

For the Young Seminarian

TWO BOOKS by REV. J. M. LELEN

Toward the Altar

A new edition of a valuable and popular book, containing sketches and stories of priestly vocations. The author's aim is to lead toward the Altar of God those souls whom He has chosen for that sublime calling but who are as yet pondering their choice. There is no doubt that this volume is of value to many who have not yet found their task in life.

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Toward the Eternal Priesthood

A companion to the author's *Toward the Altar*. While the former is a collection of separate sketches, this is a woven discourse in several parts, avowedly fostering vocations but nevertheless explaining carefully to those contemplating the priesthood its difficulties and obstacles as well as its joys and sacred powers.

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Catholic Near East Welfare Association

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The Feast of the Sacred Heart

This Feast occurs on June 12th this year. We are anxious to make this devotion better known in the Near East. Provide a Picture of the Sacred Heart for one of our mission chapels. Five Dollars does it.

NOT A SINGLE WORK OF CHRISTIAN CHARITY

Can you imagine a Diocese without an orphanage, a home for the aged, a hospital, or a clinic? The very poorest in the United States have these things as a matter of course. However, Monsignor John Chamli, the Melchite Patriarchal Vicar of Hauran in Eastern Syria tells us "In all my Diocese there is not a single house of refuge, not a single home for the aged, not a single hospital or clinic." This condition is not due to any lack of need for such institutions but to the lack of available means to build them.

Monsignor Chamli goes on to say "Passing along our dusty roads one frequently sees homeless orphans, abandoned boys and girls clothed in wretched rags. They live by stealing the food necessary to maintain life. Yet there is no refuge where Christian charity can welcome these children and save them not only from physical death but from what is worse, the moral ruin of their immortal souls."

"Or, consider the aged. In this Mohampedan atmosphere, all they receive is dirty straw in hovels, where they must pass their declining years. Afflicted with paralysis, blindness, wretched and needy, they stretch out their hands in pitiful appeal."

"As our priests make their rounds they find boys and girls of tender years already blind as a result of the dread trachoma, a disease carried to the eyes by flies, others seemingly a mass of wounds, the result of a neglected skin infection, still others afflicted by tuberculosis, though many of them are not yet fifteen years old. All of this because there is no hospital, or even a dispensary which can care for them in the early stages of illness. Just a bit of disinfectant, a wound bound up would save so many lives."

Can you pass by such an appeal? Monsignor Chamli would be most grateful for any assistance. We ask our readers to help build these needed agencies of Christian charity. A Hundred Dollars, Fifty, Ten, Five or even One will help. Please send us something to save these poor people.

CHURCH FURNISHINGS

A mere building is not enough for a church. To be ready for the celebration of Mass and the ceremonies of the Liturgy it must have certain furnishings. Our chapels in the Near East are content with the least requirements. But they must have an altar, a crucifix and candlesticks, altar linens, vestments, cibical and chalice before Mass can be said. All these can be provided for \$112.

VACATIONS

Maybe you are planning a vacation this summer. If so, think of our missionary priests who must continue at their posts through heat and difficulty. You will enjoy your holiday more if you ask them to offer Mass for you while you are away.

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The use of candles is prescribed at most church services. Our priests in the Near East often find it difficult to buy candles. Enough for use at all services for a whole year can be purchased for Eight Dollars. If you will supply them they will burn for your intentions.

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