

The Holy Name Of Mary

Today the world wide Catholic Church observes the feast of the holy name of Mary.

The feast appropriately comes at the time when Bishop Kearney notes his golden jubilee in the priesthood.

Catholics of the Rochester Diocese have long since known the Bishop's sincere devotion to our Lady, the Mother of God.

His sermons reflect his prayer and reveal long moments of meditation on the role played by the Blessed Virgin in the life of our human race.

The name Mary in ancient Aramaic the language our Lady spoke, means "star of the sea."

LIKE THE STARS in the night sky, Mary's life was a constant shining light to the world.

As a mother, she was the first to teach her children the meaning of love and sacrifice.

At her death, she was the first to enter the life of glory, and she continues to intercede for us.

Her feast is celebrated today, and we are reminded of her role in the life of the Church.

If we are to imitate her, we must first learn to love her and to love the world she loves.



The Blessed Virgin Mary with her divine Son Jesus.

Church Gains In Formosa

By FATHER IVAR S. McGRATH
Society of St. Columban

Taipei — (NC) — The material progress noted everywhere on Formosa is equalled by the growth of the Catholic Church here.

I have just completed a six-day round-the-island tour with a group of 14 foreign correspondents. We visited many new projects and saw various signs of increased prosperity.

Despite the growing threat of Communism invasion from the Chinese mainland, people here refuse to be daunted by the Reds.

New factories, power plants and irrigation schemes are matched by newly constructed churches, Catholic hospitals and schools and blossoming Catholic communities.

Led by Dr. Sampson Shen, director of the government's Information Office, we visited Hualien on the island's east coast and entered the Taroko Gorge section of the east-west cross-land highway now under construction.

Some 5,000 ex-servicemen are working on this impressive project, building more than 100 miles of new road and rebuilding existing roads to join the western plain with the east coast across the central mountain range which bisects Formosa.

The work is dangerous because of landslides and over 100 lives have been lost already.

THIS "HIGHWAY" is slated for completion by July, 1959. When completed it will greatly facilitate communications, aid low development of natural resources in the mountains.

It will also enable the Salesians of St. Bernard, who staff the missions at the east coast end, and the Maryknoll Fathers active in the western area, to enter more easily the mountainous terrain and carry their apostolate to the more remote aboriginal tribes.

Hualien and adjacent Taitung counties comprise the Apostolic Prefecture of Hualien, staffed by Paris Foreign Missions, Swiss Bethlehem Fathers, and Canons of St. Bernard. The Prefect is Bishop Andrew J. Verneux, M.E.P., and in six years the Catholic population has grown from some 500 to over 23,000, mostly aborigines. Churches during that period have increased from 11 to over 100.

In southwest Formosa we saw the Kaohsiung harbour extension project, planned to cope with increased trade, the privately operated Tang Eng Iron Works, a small re-rolling mill in Japanese times, now manufacturing 60,000 metric tons of finished steel annually. We also visited the largest refinery in the Far East, set up in 1947, and the Yeast Plant of the Taiwan Sugar Corporation. (Sugar is the number one foreign currency earner here, and sugar by-products are growing yearly in importance.)

The three southwestern counties comprise the Apostolic Prefecture of Kaohsiung. Prefect is Msgr. Joseph Arriguit, Spanish-born Dominican.

The Dominicans staffing the prefecture are assisted by American Vincentians from St. Louis, Mo., and German Franciscans. Catholics have increased from 7,887 in 1952 to the more than 40,000 at present. In the same period churches have grown from 11 to over 40, two hospitals have been set up, and this year a boys' middle school has opened its doors to students.

On the trip north by special bus our group crossed the more than mile-long Silo highway bridge, built with U.S. aid and the longest in the Far East. The town of Silo is in the Apostolic Prefecture of Keelung.

The prefecture is staffed by Chinese secular clergy, Bishop Thomas Niu, exiled Ordinary of Yangku in Red China, is Prefect. Catholics here have increased in six years from 2,634 to some 9,000, churches from four to over 30. A 25-bed hospital was established two years ago.

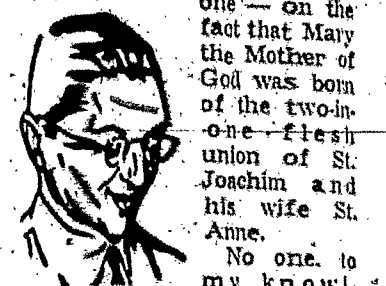
FURTHER NORTH, in central Formosa, we visited the beautiful Sun Moon Lake, principal source of the island's hydro-electric power, inspected a new dam in the mountains above the lake, which when completed will increase the power system by some 35,000 kilowatts.

The Sun Moon Lake is in the Maryknoll staffed Apostolic Prefecture of Taitung. Visiting an aboriginal village by the lake, we found the chief and his family are Catholics, having been baptized four years ago by the Apostolic Internuncio to China, Archbishop Anthony Robert at the invitation of the Maryknoll Fathers.

JOSEPH BREIG

Our Lady's Parents

I have never seen a meditation — although that doesn't mean that nobody ever wrote one — on the fact that Mary the Mother of God was born of the two-one-flesh union of St. Joachim and his wife St. Anne.



No one, to my knowledge, has brought forth the deep meanings of this fact for other married couples.

The trouble is that we are all troubled with puritanism to some extent. We just can't quite get a firm mental hold on the truth that the body, like the soul, is holy.

God, being incapable of impatience, does not become annoyed with us for this weakness, but if He were anything less than God, I think He would. He has tried to make every thing plain to us.

HOW COULD HE express the sanctity of the flesh more strongly than by Himself taking on a human nature, becoming incarnate, becoming a man?

And what more do we need in the way of emphasis on the nobility of marriage than the fact that God formed His Mother through the consummation of the vows of a husband and wife?

Let us go back and see what happened.

Here was Joachim, a Jewish young man, and here was Anne, a Jewish maiden. And they took each other in wedlock, and loved each other.

Did they have any intimation that from their love would come forth the woman promised by God to Adam and Eve, the Virgin who would mother the Redeemer, who would crush the head of Satan?

Whether they knew or not, I do not know. What matters to us is that God does work His wonders through us; that marriage is so holy that it sent His Mother to Himself and so is through the embrace of husband and wife.

Since the sanctity of this state is as exalted as that, how can we for one moment be deceived about it, or tempted by the paganism of modern debase-ment of it?

Joachim and Anne came together with faith and trust in the Lord; and He made them the parents of Mary, whose birth we celebrate, whose name we hail, this week; and to whom this month is dedicated as Queen of Marys.

FOREVERMORE, Anne and Joachim will walk together in the glory of God, honored by angels and saints; and why? Because they put their trust in their Creator, and humbly loved under His overshadowing love.

We who have seen such splendor — what have we to do with the cheapening of love into lust that we see all around us, in films and advertising, in degrading books and magazines; on the stage and in night clubs?

St. Paul put it well when he suggested that we not so much as let such things be mentioned among us. For we are caught up in Christ; we are reborn; we are lifted to another plane altogether.

Many of you beloved, our Queen, Mother and Sister; our proud boast — Mary was born of clean love, of the fidelity of wife to husband and husband to wife, of their faithfulness to God and His grace.

SEE OWES HER existence, and we owe her to the co-operation of Joachim and Anne with God in the act by which God has given us power to bring forth new immortal beings.

Joachim is her father, and she salutes him so. Anne is her mother, and she honors her as mother.

Out of their love Mary arose, and out of their solidarity for her education in the things of God and religion came her preparation for the central moment of all history, when she brought forth her Son and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger for the rejoicing of all men of good will.

Such is the holiness, such is the shining everlasting importance of the good love of man and woman in marriage.

SERMONETTE

Charity Is Kind, I Corinthians 13: 4
By REV. RICHARD MADDEN, O.C.D.

We didn't know much. I'll tell you. In fact, he was just about the most stupid man I ever met. He didn't even have a brain. One, only half of it. And the half he had was scattered on sideways.

As a radio-gunner during the war while under enemy attack, his plot would grab the intercom and scream, "Jodie, get your lousy hands off that gun; you'll blow our tail off. He wasn't any better as the monastery cook. He was an out-rage. He didn't know between salt and sugar. He didn't even know between salt and pepper. In his own stupid little way, he almost poisoned us eighty-eight times a year.

But he was just about the kindest, most charitable, most childlike man that I ever knew. And he was completely without guile.

We could grouse about his willfulness but we could never question his intention. He exasperated you ... confused you ... settled you in short, he drove you nuts. But he did it all with much kindness. He was so nice about it all. And when he forgot to feed the monks in the refectory because he was so involved with feeding the "knights of the road" at our back door, his only answer to a completely exasperated, demolished superior was, "Maybe Christ is there at our back door. In the case of a poor man. And if He is, He should get the best possible treatment. Don't you think so, Father Prior?"

He's dead now. And life goes on. But out of respect for his memory, we must admit that the world would be far happier and far richer if there were more kind idiots and fewer unkind geniuses.

Everytime we pass his grave we remember his stupidities and forget his kindnesses. But ... we know that God, his loving Father, has forgotten his stupidities and remembered only his kindnesses.

No, I guess this character wasn't so stupid after all.

Hard Sell

A top-notch salesman was bragging about his eight-year-old son to the other men in the office. "He's going to sell more than his dad ever did," he predicted. "He's always figuring out new angles on how to get me to raise his allowance. And you should see how he spends his time watching television!"

"Television? Isn't that rather a waste of time for such a go-getter?" asked one of the men.

"Not at all," replied the braggart. "You see, he watches only the commercials."

Teenage Son Should Help Make Family Business Decisions

By FATHER JOHN L. THOMAS, S.J.

Assistant Professor of Sociology at St. Louis University

My 15 year old son has changed completely during the past six months. He has grown disrespectful, is talking back, wants to play the violin so loud we can't stay in the house. He goes to confession but is the same the next day. When he gets his allowance, he asks for more. If I reprimand him, he says, "Stop preaching, at me!" Now he's started to do poorly in school. How can I help him?

It looks like your son is just starting to find himself, Lucy.

Many of the traits you mention are signs of an adolescent trying to assert his independence, yet still relying and thinking pretty much as a child. Your treatment of him must change accordingly. You still think of him as a child, and in many ways he certainly is. On the other hand, he is groping his way toward maturity, and this implies equality, self-assertion, and independence.

What should you do?

Well, Lucy, let's consider what's happening to him. When he was a child, you both took it for granted that he would obey, go to school and study, take correction, and accept his allowance as his due. He did this without thinking about it — just because his parents wanted it this way. This is reason enough for a child.

Now that he's starting to grow up, he's beginning to feel what it means to be an individual, to be distinct from others, to have a will and desires of his own. Because others often don't seem to recognize this, he becomes aggressive, overly assertive, and highly sensitive to criticism or limitations on what he considers to be his rights.

But he is still thinking in terms of a child. For example, he doesn't recognize that other members of the family also have rights. He doesn't see the connection between hard work at school and his future aims in life. He apparently doesn't understand where money comes from, or how much money the family has at its disposal.

Hence your task is clearly cut out for you, Lucy. You're starting a little late, but I don't think it's too late.

Clearly, you have been treating him as a child rather than as a boy growing into manhood. You are upset and frustrated because he no longer responds to the treatment which proved effective in childhood.

In the first place find out if he has any clearly defined goals in life. What does he want to do as a man? Has he thought about this at all? What abilities or talents does he possess?



He may need help and encouragement in formulating his plans for the future. Show him some of the fields that are open to him. Work with him in finding out what qualities are needed for success in these fields.

Help him to be realistic in his thinking. Point out that if he wants independence as a man, if he wishes to marry and be the head of a family someday, he must now prepare himself for success.

Bring him into your discussions dealing with family finances, the aspirations and needs of the other children, the possibilities of future support in getting a higher education, and so forth.

He's old enough to grasp the significance of most of these problems, and he's bound to feel a sense of pride and responsibility at the fact that you have finally recognized that he's no longer a child. He's not likely to ask for a larger allowance if he has some idea of what his father makes and what it costs to run a family.

All too many parents prevent their children from developing a sense of responsibility and a feeling of participation in the family as a going concern by excluding them from their councils. Children are treated almost as guests or outsiders rather than as active members; learning to shoulder mutual responsibilities and face common problems.

Finally, you must help your son learn that rights always involve obligations, that equality implies respect for others, that true freedom and independence requires self-mastery and the ability to act in terms of correct Christian principles. Family life offers many occasions for this teaching. Just remember, Lucy, you are no longer dealing with a child, but with a growing boy who is struggling to be a man.

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