# Our Lady of Perpetual Help



### Devotions

The Historic Tablet Of Perpetual Help

Editor's Note: This is the third of a series of articles by Father Seidel, Redemptorist missionary, on the miraculous Picture of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. These articles, appearing exclusively in Rochester in the CATHOLIC COURIER, official newspaper of the diocese, are being printed in connection with the special novenas and tridua being conducted in various parts of the diocese and particularly at St. Joseph's Church, in various parts of the diocese and particularly at St. Joseph's Church, in various parts of the diocese and particularly at St. Joseph's Church, in various parts of the diocese and particularly at St. Joseph's Church, in various parts of the diocese and particularly at St. Joseph's Church, in various parts of the diocese and particularly at St. Joseph's Church, in various parts of the diocese and particularly at St. Joseph's Church, in various parts of the diocese and particularly at St. Joseph's Church, in various parts of the diocese and particularly at St. Joseph's Church, in various parts of the diocese and particularly at St. Joseph's Church, in various parts of the diocese and particularly at St. Joseph's Church, in various parts of the diocese and particularly at St. Joseph's Church, in various parts of the diocese and particularly at St. Joseph's Church, in various parts of the diocese and particularly at St. Joseph's Church, in various parts of the Montal Council of Catholic Women and the development of Catholic Women and the development of Catholic Women is an integral part of the National Council of Catholic Women is an integral part of the National Council of the Rochester in the authors at St. Gedulities to all women is an integral part of the National Council of the National Council of the Rochester in the authors at St. Gedulities to action at St. Gedulities to action at St. Gedulities to action at the Catholic Women and in a subject to ecclesiantical sanction at the Catholic Women and in a subject to ecclesiantical sanction at the catholic Women and in a subject to ecclesiantic nesday after the 8 o'clock Mass, at 12:15 p. m., 3 p. m., 5:30 p. m., and

#### By REV. CLARENCE SEIDEL, C.SS.R.

Until recently, the only source of information we had concerning the early history of the miraculous Picture of Perpetual dance has not been scheduled this Help was a sermon, delivered in 1715, by Conceptius Carocci, S.J., Today, however, we are more fortunate, for, as a result of the painstaking efforts of Fr. C. Henze, C. SS. R., we have at our disposal an authentic copy of the ancient historic tablet on which was written the true story of Perpetual Help. Composed as early as the pontificate of Alexander VI, that is, between the years St. Matthew, the Apostle. 1492-1503, it possesses far greater authority and merits a more ready assent than does Carocci's sermon. While Carocci's ser- native of Crete stole this Picture of mon is, for the most part, in harmony with the story of the tab- the Virgin, which had wrought many by their Bishops, representatives of let, yet here and there it strikes a discordant note. These errors miracles in a church of that island, national organizations and women tirely by dues from smilated organizations. for such they really are- will be revealed in the account of the With the Picture concealed among prominent in the various fields of sotablet itself, and more fully explained in a following chapter.

True we do not possess the copy of the tablet in the Third Vol-

and foreigners, might read it.

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hung for three centuries -1499- thor's work a third copy was discov-1798) -close to our Picture, where ered, in 1923, by Father Henze, all could read the story, in old St. [C. SS. R. Matthew's Church on the Esquiline together with the church, in 1798, is to be found): "On a wooden tab- which they sought. when Napoleon's legions, like swoop- let hanging on the railings of the churches in utter ruin.

Three Copies Exist luckily, is not the case For, three story of their discovery In 1903. ter concerning the Picture of Perpetual Help. Little did he suspect the surprise that awaited him. Scarcely had he made his first in quiry when, to his utmost joy, Peter Wenzel, sometime sub-prefect of the Vatican archives, presented him with a copy of the original tablet which he had accidentally found among the pages of an old codex, compiled by a certain Turrigius. This discovery encouraged Father Kaas to continue his investigations. He did so, and he was rewarded for his many hours of trying toil by finding a second

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### Alhambra Invites Friends to Social Tuesday, Feb. 28

All friends of the Knights of Columbus and Alhambra are invited to attend the card party and dance being conducted Tuesday evening. February 28 in Columbus Civic Center ballroom for the benefit of the Knights of Columbus state convention fund.

The party is in charge of Norman A. O'Brien who is being assisted by committee of wives and sweet-

Alhambra as the annual dinner

#### is as follows:

(alms The Storm

"A certain merchant who his wares, he boarded a ship and set clai work. At this meeting, organout to sea. But soon a great storm igation of the N. C. C. W. was peroriginal tablet a piece of parchusent ume of a work by Brutius. In the arose, and all the sailors began to feeted and the first Board of Direcaffixed to a wooden board as it Sixteenth Volume of the same au despair of their safety. Though they tors elected. knew nothing of the Picture on How Organised: board, they prayed most fervently to God and the Virgin to be saved from Women is an affiliation of a the impending danger. And as it (a) National organizations of Cath-Turrigius prefaces his copy of the It was most likely destroyed, tablet with these words (this account was God's will, they reached the port

"A year later, the merchant came ing vultures, bore down upon the high altar in St. Matthew's Church." to Rome, bringing the Picture along Eternal City, leaving some thirty And Brutius heads the copy of his with him. There he was laid low by Third Volume thus: "Plety and de- a malignant disease. Immediately (c) State and Local organizations of 50 Chestnut Street, when Mrs. Marvotion were here increased in a won- he summoned to his bedside a Ro-Sad, indeed, would be our lot did derful manner by the miraculous man friend of his with whom he was (d) we not possess authentic copies of Picture of the Blessed Virgin, which well acquainted; he asked his friend this most treasured tablet. But such, was brought to this place on March to care for him in his present ill-27. 1499. A merchant took it by ness, promising at the same time to Why Organized: copies, so far as we know, exist. And stealth from the island of Crete, and return the favor, should God see fit here we beg indulgence to relate the carried it to Rome. The account (of to restore his health. The Roman through which the Catholic women this incident) is related on two old received the merchant into his own of the country may speak and act as Rev Joseph Kaas, C. SS R., went to tablets, one in Latin, and the other house, and did all in his power to real tablets, one in Italian, which, as he adds in his lieve his every want. But the dischurch or of the country demands Sixteenth Volumer hare preserved in ease continued to grow more vio-such expression. this (i.e., St. Matthew's) church, lent. Seeing that his last day was Both tell the same story." The ac-approaching, the sick man called his increased power by means of this count was written in both languages, friend and, with tears in his eyes, united voice; extended influence we believe, so that all, both natives besought him to grant him one last through representation in national It must have been difficult for he would refuse him nothing. Hav-through a uniform program endorsed Brutius to make out the letters of ing obtained this assurance the merthe tablet, now, more than one hun-chant divulged the entire story of tral clearing bureau of information dred and seventy years old, not only the Picture; how he had stolen it dred and seventy years old, not only the ricture; now no had stolen it and contact with the other Depart-because at this time, that is, 1670, from a church thad wrought ments of the N. C. W. C.: a channel they were in a much faded condition, many miracles; and that it was to be for international relations with the but also because, in order to get the found among his effects. 'Because of lorganized groups of Catholic women entire account on the tablet, they this. I beg of you, he said, 'when in other countries: a corps of trained had been written very closely to-death which is near shall have degether. But this did not deter Bruprived me of the power of taking the to carry on specific works.

Picture where I would—I beg of you a fact fully proved by the twenty- to put it in some church where, you How Directed: manuscript think, there is a place more works now in the Vatican Library, priate for such a Picture.'

"After the merchant's death, the tional Directors, one from each ecso he undertook the task of presenting an accurate transcript of the Picture was found among his belong-

Henze's scientific work, "Mater de would die a miserable death. Where-ture, she was cured. Perpetuo Succursu," published at upon the Roman bagan to fear. Next Bonn, Germany, in 1926. We here morning he related this whole ocsubmit an English translation which currence to his wife, and begged her

ease, and died.

"The Virgin then appeared in a Christ, of our Lord, Pope Alexander

She told her all about her husband's opposed him, had disregarded them, let's composition. If we can prove

### Rochester Diocesan Council of the National Council of Catholic Women

Office 1020 Columbus Civic Center

So frequently are we asked, "What clesiastical province of the United is the N. C. C. W.?", we believe the States. Five of the National Directollowing explanation will be of interested at each annual Conterest and inspiration to all our reption, to serve for a term of three Years. This Board elects annually from

The N. C. C. W. is ananced en-

(To Be Continued)

Local

Diocean ....

National ....

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

What It Is:

Secretary and a Treasurer. Grand Knight, Dr. Walter P. tional Council of Catholic Men con-O'Neill has sent out notices inviting attitute the Lay Department of the Catholic Women. all Knights of Columbus to attend Conference and are thus an official Headquarters and Staff: all Knights of Columbus to attend Conference and appropriate The N. C. C. W. is iocared, while this Albambra party, it will be the part of the program of the Catholic the other departments of the N. C. W. C., at the N. C. W. C. Headquar-When Organized:

ters, 1212 Massachusetts Avenue, At the call of the Most Reverend Washington, D. C. Joseph Schrembs, Chairman of the This National Office of the N. C. Department of Lay Organizations of C. W. is conducted by a trained oseph Schrembs, Chairman of the the National Catholic Welfare Con-staff, consisting of an Executive "How the Picture of the Virgin Washington, D. C., March 4, 5, 6, Secretary, a Field Representative, and four office secretaries.

This group included representatives sent from the various Dioceses How Financed: Organs of Publicity:

The National Council of Catholic

olic women, enjoying ecclesian-

24. at the Columbus Civic Center, the Ordinary: Catholic women; guerite U. May will give a talk on

Individual Catholic women in welfare of the Church.

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request. The Roman promised that conferences; greater effectiveness by authority; the economy of a cen-Social Workers who may be engaged

tablet. Moreover, he was styled by ings. But the wife of the dead man's therefore that she was lamenting and Pope's pontificate. a contemporary writer, the Benedic- friend prevailed upon her husband by weeping because she had been the tine Abbot, Cornelius Magarinus, "a her entreaties not to take the Pic-cause of her husband's death. To most learned and plous author."
Hence, we experience no difficulty in placed it in her bedroom, and kept it is to believe such things. The virging his copy as trustworthy.

With these three copies before him, Father Henze set to work to him to him to have a him to him learn the true story of Perpetual to keep the Picture, but to put it in pictures here below. Why, if you Help. His was the task of comparing some more honorable place. He neg-were to put it into the fire, the fire all three to discover wherein they lected to do so. A certain period of would burn it up just like any other agreed, and wherein they differed, time having elapsed, the Virgin re- piece of wood. And if you are so They differed, he learned, only in turned and advised him as before, timid, give it to me. In a similar minor details, such as spelling, use saying, that he should not keep the strain she continued to heap insultof tenses, case-endings, etc., but they Picture in his house. But this apling slurs upon the Picture. When agreed in all the essential particu-parition he likewise disregarded, this neighbor returned home that lars of the story. The completed Wherefore the Virgin admonished evening, she was stricken with a and corrected account, written in him again, adding that if he did not miraculously-sent infection, But on Latin, may be found in Father take the Picture to some church he making a solemn promise to the Pic-

### Second Apparition

"Finally, the Blessed Virgin apwe have made very literal to bring to donate the Picture to some mentioned little girl, commanding peared a second time to the aboveout more clearly the simplicity and church. In reply his wife declared her to tell her mother to place her out more clearly the simplicity and control that she was astonished at his say-Picture between St. Mary Major's position of the Picture. ing such silly things. 'Why she and St. John Lateran's in a certain said, (I am not an infidel but a church dedicated to St. Matthew. Christian; and besides, we are not the Apostie. The mother did as she can draw a good intrinsic argument the only ones who keep a picture was clod, and sent for the Auguston for its truthfulness. "For," as Fr. ture or the obsidiate disobstilence of memorials the contract of the like this in their house: in fact, she tinian Friars who were then in said, 'no Christian is of so evil a life charge of that church. In the pressaid, no Christian is of so evil a life as not to have a picture of the Virgin, or of Christ Grucified, or some other picture of this kind in his house. With this the Roman sub-mitted to his wife.

"The Virgin again appeared to the Roman who was so paralyzed in both his right arm and said: 'Behold, several times have I warned you, and even tried to frighten you with threats. God and the Virgin, and promising to that you might remove me from this place; but you would not heed me. If is now necessary, therefore, that you depart first, so that I may thereafter find a, more suitable in the above-mentioned church of abode.' At that moment the Roman sub-mitted to the wing and promising the charge of that church. In the pressure the merchant from Greic ci the home of his Roman friend; imagine in the second, the sudden death of the Roman; imagine the cloud the removable of the Roman; imagine, too. the sudden death of the Roman; imagine the charge of the imagine, too. the sudden death of the Roman; imagine the charge of the right arm and of the Roman; imagine, too. the sudden heet to his wife.

"The Virgin again appeared to the permoved in both his right arm and said: 'Behold, several times have I warned you, and even tried to frighten you with threats. God and the Virgin, and promising to dwelling of a private individual to a public church; and the sensation openly declared that he had dism was find that you depart first, so that I may thereafter find a, more suitable in the above-mentioned church of saleshood have been faisely asserted.

The Virgin again appeared to the merchant from Greic cit the home the encount, imagine his the account, we simply reply. "Cut the sensution death of the Roman; imagine his the account, we simply reply. "Cut the sensution of their narration? Why should we minimate the bono?" Who could have profite the imagine the sensution. The sensution of the Roman; imagine the first imagine, too. the Roman; imagine the sensution of the received the imagine the sensution. The sensution of the receive

was delivered up to a horrible dis- or March, 1498, in the pontificate of our most holy Father and Lord in

the apparition to her mother, and up to inspire the faithful with devo- ly, a participant in the grand celebra- and visitations as recorded in our with utmost her mother, hearing it began to tion towards our Lady? Nothing is then of that memorable day. Now, tables, in fact, the appearance of and autre autracts tremble, for she, too, had had a simi-farther from the truth. For this ac-suppose this tablet were untrue, that little child most already plate and secural lar vision: and realizing that she count is solidly founded on historic would not Cardinal Aegidius have vinces us that the story is true for Picture's west had been the cause of her husband's fact, and, consequently, worthy of thrown it out of his church? Would Mary generally chooses little childeath, she began to weep. At the the most exacting scientific belief, not he who loved truth so passionate dren to be her messengers. Did not same time she firmly resolved to re-But this is only a statement. Have ly, have destroyed this piece of false-the Blessed Virgin reveal here in move the Picture from her house, we any arguments to prove it? Cer-hood? Moreover, the same may be maculate: Goncapilon le the illie But a neighbor of hers, seeing her tainly; and they are mamerous. Al said of the succeeding cardinals. Bernadeltet Did not our less of the succeeding cardinals. Belief the reason low us to present them:

visions and how he because she had concerns the time or date of the tab. Who finds there anything imposed Alpet What wond ble, or even improbable? What is Perpetual Help sho

## :-: SODALTALIK

its membership, by ballot vote, a President, three Vice Presidents, a

From Los Augeles to New York, There is no from Chicago to San Ancodio, there is 18 not go the development of Catholic leaders. A new era of Bodelly adirky has The N. C. C. W. is located, with

The youth of today are the men manufact Conception and women of tomorrow. In this official this retained accommon the morals or the lack of manufact Conception: norsis of modern youth is being title and the criticized, young men and women Joan of Are, There do are discussing Christ, the Model of in these two littles, what Perfect Manhood and are engaged in a Respect for Women erusade. The received be intelligent young Calhelle of today from 28. Peter believes in his faith because he the rebreary a known from study that it is a realist one. It took the able faith. These mediers fedicated valentine marks, believe in "doing unit others" as nay mitting was all number of Instances will show. For the enters with example, their buying milk for the enters of school children, glasses, their old are version of accordance by the clothes drives. Breille work, issued in Steephage and ling of catechium Boy and Ciri Seett semmittees. Agree I montlaned the Madern Youth

In connection with this very tepic and the re-We are looking for a large at recent numbers of the 'America' vetica of the tendance at the regular monthly Lord S.J., has to say on the subject roof bit of its tical approval;

(b) Diocesan Councils, organized council of the N. C. C. W., to be ition to know and understand meeting and held on Friday evening, February or youth. Will the to held on Friday evening, February or youth. orn youth. His view in optimistic might well make which is encouraging

I told you last week that the Bo-"Parent Education with the Grow dallty of Holy Chest Parish was Mother than terested in work for the general ing Family." The meeting is open going to be an active one, This week labitable the O welfare of the Church. I bring to you the proof of my state. You know prophecy. You will fine that I shall theree tathree. was written, during the ponlificate be hummering away on the theme famous of Alexander VI, who occupied the that Sodality is the right hand of the second choice was chair of Peter from 1488 to 1502, Pattor. This Sodality is alling that the foundroom of then we can see no reason why the capacity right now. The paston is east their Child Jesus account should not be believed. To couraging congregational singing bell of reason prove that such is the case, we need and the Bodality is taking it up with I shall read here but point to the peculiar formula a will and practicing or that they living with make tound at the end of our tablet. Such will soon rival the angelic chorms. formulae were commonly employed You know that if you hear your at that time to designate the reign neighbor singing you rather feel that ing pontificate. Let us cite only one you can summon up enough cour-example. It is from Rudolf Land- age to add your little tune even ani's "Storia degli Scavi di Roma." though you do not happen to be an that for Leat, the This notary begins his document opera star.

his eleventh year." How like is this entine was passed out to such girl elemerosm this moth ocial Workers who may be engaged to the last sentence of our tablet!

Another argument for its composition during the pontificate of Alexander VI. Is derived from the fact our Lady's color, and were the wind after his account of the tablet, that after his account of the tablet, the fact our Lady's color, and were the wind after his account of the tablet, the fact our Lady's color, and were the wind after his account of the tablet, the fact our Lady's color, and were the wind after his account of the tablet, the fact our Lady's color, and were the wind after his account of the tablet, the fact our Lady's color, and were the wind after his account of the tablet, the fact our Lady's color, and were the wind after his account of the tablet, the fact our Lady's color, and were the wind after his account of the tablet, the fact our Lady's color, and were the wind after his account of the tablet, the fact our Lady's color, and were the wind after his account of the tablet, the fact of the fact our Lady's color, and were the wind after his account of the tablet, the fact of the fact our Lady's color, and were the wind after his account of the tablet, the fact of the fact our Lady's color, and were the wind after his account of the tablet, the fact of the fact our Lady's color, and were the wind after his account of the tablet, the fact of the fact W. is in the hands of fifteen Na. Turrigius gives several other does the heart of Our Lady, the second dulists in year attended. The heart of Our Lady, the second dulists in year attended. The heart of Our Lady, the second dulists in year attended. which bear some reference to this hearts were made for each month of st. Andrew's feel pope's positificate. Brutius, upon examing the text of on general Communion Sunday she rather feery was the go the tablet, asserts in his Third Vol- pastes one of her little gold hearts his taple was "The said by its antiquity that it is of the for its lucidity but the idea is a good Majorety, the Din one, don't you think?
The Bodelity is also establishing

A contemporary of Brutius, Benedict Mellini, styles the tablet "an old plece of parchment." And Conceptius Carroci, S.J., declared, in 1775, that his sermon on the Madonna of Perpetual Help was based "upon a very old, memorial on parchment" which he found "in Besichen," who which he found "in Besichen," who wrote "in 1502."

The Sodality is also establishing for a montaling sodal ists. A very claver way of manage ing the last risks in the social entertainment of the held before Leat. First the sociality is have been devised. Prefect of the Sodality is have business has been candided. They inline it is a first pose of starting and the in turn have the right to appoint the social starting and the intern have the right to appoint the social starting and the social starting Clearly do these statements show the two Sodalists who will take Clearly do these statements show that the tablet was composed during the pontificate of Alexander VI; and, social part of the meetings are never should say at this point Getter such being the case, we can easily monotonous for each pair have new rosebinds while ye may fee believe that the erection of the tab-

Did you ever stop and think about present was assessmenthing which had auddenly pressure the Pastor was sented itself forcibly to you in a new down the middle light? Do you realize the tree mendous connotation of the word Sodalisis on the auddendance. "Sodality" in this country alone? (a.) ... fouble Communication of the second of the s

Catholic Liters

thus: "In the year of our Lord Inspired by the season the Mely of season the mely of season the season the mely of season the m

soming and Lant is 187 time of merides as special state of merides as special sta

Henze says, "imagine the arrival of the Roman's wife? It you object on would expect

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and as a result died. She confessed as we think we can that the indiet extraordinary in the their of the Pic, this

let was contemporaneous with the ex-

tected?"

This argument is even strength had nothing to gain by such an practice ened when we recall that in 1517, avowal, except perhaps, the edium made use of energy one of the most learned and upright of neighbors, taxed leastly country and lastly country and the time. vision to the Roman's six-year-old VI, in the seventh year of his point daughter, saying: 'Go and admonish tificate.''
your mother and grandfather, saying to them: "Holy Mary of Perpetual Help commands you to take her out and here we may unjustly ask, does of your house, otherwise you shall it merit belief? Is it not, perhaps, all die at once." The girl recounted merely some "plous legend" gotten in to her mother, and int to insuire the fatthful with devo-

low us to present them:

The first question to be settled. Besides, consider the text itself herds, blacked and the text itself herds.