

Sociality of Our Lady

A Secondary Patron

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Although every Sodality must choose our Blessed Lady under some one particular title or mystery as the primary patron, yet it is also permitted and urged to select a secondary patron. Rule Three states this.

It is particularly wise to select a secondary patron, whose life and even circumstances, whose sex and age were very much like that of the Sodality. Thus this secondary patron can serve as patronal model, encouraging and inspiring the Sodality members from among the many children of Mary in heaven and on earth. A Saint of God will look down with special favor and interest upon those who seek to guide themselves by his life and inspiration. Such a secondary Saint will not take from the honor or reverence paid to Mary, their chief patroness. Rather such a secondary patron will urge and suggest even greater honor to be given to the Queen of both.

We stated last week that a Sodality should not choose its primary title carelessly. We say the same in regard to the choice of a secondary patron. A good deal of thought and care should be expended in selecting the Saint who will be the additional patron of a Sodality. Naturally a Sodality might choose the Saint after whom the parish is named. But if not, then a Saint should be selected as a secondary patron whose life and efforts to holiness will best inspire a particular group.

And special attention should be given to this particular patron. The feast day should be noted and marked in some special manner. The life of this Saint should be told and retold.

Calendar of Feast Days

Sunday, February 2 — The Purification or Candlemas Day. On this day the Blessed Virgin complied with the law of Moses which provided that a woman who presented herself at the temple to be purified, carry a candle seven days after a child was born. The feast is called Candlemas because the Church blesses the candles to be borne in the procession of the day.

Monday, February 3 — St. Blaise, Bishop and martyr, devoted the earlier years of his life to the study of philosophy and afterwards became a physician. He became Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia and was imprisoned by Agrippinus, the governor. On his way to prison, a distracted mother whose child was suffering from a disease of the throat implored his aid. At his intercession the child was cured and since that time his aid has been invoked in cases of throat trouble. After cruel tortures the Saint was beheaded in 316.

Tuesday, February 4 — St. Jane of Valois was the daughter of Louis XI of France and the wife of the Duke of Arles, who later became King Louis XII. After he ascended the throne his first act was to repudiate his wife, who had been faithful and loyal to him for 22 years. She returned to Bourges, where she realized her desire to establish the Order of the Annunciation.

Wednesday, February 5 — St. Agatha, virgin and martyr, was born in Sicily of noble parents and consecrated from infancy to God. In the midst of dangers and temptations she served Christ in purity of body and soul and died for the love of chastity when the Governor, Quintanus, found that he could not prevail upon her to sin either through threats or offers of safety.

Thursday, February 6 — St. Dorothy, virgin and martyr, was famous at Caesarea, her native city, for great virtue. Her parents are thought to have suffered martyrdom under Diocletian and she herself was called before the Governor Sapphirus and ordered to abjure the Faith. She refused and suffered a martyr's death.

Friday, February 7 — St. Romuald, Abbot, was the son of Sergius, a nobleman of Ravenna. He founded many monasteries the chief of which was at Camaldoli, where he built a church surrounded with a number of separate cells for the solitaries who lived under his rule.

Saturday, February 8 — St. John of Matha. This Saint's life was one long course of self-sacrifice for the good of his neighbor. He founded the Order of the Holy Trinity, whose members gathered places for the redemption of Christian slaves in Barbary.

each year. His virtues and his fight to increase them should be described so as to inspire and encourage the Sodality. Don't make the Saint an abstract figure without any reality. Keep him before the Sodality vividly, making him as real as any American hero. Don't portray him in such a way that he becomes an impossible figure to the Sodality. Keep before them the fact that their patron was once as real and human as they, that his search for holiness was as difficult and demanding as theirs, that his talents were no more evident than theirs and that the one great reason for reaching his high state of sanctity was his consistent responsiveness to the grace of God and the demand of the various virtues.

Papal Blessing

Mary Catherine Moore, a non-Catholic of Portsmouth, Ohio, knew it was customary for Catholics to have religious articles blessed, according to the Catholic Universe Bulletin of Cleveland.

So when she purchased a gold chain and cross for the new-born daughter of her Catholic friend, Mrs. Mildred Kral, 1837 Maple Heights Blvd., Bedford, she had it blessed by the Pope himself.

She was aware that any Catholic priest would have blessed the crucifix and gladly, but as she puts it, "I knew what it would mean to the family and the baby, Mary Ellen, when she grew older, to know that the Pope had blessed it."

But how does one go about writing to a Pope? Mary, who works at Thompson Products, turned to her co-worker, Thomas F. Carey of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, and asked him.

Mr. Carey, who says it would never have occurred to him to do such a thing, "I never thought you could write to the Holy Father, just like that," suggested that Mary make sure it would be "all right" by talking to one of the priests at St. John Cathedral.

At the Cathedral, Mary said, she met a "very nice priest" who encouraged her and said he was sure the Holy Father would be glad to bless the gift.

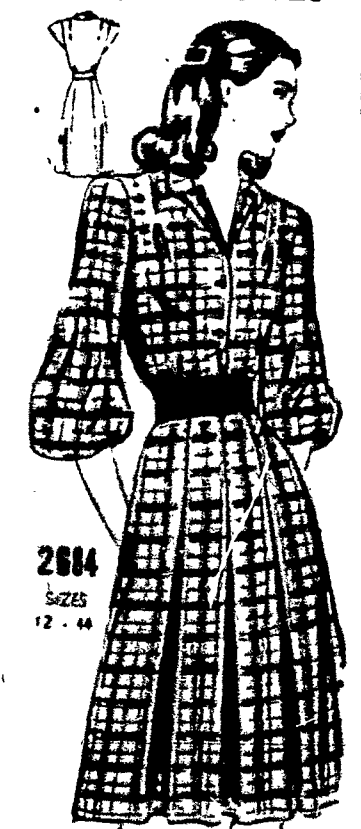
So, with Mr. Carey as amanuensis, the letter which Mary took pains to explain she wasn't a Catholic — was composed and mailed with the cross to Vatican City last October.

Last week Mary's chain and cross were returned to her, together with this letter:

"The Secretariat of State of His Holiness has been charged to acknowledge receipt of the letter of Miss Mary Catherine Moore, dated October 23, 1936, and while expressing to her the Holy Father's deep thankfulness for her offering, has pleasure in returning to her the enclosed crucifix which has been blessed by His Holiness, Vatican City, December 22, 1936."

To which Mary could only say, "The Pope is a very democratic person, isn't he?"

PUSH-UP SLEEVES



Here's a dress that suits a hundred and one occasions and introduces Spring fashion features in its pleated skirt and the push-up sleeves that you wear below or above the elbow as you wish. No. 264 is cut in sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26 and 28. See 26 re. gives 4 1/2 yds. 30-32, 34-36, 38-40, 42-44, 46-48, 50-52, 54-56, 58-60, 62-64, 66-68, 70-72, 74-76, 78-80, 82-84, 86-88, 90-92, 94-96, 98-100, 102-104, 106-108, 110-112, 114-116, 118-120, 122-124, 126-128, 130-132, 134-136, 138-140, 142-144, 146-148, 150-152, 154-156, 158-160, 162-164, 166-168, 170-172, 174-176, 178-180, 182-184, 186-188, 190-192, 194-196, 198-200, 202-204, 206-208, 210-212, 214-216, 218-220, 222-224, 226-228, 230-232, 234-236, 238-240, 242-244, 246-248, 250-252, 254-256, 258-260, 262-264, 266-268, 270-272, 274-276, 278-280, 282-284, 286-288, 290-292, 294-296, 298-300, 302-304, 306-308, 310-312, 314-316, 318-320, 322-324, 326-328, 330-332, 334-336, 338-340, 342-344, 346-348, 350-352, 354-356, 358-360, 362-364, 366-368, 370-372, 374-376, 378-380, 382-384, 386-388, 390-392, 394-396, 398-400, 402-404, 406-408, 410-412, 414-416, 418-420, 422-424, 426-428, 430-432, 434-436, 438-440, 442-444, 446-448, 450-452, 454-456, 458-460, 462-464, 466-468, 470-472, 474-476, 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