



RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

September the fifth! That was a glorious day for the new members in our fold, a gala day, a day of rejoicing for the Sodality.

The chapel was garbed in festal array, to give the newly-admitted Sodalists a more beautiful impression of the day of their initiation into the organization. Flowers, the symbol of joy and glory, bedecked the altar. The statue of Our Lady was profusely adorned in a manner befitting such a reception, simple though it is. A great number of students attended the ceremonies.

Our Sodality Director, Father Arana, officiated at the reception. There was an impressive march of the new members to the altar to receive their blue-and-white sashes, and medals.

Father Arana gave a brief address of advice and congratulation to the future Sodalists. He emphasized the amount of good Sodalists are doing by their good example, and hoped that the new members would abide by their promise to Our Lady—to be good Sodalists. After the short talk, the final vows of consecration were solemnly made. The aspirants were dubbed as knights, as children and soldiers of Mary forever.

The following are the names of the new members:

L. Von Giese, A. Solis, P. Revilla, M. Go, Jose Feria, Henry Lee, Santiago Go, William Lee, George Ty, Carlos Albert, F. Buencami-

no, B. Hizon, Joaquin Gonzalez, M. Herrera, A. Francisco, Alejandro Go, G. Lichauco, M. de Leon, M. Virata, J. Herrera, C. Ledesma.

They are the few—the blessed few, who gained admission to the Sodality. To them, we offer our congratulations for having attained so high an honor—to be the special children of Mary. Their moral rectitude is unquestionable; their devotion and enthusiasm to be sodalists are beyond doubt. And we foresee and expect great things from them.

Through this column, we thank Father Arana for having honored us by his presence at the reception. And to the donors of the flowers which adorned the chapel, we offer also our sincerest gratitude, especially to the Cu Unjieng brothers, Alfonso and Benito.

The Secretary.

* * *

TEN REASONS

Why I am a Member of the Sodality

1. Because membership enables me to perform more surely my Religious duties to my God, thereby affording me a guarantee that I shall not lose my most precious treasure—*holy Faith*.

2. Because intense Religious practice is the only way to preserve my morals, to keep me from mortal sin, or to rise should I fall. It has been recently said, by one who ought to

know better, that there is no remedy for the immorally disposed. This is a doctrine of despair. Their is a remedy. It is here.

3. Because a Sodality member *draws down Heaven's blessing* not only on *himself*, but also on *his home, his parents, and other relatives*.

4. Because being a member means that I have *the singular protection of Our Lady*, all thru life, and especially at its close.

5. Because the members *have a reputation to keep*. There are many forbidden things I do not do, dare not do, simply because I cannot afford to: More is expected of me than of ordinary Catholics.

6. Because our members *give good example* to one another, and to their neighbours,—a most practical means of helping,—better than moral discourses. "Is example nothing? It is everything."—(Edmund Burke).

7. Because the better I perform my duties to God, the more *patriotic* I shall be. I hold the motto: "To God, thy country, and thy friend, be true."

8. Because *organization* helps in Religious matters as in all things else.

9. Because the members of the Sodality are *the pick of La Salle's best*, and it is a privilege and an honor to be associated with such.

10. Because the rules of the Sodality provide that special prayers and Masses be said for me while alive. And when I die, the Sodality, as long as it lasts, *will never cease to aid me*, until I shall be freed from the fire of Purgatory

THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

The members of the Sodality are obliged by their rule, to carry always the Miraculous Medal around their person. Now, many of them perhaps, would like to know something about its history, etc. It is the purpose of this article to give the most salient features of the history of the Miraculous Medal.

In the year 1830, there was a certain girl named Sister Catherine Laboure who was a novice of the Filles de la Charité. At that time, she was twenty years of age.

On July 18, the feast of St. Vicent of Paul, Sister Catherine, had the first vision. While she was in the chapel alone, at midnight, she

saw a woman of indescribable beauty take a seat on the left side of the sanctuary. She knelt beside the figure, who told her that she would be entrusted with a mission. She was also told to report any visions she might have, to her confessor. The apparition foretold the future condition of France.

She reported these visions to her confessor who appeared to make light of the matter, but in reality, he made notes of them.

Nov. 17, at about half past five in the afternoon, was the date of the second apparition. While Sister Catherine was again alone in the chapel, she beheld another vision. She saw a woman of middle height and with a beauty that defied description. The Blessed Virgin stood upon a globe, or rather upon half of one, and she held another in her hands. The following is her own account: "Her eyes were cast upwards, and her face became as if illumined, while she offered the globe to our Lord. Suddenly her fingers appeared covered with rings of precious stones, the rays from which shed such brilliancy around that soon her dress and feet became lost in the blaze of light. The gems were of different sizes, and the rays emitted from them, consequently, were more or less brilliant. I cannot express what I felt or all I learnt in so short a time. As I was absorbed in contemplating her, the Blessed Virgin looked at me, and an interior voice, the while said, 'This globe which you see represents the world in general, and France in particular.'" The beauty and brilliancy of the rays as I then saw them, cannot be described. The Blessed Virgin added: 'These rays are a symbol of the graces which I obtain for those who ask them of me.' "

Then, she says, it seemed as if the whole scene before her turned, and she saw another picture. She saw the letter M surmounted by a cross, and below it two hearts, one encircled by a crown of thorns, and the other pierced with a spear.

Sodalists, look at your Medal, and perhaps you may have an indistinct image of the vision of Sister Catherine, and on the other side, the insignia just described.

A few days later, at the same place and hour, she had a third vision. She saw the figure

with an oval frame from the waist up, with the inscription in gold, "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee." She again saw the other side of the picture and heard these words, "Have a medal struck according to this model." Referring to the rays of light from her hands, the Vision said, "These rays are a symbol of the graces which the Blessed Virgin obtains for those who ask them of her."

The only one whom Sister Catherine told about these visions, was her confessor, but still rumors began to circulate about them. However, nobody associated her with the visions, and it was not until she was on her deathbed, that she confided her visions to a few friends.

The medal was struck on June, 1832, with the consent of Mgr. de Quélen, Archbishop of Paris

The Archbishop himself acquired one of the first medals, and he determined at once to try its efficacy in a spiritual sense. He visited Mgr. de Pradt who was dying, and sorely in need of priestly administrations. At first he refused to see the Archbishop, but he soon recalled him, and died literally in his arms.

This is the first case of a conversion in connection with the Medal. From that time on, it became known and distributed throughout France, and many persons wore it, not knowing its origin, but only because they believed in its power.

In 1837, the Archconfraternity of Notre Dame des Victoires obliged all its members to wear it, and they made the Medal known throughout the world.

On one occasion, the Blessed Virgin appeared to a nun in Germany, and holding the Medal before her, she said, "Wear this Medal, and you will have my special protection, and try to make others wear it also, and especially those who are in any particular need."

The feast of the Miraculous Medal is celebrated every year on Nov. 27, the date of the second Apparition.

All the Sodalists, then, should not only wear the Miraculous Medal always, but should try to have their friends wear it also. Remember that the Most Blessed Virgin herself promised us her special protection, if we wear it.

Leonardo R. Osorio

Notice of the premature demise of one of our members appears in the Alumni notes of this issue. We refer to JUSTO CUATICO, who was received into the Sodality on Nov. 26, 1927. Tho gone from us, he is still well remembered for his piety and quiet, gentle, unassuming disposition. As a student he is best remembered for his mathematical ability. As a Sodalist, he was never prominent except by his retiring unobtruse nature, his calm religious spirit, and his frequent visits to the Blessed Sacrament. The priedieu at which we used to so often notice him kneeling is still in the Chapel, used by other good boys.

At the funeral, the Sodality was represented by Rev. Bro. Felix, Antonio Lucas, Horacio Villavicencio, Luis Feria, William Ty, Mariano Go, George Ty, and others. In addition to this tribute of appreciation and affection, a body of some thirty Sodalists visited the body at the Funeral Parlor on Sept. 24, and there prayed publicly for the repose of his soul. We were all pleased to see his sash and medal on his body, as it reposed in the coffin.

To his sister and brothers, as also to his other near relatives, the members of the Sodality, extend their sympathy.

*Eternal rest give to him, O Lord,
And let perpetual light shine upon him.
(300 days Indulgence)*