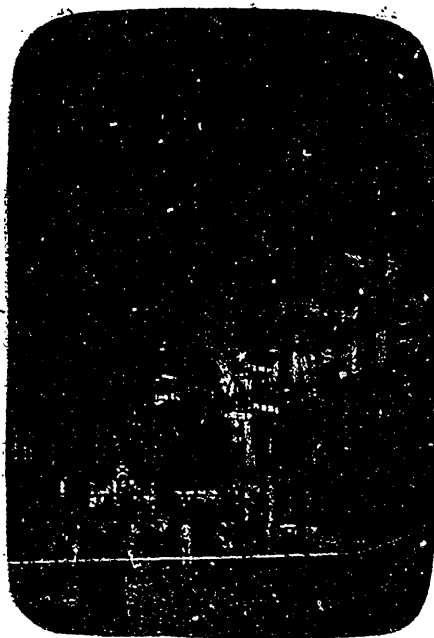


The simple and unostentatious foundation of these two communities in the little French town gave no inkling of the destiny God had in store for both of them,—for the one in receiving the revelations of the devotion to the Sacred Heart, for the other in spreading it to the ends of the earth.



Interior of the famous sanctuary of the Visitation  
at Paray

The chief glory undoubtedly of Paray-le-Monial will ever be its connection with the Visitandine Order and the apparitions of Our Lord to one of its members. This was the humble virgin, Margaret Mary Alacoque, who entered the Visitation, in June 1679. She died in October 1690, but during the short nineteen years of her religious life, Our Lord Jesus Christ appeared to her and spoke to her seventy times.

The principal apparitions are well known. They began in her novitiate in the monastery garden. The exact spot under a cluster of hazel-trees is still pointed out. The chapel, which is to be the term of this year's international pilgrimage, was also the scene of extraordinary revelations. On December 23, 1673, feast of St. John the Evangelist, while Margaret Mary was in prayer before the Sacrament, Jesus