Their Activities -:- OUR CATHOLIC WOMEN -:- Their Interests

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotions

MARY OUR MOTHER
LOVE HER AS SUCH

By JOHN A. LOFTUS, C. SS. R.

(Editor's Note: The author of this article in connection with the various devotions in honor of Our Mother of Perpetual Help is a seminarian the Redemptorist Seminary, Esopus, N. Y. He is versed in several languages and is an eminent student of Mariology.)

We Catholics are the members of a Family. God is our Father. Jesus Christ is our Brother; by atoning for our sins, He purchased for us the grace to be united with Him as His brethren. But a Family must have a Mother. That Mother is Mary, who in the cave at Bethlehem gave birth to Jesus. She is really our Mother, we are really her children. Every Catholic learns this at his own mother's knee, and learns to call with lisping lips upon his dear Mother Mary in Heaven.

But how much do we really know about Mary our Mother? What do we know about her motherhood, about her relations to the human race, her relations to Christians in particular? When we pray to her and call upon her as Our Mother, do we understand what that motherhood of hers means? Do we understand by what title she is the "Mother of Men"?

A Mother's Function

The function of a mother is to impart life. Through a mother according to the flesh, man receives his physical life. Mary, the mother on earth of Jesus Christ, is our spiritual mother; through her we receive spiritual or supernatural life. How can this be? How can a mortal creature, of the same human nature as ourselves, be for us the medium of supernatural life?

It happens in this way. Supernatural life is the life of God participated by man. If we possess supernatural life, it is because God communicates to us His own Life. God, in His infinite, overflowing Goodness, looks from Heaven upon His creatures, men and women, and freely wills to elevate them to share in His Divine Life. He imparted this supernatural life once, to Adam, the first man. Adam was the head of the human race. Through him, supernatural life (another name for what is sanctifying grace) was to be communicated to all who should be his descendants. But Adam sinned. *He turned away from God*, he lost grace, lost it for himself and for all those who were to spring from his seed. However, he remained the head of the human race, but instead of being, for his posterity, the channel of supernatural life, he became rather the source of supernatural death; for, from him, the stain of original sin has been communicated and continues to the whole of the human race.

But it would not have been fitting that the designs of God in our regard should be thwarted by sin. God's love is a mighty force, and will not be balked, not even by man's guilt and to restore him to supernatural life; He resolved that, in spite of everything, His original plan should be carried out—that from one head of the human race, grace should be communicated to mankind. This time the Head was to be His own Divine Son, the Infinite and Eternal God, Who would take unto Himself a perfect human nature. Jesus Christ the Man-God, the incarnate Son of the Heavenly Father, is this new Head of the human race. He is the source and the fountain head and the treasury of all grace. From Him do we receive all supernatural life. We are called to share this life, and it is freely given to all those who respond to God's call. It is communicated from Jesus to us, not only by reason of the human nature which He shares in common with us, but also and especially by reason of His office as Head of humanity.

Mary Truly Our Mother

Now, what has all this to do with Mary? Simply this—that, if all supernatural life flows down to us from Christ our Head, if all grace comes to us from Him in Whom is the fulness of grace,—then, she who gave us Christ has truly given us Life, and is therefore truly our Mother. And it is Mary who has given us Christ. God willed to make His whole plan of redemption and justification depend upon the free consent of the Virgin of Nazareth. We could not have received supernatural life except from Christ our Head; and Christ could not have been the Head of the human race unless He took to Himself a human nature, unless He were truly the Son of Man; and it lay entirely in the power of the free-will of Mary to give to the Eternal Son of God His human nature. Her "Fiat" in response to the Angel Gabriel—"Be it done unto me according to thy word"—really and truly gave us our Redeemer, the Man-God, Jesus Christ;—and "with Him, how hath she not also given all things"—that is, all grace and life?

Mary, then, in giving us Christ, has given us life. Therefore, she is truly our Mother. Now, this life, this "Grace," which, through Mary's consent has been given to men, is essentially a Divine adoption. When we receive a communication from Christ of that Divine Life which is in Him in all His plenitude, we become by adoption that which He is by nature, Sons of God. We can never, of course, be elevated to such a dignity of Eternal Sonship as is His; but can and do participate in some measure in His Sonship. Therefore, we are His brethren. God has "predestinated us to be made conformable to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brethren." Those who have received grace have been united to Jesus as His brethren by adoption. Therefore His Mother is their Mother. Therefore, Mary is the Mother of all Christians.

Like every devoted mother, Mary nourishes and cares for her children throughout their spiritual never tire of repeating these loving growth. That supernatural life which is communicated to us at Baptism, may be and should be increased. It is through Mary, the Mediatrix of All Graces, that we receive from Christ every fresh communication of grace. Everything in the supernatural order, every grace, comes to us through the hands of Mary. Therefore, not only is she our Mother in a general and indirect way inasmuch as she has given us Christ Who is the source of grace and Life; but she is also our Mother inasmuch as through her mediation we receive each particular grace whereby supernatural life is increased in us.

You will perhaps be saying that all this is a very peculiar way of talking about motherhood. This is all very different from what we have known and experienced of mother-love. Where are the tender eyes and gracious caresses we knew in childhood? Where the hand that soothed our fevered brow when the little sicknesses of childhood oppressed us? Where the sweet voice that taught us to know of God and Heaven and the Saints? Where that gentle smile of forgiveness when in childish weakness we had fallen into some fault? Are not these the things which make a mother so dear to us? Are not these the tokens and pledges of mother-love?

It would not be becoming to belittle these fond remembrances we all retain—remembrances of how much a mother's love once meant to us. Still, to protect, to teach, to comfort, to sympathize, to forgive—all these loving offices of a mother are but the accidental offices, the essential function of motherhood is to impart life. It is only because of the close bond generated between her who communicates life and the receiver of life, that there is always such a strong and tender love between a mother and a child. Love and kindness are the consequence of motherhood, not its essential ingredients.

However, it is well for us to consider also how Mary exercises these secondary offices of a Mother towards us. To understand, we must see with eyes of faith and love; it is not given to us here below to see our Mother face to face, to look into her eyes, to behold her smiling upon us, to feel her hand upon our brow. We ought to long for it and desire it as the Saints have done, as Saint Alphonsus did when he cried out so ardently in one of his beautiful prayers "Ah Lady, when shall I kiss that hand which has dispensed so many graces to me!" But while awaiting that blessed day, we must be content to recognize Mary's favors to us and gratefully acknowledge her own sweet, secret, invisible way of showing her maternal love for us. She does indeed comfort us, for she is "Comfortress of the Afflicted" and "Cause of Our Joy"; but unless we have the eyes of faith, we shall see only some unexpected turn of fortune, we shall fail to recognize the hand of Mary which so disposes things in our favor. She does teach us, for she is the "Seat of Wisdom" and "Mother of Good Counsel"; every interior light we receive, enabling us satisfactorily to settle some serious doubt or vexing problem, comes through Mary, but again we must have faith, for her own lips do not speak to us.

Yes, "the love of all mothers is a shadow in comparison with the love which Mary bears to each soul which is in the state of grace." If in our lifetime we have known how tenderly and constantly a mother's heart can love, let us believe that that knowledge has been given us only in order that we may form some faint concept of the love which our heavenly Mother bears to us. Mary loves us more than any mother can, because she loves Jesus more, far more, than any other human heart can love Him; and in loving Him, she loves us, too, who are His adopted brethren; she loves us to whom she has communicated life. And if she loves us, then she exercises her love towards us; she guides and protects, comforts and enlightens us. Let us therefore have confidence in the genuineness of her love for us and in the efficacy of her mediation. When we receive favors, let us recognize her gracious hand bestowing them. When we are comforted, let us acknowledge her motherly kindness. When we are strengthened to endure life's trials, let us realize that it is her maternal arm which is supporting us.

Mary is our Mother, both because she has given us Life, and because she has shown and shows to us all the tenderness of a mother's love. What, then, do we owe to her? What are our duties to this heavenly Mother? If we wish to discover what Mary expects and desires of us in our character as her children, we have two models which we can study and imitate. The first is the filial love we bear our own mothers—the gratitude, the obedience, the respect, the solicitude which we have for them. The second and by far the more perfect model for our conduct towards Mary is the conduct of Jesus towards her. He is her Son by right of birth as by adoption; as He acted in her regard, He wishes us also to act. And how did Jesus manifest His love for Mary? As every child does—by submission, respect, thankfulness, confidence. But beyond all these ordinary tributes of love, Jesus to an eminent degree honored His Mother. He showered graces and privileges upon her in such profusion that human lips cannot adequately praise her, and even the Archangel Gabriel can find no other suitable greeting than "Hail, full of grace." Of course, we cannot honor Mary by conferring grace on her; but Jesus wishes that we should co-operate with Him in honoring her by praising and extolling the graces which He has conferred on her. This is how we show ourselves truly children of Mary. There is nothing we can give her, except praise; let us give that abundantly, give it in union with the praise of the Church, in union with Jesus Himself. Let us celebrate all her feasts, exalt all her virtues, commemorate all her mysteries. Let us exclamations "Hail, full of grace", "Hail, Holy Queen", "Holy Mary, Mother of God". By doing this we shall not only be honoring our Mother Mary; we shall also be glorifying the Father Who created her so holy and pure; the Son Who loves her above all creatures; the Holy Spirit Who sanctified her and chose her for His bride; and lastly, we shall be helping to fulfill Mary's own promise: "Behold from henceforth all generations shall call me

Idea Wins Favor

To this Catholic woman, Sarah Padden, actress, of Los Angeles, goes the credit for originating the idea of having the entire nation set aside one day each year as "President's Day," a custom inaugurated this year. Off the stage Miss Padden is known as Mrs. George C. Sackett. (Bullock's Studio.)

Household Hints

A little lemon juice adds great zest to the hash made from leftovers.

Plan meals carefully, but not so closely that you are uncertain whether you are going to have enough.

The most fashionable tables are now being set with pure white china. Thin, white china—not cream color nor oyster white—is the choice of those who make a fine art of table setting.

Parsley keeps indefinitely in the ice box. Therefore, it saves time and trouble to chop a lot at one time and put in a glass jar, near the ice.

When cleaning the carpet sweeper be sure to cut all lint and hair from the brushes. After emptying the boxes, wipe out with a cloth dipped in kerosene and also rub the oil over the bristles of the brushes. This will prevent dust from rising during the sweeping.

If a burn or scald is covered with white of egg it will take away a lot of pain.

The tailor marks the length of the buttonhole with beeswax, which holds the cut threads together. Ordinary soap will do almost as well for home work.

SODALTALK

Recording the Activities of Rochester Parish Sodalities Union

The summer is passing and from the various sections of the city, bits of Parish Sodality gossip come to our ears.

On July 9th, St. Mary Sodalists had a grand picnic at the home of Miss Eleanor Welch. Following the general Mass and Communion and breakfast on the fly the Sodalists started out in a parade of cars for the woods and nature's wide open spaces.

The Sodalists of St. Mary's Parish presented a Spiritual Bouquet to the Reverend Thomas Purvis, former director of the Sodality in appreciation of his kindly interest and guidance.

At this time, we beg to introduce the officers of St. Mary's Sodality: President, Miss Susanne McCarthy; Vice President, Miss Marie Trott; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Marjorie Donlon; Recording Secretary Miss Norine Sullivan; Treasurer, Miss Patricia Brennan.

Did you tune in on the Rochester Catholic Hour last Sunday? The Sodalists of Holy Rosary Parish sang the hymns, Ave Verum Corpus and Queen of the Rosary.

A bridge supper was given by the Sodalists of Blessed Sacrament Parish at the home of Mrs. William Bromley, 1440 Highland Avenue. The afternoon and evening were given over to bridge. Supper was served at 6:30 p. m.

The eastbound train on August 26 or 27 will be carrying a fine delegation from Rochester to the New York Summer School of Catholic Action.

A Sodalist correspondent from the middle west writes "The New Orleans S. S. C. A. (Summer School of Catholic Action) was grand, and I loved it more than ever. I wish I could come on to the New York one, but I know it is impossible. Of course, you'll be there?"

You see it is taken for granted that no one who can possibly make it will miss the Summer School. We might almost use the last sentence as a slogan "Of course, you'll be there?"

As the summer progresses the officers and heads of committees of the Rochester Parish Sodality Union are putting their heads together and are planning for the coming sodality year. It is to be hoped that the sodality movement will grow and flourish in Rochester.

The Rochester Parish Sodality Union has been organized to afford a meeting ground for the exchange of ideas and for the spreading of the aims of the sodality namely, personal sanctification and active Catholicity.

All the Sodalities in the city are invited to join the Union and to send delegates to the monthly union meeting. A thorough understanding of the ideals of the Sodality, its spiritual activities, its practical undertakings and the scope of its study and work will lend force and meaning to the slogan "A Sodality in every parish."

The Junior Cook

Salads served as desserts are excellent for an evening or afternoon, bridge or card party. Many times they are molded and served with sweetened dressings. The fruit salads should be thoroughly chilled and handled as little as possible to prevent mushiness. For fruit salads, any dressing without onions may be used, and the sweet fruit juice dressings are usually used for dessert. I am sure you will enjoy making and eating the following recipe:

Pineapple Salad

Place a slice of pineapple on lettuce leaf. Spread with cream cheese, then add chopped nut meats. Add cream mayonnaise to which whipped cream has been added. Sprinkle lightly with paprika and place a cherry in the center for garnishing.

DO YOU KNOW THAT:

Jams, jellies and marmalades are very easily made if certain rules are followed? The circular "Jams, Jellies and Marmalades" contains excellent directions and recipes. It is free for the asking. With your request enclose a three-cent stamp.

The "Preserving and Canning" pamphlet contains many excellent and economical recipes. It is especially helpful at this time of the year. It may be had for five cents (handling charges).

The large Molly Gavin Cookbook contains almost 3,000 recipes. It is bound in a blue and white washable cover and would make an ideal gift to a bride. For a limited time only the pamphlet "Preserving and Canning" will be sent with every cookbook ordered. The price of the large Molly Gavin Cookbook is $1.00 postpaid. Address: Molly Gavin, 1218 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D. C.

Rochester Diocesan Council of the National Council of Catholic Women

Office: 1020 Columbus Civic Center, 50 Chestnut Street

The Thirteenth Annual Convention of the National Council of Catholic Women will be held in St. Paul, Minn., October 7 to 11. In accordance with the constitution of the N. C. C. W., each local organization whose dues are paid is entitled to send one voting delegate to the convention. Affiliated national organizations, diocesan and state councils are entitled to two voting delegates.

At the directors meeting of the Rochester Diocesan Council, held in Geneva last week, Cecilia M. Yawman, diocesan president, and Katherine Doerbecker, executive secretary for the Rochester office, were chosen as Diocesan Council delegates. Mrs. Thomas A. Kane, president of the Geneva Deanery Council, and Mrs. Charles E. Githler, president of the Corning Deanery Council, were elected first alternates, Miss Elizabeth Harmon of Auburn and Mrs. James G. McCarthy, president of the Elmira Deanery Council, second alternates.

In addition to the names already given of Rochesterians attending the Geneva meeting the following were also present, the Misses Mary and Elizabeth Clark, Mrs. John Gysel, Mrs. Agnes Roche.

Many of the four hundred who took part a year ago in the pilgrimage to the Martyrs Shrine at Auriesville, New York, expressed a desire to repeat their visit. They will learn with pleasure that arrangements have been made with the New York Central Railroad for a pilgrimage from Rochester on Sunday, August 10th, the round trip ticket to be $2.50. Mass will be said after the pilgrims arrive at Auriesville. The inn is under new management this season, and a second large auditorium has been built.

A telegram embodying the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted at the directors' meeting in Geneva on July 18th, was sent to Mr. Ernest D. Rotton, president of the Finger Lakes Association, which was meeting on July 20th at Penn Yan:

Whereas a movement furthered by a group of prominent citizens of Central New York is in progress for the naming of the new bridge recently completed over the Seneca River on the Auburn and Rochester highway after Father Rene Menard, the first white resident of this locality, it is the will of the executive of the Rochester Diocesan Council of the National Council of Catholic Women to express its hearty approbation of the said project and to cooperate in every way possible toward its accomplishment.

NEW EYES can't be bought but . . . you can buy

TO BE SAFE, have your eyes examined by an oculist (eye physician). Then, have your glasses made by us according to his prescription.

BETTER VISION

MEDICAL ARTS BLDG.
277 Alexander St.

FORMAN'S

Annual August

FUR SALE

Commences Monday!

Inspiring fashions!

Exceptional values!

JULY 31 FUR PURCHASES WILL NOT BE BILLED UNTIL SEPT. 1

You PAY for It
Why Not OWN It?

The money lost by using old or inefficient refrigeration would buy an ELECTRICAL REFRIGERATOR. The average family actually pays for electrical refrigeration through losses in foods improperly kept, through food wasted and through small quantity buying.

You PAY for an electric refrigerator, why not OWN it. See our line of tested electrical refrigerators. Start saving SOON.

ROCHESTER GAS & ELECTRIC
RG&E
ALWAYS AT YOUR SERVICE

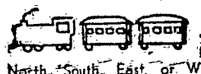
AS ONE WOMAN TO ANOTHER

By SUZANNE

MANY AN ARMADA of guests will be coming to your home these days. To establish your reputation as a charming hostess, don't fail to take especially your out of town guests, to the Edith Ellis Coffee Shop, 38 East Avenue, for lunch or dinner. It's the coolest place in town. Dinner 50c to $1. Reservations by appointment.

A WOMAN'S complexion should be cared for as a most precious possession. Yet like everything else too much care is almost as bad as none.

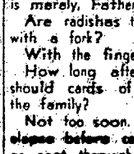
BLUE MONDAYS are a thing of the past since Tatlock Laundry have had their Damp Wash Service. They wash and return ready for ironing 18 lbs. of wash for only 90c. Call Main 3291.



OR IF YOU, yourself, are bound for points North, South, East or West, here's your chance to get "Dresses that are different" at a big reduction. Elinor's Dress Shop, 527 Chili Avenue, are having a clearance sale. Dresses that were formerly $8.95 and $10.95 now $6.95 and $7.95. Others, formerly $5.95 and $6.95 now $3.95 and $4.95. Near St. Augustine's. Open evenings.

ANNOUNCING the opening of the Polonia Beauty Shop, 93 Hudson Avenue. Finger waves, marcels and shampoos are 25c. For their customers comfort, they have installed the new, improved Hoffman drying system.

COLD FOODS do not require many dishes in serving and cut down dishwashing. During the summer months preparation of meals and housework should be systematized so as to give housekeepers extra time to enjoy life out-of-doors and thus build up the general health so as to have greater resistance against colds during the coming winter.



HAD DINNER yet in the Columbus Civic Center Dining Room. You're missing something if you haven't. Finer foods are featured in tempting varieties. 4th Floor Columbus Building, 50 Chestnut St.

HOUSEWIVES, prospective brides bargain hunters etc. Attention. The place is Sibley's, the time 9 A. M. Monday morning, the event, Sibley's Annual Midsummer Sale of Rugs and Furniture. The depression is over so there is no reason left for not buying all those things your home has been deprived of these last four years.

THE ARBITER

Do the fine points of social usage ever puzzle you? Perhaps SUZANNE can help you. If you wish her advice on matters of etiquette, address your inquiries to her in care of this column.

Should a woman be presented to a priest or is it correct to follow the natural order.

While it is not incorrect to present a priest to a woman, it is more respectful to the priestly office to present the woman to the priest. The short form then, is merely, Father Jones, Mrs. Smith.

Are radishes taken with the fingers or with a fork?

With the fingers as olives are taken.

How long after the death of a friend should cards of condolence be sent to the family?

Not too soon. At least a week should elapse before cards are left at the door or sent through the mail. Letters and