



Intentions Blessed

General Intention: For those who suffer persecution for justice's sake

The Divine Master proclaimed blessed those who are tormented for being good and in spite of this remain faithful to their duties. "Blessed are those who suffer persecution for justice's sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." All those who for being good Catholics, are mocked, molested, or persecuted in one way or another, are blessed. These persecutions generally come from the wicked; sometimes they come from the good—and these are worst. Hardly can one practice a virtue without some persecution in one way or another. This is the patrimony of virtue in this life. Many have suffered for such martyrdom.

Actually millions of Catholics suffer imprisonment and concentration in horrible camp, torture and death for their faithfulness to Christ and His Church. Others, if not martyrdom, have to tolerate molestations or injustice. Jesus said that all those who wish to live a religious life will suffer persecution. But He also said that we should not be afraid of those who wish to destroy the body, but we should fear those who can condemn the soul to eternal punishment.

So that in the hour of trial our brothers may not succumb to suffering and calumny, so that they may know how to resist the impetuous attack of any persecu-

the Holy Father for May

tion, let us pray to the Sacred Heart of Jesus that He may assist them with His omnipotent grace. Let us also ask perseverance in the same for all Catholics of the world.

Mission Intention: For Christianity in Indonesia

Indonesia comprises the three great islands of Java, Sumatra, Borneo and other small islands. In the island of Flores may be found one half of the Catholic population of the republic. Of its total population of about 75,000,000 some 700,000 are Catholics. In 1949 its political independence was proclaimed on the basis of five principles, the first of which is the recognition of the supreme authority of God Omnipotent. The next year Indonesia established her embassy in the Holy See and the Pope received her first minister. Said the Holy Father:

"Wherever the supreme jurisdiction of God is recognized and defended as your Republic has done in its inauguration, there men are given their proper places—so are nations, the rule of democracy and conscience and social justice with a firm and happy harmony. It may be that outside events or human errors may offer obstacles to this end, but while the end remains unchanged, there will always be hope to realize these excellent principles."

Jose Ma. Siguion, S.J.