

Superior Named

Karachi, India — The Rt. Rev. Most. Alcuin van Millenburg has been appointed Superior of the Mission of Baluchistan and Sind, conducted by the Dutch Franciscan Fathers.

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Catholic Near East Welfare Association

Most Rev. Francis J. Spellman, C.D., President
Most Rev. Bryan J. McEntegart, D.D., National Secretary
Rev. Thomas J. McMahon, S.T.D., Assistant Secretary

Bishop McEntegart

The officers and the staff of the C.N.E.W.A. offer devoted felicitations to their National Secretary on the occasion of his consecration as Bishop of Ogdensburg in St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York, on August 3. We pray that his apostolic zeal for the Near East as well as his Christlike love for the poor during the twenty-five years of his priesthood will merit for him God's choicest blessings. Ad multos annos!

FAMINE, DISEASE RAMPANT IN VALLEY

Nine of our missionaries are working in the Valley of the Christians in Syria. Most of the very poor people are suffering from tuberculosis or diseases of the eyes. Food is scarce, and all are on the verge of famine. The priests and sisters have had to become doctors and social workers. Without regard to whether one is Catholic or not, they give out medical supplies, food and money. Their kindness has drawn many to the Church.

Now the Father Superior writes to us: "Now long shall we be able to carry on? Our small dispensaries and out-clinics have only scant medical supplies, which are very costly in these parts. The badly needed medicines must be obtained before these people starve."

"We are doing what we can. We must not lose this chance to draw souls to the Church!"

A donation of One Hundred Dollars will be welcomed by these missionaries as a rich treasure. Fifty Dollars will supply a medical kit, which they can use on their errands of mercy. Any such gift will do good far out of proportion to the amount given. Remember that one of the great proofs our Lord gave of His godhead was: "The poor have the gospel preached to them." This gospel is preached by our missionaries not only in word but in work.

NEVER RATIONED

Most everything is rationed. Because this means more for those who defend us, we don't mind. Why not be that generous with the Lord? His love has never been rationed in our regard. Send us an offering of Seven Dollars to purchase a Santuary Lamp which will burn in one of our Near East chapels to prove that, come what may, your love for Our Lord is never rationed.

HEARTS UNSTAINED

Grateful indeed are we to those who helped us to outfit our children in the Near East for their first Holy Communion. Now our missionaries must keep the little ones close to Jesus in the Great Sacrament. Will you send us Ten Dollars for a set of hosts to hold the Sacred Hosts? Grateful prayers offered from innocent hearts will be for your intentions.

LADY OF THE SNOWS

August 5 is the Feast of Our Lady of the Snows. On that day there was a miraculous fall of snow in Rome, and a great church was built in honor of the event. Would you like to dedicate an altar under this title? Fifty Dollars will do so.

"WAR-TIME ABANDON"

To this J. Edgar Hoover ascribes the rise in crime among our youth. Religious instruction and closeness to the Church will stem the tide. We have the same problems. Can you send us Ten Dollars to help support a catechist, who instructs our children in a religious vacation school in the Near East?

FORTY HOURS

The Forty Hours are like the forty days Our Lord spent on earth after His Resurrection. He would appear to those He loved and then pierce out of their sight without leaving them. Will you make possible the Forty Hours' devotion in one of our mission chapels by donating a Rosary? This costs Twenty-five Dollars.

"PLEASE GOD, NEVER!"

So spoke Pope Leo XIII in regard to the apostolate for the return of the separated Eastern Christians. We must never give up hope that Our Lord's prayer at the First Mass "That they all may be one," will come true. Our missionaries not only hope but work for this. They have brought back thousands. Why not do your part by helping to train a missionary? One Hundred Dollars will educate a seminarian for a year.

ART OF ARTS

St. Gregory once called the care of souls the art of arts. We encourage the custom of the Gregorian Masses. The offerings help our missionaries care for souls. Write for our free leaflet explaining this pious practice of offering Mass on thirty consecutive days for a departed soul.

OLD CLOTHES

Vestments might be called old clothes, for their style is that of the early days of the Church. They bring us back to the Apostles. Thirty Dollars will supply a set of new "old clothes" for one of our missionaries.

ST. GERARD

THE PATRON OF MOTHERS

By Rev. Thomas B. Roche, C.S.B.

The gift of divine grace to struggling, suffering humanity lies exclusively within the good pleasure of God Himself. The grant of heavenly aid is entirely a matter of His own discretion both as to the measure of His gift and the manner of its bestowal.

Very frequently God acts directly without the intervention of outside agencies.

This is particularly true of every day graces and blessings as are found in the operation of natural laws and the normal control over created nature. For instance God manages and controls the creation of human life, the operation and functions of the elements, such as the rising and the setting of the sun.

Though the Almighty can and does deal directly with the created universe, the normal procedure is to distribute His inexhaustible, divine energy through the instrumentality of outside agents. Some of these agencies He has set up Himself as channels through which flows the impulse of His power and through which he attains His purposes.

The Catholic Church is a striking example of this divinely established human agency.

Through her God reveals and administers His laws; through her pours out the strength of His might; through her He brings about the fulfillment of His designs, the sanctification and salvation of immortal souls. Long continued familiarity with these means has reduced them to the level of a normal condition and an every day source of our contact with the supernatural.

FRIENDS ELECT

The power to transmit the divine energy to human souls is enjoyed both by the Church militant on earth and the church triumphant in heaven. The Church triumphant is composed of all holy souls who have finally reached the glorious goal of their existence, the eternal enjoyment of happiness in heaven. These souls are "Saints" whether so proclaimed by the church or not. They have attained supreme success in the business of life; they have won the everlasting crown of accomplishment; they are God's chosen souls. His favorite friends.

Having passed successfully through the trials, temptations, and sins of this life, it is logical to assume that they are non-unmindful of their struggling companions here on earth. They yearn for our success as eagerly as they enjoy their own. Their one and only ambition is the fulfillment of God's will and the manifestation of His glory through the salvation of all mankind. The full knowledge they have of our difficulties, their interest in our eternal welfare, the profound satisfaction they experience in their own salvation will necessarily impel the Saints to come to our aid. Moreover their position as Princess of the Heavenly Kingdom afford them ready access to the sources of all graces, the Majestic Throne of God Himself. With unbounded confidence therefore we can logically appeal to these saintly souls for the help we need to meet and to overcome the obstacles to our salvation as well as for the divine assistance in critical emergencies.

A booklet of novena prayers and special devotions will gladly be given the friends and clients of St. Gerard by his Redemptorist Confessors upon request in person or in writing to Redemptorist Fathers, 108 Franklin St., Rochester, N. Y.

A Dominican Father

Speaks of Prayer

Prayer is asking, yes: it is having our cares and loves in God's sight and offering them to Him, yes; but it is more than that. It is the relentless effort, in spite of difficulty and failure and fatigue, to come closer to God, to fill ourselves with His presence, and so gradually to come to know Him and be with Him in a silence like the silent communion of lovers. Then He in His turn can speak and enlighten, our darkness; can come and tarry with us; until at the end we are one with Him.—Gerald Vann, O. P. in Blackfriars (Oxford).

CONFIRMS 13

Lawrenceville, Ill.—A class of eleven soldiers and two civilians was confirmed at George Army Air Field by the Most Rev. Henry Althoff, Bishop of Belleville.

DIPLOMATING CHAPEL

Coventry, Ont.—The Most Rev. Joseph V. Ryan, Bishop of Hamilton,

dedicated the Chapel of Canadian Martyrs, here, as a military chapel at an impressive ceremony here.

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