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"We go forth for souls with the armor of divine union like Mary, our Mother, carrying Christ in our hearts that we may give Him to others."

- Mother Mary Teresa Tallon

Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate

1920

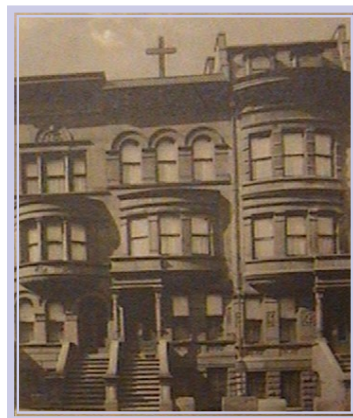


2020

Contemplative - Missionaries

August 15, 1920 is the official Foundation Day of the Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate. That is the day that Mother Mary Teresa Tallon arrived in New York City to live in community with the young women who were to be the first Sisters of the new Community. (See pg 3.)

We are celebrating the 100th Anniversary of our Foundation this year, having completed a three year preparation for this milestone anniversary. In this issue we will share some of the important moments in Mother Mary Teresa's life as she sought to follow God's Will in the Foundation of this new Religious Institute.



PVMI First Convent, NYC

From the Vice Postulator

Dear Friends of Servant of God, Mother Mary Teresa Tallon,

It seems like 100 years since I have written to you! Here at Marycrest we are in the wake of our 100th Anniversary celebration on August 15, 2020. Cardinal Dolan celebrated the Anniversary Mass, with 6 other priests concelebrating! What a beautiful day it was! Of course, it was much scaled down from the big celebration we had hoped for. However, next year we will celebrate BIG!

Recently, the assistant to our postulator, Dr. Emanuele Spedicato, has taken over the completion of the Positio (a document explaining why Mother Mary Teresa should be canonized) and is doing a fine job. He has almost completed the document, for which we are very grateful! (continued on pg 2)

Important Dates from Exile to Foundation for MMTT, 1913-1920

Fullness of Vocational Inspiration

- January 25, 1908, feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, during Mass in the chapel at 143 West 61st street, NYC

Assigned to Elkhart, IN

- 1913—1915

Various Assignments

- Mother was assigned to various schools in Indiana and Illinois.

First Communal Living

- March 19, 1920, feast of St. Joseph; the young women who wish to join Mother in the new Religious

Institute begin to live in common in the attic of a family home.

Dispensation to leave the Sisters of the Holy Cross

- July 18, Mother dispensed from vows
- July 31, Mother left the Sisters of the Holy Cross and traveled to upstate NY for a short stay with her family.

Foundation of the Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate

- August 15, 1920, at 328 West 71st Street, NYC—Mother joined the young women who were to be the first Sisters of the new Religious Institute.

(continued from pg 1) The next step is to have Mother declared “Venerable”. Won’t you pray with us that during this anniversary year (2020 – 2021) this will become a reality?

Recently, we were reading Mother’s writings from 1918 and found references to the “Spanish Influenza”! Mother reported that not only were the schools closed but Churches were, as well. The newspapers were kind enough to print the sermons of the priests and ministers of the local area. Mother stated that her one great sadness was not being able to receive Holy Communion! How familiar!

We know that these months have been very difficult on everyone: you have been in our thoughts and prayers. Have you gone to our YouTube Channel? There you will find a short video of the Sisters praying the “Prayer for Canonization” for Mother Foundress in front of her sarcophagus in our Motherhouse Chapel. We thought that since you could not come here to pray, we would bring Mother to you. Won’t you join us in prayer? Ask BIG because Mother needs a miracle for her beatification.

We have not asked for some time for your renewal of membership in the Guild. It is your contributions that make it possible for us to continue the work of the canonization. Thank you for your generous hearts. And, please pass this newsletter on to your friends, or put it in your parish Churches. Spread the news about this woman we call “Mother” – whose life and spirituality and charism are so needed in today’s world. God bless you.

Mother Maria Catherine, PVMI

Exile—Mother’s Time of Waiting

In the summer of 1913, Mother Mary Teresa (then Sr. Mary Berchmans) was transferred away from New York City to St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Elkhart, IN. Her Superiors hoped that a change of location would show her that it was not God’s Will for her to found a new Community. However, God continued to support Mother’s vocation, and though she struggled daily with the separation from those whom God had called her to help, she continued to live out her contemplative-missionary call during this time that she called her “exile.”

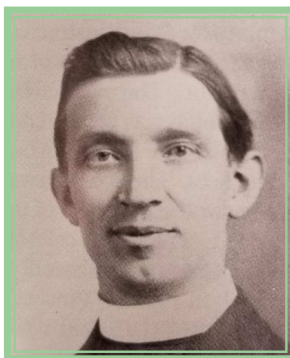
The pastor of the local parish, Father Francis Jansen was impressed with Mother’s missionary efforts and

asked her to do all she could for those who had wandered from the Church.

In addition to her teaching duties, Mother began a League of the Sacred Heart and organized the Young Ladies of the Sodality into different sections to welcome new parishioners, provide Religious Plays, promote Religious reading, reach out to neglected Catholics, and promote daily Communion. She also was in charge of the junior Children of Mary, the altar servers, and others, whom she encouraged to reach out to those who were not living out their Catholic faith.

Meanwhile she had a very active correspondence with the

young women she had begun to train in NYC and various priests and bishops who were trying to help her found the new Community. The ardor of those in NYC seemed to be flagging and Mother was beginning to lose heart. However, the Lord provided a catalyst by way of a letter from Father Jansen. He told her that he thought she had a special call for the redemption of fallen away Catholics and should consider starting a new missionary Community. This renewed Mother’s efforts, which eventually led to the Community being founded in 1920.



Father Jansen, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul



St. Vincent de Paul Church, Elkhart, IN



Parish Visitors on pilgrimage to the Convent at St. Vincent de Paul, Elkhart



Mother and the first group of novices.

August 15, 1920 Foundation Day

Mother Mary Teresa arrived in New York City on Sunday, August 15, 1920. Here are her own words describing that day. "Great things cost great price,

community of willing religious-to-be. Blessed be God for their grace."

As Mother joined them, "they all greeted me in turn, and expressed their welcome in looks and words. Then I sat down and talked to them for a while, after which talk, we all repaired to the Chapel oratory and chanted the *Te Deum*, in thanksgiving for my safe arrival. This tribute of gratitude having been offered, the happy members took me through the whole house that I might see everything.

"When I retired that first night after my return to New York, my fever was 103...Four days went by before the temperature lowered...the loss I felt most was Holy Communion."

Mother was home. Her exile was over. Praise God!

and I was paying the cost in a severe spell of illness consisting of high fever, a sore and swollen throat... But I went through the evening's reception given quietly by my faithful friends at our residence... These friends were they who had survived the trials of waiting, and borne bravely the test of time, and were there to meet me, and welcome me back to the

In Her Own Words:

The Daily Struggle and Response in Exile

Nothing can make me forget that I am an exile, really and surely, from my place of God's call to me—the poor districts of New York City—where multitudes of my precious outcast children abide.

Here in Elkhart, my "Egypt," I try to do what good I can. Spiritual and religious instruction appeals to me, and I have resolved to lose no opportunity of imparting it, in season and out of season. That is my profession, "In my meditation a fire shall flame out" - This is the means. If we get people to think and know all the rest will follow, and God will get His own."



🕯️ Prayer Requests and ☑️ Prayers Answered

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 🕯️ BY—cancer/faith | 🕯️ Those praying for physical healing |
| 🕯️ Lynn—cancer | ☑️ JI |
| 🕯️ MR—MS | ☑️ JK |
| 🕯️ Jhisella—cancer | ☑️ A |
| 🕯️ CR—cancer | ☑️ SK |
| 🕯️ GM—cancer | ☑️ God's protection for PVs in Nigeria and the Philippines |
| 🕯️ MK—family | |
| 🕯️ TK—personal intention | |



Prayer to Servant of God

Mary Teresa Tallon

(for private use only)

Heavenly Father, through the example of Your Servant, Mary Teresa Tallon, you summon all your faithful to become apostles to the most spiritually deprived. Through Your loving kindness, we pray that You heed this special favor which would confirm the holiness of Your faithful Servant: (here make your request).

We ask You this in the Name of Jesus, Your Son, loving Shepherd of us all. Amen.

With Ecclesiastical Approbation:
+Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of NY

Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate:

A congregation of contemplative-missionary Sisters involved in the New Evangelization through missionary visitation and catechetical ministry, walking with Mary in the footsteps of the Good Shepherd.

Donations for the Beatification/ Canonization of Mother Mary Teresa would be greatly appreciated.

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www.parishvisitorsisters.org

Your membership in the Mother Mary Teresa Tallon Guild means a lot to us.

Please renew your subscription below.



Time to Renew Your Subscription

Renewal of your desire and inspiration to pray for and with the Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate in spreading the inspiration of Servant of God, Mother Mary Teresa Tallon, is accomplished

through membership in the Mother Mary Teresa Guild.
As a member of the Mother Mary Teresa Guild, you are highly encouraged to

- ✂ Promote Mother's Cause by sharing Guild brochures and prayer cards with your family, friends and parishioners;
- ✂ Pray for the spiritual success of Mother's Cause;
- ✂ Pray for the Intentions of the Members;
- ✂ Pray for the miracle God intends for the advancement of Mother's Cause;
- ✂ Support the Cause financially;
- ✂ Ask your pastor to allow information about Mother Mary Teresa to be published in your parish bulletin.

Membership Benefits to the Mother Mary Teresa Tallon Guild

- ✂ A Mass offered monthly for your intentions
- ✂ Daily remembrance in the prayers to the Servant of God
- ✂ Receiving spiritual graces from devotion to and veneration of the Servant of God.



Subscription Renewal Form to the Mother Mary Teresa Tallon Guild

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Contact No./s _____

E-mail Address _____

Prayer Request _____

Individual Mass Offering Intention _____

Please check all that apply:

- ☐ **Individual Membership**
\$ 10.00
- ☐ **Family Membership**
\$ 25.00
- ☐ **Individual Mass Offering**
\$ 10.00
- ☐ **I'm feeling generous.**
Here's my additional donation of \$ _____.