



Hosanna!

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

Number 3

April 1959

Foundress's Exceptionally Rich Personality

Mother Marie of the Conception died young. She was only thirty-eight years and seven months old on that early January morning in 1827 when she pronounced her last words after which this bulletin has been named: *Hosanna to the Son of David!* Her life, however, though short, left a deep impression upon all those who knew her. Already early, Adele de Batz de Trenquellion possessed a character of unusual eagerness and vivacity. In fact, her biggest life-long problem was to hold her enthusiasm in check.

Before she ended her 'teens, Adele found abundant occasion for dedicating her ardent, energetic personality to God's service. Finding herself at fifteen in charge of a pious association for girls that soon spread over a large area of southwestern France, she threw herself into this work with great zest and imagination. In the countryside about her home, she likewise led a very active personal apostolate of devotedness to the poor, to the sick, to the children who needed catechetical instruction. No need was too challenging for Adele. No problem could stop her. A born leader and a great lover of God and souls, she directed all the exuberance of her being toward her Master and His children on earth.

This overbubbling of ardor accompanied Adele to the convent of which she was Foundress. But soon her body proved inadequate for the intense life she wanted to lead. Death claimed her less than twelve years after the foundation of the Daughters of Mary. Short as was her career on earth, it was filled with richness and zeal.

When Mother Marie of the Conception will be better known, she will undoubtedly stand out as one of the great personalities among the Foundresses of religious life during the Nineteenth Century.

First American Superior

Mother Mary Ann, who has written the feature article on this page, is the first American Daughter of Mary to be named a superior. She heads the community of Sisters teaching at St. Joseph School of Devine, Texas. This was the first American community to be sent from the house of foundation in Somerset, Texas, where the Marianist Sisters came in 1949. After only ten years, they have four houses in America.

Please Pray for . . .

Brother Norbert Kramer, S.M., of Belleville, Illinois, has confided his cure from cancer to Mother Marie of the Conception. He has already undergone two operations for cancer, the last time in April, 1958, when a tumor of the liver was discovered. Although Bro. Norbert now feels well and fills a normal daily schedule of teaching, his future state of health is insecure, since he is at the mercy of this tumor. Kindly join his many friends who are praying for him through the intercession of the Foundress of the Daughters of Mary.



Mother Marie of the Conception
(Adele de Batz de Trenquellion)
1789 - 1828
Foundress of the Institute
of the Daughters of Mary Immaculate

Our Lady's Beacon

Mother Mary Ann, F.M.I.

She didn't go to the foreign missions. Nor preach. Nor publish. Yet in the heart of Mother Marie of the Conception burned such a brilliant flame of love for Jesus and Mary that she longed intensely "to go to the end of the earth and live among savages" in order to gain souls for Them. It was a flame that enkindled not only those in contact with her, but which has burned as a beacon for those who followed her.

This ardent young religious renounced her own wishes and quietly assumed the responsibilities Divine Providence assigned to her. She was not yet twenty-seven when, in cooperation with Father Chaminade, she founded the Daughters of Mary in France. As foundress, she was never destined to a spectacular apostolate. Rather, her role was to instill in each of her daughters a great thirst for holiness, sought after in themselves and others.

Her vivacious personality aroused the enthusiasm of her first Sisters. "What happiness," she wrote, "if we are able to cooperate in the salvation of one soul ransomed by the Blood of a God!" She formed them as "Missionaries of Mary." Under her inspiration they gave themselves unstintingly to their Queenly Mother and to Her mission, the redemption of all men.

She directed their first steps in the work of rechristianizing the rural areas of France, almost lost to the Faith after the Revolutionary War. Their ardor reflected her own desire to fight more actively in the struggle to establish Christ's kingdom. Writing to the novices she exclaims, "I can hardly wait to be able to send you as apostles for the conquest of souls into all the places where Providence calls you."

Too soon she had to leave her beloved Congregation. She died eleven years after the foundation of the first house at Agen. Some persons felt the little communities would not withstand the blow, that without her vitalizing force the organization would collapse. But they reckoned without Mother Marie of the Conception. It became evident that her maternal care had not ceased. From heaven she continued to watch over, encourage and inspire her daughters. Instead of dying out, the society flourished, spreading to other European countries. Then as if making an attempt to satisfy her insatiable craving for souls, it advanced to mission lands to seek out souls for Christ and His Mother.

Nor has her guidance ceased. She has taken special interest in the foundation her daughters have made in the United States. No longer able to inspire them personally by her words and example, she gives full proof of her continuing direction through the events which are shaping their destiny.

In 1949, the first American community was founded in Somerset, Texas. It seems more than pure coincidence that these pioneers were called upon to engage in catechetical instruction, one of Adele de Trenquellions early projects, in this

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First Favors Reported from America and England

The very first favor received in America through the intercession of Mother Marie of the Conception and reported to HOSANNA! was sent from Missouri:

Hermann, Mo.
May 11, 1958

Some time ago in the mail I received a picture card, with prayers, of Mother Marie of the Conception.

I have prayed to her and asked her to help us during a period of unemployment.

Within six weeks our prayers were answered and I am sure Mother Marie of the Conception asked God to help us in our need.

I will continue to pray for the beatification of Mother Marie.

Sincerely,
A Child of Mary

The first favor obtained through Mother Marie of the Conception in England comes from Birmingham:

May 22, 1958

On the evening of April 29th I began a novena to Mother Adele for my job, as I was handing in my resignation from the staff of my present office on the following day. The novena was due to finish on May 7th, and that evening an advertisement appeared in the local paper for just the sort of position I wanted. The following morning I telephoned the firm concerned, but was told that the vacancy had been filled.

Nearly a fortnight later, I applied to an employment agency to see if they could help me. They rang the same firm I had contacted, but for a different position, which was not what I wanted. However, while they were talking it was mentioned that the person they had engaged for the situation that I had wanted had not been satisfactory. It was suggested that I should pay them a visit, which I did, and the outcome was that I now have the job I rang after in the first place. I look upon the delay before I was answered as a test of my faith as to whether I really believed that Mother Adele would help me.

B. R.

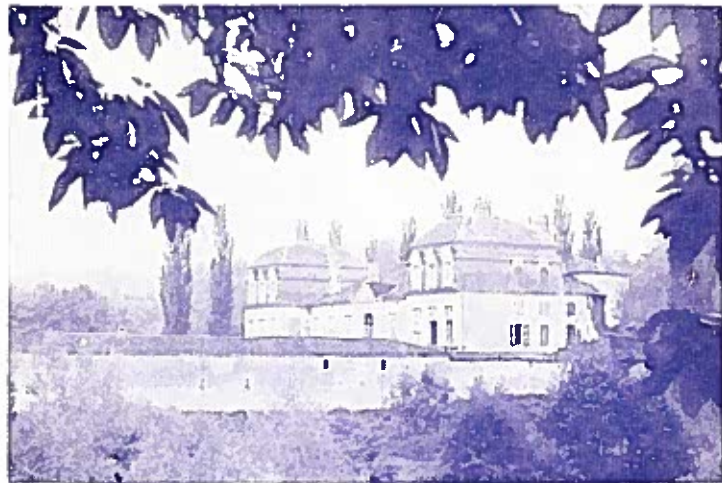
Foundress Comes To Aid of Early Marianist Brothers

The Daughters of Mary have been greatly aided in establishing their first communities in America by the Society of Mary. There was a time however when the Marianist Brothers lived in poverty and had to depend upon the Marianist Sisters.

In 1822, Father Chaminade wrote to Mother Marie of the Conception that the Brother superior at Agen did not have "enough money to go to Bordeaux with his little troop" for the annual retreat. Father Chaminade suggested that the Brothers request the money of the Sisters and he wrote to Mother Marie to inform her of it.

The poverty of the Marianist Brothers at Agen continued and the Foundress soon became accustomed to helping them. In 1826, she wrote from Agen to the Superior at Tonneins who had consulted her on the question of charity to the poor: "The Institute (Society of Mary) is riddled with problems. Our poor Brothers arouse our pity. One of them is sick — we are sending bouillon and wood (for heating), because they had none left."

She added a word of advice to the Sisters: "We must always give something to the poor — much if we have much, little if we have little. As to us, let us be happy if we feel poverty; our vow would be only a fictitious vow if we would not want to feel its effects at all."



CHATEAU OF TRENQUELLEON, FRANCE. Mother Marie of the Conception was born in this chateau on June 10, 1789, and spent two-thirds of her life there. On this side of the chateau flows the River Baise. Boats and barges piled up and down this narrow stream in the Foundress' day. A charming setting frames the chateau, which is itself most attractive. The heading of this bulletin has a drawing of the Chateau of Trenquellion, made by Mr. Catalano, an artist of San Antonio, Texas.

New Postulator Appointed For Mother Marie's Cause

Very Rev. Pierre Humbertclaude, S.M., who lives in Rome, has recently been appointed Postulator of the Cause of Beatification of Mother Marie of the Conception. Two years ago, the former Postulator, Very Rev. Eugene Scherrer, S.M., was forced by declining health to retire. Thus, Father Humbertclaude, already Postulator of Father Chaminade's Cause of Beatification, has taken over the responsibility of furthering the glorification of both Founders who collaborated in the creation of the Institute of the Daughters of Mary Immaculate, often called the Marianist Sisters.

Referring to these two Founders, Father Humbertclaude last year made the following statement:

"So closely united during their life, these two beautiful souls are still more united in eternity and that is why there can be no surer way of hastening their glorification than to unite the two Causes in the same prayers."

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!

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)

Our Lady's Beacon

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rural community. Not long afterwards, they began to teach in the parochial schools in Somerset and Devine, for catechetical classes alone were insufficient to form the Christian leaders that Mother Marie of the Conception and Father Chaminade dreamed of. A third parochial school, St. James in San Antonio was accepted in 1957. The latest stage of growth, apparent in the erection of an American mother-house-novitiate, was completed in the fall of 1958. Many events leading to this final accomplishment couldn't have just "happened".

Sixteen American have become Daughters of Mary since the first three settled in Texas almost ten years ago. This slow but constant growth in spite of numerous obstacles indicates the vigilant care of the Foundress. Perhaps it is she who has arranged that the apostolic works the Sisters have undertaken are the ones for which she herself showed a preference. At any rate, those who come into contact with her vibrant spirit feel that her apostolic ardor still flares, guiding and encouraging, a beacon for her Marianist family.

Adele Writes on Patience

Already as a girl, Adele de Batz de Trequellion was a prolific writer. A whole core of spirituality can be gleaned from her early letters. Let us quote her when, at sixteen, she commented as follows on the words of Christ: *Learn of Me because I am meek and humble of heart!*

"We should imitate His meekness not only by not letting any movement of impatience appear on the outside, but also by trying to calm within ourselves all uprisings that take place there. Our nature is an immortalized one that can endure nothing. God loves peaceful hearts. His dwelling-place is in those who know how to possess their souls in peace."

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