



## **THE GUARDIAN OF CRUSADERS**

**Bulletin of the Eucharistic Crusade for Canada**

**January 2009 # 187**

# JESUS: THE LIGHT OF THE GENTILES

Dear Crusaders,

Soon after man was created by God, he fell away from the true love and knowledge of his Creator. But one nation kept the true faith, and it was this nation alone that loved and served Him. The Jews alone were called, and really were, the children of God. It was when Jesus came on earth that the Jews lost their privilege and it was given to others, who would show themselves more worthy of the graces and blessings bestowed to them.

Still lying in the manger, Jesus showed himself the light of the gentiles; for wise men from the East came to adore the king, and under the form of a tiny child they saw and adored Him who had created heaven and earth. These wise men were the first of the Gentiles who joined the Church. The Persecutions did not stop conversions, on the contrary: in spite of sword, fire and dungeon, the Gentiles kept entering into the Church.

Even now, Jesus is still the light of the nations; and missionaries are called by God to go to convert people. Though it is not given to us all to become apostles to the non-believers, still we too must work to extend the knowledge and love of Jesus. Many around us are in the darkness of error, and to them we must be as shining lights guiding them to the haven of eternal life. More than big discussions, our good example will draw them to the true Church.

Dear members of the Eucharistic Crusade; be the first to put such good advice into practice.

*This editorial, and probably many to come, was inspired from an article published in the 1909 January issue of the **Franciscan Review**, published in Montreal.*

Father Dominique Boulet

**\* On Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, I said Mass for the intentions of the Eucharistic Crusade in Canada.**

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# SAINTS FOR CHILDREN

## VENERABLE MAMA MARGHERITA

Mama Margherita was the mother of St. John Bosco, a priest who founded the Salesian Order for priests and brothers and set up an oratory for poor boys who lived on the streets of Italy.

Margherita Occhiena was born in Italy, in 1788, to a peasant couple that had a vineyard and grew grapes for a living. At first Mr. and Mrs. Occhiena did very well with their vineyard but the Napoleon invasions, and lack of rain caused them to become very poor.

God blessed Margherita with a strong healthy body and much energy. She was intelligent and had a strong will for doing good. She was always happy and did all her work cheerfully. At a young age she did the household chores, and took care of the farm animals. She also had to plough the soil, plant, and harvest, thresh grain, pick and tread grapes and drive oxcarts around the farm and to distant markets.

Margherita was determined not to marry at first, but she changed her mind when she found out about a poor widower and his son, Anthony. She married Mr. Bosco and bore him two sons: Joseph and John. Being the good woman that she was, it wasn't long before Margherita changed the Bosco house into a clean, bright and merry home. The family prayed together and worked together. They had a little shrine with a crucifix in their home and Margherita taught the children to live their Catholic faith.

Margherita received a heavy cross when John was only two years old. Her husband died of pneumonia and she was left with the burden of raising a family. And added to this burden, was her stepson Anthony who had a terrible temper. To keep her family alive, she worked hard to get food and clothing for her three sons. She told them: ***“God is your Heavenly Father who cares for you. It is your duty to accept whatever happens by being resigned to God’s holy will.”*** Margherita also told her boys: ***“It is your duty to serve others, especially the poor and the sick for the love of God.”***

When John was very young he told his mother that he wanted to become a priest. As time went on she saw that John was intelligent and pious and that he would make a good priest. As a first step Margherita decided that John should



make his First Communion much earlier than the usual age. Though she could not read, she had memorized the catechism by listening to the priest teach the children after Sunday Mass. She prepared John so well that the doubting priest was amazed and gave John Holy Communion.

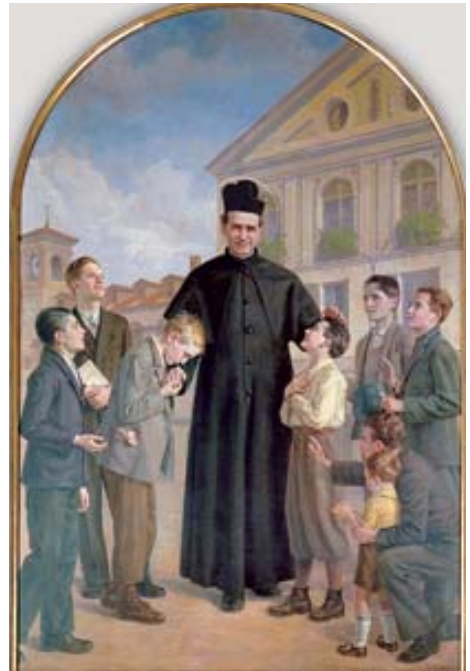
As John grew older he worked and studied to reach his goal. Anthony was very bull headed about the whole thing and thought that John would do better to help on the farm than study. When Anthony got out of hand, Margherita taught John to control his fiery temper and his tongue. In this way she kept as much peace in the home as possible. Margherita loved laughter, games, and jokes and strove to make her home, happy as well.

Seeing that John had many talents, Margherita encouraged him to practise his magic tricks, feats of tumbling, and tight rope walking so that he may better serve his neighbours by entertaining them with good recreation. And at the same time Margherita figured out ways for John to go to school or to get private lessons from priests. The sacrifices she made were great. Poor as she was she was determined to help him reach his goal, come what may.

On the night before John went to enter the seminary his mother told him: ***“Remember, it is not the soutane that brings honour to your state in life, only the practice of virtue. Should you ever come to doubt your vocation, lay aside this soutane. I would sooner have a poor peasant for a son than an unworthy priest. When you were born I consecrated you to the Blessed Mother. Now I ask you to be hers entirely...and if you do become a priest, spread devotion to her.”***

John Bosco became a priest and a friend to the many boys who lived on the streets. They had no parents and many of them had no job. But Don (Fr.) Bosco loved them all the same and showed them kindness...he was a real father to them. At first he started with a few boys and had them meet him on Sundays for church, catechism, a meal, and to have fun.

As time went on the boys grew in number and a place had to be found for them. The boys prayed and a man offered Don Bosco an old shed. But three months after buying the old shed, the holy priest was worn out and caught pneumonia. He was taken to the hospital and the boys stormed heaven with their prayers and sacrifices.



***(Continued on page9)***

# INTENTION FOR THE MONTH OF January 2009



As a missionary bishop in Africa, Archbishop Lefebvre used to meet frequently with Pope Pius XII

## Daily offering

(To be recited every morning when you wake up)

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer Thee all my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day, for all the intentions of Thy Sacred Heart in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, and in reparation for my sins. I offer them particularly **for the missions of the Society of St. Pius X.**

## TREASURE CHART FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2009

Day	Daily Offering	Mass	Sac. Com.	Spir. Com.	Sacrifices	Decades of Rosary	Visits Bl. Sac.	15 Minutes Silence	Good Example
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									
10									
11									
12									
13									
14									
15									
16									
<b>Total</b>									

Note about sending your total to the Secretariat:

**Vancouver:** give it to Mrs. Leung

**All other locations: Preferably, e-mail the total:** [EucharisticCrusade@sspx.ca](mailto:EucharisticCrusade@sspx.ca)

E-mails are much faster and more reliable than Canada Post. You may also fax the total at (819)537-6562. On your fax, write the name of your province.

Mailing address:

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*Note: Following Canada Post requirements, we ask you to use 905 Rang St. Mathieu E. as mailing address*

# TREASURE CHART FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2009

Day	Daily Offering	Mass	Sac. Com.	Spir. Com.	Sacrifices	Decades of Rosary	Visits Bl. Sac.	15 Minutes Silence	Good Example
17									
18									
19									
20									
21									
22									
23									
24									
25									
26									
27									
28									
29									
30									
31									
Total									

✂-----Cut here-----✂

## January 2009

Total of the Month									
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To be send to the secretariat of the Eucharistic Crusade. See note on previous page.

# JANUARY 2009

Q	R	Q	Z	J	O	H	N	B	O	S	C	O	C
T	E	M	P	E	R	A	P	R	O	N	R	K	O
Q	L	S	I	M	O	N	Q	P	F	D	U	I	M
X	I	Q	P	M	A	R	Y	R	A	R	C	N	M
C	G	X	R	X	Q	K	Q	A	R	E	I	D	U
A	I	W	I	Z	G	O	D	Y	M	S	F	N	N
T	O	G	E	Q	K	Q	Z	X	Q	S	I	E	I
E	N	N	S	S	H	E	D	Q	X	Z	X	S	O
C	Q	I	T	Z	X	Z	D	O	O	F	Q	S	N
H	X	H	M	A	G	I	C	R	E	A	S	O	N
I	Z	S	B	O	Y	S	Y	R	O	T	A	R	O
S	C	A	P	U	L	A	R	Q	R	I	N	G	Q
M	X	W	P	O	O	R	G	N	I	K	O	O	C
M	A	R	G	H	E	R	I	T	A	Q	X	Z	W

**MARGHERITA**  
**COMMUNION**  
**JOHN BOSCO**  
**CATECHISM**  
**SCAPULAR**  
**RELIGION**  
**CRUCIFIX**  
**COOKING**  
**WASHING**

**KINDNESS**  
**ORATORY**  
**TEMPER**  
**REASON**  
**PRIEST**  
**SIMON**  
**APRON**  
**MAGIC**  
**DRESS**

**MARY**  
**FARM**  
**POOR**  
**FOOD**  
**BOYS**  
**PRAY**  
**SHED**  
**RING**  
**GOD**



(... Continued from page 4)

Don Bosco got better and went to his mother's place out in the country to regain his strength. There he asked his mother to make the painful sacrifice of leaving the farm she loved, to go and live in the city and be a mother to his boys. ***“Do you think it is God's will?”*** she asked. ***“Yes mother I do,”*** replied Don Bosco.

Margherita moved to the Turin oratory in November 1846. There the boys called her 'Mama Margherita'. As hard as she had worked in life, she worked even harder for Don Bosco and his boys – cooking, washing, ironing, mending, cleaning house, nursing sick boys, and making medicines. She also sacrificed her best things—out of her wedding dress she made Mass vestments, and out of her best linens she made purificators, corporals, amices and altar linens. And she sold her wedding ring and a gold necklace (given to her on her wedding day), to buy gold braid for vestments.



The good woman's work increased every month as more boys came to live at the oratory. And often, careless boys caused Mama Margherita much extra work. One day the boys knocked down her clothesline with the washing on it and trampled her vegetable garden. That was the last straw; Mama Margherita was fed up: ***“I'm going home!”*** she declared, taking off her apron. At this point Don Bosco said nothing. Knowing how much his mother suffered, he pointed to the crucifix hanging on the wall. His mother understood and her eyes filled with tears. ***“You are right, son; you are right,”*** she said softly—and she replaced her apron and went back to work.

Don Bosco continued to bring more boys to the oratory. ***“Mama Margherita I have another son for you,”*** he would say, ***“take good care of him for me.”*** But Don Bosco didn't really have to tell his mother to take good care of his boys. The love of her great, motherly heart went out to each boy as if he were her own.

She was never one to raise her voice, but used the same methods that Don Bosco used to teach his boys—reason, religion and kindness. To a boy who wanted to remain bad she would say: ***“Don Bosco sweats blood to offer you a chance in life and you throw it away!”*** To another with a hot temper that led him into fights she said: ***“Only the animals act the way you do. Can’t you see that your companions are your brothers?”*** To a boy who refused to work, she pointed to a place where they hang criminals in public. When the boy began to cry, she comforted him and said: ***“You would be much happier if you shared some of the burden of running the oratory.”***

Though it was difficult, Mama Margherita kept up her spiritual life during those busy years at the oratory. She went to daily Mass, visited the Blessed Sacrament, and prayed constantly. Her lips never stopped moving—she was always praying. And she said a good many prayers on her knees for her saintly son, whose life was always in danger because of anti-clericals who hated priests.

Margherita always lived in poverty. When asked what she wanted most she replied, ***“I was born poor, I want to die poor.”*** One proof of this was that she always wore an old worn and often mended dress. Not even Don Bosco could convince his mother to buy herself a new dress. When he gave her money to buy a new one, she would buy things for the boys at the oratory. Once when Margherita was given a lovely silk shawl for herself, she cut it up and made silk ties for the boys at the oratory.

As tired as she got, Mama Margherita never went to bed for a rest during the day, even if she was sick. But hard work and old age crept up on her and during the winter of 1856, she caught pneumonia. Now she had to stay in bed. When her confessor was called in and she was given the Last Rites, the oratory boys knew that her end was near. They stormed heaven with their prayers but her recovery was not to be.

Toward the end of her life Mama Margherita told her son about those who were working with him. She also named those boys on whom he could rely, those on whom he could not rely, and those of whom he should beware, and not trust. Then she confided in her son: ***“My dear John, only Our Lord knows how I have loved you all through life, but I hope from up there in Heaven I will love you even more. There is a great peace in my heart. I have tried to do my best. Goodbye my John. Remember that this life is one of suffering. The real joys are those of eternity. I will be waiting for you in eternity. We will always be together. Pray for me.”***



***The End***

# BROWN SCAPULAR STORIES

## *Little Talks to Little People*

The Brown Scapular devotion is very old. Our Lady says: ***“Wear the Scapular devoutly and perseveringly. It is my garment. To be clothed in it means you are continually thinking of me, and I in turn am always thinking of you and helping you to secure eternal life.”***

St. Claude de la Colombière says that the Brown Scapular is the most favoured devotion of all the devotions to the Blessed Virgin Mary. And he says that, ***“No devotion had been confirmed by more numerous authentic miracles than the Brown Scapular.”***

The Brown Scapular is the habit of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Devotion to Our Lady of Mount Carmel goes back to the Old Testament. In the 8<sup>th</sup> century B.C. the great prophet Elias climbed the holy mountain of Carmel in Palestine. There he began a long tradition of silence and prayer. Many men followed the example of holy Elias and dedicated themselves to God’s mother-to-come, the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Some time after Jesus had died and rose again from the dead, and ascended into Heaven, on the feast of Pentecost, the Holy Ghost descended on the Apostles and Our Lady. The hermits who were living on Mount Carmel came down from the mountain and were the first to accept the message of Christianity and to be baptized by the Apostles. After this they met Our Lady and heard sweet words from her lips. They were overcome with the majesty and holiness of the Blessed Virgin Mary. After returning to Mount Carmel, they built the first chapel in honour of Our Lady. And from that time on devotion to Our Lady was handed down to the hermits living on Mount Carmel.

In 1241, Baron de Grey of England returned from the Crusades in Palestine. He brought back some hermits from Mount Carmel. These hermits went to live in a house in the town of Alyesford. Ten years later, in this very place, Our Lady appeared to St. Simon Stock – one of the hermits. Handing Simon the Brown Scapular, she said, ***“This shall be a privilege for you and all Carmelites, that anyone dying in this habit shall not suffer eternal fire.”***

In time the church extended this wonderful privilege to all people who were willing to be clothed in the Brown Scapular and who wear it all the time. Have a priest enrol you in the Brown Scapular and remember to say your Rosary every day, and Mary will bless you.

# Educating the Youth to Live the Mass

## Experts from the Manual of the Eucharistic Crusade of the Apostleship of Prayer

Published in 1962 by the Central Office of the Eucharistic Crusade, Rome

(Edited by Fr. Boulet)

The Rosary: Finally the *Norms recommend the rosary*. The value of this prayer is obvious. It is made up of our most precious prayers, namely, the Creed, the Our Father, the Hail Mary and the Glory be to the Father. It recalls the chief mysteries of our redemption. It has been repeatedly commended by the Church. In addition, very many indulgences have been granted for its recitation. Finally there is a wonderful unanimity, as it were, in the recent apparitions of Our Lady in advising the rosary as a very efficacious help in the tribulations of our times.

Although all this is explained to them, children can still find this prayer tedious. The various objections sometimes grow in depth and vigour as the child grows in age. They complain that it is too long, too monotonous, only for women, boring, etc. To these objections we must reply: don't give into them. The children must be told to recite the rosary, or at least one decade, regularly. We learn to pray by praying, not by debating. They should never be told to give up this prayer. For if children do not like some food which is necessary for them, they will learn to like it not by pushing it aside but by eating it regularly. So a taste for the rosary will not be acquired by one who says it rarely or not at all. But if one says it frequently he will gradually come to know its beauty and value.

However children must be solidly instructed and helped to learn the correct way in which the rosary can be recited profitably. For the most part, it should be urged that they meditate while reciting the rosary. It is not necessary to think of the meaning of every single word which is said, but in the course of the decade, they can imagine themselves to be admiring eye-witnesses of the scene to be contemplated. And while the imagination and intellect are occupied with these images, thoughts, and feelings, they recite the individual Hail Mary's. — Another way is that by which the mind pays attention to the words that are said. This way however often easily tires children, though for a short time it can be an easier way than that of actual meditation on the mysteries. — It is also possible to have special intentions for each mystery and in this way keep alive attention and fervour. *(To be continued)*

October 2008 Treasure Sheets										
	Daily Off.	Mass	Sacr. Com.	Spir. Com.	Sacrif.	Dec. Ros.	Visit Bl. Sacr.	15 Min. Sil.	Good Example	Quantity
QC	124	116	116	128	217	786	116	93	455	4
ON	235	33	29	359	116	980	18	49	73	7
SK	246	30	30	216	1097	1160	30	43	1506	8
BC	246	63	41	47	47	295	66	30	139	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>1477</b>	<b>3221</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>2173</b>	<b>28</b>