

Bulletin of the Eucharistic Crusade for Children in Great Britain & Ireland



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May 2023 Month of the Blessed Virgin Mary

For mothers of families

The Saint of the month

Saint Monica Widow (332-388)

A aint Monica, the mother of Saint Augustine, was born in 332 of a Christian family of the ancient city of Tagasta in northern Africa. After a girlhood of singular innocence and piety, she was given in marriage to Patricius, a pagan. She at once devoted herself to his conversion. praying for him always and winning his reverence and love by the holiness of her life and her affectionate patience. She was rewarded by seeing him baptised a year before his death.

When her son Augustine went astray in faith and habits. her prayers and tears were incessant. She once begged a learned bishop that he would talk to her son, in order to bring him to a better frame of mind, but he declined, despairing of success with a young man at once so gifted and so headstrong. At the sight of her prayers and tears, he nonetheless bade her be of good courage, for it could not happen that the child of those tears should perish.

Augustine, by going to Italy,



was able for a time to free himself from his mother's cares but he could not escape from her prayers, which encompassed him like the providence of God. She followed him to Italy: and there. bv his marvellous conversion, her sorrow was turned into joy.

At Ostia, shortly before they were to re-embark for Africa, Augustine and his mother sat at a window conversing on the life of the blessed. She turned to him and said, My son, there is nothing now I care for in this life. What I shall now do, or why I remain on this earth, I know not. The one reason I had for wishing to linger in this life a little longer was that might see you a Catholic Christian before I died. This grace God has granted me superabundantly, seeing you reject earthly happiness to become His servant. A few days afterwards she had an attack of fever and died at the age of fifty-six, in the year 388.

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Dear Crusaders and Friends,

o you pray for your Mum? And the mothers you know? There is no better time to do this than in the month of May when Our Blessed Lady, the Mother of God who nurtured Our Lord Jesus Christ to manhood, will be honoured with garlands of flowers and hymns of praise in our processions. Our Lady was perfect and unique because of the extraordinary privilege of her Immaculate Conception but she gives us a most ordinary example of her relationship with Our Lord and her duties of spouse and mother.



Mothers have a great part to play in our intellectual, moral, spiritual and physical development which prepares us to become Catholic adults with good habits able to live in the world. The most important task of a mother is to educate the children that God gives to the family - helping you to develop your talents in schoolwork, games and sports, art and music, cooking and, of course, your prayers, that will mean you can serve God to the best of your abilities in the years ahead.

It is the duty of your mother to speak about God often and to pass on the knowledge that God wants us to have for what he has revealed. A mother must also encourage a child to think of what God wants you to do. She must guide and encourage you to aim always to do what is right and good. And a mother should pray with her children to teach you that we all have a duty to speak to God and to ask Him for the graces that we need to please Him by doing His Holy Will.

That means your Mum has to correct you when you need correcting! This helps us to learn what is wrong and what is right, what displeases God and what please him, what deserves to be punished and what is worthy of reward. This vital work of mothers demands the support of fathers, who must strive to secure for your Mum all that she needs for your upbringing in a Catholic home.

Father Vianney Vandendaele + Chaplain of EC in Great Britain & Ireland

I WANT HOLY GOD - LITTLE NELLIE

By Father Bernard des Ronces



CHAPTER 4 — THE CHILD OF PRAGUE

Hastia

ellie's illness was making terrifying progress. The smell of the mucus she brought up was so unbearable that it seemed that decomposition had already begun. One day, they really thought she was going to leave for Heaven. Now, there was a small statue of the Child Jesus of Prague on a little altar in the lodge. The nurse said to Nellie: "We're going to do a novena to the Holy Child so that He'll cure you".



She showed her the statue that Nellie had taken for a doll and explained that it was an image of Our Lord when He was a child, telling her the story of Little Jesus and His love for us.

Nellie listened with

genuine enthusiasm. From that day on, she often asked to be told the story of the Child Jesus again or, to use one of her typical expressions, "the story of Holy God when He was small". She never got tired of hearing it.

At the end of the novena, Nellie felt so much better that from then on she was able to leave her bed for a few hours each day. She was very impressed by Jesus' answer to her prayers. A short time after, since the nurse had fallen ill and could not go to the lodge, Nellie called one of the big girls who was taking care of her and said: "Quick, bring me Holy God and put Him on a chair beside me. I want to ask Him to cure my mother. He cured me, you know".

The statue was brought and put on the chair, and Nellie addressed her childish prayers to it.

After a short time, she took it in her arms and hugged it close to her heart. Then, suddenly, she put it on the floor and sat down there herself, saying innocently: "Now, little Jesus, do a little dance for me". "Don't be silly!", her companion said to her. "You know He won't dance". "Yes, He will dance", answered Nellie and, taking a tin whistle, she began to blow into it with all her might.

The girl continued working and paid no attention to Nellie, who called her eagerly, shouting: "Look, look, see Him dancing!". "I can't see anything", answered the girl. "He is dancing, yes, He is dancing", Nellie said again.

The girl smiled but when she looked at her, she was surprised to see the wonderful transformation that had come over her face. Her usually pale cheeks were red, her lips were half-open and her gentle eyes were



shining and staring at the statue from which she did not remove them for an instant. She called out to her companion and another girl who had just come in at that very moment and who was taken aback by what she saw.

"More music!", the little girl was shouting. "Quick, look at Him dancing!"

And she continued blowing into her whistle as best she could.

Suddenly, she stopped short and exclaimed: "Now He's stopped dancing". And her features resumed their usual appearance.

That afternoon, Nellie was brought to the nurse who, when she noticed the little girl's unusual excitement, asked the reason for it. The girl who had been on duty told her what had just happened.

The next day, the nurse was feeling better. Once more, the Child of Prague had heard the innocent prayer of His little client who always had an extraordinary devotion towards Him.

She never passed in front of a statue or a picture of the Sacred Heart, the Blessed Virgin or good Saint Joseph with the Divine Child without stopping and speaking to them in a way that was full of charm and confidence. She asked "little Jesus" for everything she desired, with the intimate conviction that He would refuse her nothing.

One day, she came before a statue of Our Lady carrying the Child Jesus and, touching the globe He held in



His hand, she said to Him: "If you want to give me your ball, I'll give you my pink stockings".

"Oh, Nellie!", interjected the nurse, "you know well that you can't have that ball".

"He can give it to me if He wants", the child answered with calm assurance.

The little child spent about two months in the Sacred Heart infirmary. The nurse had arranged a little altar near Nellie's bed and had placed the little Child of Prague in the place of honour. The child always wanted there to be fresh flowers on it and made sure that the lamp in front of her dear statue never went out.

To be continued.

EUCHARISTIC DEVOTION

Let us Love the Most Blessed Sacrament (2)

f we do not all of us go that far, we can at least love Our Lord passionately, and allow ourselves to be dominated by His love.

Hastia

The state of the s

Well, transfer this love to Our Lord.

There are not two loves; there is only one.

Our Lord does not ask you to have two hearts, one for Him and one for those you love here below. Mothers, love our Eucharistic Lord with a mother's love. Love Him as your son. Wives, love Him as your husband. Children, love Him as your father.

There is only one faculty of love in us, although it is drawn toward diverse objects for diverse reasons. There are certain people who love madly their parents or friends but do not know how to love God. But what we do for a creature is what we must do for God; with the difference, however, that we must love the Good God beyond all measure, and love Him always more and more.

A soul that loves in that manner has only one power, one life: Our Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament. He is there!... The soul lives under the influence of that thought. He is there!... And there results an exchange of love, a fellowship of life. Ah! Why do we not actualise our love? We go back more than nineteen centuries to seek for examples of virtue in the mortal life of Our Lord. But Our Lord could say to us: "You have loved Me on Calvary because there I washed away your sing. You have loved Me in the Crib

your sins. You have loved Me in the Crib because there I was meek and lovable. Why then do you not love Me in the Blessed Sacrament where I am always with you? You have only to come. I am there, alongside of you."

Ah! Our sins are not so much what we should fear being reproached with at the Last Judgment: they are pardoned forever. But Our







Lord will reproach us our little love for Him.

"You loved Me less than creatures. You did not seek the happiness of your life in Me. You loved Me enough not to offend Me mortally, but not enough to live of Me! "

But we may say: "Are we then obliged to love to that extent?"

I am fully aware that there is no written precept to love that much; there is no need for one. Nothing commands it, but everything proclaims it; that law of love is written in our hearts.

Yes, what frightens me is the fact that Catholics will gladly and seriously think of all other mysteries and be devoted to some Saint; but they will do nothing for Our Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

But why this state of things? Because we cannot consider the Most Blessed Sacrament attentively without concluding: "I must love Him, and come to visit Him. I must not leave Him alone; He loves me too much!"

In the case of other mysteries, everything is far away; it is past history and does not so easily get a hold on the heart; we do little besides admiring them. But with the Eucharist, we must give ourselves; we must abide and live in Our Lord!

The Eucharist is the noblest aspiration of our heart. Let us therefore love it passionately! Some say: "But all this is exaggeration!"

Love is nothing but exaggeration; to exaggerate is to go beyond the strict requirements of the law.

Love must exaggerate.

Is not the love Our Lord shows us by remaining with us without honour and without servants an exaggerated love?

He does not love who intends limiting himself to his strict duties We love only when we feel the passion of love within us.

If you love the Eucharist passionately, you will habitually have our sacramental Lord in mind; you will find your happiness at His feet; and you will be constantly seeking His good pleasure.

Come! Let us be all taken up with Our Lord! Let us love Him a little for His own sake. Let us forget ourselves and give ourselves to this good Saviour! Let us sacrifice ourselves a bit! Look at the candles and the sanctuary lamp, which burn without leaving any trace, without reserving anything for themselves.

Why should we not be for Our Lord's sake a holocaust of which nothing would be left?

No! Let us live our own life no longer; let Jesus Hostia alone live in us! He loves us so much!



THE SACRAMENTS



THE SPECIAL PRIESTLY VESTMENTS SHOW THE POWER AND DUTY OF THE PRIEST.



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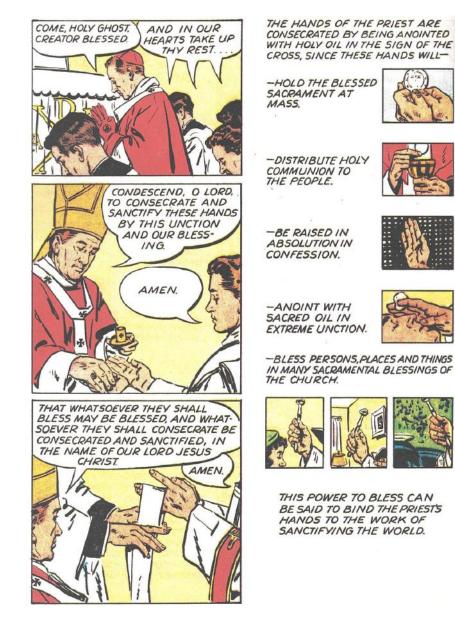
THE STOLE STANDS FOR THE OFFICE OF THE PRIESTHOOD-THE POWER AND DUTY OF ADMIN-ISTERING THE SACRAMENTS.

THE CHASUBLE

STANDS FOR THE CROSS THAT THE PRIEST MUST CARRY AFTER CHRIST-THE LOVE OF GOD AND MEN HE MUST SHOW IN HIS WORK.



ALTHOUGH ALL THE POWERS OF THE PRIESTHOOD WERE GIVEN WHEN THE BISHOP IMPOSED HANDS ON THE YOUNG PRIESTS, THE CEREMONY OF ORDINATION INDICATES THESE POWERS ONE BY ONE. HENCE THE STOLE IS WORN FIRST OVER ONE SHOUL-DER AND THE CHASUBLE IS FOLDED TO SHOW THAT ALL THE PRIEST'S POWERS HAVE NOT YET BEEN UNFOLDED.



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THE OLD TESTAMENT

The Prophet Isaiah (Part II)

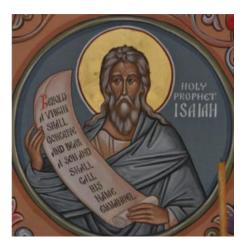


study of the prophesies of Isaiah in the light of the Gospels reveals a remarkable and accurate fulfilment in many cases to the letter. Our Lord Jesus often reminded His listeners that he had come to fulfil what the inspired words of the prophets had said about Him. This table will look very studious but it is an important argument to prove that He is the Messiah announced by the Prophets.

The PROPHECIES about the Messiah	THE FULFILLMENTS by Our Lord Jesus Christ			
Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel.	Born of a Davidic virgin named Mary.			
At the first time the land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephtali was lightly touched: and at the last the way of the sea beyond the Jordan of the Galilee of the Gentiles was heavily loaded. The people that walked in darkness, have seen a great light:	Ministry began in Galilee of the Gentiles.			
He shall sit upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom; And there shall come forth a rod out of the root of Jesse, and a flower shall rise up out of his root.	Received the throne of His father David.			
The voice of one crying in the desert: Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the wilder- ness the paths of our God.	John the Baptist is the prophetic voice who an- nounced His coming.			
I have given my body to the strikers, and my cheeks to them that plucked them: I have not turned away my face from them that rebuked me, and spit upon me.	Spat on and beaten.			
Behold my servant shall understand, he shall be exalted, and extolled, and shall be exceeding high.	Highly exalted by God and the people.			
His visage shall be inglorious among men. There is no beauty in him, nor comeliness: and we have seen him, and there was no sightliness, that we should be desirous of him.	Scourged by Roman soldiers; received a crown of thorns.			
Despised, and the most abject of men, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with infirmity.	Not accepted by many.			
But he was wounded for our iniquities; he was bruised for our sins: the chastisement of our peace was upon him, and by his bruises we are healed.	Died for our sins.			



And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him: the spirit of wisdom, and of understanding, the spirit of counsel, and of fortitude, the spirit of knowledge, and of godliness.	The Spirit of God descended on Him.
In that day the root of Jesse, who standeth for an ensign of the people, him the Gentiles shall be- seech, and his sepulchre shall be glorious.	Gentiles came to find Jesus.
Will voluntarily accept our guilt and punishment for sin without opening His mouth like a lamb led to slaughter.	Jesus silently took on our sins.
The Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. For the wickedness of my people have I struck him.	Died in our place.
He hath delivered his soul unto death, and was reputed with the wicked: and he hath borne the sins of many,	Took away our sins to bring salvation for all who believe.
And hath prayed for the transgressors.	Numbered with the transgressors.
Thy dead men shall live, my slain shall rise again: And in that day the deaf shall hear the words of the book, and out of darkness and obscurity the eyes of the blind shall see. He hath sent me to heal the contrite of heart, and to preach a release to the captives, and deliverance to them that are shut up.	Healed the blind, lame, deaf, diseased, broken- hearted, and raised the dead.
And he shall give the ungodly for his burial, and the rich for his death:	Buried in the tomb of a rich man from Arimathea.
But he shall judge the poor with justice, and shall reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked. And justice shall be the girdle of his loins: and faith the girdle of his reins.	Received authority to judge.

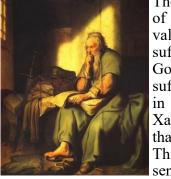


THE VIRTUE OF PATIENCE

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EXAMPLES OF PATIENCE The Patience of the Saints

To the grace of patience all the saints in great measure owe their eternal reward. Their crown in Heaven will not be due so much to what they have done for God as to what they have suffered for Him. In them 'patience has its perfect work (James 1:4), and that work has been to prepare them for the eternal joys of Heaven. Oh, how grateful they will be to God for the patience that he has given them to suffer willingly for Him! How grateful they will be for the sufferings that have procured for them such happiness inexpressible and peace that knows no end.



The saints while still on earth have a truer view of all the events of life than we have. They value above all things, even while they are still suffering them, the crosses and afflictions that God sends them. The Apostles counted it joy to suffer shame for Christ's sake. 'We glory in tribulation, says Saint Paul. Saint Francis Xavier prayed for more suffering; Saint Teresa that she might go on suffering until her death. This was no mere sentiment, it was common sense and ordinary prudence. They found a real

joy even here in suffering. Have I any such joy? or do I dislike and try to avoid suffering? Here is a test of whether I am like the saints.

The patience of the saints was more severely tried than is ours. Not only were they stoned, racked, torn asunder, not only did they suffer want, distress, afflictions (Hebrews 11:37), but they had to endure what was still harder, ingratitude, failure, unkindness, false accusations, desolation, darkness. Yet they willingly endured all for Jesus' sake, never ceasing to love Him through it all. I have my trials, yet none so dreadful as those, yet I complain even under my lighter cross.



Hostia

HOLY SOULS CORNER

May 2023

The souls in Purgatory receive great consolation from the Blessed Virgin. In the Revelations of Saint Bridget, the Queen of Heaven gives Herself the beautiful name of Mother of the Souls in Purgatory. "I am," she said to that saint, "the Mother of all those who are in the place of expiation; my prayers mitigate the chastisement which are inflicted upon them for their faults."

Mary, Mother of Mercy

On 25th October 1604, in the College of the Society of Jesus at Coimbra, Father Jerome Carvalho died in the odour of sanctity, at the age of fifty years. This admirable and humble servant of God felt a lively apprehension of the sufferings of Purgatory. Neither the cruel macerations which he inflicted upon himself several times every day, not counting those prompted each week by the remembrance of the Passion, nor the six hours which he devoted morning and evening to the meditation of holy subjects, seemed sufficient, in his estimation, to shield him from the chastisement which he imagined awaited him after death. But one day the Queen of Heaven, to whom he had a tender devotion, condescended Herself to console Her servant by the simple assurance that She was a Mother of Mercy to Her dear children in Purgatory as well as to those upon earth. Seeking, later, to spread this consoling doctrine, the holy man accidentally let fall, in the ardour of his discourse, these words; "She told me this Herself."

It is related that a great servant of Mary, Blessed Renier of Citeaux, trembled at the thought of his sins and the terrible Justice of God after death. In his fear, addressing himself to his great Protectress, who calls Herself Mother of Mercy he was rapt in spirit, and saw the Mother of God supplicating Her Son in his favour. "My Son," She said, "deal mercifully with this man in Purgatory, because he humbly repents of his sins." "My Mother," replied Jesus, "I place his cause in Your hands," which meant to say, be it done to your client according to your desire. Blessed Renier understood with unutterable joy that Mary had obtained his exemption from Purgatory.

It is especially on certain days that the Queen of Heaven exercises Her mercy in Purgatory. These privileged days are, first all Saturdays, then the different feast days of the Blessed Virgin, which thus become as festivals in Purgatory. We see in the revelations of the saints that on Saturday, the day specially consecrated to the Blessed Virgin, the sweet Mother of Mercy descends into the dungeons of Purgatory to visit and console Her devout servants. Then, according to the pious belief of the faithful, She delivers those souls who, having worn this holy scapular, enjoy the Sabbatine privilege, and afterwards gives relief and consolation to other souls who had been particularly devoted to Her. A witness to this was the Venerable Sister Paula of Saint Teresa, a Dominican Religious of the Convent of Saint Catherine in Naples. Being rapt in ecstasy one Saturday, and transported in spirit into Purgatory, she was quite surprised to find it transformed into a Paradise of delights, illuminated by a bright light, instead of the usual darkness. While wondering at the change, she perceived the Queen of Heaven surrounded by a multitude of angels, to whom She gave orders to liberate those souls who had honoured Her in a special manner, and conduct them to Heaven.





Chapter 76. Death

Respect for the dead requires that cemeteries be properly kept. We should remember that the bodies of the buried will one day rise again to join immortal souls and live forever with God. Respect for the dead would also advise give up the recent fad of dolling up corpses, painting their faces to make them seem alive, as if they were prepared for some flighty show.

How should we prepare for death? We should prepare for death by leading a good life, avoiding sin, and doing good.

1. We must keep in God's grace and love, so that when the Angel of Death comes, we may *welcome him* as one who takes us home to see the face of our loving Father. The good do not fear death.

Let us die with joy, saying to God, as Holy Simeon did: "Now thou dost dismiss thy servant, O Lord, according to thy word, in peace" (Luke 2:29). Let us imitate Saint Paul, who says, "I have fought the good fight. I have finished the course, I have kept the faith. For the rest, there is laid up for me a crown of justice, which the Lord, the just Judge, will give to me in that day" (2 Timothy 4:7-8).

Saint Augustine exclaims: "O how sweet it is to die, if one's life has been a good one!" For such as he, "to die is gain". To the just man death is only a passing into a better life. It is a journey to his everlasting home, where his heavenly Father dwells. Death is to be feared only by the sinner, for it is the end of his earthly pleasures, and the beginning of his eternal punishment.

2. As a man lives, so he dies. Holy Scripture says: "As the tree falls, so shall it lie" (Ecclesiasticus 11:3). We should often recall the thought of death and eternity so that we may avoid sin. "In all thy works remember thy last end, and thou shalt never sin" (Ecclesiasticus 7:40). Those who put off reforming their lives in the hope of a death-bed repentance are like a traveler who starts packing when the train whistles for departure.

Let us picture the death of a just man, one who all his life has done good and avoided evil. He has often seen people taken away suddenly, when they least expected it, and made up his mind to be always ready to die and face his Judge. He has hoped he would, at the end of his life, die with the Last Sacraments, a priest, and his family by his side. But his obligations have taken him into the wilderness; there he is dying, with only the guide at his side. But he is at peace, and a smile is on his lips, for he is ready to die: being always in the state of grace, he is ready to meet his Judge anywhere, any time. He knows the Judge will smile, too, and welcome him as a good son, a friend.



3. We should also have our *temporal affairs* in order when we die. This is why adults should make a *will* in order that no confusion may arise over their property after their death. A sudden death is not to be desired, for then we may not be able to put in order our spiritual and temporal affairs.

This is why in the Litanies we pray: "From a sudden and unprovided death, deliver us, O Lord!"

Hostia

LITURGY THIS MONTH

The month of May

is dedicated to the devotion to

the Blessed Virgin Mary



Here are a few good practices to do in honour of Our blessed Mother:

- Ask Mary to be present with you during the day to drive away the evil spirits;
- Perform some act of kindness with inconvenience to yourself;
- Shun idleness during the day in imitation of Mary at Nazareth.

May 1st: Feast of St. Joseph the Worker

St. Joseph could have thought that, as foster father of the Son of God, he would have an easy life. He had to work, to be an example to us that we all have to work in the sweat of our brow to gain our daily natural bread and to save our soul.

May 7th: 4th Sunday after Easter

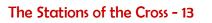
Our Lord promises us the Holy Ghost, who will come at Pentecost, after Our Lord is gone to the right hand of the Father. Then everything will become clear to the Apostles.

May 16th: Ascension

Our Lord continues to teach and guide His Apostles during 40 days before ascending into Heaven. It is the feast of Hope, the Hope of Heaven!

May 28th: PENTECOST

By the grace of God, the Holy Ghost lives in us, we are the Temples of the Holy Ghost. Let us ask of Him the light and strength we need to fulfil our mission.





Jesus is taken down from the Cross





The Crusader prays, receives Communion, makes sacrifices and shows good example for the intention that is given him each month by Reverend Father Davide Pagliarani, successor of Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre as Superior General of the Society of Saint Pius X

May 2023 Intention: For mothers of families

Daily offering



COMMUNION



PRAYER

To be recited every morning when you wake up 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 mothers of families



FEBRUARY 2023 RESULTS

The Intention was for seminarians all over the world

		Morning		Communions			Decades	Visits to	15 mins	Good
		Offering		Sac.	Spirit.	Sacrifices	of the Rosary	Blessed Sacrament	of medita- tion	Example
GB	10	268	89	81	192	242	1570	137	8	118
eland	10	278	40	40	520	784	1337	20	89	510

Ire

Remember that all the good works and prayers from your treasure sheets are given each month to Father Pagliarani and so that he may be able to offer them at his Mass on the first Saturday of every month.

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