I'm doing it this time because my

for Paul, and informed him what the return journey is lost by his

"I want no fuss over this matter," he said; "there are some things I guess we cannot know in this world, but I have a feeling that I should become a Catholic. Only one thing holds me back: was it my prayer or yours that turned the trick? If it was mine, what is the explanation since I am not already a Catholic?"

"It is not for me to say, sir," answered Paul. "If your conscience dictates you should become a Catholic I suppose you will do so. One

olic I suppose you will do so. One thing I believe and that is, that when you prayed, you belonged to the soul of the Church and that your attitude was merely preliminary to your actual joining of the Church. The logic of the situation should appeal to you, just as it did to converts like Cardinals Manning and Newman. May I suggest you speak with Father Nolan about the

Fortescue paused. "I asked and I received, didn't I?" he kept saying to himself. Then he turned abruptly to Paul. "Make arrangements with Father Nolan to intruct me in the Catholic religion. If I know an apple tree by its apples and a corn stalk by its

#### ST. JOSEPH

PATRON OF THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY

Few devotions in the Church today have become so universal or have appealed so forcibly to the hearts of Christian people and particularly the laboring class as that to St. Joseph, the patron of the Universal Church and the patron of the Christian family, which has been urged so eloquently by the late Pope

This devotion, because of the conditions in the world which make it so necessary, has every mark of being providential. In every age the Church has raised up particular men and women whose lives have men and women whose lives have furnished the inspiration needed to combat particular problems and evils. In the deeds of the saints she has an inexhaustible treasury from which she may draw whatever gems are most needed to stimulate Christian virtues and to furnish noble example. And today, when the forces of evil have turned their weapons directly at the sanctity of family life, when divorce is rampant, when unholv alliances are too often a matter of jest and witticism and the ties of marriage and family union, it is to St. Joseph, the humble carpenter of Nazareth and the guardian of the Halvard and the guardian of the Halvard and the stroyed for if when false prophets have arisen who would destroy practically all the guardian of the Holy Family,

that she bids us turn.

Although devotion to St. Joseph has a very early foundation, it was not until comparatively recently, particularly in the nineteenth particularly in the nineteenth century, that it attained such great prominence in the Church. The early canonized saints were for the early canonized saints were for the most part martyrs, for it was fitting in those early ages, when the trials of steadfastness to faith usually took the form of physical tortures, that inspiration should be furnished by those who had successfully faced the fire and sword. It was not until the fifteenth century that the feast of St. Joseph was introduced into the Roman calendar to duced into the Roman calendar to

duced into the Roman calendar to be celebrated March 19. Benedict XIII. in 1726 inserted the name St. Joseph in the Litany of the Saints.

Pope Pius IX. displayed great devotion to St. Joseph, and in 1870 solemnly declared the Patriarch Joseph the patron of the Universal Church and enjoined his feast to be celebrated as a double of the first celebrated as a double of the first

Little is known of the life of St.

Joseph. There is no doubt that he was of royal blood, a descendant of David, and it is believed that he was born in Bethlehem, the city of A few months before the contained in the present declaration.

thought of Joseph toiling away at his carpenter's craft while the gentle I'm doing it this time because my conscience approves it. Only the Lord knows why it was you and not someone else I happened to think of," and Jennings turned to his desk, utterly unconscious of the fact that he spoke more meaningful than he knew.

Back at his office Fortescue sent the feast of the Passover and on the product of the p parents.

that which is portrayed in Rome, where to the north, and west of St. Peter's, there stands a church that is dedicated as the Church of all Nations. Over one of its altars in a side chapel hangs a fresco done you to love Him more and more and by a modern artist. Here we see St. Joseph dying. Over the picture there is cast a mystic light, radiating from the prostrate figure of St. Joseph on his death bed, from the mourning wife, the Mother of God, from his sorrowing foster-son Christ Our Lord. It is the ideal death of the father, the head of the family. He had cared for the Blessed Virgin when Christ had been conceived in her womb, he had watched over her on the journey by its apples and a corn stalk by its corn I certainly know the true Church by its members." village when Christ was born, he had snatched the Child from the fate of all male children ordered to be slain by Herod, he had guarded them in the flight to Egypt and cared for them during their exile, and he had made their home for them in Nazareth. And when he came to die it was in that humble

home, in the presence of those for whom he had spent his life. That home stands today as the example of the Christian home of all time. We call Joseph, the carpenter of Nazareth, St. Joseph, because the Holy Ghost called him a "just man." His justice and sanctity increased at Bethlehem, in Egypt and at Nazareth. It grew because he fulfilled his duties as the head of the family in the way God has ordained. It grew because he lived his life with the Immaculate Virgin, the Mother of God, and with Christ, the Son of God.

St. Joseph is the patron of the Christian family because he protected the Holy Family. His example has heen a source of strength and courage in the past to countless families throughtout the Christian world. And now when the family is openly attacked and in subtle fashion undermined, the head of the Universal Church bids us consider once more St. Joseph, the patron, at the same time, of the Universal Church and the Christian sanctity of the family be not destroyed, for if our homes are ruined our hopes are blasted. Our late Pope Benedict would have us rally to the standard of the home, and to the notices of the home, and to the patron of the home, so that the hope of a rebirth of Christian civilization may come to pass.—The Sentinel of the Blessed Sacrament.

#### KEEP CENTENNIAL OF MIRACLE OF ALTAR

On Septuagesima Sunday the Sisters of the Holy Family at Bordeaux, France, celebrated the centennial of a miracle with which their society was favored shortly

their society was favored shortly after its foundation.

The Congregation of the Holy Family, was founded in 1820, by Abbe Noailles, a native of Bordeaux. On February 3, 1822, in a small room which had been converted into a chapel, Christ appeared in the place of the Host during the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

The miracle was certified by four

The miracle was certified by four-teen persons. The following is the testimony of Abbe Noailles him-

For tescue hesitated. He was not the kind of man to give in easily, for he was touched deeper than he realized and hated to think Paul's plan may have had anything to do with success with the loan. The old Fortescue had come to the top again.

He turned to Jennings.

"I'm grateful." he said, "but answer me one thing: how did you come to think of my case again? You were pretty positive when you first turned me down that your decision was final."

"I' cannot answer that," said Jennings, "because I do not know. We rarely reverse ourselves, but

myself still more in the presence of the Lord, and I shed tears of joy, gratitude and confusion. The gratitude and confusion. The miracle remained during the whole hymn of the Blessed Sacrament, during the Domine Salvum fac, the prayers, the canticle; and when the canticle had been sung, I went up to the altar, I do not know how (for it seems to me at this moment that I should never have the courage to do so), I took the monstrance in my hands and gave the Benediction, still contemplat-ing our Divine Saviour whom I held in my hands. I placed the monstrance again on the altar, but when I opened it I found only the Sacred Species. Trembling and still shedding tears, I went out. Hardly had I left the chapel when all the people of the house sur-rounded me, asking me whether I had seen the marvel which had struck them. I could only tell them

Following a minute investigation.

#### CONVERSION OF INDIA

Calcutta.—Trichinapoly, to which belongs the credit of having originated the idea of Marian Congress, has again come to the front with a suggestion that promises to prove of great interest to all the Catholics

The proposal is made by the Assumption Sodality that a federation for the conversion of India be formed as a worthy memorial of the Marian Congress.—Its work will be to recruit and support native Indian missionaries, to support and prepare lay helpers who would cooperate with the clergy, to aid the work of the International Catholic Truth Society and to support catechumens.

Already it has been suggested that the month of Mary be set aside for the inauguration of the Congress, this year being regarded as very auspicious in consideration of

placed at the disposal of the society a substantial sum to meet the preliminary expenditures.

Meanwhile, although Christianity is being cried down in certain quarters as denationalizing the Indian character, one need not be hopeless. character, one need not be honeless of its future, as even high-caste Indians are being attracted to it more than ever. In Bengal and Madras, in Malabar and Mangalore Brahmins and caste Hindus are embracing the cross in spite of the worldly loss that such a step entails.

The latest batch of Brahmin converts is reported from Mysore where the Rev. J. B. Servantor of Bangalore received into the Church hangalore received into the church three Andra Brahmins. The bap-tismal ceremony, at St. Francis' Xavier's Church, was attended by a large number of Brahmins and other Hindus.

Recognition of the services rendered to the Indian public by Catholic missionaries through their education and philanthropic institutions is frequently being given by governmental authorities. Every year, on the British Day honor list, year, on the British Day honor list, there occur the names of nuns and missionaries on whom the government bestows the "Kaisar-i-Hind" medal for self-sacrificial zeal and works of charity. Last year a Belgian nun who had spent the greater part of her life in Bengal for the uplifting of the Indian com-

David, and it is believed that he was born in Bethlehem, the city of David. A few months before the annunciation we find him settled at Nazareth.

Joseph was truly the head of the Holy Family, the strong arm that protected Jesus and Mary in time of danger, the support of the humble home of Nazareth. As such he received the Divine manifestations warning him of perlist that beset them, and Mary, recognizing his position, obeyed him and followed his guidance. When Herod sent word that all the children in Bethlehem up to the age of two years were to be slain, Joseph arose in the night and taking the Child and His Mother fled into Egypt. There they remained several years, munity was honored.

were delighted with the enterprise of the scouts and distributed to them the badges they had earned.

## THE CATHOLIC PRESS

BISHOP TURNER MAKES ENLIGHTENING PLEA

Out of approximately 4,000,000 Catholic families in the United States, there are 3,000,000 that do not regularly receive a Catholic weekly paper, according to the statement of the Right Rev. William Turner, Bishop of Buffalo, in a letter sent to the priests of the Buffalo diocese, in which he pleads for their active support of Catholic press month.
"It is an acknowledged fact,"
"It is an acknowledged fact,"

declares Bishop Turner, "that our Catholic people do not generally support our religious publications as they should. You know by your own a wonderful favor which He has granted you in order to remind you that He is really with you to solve the process of families who are also mothers of families who are also the process of the process of families who are also that the solve the process of families who are also that the solve the process of families who are also that the solve the process of families who are also that the solve the process of families who are also that the solve the process of families who are also that the solve the process of th granted you in order to remind you that He is really with you, to lead you to love Him more and more and to practice always the virtues which have won for you so great a grace." the blame for the conditions which Msgr. d'Aviau du Bois de Sanzay, Archbishop of Bordeaux, recognized the reality of the miracle. He ordered that the memory thereof be perpetuated by a ceremony to be celebrated each year, on Septuagesima Sunday, in the chapels of the Congregation of the Holy Family we deplore, any one may say in all crimes of sexual passion, is, to say the least, not suited to the immature minds of young and adolescent chil-

dren. "Indeed, it is no exaggeration to say that much of the reading matter that is so freely admitted into our homes is fraught with more danger to the soul of the child than the most virulent diseases are with danger to its physical health. Modern science and efficient public control teach us to guard the bodies of children from sickness and danger of death. The conscience of Christian parents should teach them to be equally vigilant when there is danger of the death of the soul of the child. No restraint is difficult and the direct exclusion of all suggestive matter from the resch of the inquisitive child is practically impossible. A corrective, if not a substitute, is found in our Catholic weekly papers, in which nothing

ever appears but what is healthy, wholesome and edifying. "And let us not evade our duty by saying that such reading matter the tercentenary of the canonization of St. Francis Xavier on March 12 and the centenary of the Society of the Propagation of the Faith on May 3. Indicative of the interest taken in the project is the fact that a wealthy European has already larged at the diameter of the child who finds delight in what taste throughout life will be to seek

"Now the Catholic weekly paper not only furnishes news of Catholic interest, but it also explains, through the writings of qualified exponents, the teachings, the history, the institutions, the discipline and the practice of the Catholic Church.

"It describes criticizes and places

"It describes, criticizes and places an estimate on books, plays, music, magazine articles, and, in general, on the output of the press and the publishing houses, the amusements the pastimes, the customs and styles the pastimes, the customs and styles of the day. Week after week its comments on these topics, when thoughtfully read and considered, keep the Catholic man or woman up-to-date in matters of public interest and furnish the weapons of controversy when controversy is thrust upon one, and even for him who abhors controversy they furnish the material for intelligent

furnish the material for intelligent and accurate answers to the queries of non-Catholics.

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