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"Nisi Dominus custodierit civitatem frustra vigilat qui custodit eam."

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III—The Devotion to Our Lady of Fatima

In the last issue was enumerated the triple message of Our Lady of Fatima—Penance, the Rosary and devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. In this we shall consider the devotion due to Our Lady of Fatima.

Father Faber has written "If we are to believe the revelations of the Saints, God is pressing for a greater, a wider and stronger, quite another devotion to His Blessed Mother" but one may, with as much truth, state "If we believe in the apparition at Fatima, Our Lady is pressing for a greater, a wider and stronger, homage to Her Blessed Son."

It has been significant that through the history of the Church, Our Lady has championed the cause of Her Son and His followers. Whenever the Church founded by Her Divine Son was in peril, the Blessed Virgin appeared on earth and put things right. So, it is a matter of history repeating itself, to see Our Lady appearing at Fatima and a king for prayers and sacrifices in reparation for the sins of the world and to obtain the conversion of sinners. The sins of the modern world have become too great and men stupidly defy the flesh and coldly refuse to recognize Jesus Christ and His Church, God and His laws.

HER MOTHERLY ADVICE

When Our Lady first appeared at Fatima (May 13, 1917), she assured the three little children "Fear not, I shall do you no harm." These are touching words and induce us to go to our Blessed Lady with confidence. Hence the first step in our devotion to her is faith in her power and belief in her Divine Maternity.

Faith without good works is dead. Our Lady therefore exhorts us (through the little seers) to offer ourselves to God to make sacrifices, and to accept willingly all the sufferings it may please Him to send us, in order to make reparation for so many sins, which offend the Divine Majesty, to obtain the conversion of sinners and to make amends for all the blasphemies and offences committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Thus we see **Penance and Reparation** are to be the foundation of all our actions as real Catholics. In addition to this the **Rosary** is recommended as the panacea for all social and spiritual ills of today as it had been earlier recommended by Her to St. Dominic to suppress the Albigensian heresy, or by Pope Pius IV to offset the Turkish invasion of the Catholic Countries of the West. It is known that the Rosary devotion gets its name from "rosarium," a crown of roses, because the Hail Marys recited are considered as so many mystic roses which the faithful offer to their Heavenly Mother. It is an authenticated fact that while the pilgrims recited the Rosary, thus offer to their Heavenly Mother the mystical flowers of the Hail Mary, Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima was pleased to respond maternally to their filial devotion by causing to fall on them from time to time a veritable shower of flowers and rose petals. Penance and Prayer (particularly the Rosary) are the two major devotions

recommended by Our Lady, which we, as dutiful children, should practise in order to sanctify ourselves and bring a lasting peace to the world. Nor must we forget Her injunction to say after each decade "Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fire of hell and lead all souls to heaven, especially those who have most need of Your Mercy."

The third devotion dear to Our Lady's heart is the **Devotion to Her Immaculate Heart**. At the second apparition on June 13th, Our Lady said to Lucy: "You must remain longer on earth. Jesus wishes to use you in making Me known and loved. He wishes to spread in the world the devotion to my Immaculate Heart. I promise salvation to those who embrace this devotion. Their souls will be loved by God with a love of predilection, like flowers placed by me before His throne!" Here we have a guarantee of human salvation. To intensify this belief Our Lady further said, after the terrifying vision of the loss of souls, "You have just seen hell where poor sinners go. To save them the Lord wishes to establish in the world the devotion of my Immaculate Heart. If people do what I shall tell you, many souls will be saved, and there will be peace." She asked most especially that Her Immaculate Heart be honoured by the dedication to it of the first Saturday of the month. The church through His Holiness Pius XII has consecrated, on October 31st 1942, the world, to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, as Our Lady of Fatima had requested a quarter of a century earlier.

OUR SHARE IN THESE DEVOTIONS

Let us not harden our hearts, but let us give to our heavenly Mother what she asks of us in our own interest. Let us make a good Confession and fervent Communion. Then let us begin a truly Christian life, faithful to the Commandments of God and the Church, as well as to the duties of our state in life. Finally, let us, with firm decision, fix for ourselves a time in the day for reciting our Rosary. Let us not listen to the false excuses of the devil, our imagination and our daily habits, which strive to convince us that it is impossible. The times in which we live are not ordinary; neither should we let our conduct be ordinary. Let us not hesitate to change our habits resolutely, if that is necessary, and let us not wait until severe trials come and make us change them perforce! Let us then resolutely promise Our Heavenly Mother, when she visits our Diocese, to recite our Rosary daily, if possible with the family. For as St. Bernard said "a Child of Mary shall never perish" or as St. Hilary said "No matter how criminal a sinner may be if he preserves in his devotion to Mary, he will be saved."

Let us hasten also to make to the Immaculate Heart of Mary the Consecration of our person our family and of the works of which we have the charge or the responsibility.

Let us clearly understand the privilege of seeing the Pilgrim Virgin in our fair isle of Lanka and particularly in our Jaffna diocese. Let us go forth to

Mixed Conferences on Religion

MOTHER CHURCH YEARNS FOR UNITY

Always solicitous with unflinching charity for the return to her bosom of all Christian peoples, who have been separated from her, the Catholic Church prays with fervent hope this Holy Year that they may be drawn to her. Already on the eve of the opening of the Holy Year last December, her visible head, the Sovereign Pontiff, addressed to them a most moving appeal. "Oh that this Holy Year," Pope Pius XII had then said, "could welcome also the return to the one true Church—a return awaited over the centuries—of so many who though believing in Jesus Christ are for various reasons separated from her." And again, "whatever invitation to unity has been sent in the past from this Apostolic See, We now repeat it more warmly and paternally."

REUNION—A SPECIAL OBJECT OF THE BISHOPS

The Holy Father's exhortation was followed up towards the end of February by an Instruction from the Sacred Congregation of the Holy Office whose purpose is to enable those earnestly and seriously seeking the truth to find it. It is a manifestation of good-will towards such persons, although it involves no fundamental change in the policy of the Church in regard to religious conferences of Catholics and non-Catholics. For the instruction urges Bishops to make the work of "reunion" a special object of their care and attention, and to see that facilities are provided for non-Catholics seeking knowledge of the Faith and that there are centres where they may be able to consult persons. Moreover, the permission for holding public conferences and meetings of Catholics and non-Catholics to discuss matters of faith which had to be sought from the Holy See can now be obtained more easily, for Bishops are authorized to grant it when the gatherings are of a purely local character.

THE HOLY SEE TO GIVE PERMISSION

Ever since the beginning of the seventeenth century, the Holy See has kept a strict check on public disputations with non-Catholics by requiring that permission for them should be sought only from itself, except in urgent cases, when the local Bishop could give it. In the Code of the Church, which came into force in 1918, there is a law to the same effect. The Sacred Congregation, says Augustine in his Commentary on Canon Law, has often expressly forbidden these disputations and conferences on the ground that they do

more harm than good, since false eloquence may cause error seemingly to triumph over good.

So far from relaxing this attitude, the Sacred Congregation of the Holy Office issued in June 1948 a Monitum, that is, a reminder of the existence of the law just mentioned, for violations of it had come to the notice of that body: without previous permission of the Holy See joint meetings of Catholics and non-Catholics had taken place where matters of faith were discussed. The Monitum insisted on the observance of the law clearly pointing out what was forbidden by it.

A CONCESSION

In the latest document on this subject of inter communion talks, the Holy See continues to maintain its centuries' old position. The Instruction of the Holy Office issued in February, though dated 20th December 1949, neither alters the former law nor makes a new one. It permits and forbids nothing that was not permitted and forbidden before, except in one detail. Bishops can now give for local conferences the permission that had formerly to be obtained from Rome. This concession has been made for three years only. But for inter-diocesan, national and international conferences special permission must be obtained each time before the event from the Holy See itself. Furthermore, public preparations for such a conference cannot be begun before the permission has been granted.

Although Bishops have been authorized to grant permission for local conferences, yet several directives limit their freedom of procedure. In order to maintain the purity of Catholic doctrine they should guard against attempts at assimilation of various creeds and the whittling down of the tenets of Catholicism. They should avoid dangerous modes of expression which may give rise to false opinions or misleading hopes that can never be fulfilled. They should pay special attention to the manner in which the story of the Reformation is presented. They should watch over the imprudent activity of misguided enthusiasts. They should maintain an unremitting vigilance and control over the direction of these mixed conferences for the Sacred Congregation sees a real danger that Catholic participants may be tainted with indifferentism. And to prevent an insufficiently instructed Catholic audience from being exposed to assaults on their faith, the Sacred Congregation has laid down that the faithful are not to assist at religious discussions between Catholics and non-Catholics without the special permission of ecclesiastical authority, to be given only to those well grounded in the faith.

INDIFFERENTISM TOWARDS THE TEACHING OF THE CHURCH

The careful reader of the latest Instruction of the Holy Office will have realized that there are two basic principles underlying it: first, that the teaching of the Church must be kept absolutely intact; second, that the faithful must be protected against the risk

(Continued on Page 4.)

P. SAVERIMUTTU.

NOTICE

The friends of Mr. P. Saverimuttu, M.A., propose to entertain him at a complimentary dinner at the Jaffna Rest House on Saturday the 17th inst. to felicitate him on his appointment as Principal of the Palaly Training College.

Those who wish to join may send in their names along with the dinner subscription of Rs. 5-50 per head to the undersigned on or before the 15th inst.

S. F. ALPHONSUS,
Secretary Teacher's Guild,
St. Patrick's College,
Jaffna.

CHURCH CALENDAR

JUNE 1950

THURS.... 8 S. COR. US CHRISTI.
FRI. 9 S. Felician.
SAT. 10 S. Margaret.
SUN. 11 2 P.—S. Barnabas.
MON. 12 S. Antonine.
TUES. 13 S. Antony.
WED. 14 S. Basil.
THURS.... 15 S. Germaine.

The Catholic Guardian

JUNE 8TH 1950

MOTHER AND SON

In the first message of hope given to man after the fall, Mother and Son figure as one power against the serpent and it would almost seem as if the pre-eminence were given to the Mother. This pre-eminence by a happy coincidence, is being emphasized this week in Jaffna as we first welcome the Mother as the way to the Son and on Sunday we shall, as never before, give free rein to our devotion to the Son in the sacrament of His love. Our Corpus Christi procession, always the most emphatic and moving of our professions of faith, will be this year the most devotional we have ever had.

Christ remains the Saviour, a figure solidly rooted in history but infinitely more than what we normally mean when we refer to the great figures of history. On the human side, purely, we claim that He is the greatest, grandest figure to be found in the pages of history and we go a step further. If even the imagination of man can conceive nothing greater, then at the very least, He was not a liar or a charlatan when He claimed to be God and laid down His life for that claim.

His death is a matter of history but it is now part of living up-to-the-minute history. Calvary with Christ's eternal priesthood is being eternally offered in heaven where the Lamb stands upright, yet slain in sacrifice that sacrificial victim is brought to our altars every time the words of consecration are pronounced; heaven opens and Christ comes down and by virtue of His real presence remains. That Christ we take in procession during Corpus Christi.

'If Christ came to Charing Cross,' is the title of what some would consider a daring conception. Christ will, on Sunday next, be taken in procession along the Main Street of Jaffna. That is why we Catholics let ourselves go.

And His mother has come in advance to prepare the 'At Home' for Him in our hearts.

They are together again as they have been in the Garden, after the fall, at Bethlehem, at Nazareth, at Calvary, at Pentecost, in heaven, throughout the history of the Church and in the living history of each soul.

We honour her because of her Son who is unique; her job, now as always, is to bring Him to us, to each of us. If one may say it without disrespect, she is true to her function today in what some might consider a sensational fashion. Not for the first time in history has she had to intervene when all other methods failed. And the intervention has had to be striking, something that will impinge on the consciousness of even the casual passerby, as Calvary impinged.

'Say it on the hoardings' shrieks the modern advertiser. If God's gentle mother is reduced equivalently to saying it on the hoardings, then our plight is desperate but the fact of her so saying it means that, if we grasp the opportunity provided, she is with us still and with her that Son who is our only hope and the only guarantee of that peace we seek elsewhere in vain.

Sunday Within the Octave of Corpus Christi

The *Introit* of this Sunday which is the second after Pentecost is taken from the 17th Psalm, which sings the praises of the God who protects His people and delivers them from their enemies. Let us lovingly extol this God who is our support and our refuge.

In the *Collect*, the Church prays for us that we may have love and fear of God's Holy Name. Yes, the fear here spoken of, the fear which children have for their father does not exclude love. On the contrary, it strengthens love by guarding it against the negligence and oversights into which certain souls are led by false familiarity.

In the *Epistle*, these impressive words of the beloved disciple could not have a more appropriate occasion for their being addressed to the faithful than this joyous Octave. God's love for us is both the model and the motive of that which we owe to our fellow men; the divine charity is the type of ours. 'I have given you an example, that as I have done unto you, so ye may also do,' says Our Lord. We should therefore, help him to the best of our power when he is in need. We should love "not in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth."

The *Gradual* is taken from the Psalms and gives thanks to God for the protection he has accorded us in the past; and prays for its continuation, seeing that our enemies are as unrelenting as ever.

The *Gospel*. Today's Gospel was appointed for this Sunday long before the institution of the Corpus Christi feast. The holy spirit who guides the church in her arrangement of the liturgy was thus anticipating and completing the instructions suitable for the future grand solemnity. The parable here spoken by Jesus

was again used by Him when He spoke so strongly in the Temple a few days previous to His Passion and Death. And what is this supper to which many are invited? What is this marriage feast but that which eternal wisdom has been getting ready from the very beginning of the world. Jerusalem rejected the heavenly messengers and killed the prophets and crucified the Spouse Himself. But even so, eternal wisdom still offers the first place at the supper to the ungrateful children of Abraham. Yes, it is to the lost sheep of the house of Israel that the apostles are first sent. Soon they will persecute and slay these apostles also. Then will be realized the vocation of the Gentiles—that great mystery of a new people being substituted for the former one on the covenant of Jehovah. "Oh, ye Gentiles, praise the Lord for His mercy."

The *Offertory*. Like the gradual, the *Offertory* is an earnest prayer for God's help. It is His mercy that encourages the soul to make this prayer.

In the *Secret*, the church prays for the twofold effect of the holy sacrament in the transformation of man's soul: "purification from the remnants left by sin and progress in the works that lead to life everlasting.

During the Communion, Holy Church enriched as she is with heavenly favours puts forth her gratitude towards Him who is her Spouse and loads her with gifts.

Let us pray with the Church in the *Post Communion* that our frequent participation in these sacred mysteries may not be fruitless in our souls, but may effect the whole work of our salvation.

FR. NORBERT

AN APPRECIATION

Few have known Fr. Norbert in his early days. Some have known him in his youth but most of us have known him in his later days. To have known him is to have come into contact with a chosen disciple of God, and his demise removes a landmark in the annals of the Catholic Church in Jaffna. His simplicity and his sympathy are perhaps the most outstanding qualities of his pious and devoted life.

Fr. Norbert's bicycle and the food parcel on the carrier have become a part of the Catholic folklore of Jaffna. He was on his feet (or rather his bicycle) the whole day. I do not know enough to speak of his missionary efforts but one thing was clear that even the remotest places whether it was Pachilaipali or Manatkadu had its charm for him. Everywhere he saw souls to be converted and souls to be saved.

He worked with a singleness of purpose and that was to bring souls to God. He spent several hours in the confessional and before the Blessed Sacrament. Not a few souls have derived solace and comfort after a few minutes with him either at the confessional or in his room. He was most accessible to the young and old, the poor and rich, no less than to prisoners and priests.

It was as the chaplain of the prisoners that he last served in Jaffna before he went for his enforced holiday to his home town. He would place prisoners first in the order of priority and the poor came a close second. He begged (not in the narrow sense of the term) to alleviate the sufferings and satisfy the wants of suffering humanity. He was fond of the poor and the poor were fond of him and he knew better than perhaps

anyone else that the poor were no other than Christ's.

To those who needed a late Mass at the Cathedral, Fr. Norbert was always there. He said a long Mass so that even the late comers to the late Mass could be present at the important part of the Service.

Indeed it is a great loss to Jaffna that good old Fr. Norbert has died and we console with our Lord Bishop. But it is almost certain that Our Lord has called Fr. Norbert to grant him eternal happiness for while on earth Fr. Norbert sacrificed himself unselfishly for the salvation and happiness of souls.

Brief of our Holy Father Pope Pius XII.

proclaiming

SAINT JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE

Patron of all teachers and student teachers

Pius XII Pope

For a Perpetual Memorial of the Matter.....

The saying of St. Bonaventure that "he only is a true educator who can kindle in the heart of his pupil the vision of beauty, illumine it with the light of truth and form it to virtue" is particularly apposite at the present time when the education of the young is not only frequently at variance with the principles of true moral training but is often godless and irreligious, and so harmful in the extreme. For this reason holy Mother Church cherishes with a solicitous affection those whose duty it is to educate children, all the more so as the welfare and increase of the Christian commonwealth depend on them in no small measure. A man of outstanding holiness and remarkable genius, JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE, once educated the young, and still through the Society founded by him, continues to do so according to excellent principles and methods. Moreover, to train teachers for their important mission he established colleges which catered especially for village schoolmasters. The origin of training colleges for teachers, now to be found everywhere, must truly be attributed to him. So great, besides, was the esteem of this eminent pioneer in education for the office of teacher that he would not permit the Brothers founded by him to become priests lest they should be turned aside from their principal function, and he was convinced that their vocation could lead them to authentic sanctity. In order, therefore, that teachers and student teachers might have a model whose example and virtues they could imitate, the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, through their Postulator General, begged Us that on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the canonization of St. John Baptist de La Salle by Our predecessor of esteemed memory, Leo XIII, this saint should be proclaimed heavenly patron of all teachers of both sexes, clerical or lay, whether actually engaged in teaching or preparing for the profession. We, for our part, convinced that the education of the young is of the first importance, and desirous that those to whom this task is confided or who are preparing for this mission should have a further powerful incentive to fulfil their exalted vocation in accordance with the principles of faith, most willingly accede to their wish. Wherefore, having consulted our Venerable Brother, Clemente Micara, Cardinal of the holy Roman Church, Bishop of Velletri and Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of Rites, and having attentively considered the matter, with sure knowledge and after mature deliberation, in the fulness of our apostolic authority, by virtue of this brief and for all time, We constitute and proclaim St. John Baptist de La Salle, Confessor, principal patron before God of all teachers of youth and accord him all the liturgical honours and privileges going with that title. All things to the contrary notwithstanding.....

Given at Rome, from St. Peter's, and sealed with the Fisherman's ring, the 15th day of May, Feast of St. John Baptist de La Salle, in the twelfth year of our pontificate.

In a brief dated May 15th 1950, His

Holiness Pope Pius XII has proclaimed St. John Baptist de La Salle the special patron of all engaged in the work of education, and of students in Training Colleges preparing for this work. The announcement comes at the opening of the Lasallian Year, (May 1950—May 1951), the golden jubilee of the Saint's canonization and the tercentenary of his birth.

St. de La Salle (1651—1719) is recognized as an outstanding pioneer of modern education. He more than anyone else, helped to raise schoolmastering from a despised, part-time occupation to the dignity of an honourable profession and a religious vocation. He founded the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, and he established the first Training Colleges for secular teachers in the history of Education. His Brothers have now spread throughout the world, and they form the largest teaching religious Order of men in the Church. The title conferred on him by the Pope in the present proclamation is, therefore, well deserved.

The Papal announcement is all the more opportune as, at the present moment, the work of Catholic Education is so important and is faced with such serious difficulties. "It is in order that those who are engaged in this work," says His Holiness, "may have somebody whose example they may imitate and whose holiness they may copy," that St. John de La Salle is given as "Patron to all teachers of both sexes, whether clerical or lay, whether actually engaged in teaching or preparing for it." As St. Bonaventure says: "He only is truly an educator who can imprint loveliness, pour light into, and impart virtue to the heart of his pupil."

BRO. CLAIR STANISLAUS, F.S.C.,
Via Aurelia, 476, Rome.

THE RED MASS

An impressive and colourful ceremony was witnessed on Whit Sunday May 28, 1950, at St. Lucia's Cathedral, Colombo, when about a hundred Catholic Lawyers, Judges, Justices of the Peace, Papal Knights and Senators with their families and Law Students from various parts of the Island participated at the Red Mass celebrated by His Grace the Archbishop of Colombo, the Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Cooray, O.M.I., who also preached an impressive and inspiring sermon.

Those present having first assembled at the Mission House and after being attired in their robes, gowns, papal and other uniforms walked in procession to the Cathedral headed by the banner of the Guild of St. Alphonsus Liguori, and followed lastly by His Grace the Archbishop.

After the service a group photograph of the members present was taken with His Grace as the centre figure and then the members returned to the K.C.Y.M. A. Hall with their families for the Social and Annual General Meeting.

The Hon'ble Mr. V. L. St. Clair Swan, Puisne Justice, a Vice-President presided. The Rev. Fr. J. B. Gregory, O.M.I., Spiritual Director detailed the progress made by the Guild in its activities making special mention of the first Thursday Benediction Service held monthly. His Grace the Archbishop addressing the members congratulated them on the good work done and exhorted them to do more and more. Mr. Victor E. Rajakariar, District Judge of Galle proposed a vote of congratulation to the President the Hon'ble Mr. E. G. P. Jayatileka, K.C., Chief Justice and to two of the Vice-Presidents, the Hon'ble Mr. M.F.S. Palle, K.C., Puisne Justice and the Hon'ble Mr. V. L. St. Clair Swan, Puisne Justice on their recent appointments; this was carried with acclamation. Mr. Valentine S. Perera conveyed the thanks of the Guild to His Grace for the constant encouragement he had always given and to the large gathering for their presence after which the meeting concluded with the blessing of His Grace.

The following were elected office bearers for the current year:—

Spiritual Director: The Rev. Fr. J. B. Gregory, O.M.I.

President: The Hon'ble Mr. E. G. P. Jayatileka, K.C.

Vice-Presidents: Sir Francis Soertsz, K.C.; The Hon'ble Mr. V. L. St. Clair

Swan, Puisne Justice; The Hon'ble Mr. M. F. S. Palle, K.C., Puisne Justice; Messrs. Victor E. Rajakariar; L. V. B. de Jacolyn; Basil R. G. Wijeyekoon; C. L. W. Perera; A.I. De S. Abeywickrema; W. P. Ranasinghe; H. A. Abeywardena; Chevalier C. A. Gardine; Mr. F. Quentin Fernando.

Hony. Secretaries: Messrs. Valentine S. Perera; V. H. N. Fernando; C. G. Weeramantry.

Committee: Messrs. Cyril E. S. Perera; H. N. G. Fernando, D.J. Jayakoddy; J. N. Fernandopulle; Melville Pereira; J. Austin Cooray; J.N. Caderamanpulle; J. N. David; C. M. Fernando; S. A. Villavarayan; D.L.M. Mendis; Dr. W. M. Muller; Messrs. A. C. Alles; J. A. P. Cherubim; D. H. N. Jayamana; A. L. Gunasekera.

Local & General

Sacred Heart Confraternity, S.P.C. Branch, Senior Division

The Annual General Meeting of the members will be held on Wednesday the 14th inst. at 5.30 p.m. at the College Hall. Mr. P. Saverimuttu, M.A., will address the meeting on "The Immaculate Heart of Mary."

The Triduum preparatory to the feast will come off at the College Chapel on the 13th, 14th and 15th of June at 6.30 p.m.

On the 16th June, High Mass will be sung at the College Chapel at 7 p.m. The members will approach the Holy Table in a body. The Most Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for adoration after the High Mass.

The Senior members will have their Holy Hour just after the High Mass.

Non-Catholics Join in Welcome to Fatima Statue

Buddhists, Hindus and Moslems from even Anuradhapura and the surrounding areas, joined with Catholics in welcoming the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima when it arrived at Puttalam.

Schoolchildren, scouts and women dressed in white formed the rear of the procession to St. Joseph's Church. Many hundreds of non-Catholics took part.

His Lordship the Bishop of Jaffna and the parish priest carried the statue to a repository in the church. A guard of honour was formed by ten parishioners.

The Bishop celebrated a special Mass at midnight and thereafter Masses were said till the early hours of the morning.

Special Pilgrimage to Talawila for Catholic Workers

The new road from Palakudah to Talawila will be officially opened by Sir Kotelawela, Minister for Transport and Works on the evening of the 24th June.

To synchronize with this a pilgrimage is being organized for the benefit of Catholic workers, not necessarily confined to those under the Ministry of Transport.

The Talawila Special will leave Colombo on Saturday the 24th June at 10.15 a.m. reaching Chilaw at 12.50 p.m. Special buses will convey the pilgrims from Chilaw to Palakudah (Bus fare Rs. 4 both ways). The food at the Church premises will be free and will be supplied by T. D. Mendis Esq., M.M.C., Negombo. The pilgrims have however to bring their drinking vessels, plates and bedding.

The pilgrims will be back in Colombo on Sunday evening.

His Lordship the Bishop of Chilaw will be present with some of the Rev. Fathers to attend to the needs of the pilgrims.

Those who wish to take part in this pilgrimage should communicate with the Welfare Officers of their respective Depts. or with the Chief Welfare Officer, Ministry of Transport and Works, Colombo.

Methodist Bishop is Converted

A 75-year-old Korean Methodist bishop, the Rev. Tjeng Choun Sou, has been received into the Church. He has urged his five children to follow his example, reports Fr. Patrick Monaghan of the Maynooth Mission to China.

The Smartest Soldier

Private S. Gnanapragasam, adjudged the best all-round in the first batch of Ceylon Army recruits to pass out. S. Gnanapragasam is an old boy of St. Patrick's College.

300 Tons of Cement a Day

The Kanke-anturai Cement Factory will begin production next month turning out 300 tons a day.

Construction of the factory is nearly over and the raw materials for production are being stored at the site for an early start next month.

The manager, the power engineer and the works engineer of the factory had been selected in Europe and are expected to arrive in Ceylon soon.

Jaffna Plans Savings Week

At a meeting convened by Mr. D.W. Selvaratnam, D.R.O., Jaffna town, it was decided to hold a Savings Week in Jaffna at the Town Hall commencing on the 5th August.

The programme of events includes propaganda, sales of savings stamps and a savings group drive.

A committee was appointed with Mr. A. Arulampalam, Proctor and Mr. D.W. Selvaratnam, D.R.O., as Joint Secretaries and Mr. C. Muthutamy to plan details of the celebration.

Fifth Annual General Meeting of the Jaffna Sports Assn.

The Fifth Annual General Meeting of the Jaffna Sports Association was held on Tuesday, 30th May, 1950 at 3.00 p.m. in the Police Recreation Club, Jaffna with Mr. P. J. Hudson, the President in the Chair. After the confirmation of the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting an interesting report of the activities of the Association and the Audited Statement of Accounts were read and adopted unanimously.

The election of office bearers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—

Patron: Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam. Vice-Patrons: Very Rev. Fr. T. M. F. Long, O.M.I., the Mayor of Jaffna, Dr. S. Subramaniam and Mr. T. Muttusamijalai.

President: Mr. P. J. Hudson (re-elected).

Vice-Presidents: Messrs. R. C. S. Cooke (re-elected), S. P. Satunuan, A. C. Fernando (re-elected) and W. G. Spencer.

Hony. General Secretary: Mr. P. Selvaratnam (re-elected).

Hony. Asst. General Secretary: Mr. D. N. Aseervatham.

Hony. Treasurer: Mr. V. Kulasingham (re-elected).

Hony. Auditor: Mr. H. L. D. Selvaratnam.

Committee Members: Messrs. E. Sabalingam, T. I. Abraham, V. Subramaniam, K. S. Alagaratnam, S. Nadarajah, M. Rosario and Upali Gunaratna.

The Annual General Meeting was followed by a well attended Social in Police Recreation Club Lawn. The Football Challenge Trophies were distributed to the Victorians winners of the Jaffna Apothecaries Challenge Cup and Mannavarayan Challenge Shield by Mr. P. J. Hudson, G.A., N.P. Mr. R.C.S. Cooke thanked the guests present.

1,000 Vehicles are Doomed

A thousand military vehicles converted locally into station wagons and competing in rural areas with both bus services and touring agencies, will be affected by special provisions in the new transport bill, Mr. Donald Rutnam, Transport Adviser to the Government, indicated in an interview on Saturday to an "Observer" reporter.

Postmaster to Make Good the Missing Rs. 10,000

The G.P.O. has not been able to account for the mysterious disappearance of Rs. 10,000 at the Money Order Section.

All financial balance sheets with the cash itself have vanished.

The postmaster concerned has offered to make good the money. His offer has been accepted.

No Favours

A man who boarded a rickshaw at Kaupur discovered that the vehicle was hauled by a college student.

The rickshaw-puller told the passenger in fluent English that he was pulling

rickshaws at night to keep himself at college.

When the passenger tried to press a tender on the rickshaw-boy, he said he would only take his legitimate fare—half a rupee.

Thirty Hens Saved a Man

Thirty hens gave their lives to save a man in a township on the south-west coast of India.

A bus driver of Kuttipuram, in South Malabar, was bitten by a cobra when accidentally put his foot on a heap of scrap iron. The man lost consciousness and the local snake-cure physician was called in.

The physician called for dozens of brood hens from neighbouring farms and placed them one after another in a hatching position the wound to such out the venom.

Thirty of the unfortunate hens fell victims to the poison before the man was revived.

KKS Calls Him a Hero

V. Perampalam, a senior student, whose brave action in rescuing five boys when their boat sank in Kanke-santurai harbour, has been commended by the Kankesanturai Town Council. The Council has decided to ask the Home Minister to give the young man some tangible recognition. The incident happened on Good Friday. Four others were drowned.

Red Ants Plague

Life in the Pandatheruppu and adjoining villages has been made a nightmare by a plague of red ants whose bite is "like stepping on a live coal," Mr. S. Kanagasunderam said at a mass meeting convened by the Farmers' Union to draw official attention to the menace.

"The scourge has attained such proportions that unless effective measures are put in hand immediately, life in the area will be impossible," said Mr. Kanagasunderam. "It is almost a decade since these ants last made their appearance in this area and action taken so far to get rid of them has been local and ineffective."

"Unless concerted measures on a peninsular basis are taken the area threatened to become a desolate ant hole", Mr. Kanagasunderam added.

Canada to Outlaw Communists

A vigorous drive to have the Communist Party outlawed in Canada has been launched by the progressive Conservative opposition in the House of Commons.

Although the Prime Minister, Mr. Louis St. Laurent has declared himself against outlawing Communism, and a recent Commons vote supported this stand, the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. George Drew says: "The fight has just begun."

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THANKSGIVING

Grateful thanks, St. Anthony for many favour received.

BENEDICT.

Mixed Conferences on Religion

(Continued from Page 1)

of indifferentism. The Church can neither drop a single tenet of faith or principle or morals nor alter any; it would be death to her were she to compromise on any point, for she would be faithless to the commission she has received from her Divine Founder. Her unyielding stand on her doctrines is often described as bigotry or arrogance; it is nothing less than fidelity to Truth. She takes no credit for being in possession of the truth for it has been arrived at through no natural process, nor has she done anything to merit her office as its custodian. And her "fanatical" refusal to depart from it in ever so small a degree is shared by the mathematician who will as "fanatically" resist an attempt to change the multiplication tables, the propositions of geometry and his algebraical formulae.

CLARIFICATION NOT MODIFICATION

There is, therefore, no indication in the new Instruction of a relaxation of canonical rules. Its purpose is but to clarify not to modify the basic law of the Church. No move for "reunion" can include an attempt to so focus attention on side issues as to obscure the real point of doctrine, or to avoid presenting the whole truth and pass over in silence or cloak in ambiguity a tenet that is likely to prove a stumbling block. Above all, there can be absolutely no active participation by Catholics in non-Catholic religious services or what is technically known as *Communicatio in Sacris*.

EXEMPTIONS FROM RESTRICTION

One may not conclude, however, that it is forbidden for Catholics to have any kind of talks with non-Catholics. The following categories are excluded from the restriction: catechetical instruction to groups of non-Catholics, explanation of doctrine to prospective converts; conferences at which non-Catholics expound their beliefs "that they may see clearly and accurately how these agree or disagree with Catholic doctrine"; mixed gatherings of Catholics and non-Catholics not for the purpose of discussing matters of faith and morals, "but to take counsel together concerning joint action in the defence of fundamental principles of Christianity and the natural law and meetings to deal with the rebuilding of the social order and similar questions."

THE CHURCH IS NOT ARROGANT

It is very likely that some non-Catholics will consider the Catholic stand as unsympathetic and arrogant. But there can be no question of arrogance when the Church lays no claim to achievement in acquiring the deposit

of Faith and in maintaining it pure; she attributes her acquisition of it solely to the bounty of the Holy Spirit and her preservation of it to His un-failing guidance. What her Divine Master said to St. Peter is equally applicable to her: "It is not flesh and blood, it is my Father in heaven that has revealed it to thee." As for sympathy, there can be no room for it when deciding between truth and untruth, between right and wrong.

—The Examiner.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Accounts of Weddings, Funerals etc., will be published only in the case of subscribers and those who give announcements of family occurrences in our paper.—Manager, C. G.

THANKSGIVING

Grateful Thanks to St. Joseph and St. Antony for great favour granted.
P. S.

Order Nisi Declaring Will Proved

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

In the matter of the last will and testament of the late Margaret Ellen Manuel widow of John Manuel of Jaffa Town.

Deceased.

Testamentary } No. 1182
Jurisdiction }

1. Mary Josephine Thangapon widow of J. S. Sinnathamby and
2. Wencelais Louis Edirmanasinghe both of Jaffna Town.

Petitioners.

Vs.

1. Euginius Vincent Navaratnam Edirmanasinghe
2. Mrs. Simon both of Jaffna Town
3. Mrs. M. M. Edirmanasinghe of the Home for the Aged Colombogam
4. The Parish Priest of the Cathedral, Jaffna,

Respondents.

This matter coming on for determination before W. G. Spencer Esq., District Judge, Jaffna on the 16th day of May 1950 in the presence of Mr. Vital Moses Proctor on the part of the petitioners and the affidavit and petition of the petitioners dated 16th day of May 1950 and the affidavit of the Notary who attested the Last Will and Testament and the witnesses thereto having been read:

It is ordered that the last will and testament bearing date 1st March 1950 and attested by Vital Moses Notary Public under No. 899 the original of which is now deposited in Court be and the same is hereby declared proved and that Probate thereof be granted to the petitioners as the executors named in the said last will and testament unless the respondents or any person or persons interested in these proceedings shall appear before this Court on or before the 7th day of July 1950 and show cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 16th day of May 1950.

Sgd. W. G. SPENCER,
District Judge.

The above Order Nisi is extended for 30-6-1950.

Drawn by:
Vital A. Moses,
Proctor for Petitioners.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

In the matter of the Estate of the late Gregory Joseph of Jaffna who died in Colombo.

Deceased.

Testamentary } No. 1143.
Jurisdiction }

Rosalind Joseph widow of Gregory Joseph of 4th Cross Street, Jaffna.

Petitioner.

Vs.

- Minor 1. Anton Joseph
2. Mildred Joseph
3. Juliet Joseph and
4. J. G. Aloysius all of 4th Cross Street, Jaffna.

Respondents.

This action coming on for disposal before T. Muttusamypillas Esquire District Judge, Jaffna, on the 25th day of May, 1950 in the presence of Mr. W. B. Canagaratna Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioner having been read:

It is ordered that the abovenamed 4th respondent be and he is appointed Guardian of the property of the minors 1st to 3rd respondents for the purpose of watching their interests in these testamentary proceedings and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the deceased abovenamed be granted to the petitioner as widow of the said deceased unless the respondents shall appear before this Court and show cause to the satisfaction of this Court on or before the 14th day of June 1950.

And it is further ordered that the said minors be produced before this Court on the said date.

The 25th day of May, 1950.

Sgd. W. G. SPENCER,
District Judge.

Drawn by:
Sgd. W. B. Canagaratna,
Proctor for Petitioners.

Order Nisi Granting Fresh Letters of Administration

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Richard Hannaniel Kanagasabai of Jaffna Town presently of Colombo.

Petitioner.

Testamentary } No. 5349
Jurisdiction }

Vs.

1. Nancy Angelina Saraswathy Rani wife of
2. Chellappah Sivagnanam
3. Swampillai James all of Jaffna Town.

Respondents.

In the matter of the Intestate Estate of the late Richard Hannan Kanagasabai deceased of Colombo.

This matter coming on for disposal before R. R. Selvadurai Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 17th day of March 1950 in the presence of Mr. V. Sivasubramaniam, Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the abovementioned petitioner dated 10th July 1949, having been read.

It is ordered that the Letters of Administration granted to Swampillai James the 3rd respondent abovenamed and dated 16th June 1949 is hereby recalled and cancelled by order of Court dated 7th October 1949.

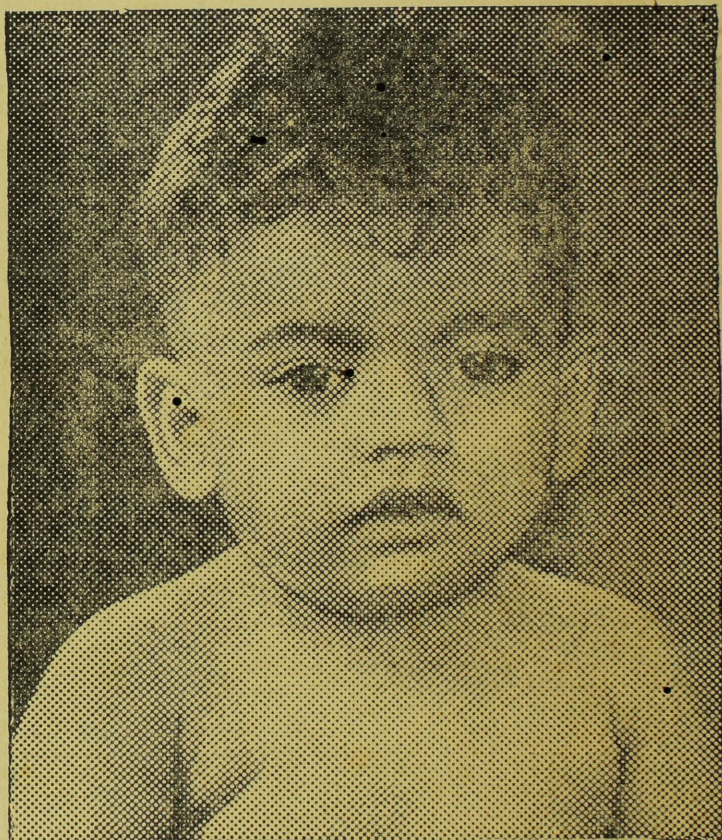
It is ordered that the said petitioner is entitled to have fresh Letters of Administration as son of the deceased and the same be issued to him accordingly unless the respondents or others shall on or before the 28th day of April 1950 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 17th day of March 1950.

Sgd. R. R. SELVADURAI,
District Judge.

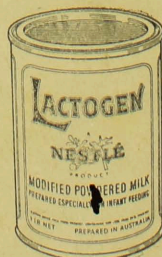
Drawn by
Sgd. V. Sivasubramaniam,
Proctor for Petitioner.

The above Order Nisi is extended for 2nd June 1950.
Sgd. R. R. SELVADURAI,
District Judge.



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St. Philip Neri's Church,
Pettah, Colombo.

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