

Saint Catherine Laboure
by Constantine Kempf, 1916

November 26, 2023

The "Miraculous Medal" of the Immaculate Conception has found devout friends throughout the Catholic world and there is no doubt that it has been the means of great blessings for many. We need not wonder, then, that the person chosen to inaugurate this devotion to Mary was favored with extraordinary graces.

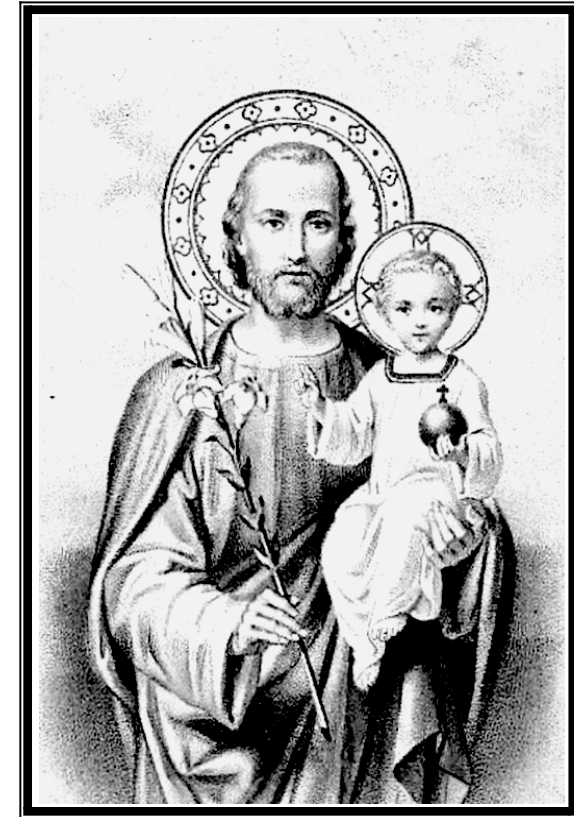
This child of predilection was the venerable Sister of Charity, Catherine Laboure. Sister Catherine was born on May 2, 1806, at Fainles-Moutier, near Dijon, and in Baptism was given the name of Zoe. The world never possessed her heart. From her earlier years she felt an attraction toward the religious life. She met with an obstinate resistance from her father because, on account of the early death of her mother, she seemed to be indispensable at home. To drive the thought of the cloister out of her mind her father sent her to Paris, where one of his sons kept a restaurant. But it was in vain. Paris simply aroused in Zoe a detestation for the ways of the world. The father finally relented and at the age of twenty-four she was permitted to take the religious habit in the convent of the Sisters of St. Vincent at Chatillon-sur-Seine. She was now named Sister Catherine.

In the following year, 1831, we find her in the hospital of Enghien at Paris, where she served in the humblest duties for forty-five years until her death on December 31, 1876. It was in the second year of her religious life that Sister Catherine was thrice favored with apparitions of the Blessed Virgin, who commissioned her to have medals made representing the apparition and bearing the legend "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee." Her director proved rather skeptical and at first had only scoff and contempt for these extraordinary manifestations. But the conviction grew that the sister was not at all a victim of a delusion. The archbishop of Paris, Monsignor de-Quelen, soon became an advocate of the "Miraculous Medal," which now entered upon a victorious course throughout Catholic countries. Among many other remarkable events, the sudden conversion of the Jew, Alphonse Ratisbonne, has an intimate connection with this medal.

Leo XIII, after a careful examination of the facts and a scrutiny by the Sacred Congregation of Rites, approved a Mass and an Office commemorating the apparition of the Blessed Virgin of the Miraculous Medal." Though Sister Catharine, in accomplishing the desire of the Mother of God, did very much to spread the Miraculous Medal, she nevertheless found ways and means in her humility to keep secret from the world the fact that she was the chosen soul favored with the apparition of the Immaculate Conception. Yet, while unaware of the many extraordinary favors she had received, her sisters in religion, and all who became acquainted with her, were thoroughly persuaded of her sanctity. At her death there was great emotion among the people and two Sisters were kept busy for a day applying to the corpse of the Venerable Catharine objects of devotion brought by the great numbers of visitors.

*O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee.
(One hundred days' indulgence once a day; Leo XIII., March 15, 1884)*

Saint Catharine Laboure, pray for us.



*Saint Joseph's
Traditional Roman Catholic Chapel
Traditional Latin Mass*

*29968 County 22
Harmony, Minnesota 55939*

Sunday, November 26

26th Sunday After Pentecost

(St. Sylvester, Ab; St. Peter of Alexandria, BM)

Confessions 12:30 pm

Holy Mass 1:00 pm

Friday, December 1

Bl. Edmund Campion, M

Confessions 5:30 pm

Holy Mass 6:00 pm

Saturday, December 2

BVM Saturday

Communion 7:30 am

Holy Rosary 7:50 am

Sunday, December 3

1st Sunday of Advent

(St. Francis Xavier)

Confessions 12:30 pm

Holy Mass 1:00 pm

Friday, December 8

Immaculate Conception BVM

(St. Macarius, M)

Confessions 8:30 am

Holy Mass 9:00 am

CONTACTS:

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MASS INTENTIONS may be submitted to Father for a stipend of \$25.00. If you wish a specific date, please submit well in advance. Mass Intention envelopes are available in the vestibule.

MEAL VOLUNTEERS: There is a new sign up sheet in the vestibule for the month of November to help provide Father with a meal-to-go after Mass. *Thank You* to all those who have been assisting with this Corporal Work of Mercy to feed the hungry; and supporting your parish priest.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND for May of 2024 is being coordinated by Fr. Benedict Hughes. Please see flyer in the vestibule and contact Fr. Benedict if interested.

PRAYER FOR THE POOR SOULS is to be prayed after the Holy Rosary. The prayer will be in the pews.

BANNS OF MATRIMONY are announced for the second time for Nathan Rider and Doreen Christensen. If anyone is aware of any impediment to this marriage, please notify Father.

SAINT NICHOLAS will come to St. Joseph's next Sunday!

CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN MOTHERS – Upcoming Day of Recollection for the Confraternity of Christian Mothers will be held Saturday, December 16. It will begin with Holy Mass at 6:30 am.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION: Reminder that Friday, December 8th, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception is a Holy day of Obligation. Attendance at Mass is obligatory and unnecessary servile work is forbidden.

CHRISTMAS: Mass will be at midnight this year!

HOLY SOULS' REMEMBRANCE: November is the month dedicated to the remembrance of the faithful departed. Special prayers will be offered after all public Masses throughout the month. Please list those who you wish to have remembered at all the Masses and prayers throughout the month on the *All Souls' Day Remembrance* envelope and return it to the priest or religious Sisters.

FINANCIAL AWARENESS: FROM THE PARISH BOARD:

For some time the chapel has been struggling at a deficit.

Please give generously if you can afford to.

Average Weekly Operating Costs: \$590

Average Weekly Collection (year-to-date): \$730

Last Four Collections: 10/29 \$522 11/5 \$649 11/12 \$957 11/19 \$962