

The Child of Mary

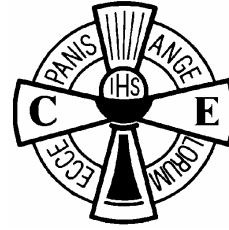
For earthly joys I do not pine,
Nor sigh that poverty is mine;
For I have gained a matchless prize,
And thus I stand beneath the skies;
THE CHILD OF MARY.

No monarch's crown, though gemmed and bright,
Dazzling the awed beholder's sight,
Was ever worn with loftier grace
Than is the bank whereon you trace;
THE CHILD OF MARY.

The scar upon the warrior's breast,
By which the hero is confest;
Was never prized with such sweet care
As is the simple badge I wear;
AS CHILD OF MARY.

Bright Queen of Heaven, I'll daily prove,
To thee my fealty and love.
By the pure heart and spotless name
Which ever in the world proclaim;
THE CHILD OF MARY.

And when death's hour has come for me,
When I shall wing my flight to thee,
The Angels will in concert sweet
With strains of heavenly music greet;
THE CHILD OF MARY.



Handmaids of Christ and Children of Mary

Supplement to the Bulletin of the Eucharistic Crusade in Ireland

May 2007
Month of Our Lady



This leaflet is intended for high-school girls. Being part of the Eucharistic Crusade, you will receive the bulletin of the Crusade and pray for the intentions of the Crusade. As girls, Our Lady is your special model. Therefore as well as being Crusaders and Handmaids of Christ, you are also Children of Mary. The purpose of these few pages is to help you in your spiritual life.

A Few Words from the Chaplain

The enrolments will take place during the Summer Camp. More people will be able to attend then and also it will give us the opportunity to make a better preparation for those important promises.

Be kind enough to give to your parents the information leaflet and the application form for the camp. Please send it back to me quickly so that we can start making arrangements.

AN EASY WAY TO BECOME A SAINT By Fr Paul O'Sullivan, OP

Chapter 1 - TWO KINDS OF SAINTS

THE CHILDREN OF FATIMA

What happened more recently at Our Lady's sanctuary in Fatima will serve as another lesson on how to reach great holiness by simple means. The Angel Guardian of Portugal came to prepare the three chosen children who were later on destined to see Our Blessed Lady. Three things the Angel bade them do, viz., to pray devoutly, to hate sin and to offer to God with patience the sufferings the Almighty would be pleased to send them, this for His greater glory and for the salvation of souls. God's Holy Mo-

If you wish to contribute or share with others in this bulletin, please contact Fr. Biérier in Dun Laoghaire. Email : bierer@sspx.net Eucharistic Crusade, 12 Tivoli Terrace South, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin

ther herself, when she came, taught them the same lessons, which enabled these poor ignorant little children to become worthy of their glorious mission. Can we not do what three poor, unlettered children did? We ourselves from time to time meet with simple souls whose extraordinary virtue is made evident by a single act.

A dear old woman run over by a carriage in Dublin and horribly crushed was rushed to a hospital. One of the Mercy Nuns who became her nurse tried with infinite delicacy to comfort and console her. What was not the nun's surprise when the patient opened her eyes and said, "Sister dear, are you telling me to be resigned to God's holy will? Let me tell you that God's holy will has been always to me as welcome as the fruit to the tree." Poor, with many sorrows and needs during her long life, she now, in the throes of agony, manifested her perfect union with the will of God.

Monsignor Robert Hugh Benson, the convert son of the Protestant Archbishop of Canterbury, while still a priest, went for a short visit to Catholic Ireland, of which he had heard so much. At his request, a friend took him to visit some of the poor sick in their little homes.

He saw what he called "wonders." These dear sufferers amazed the young convert by their faith, patience and perfect resignation to the will of God. One old man was suffering from an awful cancer, already in an advanced stage, which was eating away his breast. Father Benson, full of compassion, tried to say some words of comfort to him. "Oh my, Father, it's nothing; replied the old man. "Sure in a few days I will be with God in Heaven. Didn't He suffer much more for me?"

On his return to England, Father Benson wrote a touching article on the heroic patience and faith of these poor people. "They seem to see God," he said.

(Continues next month)

Instruction upon meditation

Meditation, or mental prayer, is a devout and fruitful consideration of Divine things, and of all that is conducive to the acquirement of virtue and of eternal salvation. Now we come to the points of the meditation, which are the essential part of this exercise after the preparation. We keep this from last month as we must try our best on these points. There are three and in each one of them we are to apply our memory, understanding and will. The memory presents to the understanding a truth to be considered; the understanding examines it, studies it, dwells upon its meaning, weighs the advantages of fulfilling what it enjoins, and the evil of doing what it forbids. The will, enlightened by God's grace, determines to carry out in practice what the understanding shows to be conformable to the will of God.

At the end of each point, and more especially before the close of the meditation, we have the colloquies, in which the soul addresses herself with earnestness to God, to beg for grace and strength to keep most exactly the good resolutions she has made. We may, at one time, address our prayers to God the Father, at another to Our Lord, or to the Holy Ghost.

6th Meditation – On Hell

Contemplate what the damned souls suffer in hell. Descend alive into that pit of fire, as the Holy Scripture advises. Enter that prison of God's justice, that furnace of fire never to be extinguished, lighted up by the breath of an angry God. It is truly a lake of fire and brimstone, a land of misery, darkness, and horror, where there is no light, no order, but everlasting confusion, wailing, and despair. Can I, so sensible to pain, even the least, believe all this, and still be so mad as to commit mortal sin.

SAINT MONICA

Widow (332-388)

Feastday : May 4th

Saint Monica, the mother of Saint Augustine, was born in 332 of a Christian family of the ancient city of Tagasta in northern Africa. After a girlhood of singular innocence and piety, she was given in marriage to Patricius, a pagan. She at once devoted herself to his conversion, praying for him always and winning his reverence and love by the holiness of her life and her affectionate forbearance. She was rewarded by seeing him baptized a year before his death.

When her son Augustine went astray in faith and habits, her prayers and tears were incessant. She once begged a learned bishop that he would talk to her son, in order to bring him to a better disposition, but he declined, despairing of success with a young man at once so gifted and so headstrong. At the sight of her prayers and tears, he nonetheless bade her be of good courage, for it could not happen that the child of those tears should perish.

Augustine, by going to Italy, was able for a time to free himself from his mother's importunities, but he could not escape from her prayers, which encompassed him like the providence of God. She followed him to Italy; and there, by his marvelous conversion, her sorrow was turned into joy.

At Ostia, shortly before they were to re-embark for Africa, Augustine and his mother sat at a window conversing on the life of the blessed. She turned to him and said, "My son, there is nothing now I care for in this life. What I shall now do, or why I remain on this earth, I know not. The one reason I had for wishing to linger in this life a little longer was that I might see you a Catholic Christian before I died. This grace God has granted me superabundantly, seeing you reject earthly happiness to become His servant." A few days afterwards she had an attack of fever and died at the age of fifty-six, in the year 388.

Reflection. It is impossible to set any bounds to what persevering prayer may do. It gives man a share in the Divine Omnipotence. Saint Augustine's soul lay bound in the chains of heresy and an illegitimate union, both of which had by long habit grown inveterate. They were broken by his mother's prayers.

