

Fr. Cyril and the Infant Jesus of Prague
Little Talks to Little People

In 1630, the Carmelite Novices were transferred to Munich, Germany. With the Novices gone, Prague lost most of its people who loved to pray in front of the Infant Jesus. When the Thirty Years War started, it brought an end of the special devotions to the Infant Jesus of Prague. On November 16, 1531, the army of King Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden took over all the churches in Prague: the Carmelites had to flee and prayers before the image of the Holy Infant stopped. The Lutheran soldiers damaged the Carmelite Monastery and stole the goods that they thought were valuable. In 1637, peace came to Prague and the Carmelites returned to their monastery.

One of the Carmelites who returned was Fr. Cyril. In the past he had been given much spiritual help because of his devotion to the Infant Jesus of Prague. Not seeing the statue, he looked for it and found it buried in garbage behind the altar in Our Lady of Victory Church. Overjoyed, Fr. Cyril cleaned the statue and placed it in the oratory for devotion.

While he was praying before the Infant Jesus, he heard the Infant Jesus of Prague say, *"Have pity on Me and I will have pity on you. Give Me My hands and I will give you peace. The more you honour Me, the more I will bless you."*

Fr. Cyril examined the statue and found that both hands of the statue were broken off. Many times through prayer, Fr. Cyril asked the Blessed Virgin Mary to get him the money for fixing the statue. The Infant Jesus spoke to him again, *"Place Me near the entrance of the sacristy and you will get help."* Fr. Cyril then placed the statue of the Infant Jesus near the door of the sacristy and in a few days, the statue was fixed by a man who came to the sacristy to offer help.

Since that time the statue of the Infant Jesus of Prague has remained in Prague and hundreds of thousands of people come to honour the Infant Jesus every year.

In 1651 the statue was carried to all the churches in Prague, and in 1655 it was crowned by the Bishop of Prague.

Christmas is coming my dear children. The Little Jesus would be very pleased if you would have special devotion to Him during the season of Advent and Christmas. How He loves it when little children come to pray to Him and ask Him favours. And He loves it even more when little children thank Him for the graces they receive.



The Infant Jesus of Prague

THE GUARDIAN OF CRUSADERS

Bulletin of the Eucharistic Crusade for Canada

December 2010 # 209

O c0me divine messiah!

Dear Crusaders,

Once again, in this time of Advent, let us repeat the famous canticle. No matter how many times we have sung it in the past, it is still rejoicing our hearts. It gives us courage to carry on with our sacrifices as we are waiting for Christmas.

One day, Venerable Jeanne Rodriguez saw the Holy Family before her eyes. The Infant Jesus told her: *“I am always close to the souls who know how to keep Me in their hearts; I will never depart from such souls: it is My pleasure to stay in their company.”* Let us remember these words as we sing, **“O come, Divine Messiah!”**

*O come, Divine Messiah!
The world in silence waits the day
When hope shall sing its triumph,
And sadness flee away.*

*You come in peace and meekness,
And lowly will your cradle be;
All clothed in human weakness
Shall we your Godhead see.*

Let me hope that the reading of the wonderful story of the Infant Jesus of Prague will increase your desire to remain always with Jesus Our Lord and Saviour!

With my best wishes for Christmas!

Father Dominique Boulet

* On November 6th, I said Mass for the intentions of the Eucharistic Crusade in Canada.

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EucharisticCrusadeCDN@gmail.com

venerate this image, you will never be in want.” And true enough, as long as the Carmelite Monks had devotion to the Infant Jesus of Prague the community did well.

For many years the statue of the Infant Jesus has been on a side altar in Our Lady of Victory Church, in Prague. People who have prayed before this statue have received so many graces that this statue has become known as the **“Miraculous Infant Jesus of Prague.”**The following is an idea of the many types of graces received: All who pray with confidence before the miraculous statue of the Infant Jesus of Prague receive: help in danger, comfort in sorrow, aid in poverty, comfort in anxiety, light in spiritual darkness, many graces in dryness of soul, health in sickness and hope in despair. The Infant Jesus will help you with any problem that you have.



Now the nice thing to know is that you don't have to go Prague to pray before the

Miraculous Infant Jesus. All you need to do is pray before a blessed; plaster or plastic statue, or a picture of the Infant Jesus of Prague in

order to get graces from the Little Jesus. He is waiting to hear you tell Him: about your troubles, the prayers you want answered, and the thank-you's for the graces He has or will give you. Have devotion to Little Jesus especially in December and you will be surprised what He will do for you.

The End

whispered, *“This is my wedding gift to you. The Child Jesus will go with you to Prague and He will be your protector in your new life.”*

“Oh Mother! He is such a darling!” Maria exclaimed. *“But how did you obtain this statue, and why have I never seen it until now?”*

“Let us sit here and I will tell you the strange manner in which I came to have this statue and Heaven’s wish for you to carry it to the city of Prague. From there its fame and power and blessings, will spread far and wide, even across the shining seas.”

Dona Isabella told her daughter the story you have just read. Maria left the next day for Prague to get married to Lord Vratislav. After the wedding Maria looked out of her window upon Prague. She saw St. Vitus Cathedral founded by St. Wenceslas, she saw the Vltava River where St. John Nepomucene had been thrown because he would not tell a certain king what he had heard in confession, and she saw the many steeples of churches in the city, welcoming her to Prague, now the city of the Infant Jesus.

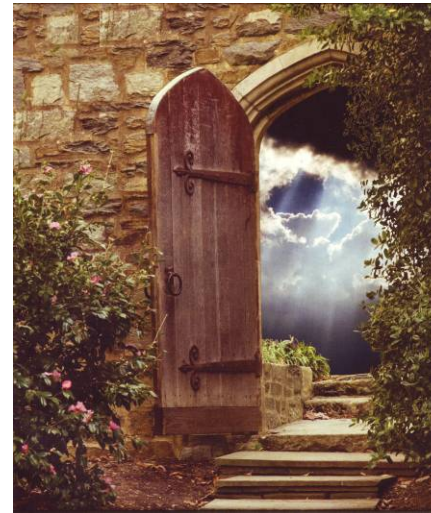
Maria and her husband had a daughter named Polyxena. In 1587, Maria gave the Infant of Prague as a wedding present to her daughter Polyxena. Polyxena’s



husband died some time after they were married. So in 1628, Polyxena gave the statue of the Infant Jesus to the Carmelite Monastery attached to Our Lady of Victory Church. They had become very poor because their founder, Emperor Ferdinand II, had moved his residence to Vienna. The brothers were so poor at times that they hardly had any food. She presented her dear statue of the Infant Jesus to the Carmelite Brothers with these words: *“I hereby give you what I prize most highly in this world. As long as you*

THE INFANT JESUS OF PRAGUE

In the 1500’s Dona Isabella of Spain went to visit a friend. After her visit she noticed that the scenery in Andalucia, Spain was like the Italy of her childhood, so she stopped to admire the countryside.



Murgo the coachman drove along and soon reached a very lovely spot—a beautiful arched growth of vines with huge blue blossoms. Dona Isabella got out to explore and came upon the ruins of an old monastery. The monastery had a tall wall in front of it covered with vines and flowers. She knocked and the door opened, and there stood an old monk, with a white beard, in a brown habit.

The old monk looked at Dona Isabella for a while and then said:

“You have come!” The lady was shocked, for she had come by sheer accident, and this monk had been expecting her. The monk directed her into a parlour where there was food and drink on a table.

Dona Isabella ate in silence and later the monk led her to a small chapel. By the side of the altar the holy monk stopped before a cabinet in the wall, pressed a bottom panel of the cabinet, and suddenly exposed a beautiful wax statue of the Infant Jesus. At this point the aged monk spoke: *“Dona Isabella, this Holy Infant Jesus is your appointed gift, and it is to become part of the dowry for your daughter Maria. Do you not see which way He is facing?—To the North and to the East. That is the way He will go with Maria after she is married to Lord Vratislav of Pernstyn. This Holy Child Jesus will bring peace and piety to that nation which is now troubled with religious wars and hardships.”* The old monk then lifted the cabinet and placed it in the arms of Dona Isabella. She was stunned as the monk led her back to the parlour. He then told her the following story.

He began, *“Until a year ago, four monks lived in the ruins of this monastery which was almost completely destroyed sixty years ago by the Muslims. At Pentecost, young Br. Joseph, went to Heaven.*

Br. Joseph of the Holy House (of Loreto), was as humble and simple as a child. He was extremely devoted to the Child Jesus and whether he was in the kitchen or in the vegetable garden, he used to talk softly as if the Child Jesus were there with him. He told the monks again and again that he had prayed and begged the Child Jesus to appear to him as the Boy He was when living with Mary and Joseph in the Holy House of Nazareth.”

The monk continued: *“One day while Br. Joseph was scrubbing the hallway, a Boy with heavenly beauty appeared: ‘How you do make the floor shine, good Brother! Can you say the Hail Mary?’*

‘Yes,’ answered Brother Joseph.

‘Say it!’ the heavenly Boy commanded.

“Brother Joseph folded his hands and humbly began the ‘Hail Mary’.

At the words, ‘and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,’ the Boy said: ‘That is I!’ and suddenly disappeared.

‘Come back to me Little Jesus, or I will die longing for You!’ But the Little Jesus was gone and Br. Joseph was broken hearted. Day after day Br. Joseph begged the Child Jesus to come back.

Then one day he heard a voice. Little Jesus said: ‘I will come back, but when I return, be prepared to make a wax image of me, just as I look.’ Br. Joseph ran to me, the Prior, and told me about the vision and the voice of the Child Jesus. He asked me for some wax, and started to make a statue as though he had always been able to do so. With a small knife, and an artist’s brush, he moulded and carved again and again the Infant Jesus as he had seen Him.

Finally the day came when surrounded by angels; the Child Jesus appeared and posed for Br. Joseph. He took up the wax and began to mould it onto a prepared frame of wood. His fingers gave the statue perfect shape. He carved the smile of the Child Jesus. He put colour to the eyes, cheeks and garments of the Child Jesus. When he had finished, Br. Joseph took a long, last look at the statue and at the Child Jesus. Then with a sigh of joy, he rested his head on his folded hands and the angels took his soul to Heaven.

(Continued on page 9)



(... Continued from page 4)

We had a funeral for the good brother and buried him. The night following the funeral Br. Joseph appeared to me saying: ‘Within the year, Dona Isabella Manriquez de Lara will come here and you will give the statue of the Child Jesus to her as a dowry for her daughter. Her daughter will take it to Prague and the statue will become known as the Infant Jesus of Prague by many places in the world. Grace, mercy and peace shall come to Prague. The people of Prague shall love the Infant of Prague and He shall be their Little King.’ The old monk had now come to the end of his story; *“Now that you have come Dona Isabella, it is not necessary for me to live much longer. Now I may sing the ‘Nunc dimittis’ of the Compline of my earthly days. You have Br. Joseph’s statue—go in peace and pray for me.”*

Dona Isabella left the holy old monk and went home. But one evening as she knelt in prayer before the Child Jesus, she desired once again to visit the old monastery from where she received the statue of the Infant Jesus. So with Lorenzo and Murgo she easily found the beautiful valley. But even with the help of the two men, they found no trace of the monastery or the monks. Dona Isabella questioned the peasants who had lived in the area all their lives, but no one had even seen or heard of such a place!

Dona Isabella returned to her castle in Cordova, Spain. In time her daughter, Maria, became old enough to marry. In 1556 the date was set for her to marry a Czechoslovakian: Lord Vratislav of Pernstyns.

On the eve of Maria’s leaving for Prague for her wedding to Lord Vratislav, she had a talk with her dear mother. *“Mother,”* she said, *“I want to enjoy this room again because it contains so much of you and your life. I am leaving for a distant land and will probably not return this time.”*

“I will not let you go Maria, without giving you a personal protector.” Dona Isabella took Maria and led her across the room. She lifted a tapestry and touched a panel hidden there. Suddenly the doors opened and showed a small statue of the Infant Jesus.

The statue of Jesus had curly blond locks of hair and His eyes were as though they were alive. He was clothed in a white tunic with lace about his wrists. A royal orb lay in the palm of his left hand, while the two fingers on his right hand were raised in blessing. Both mother and daughter dropped to their knees in silent prayer. Then Dona Isabella

December 2010

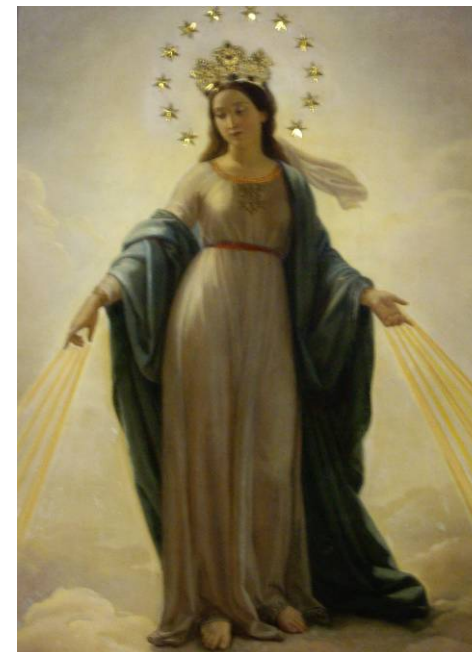
INTENTION FOR THE MONTH OF December 2010

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

**NEPOMUCENE
CARMELITES
MONASTERY
VRATISLAV
CHURCHES
BR JOSEPH
CHILDREN
ISABELLA
WEDDING
FR CYRIL**

**NOVICES
HEAVEN
GRACES
PRAGUE
ANGELS
STATUE
HANDS
BEARD
MARIA
HELP**

**MONK
JESUS
SPAIN
DOOR
LACE
PRAY
KING
WAX
GOD
BOY**



The Immaculate Conception

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 desire for heaven and the hope of life everlasting.**

September 2010 Treasure Sheets										
	Daily Off.	Mass	Sacr. Com.	Spir. Com.	Sacrif.	Dec. Ros.	Visit Bl. S.	15 Min.	Good Example	Quantity
QC	735	172	191	449	2504	3035	92	218	2231	18
ON	990	551	467	1393	2014	4918	521	360	2140	40
MB	61	11	8	20	61	61	9		37	2
SK	171	33	31	209	7173	1090	65	66	1255	8
AB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BC	325	77	36	52	517	1002	54	2	115	12
Total	2282	844	733	2123	12269	10106	741	68	5778	80

TREASURE CHART FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2010

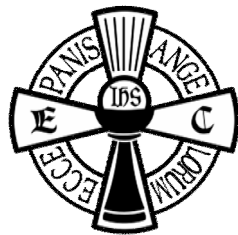
Day	Daily Offering	Mass	Sacr. Com.	Spir. Com.	Sacrifices	Decades of Rosary	Visits Bl. Sacr.	15 Minutes Silence	Good Example
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									
10									
11									
12									
13									
14									
15									
16			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

Note about sending your total to the Secretariat:

- Vancouver, BC:** give it to Mrs. Leung
- Wilmot, ON:** give it to Fr. Peter Scott
- Welwyn, SK:** give it to Mrs. Mailloux
- Winnipeg, MB:** give it to Fr. Gerard Rusak

Other locations: Preferably, e-mail the total:
EucharisticCrusadeCDN@gmail.com

Mailing address:
 Eucharistic Crusade 905 Rang St. Mathieu E, Shawinigan, QC G9N 6T5



TREASURE CHART FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2010

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

✂-----Cut here-----

December 2010

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