

## REPLY TO A LETTER ASKING FOR GIFTS FOR A SHRINE IN MONTREAL

Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal,  
Montreal, Can.

Dear Friends:

I am in receipt of a letter from you containing novena exercises, a prayer to Saint Joseph, and other literature. In the letter I am asked a gift for the finishing of the Basilica of Mount Royal. I was glad to get this letter, as I am in the habit of making donations to all good causes, nevertheless, I have to be discriminating in my giving, since there are so many calls. I want to know the worthiness of each cause, also something definite about them; and in religious objects, the scripturalness of the cause; so you will not hold me guilty, nor blame me if before I make a subscription, I ask you to answer a few simple questions.

In your letter I am invited to attend the feast of Saint Joseph, the Patron Saint of Canada and the Protector of the Church Universal. Would you please state where and when and how Joseph became "Patron of Canada, and Protector of the Church Universal"?

I have read some Canadian History but have some way missed seeing the former, and have read the New Testament and Church History a good deal and have missed the latter. You will be able to inform me on these very important points. If our Lord ever appointed Joseph Protector of the Church, it is a marvel that something was not said about it in the New Testament, which contains the truths upon which the Church Universal is founded. Somewhere in that book we read, "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." 1 Cor. 3:11.

Also, I would like to know how you found out that Saint Joseph chose Brother André to "spread his benefactions" as your literature states. I notice among the intentions to be recommended to St. Joseph, is the beatification of Brother André. Please give me chapter and verse in Holy Scriptures where there is any hint of such an act, or process, as "beatification," and where any foundation is given for praying to the saints, whether Joseph, Mary, St. Francis, Father André or any other. If this had been needful, is it not remarkable that neither Jesus nor any of the Apostles ever mentioned it? I do read that there is "One God, and One mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." 1 Tim. 2:3.

This same Jesus became our great High Priest and ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of God to make intercession for us. Are not His shed blood and sufferings and intercessions sufficient to guarantee His favor? Did He not give His life a ransom for all? Did He not taste death for every man? Was He not wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities? Was all this in vain and insufficient, so we must call upon the Saints to help Him out? If that be so, then He was not an all-sufficient Saviour, and His blood does not cleanse from all sin, and He was not what He claimed to be,—The Saviour of the World. Nor was He what John the Baptist claimed Him to be,—"The Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world."

In the inclosed Prayer to St. Joseph to obtain special favor, I find these words: "Amid the sorrows of those who suffer, those who pray, those who weep; stay the Almighty

arm which smites us, that by thy prayers and those of thy most holy Spouse, the Heart of Jesus may be moved to pity and to pardon."

Do, most kindly tell me since when did the Heart of Jesus become so hard and without pity that we should have to implore the help of Joseph and Mary to move that holy Heart to compassion? I want to see one suggestion of this in the Bible, giving chapter and verse.

I have read where Jesus took little children in His arms and blessed them; He had compassion on the hungry multitudes and fed them; He wept with Mary and Martha, at the death of Lazarus; He wept with broken heart over Jerusalem; He said, "Come unto Me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." He prayed the Father to forgive those who crucified Him, and had compassion upon the thief that hung on a cross beside Him. What greater evidence of His pity and love could we desire?

It is a sad reflection upon all this evidence of love if we have to solicit the prayers of uncertain saints to move the Heart of Jesus to pity and favor. Furthermore, Jesus did not have to die on the cross, He chose to suffer, all because He loved us so. He said, "For their sakes I sanctify myself that they might be sanctified"; and St. Paul said, "Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it that He might sanctify it."

In the light of all these truths and many more that could be mentioned, which so clearly prove Christ's love, it looks like a defamation on His love and character when He is so far doubted that we must fall back upon Joseph or Mary to move Him to love and pity.

I shall expect you to furnish me with Scripture taken from the New Testament showing me where there is any hint of a lack of love or pity in the Heart of Christ, and where we are told to ask some saint to appeal to Jesus on our behalf.

When you have kindly and plainly answered my fair questions and quoted me the Scripture references my gift will be immediately forthcoming.

Yours most sincerely,

H. C. MULLEN,  
Wood Harbor, N. S.

## DISAPPOINTED WAITING FOR WORLD'S END

For fifteen days, thirty odd members of a cult called, "The Children of Light," maintained a vigil in an isolated stone farmhouse, under the shadows of a stately mountain with a mysterious "K" on its face.

The giant letter "K" was formed by two massive rockslides ages ago, and taken by this religious group at Keremos, British Columbia, Canada, as a sign for "Kingdom," and they quote: "For lo, the Kingdom of God is at hand."

"From Biblical prophecy and dreams that bring me visions," the leader, Mrs. Grace Carlson, is quoted as saying: "the end is near."

She first predicted the end would come December 23, and her devout followers, dressed in white, and chanting hymns, climbed to the mountain top. In snow and cold winds, they spent the night there, then returned to their homes, a new date fixed for the world's end.

Members of the sect paid off \$20,000 in debts through sale of farms, tractors, automobiles, sewing machines and even fishing rods. Some orchard land sold as low as \$2.00

an acre; and comparatively new cars sold for \$100.

The second date, January 9, passed without the mystic change occurring. It is fortunate for the leader that this is not the dispensation of Law; for had she been living in the days of Moses, she would have forfeited her life for her false prophecies. See Deuteronomy 18: 20-22. "If the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord hath not spoken." Making God out to be a liar—and doing it twice in fifteen days—is a most serious matter.

Certainly the Lord Jesus has promised to return (John 14:3); but believers are not permitted to set dates for that glorious event nor for the end of the world. When a person's faith is in a crucified, risen and exalted Savior, he should live each day as though it were his last in this scene.

It is not the Lord's wish that His people should band together to wait for Him on the summit of a mountain or in isolated buildings. He would have us "occupy" for Him whether at home, at school, at work, or play, each day. And if we have homes, farms, tractors or cars, use them to His glory. "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." (1 Corinthians 10:31).

## HUGE DIAMOND FOUND

According to Associated Press, the Transvaal's Premier Mine of Johannesburg, South Africa, which produced the Cullinan diamond, the world's biggest, and the famous Jonker, has now given up a third magnificent stone.

The new find is of perfect color, half the size of a matchbox and weighs 195 carats. It is worth about \$168,000. It is described as blue-white and is being sold in normal trade channels. Its value is in its perfect quality rather than its size.

The Cullinan diamond, found in 1905, was more than three times the size of any known stone. The Excelsior, 969½ carats, until then was the largest. The Cullinan was purchased by the Transvaal Government and presented to King Edward VII of England. It was then cut into nine large stones.

The Jonker diamond, weighing 726 carats, was found in 1934. It was sold to an American for 150,000 pounds and divided into twelve stones, including Jonker No. 1, the largest emerald-cut diamond in existence.

Valuable finds, these huge diamonds, yet they are not to be compared to the treasure which enriches the person finding the Lord Jesus Christ, by faith; for in Him are hid "all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge!" (Colossians 2:3).

We cannot all find diamonds, especially mammoth ones; but we can find the Savior, who though He was rich yet for our sakes became poor, that we through His poverty might be rich. Happy the person who can say with the poet:

"I've found the precious Christ of God,  
My heart doth sing for joy;  
And sing I must, for Christ I have,  
A precious Christ have I.

"Christ is my Shepherd and my friend,  
My Saviour whom I love;  
My Head, my Hope, my Counsellor,  
My Advocate above."

Losses and crosses are heavy to bear, but when our hearts are right with God, it is wonderful how easy the yoke becomes.

—Spurgeon.