



Hosanna!

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

Number 4

January 1960

Worldwide Novena Set for January 2-10

On January 10, 1827, still young in years and in zest, Mother Marie of the Conception passed into eternity in Agen, France. Her last words inspired the title of this bulletin: "Hosanna to the Son of David!" January 10 is consequently a festive date in Marianist circles, where it is Foundress Day, just as January 22 is "Founder's Day." These two dates commemorate the anniversaries of the death of the Foundress of the Daughters of Mary and of Father Chaminade, Co-Founder of the Daughters of Mary and Founder of the Society of Mary.

January 10 is also every year the final date of a novena made for the glorification of Mother Marie of the Conception. It can rightly be called an "international novena," because it is observed in numerous countries of the world.

Readers of HOSANNA! are eagerly invited to set aside January 2 to 10 for sharing in this novena. They can rightfully have a certain feeling of solidarity in making it, for many hundreds of Marianist Sisters, Brothers and priests, as well as their friends, will join in the same prayers for the intercession of the same saintly Foundress.

This year you are earnestly asked to make the novena for the miraculous recovery from cancer of Brother Norbert Kramer, S.M., of Belleville, Illinois. Any hesitations that might have been entertained as to the need of a miracle for his recovery disappeared last June at the time of an operation. The surgeon found the malignancy too far developed to do anything. Only a first-class miracle can save Brother Norbert. He was able until recently to teach four high school courses, but at the cost of progressively growing complications. A miracle in his favor would greatly advance the cause of Mother Marie, to whom he has confided his cure.

Adele Writes on Human Friendship

The very earliest letter of Adèle de Batz de Trenquelléon to be preserved from among the hundreds that issued from her busy pen, is dated February 2, 1805. She was fifteen years, seven months old. Since this letter opened a new correspondence, Adèle wanted it to be a friendship in God. On the top of the page, she wrote this motto: "God is the principle of all Christian friendship." This thought is in the background of the entire letter, from which we select the following:

"God is the one and only principle of all Christian friendship and the only durable bond. When we love each other in God and in view of God, we are sure of loving each other always. A friendship that does not have this basis for foundation cannot long endure, at least ordinarily. The least thing causes a cooling-off, whereas, when loving each other in God no matter what happens the reasons for loving always endure."

This from a teen-ager! But one given to God. While Adèle loved others and wanted to be loved by them, her quest for human affection was fixed in her outbreak of love for God and fused with it to make but one great seeking of love.

Foundress's Love for the Lowly

The earliest biography of Mother Marie of the Conception appeared in 1861, 34 years after her death, and was written by a Benedictine priest, named Pradié. While not often referred to because of his unreliable quotations from the Foundress, his book gives an authentic appreciation of Adèle's extraordinary love and understanding of other persons, and especially of the lowly.

Nothing could depict the tenderness of Mademoiselle de Trenquelléon for the poor. After renouncing the happiness of possessing a family on earth, she chose them for her children... To have a right to her charity, it was enough to be unfortunate... The company of the poor and the sick were her greatest delight...

After the foundation of the Institute [of the Daughters of Mary], not possessing any more money to relieve them, she deprived herself of her own dinner that she would give to the poor without her Sisters' knowing it... Her vow of poverty seemed to be painful to her only when she could not come to the aid of the unfortunate... In the works of zeal, she always chose the instruction of the poor...

Adèle did not limit her charity and compassion to the sole physical misfortunes of the poor. The health of their souls occupied her also. Condemned by their indigence to the life of a wanderer, most often deprived of all spiritual help, they had a very special right to the zeal of their charitable and loving almsgiver whose adopted children they were. In order not to lose any occasion favoring this pious duty, Mademoiselle de Trenquelléon reserved to herself the care of distributing alms at the door of the château. As soon as the voice of a beggar was heard, she would promptly hasten toward him, a smile on her lips and her hands filled with the various things needed for relieving his misery. After having given him joy by her abundant liberality and thus having disposed him to listen to her, she would speak to him of God and of the salvation of his soul...

Nothing could express the joy of Mother de Trenquelléon at the entry of a postulant. One would have believed seeing a mother finding a dear daughter who had long been absent... We can understand what a pleasant impression such a motherly welcome produced on the postulants. From the first moment, their hearts were attached to their good Superior; and, once confidence was won, they had no further secrets from Mother Foundress...

Far from drawing profit for herself because of her nobility and her title of Foundress, she wanted to be distinguished from her Sisters only by the choice of the most humble offices... She did not want to be exempted from the work of the refectory. This act of charity and humility filled her with joy. She was seen to hasten to provide for everything, watching with a maternal solicitude over the needs of each of her daughters. When her occupations permitted it, she would go to

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MOTHER MARIE OF THE CONCEPTION
(Adèle de Batz de Trenquelléon)
1789 - 1828
Foundress of the Institute
of the Daughters of Mary Immaculate

Mother Marie's Intercession for the Sick

The Daughters of Mary in France have sent us the following recital of cures obtained through the intercession of their Foundress:

Agen, France

Our little pupil, Janine C., eleven years old, was seized during class with very sharp abdominal pains. The poor child was literally bent in two, so much had the pain reached its height. The parents took her to the doctor who immediately called the surgeon. The girl was operated on in emergency. The case surpassed in gravity the fears of the surgeon. . . . He called the parents in order to inform them of the danger.

A picture of Mother de Trenquelléon was brought to Janine who prayed with all her heart in union with the religious and teachers. Contrary to all expectations, the temperature remained normal and after two days, a normal intestinal condition had been again brought about.

Ajaccio, Corsica

Sister Catherine has been seized by a terrible infection of a finger since the first week of January. She was in the hospital several days. Septicemia was feared, the Superior told me, when she took a turn for the better. For we had placed a little bag of Mother Foundress's ashes on the bandage. The doctor did not have to cut off the phalanx.

Agen, France

As to the cure of M. Giordani, Mother M. Virginia's nephew, it still lasts. He who could not for 30 years support even a quarter of an orange, eats everything, drinks all kinds of wine, etc.—that since Easter. . . .

This man's niece came this week to ask me for pictures (of Mother Marie of the Conception). "I have given them all away," she told me, "because people of the region are asking me for them." This Mother accords many favors. I have insisted that those, who have been privileged with receiving them, make them known to us.

Burse Named after Foundress

A burse for the education of Marianist Brothers and priests has been opened under the name of MOTHER MARIE OF THE CONCEPTION BURSE. The offerings sent to this burse are "frozen" and the interest used at Maryhurst Normal, Kirkwood, Mo., for the support of one candidate to the Society of Mary. Contributors continuously and permanently "adopt," so to say, some future Marianist during the time of his formation. Persons appealing to Mother Marie for favors could uphold their prayers by the sacrifice in her name of an offering for this burse. *HOSANNA!* will gladly forward your contributions to Maryhurst.

Foundress's Love for the Lowly

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the kitchen in order to help the Sisters charged with this work. They would sometimes smile at her few aptitudes for this kind of work; as to her, she would laugh without, however, yielding her place to anyone.



CHATEAU DE TRENQUELLEON, FRANCE. It was in the room seen behind the windows of the first floor of this charming chateau that Adèle de Batz de Trenquelléon (Mother Marie of the Conception) was born on June 10, 1789. With the exception of the four years of her exile in Portugal and Spain when a child during the French Revolution, Adèle lived at this chateau until she founded the Daughters of Mary in 1816.

Daughters of Mary in America, 1949-1959

The Marianist Sisters, or Daughters of Mary, founded by Mother Marie of the Conception, recently celebrated their tenth anniversary in the New World. At present their communities are all in Texas, with their house of administration at Our Lady of the Pillar Convent in San Antonio. Besides the novitiate, house of retreat, and kindergarten there, they conduct three schools in the State.

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)

An Appeal to You

Do you or your relatives or friends have any problem, any illness, any worry that you feel you should pray for? May we suggest that you recommend it to the intercession of Mother Marie of the Conception? The prayer printed below will bring your cares to God's attention. And if Mother Marie's intercession sends you the answer you seek, please write an account of it to the editor of *HOSANNA!*

A Great Friend of the Foundress

HOSANNA! gladly pays tribute to a person who has been a most ardent proponent of everything connected with Mother Marie of the Conception. It is Mother Marie Adèle who last summer relinquished her post of Superior-General of the Institute of the Daughters of Mary—an office she filled with much understanding and kindness for many years. All who have worked in favor of the Foundress have felt the warmth of her interest and encouragement. Mother Adèle bears well her name which is none other than the one given to the Foundress at baptism.

Cause Progresses Slowly

No single part in the Process for Mother Marie's Beatification has been so far completed. The Diocesan Commission in Agen where the Foundress died has not ended its search for whatever has been written on her. That is the very first step in a Cause. Nor have all of her own writings been located. Heaven may be waiting for your prayers!

In Our Mailbox . . .

San Antonio, Texas

We shall join with zeal in the novena to Mother Marie of the Conception, whose picture and prayer we have received, in order to obtain Brother Norbert's cure. With great faith, we hope for the miracle. We would like to read the pamphlet on Mother Marie of the Conception.

Mother M. F., Superior
Atchison, Kansas

This brief note is to tell you that we have contacted at least 36 Sisters who are interested in helping (via prayer) the worthy Cause of which you spoke in your letter. Perhaps others will like to join after we know more about the life of this saintly Foundress.

Sister B.

Ajaccio, Corsica

I want to inform you that I have obtained two graces by the intercession of Rev. Mother Marie of the Conception.

A. M.

San Antonio, Texas

There are 30 of us who are praying for the Cause of Mother Marie of the Conception. We will gladly accept some more copies of the little prayer-cards. I'm already beginning prayers to her for success in exams.

Sister M. J.

Published with the permission of superiors. Address all communications to Rev. Herbert G. Kramer, S.M., Holy Rosary Parish, 543 Westminster Ave., San Antonio 1, Texas.