

apparently evil life, and without giving any signs of repentance, we should not on that account give up hope and desist from praying for them. God's mercy is infinite, and a single second suffices for divine grace to touch a soul and fill it with contrition. Never despair therefore of the salvation of any souls no matter how gloomy appearances may have been. Always hope for the best and pray for them. Many facts might be related for the consolation of those who are tempted to despair of the salvation of any soul. One of the most interesting and remarkable relates to a revelation made to a holy soul regarding the eternal salvation of the mother of a priest known as "Father Hermann." As a devoted son he had prayed and supplicated God for the conversion of his mother who was a Jewess. All in vain apparently. The poor woman refused in the most positive way to embrace the christian faith, and died in these dispositions. On hearing of her death, Father Hermann was anguish-stricken. "My poor mother is dead". he wrote, "and I remain in uncertainty. I have prayed so much that I hope something has passed between her soul and God in her last moments." The remembrance of his long persevering supplications was a source of hope to the holy religious. He went to Mr. Vianney, better known as the Curé of Ars, and laid open the wound made in his heart by the uneasiness he felt concerning the soul of his beloved mother who died without the grace of baptism.

"Hope on," said the saintly Curé ; "you will one day, on the feast of the Immaculate Conception, receive a letter which will fill your soul with joy."

The prophecy was fulfilled to the letter. On the 8th December, 1861, six years after the death of his mother, Father Hermann received the following letter (1) sent him by a Jesuit Father :

"On the 10th of October, after Holy Communion, I found myself in one of those moments of intimate union with Our Lord when He makes me feel so delightfully His presence in the Sacrament of His love, that faith

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(1) The person who wrote this letter died in the odor of sanctity. She is well known in the religious world by several works on the Blessed Eucharist among others. "The Eucharist meditated."