

Hosanna!

DEDICATED TO THE CAUSE OF BEATIFICATION OF MOTHER MARIE OF THE CONCEPTION
ADELE DE BATZ DE TRENQUELLEON

Number 1

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CHATEAU DE TRENQUELLEON, in Southern France, built by the Baron de Trenquelléon in 1771. His granddaughter, Adèle, who took the name of Mother Marie of the Conception when founding the Institute of the Daughters of Mary, was born in 1789 in the first-floor room behind the three windows on the right.

"Hosanna to the Son of David!" Foundress's Last Words

When Mother Marie of the Conception was lying on her deathbed in January, 1828, only thirty-eight years old, she did not know just how long she would still linger nor what might be her last words. She had no desire to die and leave her twelve-year-old foundation (the Institute of the Daughters of Mary) for another world. Possessing a rich, enthusiastic personality, she would have preferred continuing the leadership entrusted to her by her Co-Founder, Father Chaminade. But death had been approaching with apparent certainty for several weeks and any of her waking moments might be her last.

Early on January 10, before dawn, as she grew weaker and weaker, she suddenly regained a spark of her life-long vitality and cried out: "Hosanna to the Son of David!" A slight movement of the lips and all was over.

"Hosanna to the Son of David!" That had been the cry of triumphant joy echoed by the crowds down the narrow streets of Jerusalem as Christ entered the city on Palm Sunday.

Had Mother Marie of the Conception planned this exclamation as her last words, she could not have made a better choice. They are typical of her entire personality,

enriched as it was by great faith and by ardent attachment to Christ. They seem to have been one of her oft-repeated ejaculatory prayers, for we find them already in a letter of hers written when she was 19.

Hosanna! therefore seems to be a fitting title for a bulletin fostering the Cause of Beatification of the Foundress.



MOTHER MARIE OF THE CONCEPTION
(Adèle de Batz de Trenquelléon)
1789 - 1828

Foundress of the Institute of the
Daughters of Mary Immaculate

MIRACLES ARE GOD'S OWN SIGNATURE

Very Rev. Mother Marie Adèle

Superior General of the Daughters of Mary Immaculate

On April 21, 1946, on the feast of Easter, Monseigneur Rodié, Bishop of Agen, named the three members of the Diocesan Commission whose work would prepare the Cause of Beatification of Mother Marie of the Conception, Foundress of the Daughters of Mary. The "Informative Process" in which this Commission is engaged constitutes the very first of many steps entailed in the beatification and canonization of a Servant of God. The duty of the three members is to hunt the written testimony concerning Mother Marie of the Conception. They assemble all that has been written of her, then study its authenticity and its value as proof of her holiness. They finally draw up a report summarizing their researches and their conclusions.

No other official work can be concluded in favor of the Cause until the Diocesan Commission has completed its labors. Its investigations led to the examination of numerous archives, such as the records of diocesan chanceries, of religious Congregations, of city, departmental and national historical bureaus, of various families whose ancestors were related to Adèle de Batz de Trenquelléon or had dealings with her. After eleven years, this work is nearing completion.

The Holy See has in the meantime taken several other steps concurrent with the work done under the care of the Bishop of Agen. The Sacred Congregation of Rites has appointed a Postulator of the Cause at Rome, as well as a Vice-Postulator who works on the scene in France.

The Postulator and Vice-Postulator have as mission to locate the writings of Mother Marie of the Conception herself and to present them to the Diocesan Tribunal. They compose the "Articles" summarizing the life, virtues, works and reputation for sanctity of the Servant of God. They also seek out witnesses who will testify before the Diocesan Tribunal concerning all they know of Mother Marie of the Conception.

In the meantime, prayers have been increasingly sent up to God, asking for striking favors and miracles through the intercession of the Servant of God. While it depends upon the Church, sole judge in this matter, to make decisions concerning the cures that are being obtained, our duty is unceasingly to continue our supplications to heaven for miracles. Miracles are God's own signature to a Cause.

OUR HEADING

We are indebted to Mr. Louis Catalano for the drawing reproduced as the heading of this bulletin. A member of Holy Rosary parish in San Antonio, Texas, Mr. Catalano is a commercial artist at Station KONO-TV.

FAVORS OBTAINED THROUGH THE INTERCESSION OF MOTHER MARIE OF THE CONCEPTION

Numerous favors, large and small, some of them outstanding, have been received by those asking God to show His power on earth through Mother Marie of the Conception. The following are a few obtained in recent years:

Corsica

Monsieur S., a relative of one of our students, had one of his fingers crushed, and he took bad care of it at the beginning. One day, the doctor . . . declared the finger lost. In order to be sure, tests were taken. But Monsieur S. prayed Mother Foundress in whom he had always had full confidence. He was cured and in short time went back to work.

Sister Marie of Sainte-Foy

Bordeaux, France, July 3, 1955

In accordance with the request inscribed at the bottom of the prayer for the Cause of Mother Marie of the Conception, I am hereby informing you of a grace received in January, 1955, a favor pertaining to a matter of health. I am continuing to pray through Mother Marie of the Conception with much confidence and I pray for her beatification.

C. B. L.

Nogent-sur-Marne, France

Having obtained a favor, I want to thank Mother Marie of the Conception by asking you kindly to have a Mass said.

Mme. S.

Ajaccio

I was suffering much in my stomach for many years. I had severe pains especially at night; I would pray the good Lord to permit me not to wake up in order not to undergo such frightful suffering; the same thing after dinner when I would lie down for a siesta. Only those persons who have passed through this sickness can understand my sufferings.

Following the reading of the life of the Curé of Ars, I addressed him for obtaining my cure. I was making this novena for two days, when my niece arrived at home bringing a picture of Mother Marie of the Conception.

"See this religious?" she said. "She cures many ailments."

I was so struck at the reception of this picture that I turned toward the Curé of Ars, speaking to him as if I saw him: "My good saint, you are in heaven, known by everybody. From today on, I am not going to pray any more to you for my cure. I shall pray this good religious so that she might become known."

I promised her that I would make the favor known if I were cured. That was two years ago, and for several days now I have been much worried at having so long delayed having my cure made known, for the novena was not yet completed when I was healed.

I had seen many doctors and I had even been X-rayed. . . . All without exception had diagnosed a great irritation of the stomach with the threat of a sore if I would not follow a very strict diet. I had followed

the diet about a year without feeling any relief. So I went back to the ordinary diet and I ate anything at all.

Two years ago in the month of August, I was utterly exhausted. I could eat very little; food gave me atrocious pains. It was at that time that I made my novena. Almost immediately I was cured. Since then I eat as everybody; not once have I undergone the sufferings I mentioned.

Carmel L.

One of the most ardent apostles of Mother Marie of the Conception is a descendant of her own sister, a missionary priest in Madagascar, Father Charles de Batz, working amid numerous financial handicaps at Anjzorobe. Periodically he sends accounts of cures to the Superior General of the Daughters of Mary. Between the lines of his letters, one discovers a great confidence in the attentiveness of his long-deceased relative to all the needs of his charges. The following excerpts from one of his letters recount a striking favor:

During the month of June our catechist inspector, Antoine, was suffering especially from rheumatism of the leg, despite the injections given him by the doctor of the hospital of Ambatomanoina.

One day, his wife reproached him for wanting to leave on a tour. Turning a deaf ear to her, he struck out on the trail. Not far from the point of departure, unable to endure the pain any longer, he sat down on the road, took the picture of Mother Adèle, put it on his leg, which he then bandaged again, and said:

"Mother de Trenquelléon, if it is for my faults that I suffer like this, all right. But if you think that I can still work, listen to me!"

Violent pangs of pain lasted for about a quarter of an hour, and then all suffering ceased. Antoine then unbandaged his leg, continued on the road without any difficulty. In spite of daily and long trips, the pain never returned. Antoine thanks Mother Marie of the Conception and asks that this recital figure in the documentation on her Cause.

PRAYER

For the Beatification of

MOTHER MARIE of the CONCEPTION

Our Father Hail Mary Glory
Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us!
Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us!

Let us pray

O God, who gave to Mother Marie of the Conception an apostolic soul alive with filial piety toward Mary and who has willed that this missionary and Marian spirit be perpetuated in an Institute founded by her, grant us the miraculous favors that we solicit through her intercession, should it enter Your designs that she be beatified by the Church, through Christ Our Lord.

Amen.

(With ecclesiastical permission)

Problems of Cause Solved by Miracles

Mother Marie of the Conception died in 1828. Her Cause of Beatification was begun only in 1946, 118 years later. This puts it in the class of "historical Causes"; that is to say, no one who knew her personally is still living today. As a result, the testimony of all those who appear as "witnesses" in the processes of Beatification will be second-hand. It will be all the more difficult to present convincing proof of the sanctity of the Servant of God.

Nevertheless, no matter how old a Cause may be or how many difficulties may arise, there exists a means of bringing it to a successful conclusion. That means is miracles. There are no insurmountable difficulties if miracles occur through the intercession of the Servant of God.

Miraculous cures speak more eloquently in a Cause of Beatification than the details of holiness in a saint's life. No Cause (except perhaps that of a martyr) will ever succeed without miracles. If our prayers obtain outstanding miraculous cures through the intercessory power of Mother Marie of the Conception, then all other problems will be reduced in importance and we shall have reason to hope that her Cause will advance rapidly.

Prayers Solicited

The "Marianist family," composed of the Marianist Sisters, Brothers and Fathers, as well as their Affiliates, students and friends, makes up a large group spread over the face of the earth. A concerted effort at prayers and sacrifices on its part would not fail to win special favors from heaven.

The entire group is invited to pray often, to pray hard, to pray with confidence for miraculous cures wrought through the intercession of Mother Marie of the Conception. Copies of the approved prayer may be obtained by writing to the address at the bottom of this page.

Highlights of Life of Mother Marie of the Conception

June 10, 1789 Birth of Adèle de Batz de Trenquelléon in southern France.

1797-1800 Exile to Spain and Portugal.

Aug. 5, 1804 Adèle and two friends organize an Association for girls.

Sept. 1808 The Association is affiliated to Father Chaminade's Sodality in Bordeaux

1810 First meeting with Father Chaminade.

May 25, 1816 Adèle founds the Institute of the Daughters of Mary at Agen.

Sept. 20, 1820 A convent is opened at Tonneins.

July 16, 1824 A convent is opened at Condom.

July 26, 1824 A novitiate is opened at Bordeaux.

Autumn, 1826 A community is sent to Arbois in eastern France.

Jan. 10, 1828 Mother Marie of the Conception dies at Agen at the age of 38 years and 7 months.

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