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NEWS . . .

ANOTHER CHAPTER

ON Easter Tuesday began our Provincial Chapter. It lasted for one week during which the weather was very cold and wet. In the Chapter room it was warm, not only from the central heating but also from the friendliness of all taking part. All our difficulties and problems, our manpower shortage, our developing apostolate, our finance were discussed to see how we could improve all of them and at the same time live our lives in closer union with God. It was an uplifting experience and everyone attending was pleased with the success.

We have a Chapter every three years. About thirty of us meet to elect a Provincial-Superior for England and Wales and his council. Fr. J. E. Maguire was elected Provincial. He was Headmaster in our school in Cheltenham for the past seventeen years. He is a fine, big, strong, healthy looking intellectual man from Stockport in Cheshire. I am sure all of you will join with us in including him in our prayers that the Good Lord and Our Lady of Mount Carmel will help him in his heavy task.

We have seven fine novices at present. We expect more new ones in September. It is now my task

to try and raise all the money necessary for their upkeep and education. You have supported the Burses magnificently in the past and I feel confident you will continue to do so in the future.

Because of the Inflation and the terrible increase in costs which is hitting everybody we will have to



THE ASSUMPTION

*When next you see the moon at
night
A crescent like a silver bow,
And stars just glittering points of
light,
Pick out the brightest twelve you
know,
And why? Because the apostle John
Once saw the moon like that, but
then
Our Lady Mary stood thereon,
Queen of angels and of men.
The stars her crown, the sun her
dress,
God bore her up and crowned her
high,
For Jesus was her righteousness,
And not Content till she were nigh,
And so I always say my beads
That I may see that Mother smile
All glorious, in a little while.*



make savings somewhere. All of you could help by telling us if you want to continue receiving the letter. Perhaps your parents or grandparents received it and are now in heaven. If you do not want it drop us a line and we will take the name off the list. Better still, if every member got one new regular subscriber a year it would certainly ease my financial headache.

During our Chapter week we had a beautiful Mass of thanksgiving for the Silver Jubilee of the return of the Carmelites to our ancient and venerated home of Aylesford. There were Carmelites from all over England and Wales, Ireland, Italy, Rome, Spain, Germany,

STAMPS (unused)

Thank you for all the stamps you send. Our mailing costs increase all the time.

Brazil who joined in a solemn celebrated Mass at the open air Shrine. Fr. E. K. Lynch, who was your spiritual director for a number of years, preached a moving sermon. He reminded us that the Carmelites were absent from Aylesford for over 400 years and that the rebuilding started in the last Holy Year, 1950. So we have a double reason for celebrating this year—25 years of development and support from our many friends and benefactors and the Present Holy Year of Renewal.

How often in our life-time did we not turn to our mother for help, advice, consolation. How

many times did she not correct us and show us the right way to do things. Surely during the Holy Year we should turn to Mary, Our Mother and talk to her about our problems and setbacks. We know she will listen to us and help us. There is no better way of reminding ourselves of Her constant ever loving protection than by wearing the Brown Scapular. It is, as you know, a sign of her very special



*Promises of Our Lord to
St. Margaret Mary*

1. I will give them all the graces necessary for their state in life.
2. I will give peace to their families.
3. I will comfort them in all their trials.
4. I will be their sure refuge during life, and especially at the hour of death.
5. I will shed abundant blessings upon all their undertakings.
6. Sinners shall find in My Heart the source and ocean of infinite mercy.
7. Tepid souls shall become fervent.
8. Fervent souls shall rise rapidly to a high degree of perfection.
9. I will bless the houses wherein the image of My Sacred Heart shall be exposed and honoured.
10. I will give to Priests the power to touch the hardest hearts.
11. Those who propagate this devotion shall have their names written in My Heart, whence they shall never be effaced from it.
12. I promise thee, in the excess of the mercy of My Heart, that Its all powerful love will grant to all those who receive Communion on the first Friday of every month, for nine consecutive months, the grace of final repentance, and that they shall not die without receiving the sacraments, and that My Heart shall be their refuge in that last hour.



love for us. It is a reminder that we should try daily to become more like Mary. We do this by paying more attention at our prayers, by being more charitable and understanding to our neighbour. We try to accept with greater patience and resignation the daily crosses that come our way. We imitate her by being concerned for others especially those in trouble, and helping them where we can. We can always pray for them especially the people in Vietnam, South East Asia, the Holy Land, Northern Ireland, Rhodesia and many other places. This imitating of Mary will change us spiritually and renew us which is what is

wanted. The more we imitate her the more we please her and consequently she will draw us close to the Sacred Heart of Her Divine Son. No two hearts were ever more closely united. He created Mary's and kept it free from sin. She formed His Sacred Heart in her Immaculate womb. Is there any need to remind you to join the Novena in honour of Our Lady of Mount Carmel?

Our Lady keep you!

*H. A. Brennan
O.Carm.*

TALKING TO GOD

GOD has no telephone. If we wish to speak to Him there is no need either to put coins into a box, or to press a button. He is on call twenty-four hours every day, year in, year out. He is always listening, and never puts us off with the words: "Sorry but I am too busy, just now. Could you ring again in another hour?" Neither do we get the mechanical reply of a machine saying: "This is God's house. God is not available just now. If there is any emergency, please ring His Mother." This is not the way God treats us. He has no office hours, no time when He is too busy to listen, no hour of the day or night when He is not willing to pay attention to everything we say. It has been truly said that mankind has been given two ears and one tongue so that he may listen more often than He can

speak, but it is not the same with God. The Creator is forever listening for the sound of our voice.

There is no necessity even to depend on words, for we can use any medium. If we are in pain, we can pray by offering Him our pain, if we are rejoicing, we can offer Him our joy. Neither is there any need to ask for anything, for in truth the prayer of petition is only one of many kinds of prayer. We should remember that prayer is merely a speaking to God, and we can talk about anything that interests us. All of us like to be

Some people are so sensitive that they feel snubbed if an epidemic overlooks them.

—J.C.S.

talking to our friends, but somehow we feel that when speaking to our Best Friend, we must have on our Sunday clothes and speak seriously and with a grave face. Not at all! There is nothing God likes so much as a cheerful giver.

We can pray anywhere. The whole earth is a house of prayer, for entire nations, for groups of people, for each and every single one of us. There is no need to rush to the church, though most of us feel we can pray better there. Travelling in the bus, walking in the streets, sunbathing on the beach, we can raise our minds to God and can speak quietly to Him,

without any creature knowing what we are doing.

We may use any words we wish. Whether we be a gifted poet, learned man, or illiterate person, God understands what we are saying better than we do ourselves.

We can never get away from Him. We can no more escape from Him than we can from our own bodies, we can no more live without Him than a fish can live out of water.

God needs no telephone because He is always at our side.

(From the St. Martin de Porres Magazine)

THANKS

To Sister Benedicta Stein for very good employment in our family and two new jobs.—S.M.S., Co. Wicklow.

Safe travel and very suitable job for daughter.—C.M., Co. Antrim.

Grateful thanks from H.Y., Bury, Lancs.

To the Holy Infant of Prague, Our Lady and the Saints for favours received. — M.D., M/c.

Grateful thanks to the Holy Family and the Sacred Heart.—M.C., Donegal.

To the Sacred Heart, Our Lady and many Saints for special intention.—E.M., Scotland.

To the Sacred Heart, Our Lady for many favours.—M.K., E.7.

To Blessed Oliver Plunkett, to make him better known and loved, for cure of persistent rash.—Mrs. McC., Co. Kerry.

To dear St. Anthony for return of engagement ring lost for one year.—M.McL., Derry.

For favour received through St. Jude "Our Family Lawyer".—F.J.J., Malta.

Most grateful thanks.—M.L., Offaly.

For return of family to the Sacraments.—C.C., Glasgow.

Grateful thanks for many favours.—H.H., Oldham.

Eternally grateful for big favour.—M.E.T., Sussex.

Thanksgiving to St. Jude for favour received.—A.M.R., Co. Wexford.

For great comfort obtained from just talking to St. Jude.—V.L.S., Kent.

For numerous favours received.—M.S., Derry City.

For driving licence obtained and other favours.—M.C., Longford.

For prayers answered for house and release from financial worry.—E.C., N. on Tyne.

For successful operation on son-in-law.—A.Mc.C., Argyllshire.

For a great favour.—M.K., Glasgow.

For big grace received.—Sna.B., Venezia.
For favour received after doing the Nine Sundays in honour of St. Jude.—E.D., Co. Westmeath.

Thanks to St. Jude for all he has done for me.—N.F., Kilkenny.

Sincere thanks to St. Jude for saving two lambs from dying.—Mrs. C., Co. Leitrim.

For granting me two great requests.—M.McG., Co. Derry.

To the Holy Child, the Holy Family, St. Jude, St. Anthony and other Saints. For many favours.—F.M.C., Glasgow.

For great favour.—A.F., Co. Down.

To the Holy Child, Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Blessed Oliver Plunkett and St. Jude. Grateful thanks. — Unworthy Sinner.

(During the past two months many people wrote to us wishing to make public acknowledgment of their gratitude to St. Jude, etc. We now publish some of those. A promise of publishing a thanksgiving is amply fulfilled by sending it to the Carmelite News, even though it may not appear in print).

DON'T FORGET

Our coming Novenas in honour of

THE SACRED HEART

June 6th-14th

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

July 8th-16th

ST. JUDE, APOSTLE

August 16th-24th