

found among those who signed this testimonial. This incident found among the records of the Bollandists was inserted in a little work entitled "The Month of St. Joseph," published in Rome, 1810. This work was publicly read during the month of March 1842 in the Church of St. Nicolas, Verona, and was the means of spreading the knowledge of the above fact. Its recital produced a marked effect upon the inhabitants of that place; sick persons confident in the power of St. Joseph had cords blessed in his honor; graces numerous and extraordinary were obtained, and marvellous cures were repeatedly worked. This singular devotion spread rapidly, thousands of cords were sent from this city to France, Belgium, Germany, to all parts of Italy and even to America and Asia.

The Cord not only possesses the virtue of curing bodily diseases, but it has a special charm against the aggressions of the impure spirit. The Bishop of Verona seeing the vast progress that this devotion was making deemed it necessary to demand its ratification at Rome; after a mature deliberation the Holy Congregation at Rome gave its consent and approved of the prayers attached to the Benediction of the Cord. The Association of the Cord of St. Joseph was then declared *Primaria* and His Holiness Pius IX endowed it with several extraordinary indulgences.

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