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Catholic Near East Welfare Association

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Enroll Your Family

Family Membership in this Association means that all members—living or deceased—share in 15,000 Masses annually. The dues for Family Membership are only five Dollars a year.

SCHOOL FOR CATECHISTS NEEDED IN ERNAKULAM

The great value of the Catechist is recognized by all missionaries. He is the priest's "other self." He lives among the people, he prepares them for baptism, instructs them in the faith, gathers them for prayers in the little chapel, and sees that they are present when the priest is able to visit them.

In Ernakulam, India, the Archbishop, Most Rev. Augustine Kardathil, is greatly concerned over the pressing need for a school in which to train Catechists. Conversions from among the Hindu population can be made only with their help.

He writes: "I am just now making only one request. It is to help me start a school for catechists, and support six catechists at a time. Without their intelligent and hearty cooperation, it is extremely difficult to look after new converts and to push on the work among the pagan Hindus."

"During the past fifteen years I have had 12,500 conversions. Recently the Temples, formerly open only to the high castes, have been thrown open to all Hindus, and every effort is being made to keep them in that religion. Unless I have a body of well-trained catechists not only will progress be slow, but there is danger that our new converts may lose the Faith. I consider this the greatest need of my Archdiocese and I must start a school for catechists as soon as I can get the means."

The Archbishop tells us that if he will take 24 a month to support a Catechist at school—the course is one year. After they are in the field their salary will be \$18 a month.

Next to going yourself, supporting a Catechist is one of the most direct means of doing missionary work. We feel sure you will help this noble Archbishop in filling this great need.

HELP ERITREA

A few months ago we made an appeal asking help for the people of Eritrea, who have been scattered and impoverished by the war. The response was very small—only 974 altogether. Eritrea offers a wonderful opportunity for the Catholic Church right now. Please send us an offering to help us take advantage of it.

IRAQ

Formerly called Mesopotamia, Iraq has a very long history. From the days of Abraham to the present it has been "In the news." Iraq early received Christianity—some say from the Apostles themselves. A flourishing Church was soon established there, but in later times it fell into the hands of the Moslems. Today there are but remnants of its former Christian glory. The Christians of several Rites—are divided between Catholics and Dissidents. Nearly all are poor, and often are oppressed by their Mohammedan neighbors. We have some excellent foundations in Iraq, but lack support for them. One of the greatest needs is to educate native young men for the priesthood, who will, one day, minister to their own. One Hundred Dollars supports six of these students for a year. Won't you help us undertake this?

GREGORIAN MASSES

These Masses, offered daily for thirty days for one departed soul, have been very popular since the days of St. Gregory the Great in the sixth century. Arrange to have Gregorian Masses said for your beloved dead. We will gladly send you our free pamphlet explaining these Masses if you ask for it.

A BELL

Two Dollars will buy a small hand bell for use in the sanctuary. Give one to a mission chapel in the Near East.

MEMORIAL DAY

On this day all Americans honor those who have died in the service of our country. As Catholics we have a double duty, for we should also remember them in our prayers. The best memorial is to have Mass said for them. Our missionaries will be glad to arrange for this.

A SANCTUARY LAMP

You can give a lamp to burn before the Blessed Sacrament for your intentions, for only Seven Dollars.

IN GRATITUDE

As God has been good to you, don't forget Him in making your will. In gratitude put the name of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association among your beneficiaries.

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

The REV. JOHN E. RAINBOLD, DIRECTOR

June Intention—"For Native Clergy in Japan and Korea"

The program of universal charity we received and carried out by the Catholic Church allows for an annual June Intention. Hence Her appeal to the faithful for prayerful remembrance of the "native clergy of Japan and Korea."

Korea may be said to be the nation "which went out to seek Christ." After being subjected by China her representatives had to pay yearly visits to the court of Peking. There they received their first knowledge of Catholicity. Ri Syong-hun, a Korean, placed himself under instruction in Peking and was baptized, receiving the name of Peter. Returning to Korea, he spread the knowledge of his faith among his countrymen, some 4000 of whom were converted. Although only a layman he introduced the ceremonies of the Church in Peking, unintentionally assuming ecclesiastical prerogatives. Soon, however, the newly-converted Koreans begged that "a real priest" be sent them. It was not until 1784 however that this request could be granted.

Japan, on the other hand, had allowed the preaching and teaching of Christianity after the coming of St. Francis Xavier, but when suspicion of missionary motives was implanted in the minds of the rulers by those who hated the Church, Japanese era of persecution began. All ministers of Catholicity were expelled but the converts they had made kept the faith for over two hundred years even though they never saw a priest during those two long centuries.

With the raising of government restrictions concerning foreigners in both Japan and Korea, Catholicity entered upon a second spring in both countries. The training of clergy native to the land became a definite part of the Church's program. The number of native priests has increased annually. There can be no doubt that it is in their hands that the future of the Church must rest for many years to come.

Today a native, His Excellency, Most Rev. Peter Tatsuo Doi, is Archbishop of Tokyo and metropolitan of all the Catholics in the Nipponese Empire. His is a tremendous task and both he and his confreres need strength and courage during these difficult times. It is for this reason that the Holy See has asked the Society for the Propagation of the Faith to request the prayers of the faithful during June "for the native clergy of Japan and Korea."

Medical Mission Sisters in Patna

India, a domain of 357,000,000 people, is a land of over 700,000 villages in which 80 per cent of its inhabitants live. One is not surprised then to find only 28 cities in India with a population of over 100,000. One of these is Patna, numbering 150,000 souls.

Patna is a "ribbon-city," only a few blocks wide, but stretching out to a length of eight or nine miles. From a mission standpoint Patna has a very interesting history. The old Cathedral, the cornerstone of which was laid in 1772 by the Capuchin Fathers, is still standing. The Jesuits first came to Patna in 1620. This mission carried on interruptedly through many vicissitudes until the present diocese of Patna was confided to the care of the American Jesuits in 1921.

When the Medical Mission Sisters arrived there in 1930 at the request of the Most Rev. Bernard J. Sullivan, S.J., Bishop of Patna, to open a hospital in his diocese, they were housed in the old cathedral. It had been partially damaged in the earthquake of 1932. The hospital which began with 20 beds has now increased to 24 beds, and a larger hospital is already necessary.

What kind of cases do the Sisters take in their hospital? Practically everything from tonsillitis to abdominal operative cases; medically, everything from the dums, sutanah leather workers, to Brahmins, the Hindu priestly caste.

The Sisters also have a daily dispensary and a small training school. Last year the dispensary patients number 4178. Home to home visiting in the villages and the traveling dispensary are an important part of the work in the rural areas.

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