

5 Write To Men In Service Military Bishop Advises

Milwaukee — (NC) — Bishop Philip J. Furlong, Military Delegate, has given some advice for those whose sons, relatives, and friends are in the armed services.

"Keep in close touch with them. Write to them. Send them the family and home town news; keep up a regular correspondence," he urged in an interview here.

"DURING WORLD War II people were conscious of the men in the services," he said. "The average parish had one or more societies which corresponded with the boys, sending them materials, parish bulletins and news."

This has been dropped largely, and it is a pity it has. It ought to be revived to the fullest for the boys need this contact with their parish and their home. He declared that only an occasional young man gets into trouble in service, but he is generally the one who is neglected, by the people at home.

THE MILITARY Ordinariate cares for the spiritual welfare of some three million persons. It

comprises all Catholics in the military service, all over the world. It includes as well all members of their families who live with them, all persons employed by the government in occupied territories, and all those who are employed in the armed forces or who accompany them.

The Military Ordinariate is a separate entity in the jurisdictional structure of the Church; much as the dioceses are separate entities. All statistics on baptisms, confirmations and marriages are forwarded by the chaplains to the Military Ordinariate headquarters in New York City.

Titular Bishop
Vatican City — (NC) — Msgr. Fiorenzo Angelini, 40, has been named Titular Bishop of Messene by His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

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Spiritual Retreat Renews Strength, Says Holy Father

Vatican City — A spiritual retreat is a refuge prepared by Providence to take man away from the fatigue of the world and give him spiritual rest and quiet so that he may return to combat evil with renewed strength.

This definition was given by Pope Pius XII in an autographed letter written by him in praise of retreat movements for workmen.

Retreats for workmen, the Pope said, are designed to help them remain aware of their calling as Christians, of their baptismal promises and of fidelity to their duties in life.

To make a retreat regularly, the Holy Father stated, is a God-given grace. It recalls the two most important realities in the life of every man: God and the soul.

"May all those who consume themselves, their energies of body and spirit, in honest labor for themselves and their dear ones, deeply feel the great gift that comes to them in the retreat movement." His Holiness concluded. "We invite this grace under the auspices of Mary most holy."

The Pope's letter was addressed to the directors of the "Retreat Movement of Perseverance" which is made up of associations of workers and professional men of every working class.

Mother General Re-elected
Oldenburg, Ind. — (NC) — Mother Mary Cephas was re-elected Mother General of the Sisters of St. Francis of Oldenburg for a second six-year term at a general chapter of the congregation at the motherhouse here.

Every Catholic A Carmelite; Patronal Feast July 16th

By REV. HENRY ATWELL

Almost every Catholic is a Carmelite.

Carmelites include cloistered nuns, missionary priests, famous saints, and thousands of devout lay people.

MOST CATHOLICS "become Carmelites" on the occasion of their First Communion. At that time they are invested with the scapular of our Lady of Mount Carmel. The well known brown scapular is a miniature Carmelite habit which is said to have been given by the Blessed Virgin herself to the Carmelite superior St. Simon Stock on July 16, 1251.

The Church annually celebrates the feast of our Lady of Mount Carmel every July 16.

Carmelite historians trace their order's origin back to the prophet Elias who lived nine centuries before Christ. The Scriptural Books of Kings describe the preaching of the ancient prophet and how he lived on Mount Carmel. Devout Jews joined him in a life of prayer and celibacy. They lived in caves and were known as "sons of the prophet."

For nine centuries, the hermits on Mt. Carmel did penance and waited the coming of the Redeemer. Through their study of the prophecies, they recognized Jesus as the Savior and were received into the Church by the Apostles. They continued their rigorous solitude there until the Moslem occupation of Palestine in the thirteenth century. The Carmelite hermits were given the choice of either facing the Saracen swords or escaping to Europe. Hundreds stayed and were martyred.

As late as 1799, Carmelite monks attempted to build a monastery on their ancient site but were massacred. Finally in 1827, the first stone of the still existing monastery was laid on the ruins of the Mount Carmel hermitage.

During the turbulent Crusade era, groups of Carmelite monks came to Europe with the returning soldiers.

Carmelite foundations were made in England as early as 1245 but the order failed to prosper in its new setting.

ST. SIMON STOCK, general of the Carmelites, and a hermit at Aylesford, England, prayed that Mary would give some sign of her protection for the struggling order. Our Lady appeared to him on July 16, 1251, and gave him the brown scapular as the distinguishing badge of the order.

"Receive, my dear son," our Lady told him, "this scapular of your order as the guarantee of the privilege which I have obtained for you and the children of Carmel. Whosoever wears this habit will never suffer the fire of hell."

The order took on a new burst of life as thousands sought the garment which assured them of salvation.

Carmelite foundations were made throughout England and in Rome, Florence, Cologne, and Paris.

POPE PIUS XII has called the scapular, "the little habit" of the Carmelites and said that it is "the garment of Mary, a sign and a pledge of the protection of the mother of God."

Critics have objected to the scapular as a superstitious practice and stated that "salvation doesn't depend on a bit of cloth."

Carmelite authors reply that the scapular devotion simply echoes traditional Catholic teaching that those who are devoted to Mary will surely be saved in eternity. Wearing of the scapular, Carmelites say, is nothing but a reminder that final perseverance — to die in the state of grace as a friend of God — is a gift granted only in answer to persevering prayer. The scapular is an act of devotion asking Mary to pray for us "now and at the hour of our death."

THE PRACTICE of priest and people saying the "Hail, holy Queen" together after Low Mass is traced to the medieval custom of Carmelite priests who said or



Aylesford, England — (RNS) — This ancient statue of our Lady and St. Simon Stock is venerated on the site of Carmelite priory built in the 11th century. According to tradition, the Carmelite saint received the brown scapular from the Blessed Virgin as represented by the statue shown above. The Aylesford priory was confiscated by Henry VIII in the 16th century and in secular hands for 400 years. In 1949, the Carmelite priests purchased the site and ruins of their old priory. Aylesford is now the center of Carmelite activity in England.

Scapular . . . Medal Or Cloth?

A scapular is a woolen garment like a long apron which hangs from the neck and is worn by priests and many of the religious orders. The little scapular worn by lay people represents the scapular garment. The small scapular is made of two small pieces of brown woolen cloth connected by two strings and worn over the shoulders.

Since 1910, a scapular medal may be worn as a substitute for the cloth scapular. The cloth scapular, however, is the traditional form and is preferable over the medal whenever circumstances permit its being worn.

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Catholics who wear the scapular could well make Monday, July 16, a date to attend Mass, receive Communion, and rededicate themselves to the spirit represented by their little brown Carmelite garment.

chanted the original Latin version, "Salve Regina," after their Masses. Devotion to Mary has characterized the Carmelite order especially since the famous promise and origin of the scapular in 1251.

The three children who saw the visions at Fatima in 1917 stated that the Blessed Virgin appeared to them on October 13 of that year as our Lady of Mount Carmel.

In 1942, on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the apparitions, Pope Pius XII dedicated the world to Mary's Immaculate Heart and urged the faithful to wear the scapular as a sign of their own individual consecration to Mary.

Those who wear the scapular pledge themselves to a Christian life in accord with the penitential spirit of the Carmelite order.

Bishop Fulton Sheen in a 1947 radio broadcast urged the wearing of the scapular as a step toward Mary's promise to convert Russia. Bishop Sheen also recommended reception of Communion on the first Saturday of every month and daily recitation of the Rosary.

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St. Basil of Caesarea, the Jewish Fathers and the Holy Fathers of the East have a very much needed Chapel for the Infant Christ. He who once fled into Egypt, seeks again whereon to lay His head. Please give generously. THE POOL WILL BLESS YOU.

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