



The Crusader

Bulletin of the Eucharistic Crusade for Children in Australia and New Zealand



Read inside:

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|----------------------------------|-------|
| - Letter from the Chaplain | p. 2 |
| - The Sister's Corner | p. 5 |
| - A Little Heart to Heart Talk | p. 6 |
| - Story Hour: A Heroic Sacrifice | p. 8 |
| - Colouring Page | p. 13 |
| - Word Search | p. 14 |
| - Liturgy this month | p. 15 |

**August 2022: Month
of the Immaculate Heart
of Mary**

**For Christians who are
persecuted**

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Dear Crusaders,

In our fight for Christ, as we mentioned last month, our great weapons are Prayer, Communion, Sacrifice, and the Apostolate. We said that that an effective soldier of Jesus (or a Saint) doesn't have to be great or do great works. He only has to love Jesus very much – before anyone or anything else. Anyone, even the littlest in Christ's Army, can pray, receive Communion, make sacrifices and work their little apostolate of good example. That is because it is really Jesus who fights the battle through us, and not we ourselves who fight for Christ! But if we are to be victorious in the battle against the powers of hell, we will need more than just our weapons (and the knowledge of how to use them). We will need to persevere in the fight. A true Crusader never, ever gives up. He never stops trying to fight for Christ, no matter how weak he is, or how much the devil tries to tempt him to betray his Lord.

That is why one of the most important virtues the Crusader, as soldier in Christ's Army, is the virtue of fortitude. The very name of this virtue means strength – which the soldier of Christ especially needs to fight against his enemy, the devil. St Thomas Aquinas (one of the greatest theologians of the Church) teaches us that the virtue of fortitude has two principal acts: the act of aggression to attack the enemy, and the act of endurance under the attacks of the enemy. The harder of these two, St Thomas says, is the act of endurance, for three reasons: First, because enduring an attack of the enemy implies that he is stronger than us, and it is harder to fight against one stronger than ourselves. Second, when we are enduring the attack of the enemy, we feel the immediate danger of being overcome which is

greater than the remote fear experienced when we are attacking the enemy. Third, enduring the attack of the enemy implies a constant effort over time, while attacking the enemy is something more easily done in a short burst of effort.

Isn't true? It can be so difficult to endure and persevere in the spiritual combat! As a Crusader, we start well, but before long, things begin to seem very difficult. It's difficult to get up early to make it to Mass during the week. It's difficult to make sacrifices every time the opportunity arises. It's difficult to overcome the impulses of our nature – to respond with charity and good humour to those who upset, hurt or annoy us. Most of all, it's so hard to keep trying day in and day out, and every hour of everyday, to please Jesus and to endure the attacks of the devil. He seems so much stronger than us, his attacks can be so constant, that sometimes we lose heart and begin to give ground to the enemy.

This is precisely the moment that we have to renew our courage and our spirit of fortitude. If Jesus fights for us, who can be against us? Resolve, then, dear Crusaders, not to let Our Lord down. Let us show our virtue of fortitude by bravely enduring the attack of our enemy, and being constant in our efforts over time. Above all, keep up the effort to fill out your treasure chart everyday. That is the real proof of our effort, and it is so pleasing to Jesus. If you persevere, you will win the battle.

Remember this month we are praying especially for Christians suffering persecution (they especially need the virtue of fortitude, so pray hard for them). Next month we will be praying for all traditional schools.

Blessed Mother with your Loving Son, bless us each and everyone!

Fr Joseph Ockerse

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Place
Stamp
Here

The Crusader
61 Koplick Road
Park Ridge, QLD 4125

Use tape to seal this edge

The Sisters' Corner

A Word of Encouragement from the SSPX Sisters in Sydney

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Dear Crusaders,

How good God is! He has made the heart of every mother, and best of all of them, the Heart of His own Mother. He never refuses her anything, and He has given her to us so that she may truly be our mother.

But if she is the mother of all men, she is much more so to her dear little Crusaders... What confidence we should have in her! And...should not a true Crusader always wear her medal, the Miraculous Medal? This medal is so powerful that it is impossible to tell all the stories of conversions, of cures, all the marvels that it has brought about. Here is one among so many others:

A young soldier was brought to the military hospital of Cava, in Italy. His first question was to find out if he was going to be cared for by Sisters. Having first been told that this was indeed the case, he thought to himself: "They are going to speak to me about confession. I will tell them that I am Jewish so that they leave me alone," and this declaration was written on the admission form. Seeing that he was seriously ill, the Sisters who were taking care of him visited him as often as they could. One day, one of the Sisters offered him a Miraculous Medal. He looked at it with a smile of pity: "I am going to take it anyway" he said, "to refuse it would not be polite, but for me, it is just a child's toy and nothing else."

Each time that the priest went through the room, the poor sick man covered his head with his sheets. As soon as a Sister came near him, he pretended he was sleeping. One evening when he was feeling worse than usual, two Sisters wanted to see him before they went off duty. As soon as the sick man heard them in the room, he cried out: "Sister, call a priest!" The chaplain was called immediately. While awaiting his arrival, the poor dying man kept repeating: "A priest! A priest!" When the priest came, finding that he was a Catholic, he asked him to make his profession of Faith loud and clear. Then he heard his confession, and while he was giving him the sacrament of Extreme Unction, the newly converted man gave up his soul to God, in these very consoling dispositions.

Dear Crusaders, go get your Miraculous Medals! Do you know a sinner that needs to convert, or a sick person, or a neighbour who does not pray, or a companion who does not know God? It is so easy to offer them a medal... The Blessed Virgin Mary will do the rest!

Crusaders, be apostles...of the Miraculous Medal!



# A Little Heart to Heart Talk

*By Fr. Mark Stafki*

## **#2: Better Known and Loved**

*Sermon for the Feast of Sts. Peter & Paul, June 29*

My dear children, we celebrate on June 29 the great Feast of Saints Peter and Paul. These two were the most renowned of all the Apostles, preaching Jesus throughout the world, to make Him better known and loved by as many people as possible. When they both finally laid down their lives for Christ in 67 A.D., some very remarkable miracles occurred. In the case of St. Paul, who was beheaded, three springs sprung up at the spot of his sacrifice, one in each place where his head bounced. (Well, did you expect that St Paul would stop his frequent travels all at once when he died?) There is a church called the “Three Fountains” with three altars that mark the spots of these springs, which can be heard running under the church floor. As for St. Peter, as we know he was crucified, but upside down, as he did not consider himself worthy to die in exactly the same way as His Master. He had denied Christ during His Passion, and he never forgot that; so much so, that he was said to have furrows in his cheeks from all the tears of contrition he had shed. And so, St. Peter was not going to deny Christ a second time, but this time gave his life for Him, and the biggest church in the world sprung up on the spot of his sacrifice: St Peter’s Basilica.

On this same day are always performed the Priestly Ordinations in Ecône, Switzerland. What is it that the newly ordained priests will go do? Exactly the same as the Apostles...to preach Jesus throughout the world, to make Him better known and loved. In the ordination ceremony, they lay down their lives...lay prostrate...an are raised up to ascend the altar of sacrifice! Like the Apostles, their lives from this moment forward will be totally dedicated to Christ, totally dedicated to the Sacrifice of the Cross.

Finally, this day was the Enrolment Day in the Eucharistic Crusade for pages, crusaders, knights, and handmaids.\* What is the goal of the Eucharistic Crusade? Once again, to make Jesus better known and

loved throughout the world, for the glory of God and the salvation of souls! You Crusaders, you join the ranks of a great army. You are a Crusader, a soldier for the King of Kings, Christ Himself. You must do your part to conquer the whole world and every soul for Jesus.

How will you do this? Take Him with you wherever you go. To your home. To your future schools! Next year at this time, some of you may be in other schools. How sad it is to see how some students graduate from our school and how, within a short time of going to other schools, they start to talk, think and act in a way that is not very Catholic. What has happened? Instead of making Jesus known and loved, instead of bringing the world to Christ's side (conversion), they have begun to join the world's side. It is a betrayal and very sad. Do not you be like that. You should be bringing your new friends with you to the church, not going their way. And for those who have gone astray, may they see the pained look of Christ and weep like Peter did and come back.

Like the Apostles, like the priests, we Crusaders must make Jesus known and loved! This will take sacrifice. Look at Saints Peter and Paul; look at the seminarians who became priests this day. Be convinced that whenever you make a sacrifice in union with Christ, some grace will be won. There is some great sacrifice that each of us will be asked to make by God at some point in our life; it is prepared for by many little sacrifices, each valuable. If we make it generously, something magnificent will spring from our sacrifice. What will it be? A fountain? A church? Another priest at the altar? I do not know, but God does. Leave that to Him. Let us be generous.



\*N.B. For Crusaders in other parishes: On June 29 this year, the enrolment ceremony was performed in Sydney; and in Brisbane, it was done on June 19. There is no set feast day for this ceremony to be done, but it is recommended to the local chaplains to arrange a public renewal of engagement, or enrolment in the next level for those who are prepared, once a year if possible, on any convenient day. For more information, and to order badges, etc., email [crusader.anz@sspx.org](mailto:crusader.anz@sspx.org).

# Story Hour

## **A Heroic Sacrifice**

*As it first appeared in "The Acolyte" Issue #12*

*Illustrated by Gregory Matulka*

It was a little before the First World War, in 1914, when on an autumn evening at St-Leger, in the diocese of Namer, Belgium, some children passed along the street, led by a priest still young and full of life. "There goes the boys' club walking with Father," say the good men from the village. "How lucky we are to have such a kind vicar as he! When our children are with him, at least there is no need to worry, while before-hand they returned home every Thursday full of bruises, clothing torn... and then we can be sure that with him they will not go prowling in the neighbours' yards! How much trouble these stories of stolen plums and cherries make!" But when the little troupe passed the cafe on the corner, there was heard a slightly different story. "Behold the new Pastor who is enrolling the brats now," sneered a certain Robert X, the most rabid priest-hater in the area. "He's idiotic," he added, "to allow the skulls of these kids to be stuffed by these 'cassocks'. Myself, I don't understand their parents!" And when the priest passed by the door, the man would yell, "When one is good for nothing in life, he becomes a priest! They're all sluggards as well as the police and custom officers, and they always have bread to waste!" The last words of this hateful sentence were lost in the noise of the children's steps, but the young vicar had heard sufficiently to judge who it was speaking, and he philosophically concluded: "Still another hard one who will not be easily had!"





There came a summer evening in 1944, in this same Belgian village. The Germans had arrived the day before. Under pretext that they had been shot at from a window, they had seized 15 men as hostages: 15 fathers of families. They would be shot the following day. Among the designated victims was found the famous Robert X, priest-hater. In spite of the enemy's arrival, the priest had remained at his post, increasing his work to help the unfortunate. When he learned that 15 fathers of families had been condemned to death, he rose up, and without hesitation, went to the German Commandant. There, he asked an officer why innocent men had been condemned and why it was impossible to obtain the prisoners' freedom. The officer listened with a mocking air, then, when the vicar had finished, he coldly retorted: "Father, they will be shot!"

“You can't do this,” insisted the priest. They are fathers of families and still have young children! Who will take care of them later?”

“I have no idea,” the officer said dryly. “I make war.”

“And if I offer to take their place, will you release them?” said the young priest.

“You are only one man, Father ... and I need 15!”

“Will you free at least one if I take his place?”

“Yes ... but you will not find them.”

“Will you permit me to choose the one who will live?”

“Agreed!”

“Can I ask one more favour?”

“Which is?”

“That of going to say goodbye to the children of my club. It is Thursday; they must be waiting for me.”

“Go, but be quick about it, because we are not waiting for tomorrow to shoot the hostages.”

The priest went immediately to the rendezvous for his boys. Around 50 boys, from 8 - 16 years old were waiting. “Children,” he said, “I have come to tell you goodbye. The Germans have accepted me as a hostage in place of one of the 15 prisoners. I wanted to save them all, but the officer wants to shoot 15 persons. Several of the victims are your dads. This evening you must console your mamas who will be crying. Pray also a little bit for me! Remember what I have taught you here: Love each other as true brothers and always be courageous Catholics. Goodbye, until heaven!”

While the little ones burst into tears, the priest headed to the church for a last prayer there. When he left, 14 of the oldest boys waited in the yard.

“Father,” said one of them, “we’re going with you. Like this, there will be 15!”

“You, boys! But, what about your mothers?”

“We drew straws for who would go with you, but only from among those of us who have brothers. Those who remain will console them.”

“But, children, it isn't possible... it's crazy!”

“Father, we have decided. We're going with you. We'll see if the Germans refuse.”

And the vicar left, surrounded by his 14 volunteers... The little group crossed the village where a heavy, threatening silence reigned. Seeing these big boys, in line and walking firmly, many believed that they were going as usual for a walk. In reality they were going to their deaths!

Indeed, the German officer accepted their proposition. He had been ordered to shoot 15 hostages; the number was there and this sufficed.



Without mentioning the heroic gesture, he freed the 15 fathers of families who, believing it to be an act of generosity on the conquerors' part, and very happy, hurried home. But when, crazy with joy, they arrived, they learned the terrible news: the vicar and 14 of his boys had taken their place! Several groaned with sorrow learning that their own sons had replaced them... but what to do? The enemy was without mercy, and they wanted blood!

Soon, indeed, the young condemned were lined up against the wall. The execution squad was before them, arms down. A soldier bandaged the eyes of the priest and children. The German sergeant cried in a rough voice: " Ready! Fire!..." The victims fell one by one as they were shot. Only one hostage at a time was shot at, so as to be sure of his death. The long black cassock of the priest was now stretched on the grass, very near the bodies of three of his children.

Suddenly a Bavarian major appeared. He had received a delegation from the fathers of the families. The sacrifice of their children had moved him, and he came to order that the execution be suspended on the field! Alas, the first four volleys had already accomplished their work of death... The blood of the priest and his three young companions had paid the heavy ransom for the 15 heads of families!

The evening of this same day, a man was seen entering the church, and he sat for a long time, weeping... It was Robert X. He had learned of the sublime gesture of the vicar. He came, humbly, to ask God's pardon for having had so much hatred for someone who, from the bottom of his heart, had loved him so much!



# Colouring Page



Immaculate Heart of Mary

## *Apparitions of Our Lady Word Search!*

The words below may be backwards or forwards, up or down, and/or diagonal! Answer will be in the next issue. Good Luck!

E T A L U C A M M I E W W K S  
C H O R N M L N H P H Z S S E  
J Y S X A K O R U Q Y A H T D  
Z J K M B P J L O B H G X E R  
H D L P W A A O L S Y E M R U  
P I G T C D F A T I M A S C O  
T I N I A R R R C Y T W E E L  
Z C N U H U A A T V S D S S J  
R T G M S L N S B H M O O N G  
A L X H U L C Z O I R P R R N  
K V U P U J I L P T M A Z Z I  
D V A C N Q S U T L T K Q R B  
R C Z K I R C M Y D J O F E K  
S L G G A A O T E I X U R M D  
X K P E T T E D A N R E B G K

Bernadette  
Grotto  
Jacinta  
Moon  
Secrets

Fatima  
Guadalupe  
Lourdes  
Roses  
Sun

Francisco  
Immaculate  
Lucia  
Scapular  
Tilma

**LITURGY THIS MONTH**

*The month of August is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary*



Do you know your upcoming Feasts? See if you can answer these quizzing questions!

- A) August 1: Who were the 7 sons of a Jewish mother, martyred in the second century before Christ?
- B) August 4: This saint was given the Rosary by Our Lady to convert heretics.
- C) August 6: What does the Feast of the Transfiguration commemorate?
- D) This martyr was famous for saying while being roasted alive, “I’m well done on this side, turn me over!”
- E) August 11: What saint is called “Powerful with God and Daughter of Light”?
- F) August 15: This is a holy day of obligation. I bet your youngest sibling knows this one!
- G) August 16: St Joachim was \_\_\_\_\_?
- H) August 22: “ My \_\_\_\_\_ Heart will triumph.”
- I) August 24: This Apostle is also known as Nathaniel.

A) 7 Maccabees B) St Dominic C) Christ showing His glory to His Apostles on Mt. Thabor D) St Lawrence E) St Philomena F) The Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven G) The Father of the Blessed Virgin H) Immaculate I) St Bartholomew



The Crusader prays, receives Communion, makes sacrifices and shows good example for the intention that is given him each month by Reverend Father Davide Pagliarani, successor of Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre as Superior General of the Society of Saint Pius X

**August 2022 Intention:**

For Christians who are persecuted

**Daily offering**

*To be recited every morning when you wake up*

**O** Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer Thee all my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day, for all the intentions of Thy Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, and in reparation for my sins.

I offer them particularly

For Christians who are persecuted

Remember that all the good works and prayers from your treasure sheets are given each month to Father Pagliarani so that he may be able to offer them at his Mass on the first Saturday of every month.



PRAAYER



COMMUNION



SACRIFICE



APOSTOLATE

**MAY 2022 RESULTS**

The Intention was for the perseverance of the newly baptized

|              | Treasure Sheets returned | Morning Offering | Masses     | Communions  |            | Sacrifices  | Decades of the Rosary | Visits to Blessed Sacrament | 15 mins of meditation | Good Example | % returned |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|------------|
|              |                          |                  |            | Sacramental | Spiritual  |             |                       |                             |                       |              |            |
| Brisbane     | 15                       | 438              | 132        | 115         | 422        | 376         | 2035                  | 279                         | 14                    | 374          | 20%        |
| Jolimont     | 3                        | 71               | 23         | 16          | 71         | 93          | 507                   | 14                          | 0                     | 93           | 25%        |
| Seminary     | 4                        | 114              | 24         | 24          | 84         | 174         | 641                   | 10                          | 19                    | 128          | 44%        |
| Rockdale     | 16                       | 459              | 107        | 94          | 102        | 944         | 874                   | 280                         | 132                   | 632          | 59%        |
| Tynong       | 20                       | 533              | 160        | 140         | 99         | 374         | 3148                  | 125                         | 64                    | 264          | 23%        |
| Whanganui    | 35                       | 844              | 500        | 470         | 192        | 992         | 4704                  | 644                         | 382                   | 790          | 64%        |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>93</b>                | <b>2459</b>      | <b>946</b> | <b>859</b>  | <b>970</b> | <b>2953</b> | <b>11,909</b>         | <b>1352</b>                 | <b>611</b>            | <b>2281</b>  | <b>32%</b> |

*Eucharistic Crusade in Australia,  
St. Philomena School, 61 Koplick Road, Park Ridge, 4125, Queensland*