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The name, Holy Name Society, is in itself an inspiration to higher ideals in even the simplest walks of life.

Greetings to the Holy Name Societies from

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Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotions

IMITATE MARY IN ALL PRAYER

(The following article on true prayer, which avails us of Mary's help, was written for the CATHOLIC COURIER by Father Dobson, Redemptorist priest in charge of the Novena of Wednesdays in honor of Our Mother of Perpetual Help conducted each Wednesday in St. Joseph's Church, Rochester).

It is strange how some people react to the good things of life. Blessings fall about them and they fail to see them; or if they do see them, they are likely to deem them evil. Then their hearts rebel against God for His seeming cruelty. They think Him negligent of His duty, as if He had a duty towards us. Little time is utilized by such people in considering that God does not have to explain His actions to us, nor must He tell us that this or that is better for us than that for which our hearts are crying. If we could sometimes translate our pleas into common-sense language we would be started to find out that we are actually asking for suicide. What we want here and now might eventually lead to the death either of soul or body. God knows this and is kind enough to keep it a secret and to give us something that will be for the life of the body or the soul. And since our Blessed Lady has closest intimacy with the mind of the Trinity She knows far more than we do about what is good for us.

Selfish Desires are Condemned

It is quite painful to hearing someone that has been professing a love for Mary say disparaging things about Her. Has it been merely a selfish devotion that has brought them to Her Shrine? We would certainly not attempt to make a judgment because there might be some circumstance unknown to us that would alter our decision. But if we judge from apparent facts it seems that their love for Mary is second to their love of self.

Frequently pious ears have been shocked by such irreverent remarks as this: "Why doesn't the Mother of Perpetual Help answer my prayer? If She doesn't hurry up, I won't pray any more. She hears everybody else, I can't see why She doesn't grant my request." And we have had letters addressed to us that actually say that the person writing does not like Our Blessed Lady any more because She has not granted the favor asked of Her. Such an attitude is the very best that one could have. If one does not want Our Blessed Lady to hear one's prayers, and could we call them prayers? Not if we know the meaning of the word prayer. The raising of our hearts to God that is prayer. And it has different qualities, according to the reverence we wish to show God. If we get angry with Him or with Our Blessed Mother for their apparent deafness it proves that we are not praying but demanding. Therefore, we are disappointed.

How inspiring it is to listen to some true lover of Our Mother of Perpetual Help relating all the favors received through Her intercession. These outpourings of the heart reveal their deep running faith and trust. They show the hidden of the heart — the side that God sees. The enthusiasm with which such clients tell of the graces afforded them through prayer to Mary is contagious. To my mind, the love of these people is the firebrand that has set the world aflame with this ever-burning devotion. It is that type that is so surprised when their prayer is answered. Not that they lack faith or hope; not that they lack an ardent desire for the object of their petitions but because they deem themselves so unworthy of being heard. And how pleasing to God and to Mary is the prayer that rises from an humble heart.

There is a communication before me now that wishes to offer to Our Mother of Perpetual Help "sincere thanks for all the favors granted to me," using the person's own words. "I have made the novenas for the past three years and have been granted every request, and many favors. I have been restored to health and have received very important requests which I thought I would never get, all through the intercession of Our Lady of Perpetual Help."

The Secret of Prayer

That devout person must have the secret of prayer. She must have explored the mind of Christ and found out just what He meant when He said: "Ask and you shall receive." We all know the meaning of those five little words but that knowledge seems to avail us little. There must be something else behind them. Perhaps the secret is hidden in the first word: "Ask." It makes no restrictions; it places no conditions. Therefore we may ask for whatever we wish. But there must be something else required. And who can tell us what it is? Of course, if we survey the entire teaching of Our Lord, we realize that the virtuous are His friends, and there are degrees to that friendship. One may have merely a simple desire of the heart, yet it is sufficient to release a flood of grace and blessings from the Heart of God. Some of the Saints were initiated into that degree of Divine Friendship. Perhaps we would find a reason, if we sought one, in the fact that their entire lives were a constant prayer. Less fortunate souls would be required to implore the Lord a little longer. If we might draw conclusions from such scant material we might be permitted to say that the granting of our prayers depends to a certain extent upon ourselves. We have not forgotten

Holy Name Pledge

Blessed be God. Blessed be His Holy Name. Blessed be Jesus Christ true God and true Man. Blessed be the Name of Jesus. I believe O Jesus That Thou art the Christ The Son of the Living God. I believe all the sacred truths Which the Holy Catholic Church Believe and teaches. I proclaim my love For the Vicar of Christ on Earth. I promise to give good example By the regular practice Of my faith. I pledge myself against perjury Blasphemy, profanity and obscene speech. I pledge my loyalty To the flag of my country, And to the God given principles Of freedom, justice and happiness For which it stands. I pledge my support In honor of His Divine Name To all lawful authority Both civil and religious. I dedicate my manhood To the honor of the Sacred Name of Jesus And beg that He will keep me faithful To these pledges Until Death. To be recited, standing, in full chorus by all present. To be used on all Holy Name occasions, such as receptions, meetings, rallies, retreats, communions. Read The Holy Name Journal, the official publication of the Holy Name Society.

National Holy Name Headquarters, 141 E. 65th St. New York, N. Y.

Reception, Installation Close Successful Season For De Sales Sodality

By JOHN TOOLE

Geneva — Reception of 61 new sodalists and installation of officers marked the closing of a successful season for the Sodality of Our Lady at De Sales High School. Ceremonies were impressive at the dual celebrations with addresses on "The Blessed Virgin," and "Duty of Sodality," recitation of the Act of Consecration, and the presentation of medals by the Rev. Edward T. Ball. Feature of the installation of officers was the conferring of the symbol of office on the newly elected heads of the Sodality by the retiring staff. New officers are: Prefect, Martin Lawler; Ass't Prefect, Ellen Dougherty; Secretary, Mary Sline; Chairman, Eucharistic and Our Lady's Unit, Camille Sabatini; Ass't Chairman, Fred Ferris; Secretary, Adele Tolan; Chairman, Mission Unit, Joseph Higgins; Secretary, Elizabeth Buckley; Chairman, Publicity Unit, Geraldine Burke; Ass't Chairman, John Walsh; Secretary, Bernice Le Brun.

Factory Consecrated To the Sacred Heart

St. Johns, P. Q. — (NCWC) — The St. Johns Silk Factory here, a few miles north of the Vermont state line, was consecrated to the Sacred Heart at ceremonies in the church of St. John the Evangelist Saturday morning.

Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Foreign Missions	Home Missions
Diocece of Rochester, N. Y.	DIRECTOR Rev. Leo C. Mooney
Stone 1492	Stone 1492

COLUMBUS CIVIC CENTER, 50 Chestnut Street

My dear Rev. Father: I suppose you will have received my last Christmas letter and I am most anxiously waiting whether you will be able to do something for me in my very many and various needs. I have appointed to start an entirely new mission station in one of the most urgently needed places and that in these terrible times. This new place was once part of Nangina's district my former station, but the 1500 to 2,000 Christians living there had to walk in their bare feet regularly each month 65 miles to church and 65 miles back home again in order to attend Mass in Nangina. For this most wonderful manifestation of faith they really deserved a mission station and priest of their own and I can assure you their joy and enthusiasm was very great when I arrived back and told them that I was going to live amongst them on the very spot where their heathen chief had given me for nothing a ten acre square plot to build on, just before my departure from Africa to America. You remember I told you that the mission most urgently needed new mission stations, this one was the most needed, serving one and also the most needed one because hundreds of Christians died here without the Last Sacraments on account of the long distance to reach them in time. I have arrived here only one month ago and already my Christians here helped me gratuitously to build two necessary but temporary buildings, a school and a church. I am endeavoring

ing a picture of it and I suppose you will be admiring the architectural beauty of both buildings. What a difference between these two sheds and the Rectory and church of St. Vincent de Paul in Brooklyn where I spent two months. Rome was not built in one day and I am sure your great missionary zeal will assert itself on behalf of this truly deserving cause. My appointment to start this new place will be an extremely difficult undertaking in these bad times. In fact it looks like a desperate problem and I must say I felt it very hard indeed that I did not return to my old station which I started seven years ago and has been practically built up entirely. From New York straight into the most primitive African jungle, what a change! Often did I recall the fresh-pots of Egypt but slowly I am settling down. God's most worthy cause asks this sacrifice from me, it is worth it and the spiritual welfare of thousands is at stake. Please pray for me an dtry your utmost to help me on a little for God's greater honor and glory amongst this primitive tribe, so long forgotten, Most gratefully yours, (Rev.) P. Coenen. Donations for Father Coenen will reach him safely if sent to Rev. Leo C. Mooney, 50 Chestnut Street, Rochester, N. Y.

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