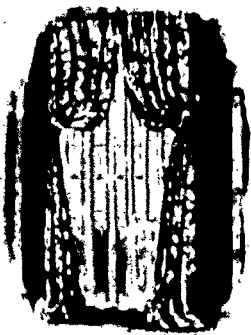


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The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

The Rev. JOHN G. RANDALL, DIRECTOR

War and The Missionaries

Wars, rumors of wars, destruction, misery, death, governmental interference and restrictions in the forwarding of monies and the censoring of mail, are tremendous handicaps to the work of the missions. We here in America must work hard to help the thousands of our own priests and sisters who are laboring in foreign fields, many right in the very heart of the war zones. In the Philippine Islands alone there are 230 American priests and sisters, and in the Hawaiian Islands there are 150.

Human weakness would tempt one to bow before the storm. But the Church of Christ must remain at her posts, her missionaries must be there as the hope and comfort of their people in their distress and trials. The Church and her missionaries are needed now all the more. When the destinies of the nations are settled after this distressing conflict, the Church and her missionaries will be there to help the people.

Won't You Help?

The pictures which come to this office from various missions where leprosy is prevalent are gruesome to say the least. However, as we shudderingly look at them, we begin to appreciate the particular type of courage necessary for those who work among the lepers. On the other hand, when we actually interview the priests and sisters who are engaged in this apostolate, we find that they positively emanate cheerfulness and happiness. Certainly divine Providence fits the buck for the burden, although that burden would be definitely lighter if it was shared by a larger group of the faithful.

The annual Lepers' Christmas Fund appeal made by The Society for the Propagation of the Faith gives every Catholic in the United States an opportunity to help the missionaries in their work for the lepers. Whether the offering is large or small it will be most welcome and we assure you your Christmas joy will be increased by this charity.

The Philippines Appeal To Us

Just last week we received a letter written on Oct. 21 from a Catholic Missionary laboring in Alcala, Cagayan, P. I. He is Father Francisco Barea, and his appeal is so worthy that we are printing it in our column in the hope that some of our good readers will remember him when disposing of their mission charity.

"On December and January, God permits, I will have a Mission Drive in all the districts of my Catholic mission comprising more than 6,000 children. The object of this is to conquer and attract more children in my Catechism lessons. Many children are already spoiled because of Protestant services and teachings; they attract children by giving them candies, breads, games and clothing. I come then, to appeal to your generosity, asking your help, even only a small amount to buy some candies and clothing for these poor naked children of Christ. I also need some religious articles, rosaries, medals, prayer books, chains, etc., and one sweater and an overcoat for me, during this winter drive, to protect me from the rains and cold, the severest of which we are now suffering. But the most important factor is the success of this Mission Drive is money. No doubt, the success of this mission work depends greatly upon your generous help.

With these merciful helps you send, I will keep you in my daily prayers at Holy Mass, so that God will send you His choicest blessings." — Rev. Francisco Barea.

THE POET

A little child shall lead us
To the highest mountain peak,
And there, through the pool's eyes,
Find a haven of retreat.

To the world he gives rare beauty,
To our souls, something sublime,
To our hearts a love that is lasting,
Our ears, a music divine.

So refreshing in the darkness
Are these noble works of art,
A gift from our Creator,
Through a poet's simple heart.

—Margaret Ellen Kennedy

8 Members Received By Newark K. of C.

NEWARK Eight members received the First Degree initiation at a meeting of the Newark Council, Knights of Columbus, Tuesday

evening, according to Grand Knight Richard Vickery.

They are the Rev. Thomas Redington, John Marassa, Anthony DeVries, Harry VanGelder, Francis Colacino, Anthony Zappia, Thomas Crittall and Lawrence Maslyn.

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