

St. Norbert College

Digital Commons @ St. Norbert College

Annals of St. Joseph

Center for Norbertine Studies

3-1892

Volume IV, Number One

J. F. Durin

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.snc.edu/annalsofstjoseph>



Part of the [Catholic Studies Commons](#)

John H.
Brewer
Cleric

VOL. IV.

MARCH, 1892.

NO. 1.

ANNALS OF ST. JOSEPH
 THE
 MOST PURE SPOUSE
 OF THE
 BLESSED VIRGIN MARY.

*Annals
of
St. Joseph*

*Vol. IV, V
1892-93*

nal
seph.

PATRON
OF
THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH.

PATRON
OF
THE HAPPY DEATH.
PILLAR OF THE WORLD.



MODEL AND PROTECTOR
OF
CHRISTIAN FAMILIES.

HELPER
OF
THE "POOR SOULS."
ORNAMENT OF HEAVEN.

The Annals of St. Joseph.

Entered at the Post Office at West De Pere as second-class matter.

VOL. IV.

MARCH, 1892.

NO. 1.

CONTENTS.

Cantata for St. Joseph's Coronation.....	Page 1
The Coronation of St. Joseph.....	" 2
St. Joseph.—Model and Patron of Christian Families.....	" 4
St. Joseph.—The March Violet.....	" 8
Editorials.....	" 9
The Prayer of Our Lord in the Garden of Gethsemane.....	" 10
The Wednesday.—Dedicated to St. Joseph.....	" 12
Consecration.—Of One Day in the Year to St. Joseph.....	" 13
The Paternity of St. Joseph.....	" 13
Loreto.....	" 15
Thanksgivings.....	" 16
Union of Prayers, Petitions, Recommendations.....	" 16
Monthly Obituary. (Cover.).....	" 16

THE ANNALS OF ST. JOSEPH, published with the approbation of the Right Rev. F. X. Kater, Bishop of Green Bay, and with the recommendation of His Eminence Cardinal Simeoni, His Eminence Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore, the Most Rev. Elder, Archbishop of Cincinnati, and the Right Rev. Bishops of Davenport, Covington, South Dakota, Marquette, San Antonio, Joppa, Trois Rivières, St. Albert's, were last year favored with the Apostolic Benediction of the Sovereign Pontiff. They are coming in season, to foster, to propagate, to explain the beautiful Devotion of the Holy and glorious Patron of the Catholic Church.

They will condense all that has been said in the past and all that will be said in the future of St. Joseph. Then each number will be divided in three parts: 1. Theology of the Devotion. 2. The history of the Devotion. 3. The practice of the Devotion, which we intend to promote by the Association.

Not relying upon ourselves but upon the assistance of St. Joseph, the devotedness of the Faithful, the help of all those who desire to glorify Him, we earnestly beg that this paper should not be forgotten among other papers, but that all those who will receive it, become solicitors and try to have other subscribers.

According to the injunction of Pope Urban VIII, we protest that what is contained in the ANNALS rests solely on private authority, and in making use of such words as divine, adorable, ineffable, holy, miraculous, we never intend to speak but of a participation purely merciful, and that we do in no wise wish to arrogate the judgment of the Church. We do also declare that we intend to write nothing but what may be entirely conformable to the true meaning of the Holy Church, Catholic Apostolic and Roman, to the infallible judgment of which we submit, without reserve and forever, our persons, our words, and our writings.

TERMS.

SINGLE SUBSCRIPTION,

75 Cents.

Payment in advance. Money may be sent either in registered letter or P. O. order or draft, to

REV. J. F. DURIN, West De Pere, Wis.

Subscribers who do not receive the ANNALS regularly should at once state the fact. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, are considered wishing to continue their subscription.

4762
050

SUPPLEMENT TO THE Annals of Saint Joseph.

—TO THE—

MEMBERS OF THE ARCHCONFRATERNITY OF ST. JOSEPH.

Dear Associates:

Just receiving the long-expected Brief of the erection of our Association to the title of Archconfraternity by special favor of His Holiness Leo XIII, we hasten to send it in a supplement, as there is no more space left in March's issue.

We beg that you read it attentively and that, thanking our dear Patron for the complete success of our journey to Rome in the interest of the devotion to St. Joseph, we apply during the month of March to increase our number, to direct your relatives and friends to St. Joseph, in order that under his Patronage we may spend our life in security, die peacefully and reach the haven of eternal happiness.

The Director of the Archconfraternity,

J. F. DURIN,

M. S. H.

P. S. In reference to the date of the Coronation announced on the desire of Dr. S. G. Messmer for the 8th of May, we cannot ascertain positively that it will be held on such day, as, according to the canon law, all business remains suspended while the See is vacant, but the next issue of the ANNALS will bring definitive information. In the meantime let us pray that everything may turn to the glorification of St. Joseph.

J. F. D.

FOR REMEMBRANCE IN PERPETUITY.

According to the practice of the Roman Pontiffs, our Predecessors, we are accustomed to enrich with titles and privileges the pious Associations of the Faithful, which, being established for the exercise of works of piety and charity, contribute to the advance of the Catholic Religion by the zeal of their members, their labor and their merits. Being informed that among such works, there was in the City of "West De Pere," diocese of Green Bay, in the United States of Northern America, a pious Association under the Patronage of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Immaculate Virgin Mary, and that the Director of said Association, provided with a strong recommendation of his Bishop, supplicantly applied to obtain the favor that the Association should be enriched with the title and privileges of Archconfraternity for the States of Northern America, we have willingly consented to grant the favor.

Therefore embracing in our charity all and each one of those, who are favored by Our Letters, by our Apostolic authority, and by the virtue of the present letters, we absolve them from Excommunication interdict, and other Ecclesiastical censures, sentences or punishments whatever, all who may have incurred them and WE DECLARE TO BE ERECTED IN PERPETUITY AND INSTITUTED INTO ARCHCONFRATERNITY, with all privileges, the Association of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, canonically established in the Church of St. Joseph at West De Pere, diocese of Green Bay, in the United States of Northern America. We grant also in perpetuity to the officers of said Archconfraternity now and for the future the power of AGGREGATING all over Northern America the societies of the same name and object and of conferring them the favor to gain the indulgences which

were lately granted to the said Archconfraternity, provided they always observe the Constitution of Clement VIII P. P., our Predecessor, and other Apostolic Regulations. We decree that the present Letters remain firm, valid and effective, and they may be observed by all who are concerned in them now and in the future, and anything that will be done against them by any authority with knowledge or by ignorance will be without effect and void, notwithstanding Apostolic and universal decrees, provincial and synodal constitutions, general and special Ordinations, and as much as it is wanted by the said Archconfraternity for its stability and apostolic establishment.

Given at Rome at St. Peter, under the ring of the Fisherman, XVI day of January, MDCCCXCII, in the XVI year of Our Pontificate.

LEO XIII,
PONT. MAX.
seal of
the Fisherman

M. CARD.
LEDOCHOWSKI.

INDULGENCES.

Granted to the Archconfraternity of St. Joseph by Special Brief of August 14th, 1891.

Plenary Indulgences.

1. On the day of Admission.
 2. At the hour of death.
 3. On the day of the principal Feast of the Association or one of the seven following days.
 4. On a day appointed by the Bishop and the following seven days.
- Confession and Communion with the visit of a church or chapel are obligatory

conditions to gain the above Indulgences.

There are plenary Indulgences attached to the Feast of St. Joseph, January 23, March 19, the III Sunday after Easter. They can be gained by St. Joseph's Associates under the above conditions.

Partial Indulgences.

1. Seven years and seven quarantines to the Associates, who with a contrite heart will visit the church or a chapel or an oratory, four times a year on holidays or Sundays, or week days at their choice.

2. Sixty days each time that the Associates hear Mass or assist at a service, when they join a procession ordered by the Bishop, if they follow the Blessed Sacrament carried to the sick, or when hearing the bell announcing the carrying of Holy Viaticum if they recite one Pater and one Ave—or when they say five times our Father and Hail Mary! for the repose of the souls of the departed Associates, or for any act of piety or charity.

Each one and all these indulgences can be applied to the souls in Purgatory.

RIGHT. REV. S. G. MESSMER, D. D.



Bishop of Green Bay.

We herewith present to our readers the portrait of the newly appointed bishop of the diocese of Green Bay, Rt. Rev. S. G. Mess-

mer, D. D., of Washington, D. C. The consecration of Father Messmer will take place at Newark, N. J., on Sunday, March 27th, by Bishop Zardetti, of St. Cloud, Minn., a life-long friend of Pater Messmer, after which he will take charge of the duties of his important position.

Sebastian Gerard Messmer was born at Goldach, Canton St. Gall, Switzerland, Aug. 28, 1847, and was ordained July 23, 1871. Shortly after he left his native country and arrived in the United States, October 6th, of the same year. A few years ago he was professor at the theological seminary of South Orange, N. J., and at present occupies the chair of dogmatic and canon law at the Catholic University of Washington.

When Father Messmer received the news of his appointment he at once wrote to Rome, requesting the Pope to withdraw the same, as he preferred to remain in his present position, but the Holy Father refused to accept the declination.

Bishop Messmer is one of the ablest churchmen of the country and the diocese of Green Bay is to be congratulated upon receiving such a prominent prelate.—Brown County Democrat, De Pere, Wis.

A COMMENDABLE WORK.

At the request of His Eminence, Card. Gibbons, we publish the following report and beg our Associates to read it attentively. The important work established by the Council of Baltimore deserves their support. They should remember it on the first Sunday of Lent, when they will be invited to give their alms for the Missions among the Negroes and the Indians.

MISSION WORK AMONG THE NEGROES AND THE INDIANS.

The amount of good that is being done by means of the Negro and Indian fund is known only to those who are thoroughly acquainted with the actual state of Catholicity among the Negroes and Indians. Each recurring apportionment of the annual collection becomes the foundation of some new enterprise; churches, schools and hospitals have been founded on the aid extended by the Commission and look to it for future encour-

agement. The good work is spreading and needs, especially at the present time, all the stimulus that can be given to it in the shape of moral and financial support. A glance at the financial statement for the last five years shows an almost steady falling off in the amounts contributed for this work, the total footing up \$361,559.70 and the collection for 1891 standing \$18,436.18 less than in 1887.

This is a rather saddening fact when we have such a work before us, and when the Rt. Rev. Bishop of Little Rock tells us that \$18,000,000 of Northern money has been spent on the colored people of the South since the war by Protestants and Protestant churches. A goodly sum of money has however been contributed and great good has been accomplished. Among the reports from the Negro missions, those from the dioceses of Covington, Galveston and Natchitoches are particularly encouraging. In many other places real substantial work has been done. The Bishop of Mobile and Little Rock say that they feel they are sowing the good seed though no very striking results have yet been secured. Archbishop Janssens is accomplishing much against very discouraging odds. In the face of disheartening indifference and harrassing opposition as in more favored spots, we everywhere, both in the Negro and Indian missions, come upon a courageous, simpleminded devotedness that can have its principle only in faith and the love of God and of souls. The Bishop of Jamestown writes a vigorous letter of appeal in behalf of his Indians, among the many interesting details concerning Indian mission work nothing will be found more readable than a letter from Alaska written to his brother by Rev. William H. Judge.

While realizing the difficulties that beset us and our very limited resources, let us not underestimate the real success achieved. It is difficult to give precise figures from the statements sent in to the Commission for the first year. But we have at present twenty-one churches exclusively devoted to their service. Teaching in the colored schools are Sisters of

the congregation of the Holy Cross, Sisters of Notre Dame, the Colored Oblates, the Sisters of St. Francis, white and colored, Sisters of Charity, Sisters of St. Dominic, Sisters of the Incarnate Word, Sisters of the Good Shepherd, Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, Daughters of the Cross, Sisters of Mercy, Sisters of St. Joseph, Sisters of St. Benedict, Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, the Colored Sisters of the Holy Family, the Sisters of Mt. Carmel, Sisters of the Sacred Heart, Sisters of the Holy Ghost, Sisters of the Holy Name, Sisters of Divine Providence. The report sent out January, 1890, shows 98 schools with 6,093 pupils in attendance. The statement now submitted shows the schools to number 115, with an attendance of over 8,000 pupils. We have one seminary and one preparatory college for the training of candidates for the priesthood who have the noble ambition of devoting themselves entirely to the Negro missions. There are six orphanages, one founding asylum, two hospitals, one industrial school, one guild, one academy, one home for the aged.

The reports for the Indians are not so complete. We have in this year's statement 87 churches and 63 priests exclusively engaged in Indian work. There are 78 schools and 4,246 pupils, against 51 schools and 2,685 pupils three years ago. We notice many of the same teaching orders of sisters devoting themselves to the Indian schools, and in addition the Sisters of Loretto and of the Blessed Sacrament. The work among the Indians has been mainly carried on through governmental aid for the schools and the magnificent generosity of the Drexel family. But the money given by the people of the country has everywhere aided in building and keeping up mission chapels, and in supporting priests and religious. It is however the Negro mission work that has been principally benefitted by the annual collection. Many of their schools and chapels have been founded and are almost entirely supported by it, while there is not a church nor a school mentioned in the report that has not received some help.

Annals of Saint Joseph.

VOL. IV.

MARCH, 1892.

NO. 1.

Laudemus Nostrum in Veneratione St. Joseph! Glory to God through St. Joseph.

Rev. Sir:—

The ANNALS OF ST. JOSEPH were presented to His Holiness. As the devotion to the Most Holy Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary is specially endeared by his Heart, He ordered to thank you for the offering and sends affectionately His Apostolic Benediction. CAED. RAMPOLLA.

Assured that such blessing means success and prosperity we commence the fourth volume of St. Joseph's ANNALS which we dedicate to all the clients of St. Joseph in America. J. F. D.

Cantata for St. Joseph's Coronation.

By Marcella A. Fitzgerald.

ST. JOSEPH IS CROWNED BY THE CHURCH ON EARTH.

Hail, holy Saint, 'mid heavenly bands rejoicing,
Of all its subject throng most bright and blest,
To thee the universal Church is voicing,
The joy and gratitude that fills her breast.

While on thy brow is placed the crown of splendor
Wrought for thee by the Trinity's command,
Enriched by Jesus love so pure and tender,
Bright with the pearls given by our Lady's hand.

Angels and Saints sweet symphonies are blending,
Praising the Foster Father of their King,
And from their depths of agony heartrending
The prisoned souls fond aspirations wing.

And we thy foster children by adoption,
Our lady's earthly dower, with fond acclaim
Join in the mighty choral anthem swelling
In filial love and homage to thy name.

Thanking thee for thy care extended o'er us,
Thy watchful tenderness, O faithful Guide,
Frightening the weary way outstretched before us,
Calming the tempest far and wide.

Guiding the Bark of Peter, though around it
The demon voices of the ages ring,
Thy faithful love doth with such care surround
As watched the cradle of the Infant King.

And holding glorious Saint within thy keeping,
Our holy Pontiff whose great love for thee,
Awaked the first note of the anthem sweeping
Today from earth to heaven in melody.

He to the pleading of thy children yielded,
Deceet thy crowning on th's glorious day,
For thy strong hand our lands apostles shielded

From savage foes and dangers of the way.

And as from Nazareth's humble home o'erflowing
Thy merits, glorious Saint, the wide earth fill,
Thy fair shrine at De Pere forever glowing
O'er our wide land sweet graces shall distill.

As fragrance of celestial blossoms bearing
The sweetness of God's mercy near and far,
Till weary souls thy voice of warning hearing
Will turn to thee as to their guiding star,

And crown thee with the love of lives made glorious
By the reflection of thy tender love,
Great Saint, o'er every grief and toil victorious,
Great Saint, enthroned and crowned in heaven above.

Dear Saint, blest Patron of the Church, our Mother
Has bade us seek thee and our tribute bring,
And crown thee as our gentle Foster Brother
Has crowned thee, Guide and Guardian of our King.

Spouse of Lady, every gift bestowing
On those who love her, take us to thy care,
Receive the homage fervid, pure and glowing,
We offer thee today in blest De Pere.

Chorus

CLOSING PRAYER.

Holy Patron hear our pleading
Listen, listen to our call,
Asking that our Father's blessing
On our Sovereign Pontiff fall.
On our Prelates, on the Soldiers
Of the Cross who day by day,
Battle 'neath His royal standard,
Bowling nations to His sway,
Ask Him, He cannot refuse you,
But His choicest gifts impart
To thy servants, Spouse of Mary
Dear Friend of the Sacred Heart.

THE CORONATION OF ST. JOSEPH.

THE DAY OF THE CORONATION.

APPOINTED BY THE RIGHT REV. S. G. MESSMER, BISHOP ELECT OF GREEN BAY.



BRIEF granting to the Archconfraternity of St. Joseph the privilege of offering, amidst great festivities, a precious crown to its glorious Patron, was addressed to the Right Rev. Bishop of Green Bay, to whom

is given the right to appoint the day of the Coronation and the honor to set the crown on the head of St. Joseph.

The see was vacant since the promotion of the most Rev. X. Katzer to the Archbishopial dignity. We had to wait for the expected decision till the election of a new Bishop. At the beginning of this month the nomination of Doctor S. G. Messmer, D. D., was confirmed and we hastened to recommend the Archconfraternity to the solicitude and protection of our new Bishop, in the meantime giving him all necessary informations about the Coronation.

By returning mail his Lordship sent us his decision in the following words: *In regard to the time of Coronation, if all is ready or can be, why not take the 8th of May, the feast of the Patronage of St. Joseph?*

The duty of the Archconfraternity to which is due this movement for the Coronation of St. Joseph is to accept the desire of our Bishop as a mandate and to look at it as designed by Holy Providence. A year ago in April's issue, page 20, we published the following remarks:

Now the question is: When shall St. Joseph be crowned. We suggest to have this grand celebration in the year 1892, preceding the national manifestation, which will be held in honor of the discovery of America.

In the same year 1892, May 12 or 13,

there will be another Centenary which cannot be left out by Catholics. The first centenary of the birth of Pius IX, of glorious and holy memory.

As the Patronage of St. Joseph will occur this year on the 8th of May, it seems that the Coronation of St. Joseph should take place on this day, followed during the octave by a manifestation in honor of the Great Pontiff who has proclaimed St. Joseph Patron of the Universal church, and who has done so great things during the 33 years of his extraordinary Pontificate.

This was simply a suggestion which now turns to be a glorious fact in the annals of the Catholic Church in America. For the first time in this great country St. Joseph will receive the honor of the Coronation, he will be proclaimed a glorious prince in the heavenly court and the highest among the kings of the world. Rejoice all who earn hardly your bread in the continual efforts of your toiling life. St. Joseph, the carpenter, St. Joseph, your model and patron, will be exalted and glorified! How noble is your condition, the preferred choice of the Son of God who takes his delights in the arms of a laborer, the Maker of the world prefers a workshop to the palatial mansions.

Rejoice, fathers of families. Behold your model and protector, who reveals you the nobility of your vocation, the duties of your charge, the reward of the fidelity of your union, the fruit of sound education.

Rejoice, children, in the glorification of the foster father of Jesus, who will be a father to you, a strong protector against the enemies of your innocence.

Rejoice ye all, who preferring the service of God to the pleasures of the world, have placed your life under the guard of Joseph. His Coronation is the glorification of the cloister.

No doubt, the news of the Coronation of St. Joseph will arouse the enthusiasm and all his devoted clients will contribute according to their means to the celebration.

We would be glad if a larger place had been chosen to increase the solemnity, but as it seems God's design that it will be done in a small city, we may think that St. Joseph desires to have the contribution not of few persons, but of all his children throughout America.

The month of March is a very favorable occasion to dispose every person to send a small offering to St. Joseph. The needs are considerable overtaxed by the interest of loans to rebuild the church, the congregation cannot do anything. Then we must decorate the church for the circumstance. Painters are already at work. It will be a good occasion to pay for a *memorial* or a *tableau in St. Joseph's Shrine*. The offerings for the crown do not overpass \$500. We extend the time to the 19th of March for the reception of material for the crown of the Child Jesus and the diadem of St. Joseph. Their value will be in proportion of the offerings.

We remind to the teachers the idea of soliciting one penny from each pupil of the parochial schools. *One penny*; where is the child, who cannot afford it, and it will be changed in dollars for the glorification of St. Joseph, who loves so tenderly the little ones.

We beg our dear Associates, the members of the Archconfraternity, to exert themselves during the month of March, to solicit their friends for a small contribution. *Honor obliges*; and the honor of the Coronation solicited in the name of the Archconfraternity imposes on them the duty to give to the occasion all possible splendor. We open therefore a subscription to cover the expenses. We apply either for money or for gifts which

will contribute to the decoration of St. Joseph's shrine. We will be very grateful to the communities, who would work *banners* which displayed in the church would tell to the pilgrims the devotion of America to the glorious Patron of the Church.

Considering our poverty, other clients of St. Joseph will offer candlesticks, candelabrams, vestments, linen, etc. If they are embarrassed about the object of their offering, they may write, telling the amount which they desire to offer to St. Joseph and we will give them a good suggestion.

We desire to publish in St. Joseph ANNALS the names of the donators, unless they forbid us, and in such case, we will mention only the donation.

Our Associates are earnestly requested to make known the projected celebration in their neighborhood and to address especially all those who bear the name of *Joseph*. They will understand the obligation to honor their patron in such circumstance.

In the ceremonial printed at Rome for this special rite of the Coronation of St. Joseph, it is specially recommended that the festival must be announced since the previous day "*sonitu campanarum*," by the ringing of the bells, and there is yet no bell at St. Joseph's shrine. We cannot be deprived of their joyous peal in the Coronation of St. Joseph and we have ordered the melting of

JOSEPHA,

the principal bell which will announce the festivities of St. Joseph and of the most solemn feasts in the year. She tends a grateful welcome to all those will increase its weight and give power to its voice. Its definitive weight will be decided on St. Joseph's day (March 19th.) The names of the donators will be preserved in the archives of the Archconfraternity.

We beg also to remind the appeal of a priest, a zealous member of the Archconfraternity, expressing the idea that the principal altar of St. Joseph's shrine should be offered by the American clergy.

The amount of the subscription is now:

Former lists, \$30.00

Rev. F. X. Cloutier, of Albany, N. Y., thanksgiving to St. Joseph, 2.00

Another priest, 10.00

Rev. J. J. Holzknecht, rector, at Cooperstown, Wis., as thanksgiving for favors received from St. Joseph, 5.00

Total received, \$47.00

This is a good beginning, which gives us hope that this beautiful project will be a success, but perhaps there are many priests, who desire to subscribe and cannot afford to give 10 or 5 or even 2 dollars. We like to tell them that we did not apply for large offerings and we will gratefully accept a mite not considering the donation in itself, but the symbolic idea attached to the project, uniting together St. Joseph, the altar and the priest. This altar cannot be ready for the Coronation, therefore the subscription remains open till we realize the sum needed for this object.

We cannot give now any program of the Coronation, our Bishop-elect is yet far away, but we will do all that is in our power to have all the arrangements made for the next issue of the ANNALS, so that we may communicate them to the Associates.

But as De Pere is a small city, deprived of the accommodations which are to be found in larger centers, we advise all those who desire to witness the Coronation to notify their intention addressing to the Director of the Archconfraternity, West De Pere, L. B. 24, Wisconsin.

And as there will be comparatively only a small part of the clients of St. Jo-

seph who can come to the celebration, we earnestly beg of all those who have authority, rectors of churches, superiors of communities, presidents of colleges, teachers of our parochial schools, to be united with the Archconfraternity, so that St. Joseph should be honored and glorified in all the churches and chapels of America while there in his shrine the precious crown will be set on his head, that from Atlantic to Pacific ocean, from the gulf to the northern limit of America, we sing his praises, that all tongues proclaim great and blessed the faithful man, the guardian of his Lord, Joseph, the most pure spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

ST. JOSEPH.

Model and Patron of Christian Families.

BY J. M.



he idea of the Christian family originated in the mind of God. It was a divine conception expressed in the declaration of the ever Blessed Trinity: "Let us make man to our own image and likeness." Man is, therefore, the noblest work of the Almighty; and the attributes with which he is invested proclaim with infallible certainty, his

glorious mission and destiny. The nobility of his origin is stamped upon him, and his godlike faculties set him apart from the rest of creation as a superior being. Though indeed man suffered in the fall of our first parents, yet the injury was more than repaired when Christ, our Redeemer, assumed our nature and

made it identical with His own divine nature. Such an act on the part of the Son of God was a stupendous proof of His exceeding great love for man, which should excite our most profound homage and gratitude. Associated in this great work were two persons, Mary and Joseph, whose coöperation was deemed essential in carrying out the plan of redemption. Mary, the Virgin Mother of Christ, was the chief agent in the accomplishment of Heaven's designs. Joseph, however, performed a necessary and important part. Both stood in their relations toward God as the representatives of the race that was to be redeemed and regenerated through means of the sufferings and death of Christ on the cross. They also stood as witnesses of the great sacrifice at which man's restoration to the friendship of his Creator was purchased. Therefore may it be truly said that Mary and Joseph assumed relations toward each other of the most intimate and holy character, relations from which have sprung the most beneficent and enduring results.

According to the plan devised by the Almighty the Redeemer of the world should be born of a Virgin. For this extraordinary honor Mary was chosen. St. Joseph, also a virgin, was selected to be her espoused companion, in order that he might provide for, guard her honor, and protect herself and the divine child who was entrusted to their keeping. Thus constituted the Holy Family, over which St. Joseph presided by divine appointment, became the first Christian home. St. Joseph is, therefore, of right the true model and patron of Christian families.

It will be our privilege briefly to consider some of the virtues that distinguished the life of St. Joseph, whose character is prefigured in the admirable traits of resemblance described in his

prototype who ruled over Pharaoh's dominions in justice and mercy. Be it said, however, that no type or model presented to us in all the range of profane and ecclesiastical history, bears comparison with the great St. Joseph, who rises before us into conspicuous and exceptional prominence as we contemplate him with the eye of faith. All other characters, however great they may be, must be dimmed by the lustre and dwarfed by a comparison with the majestic and peerless St. Joseph, whose office was one of unique dignity and surpassing privileges. As spouse of the ever Blessed Virgin Mary and foster father of Jesus Christ, he takes rank from this connection and rises to a dignity that neither human nor angelic intelligence can adequately express.

St. Joseph was fair and comely to behold, endowed with rare manly beauty in keeping with the rich virtues that adorned his chaste soul and made it an object of complacency in the sight of heaven. Though frequently represented as a man advanced in years and wanting in personal charms, such portraits are a travesty upon his real appearance and entirely unworthy of the subject. No special importance is attached to the personal appearance of the saint beyond what truth demands. It is known that he was a man of strikingly noble features and of stately form and bearing. Modest in department and gentle in manner, he was a fit companion and guardian for the purest creature that has ever come forth from the hands of God. Heaven's own choice for that exalted office it is to be inferred that he was in every respect a perfect model of Christian manhood. And so it was; for St. Joseph possessed in a perfect degree every trait and quality that constituted a truly noble character.

The first virtue of which we shall

speaks is the purity which marked his life. His association with the Son of God and His Virgin Mother, required that his virtue should in some degree correspond with theirs. Hence virginal purity was a necessary condition for companionship with them, and the lustre of this virtue shone forth in his character with resplendent and peculiar beauty. St. Joseph, himself a Virgin, was the guardian of the Virginity of the Mother of Christ, it having been so willed by the Almighty that the mystery of the Incarnation should remain veiled from the rest of men. He alone was inspired with a knowledge of his true relations toward the Virgin and her Son. Comprehending the nature of these relations, he strenuously endeavored to so deport himself as to prove worthy of his exalted mission. How admirably he succeeded may be inferred from the estimate which Jesus and Mary put upon his services in their behalf. He breathed forth his pure soul whilst in their arms, comforted and sustained by their love. St. Joseph is the highest model among men of stainless purity, and the most perfect example of Virginity after the Mother of Christ, who is the "Queen of Virgins."

The charity of St. Joseph was no less conspicuous than his purity. His soul was full to overflowing with the love of God, which found expression in the varied acts which he performed for those confided to his care. His every thought and deed were directed to one end—the well-being and happiness of his precious charge. How diligently he labored at his humble calling to provide for their daily necessities. With what untiring energy he devoted himself to the work of their support. How deeply it must have pained his tender and sympathetic heart, when at the close of the day he found, as was often the case, insufficient means for procuring the necessaries of life. He

cared little for himself, but was sorely grieved that the objects of his solicitude were thus afflicted, or compelled to undergo sufferings which he could not avert. Nor was his charity confined to his immediate charge. The heart of St. Joseph was modeled on the Heart of Christ and bore resemblance to it. Therefore its charity was all embracing. He yearned for the salvation of his neighbor and wished well to all. Doubtless the hours of his toil were interrupted only to breathe earnest prayers to God for the accomplishment of His great designs in behalf of mankind, to be wrought through the agency of the Redeemer, whose public career he was not destined to witness, but to which he looked forward with prophetic vision, anticipating the glorious results which he knew would follow from the mission and preaching of Christ. St. Joseph was the first herald of the Redeemer, for at His birth he had joined in the hymn of the angels and his voice though subdued in silent prayer and revered homage was yet potential in announcing His coming. Long before the Baptist proclaimed His divinity on the bank of the Jordan, St. Joseph had nestled Him upon his chaste bosom and knelt in lowly adoration before Him. Thus the apostolate of St. Joseph antedated that of all others under the new dispensation inaugurated by Christ.

Deep humility also marked in an eminent degree the character of St. Joseph. Taught by the Son of God Himself and associated with the most humble of all creatures, he possessed this virtue in its fulness of perfection. No feeling of pride or vanity ever found a resting place in the mind of the saint. Though aware of the great dignity which heaven had conferred upon him and conscious of the numerous great graces and favors of which he was the constant recipient, he yet found in this knowledge only occasion for self-abasement and humiliation. In proof of this we need only mention his fidelity to his trust under the most

adverse circumstances. His humble calling would have proved irksome and distasteful to him had he possessed the least trace of human pride. Aware of the divine purpose to crush out of the human heart this monster of pride, the source of all evil, he was entirely satisfied to conform his life to the divine Model before him, who in the assumption of our fallen nature to cure the wound of pride had annihilated Himself, so to speak. To resemble this Model in every respect, at least as far as the human could bear likeness to the Divine, was the one desire that animated the heart of St. Joseph. That his heart was the nearest approach to the Sacred Heart of Jesus after that of His Immaculate Mother, cannot be questioned, since of all men St. Joseph was the most perfect.

It is needless to dwell in detail upon the other virtues that adorned the life of St. Joseph. The presence of all the other virtues in equal degree of perfection may be assumed, since St. Joseph was the special creation of the Almighty and endowed with the highest possible gifts and graces that could be vouchsafed to a man. As we contemplate his imposing character with the eye of faith we are constrained to exclaim: Truly art thou great, O St. Joseph, for thou hast found favor with God!

From the foregoing considerations it will be seen that St. Joseph is a fit and perfect model for Christian families, the one presented to our admiration and imitation by the Vicar of Christ. In this respect St. Joseph, under God, is the hope of the world. Look over the world and what do we behold? The family relations are everywhere disturbed and threatened with dishonor and disruption. The infamous and hell-inspired practice of divorce is everywhere on the increase; and its sad effects and evil consequences confront us on all sides. Wise and learned men, regardless of creed, cry out in loud tones against those evils and the great danger that arises from them to the State. The family is the foundation and security of the State. Unless

the family is established upon the enduring basis of Christian virtue and morality, the State loses its prop and support; the body politic becomes paralyzed and impaired for healthy action; it cannot take a leading part in the march and progressive development of the nations. The home is the nursery of those domestic virtues and sterling qualities that inspire and sustain the civic virtues that give strength and stability to the State. Therefore the State, or nation, instead of weakening the family ties, should direct its influence toward binding them more closely. This would be acting out its proper function as designed by the Almighty, who intended that the State should be a help and not a hindrance to the execution of the divine mandate: "What God has joined together let no man put asunder." The Redeemer when upon earth proclaimed the sanctity and indissolubility of the marriage relation; and this relation, when once rightly formed, cannot be severed or dissolved by any human agency or earthly power. Courts and judges may in contravention of the divine law grant bills of divorce, but their action is null and void in the sight of God, who repudiates and condemns all such unholy interference with His decrees. In placing the seal of consecration upon this most sacred alliance Christ, the great Lawgiver, wished that no profane hands should tamper with His work.

The writer owes an apology for connecting the subject of divorce with the fair pure name of St. Joseph. He does so only to suggest the chief danger that threatens the peace and happiness of mankind, though he does not conceive it to be a menace to the Christian home over which the spirit of St. Joseph rules in meekness, tenderness and love. Thank God Christians have too high a conception of the dignity of their vocation and the grandeur of the great Sacrament of Matrimony, to have recourse to the unholy and reprehensible expediency of the divorce court to free them from the duties and obligations which they have assumed.

May the example of St. Joseph serve as inspiration to Christian families, and under his patronage may they prove a blessing to religion and the state, maintaining the one and upholding the other, thus proving to the world that from the love of God springs the love of country, and that a people so inspired are invincible and unconquerable.

ST. JOSEPH,

The March Violet.



THE month of March is the month of blooming violets, at least in many states, it is also the month of St. Joseph, who is truly the spiritual violet, blooming, growing, sweet-smelling, hidden and retiring in the Church of God and the souls of men. The blooming March violet in the meadow and forest announces springtime, new life and love to all creatures; thus St. Joseph, the spiritual violet, announces to all men the spiritual spring of the soul; it warms up to new zeal and fervor; this sweet violet, St. Joseph, the father and giver of Jesus, who is our Way, the Truth and Life, attracts and leads all souls into its garden, where all beauties alone are found. He, the spiritual March violet, blooms to his own glorification from the moment of his immaculate birth to his blessed death and ever on till this present time as the greatest among men, made great by the Holy Trinity, made great by the Immaculate Mother of God, made great by the holy apostles and confessors, made great by all the people, who during 19 centuries magnify Him and praise his glory, power and goodness. He, the spiritual March violet, blooms for the

protection and consolation of Jesus and Mary, forming a strong, impregnable garden wall around Jesus and Mary at Bethlehem, at Jerusalem, at Nazareth, in Egypt, in christian family homes, in schools, in the Church, where the sweet violet guards the Holy Eucharist and finally in the souls of his children especially in the hour of death. He, the sweet violet has in all these occasions warded off the bad influences of sin, harm and evil, that can not enter the violet blooming garden wall, which contains Mary and Jesus and all the souls that follow the Lamb. Is it then a wonder, if St. Joseph, the sweet March violet, grows and becomes ever more beautiful, the joy of angles and the admiration of mankind, since his household increases as ages go by and souls increase, which Christ redeemed and joins to His Family? Who then governs and protects this great household, if not Joseph! He built up the Holy Family in its beginning at Nazareth, He was its support and protection on earth. He continues to be acknowledged as its chief in heaven. His care, his solicitude, his love, his power to direct and protect the ever growing holy family increase, as souls increase on earth for heaven. He, the sweetsmelling violet, draws everything to himself, like a magnet of souls. The rich, most sweet fragrance of his virtues, beauty and power attract both heaven and earth. It attracted the attention of God the Father upon him, of God the Son and God the Holy Ghost. It attracted the attention of the Angels, who seeing him their superior humbly approached him veiled in the shadow of night. It attracted the attention of the most pure virgin, whose own fragrance of sanctity wedded harmoniously with that of Joseph's. Finally, St. Joseph, the sweetsmelling violet, attracts the attention of all people. He is the ornament of heaven and earth, the once hidden and retiring violet, that blooms on our altars, in our homes and in our hearts, where it's fragrant virtues beget and produce virtues, until time be no more.

REV. J. HOLZKNECHT.

Annals of St. Joseph

The Most Pure Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

Archconfraternity of St. Joseph.

For the Propagation of the Devotion to St. Joseph in America.

TERMS: Seventy-five cents a year in advance. To all who secure ten subscriptions a copy will be sent free. Advertising rates on application.

Money may be sent either in registered letters or by post-office orders, payable at West De Pere, Wis., to Rev. J. F. Durin.

WE again remind that the ANNALS are not the work of one Editor, but that a hearty welcome is tendered to the members of the Archconfraternity, who desire to contribute to the accomplishment of our object, the glorification of St. Joseph in America.

THE Archconfraternity of St. Joseph rejoice at the good tidings of the definitive election of Dr. S. Messmer as Bishop of Green Bay. Our work in honor of St. Joseph has again a leader and a protector. It is said that his consecration will take place at Newark on the 27th of March. We beg our Associates to remember our Bishop-elect in their daily prayers and if is possible to offer a communion for him on the 27th of March, the day of his consecration.

AS we have already announced it to our readers, well conscious of our infirmity and inability for this great work of the glorification of St. Joseph, we have appealed to the help of the Blessed Virgin Mary, humbly requesting her to lead the movement, to direct all things to a success. We may be pleased therefor that the celebration will be made in May, in the month specially dedicated to the devotions of the Blessed Virgin Mary. And it is

worth of remark that the 8th of May is the day of the apparition of St. Michael, the prince of the celestial army, the defender of the Church. It is meet and just that the brilliant Archangel come and stand near the glorious St. Joseph as a witness of his Coronation. Attracted by so many souvenirs, let us come with gladness to proclaim how God is admirable in His Saints.

WITH this month of March commences the fourth volume of the ANNALS OF ST. JOSEPH. Therefore the subscription is due and we will be very grateful if our Associates do not postpone the payment. We owe the continuation of the work to their generosity, and we rely on their fidelity. St. Joseph never let unrewarded an act of generosity done for the propagation of his devotion.

We recommend the good practice of subscribing for clubs of 5, 10, 20 copies for a distribution of the ANNALS in the neighborhood. We have received many congratulations about the ANNALS which give a substantial and pious reading. We thank our correspondents for their encouragement. We were advised also that the ANNALS are too serious and should contain more histories, legends, etc. We will simply remind the title of the publication: *The Annals of St. Joseph, published by the Archconfraternity of St. Joseph, in the interest of his devotion.* Can we now with such title and under such banner run into the domain of fancy, to cull fictitious novels for the pleasure of the reader? No, we will not do such trade. It seems the Catholic literature needs such spices to be digested. We think that there are beauties enough shining from Jesus, Mary, Joseph, and we do not need plated material. If our list of subscription is not increased, we will be consoled, thinking that a small steady class is to be preferred to the crowd which rushes to hear the resounding music of the cymbals and drum, and suddenly vanishes. In such work subscribers are estimated not at their number, but at their weight.

THE PRAYER OF OUR LORD IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE.

COMMENCING our monthly Novena on the day appointed by the Church to commemorate this incident of the Passion of our Lord, we beg our Associates to consider seriously the matter, from which they may draw very important conclusions.

The attitude of our Lord in the Garden seems strange and mysterious; but for all those who will contemplate it attentively it contains a touching and precious lesson.

And going out he went, according to his custom, to the mount of Olives. And his disciples followed him. And when he was come to the place, he said to them: Pray, lest ye enter into temptation. And he was withdrawn away from them a stone's cast and kneeling down he prayed.

Our divine Lord does not ignore the perfid counsels of his enemies, the treason of Judas, the cowardice of his disciples, the fearful torments which he will endure the next day, the approach of his death, and to the anticipation of such horrible tragedy he opposes simply

PRAYER.

Kneeling down, he prayed:

Thanks of my God for your admirable lesson: *that we ought always to pray, and not to faint.*

It requires but little attention to understand that prayer is an irresistible force and a divine power granted to poor beings here below.

Prayer is the act by which acknowledging our infirmity and instability we apply to the All-powerful for help and succor. The power of prayer is in this fact that we poor we get access from the Infinite to obtain His unlimited favors. He seems to be a lucky man the one

who has received introduction from a prince or a wealthy lord.

Is it possible to secure a greater favor than this free access to the Almighty through the mediation of His beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ and the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph.

To what shall we compare such honor, such dignity, such power, to be introduced into the presence of the Almighty and to have leave to expose our wants, to implore His favors? No, there is no greater privilege and it is right to call it

A DIVINE POWER.

It was rather by prayer that the Lord Jesus accomplished the Salvation of the World. Occasionally he made miracles, occasionally he preached his doctrine, but he prayed continually. His hidden life in the workshop of St. Joseph is an uninterrupted prayer, and we learn from the Gospel that often he went out into a mountain to pray; and he passed the whole night in the prayer of God. (St. Luke. VI. 12.) His last breath is a sublime and fervent prayer: *And Jesus crying with a loud voice, said: Father into thy hands, I command my spirit.* And saying it, he gave up the ghost. And now his mystical life in the Tabernacle is a perpetual prayer which ascends continually to God as an *odor of the purest balm*. The Church continuing the work of the Divine Redeemer on earth is nothing but an organization for perpetual prayer. Prayer is her power and strength, prayer is her life. Saints are but a production of prayer. The heroism of their virtues, the wonders of their life are operated by prayer.

As the inhaling of air is an essential condition of the natural life, so prayer is the vital element of the soul, the sensible thermometer, which tells us the degree of our friendship with God or the distance of our soul from His Heart. With

prayer nothing is impossible to man. The devil laughs at the power of armies, he dreads a sign of the cross, he is doomed by the rosary of an humble woman. No wonder that the Apostles implored their divine Master saying: *Lord, teach us to pray.* Prayer in the early ages of the Church was the strength of Christians, the fortitude of martyrs, the light of the doctors. Amazed by the extraordinary science of St. Thomas of Aquinas a friend questions him saying: Where did you learn such profound mysteries? There; answered the saint, pointing to the cross. And how, if not by prayer, by a continual intercourse with the divine Lord?

A wonder which is generally ignored is that prayer is essentially a *conquering* power even with God. It seems that with this arrow we may wound His Heart, so that he cannot oppose any more resistance. For instance any one can read the eighteenth chapter of the Genesis and look at Abraham entering into a contest with God Himself for the salvation of the guilty cities. What means the fight of Jacob with the angel and his victory over this heavenly opponent? It figures the power of prayer which ascends to heaven and obliges God to condescend to the wishes of his creatures.

Later the children of God groaning, cried out because of the works and their cry went up unto God from the works. And He heard their groaning and remembered the covenant which he made with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, *and the Lord looked upon the children of Israel and he knew them*, casting a merciful eye upon them. He sent them Moses who with the power of prayer multiplies wonders, opening a way through the sea, obtaining water from the rock, fighting and routing strong armies while he lifts up his hands to heaven.

In one word the whole scripture is a

demonstration of the efficacy of prayer. By fasting and praying Esther obtains from the king the salvation of her countrymen. Judith comes courageously to Holoferne, cuts his head and by this bold action saves her people and city. The apostle St. Paul discovers the secret of his prodigious action among the Gentiles: He writes to his disciple Timothy: *I will that men pray in every place, lifting up pure hands.*

With surprise people hear about St. Joseph's association at West De Pere and the project of the Coronation of St. Joseph at the same place. What it means? We never heard of it! Is De Pere a large place?

No. De Pere is not a large place, but it has its material advantages in many respects. It is divided by the beautiful Fox River, has a mammoth paper mill, with a thriving population, but four years ago there was no question yet of De Pere in relation with the devotion to St. Joseph. The church dedicated to the saint was a poor frame venerated building.

Unexpected circumstances caused a revival of the devotion to St. Joseph. A new statue was inaugurated, an association was started with the object to honor, to glorify the great saint. Mass preceded by the recommendation of the intentions was celebrated every Wednesday; favors were obtained; the publication of the ANNALS in propagating the devotion increased the number of the associates, who unite together their prayers, and therefore increase the supplicating power of the good work. Indeed there is no change in De Pere in its exterior appearance to excite curiosity, but it is beyond question that in a merciful design of God the church of St. Joseph has become a

CENTER OF PRAYER AND DEVOTIONS to St. Joseph, and no opposition, jealousy or attack whatever will hinder us

to proclaim that through this increasing power of prayers, by the propagation and the extension of the Archconfraternity of St. Joseph, favors will be multiplied and even miracles can be obtained, because prayer is in itself a divine power, and prayer offered through St. Joseph is always acceptable to the Heart of Jesus, the source of all graces.

The object of the Archconfraternity established by special favor of the Holy See is clear and attractive. We aim at the continuity and perpetuity of prayer in the sanctuary of St. Joseph. Therefore the essential condition to become a member is to be disposed to pray and to honor St. Joseph. How attractive is our Patron. His face resplendent of humility and piety. Let us learn from him silence, recollection, union with God, so that, through him, we may obtain access to the throne of mercy and receive an abundance of blessing.

The association has already offered to its members many occasions to develop the spirit of prayer. Our monthly Novena is an appeal to the members to join in fervent supplications for special and very important intentions. They are convoked on each Wednesday at the altar of St. Joseph to share in the infinite fruits of the Holy Sacrifice, to unite their prayers for the success of the recommendations.

THE WEDNESDAY,

Dedicated to St. Joseph.

Wednesday is acknowledged by the sacred liturgy as a day dedicated to St. Joseph. Where there is no special feast of a saint, the Church commands to her ministers the recitation of the votive office, the celebration of the Votive Mass in honor of St. Joseph. It seems to be a heaven's inspiration. Wednesday divides the week, as St. Joseph stands a conspicuous figure between the two testaments,

as a sign of hope and consolation to encourage the toiler, to console the sufferer, to repose the pious soul.

Wednesday must be a day of special devotion, observed by every member of the Archconfraternity, the day on which St. Joseph gives audience to his clients. We tell him before Mass your petitions, and offering in his honor the holy sacrifice, we certainly obtain his favors.

An addition of prayers and honors to our Patron on each Wednesday is contemplated at St. Joseph's shrine. With the month of March, we will commence the evening's devotions which will be held every Wednesday, viz. the recitation of the Rosary followed by a hymn to St. Joseph and the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

If from every part of the country, the members of the Archconfraternity would be united in the veneration of our glorious Patron on each Wednesday it would work wonders.

The Wednesday's devotions impose no obligation whatever, and they can be altered or modified according to the condition of the associates. We propose however a very easy practice, the offering of this day to St. Joseph, mentally or by the recitation of the following formula:

My holy protector, St. Joseph, with all my heart, I will honor thee today and to thee I consecrate my heart and all its affections, praying thee to obtain for me and for the members of the Association from the ever-blessed trinity all the graces which we need for our salvation. Amen.

Then, if it is possible, we will go to Mass, give alms in honor of St. Joseph to the poor, visit sick persons, try to propagate the devotion to our dear Saint. In one word, true love will suggest convenient means to honor and glorify our Blessed Patron and Protector.

CONSECRATION

Of One Day in the Year to St. Joseph.



THIS commendable and fruitful practice known under the title of PERPETUAL DEVOTION TO ST. JOSEPH,

must be one of the principal features of the Archconfraternity of St. Joseph, as it will fully realize its object, viz. to glorify in America the Blessed Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

It consists merely in consecrating one day in the year to St. Joseph, and in performing on that day some practice of piety in his honor. This is not a special association but a practice suggested to the members of the Archconfraternity for the purpose of securing a daily and perpetual honor to St. Joseph.

We may take the day of our admission in the Archconfraternity and turn it into a perpetual anniversary, remembering each year that on this day we owe a special homage to St. Joseph.

Though this practice does not require a special inscription to gain the indulgences, for good example and the encouragement of our associates, we desire to have the name of all those, who will be engaged in the perpetual devotion, as we contemplate to have them printed and placed in succession on a card near by the venerated statue of our Patron. They will constitute St. Joseph's Court of Honor, his faithful attendants, his privileged children.

We send the ANNALS in advance, so that we may commence the perpetual devotion with next March. It will be an honor, a glory, a blessing to attend our king, who is to be crowned. He must be surrounded by a crown of faithful and loving children.

The perpetual devotion to St. Joseph, which commenced in Italy in 1856, was earnestly recommended by Pius IX, of holy memory. It was enriched with the following indulgences:

1. A plenary Indulgence on the day

consecrated to St. Joseph.

2. On the feast of St. Joseph, 19th of March.

3. On the feast of the Patronage.

4. On the feast of the Spousals (January 23).

5. At the hour of death.

6. Seven years and seven quarantines for the exercises performed on the consecrated day.

All these indulgences are applicable to the souls in Purgatory.

The following practices are recommended for the day, consecrated to St. Joseph,

1. To go to communion, if not prevented by good reasons; 2. to hear mass with great devotion; 3. to meditate for at least a quarter of an hour on the sorrows and joys of St. Joseph; 4. to perform some acts of mortification or some spiritual or corporal works of mercy; 5. to say seven *Paters*, *Aves* and *Glorias*, in honor of the sorrows and joys of St. Joseph; 6. to finish the day by visiting the Blessed Sacrament and by a consecration to St. Joseph.

There is no obligation whatever under pain of sin, even venial, as the perpetual devotion is a free offering to St. Joseph. But members are earnestly recommended to pray for the intentions of the Archconfraternity registered in the ANNALS every month.

The director of the Archconfraternity will be personally thankful to those who will correspond to his desire to establish a perpetual Court of Honor around St. Joseph.

THE PATERNITY OF ST. JOSEPH.



N the calendar of the Archconfraternity published in January's issue, we recommend to honor in a special manner during the month of March, the Paternity of St. Joseph.

We have had the good fortune to receive from our engra-

ver of Indianapolis, A. F. D., a present of 1000 copies of a beautiful photogravure, describing St. Joseph in the exercise of his paternity.

We send it in this issue to the faithful supporters of our work. We hope that in return they will send their subscription for the fourth volume of the ANNALS.

Let us now throw a glance at the inspiring attitude of St. Joseph and of his Divine Pupil. He is father truly, the possessor of a child, who is happy to be with him, to be pressed in his arms, to hear his voice, to exchange with him sweet conversation.

It will be a holy occupation for our soul each Wednesday of this month to consider how St. Joseph is the father of Jesus, how he is our own father.

1st Wednesday. St. Joseph, Father of Jesus.

The Eternal Father has decreed to save the world through the Incarnation of His only begotten Son. He has found a Mother to Jesus, the Holy Mary, whose Immaculate Heart was a garden of delights to God. Jesus, *the flower of the field, the lily of the valleys* sprung from a virginal soil: *the fruit of thy womb Jesus.* But will the Incarnate Word remain an orphan? Was he abandoned by His Eternal Father? No! A substitute will be found! Joseph is invested with the paternal right and authority over the Son of God, and we may say that there is none like him in all the earth, as he takes the place of God, and exercises the commandment as if he were the father of Jesus. Therefore he appears in the Gospel as the vice-regent of the Eternal Father, who has the charge to give a name to Jesus. This is a paternal right. God sends His angel to invest Joseph with this privilege.

When the life of the child is endangered, the Angel appears again, saying: Arise, Joseph, take the child with his mother and fly into Egypt. And again the same messenger advises him to return to his

country. Was not always Joseph supposed to be the father of Jesus? Is not he the carpenter's Son, said the countrymen of Jesus, wondering at his miracles?

And the great dignity of Joseph is proclaimed and publicly confirmed by Mary herself: Son, why hast thou done so to us. Behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. St. Luke II, 48.

The child venerates him and obeys him: *and he was subjected to them.* The Angels wonder at the sight of their King affectionately telling to the carpenter Joseph: *my father.*

And here below this dignity conferred to St. Joseph by God Himself is ignored! Honors are refused to the one, whom God has chosen as His representative, who is now titled: Patron of the Universal Church.

O beloved saint, O privileged friend of God, pearl of holiness, allow me to kneel down before your venerated image and in union with your children, the members of your Archconfraternity, to offer you our reparation for the ignorance and the negligence of men who are bewitched by vanity and perverted by lies. Chosen to be the father of the Son of man, we are also your children and we proclaim that you are a father, to whom we pledge our filial reverence, our love forever and ever.

2nd Wednesday, March 9th.

St. Joseph was given a father to Jesus, therefore God gave him with the title all the qualities and gifts attached to such dignity. The natural inclination, the devotion, the joys and anxieties of paternity. The exquisite sensibility of paternal love overflows in the heart of Joseph. And as he was made to love a divine child, there is no human word to describe the paternal sentiments of Joseph.

As St. Joseph is the father of Jesus only by adoption, it follows that having not received from nature the paternal love he has received it directly from God *of whom all paternity in heaven and earth is named* (Ephes. III, 15). God who has made the hearts of every one of men, has created a special one for the

Guardian of His Son and in such shape that it should be like the Heart of Jesus. The true Father of the Divine Child has instilled in the womb of Joseph some rays, some sparks of his infinite love for His Son. The glory to bring forth Jesus belongs to the Immaculate Virgin Mary alone, but St. Joseph has his share of the cares, anxieties, labors and sufferings which are the necessary lot of paternity.

Who may explain your dignity, O Joseph! you have partaken with the eternal Father, the privilege of saying to Jesus: This is my Son, in whom I am well pleased. Holding your precious charge into your arms, you have received his caresses, you have heard his sweet voice. Extend thy paternity, O Joseph, that we may become, like Jesus, your adoptive children and take our refuge in your loving Heart.

To be continued.

ΛΟΡΕΤΟ.

The Pilgrimage of Pilgrimages.

CHAPTER I.

DESCRIPTION OF THE HOLY HOUSE AND THE BASILICA.

Continued.

This Treasury which only had time to partially recover from the sacrilegious depredations of the invaders of the States of the Church in 1797, who also, according to Thiers, made the Sovereign Pontiff pay thirty millions. This outrage on the Holy House whose treasury they pillaged, and on the Blessed Virgin, whose Image they carried away to their capital has been repaired, as far as possible, by the servants of Jesus and Mary in France; and when Our Lady of Loreto made her entry to Notre Dame at Paris, and stood upon a dais as Queen and Mother, amid the myriads of throbbing hearts who came to testify their love, and make reparation for the violation of her shrine and the reduction of the Holy House to poverty, like that at

Nazareth, ah, then, in lieu of the gems that had been plundered, she found living jewels to adorn her crown, and tears that shed more lustre there than diamonds. To regain any of her children's hearts was more to her than to regain her gems, and to be present at the restoration of Religion in France, made her more than content to have left for a time even the Holy House she loved.

The Image of Mary was soon adorned anew: brilliant with precious stones, it stands in a gilded niche at the end where Jesus dwelt. It came with the Holy House 600 years ago; but time has no effect upon its cedar, and this work of love of the devout Evangelist St. Luke is unimpaired after near 2000 years. Here in this inner sanctuary are kept the sacred eating-vessels of the Holy Family; and the faithful have their rosaries and medals placed in them. Here also in the *santo cammino*: the people of the West, being used to fireplaces, took it for the Family hearth, but it never had any exit for smoke, and its present form is not its ancient one. It was altered into this shape about 1531, when the niche for the Madonna was made; for till then her statue stood against the south wall, where the altar also stood. The altar screen, which divides off this portion of the east end, and has in it silver busts of St. Joseph and St. Anne, was erected when the ancient altar was removed to the east, and encased in the present larger altar, in which an opening is left that the Altar of the apostles may be seen. Near the north end of the altar is the sacred cupboard in which the Immaculate Virgin used to keep portions of the Hebrew Scriptures. It became the tabernacle for the Blessed Sacrament when the Apostles had fitted up the Holy House as a chapel. An ancient figure of the Crucified, painted on canvas, stretched out upon a Greek cross, 4 feet 6 inches wide and 4 feet 6 inches long, is over the west window; it used to be over the altar when it stood upon the south side. Abraham Bzovius testifies in A. D. 1300 that it became renowned for many

miracles; and when they removed it to give it greater honour, it always returned into the Holy House. The bells are on the roof of the small building that encloses the Holy House; and the faithful can obtain little models of them to ring at special times. In the south wall there is a stone fixed by a silver bar, which was restored, in 1562, by the Bishop of Coimbra (see Part V., Chap. III), and also a cannon ball that fell harmless at Julius II.'s feet at the siege of Mirandola, in 1505.

To be continued.

THANKSGIVINGS.

Albany, N. Y.—Glory and gratitude to St. Joseph. I was, suffering so much when I wrote to you to be recommended to our dear Patron. Sleepless during nights, I thought that I would die, and now I am very well. The doctor was powerless, but St. Joseph has taken his place and cured me. Please say a Mass of thanksgiving as soon as possible. I have promised to offer to St. Joseph a gilted heart as ex-voto.

J. F. X. C., priest.

B., Cal.—I cannot tell you, dear Rev. Father, how much happiness it gives me to be able to send something for the Coronation of our dear Saint. The favors St. Joseph has obtained for myself and family are *innumerable*. In truth we never appeal to him in vain. We return sincere thanks for them all, but one favor granted to day deserves a special thanksgiving. Our friend wished to collect a debt, which has been due to her for months and which she thought, if obtained at all, would be through great difficulty. Having a great love for St. Joseph, she told me yesterday that if the money was paid she would contribute to the Coronation of St. Joseph. We immediately besought our dear Saint's intercession, and you may imagine my delight when this morning the money was paid to her and most cheerfully.

T. E. H.

Want of space obliges us to postpone a long list of thanksgiving.

UNION OF PRAYERS, PETITIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS.

The two masses said Wednesday and Friday and the prayers of the Associates will be applied to:

His Holiness Leo XIII and the triumph of the Church.

The Most Reverend F. X. Katzner, Archbishop of Milwaukee.

The Right Rev. S. G. Messmer Bishop-elect of Green Bay.

The intentions of the Right Reverend H. Cosgrove, Bishop of Davenport.

All the Bishops of America.

All the Missions of America.

The spirit of union and zeal for the clergy.

All foreign missions among infidels and heretics.

The conversion of schismatics in the Peninsula, Win.

The Indians of Keshena.

The Conversion of the Oneidas.

The Association of the Catholic Press.

The Parochial Schools.

The protection of St. Joseph against influenza and other diseases.

That St. Joseph, the guardian of children, taking them under his protection preserve them from any scheme or plan opposed to the liberty of Christian education.

For blessings upon our teaching Religious Orders.

The Holy League of children consecrated to St. Joseph.

For justice, peace and harmony between laborers and their masters.

For prosperity and the increase of all Catholic benevolent societies.

That the Associates of St. Joseph unite in a strong crusade against blasphemy and intemperance.

The canonization of the Blessed Margaret Mary Alacoque.

The beatification of the Venerable Mary of the Incarnation, of the Venerable Julie Billard, foundress of the Sisters of Notre Dame of Namur.

The increase and prosperity of the Deliverance society or Union for the relief of the "Poor Souls."

For the spiritual, moral, social and financial welfare of all the laborers and tradesmen.

For the reunion of all schismatic churches with Rome, the Mother-Church.

For the liberation of Rome from its masonic tyrants.

For the liberation of Jerusalem out of the hands of Mohammedans and Schismatics.

For the conversion of Jews.

262 Benefactors—36 Communities—50 Conversions—30 Deceased Persons—29 Employments—100 Families—98 Girls—15 Happy Deaths—180 Intemperate persons—450 Particular Intentions—35 Perseverances—100 Priests and their parishes—199 Religious and Nuns—350 Sick persons—550 Spiritual Blessings—20 Superiors—575 Temporal Blessings—20 Travelers—90 Undertakings—300 Vocations—350 Young Men—70 Hopeless Cases—35 Perseverances.

The special intention of the monthly Novena from March 11th till March 19th, will be the success of the Coronation and the propagation of the Archconfraternity in America.

THE DELIVERANCE

—OR—

Union of the Living for the Relief of the Poor Souls.

Be mindful, O Lord, of thy servants and handmaids who are gone before us, with the sign of faith and sleep in the sleep of peace. To these, O Lord, and to all that rest in Christ, Grant, we beseech thee, a place of refreshment, light and peace. Amen.



bers of the society. Conditions: 1st. Inscription of your name and surname. 2nd, to send each year an offering of 25 cents.

DO NOT FAIL to send the names of your departed parents and friends for their inscription in the "OBITUARY BOOK" of St. Joseph's Church, WEST DE PERE, WISCONSIN, that they may have share in perpetuity in the prayers and suffrages, offered for the Deliverance of the "Poor Souls."

THE DELIVERANCE UNION is established to procure to the souls, lingering in Purgatory, a prompt successor by the daily celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of Mass and the offering of the satisfactory works of the mem-

MONTHLY OBITUARY.

Right Rev. Eugene O'Connell, who departed this life on the 4th of December, 1891, aged 76 years. The notice of his death was sent only few days ago, as we would recommend immediately the saintly prelate, who never missed an occasion to encourage the ANNALS and the Association of St. Joseph. He expressed such gladness, when he heard of the project to crown St. Joseph. His memory will long live in the hearts of the Catholics of the Pacific Coast.

Rev. Peter Hennaert, chancellor of the diocese of Detroit, died January 24.

Sister Cornelia, superior of the Sisters of Notre Dame, San Jose, Cal.

And all those who are registered in the Obituary book of the Deliverance Union.

REQUIESCANT IN PACE.