



Anima Mariae

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Sisters of Mary Immaculate Queen

Dear Friends,

As you know from the pictures that you have seen in our newsletter, the Sisters of our Congregation wear a blue habit. This is because of our special devotion to Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Many depictions of Our Blessed Mother show her wearing a blue mantle. What may not often show up in photos is the large brown scapular that the professed Sisters wear on Sundays and special feasts. Since the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel falls on July 16th, this is an appropriate time to explore our devotion to this title of Mary.

In the early days of our Congregation, our motherhouse in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, was named Our Lady of Mount Carmel Convent. Upon entering the front door, one was greeted by a life-sized statue of Our Lady wearing the brown habit and cream-colored mantle of the Carmelite order. Regularly we knelt before this statue in the evening to recite an act of consecration to Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

The Carmelites first lived as hermits on Mount Carmel in Palestine. In the 1200's an Englishman named Simon Stock visited them and joined their order. Eventually Simon returned to England, bringing



For many years this statue of Our Lady of Mount Carmel stood in a prominent place in our motherhouse. It now graces the sanctuary of our church by that name in Salem, New Hampshire, where two of our Sisters are stationed.

some of the brethren with him. On July 16, 1254, the Blessed Virgin appeared to St. Simon, giving him the Brown Scapular and promising her special protection for those who devoutly wear it. The laity have always been permitted to wear a small woolen scapular in place of the large one worn by religious. It is customary to be enrolled in the Brown Scapular at the time of First Holy Communion.

In the beginning of our Congregation, when we did not yet have a written Rule, we lived by a simple list of 25 norms. One of the norms included an exhortation to retain the contemplative spirit of the Carmelites, even in the midst of our active apostolate. Prayer is the foundation for all religious life, no matter whether one is a teacher, a nurse, a cook, a writer, an order filler or a counselor. Additionally, the Brown Scapular is a sign of Consecration to Mary, which is an integral part of the



Our Blessed Mother appears to St. Simon Stock, giving him the Brown Scapular with the promise that those who die wearing it devoutly will not suffer eternal fire.

spirituality of CMRI. Finally, Our Lady appeared to the children at Fatima as Our Lady of Mount Carmel during the Miracle of the Sun. This would seem to have a connection with Mary's promise to save souls from hell, and free them from purgatory through the sacramental of the Brown Scapular.

The beautiful statue of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, which came with us to Mount St. Michael, and stood for many years just inside the first floor cloister, now graces the church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in New Hampshire. However, the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in the middle of July continues to be a special one for the Sisters of our Congregation. The novena leading up to it is made fervently, and the traditional act of consecration to Mary is prayed on the feast. The festivities of the day end with a dessert of caramels and root beer floats — one more convent tradition that dedicates the simple joys of life to the honor of God and His Mother.



On the Feast of the Queenship, Sisters, students and parishioners of Mount St. Michael honored Our Blessed Mother with a Rosary procession to the grotto, where Fr. Casimir crowned Our Lady of Lourdes.



The annual Queenship procession at the City of Mary always takes place on Memorial Day. Notice the new convent in the background. The Sisters are in the process of moving in; the area they vacate will become part of the seminary.



After the procession, the Sisters who had come from the motherhouse in Spokane stayed to eat their breakfast in the commodious new convent.



"O Salutaris Hostia!" What an honor for the Sisters to follow immediately behind the Blessed Sacrament during the Corpus Christi procession!



A few last minute instructions from Sr. Mary Genevieve before the First Communicants head into church at Mary Immaculate Queen parish.



An outing at the lake with the novitiate Sisters included getting out on the water in kayaks.



New life skills for novices and postulants: spreading concrete for the footings at the novitiate project site.



The novitiate Sisters fulfilling a promise to our Lady of a yearly procession on the feast of the Queenship.



Sr. Bernardine Marie and Sr. Maria Magdalena visit the shrine of St. Joseph at Our Lady of Victories Basilica in New York.



Out on the lake on the Col. James Schoonmaker. What a great field trip for the students from St. Joseph's in Wayne!



Guess who flew home for the summer?! The captain of the plane invited the Sisters to come visit the cockpit after a recent flight.



Sister and her eighth graders from Holy Guardian Angels school in Olathe, Colorado, visit the aquarium at the Denver Zoo.



Another sweet field trip: Sr. Maria Teresita and Sr. Maria Goretti took their students, from St. Theresa's in Oakland, Maine to a maple syrup factory.



Sisters go on holy field trips. The Sisters from our two New England missions pray at Notre Dame Basilica in Montreal, Canada.



At the shrine of St. Anne de Beaupré, Sr. Mary Bernadette venerates the relic of the arm of St. Anne.



Sr. Mary Imelda talks about the sufferings of Jesus with the primary students.



Principal, pastor and prelate with the eighth-grade graduates at St. Mary's Academy in Tacoma.



Sister steps back to the serving line during a game of volleyball at our annual Ascension Day picnic.

Calendar

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| June | 1 | Sr. Mary Angela's feastday |
| | 12 | Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Sr. Corinne Marie's feastday |
| | 13 | Sr. Mary Antoinette's feastday |
| | 14-19 | Catechism Mission in Louisiana |
| | 15-17 | Catechism Mission in Lewiston, Idaho |
| | 18-20 | Catechism Mission in Boise, Idaho |
| | 22-25 | Sisters' Annual Retreat |
| | 27 | Feast of the Our Mother of Perpetual Help;
Vows Ceremonies |
| | 29 | Sr. Mary Petra's feastday |
| | 30 | Sr. Mary Paula's feastday |
| July | 1-3 | Classes for teaching Sisters |
| | 9 | Sr. Maria Goretti's feastday |
| | 12 | Sr. Mary Veronica's feastday |
| | 15-19 | Catechism Mission in California |
| | 19-24 | Camp St. Philomena (see CMRI.org for details) |
| | 22 | Sr. Maria Magdalena's feastday |
| August | 9 | Sr. Marie Vianney's feastday |
| | 11 | Sr. Philomena Marie's feastday |
| | 12-17 | Ladies' Retreat at Mount St. Michael |
| | 15 | Feast of the Assumption BVM |
| | 18 | Sr. Helen Marie's feastday |
| | 22 | Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary |
| | 28 | Sr. Augustine Marie's feastday |
| Sept. | 12 | Sr. Mariana's feastday |
| | 15 | Sr. Maria Dolorosa's feastday |
| | 16 | Sr. Mary Andrea's feastday |
| | 17 | Sr. Sophia Marie's feastday |
| | 29 | Feast of St. Michael: Titular feast of St. Michael's
Convent; Sr. Michael Marie's feastday |

Our Apostolate of Prayer

Are you or someone you love in need of special prayers?

Send your intentions to the Sisters to be remembered in our daily prayers, Masses and good works, and especially in our upcoming Novenas.



Sisters' Summer Support



The Sisters have no income from tuition during the summer while our schools are closed.

As this is our main means of support, please consider sending a donation to help us with our needs over the next few months.

Thank you for your charity!

Anima Mariae is the free quarterly newsletter of the CMRI Sisters.

To join our mailing list, or to send comments, questions, prayer intentions or donations, please write or email:

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