LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Occasionally, as space permits, we will print letters to the Editor which may be of interest to our readers. In most cases, these letters will be self-explaining and will not require a response from us. We welcome letters offering different points of view which conform to our editorial policy or ideas and suggestions for general reader consumption. Writers must agree to permit their names and addresses to be used. We reserve the right to edit all letters submitted.

Dear Fr. Joseph,

It was a joy for me to find, in your last Bulletin, a printing of the picture I sent you of the "Immaculate Mother of All Nations" — (p. 5 Edward Curley's article). However, the sisters and superiors of our order would have wanted it to be acknowledged in some way. Is there a way that this could be done in a future printing of the Bulletin? I had specified in a letter to you that I would appreciate being told if you should decide to use it.

I don't mean to complicate things. For me it is enough that Mary be known and loved but since I am a member of this beautiful community I am pleased that my inspiration is also theirs and that they wish to safeguard it as *our* property.

I appreciate whatever you can do to help.

Sister Colette Barbeau, P.M.,
Sisters Of The Presentation Of Mary
West Warwick, R.I.

Dear Father Walter:

I cannot tell you adequately how much we appreciate your kindness in allowing us to include our flyer in your Valentine mailing.

Cardinal Medeiros thinks it would be good if you would just say a word about the flyer in your report so that the readers will know that the flyer did not get in the mailing by mistake.

The flyer contains a letter from Cardinal Medeiros. Cardinal Medeiros, the Archbishop of Boston, is the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA). CARA was founded at the end of the Vatican council as an aid to implement the teaching of the Council in the U.S.A. CARA is increasingly called upon to serve bishops, religious orders and the Catholic people in this country. His eminence will be very grateful for any help you can give CARA in this important work.

Rev. G. Gordon Henderson, SJ.
Vice-President CARA, Washington, D.C.

Dear Fr. Editor:

On the back cover of the Marian Helpers Bulletin, October-December issue you encouraged us to write our legislators regarding abortion, etc.

I was amazed to find recently that in all our wars — starting with the Revolution of 1776, War of 1812, Civil War, Spanish-American, World War I, World War II, Korean, Vietnam; the number of men killed was 652,000. Since the Supreme Court in 1973 legalized abortion we have over 1,000,000 abortions each year. Therefore, we kill more Americans in one year than our enemies did in 200 years.

It is my fervent hope that each of us will help in the battle to protect our unborn children, and in this way make an invaluable contribution to the moral uplift of the church. The moral dimension of the problem needs to be emphasized.

I would ask you to listen to the following plea which I have written on behalf of every fetus threatened with extinction.

THE PLEA OF THE UNBORN

Grant me the precious gift of life — That I may know the joys of childhood

THAT I MAY love and be loved
THAT I MAY see a glorious sunset
THAT I MAY see and hear the surf at the seashore
THAT I MAY see the snow capped mountains
THAT I MAY see the beautiful flowers of spring
THAT I MAY see the colorful leaves of autumn
THAT I MAY hear the cheerful song of a bird in the springtime
THAT I MAY hear the music of a concert
THAT I MAY hear a new born baby cry
THAT I MAY feel the clasp of a baby's fingers
THAT I MAY hear the laughter of a teenager
THAT I MAY see the brilliance of the stars in the sky
THAT I MAY see a beautiful waterfall or a cool mountain stream
THAT I MAY enjoy the companionship of good friends
THAT I MAY extend a helping hand to those who are in need
THAT I MAY be able to thank GOD for my life

GOD has been good to you — be grateful and return that boundless love of GOD who has bestowed on you these treasures of heaven.

PLEASE LET ME LIVE

Grant me the priceless gift of life — that I may know

THE SHEER JOY OF LIVING

Charles W. Thaens, South Hampton, N.Y.

Our Father

OUR FATHER, WHO ART IN HEAVEN,
You who created the universe, who gave us life, and who continue to sustain us . . .

HALLOWED BE THY NAME,
May we learn to acknowledge You, to accept You in our hearts, and in our associations with others . . .

THY KINGDOM COME,
May Your plan for a Christian brotherhood of man be accepted by all of mankind and may we join that brotherhood in proclaiming Your kingdom over all kingdoms and in constant and joyful praise of Your great glory!

THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN,
May we live according to Your commandments and teachings, for a world made better, *with understanding and compassion* . . .

And, may we welcome the trials and tribulations You send us, as occasions to strengthen our relationship with You.

GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD,
You have given us the ability to do so much for ourselves. May we take advantage of the many opportunities You have provided, so that we may earn the food and other necessities for our families.

And, if it be Your will, may we continue to prosper throughout our land, as for all nations.

AND FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES, AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO TRESPASS AGAINST US,
May You pardon us for our transgressions, wherein we have sought to take unfair advantage of others . . . and for our sins of omission, wherein we have been neglectful of our obligations.

And, may we too, learn *to give . . . and to forgive . . .*

AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION,
May we purposely avoid any occasion of sin, which can only offend You Father, or cause injury to those with whom we share this world, or to ourselves . . . and may we lead a Christian life . . . to think, to act, and to live, *as Christ would.*

BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL,
May we be safeguarded from harm, may the sanctuary of our homes be ever honored, may we be conscious of Your loving presence —

And, because You are Father to us — may we express our appreciation for the many, many blessings You bestow upon us, by returning kindness, by willingly sharing our gifts, and even by giving encouragement to *all our brothers and sisters* . . . especially by seeking those who need it most.

And we pray You to send forth Your Holy Spirit to enlighten us, as offered by Your Son, Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ . . . whom we graciously thank, for suffering a death on the cross to redeem us.

And with His resurrection, You confirmed a life after death, as You *revealed Your infinite love*; not only in giving us life, but in making it possible for us to share in Your eternal life . . .

FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM, AND THE POWER, AND THE GLORY, FOREVER AND EVER,
Amen.

LOOK TO YOUR FUTURE

If you don't already have a personal Will, perhaps one of our pamphlets will help explain to you why a Will is important. Concerned Christians should understand the uses of a personal Will in making sure one's "house is in order" financially, for the benefit of loved ones and the causes we believe in. Many people leave a portion of their estate to missionary work as a testimony to their religious faith. This is certainly a commendable way to help others, even after one's life here on earth has ended. We'd like you to consider a gift to the Congregation of Marians when you make or revise your Will. If you'd like, we will send you without any obligation whatsoever, one or more of our pamphlets. Merely indicate which you would like.

CONGREGATION OF MARIANS
STOCKBRIDGE, MASS. 01262

☐ **37 Things People "know" about Wills that aren't really so**
☐ **Giving through your Will**
☐ **12 Ideas from the writings of 12 famous people**

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY-STATE _____ ZIP _____