Father Director in each diocese. This work is described in detail in the various articles in this issue.

In addition to the Confraternity Catechists, there are three Catechists stationed at Las Vegas, New Mexico, where they give religious instruction to more than one thousand public school children.

The Missionary Catechists began their work in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe twenty-five years ago, when Catechist Julia Doyle and Catechist Marie Benes opened the first mission center of the Society at Watrous, in Northern New Mexico.

The diocese of Gallup was created in 1939, and Grants, New Mexico, where the Catechists had established a mission center in 1929, became part of that diocese. In 1944 this mission center was moved to Flagstaff, Arizona, in order that the Catechists, who by this time were doing Confraternity work throughout the diocese, might be more centrally located.

With the help of the Confraternity teachers, the Catechists are instructing 6,993 children in Santa Fe and 785 children in Gallup. All these children are taught by the Catechists at some time during the year.

THE EDITOR.

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The Missionary Catechists are in Santa Fe

by Reverend George Rieffer

Diocesan Director, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine

THE arrival of the Missionary Catechists in New Mexico twenty-five years ago and the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of this event cause me to think of that beautiful event in the Gospels when Our Lord, after a hard day's preaching and teaching, sat down to rest. Suddenly, apparently from nowhere—as is always the case—a group of children, little children, attracted by His gentleness, ran to Him and began to tug at His garment and to climb upon His lap. The apostles, ever solicitous for His well-being, tried to send the children away from the Master. But Our Lord said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God." (Mark X-14.)

Through the ages, as the need of the Church demanded it, someone has heard and understood those words. In our own time they have been heard and acted upon by the Missionary Catechists.

When the Missionary Catechists arrived at Watrous, New Mexico, twenty-five years ago, they must have realized the meaning of the word *Missionary* which they carry in their title; today, after this first quarter of a century, they can say they know something of another word in their title—*Victory*, for certainly they have been victorious, and this victory they—and all who know them—ascribe to their Patroness, Our Lady of Victory. The Catechists have, indeed, sowed and tended, but it is Our Lady of Victory who has given the increase.

It is difficult to state all that the Catechists have accomplished for the Church in New Mexico—that is inscribed on golden rolls before the throne of Christ the King. Everyone interested in the progress of the Church in New Mexico, however, knows that these twenty-five years have produced results—the fruit of the hard work, sacrifice and true zeal of the Missionary Catechists.

Twenty-five years ago a plan was used by the Catechists to bring children to Christ, but like every successful venture, the founders of the Missionary Catechists kept their methods fluid, so that the Catechists might adapt themselves to any type of work demanded of them. Probably in no other field have they had to change their methods as often as in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe.

The original plan was to have several Catechists go to a place and stay there for a year or more, thoroughly catechizing the vicinity. The Catechists were to work not only in the little town or village where they lived, but also in the surrounding villages and countryside. From the very beginning lay teachers were trained to carry on the work when the Catechists would move to another place.

Later on it was found to be of more advantage to have permanent foundations, and this was the way the work of the Catechists was carried on for some fifteen years. During this period several districts benefitted immeasurably from the presence of the Catechists, and today the people of those districts show the result of the work of the Catechists.

In 1940 the late Archbishop Gerken of Santa Fe sought and obtained the help of the Catechists in organizing the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine throughout the Archdiocese of Santa Fe. This work was carried on from the Catechists' convents at Santa Fe, Las Vegas, and Albuquerque. From these centers the Missionary Catechists visited every parish in their districts, staying in each parish for a period of three to six weeks, teaching catechism and training lay teachers. In 1944 all the Catechists in the Archdiocese worked from one central convent located at Las Vegas. During the summer of 1946, through the kindness and generosity of His Excellency, Most Reverend Edward F. Byrne, Archbishop of Santa Fe, a new convent, five miles south of Santa Fe, was obtained for the Catechists. Now the Catechists have a comfortable house, and as time passes and the Catechists live in it, it will become *home* for them. From this center the Catechists will continue their work of organizing the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine and causing it to be ever more fruitful.

The Catechists working in New Mexico have recently prepared four booklets to aid in the work of bringing children to Christ. These books contain complete courses for lay teachers, and have proved a great help to them. Actually, every word of the required material for a given lesson is contained in the books. The questions

(Continued on page 6)

Archbishop of Santa Fe



*His Excellency
Most Reverend Edwin V. Byrne, D.D.
Archbishop of Santa Fe*

THE MISSIONARY CATECHISTS ARE IN SANTA FE

(Continued from page 4)

used are from the Revised Baltimore Catechism. Stories illustrating the lessons, ways of using visual aids, and other things that make for completeness, are given with each lesson.

Inasmuch as simply reading this material to the children would not be teaching, a part of the work of the Catechists in New Mexico now is training the lay teachers to use these books intelligently. We cannot underestimate the value and importance of this part of the work of the Catechists. In New Mexico our good lay people do not have all the advantages for education that people in many of the other states have. We must not forget that as a State in the Union, New Mexico is very young, and while it has made great progress—perhaps more rapid progress than any other State—it has not yet achieved the standards of education that exist elsewhere. This means that greater attention must be

given to training lay persons to teach catechism. It was for this reason that the Catechists found it necessary to prepare complete courses for the entire Catechism.

The Faith came to New Mexico long before the Missionary Catechists came into existence; it was an inheritance from Spanish ancestors, and has always been predominant in the culture of our people. Yet its present vigorous state can be said to be due in no small part to the work of the Missionary Catechists of Our Lady of Victory.

New Mexico was selected as the first field of endeavor for the Catechists because the people were, and still are, poor. Not much of this world's goods has come to the Catechists from their work in New Mexico, but only God and the Catechists know how much they have been blessed because of their charity. Just as we will always have the poor with us, so must we always have the Catechists with the poor in New Mexico.

Recent Events in the Archdiocese

by Sister Louise

SINCE the arrival of His Excellency, the Most Reverend Edwin V. Byrne, D.D., we have witnessed great progress in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe. This progress in the affairs of the Archdiocese corresponds with the material progress in New Mexico.

The Archbishop's knowledge of Spanish life and Spanish customs, and the fluency with which he speaks the language, have endeared him to the Spanish speaking people; while the beauty of his English sermons has won the hearts of the English speaking people. His Excellency's true greatness is shown in the simplicity of his language when speaking to little children and in his kindness when dealing with them. He is loved by everyone.

Shortly after the arrival of Archbishop Byrne in the historic See of Santa Fe, he established the much needed *Catholic Teachers College of New Mexico* at Albuquerque. The college is chartered by the State of New Mexico and approved by its Department of Education for Teacher Preparation. It is affiliated with the Catholic University of America. The college confers the degree of Bachelor of Science in Education. It is co-educational, and is open to religious and lay students.

The Archbishop has not forgotten the material needs of his people. He has recently opened the Catholic Charities Bureau under the supervision of Reverend William T. Bradley. He brought the Medical Missionaries to the Archdiocese. These religious are rendering much needed assistance to the people through the Catholic Maternity Institute and the Catholic Clinic.

Looking to the spiritual welfare of his people, the Archbishop, during the past year, purchased a beautiful site with buildings near the city of Santa Fe for the Archdiocesan Seminary. He has also recently purchased a very comfortable home with a large acreage of ground, five miles from Santa Fe, for the Missionary Catechists. He has brought Disalced Carmelite Nuns to Santa Fe in order that through their life of contemplative prayer and sacrifice, they may draw God's blessing upon the Archdiocese, its spiritual leader, priests, religious, and laity.

His Excellency's latest project is typical of his thoughtfulness for all who labor in his Archdiocese. On January 5, of this year, he announced the establishment at Jemez Springs of the motherhouse of the Servants of the Paraclete, a group of priests and brothers dedicated to the contemplative life and the care of sick and infirm priests.

Bishop of Gallup



*His Excellency
Most Reverend Bernard T. Espelage, O.F.M., D.D.
Bishop of Gallup*

Nature's Wonderland

by Sister Mary Gertrude

FLAGSTAFF, Arizona, is the center of a vast wonderland of scenic beauty, as well as the hub of a territory which offers rich opportunities for the exercise of missionary zeal. Indeed, the combination creates a most alluring mission field. The weariness of endless travelings is compensated for by the spectacular natural beauties we meet with *going our way*.

Traveling westward on one of our mission journeys in the Gallup diocese, we left the neat Spanish and Indian pueblos which dot Northern New Mexico and penetrated Arizona as far as the painted desert. This region is a breath-taking surprise for anyone who sees it the first time. Looking down upon the plain studded with vari-colored sandstone mounds, the spectator is reminded of a vast sunken garden. The constant play of sunlight and shadows upon the rock formations greatly enhances the panoramic beauty of the region.

Mystifying silence usually prevails here, but on this trip a noisy gale was raging. We were forced to bring our car to a stop, as it was impossible for the human eye to penetrate the heavy screen of yellow and red sand before us. After a little while, the wind subsided somewhat, and we turned off the main highway, taking a State road which leads through the Petrified National Forest. Presently we perceived a stationary object in the middle of the road about a half mile ahead. As we drew near, it suddenly took life and ran from the path of our car. We peered in amazement at a giant coyote apparently frightened by the storm and now equally frightened by our car's appearance.

As we journeyed through the National Forest we passed grotesque rock formations, mostly of a sombre grey or buff hue. There is no vegetation in these barren "bad lands." Here and there, lying on the ground, are to be seen centuries old petrified trees.

By now the wind had greatly abated and a brilliant rainbow spanned the sky in front of us. We concluded that one of such effulgent beauty must be peculiar to the region itself.

Emerging from the Petrified Forest we spied a green spot. It was Concho with its many trees and cultivated fields. We were familiar with this village and knew many of its residents. We saw the hundred year old house in which we

lived during our former stay. Its sturdy walls, four feet in thickness, are marked with bullet holes—grim reminders of days when the Indians, who had by then discarded bows and arrows for more modern weapons, were on the war path.

Towards evening we arrived at St. John's, whose population is almost evenly divided between Spanish American Catholics and Mormons. This marked "journey's end" for that day.

After a sojourn of some weeks devoted to the instruction of children and the training of lay teachers in both St. Johns and Concho, we next set forth for Springerville. This town is situated at the foot of the White Mountains, a district famed for its hunting, fishing, and delightfully cool climate. Near Springerville is a small lake called "El Lago del Padre." The legend connected with the lake is as follows:

The holy Padre Juan Padilla, in whose memory the lake is named, would walk from St. Johns to Springerville, a distance of thirty miles, to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. His long trek was broken by an overnight stay at one of the ranch houses. Here he would offer Holy Mass and then continue his journey.

It happened that once as the Padre neared the lake a herd of steers was being driven by cowboys in the same direction. Too late these men saw the lone figure of the priest and all their strategy to head the beasts off in another direction was of no avail. One ferocious bull charged madly toward Padre Juan. Calmly the priest traced the sign of the Cross in the air and the big animal cowered and fell to the ground dead.

During our stay at Springerville, we visited the lumber camp of McNary for the first time. It is located in a dense forest of pomposa pines. A large lumber mill was in operation. Huge logs were floating in the artificial lake, into which they had been dumped from log trains and trucks. When a jam occurred the men would jump from log to log in an attempt to separate the logs causing the jam. Then each of these mammoth logs was drawn up into the mill by means of heavy iron chains.



First Communion Class at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Flagstaff, Arizona, with Reverend Leo Oelmann, Pastor. The girls in the back row are the Confraternity teachers who helped prepare this class.

Here we found a mixed population, consisting of dark-skinned Mexicans, Negroes, Apache Indians, as well as the lighter complexioned Americans.

It was our first meeting with the heavy set Apache women. We marveled at the dexterity with which they carried their papooses upon their backs on cradleboards suspended by a single leather strap supported from the forehead. In addition to the papoose, an Indian woman would sometimes carry a large grocery order on her back, with a twenty-five pound bag of flour balanced on her head.

The Apaches for the most part live in teepees (a kind of wigwam). Once when the government, seeking to improve their condition, built small houses for them, the Apaches preferred to lodge their pigs and cows in them while the Indians, by choice, slept in teepees, despite the rigors of the high altitude nights.

Many weeks had passed by since we first set out on our missionary expedition. Thanksgiving

Day was drawing near, and we were eager to return home to our Mission Center to enjoy the holiday in the companionship of our other Missionaries. It would be a few days respite from our arduous excursions into Mission country.

In a happy spirit of anticipation we set out on a cool, still morning. We were meandering slowly through a forest, enjoying the redolence of the moist pines when the driver slowed down and gradually came to a complete stop. What a sight met our gaze! A group of wild turkeys had congregated on the highway, These birds, in spite of their instinctive wariness and agility of movement, remained in the path of danger. Our thoughts went to an old fashioned umbrella with a nicely crooked handle which would have fit smuggly around their necks had they not with great dignity strutted from their peril and sought the protecting darkness of the forest.

Thus ended our eventful trek of the first three months of our year in Arizona Missions. After a brief rest we would be ready to resume *going our way*.



A mission chapel in New Mexico

C. C. D. Highlights

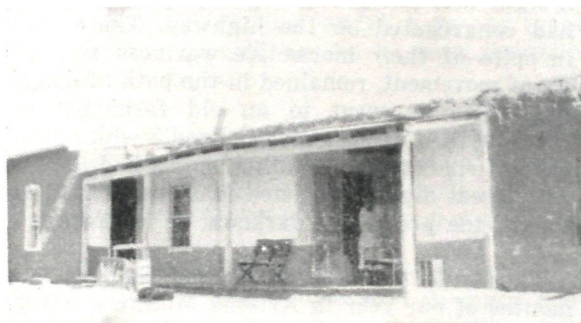
by Sister Theodora

THE office door opened quickly, and Catechist Russell walked out briskly, her smile telling us as plainly as words, "I've my assignment."

"Hot Springs—two weeks—Catechist Bien my companion," she said all in one breath and without pausing on her way.

We were delighted, for we knew we, too, would soon receive our first assignments for the year. As a matter of fact it was only a few minutes until we joined Catechist Russell and Catechist Bien in the task of packing.

Packing for Confraternity trips is really a task, or perhaps I might call it an art; at least it is an achievement. Each group of Catechists collect the articles needed for a two, three, or four weeks' stay in the places assigned them.



A typical New Mexican home, constructed of adobe bricks.

Kitchen utensils, soap, scouring powder, linens, canned vegetables and fruit, bread, and sundry other articles are packed in boxes of various sizes and shapes. Catechetical books, supplies for the confraternity teachers, charts, blackboards, pictures, projector and slides, all fit snugly between the other boxes. Last but not least, the Catechists' suitcases with their personal belongings are packed in wherever there is room.

"Catechist, did you pack the dish towels and the dish pan?" asks one Catechist.

"Yes, Catechist, they are with the kitchen things. But I haven't the typewriter, will you bring it?" calls back her companion.

Then there is the final trip to the office to check out, a visit to Him who sent the first missionaries "two by two," asking Him to bless the trip and the work to be done; then the departing Catechists get into the car, start the motor, and amid the good-bys of their sister Catechists



This New Mexican method of transportation may be a little slow, but it is safe and sure.

who are to work in Santa Fe or who haven't quite finished packing for their trip to another center, the car rolls down the lane and out through the gate.

There are very few trips that do not call for a picnic lunch at noon. It may be eaten just off the highway under the shade of a solitary tree, or in a beautiful spot on the banks of the Rio Grande; it may be high in the mountains where the river, unharnessed by men, rushes over the rocks, or on the open prairie where the only shade is the shade of the car. Usually, especially in the mountainous districts of Northern New Mexico, there is no lack of beautiful places to stop and relax, or to relieve the monotony of the long trips.

Do we ever have flat tires? Oh, yes, when tires get old and have thousands of miles to their credit, flats are sure to occur. Although we are accustomed to changing tires, it seldom happens that we change one alone. One of the natives,

or a tourist, usually appears on the scene with "Having trouble?" and then goes right to work

Having arrived at our mission, our first concern is to thank Our Lord for a safe journey. Then there is the visit to the Pastor and the question, "Where do we stay, Father?" Usually the smiling answer is something like the following, "There are two rooms ready in the house across the way where you will find beds and a cook stove."

"That sounds good, Father," we reply. "We will go over and get settled and then we will be back to see the work you have lined up for us."

Out of the car come the boxes we so painstakingly packed. Beds are made up, classwork unpacked, and the kitchen put in order. We are now ready for work.

This time Father has news. There are two out missions to visit; the greater number of



Another method of transporting wood. These are Arizona boys.

the lay teachers have continued catechism classes with good results, but those teaching at the school had to discontinue, as the busses were taking the children at four o'clock.

The next morning finds the Catechists visiting the schools in order to ascertain the exact number of children to be instructed and the localities from which they come; whether there is a teaching center near the school; whether it would be more feasible to teach all the children at the church; whether there is a possibility of weekday classes or whether the majority of the children take a bus, thus making weekday classes impossible.

In some places we get wonderful co-operation from the school teachers; in other places only opposition. The principal of one of the schools didn't consider religion "important enough to take a place on the school curriculum."

March, 1947



Confraternity teachers from Clarkdale and Clemencau, Arizona.

Some of our lay teachers are school teachers, and because of their teaching experience, can do splendid work. Others are garnered from a well established Sodality and bring a great love of God into their work. Others are mothers whose families are grown, and whose maturity and experience with children make them excellent teachers. Least in number, but great in importance, are the young men who by word and example instruct the boys and help them realize that religion is the chief concern of life.

During our stay in the various centers, we teach the children daily, hold meetings for the lay teachers, visit the homes, and do whatever else may be necessary for the success of the Confraternity in that particular place. After two, three, or four weeks, sometimes even longer, we pack our belongings once more and go on to the next center or return home for a few days' rest. Sometimes I wonder if "God's Gypsies" might not be a good name for those of us who do Confraternity work in the scattered villages of New Mexico.



Visiting in Arizona. Sister Mary Eleanor takes the opportunity to interest the children in religion classes.

Associate Catechists



EXCHANGE CORNER

"I can't find anyone who will entertain." When this happens why not stage a Dairy Party? Miss Elsie Jachmann of Les Petites Fleurs Club, Chicago, has graciously told us how one is conducted.



"The card room and all materials needed for same are furnished by the Company. Ice cream and cookies, and a small bottle of chocolate milk are furnished each player; a table prize (a jar of cottage cheese) is supplied for each table. The Company also furnishes five or six door prizes, such as eggs, butter, and cream. It's really quite simple and there is no work attached. They can accommodate from 75 to 90 people."

Dear Associates:

Many Mission Clubs are long overdue for mention on account of special announcements having crowded out Band news for two months. We are therefore taking the liberty of consolidating our news items somewhat in the current issue.

ACM SUPERVISOR

HOLY FAMILY BAND

In Chicago, Ill. If I were to give this club (and indeed a few more like it) a name which would best describe the members composing it, I would call it the Semper Fidelis Band. These are Latin words which mean "always faithful." Rain or shine these married couples are always faithful to their meeting nights. It is true they take a short vacation in the torrid days of July and August, but the members are asked to "cough up" dues for those months when they meet again in September—and they do it cheerfully to help our Mission work.

Congratulations to the members of Holy Family Band, and their secretary, Mr. Joseph Walz, who has sent us their monthly donations since the death of Mrs. Margaret Murphy, eighteen months ago.

ST. MARY SODALITY BAND

In Detroit, Mich. Our Sodalist friends in Detroit, Michigan, who are helping to fill Sister Mary Veronica's Burse prove by works rather than by words their interest in our Missions. Contributions have been regular but letters have been short. Eight months ago Mrs. Peter Pink had to resign the Promotership because of a change of residence. Miss Ann Huhn has been the efficient head of the Band ever since.

Thanks, dear friends, for your faithful help.

MOTHERS & DAUGHTERS CLUB

In Chicago. Composed of twelve regular members, this Club invites special guests to join them at their larger parties held during the Christmas and Easter seasons. The parties are usually held late in the afternoon on some Sunday agreed upon by the members. A delightful six o'clock dinner is served, with silver aglow in the candlelight and attractive place cards with tiny favors attached. After dinner, cards are played with prizes for high and low scores. Before the guests depart for their homes a basket is passed around and a goodly sum is realized for our Missionary Sisters.

Mrs. M. Luethenhus has been the Promoter of this Club for many years.

MARY, QUEEN OF HEARTS BAND

In Lombard, Ill. Devoted servants of Mary, Miss Wilma Wengritzky, Promoter, and her sister, Wallie chose this name for their Band when it was first organized five years ago. There are only nine members in the group. In spite of heavy crosses (the Wengritzky girls lost both parents in three months time), they and the other members have been faithful contributors. At meetings, the group makes articles of clothing for poor babies in our Missions.

DOLORES BANDS I AND II

In Chicago. Both of these Bands are working toward the completion of our Sister Mary John's Burse. In charge of Dolores Band I is Mrs. Charles Klingel. We have observed that the young married daughters of some of the older members are joining the Band. This is an encouraging sign.

Mrs. A. Bechtold, Promoter of Dolores Band II deserves much credit for Band activities inasmuch as she spends the greater part of her day in a business office.

of Mary

OUR LADY OF SORROWS BAND

In Chicago. During the past year, one of the members, Miss Julia Farley, entered the Sisters of Holy Cross at South Bend, Indiana.



The Band members were happy when Miss Florence Kuenster, who founded the Band in 1938, returned to Chicago recently and became an active member after a sojourn of several months in the West and Southwest.

We believe Sheila Woodworth is still President. They work for Sister Mary Blanche.

THE "MARIANS"

In Chicago. This Band has lost two good Promoters during the past two years. They were Marie Welter, first Promoter, and Margaret Daniels, who succeeded her. No, they didn't die. In the language of the poet, Father Leonard Feeney, S.J., "they ran away with God." Marie Welter is now our Sister Louis Marie, and Margaret Daniels is a Novice in the Precious Blood Order.

Mrs. M. Maher is the present Promoter.

ST. IRENE BAND

In Chicago. Except to take time out during the hottest months of the year (July and August), we can depend upon these faithful Band members to have a monthly meeting and send us the proceeds.



Although their Promoter, Miss May Walsh, has taken a personal interest and has helped our work from its beginning at Longwood in the early twenties, it was not until the Fall of 1939 that she organized a Band.

We pray that God's blessings ever attend these ladies.

ACM BAND CONTRIBUTIONS

December 19, 1946 to January 20, 1947	
Child Jesus Band, St. Louis, Miss Adelaide Fitzpatrick	15.00
Dolores Band No. 2, Chicago, Mrs. A. Bechtold	16.00
Florentine Mission Band, St. Louis, Mrs. Katherine Krueger	10.00
Good Shepherd Mission Club, Chicago, Mrs. H. F. Staley	70.00
Holy Family Band, Chicago, Joseph Walz, Sec	18.00
Holy Ghost Band, Elkhart, Indiana, Miss Mary	



E. Nye	60.00
Les Petites Fleurs Club, Chicago, Miss Elsie Jachmann	2.00
Little Flower Band, Chicago, Mrs. Helen Garrity	15.00
Little Flower Mission Club, Chicago, Miss Veronica Foertsch	25.00
Mothers & Daughters Club, Chicago, Mrs. M. Luetkenhus	51.00
Mother of Perpetual Help Band, St. Louis, Mrs. K. Krueger	5.00
Our Lady of Fatima Band, San Antonio, Tex., Mrs. E. G. Walsh	25.00
Our Lady of Sorrows Band, Chicago, Miss Sheila Woodworth	25.00
Our Lady, Queen of Angels Band, Los Angeles, Mrs. C. J. Sauthier	50.00
Our Lady, Queen of Hearts Band, Lombard, Ill., Miss Wilma Wengritzky	25.00
Poor Souls Band, Berwyn, Ill., Mrs. J. V. McGovern	10.50
St. Anne Mission Circle, Ft. Wayne, Miss Ann Brink	4.00
St. Anthony Mission Club, Chicago, Mrs. Agnes Beck	73.00
St. Catherine Band, Los Angeles, Mrs. Margaret McMannamy	45.00
St. Catherine Band of St. Mary's Miss. Soc., Ft. Wayne, Mrs. Ryan	15.00
St. Helen Band, Dayton, O., Miss Helen Melke	30.00
St. Irene Auxiliary Band, Chicago, Miss Madeline Sebraska	25.00
St. Jude Band, Chicago, Mrs. Charles J. Fiala	30.00
St. Justin, Martyr, Band, Chicago, Mrs. Fred Kiefer	19.00
St. Mary's Sodality Band, Detroit, Miss Ann Huhn	10.00
St. Mel Band, Chicago, Miss Margaret Kane	25.00
St. Philomena Band, Chicago, Miss Mary C. Schaefer	21.50
St. Raymond Band, Chicago, Mrs. Kathyne Quinlan	4.50
St. Sabina Band, Chicago, Miss Marie V. Dwyer	18.00
Tip Top Twelve Club, Cincinnati, Miss Irene Stanley	10.00

Old Albuquerque's Youth

by Sister Mary Millicent

"THIS must be the old mission church we've read about," said the woman, as she and her husband came up the steps of San Felipe Church.

"Yes," wheezed her husband in response. "This is the church of Albuquerque's early days. Let's go inside and take a look."

By their speech one could tell they were from the East, and by the man's heavy breathing one could surmise that they had come to New Mexico in the hope of finding relief for the man's asthma.

It is hard to say just what it was they expected to see in the Old Mission of San Felipe that November afternoon. It was, perhaps, anything but what actually did meet their eyes. A hundred or more school children were looking intently at a large colored picture of the Crucifixion, while a Sister was telling the story of Christ's death. The Sister wore a dark blue veil and a neatly pleated habit with white collar and cuffs. Up in the front of the church was another large group of smaller children, also listening to a Sister.

The woman genuflected and knelt down. The man followed her into the pew, but without a genuflection, and promptly sat down. The interest of this Catholic woman and her non-Catholic husband was plainly not on the mission edifice which they had come to see, but on the religion classes which were going on. For a full fifteen minutes they listened with interest. Finally, the classes were brought to a close with prayer and the children were dismissed. The two on-lookers noticed, as the crowd marched out, that while many of the children were dark-eyed Spanish-Americans, some were Americans of another background.

"What is this supposed to be?" inquired the non-Catholic husband in a low whisper.

"Let's ask the Sisters when they come out of the Church," answered his wife.

Several minutes later their opportunity came, as two of us merged from the outer church door, brief cases and picture rolls in hand.

"I beg your pardon, Sisters, but would you be so kind as to tell us to what Order you belong?" asked the woman.

"We are the Missionary Catechists," answered one of the Catechists. "Our main work is to teach religion to Catholic children who attend public schools."

"So that's it!" exclaimed the man in an admiring tone. "Now I'm beginning to see why the Catholic Church has such a hold on its people. I'm not a Catholic, but I was as much interested in what you were saying as those youngsters were!"

"That is because the Catholic Church has something really worthwhile to offer us," came the quiet reply from the other Catechist.

The woman spoke again. "Do you have religion classes here every day, Sisters?"

"Every day for this month," was the response. "You see, we are now giving a "Catechism Mission" here in San Felipe for the public school children. We hope to stir up their interest in catechism so that they will continue coming to their regular weekly classes after we leave. The regular classes are taught by lay teachers of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine."

"Oh," said the lady, "is that the same organization that had the big convention in Boston? We are from Boston, so you see we have heard quite a bit about the convention recently."

"Yes, it is part of the very same organization," was the Catechist's quick response. "You really ought to see San Felipe's lay teachers in action. It is a grand sight to behold!"

"A grand sight to behold!" Surely that is what Our Lord says when He looks down from His tabernacle home and sees these children of His gathered in their small catechism groups with their lay teachers every Sunday morning. That is what we think our Holy Father, who has been the chief promoter of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, would say. That is what has been said of the C.C.D. in San Felipe Parish, Old Albuquerque, by those who have seen some of the results of the work of the Confraternity.

The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine in San Felipe parish was organized in 1935 by the Jesuit Pastor, Father Libertini. Since a large percentage of the children of the parish were not in the parochial school, some means had to be provided for their religious instruction.



Sister Mary Millicent and class at San Felipe, Old Albuquerque. The girls in back row are Confraternity teachers who will instruct the children during the absence of the Sisters.

Married women, young men, and young women, with good Catholic training, formed the nucleus of this new organization. But they soon found that it was no easy task which they had undertaken. The poor attendance of the children both at Mass and catechism, discipline problems, and their own inexperience, added to the really difficult problem of explaining the eternal truths in a correct, intelligible, systematic, and simple way, so as to reach and influence the lives of the children, all these were surely difficulties that might discourage even the most zealous of these lay teachers, but instead they learned to cope with their problems.

From time to time the Pastors have called upon the Missionary Catechists to help out. Our work has been twofold, first, to round up the children, especially through home visiting, and give them a "taste" for the things of God; and, second, to work with the lay teachers themselves. Discussions on religious topics, methods of teaching, child psychology, are among the things we bring to the meetings of these teachers.

Since we know from the principles of our own religious life that exterior works are useless without a supernatural motive, we urge the teachers to combine prayer with their efforts, to frequent the Sacraments, and to keep up their own knowledge of religion by Catholic reading and study.

With admirable perseverance the teachers have held their monthly meetings, at which they talk over their difficulties, give suggestions, and plan any business for the coming month. If interest begins to lag, a teachers' party is held to rekindle enthusiasm.

Charts and honor rolls are used by the teachers in order to keep up the children's attendance at class. Many of the teachers develop a personal interest in their pupils and in this way do untold good.

The parish is using the Old Town Court House

(Continued on page 18)

Dear Loyal Helpers

HERE we are in the midst of Lent. As Catholics you know what Lent is and why we keep it. Or do you? Suppose you are on your way home from school, and along comes, let us say, Violet Henderson from the public school. She opens a paper bag in a friendly sort of way and says, "Help yourself." Oh what delicious candy! You are on the point of poking your hand in the bag, when suddenly you remember. "Thanks a lot," you reply, "but I guess I won't. It's Lent." "What's that?" asks your Protestant friend. Just how would you answer her question?

THE Junior Helper who can write the *best* composition of two hundred words on the subject:

LENT: WHAT IT IS AND HOW CATHOLIC STUDENTS SHOULD KEEP IT

will receive, as first prize, a small five inch statuette of Our Blessed Mother. As second prize, we will award a small holy water font; and as third prize a Mary's Loyal Helper pin.

THE contest closes on Holy Saturday.

Mary-ly yours

SUNSHINE SECRETARY

GROWNUPS LIKE TO WORK OUR PUZZLES TOO

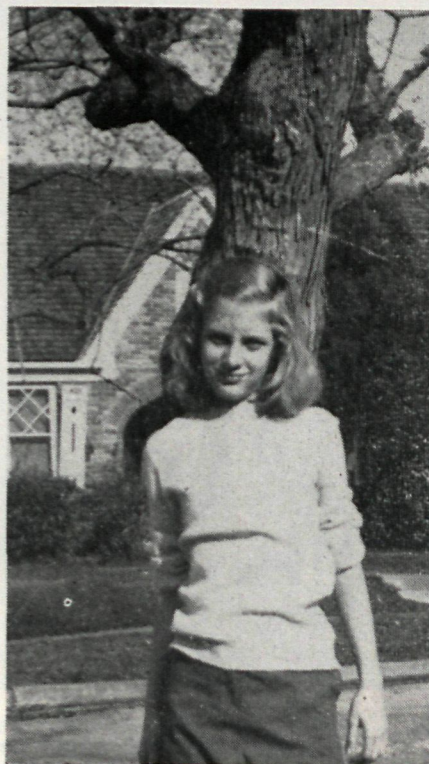
DON'T you believe it is only youngsters who work our puzzles. Quite often Mother, or even Grandmother, works one of them and asks for a holy card for a wee one in the home.

A HELPER IN WISCONSIN



NOT long ago we published the picture of a Helper who is a Senior in high school. This month we are glad to make you acquainted with another. Helpers meet *Donna Trepanier*, of Stevens Point, Wisconsin. She has promised us her faithful prayers and sends us frequent offerings to help our poor Missions.

Mary's Loyal



A HELPER IN HOUSTON, TEXAS

"Deep in the heart of Texas" we have another Loyal Helper. Her name is Kathleen Pluecker of Houston, Texas. Kathleen has already interested a chum in our Missionary work and persuaded her to join us. Do you try to get your classmates to join our Loyal Helpers?

WHERE ARE YOUR SUNSHINE BAGS?

DURING Lent keep your Sunshine Bags in a handy place and drop sacrifice pennies into them from time to time to help our poor Missions.

IF YOU have lost your Sunshine Bags or need coin cards to send us your little offerings, write to

*Sunshine Secretary
Victory-Noll
Huntington, Indiana*

and she will send you new ones.

The Missionary Catechist

Helpers Pages

ANSWERS TO PUZZLE OF THE STATES

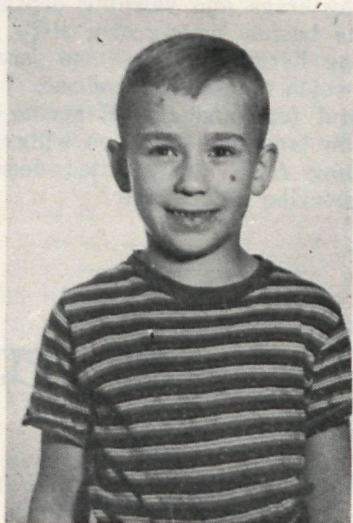
Indiana, Washington, Kansas, Virginia, Iowa, Oklahoma, Kentucky, Wyoming, Georgia, Colorado, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Arkansas, Montana, North Carolina, and Missouri.

OUR MARCH PUZZLE

WE HONOR St. Joseph with special devotions during the month of March. As you know, he followed the trade of a carpenter. Can you discover eight tools that a carpenter uses in the jumbled words below? We will send a holy card to any one who can write out all the words correctly.

AQURSE
ASW
SANIL
MARHEM

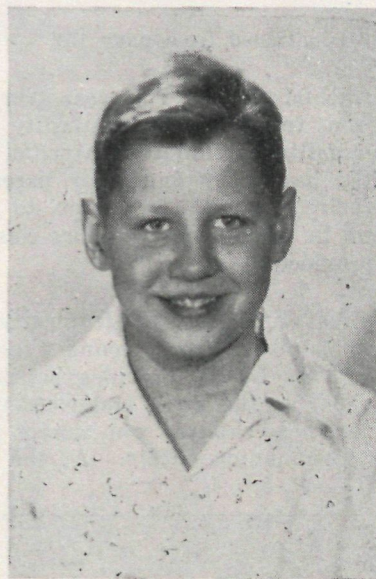
NELPA
LIFE
IVES
UREAG



A HELPER IN BEACON FALLS, CONN.

"Way down East" in Beacon Falls, Connecticut, lives Donald Doiron. His auntie is Sister Bernadette, of Victory-Noll, who helps get out our mission magazine each month.

Donald is nine years old and in the fourth grade. He is an altar boy.



A CHICAGO HELPER

We are pleased to introduce another of Sister Patricia's Mission team at Holy Innocents School, Chicago. Boys and girls this is Walter Mosawcznski. His broad smile proves that we are happiest when we are making other people happy.

SIX YEAR OLD RIDES FOURTEEN MILES TO SCHOOL EACH DAY

LITTLE Elizabeth Anne O'Neill, with the help of her auntie, wrote us as follows:

"I AM six years old and in the first grade at St. Mary's School, Ponca City, Oklahoma. I live in the country fourteen miles from school and ride a bus to and from school. Lots of times my daddy takes me home. Sister M. Arsene is my teacher. I like her very much."

ELIZABETH'S auntie explained to us that while there is a public school near her home, the little one prefers the daily long journey to a Catholic school where she may learn about God.

ANOTHER HELPER GRATEFUL FOR HER CATHOLIC EDUCATION

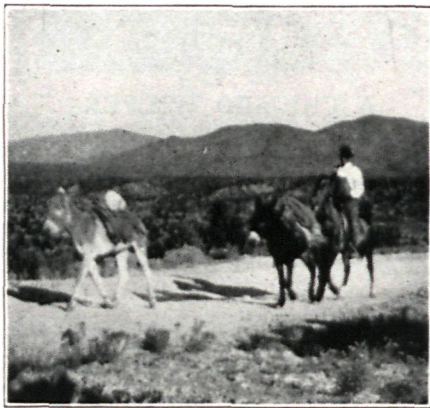
JOANNE Whitefield, a ten year old Helper in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, selects feasts of Our Blessed Mother on which to send us her money offerings to help our dear poor in the Missions. In one of her letters she wrote: "I am getting a good Catholic education and am happy to help other little boys and girls learn about God and His Blessed Mother. Thank you for the magazine. I like it very much."

OLD ALBUQUERQUE'S YOUTH

(Continued from page 15)

as their parochial school. This year over a hundred children from the Confraternity classes asked for admittance into the parochial school, so interested have they and their parents become in their religion. In order to accommodate them in the school, two more classrooms had to be provided.

At Christmas time each Confraternity teacher gives her pupils a gift. Around First Communion time, the C.C.D. provides haircuts for the boys, veils for the girls, and whatever else is needed for those children who cannot procure their First Communion outfits. At the end of



the year's work, the teachers choose that girl who has been most faithful in attendance and diligence, to crown our Blessed Mother.

It requires sacrifice to belong to the C.C.D. in this parish, but those who do belong consider it a great privilege to do the work. The majority of new members are gleaned from the excellent parish Sodality. Many young men and women who have been Confraternity teachers during the past eleven years have now entered upon their life's vocation. Some have married and are teaching catechism to their own little tots. Others are continuing their work for the salvation of souls as religious. Johnny Ortiz entered the Franciscan Brothers at Cincinnati. Mela Montoya and Susie Silva have joined the Sisters of St. Francis at Denver; Mary Casias and Josie Dominguez, the Franciscan Sisters at Santa Fe; Veva Cordova, the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother, and Molly Ortega, the Dominican Sisters.

A great deal of the success of San Felipe's Confraternity has been due to the true zeal of its Jesuit Directors: Father Libertini, Father

Goni, and at present, Father Fox. The Sisters of Charity at the parochial school, too, by their encouragement and cooperation have contributed to its success. At the children's Mass on Sunday the parochial school children and the public school children use the Confraternity Mass cards, praying and singing together.

It has been a real pleasure for the Missionary Catechists to give direction and helpful suggestions to so responsive a group as the C.C.D. in San Felipe. All are agreed that "teamwork" is the keynote to the success of the Confraternity.

EL PORVENIR

by Sister Blanche

How describe this paradise?
Who can paint its azure skies?
Rocky spires grace Nature's shrine,
Scarlet sage and columbine.
Indian paint brush dipped in flame
Borders paths, the haunt of game.
Stately pines of giant height
From abysses dark as night
Rise to guard from profanation
This great forest reservation.

High and higher mounts the trail,
Lost to sight is sleepy vale,
Beetling crags and yawning depths,
Granite basins, moss-grown steps,
Sleeping hermit's great stone face
Over which blue shadows chase,
Graceful fern and crystal spring,
Rainbow trout and birds on wing,
Tumbling falls, and startled deer—
How describe El Porvenir?

Memoriam

Raymond Lindenschmitt, Evansville, Indiana, brother of Sister Mary Jean.

Martin Montoya, El Paso, Texas, brother of Sister Carmen.

Mrs. Marie Hoyer, Los Angeles, California.

Mrs. Josephine Schelling, Albany, New York.

John Aldworth, Chicago, Ill.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.



Crusaders Baseball Team at Las Vegas. The Crusaders have had marked success in their various athletic games, but they are most admired for their outstanding character that is as brave in defeat as in victory.

Modern Crusaders

by Sister Evelyn

ONE thousand and twelve public school children, ranging from first grade to senior high school students, from Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Las Vegas, are enrolled in our religious instruction classes.

In addition to these regular religion classes, the Catechists at Las Vegas have organized a very successful division of "The Crusaders of Christ the King." This organization, known as the Ninth Crusade Division, is made up of public school boys.

The Crusaders of Christ the King constitute a real army of Catholic boys, loyal to Christ and fighting under His banner. The Crusaders are taught the rudiments of marching, and while standing at attention, each Crusader keeps his right hand over his heart to remind him of his silent offering:

My hands are Yours,
My heart is, too;
Oh, may they do
Great things for you.

Every Sunday the Crusaders attend Mass, entering and leaving the Church in formation. The officers are in charge of the boys all during the

Mass. They use a signal flag for all commands in Church, thus avoiding vocal commands in the presence of their Sacramental Leader.

In true army fashion, the Crusaders are organized into Companies. The Captain has under him two lieutenants, four sergeants, eight corporals, and thirty-two privates. All officers must be at least fifteen years of age. The reserve officers comprise boys from fifteen to eighteen years of age, and the vanguard is for boys nine years and under.

On the day of their reception into the Crusade army, the recruits make a profession of faith, and then pledge themselves "to observe faithfully the discipline of the Crusade Army and to fight with all their strength the battle of their King against Communism."

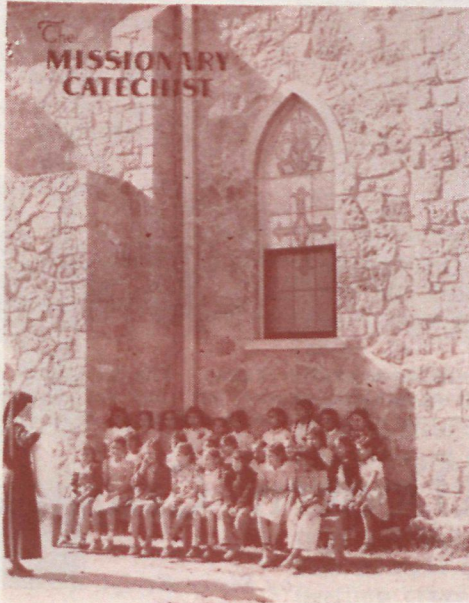
The banner of the Crusaders, as well as their signal flag, is white with a red cross. The white stands for purity and strength; the red cross signifies love and sacrifice and shows that the Crusader is ready to sacrifice even his life, if necessary, for love of his King.

The battle cry of the Crusaders is "VIVA CRISTO REY!"

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The Missionary Catechists are teaching religion to more than FORTY



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