

FATHER FRASER'S CHINA MISSION FUND

There are four hundred million pagans in China. If they were to pass in review at the rate of a thousand a minute, it would take nine months for them all to go by. Thirty-three thousand of them die daily unbaptized! Missionaries are urgently needed to go to their rescue.

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"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE"

PRESENTED BY DRAMATIC SOCIETY OF DE LA SALLE HIGH SCHOOL

Under the capable direction of the Christian Brothers the students of De La Salle have frequently delighted large audiences in Massey Hall with entertainments of real merit. On Friday evening, Jan. 13th, their Dramatic Society presented "The Merchant of Venice" to an audience that filled the great Hall. Mr. E. R. Parkhurst the dramatic critic of the Globe published this appreciation:

"A very large audience attended the presentation of 'The Merchant of Venice' last night at Massey Hall by talented members of the De La Salle Dramatic Society. The performance was followed with interest throughout, and there were many enthusiastic demonstrations of approval in recognition of the merit of the leading features of the production. The representation reflected great credit upon the direction of Rev. Brother Gabriel, the instructor in dramatic interpretation of the Institute, and gave a satisfying illustration of the excellent results that can be obtained by talented amateurs under skilled coaching."

Malone; Tubal, John McGarry; Balthazar, Kenneth Blackburn; Clerk of Court, John Middleweek. Each of the roles were represented most creditably and in a way that suggested patient rehearsal. The stage setting for the early acts was very attractive, and elicited much applause when the curtain first went up. The De La Salle orchestra, under the direction of Frank Miceili, played in good style the entr'acte and incidental music, and to add to the attractions of the evening, Mr. Paul Hahn contributed a solo on the violin, with his well-known distinction of tone and style, and Miss Josephine Graber was heard to advantage on the harp. The success of last night's venture will no doubt encourage the De La Salle Dramatic Society to present other standard plays in the near future.

OBITUARY

MRS. MARGARET CONNOLLY.

After an illness of several weeks, following an attack of pneumonia, Margaret Burke, widow of the late Michael Connolly, Logan, passed to her reward on Saturday evening, January 7, aged seventy-nine years. Deceased was born in the county of Mayo, Ireland, and came to Canada when quite young. After her marriage she and her husband came to Logan township when it was almost an unbroken forest and took up land. Mr. Connolly died six years ago. She was a devoted member of St. Brigid's Roman Catholic Church and received the last rites of the Church from her pastor Rev. Father Kelly. Mrs. Connolly had been a resident of the township for some fifty-five years and had seen the forest converted into beautiful farms with fine buildings, among them being her own, which was one of the finest and most comfortable homes. During her latter years she had the constant attention of her daughter Miss Margaret E. Connolly, while her son Peter looked after the business of the home. As a neighbor there was no better, as she was always willing and ready to help in sickness and trouble. A loving, kind and affectionate mother, always looking after the welfare of her family. She was the last but one of her family, one sister in Buffalo is the only living member, being known as Sister Joachim in a Buffalo convent. A family of two daughters, Mrs. Patrick McLaughlin of Dublin and Miss Margaret at home, six sons, John J., Michael T., Martin, William, Joseph and Peter, all of Logan, survive. To them the sympathy of all goes out in their loss and sorrow. The funeral was held on Tuesday, leaving her late home at 9.45 a. m. for St. Brigid's Church where Solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Kelly, assisted by Father Hussey of Kinkora and McArdle of Dublin with Father White of St. Columban in the Sanctuary. Interment took place in St. Vincent de Paul Cemetery, Mitchell.

MRS. THOMAS GALLAGHER, SR.

Death came as a happy release to the late Mrs. Thomas Gallagher, Sr., of Bromley, in the early hours of Wednesday, January 11th. The deceased lady, who had reached the ripe age of ninety-six years, had enjoyed perfect health up to last May when she received a paralytic stroke. Since that time she was confined to her bed and absolutely helpless. Being tenderly nursed by her daughter-in-law she bore her long sufferings with Christian patience and waited with resignation for the final call. The late Mrs. Thomas Gallagher, nee Elizabeth McCourt, was born in Co. Fermanagh, Ireland, in 1826 and emigrated with her husband to the United States in early life. After a few years sojourn in Rochester she, her husband and small family moved to Canada and settled in Bromley where the remaining sixty-three years of her life were spent. Her husband predeceased her forty-seven years ago. Throughout her long career Mrs. Gallagher was remarkable for her lively faith, great charity and unbounded trust in God amidst the many difficulties and hardships of life. She was noted for her fidelity in attending all church duties, for no matter how inclement the weather she was never absent from her usual place in church on Sundays and holidays and on the eves of First Fridays she was known to have walked to the distant town in order to be able to attend, on the next day, the First Friday devotion and this when over eighty years of age. Her charity and kindness were great, for her foremost thought was to be able to be of service to some one. Her devotion to the Rosary was admirable. She has thus left to her children a lasting example of that good, old genuine Irish faith and piety.

She leaves to mourn her loss one son, Thomas of Bromley and six daughters, viz., Mrs. P. Conway of Cobalt, Mrs. P. Mangin, of Admaston, Mrs. P. Dooling, Mrs. M. Neville, Mrs. W. J. Neville and Mrs. W. English all of Douglas, Mrs. James Agnew, who died some years ago was also a daughter. Besides there remain forty-one grandchildren and twenty-six great-grandchildren. Rev. Bro. Urban of Aurora and Rev. Sisters Benilda and Edna of

Fort William convent are grandchildren of the deceased.

The funeral was held on Friday, Jan. 13th, and was largely attended. The Rev. Sisters of St. Joseph's Convent and the pupils of the Separate school assisted in a body. After the funeral Mass the Rev. Father Quilty, P. P., dwelt for a short time on the lively faith, great hope and sincere charity of the dear deceased and stated that by the faithful practise of these virtues she rendered her life cheerful and happy here below and every day prepared herself for the great beyond.

The pall-bearers were her six sons-in-law, Mr. P. Conway, Mr. M. Neville, Mr. P. Mangin, Mr. P. Dooling, Mr. W. J. Neville and Mr. W. English. May we hope that God in His infinite mercy, has already admitted the dear departed into the realms of eternal bliss.

SAINT BLASE

Centuries have come and gone since Saint Blase ruled the ancient see of Sebaste in Armenia. In their passage there has been ample time to forget him. His deeds, as saint's deeds go, were not extraordinary. Many of whom more is known are a mere record in the Martyrology. The known facts of his life are few. He was a man of eminent virtue and Bishop of Sebaste. Early in the fourth century he won after much torture his crown by the sword. His fame as intercessor spread beyond the restricted limits of his episcopal city and the faithful have accorded him universal and continued honor.

As an intercessor he is a specialist. There is a tradition before becoming Bishop he was a physician. As Bishop he was credited with the power to heal bodily ills. While he was in prison, a boy who was in danger of choking to death from a bone in his throat was brought to him. He relieved the afflicted youth.

It may be that this incident is the foundation of the widespread devotion which is accorded him as the patron of those afflicted with throat trouble. In fact he has been found an able and successful intercessor in such affliction. It is in this peculiar power of his as an intercessor before the throne of grace that our annual custom of blessing throats on his feast strikes its origin. It is an ancient custom and a popular one. The large numbers who avail themselves of the blessing, testify to its popularity. That popularity is founded not on sentiment but on faith. The seeking of the blessing is an act of faith in saintly intercession and in the divine benevolence which operates in answer to saintly pleading.

The annual devotion is a pious and beautiful custom, an act of faith that our brethren who have entered into happiness, are still united to us by the bonds of faith and friendship and are still interested in us. It is only one among many pious and beautiful customs which have been handed down among the faithful and should be kept up. They may be simple, but they are founded on faith and they help to keep our faith warm and ardent. The faithful should practice them and they should train their children in fidelity to them. They are too beautiful and too profitable to be allowed to die out.—Catholic Transcript.

The devotion to Mary, which has always been such a beautiful feature of Catholic life, finds all the justification it requires in the inspired words of Mary herself: "Behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed, because He that is mighty hath done great things to me." She was to be called blessed because Almighty God had done great things to her, had made her worthy to be the Mother of His Son.—Blanche Mary Kelly.

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DIED

CONNOLLY.—In Logan, on January 7th, 1922, Margaret Burke, relict of the late Michael Connolly, Sr., in her seventy-ninth years. May her soul rest in peace.

HEAPHY.—At Dunraven, Que., on Saturday, January 14th, 1922, Thomas Heaphy at the age of seventy-eight years. Requiescat in pace.

HEENAN.—At Campbellford, Ont., on Jan. 10th, 1922, Mrs. Catharine Heenan, in her seventy-eighth year. Of a family of fifteen eleven survive. May her soul rest in peace.

CARD OF THANKS

The family of the late Mrs. Thos. Gallagher wish to express their sincere thanks to all their kind friends and neighbors for their kindness and sympathy in their recent bereavement.

Notwithstanding the much talked of depression in trade the Salada Tea Company had an increase in 1921 of two million and one third, making their total output over eleven million five hundred and ninety-six thousand pounds. If these packets were all placed in line, end touching end, they would stretch for two thousand one hundred and ninety-six miles.

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