Nº 51



"A CHILD MAKES US BROTHERS"

1.- "I imagine the shepherds who, at the invitation of the angels, hasten to go and worship him; I join them and share their eagerness to find the divine Child who brings salvation and peace to us. I kneel in his presence and my soul can barely contain the feelings of admiration, of joy, of thanksgiving and of love that fill it."

(S. I, 482)



WITH JOHN MARY, LET US GO TO BETHLEHEM

2.- "A Saviour is born to us!
Do you realize, dear children,
how holy, marvellous and
astounding are these words?
We need to meditate them
together today at the foot of
the Crib, to prepare ourselves
to celebrate the great mysteries that we honour
these holy days."
(S. I, 482)

3.- "A Saviour is born to us, let us repeat it, and then in the transport of joy, let us repeat the song of the Angels: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to men of good will!"

(S. I, 483)

4.- " Of all the feasts of the liturgical year, my dear children, none can inspire in us a more tender devotion than that of Christmas. Each time the Church celebrates Christmas, it is as if I witnessed anew the birth of the Saviour of the world and the prodigies that accompanied it. »

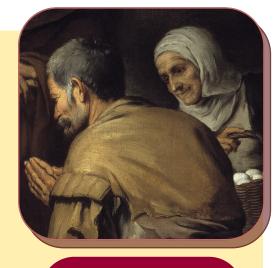
(S. I, 482)

5.-"Let's follow the shepherds. They are arriving at Bethlehem. Let's enter with them in the stable. Oh! How I love representing to myself these poor shepherds, with clasped hands, with the knees on the ground before the Crib of the Child Jesus! How pure the respects they offer! What ingenuity in their simple language! With what loving guilelessness they express their joy, their gratitude, their love, to this Saviour born for them! " (S.I, 487)

6.- "O my Saviour, how eloquent they are! Your swaddling clothes, your manger, your tears. Everything teaches us, everything speaks." (S. I, 482)

7.- "Come then to the Crib to learn jour duties from the very mouth of Jesus Christ. Come with trust, for He himself said that he love children, and that it was necessary to let them approach him freely. But what! Will you present yourselves before him empty-handed? Have you really nothing to offer him? My dear children, give him your heart, however puny this offering might be, he asks it of you: Give me, my son, your heart. But before you give it to him, purify it." (S.I, 487-488)

8.- "Lay down at his feet the spirit of disobedience and of pride, the spirit of dissipation and of envy; and in exchange, he will give you his Spirit of gentleness, of humility, of simplicity, and of obedience. Like him, you will grow daily in knowledge and in wisdom; and the holy Infant born for the salvation of the world will also be your salvation."



9.- "Yes, the Crib is the epitome of the whole Gospel: therefore go there to listen to Jesus Christ; his words will fall on your soul like a gentle dew; they will renew it, they will vivify it, and full of strength and joy, you will return as pastors full of giving glory to God and imbued with a sincere desire to take in everything your Saviour as model."

(S. II, 1970)



SICK PEOPLE RECOMMENDED

- 1.- Leire Pérez López, 13, a student of Col. Berrio-Otxoa, Bilbao, Spain.
- 2.- José A. García Martínez, Bilbao, Spain.
- 3.- Consolación Rodríguez, Bilbao, Spain.
- 4.- Natalia Cubillo, Madrid, Spain.
- 5.- Br. Miguel Ángel Merino, Madrid, Spain.
- 6.- Janet Vignoli, Montevideo, Uruguay.
- 7.- Clara García Roig, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 8.- Leticia Calcagno, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 9.- Julián Castro, Luján de Cuyo, Mendoza, Argentina.
- 10.- Fernando Nogales, San Borja, Bolivia.
- 11.- Br. Louis Le Guichet, Nantes, France.
- 12.- Patrick Lebeau, France.
- 13.- Jeannine Robert, sister of Br. Jean Malo, France.
- 14.- Mª del Valle García Pérez, niece of Br. Floren, Palencia, Spain.
- 15.- Pablo González García, Reinosa, Spain.

- 16.- M. Godin, at the request of Br. Albert Côté, Canada.
- 17.- Hioatua Kllpuhia, Tahiti.
- 18.- Sister Imma, Park Place, Hampshire, England.
- 19.- Mrs Diane Peirra, Wickham, Park Place, Hampshire, England.
- 20.- John Melody, ex-Bro, Park Place, Hampshire, England.
- 21.- Scholastica Bonabaana, Fort-Portal, Uganda.
- 22.- Luisa Aresti, sister of Br. Pietro, Rome, Italy.
- 23.- Khalid Sid Imorou, Parakou, Benin.
- 24.- Christine Kola, Sister of the Providence, Sotouboa, Togo.
- 25.- M. Kazuo Hasegawa, Yokohama, Japan.
- 26.- Mª Luisa Núñez Benito, teacher of Col. Berrio-Otxoa, Bilbao.
- 27.- Teresa Nélida Saucedo, Villa Gbdor Gálvez, Argentina.
- 28.- Sangiorgi Serafino, Brother-in-law of Bro. Eugenio, Viterbo, Italy.

INTENTIONS

+ Let us pray for the purity and joy of Angels and the speed and simplicity of shepherds.

+ For the entire

Mennaisian Family,
so that before the
Cradle of the Child
Jesus, we promise
to make Him known
and loved.

+ Let's pray that our Father Founder be soon declared blessed.





Prayer for the beatification and canonization of John Mary de la Mennais

God, our Father! You have given
John Mary de la Mennais
a generous heart and untiring zeal
to make your Son Jesus Christ
known and loved
especially by the children and youth.
As we venerate him as the Founder
of two religious congregations
devoted to Christian education,
we pray to you that he may soon
be recognised as Blessed.
Help us follow his example
at the service of truth,
and grant us through his intercession,
the favours we are now asking ...

(pause)

Through Jesus-Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Lord Jesus, glorify your servant, Venerable John Mary de la Mennais!

« MENNAISIAN NOVENA»

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