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BLESSED PETER JULIAN EYMARD

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EUGENIUS COUET, S.S.S.,

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Die 3a Augusti, 1928.

Imprimatur:

✠ DANIEL MANNIX,

Archiepiscopus Melbournensis.

DECLARATION: In conformity with the decrees of Pope Urban VIII., we declare that we do not intend to attribute any more than human faith to the extraordinary facts herein related, while we submit all that is said here to the judgment of Holy Church, whose obedient sons we ever wish to remain.

The Blessed Sacrament Fathers.

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The Monstrance Press
St. Francis' Church
Melbourne, C.1

NOVENA TO BLESSED PETER JULIAN EYMARD

FIRST DAY.

Blessed Peter Julian Eymard was born of pious parents in the mountains of Dauphiny, at La Mure d'Isere, France, on February 4, 1811, and baptised the following day. As soon as he was able to walk, he would run off to the church and spend hours there. On one occasion his older sister, Marie-Anne, found him kneeling on a foot-stool just behind the main altar, his little hands joined, and his eyes fixed on the back of the tabernacle. In answer to her question, "What are you doing here?" he said, "Saying my prayers. I am nearer to Jesus and listening to Him!" Little Peter Julian was only about four or five years old at the time. The Lover of little children was already speaking to the future apostle of the Blessed Sacrament.

All through his life (he died at La Mure on August 1, 1868), Blessed Peter Julian's faith in the Real Presence of Our Lord in the Holy

Eucharist seemed to pierce the sacramental veils and be more a vision of the Reality than a looking through the dark glass of faith. When Director of the Marist College at La Seyne-sur-Mer he had a hole cut in the wall of his room and closed it with a small door. Through it he could look directly at the tabernacle in the chapel beneath his room. He spent hours here in loving converse with Our Lord—many times at night also. Sometimes, when he thought he was alone, he would talk with the Master aloud. To prevent himself from spending too much time at this window he would fasten the door shut with a padlock! Such was his simple, childlike faith!

*O Sacrament most holy, O Sacrament divine,
All praise and all thanksgiving be every
moment Thine!*

(100 days).

*Blessed be the holy and Immaculate Conception
of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother
of God!*

(300 days).

*Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament, pray
for us!*

(300 days).

SPECIAL PRAYER FOR THE FIRST DAY.

O Blessed Peter Julian, by thy simple and childlike faith which charmed the Heart of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, pray for me. Thou art very near to Jesus now in Heaven and listening to Him. Pray to Him for me and ask Him to grant me the particular favour I should like to receive. Ask Him to give me especialy a simple and childlike faith like thine so that I may serve Him better now in the Blessed Sacrament and, after my eath, praise Him with thee in Heaven for all eternity. Amen.

THE SECOND DAY.

When Blessed Eymard was about eight years old, his father fell very sick. His mother allowed the little fellow to accompany his two sisters, on foot, to the shrine of St. Jean-des-Vertus, some ten or fifteen miles from La Mure. Not having made his First Communion then, he nestled very close to his sister Marie-Anne, and begged the Jesus Whom she had just received not to let his father die. "O Marie-

Anne," he said, "I could feel the Good God in you!" The Good God could not resist the boy's prayer. His father was cured. From that moment Peter Julian felt a great longing for Holy Communion, which he was not allowed to receive for the first time until his twelfth year, on Passion Sunday, March 16, 1823. Thirty years later the memory of that day still brought tears to his eyes: "O how good Our Lord was to me in my First Communion!" The one great longing of Peter Julian's life was for Holy Communion. Whether as a boy or later as a priest, no sacrifice of a physical nature, such as fasting, or fatigue, or poor health, was ever able to keep him from satisfying his hunger to receive the Bread of Life.

O Sacrament, etc., as on first day, page 2.

SPECIAL PRAYER FOR THE SECOND DAY.

O Blessed Peter Julian, by thy lifelong and ardent desire for Holy Communion, pray for me. Thou dost "feel the Good God" in thyself now in Heaven. He could not resist thy boyish prayer for thy father who was dying. He will

not resist thy prayer for me to-day. Ask the Jesus Whom thou didst receive so often to grant me the particular favour I should like to receive. Ask Him especially to give me an ardent desire like thine to receive Him in Holy Communion frequently here on earth and, after my death, to enjoy Him with thee in Heaven for all eternity. Amen.

THE THIRD DAY.

With his father's consent Blessed Peter Julian entered the novitiate of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate at Marseilles in June, 1829. Six months later he was sent home to die. The prayers for a departing soul were being said at his bedside. He seemed unconscious, but he was praying: "Lord, grant me the joy of saying at least one Mass and I consent to die!" God heard his prayer. "I'll be a priest one day," he murmured loud enough to be heard. "I'll say Mass!" He said his first Mass on July 22, 1834, and practically every day thereafter, when physically possible, until July 21, 1868, inclusively. He said Mass with such fervour that witnesses declared he was transfigured and seemed to be in Heaven. Remark-

able favours, some of a miraculous nature, are said to have been obtained through his prayers at Mass. The greatest was that granted to him after his Mass on April 18, 1853, when Our Lord revealed to him very clearly the Society he was to found. The first stone of the Society of the Most Blessed Sacrament was laid on that day.—Another favour happened on September 8, 1848. Margaret Guillot, who became the foundress of the Sister-Servants of the Blessed Sacrament later on, was very sick and dying. Father Eymard was saying Mass for her recovery at 7 o'clock that morning in a neighbouring chapel. At 7.15—about the time of the Elevation of the Mass—she suddenly felt better. She got up, dressed herself, and was pronounced completely cured!

O Sacrament, etc., as on first day, page 2.

SPECIAL PRAYER FOR THE THIRD DAY.

O Blessed Peter Julian, by thy extraordinary appreciation of the most august sacrifice of the altar, pray for me. Thou art now enjoying the reward for piety with which thou didst

say every one of thy Masses while on earth. The God Who heard thy prayers then will certainly listen to them now. Pray to Him for me and ask Him to grant me the particular favour I should like to receive. Ask Him especially to give me an appreciation of Holy Mass and a piety like thine, so that I may please Him here on earth, and, after my death, share with thee the happiness of Heaven for all eternity. Amen.

THE FOURTH DAY.

When about nine years old, Blessed Peter Julian began keeping a spiritual diary. He destroyed most of it in later life, but one page escaped his eye. On it, among other resolutions written in the hand and language of a child, is this one: "I resolve to have a tender devotion to the Blessed Virgin." A year or so later he obtained permission to make a pilgrimage, alone, on foot, to the shrine of Notre-Dame du Laus, about 37 miles from La Mure. "It was there I met and loved Mary for the first time!" It may safely be conjectured that he had his first vision of Our Lady then. She appeared to him several times

during his life—notably at her shrine of Fourvieres, Lyons, on February 2, 1851—and also the night before he died, August 1, 1868. His love for Our Lady was second only to his love for the Blessed Sacrament. Very often he obtained spiritual and temporal favours for others through her powerful intercession. Mlle. Adele Julien, paralysed, was stricken with typhoid fever at Paris, whither she had gone to consult specialists. She was anointed and preparations made for her funeral. Father Eymard commanded her to make a novena to Notre-Dame de La Salette. She received Viaticum on the last day of her novena, October 25. Father Eymard prayed awhile at her bedside, then left the room. An hour later she was up and around, completely cured. The following year she passed through Ars on her way to La Salette. The saintly Cure, Jean Marie Vianney, who had never seen her before, called her aside and said: “Well, my dear daughter, Our Lady of La Salette has spoiled you. Father Eymard made you make that novena and obtained a miracle for you. He is a Saint.”

O Sacrament, etc., as on first day, page 2.

SPECIAL PRAYER FOR THE FOURTH DAY.

O Blessed Peter Julian, by thy tender devotion to the Immaculate Virgin Mary, pray for me. Thou dost see and love her now in Heaven, not for the first or last time, but for always. Pray to her for me and ask her to obtain for me from her Divine Son, Jesus, the particular favour I should like to receive. And do thou ask Him especially to give me a tender devotion like thine to His loving Mother, so that I may be her little child here on earth and, after my death, praise her and love her with thee in Heaven for all eternity. Amen.

THE FIFTH DAY.

The finger of God showed itself very frequently in the life of Blessed Peter Julian. It pointed unmistakably to the priesthood when he was but a lad of six or seven. His pastor sided with his father in opposing his studying for the priesthood. His mother, and then his father, died, and his own health was very poor. Nevertheless, in God's own way and time he became a priest. God intended Peter Julian to found a religious order of priests for the Blessed Sacrament. Providence trained him in

the secular clergy as curate and as pastor. Then It took him into the newly founded Society of Mary, forming and fashioning him into a perfect religious and superior. The finger of God pointed again to the founding of a new Eucharistic Order. Obstacles, apparently insurmountable, arose on all sides. From a human standpoint the idea was doomed to utter failure. For a moment Father Eymard himself thought that all was over. An unexpected meeting with the Archbishop of Paris, a moment's conversation, and the Archbishop reversed his decision, approved the idea, and the Congregation was founded (May 13, 1856). In his private notes, jotted down during a long retreat made at Rome in 1865, Blessed Peter Julian wrote: "The gentle and firm hand of Divine Providence has guided me in a wonderful way at all times. Time and time again it looked as if I would not be found worthy—but the Divine Pilot held the helm, steering my ship into the harbour of the priesthood and of the religious life." And, we may add, to the founding of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament.

O Sacrament, etc., as on first day, page 2.

SPECIAL PRAYER FOR THE FIFTH DAY.

O Blessed Peter Julian, by the gentle and firm hand of Divine Providence that guided thee at all times, pray for me. Thou art safe now in the harbour of Heaven and hast nothing more to fear. Pray to the Divine Pilot for me and ask Him to grant me the particular favour I should like to receive. Ask Him especially to take the helm of my ship and steer me as He did thee safely through the troubled waters of this life to the haven where, after my death, I shall be happy with thee in loving and praising Him for all eternity. Amen.

THE SIXTH DAY.

One evening, while at Saint-Romans, Blessed Peter Julian spent an hour in a contemplation of the goodness and kindness of God that he remembered all his life. This contemplation made him, as it were, the inspired bard of God's loving-kindness. His writings are so full of this theme that they have a sweetness and charm that border on the divine. He never seems to have experienced the least doubt in

God's goodness. He had the confidence of a child in God. He would often quote the words of St. Paul: "How has He not given us all things with Him?" and he argued that since God gave us the Eucharist He would give us anything else. It was this childlike simplicity and confidence that made his prayers so powerful. One day he said to Mlle. Guillot: "You know that the Good God refuses me nothing. He grants me more than I dare to even wish for!"

O Sacrament, etc., as on first day, page 2.

SPECIAL PRAYER FOR THE SIXTH DAY.

O Blessed Peter Julian, by thy unwavering trust in the goodness and kindness of God, pray for me. The Good God Who never refused thee anything on earth will certainly listen to thy prayers now in Heaven. Pray to Him, then, for me, and ask Him to grant me the particular favour I should like to receive. Ask Him especially to give me a childlike confidence in his loving-kindness based on the Gift of the Eucharist so that I may serve Him faithfully on earth, and, after my death, praise Him and

love Him with thee in Heaven for all eternity. Amen.

THE SEVENTH DAY.

The sole ambition of Blessed Peter Julian was to bring about the reign of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament upon earth. For this purpose He wanted Our Lord to manifest His presence and power by working miracles, spiritual and corporal. Very many persons had recourse to Blessed Peter Julian, asking him to obtain favours and even cures for them. He always referred them to Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. When the cure of a bodily ailment was desired, he would recommend using the oil taken from the sanctuary lamp burning before the Blessed Sacrament. He said on one occasion: "That little lamp that burns before Our Lord has never failed to cure those who, when sick, have been anointed with its oil, which is faith and love!" When persons, who had obtained the desired favour, came to thank Blessed Eymard, he would say: "Go and thank the Master. I had nothing to do with it."

O Sacrament, etc., as on first day, page 2.

SPECIAL PRAYER FOR THE SEVENTH DAY.

O Blessed Peter Julian, by thy great faith in the power of the Blessed Sacrament, pray for me. Thou canst now thank the Master in Heaven for the many favours people obtained by following thy advice and having recourse to the Blessed Sacrament. Pray to Our Lord now for me and ask Him to grant me the particular favour I should like to receive. Ask Him especially to give me greater faith in the power of His Blessed Sacrament so that I may obtain all that I need from Him there and, after my death, thank Him with thee in Heaven for all eternity. Amen.

THE EIGHTH DAY.

Blessed Peter Julian was kind. Everybody loved him. He had the simplicity and playfulness of a little child, the self-effacing humility of a great saint, and the charity and goodness of a mother. One could not help feeling drawn to him. Young men said: "I could go to confession to him every day."

Dying sinners could not resist his sincere kindness, and made their peace with God through him. Whenever he stopped in any place for a few days, the news spread like wildfire and the callers came in such numbers that it reminded people of the crowds that were always waiting at Ars to go to confession to its pastor, St. Jean Marie Vianney, a bosom friend of Blessed Eymard. One of his religious said to him: "Father, you should have fixed office hours for receiving visitors. People take up your time for nothing." The good priest answered: "Our Lord has no office hours. He is ready to receive callers always, and I, His servant, must be ready to let them in whenever they come." People would come to see him for everything, just as they would have gone to Our Lord Himself. Blessed Eymard would say, at times: "I am like a mother whose little ones run to her to show her where they hurt themselves." One witness in the process of beatification stated under oath: "No one ever had recourse to him in vain." This was especially true of the poor and of those who had done something for the Blessed Sacrament.

O Sacrament, etc., as on first day, page 2.

SPECIAL PRAYER FOR THE EIGHTH DAY.

O Blessed Peter Julian, by thy great kindness and love for all men, pray for me. Thou couldst never refuse anyone on earth. Now that thou art in Heaven, God will certainly not refuse thee anything. Pray to Him, then, for me, and ask Him to grant me the particular favour I should like to receive. Ask Him especially to make me become like thee so that I may draw souls to His Blessed Sacrament here below and, after my death, be happy with thee in Heaven for all eternity. Amen.

THE NINTH DAY.

Blessed Peter Julian was one of the most widely-known and well-loved priests of Paris in his day. "It must be my fault," he would say, "people are always running after me!" His charming kindness had a great deal to do with it, and also the many favours he obtained for people. He tried, in his sincere humility, to disclaim all responsibility and refer all favours to the confidence people had in the Blessed Sacrament or in Our Lady. Sometimes God made it very plain who was responsible.

The following is a case in point. A mother brought her boy of 13, who had been blinded by an accident five or six years before, to Father Eymard. "I was told to come to you, Father, and you would cure my boy." "I am not a doctor, my good lady," he answered, "but I'll give you a card to an oculist I know in Paris." "Father, you must cure him. I don't want to see a doctor." "Well, then, go to the Master exposed in the chapel and He will hear you." The mother answered: "Go yourself, Father. He won't hear my prayers." Then Father Eymard dipped two fingers in holy water and placed them on the boy's two eyes, telling him to go and pray to Our Lord. The lad cried out: "Mama, I can see!" The cure was complete.

O Sacrament, etc., as on first day, page 2.

SPECIAL PRAYER FOR THE NINTH DAY.

O Blessed Peter Julian, by thy great power to obtain favours from God, pray for me. Now that thou art in Heaven, thy power must be much greater and thy humility has nothing to

fear. Pray to the Good Master, then, for me and ask Him to grant me the particular favour I should like to receive. Ask Him especially to give me graces like to thine, so that I may serve Him in the Blessed Sacrament better on earth and, after my death, have the happiness of serving Him with thee in Heaven for all eternity. Amen.

*Prayer to Blessed Peter Julian Eymard to
Obtain the Coming of the Reign of Jesus
in the Blessed Sacrament.*

O Blessed Peter Julian, whose seraphic gaze pierced so deeply beneath the Eucharistic Veil, you, who have given to the world this sublime call to arms, "Jesus is there, hence everybody to Him," obtain for us, through the intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin, whom you honoured by the sweet name of Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament, that this cry of your heart may find an echo in every heart.

Obtain for us that it may become the starting point of a widespread and intense renewal of Eucharistic life, worship, and action. Obtain for us that all souls may be drawn

irresistibly towards Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in order to adore Him in His ineffable abasement, in order to associate themselves by means of Holy Mass to His perpetual sacrifice, and in order to receive Him as their Bread of Life.

May your cry come down with more power and fruitfulness from Heaven, where your humility already is triumphant and is shining with hallowed splendour that will never fade. May it raise up among nobler souls, and particularly among priests, who were the constant object of your special affection, new troops of adorers and apostles of the Holy Eucharist who, following your example and according to your teaching, will consecrate themselves to glorifying the Blessed Sacrament among individuals and among nations, and will thus hasten more efficaciously the coming of the Peace of Christ in the reign of His love. Amen!

ANOTHER PRAYER TO BLESSED PETER JULIAN EYMARD.

O Blessed Peter Julian, who didst receive the grand privilege of so perfectly knowing what

treasures are ours in the Most Blessed Sacrament, of being all afire with seraphic love for It, and of consecrating unto It thy untiring zeal that It might be perpetually adored and glorified by all mankind, we beg of thee to obtain for us the spiritual and the temporal favours of which we stand in need.

Obtain for us particularly to become, in imitation of thee, faithful adorers in spirit and in truth of the Most Blessed Sacrament, while tending even more towards the acquirement of Christian virtue, above all, of sincere humility. Thus we hope to live that life of union with Our Lord which was the aim of thy constant zeal, as it is the principal effect of Holy Communion in our souls.

Finally, O Blessed Peter Julian, obtain for us thy own filial devotion towards Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament, that we may learn from that dear Divine Mother how to serve and adore on earth Our Saviour hidden in His Sacrament, and thus come to adore and glorify Him unveiled in Heaven. Amen.

PRAYER

*To Obtain the Canonization of Blessed
Peter Julian.*

Lord Jesus, Thou Who didst give to Thy faithful servant, Blessed Peter Julian, the privilege of so perfectly knowing the ineffable treasures of Thy Eucharist, of being inflamed with Its love, of devoting himself to Its adoration, and of causing It to be perpetually glorified all over the world, grant us by his merits and intercession, with a view to obtaining his canonization, the graces we now earnestly ask of Thee. . . (*Here make request*). . . We place our prayer under the protection of the Immaculate Virgin Mary, Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament, and of St. Joseph, the first of Thy adorers. Amen.

A. R. T. E.

PROPER OF THE MASS FOR THE FEAST
OF BLESSED PETER JULIAN EYMARD,
ON THE THIRD DAY OF AUGUST.

INTROIT.

Psalm 65, v. 4.

Let all the earth adore Thee, O God, and sing to Thee: let it sing a psalm to Thy Name, O Most High. *Psalm 65, vv. 1-2*: Shout with joy to God, all the earth, sing ye a psalm to His Name: give glory to His praise. Glory be to the Father, etc.

COLLECT PRAYER.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, Who didst admirably raise up Blessed Peter Julian to promote everywhere the solemn worship of the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist, and Who hast by him given a new family to Thy Church, propitiously grant, that by his intercession and example, we may become adorers in spirit and in truth of so great a Mystery and propagators of the glory of

the Same, Who livest and reignest with God the Father, in the Unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end. Amen.

EPISTLE.

A Reading from the Epistle of Blessed John, the Apostle.

I. John 4, 7-16.

Dearly beloved, let us love one another, for charity is of God. And everyone that loveth, is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not, knoweth not God: for God is charity. By this hath the charity of God appeared towards us, because God hath sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we may live by Him. In this is charity: not as though we had loved God, but because He hath first loved us, and sent His Son to be a propitiation for our sins. My dearest, if God hath so loved us: we also ought to love one another. No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abideth in us, and His charity is perfected in us. In this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us: because He hath given us of His Spirit. And we have

seen, and do testify, that the Father hath sent His Son to be the Saviour of the world. Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God abideth in him, and he in God. And we have known, and have believed the charity, which God hath to us. God is charity: and he that abideth in charity, abideth in God, and God in him.

GRADUAL.

Ps. 83, 2-3: How lovely are Thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts! My soul longeth and fainteth for the courts of the Lord. *Ps. 25, 8:* I have loved, O Lord, the beauty of Thy house: and the place where Thy glory dwelleth.

Alleluia, alleluia. *Ps. 85, 9:* All the nations Thou hast made shall come and adore before Thee, O Lord: and they shall glorify Thy Name. Alleluia.

GOSPEL.

✠ Continuation of the holy Gospel according to John. *John 6, 56-70:* At that time Jesus said to the multitude of the Jews: My flesh is meat indeed: and My blood is drink indeed.

He that eateth My flesh, and drinketh My blood, abideth in Me, and I in him. As the living Father hath sent Me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth Me, the same also shall live by Me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead. He that eateth this bread, shall live for ever. These things He said, teaching in the synagogue, in Capharnaum. Many therefore of His disciples, hearing it, said: This saying is hard, and who can hear it? But Jesus, knowing it Himself, that His disciples murmured at this, said to them: Doth this scandalize you? If then you shall see the Son of man ascend up where He was before; It is the spirit that quickeneth: the flesh profiteth nothing. The words that I have spoken to you, are spirit and life. But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning, who they were that did not believe, and who he was, that would betray Him. And He said: Therefore did I say to you, that no man can come to Me, unless it be given him by My Father. After this many of His disciples went back; and walked no more with Him. Then Jesus said to the twelve:

Will you also go away? And Simon Peter answered Him: Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life. And we have believed, and have known, that Thou art the Christ, the Son of God. *Credo.*

OFFERTORY.

Ps. 28, 2: Bring to the Lord glory and honour: bring to the Lord glory to His Name: adore ye the Lord in His holy court.

SECRET PRAYER.

May these Thy Sacred Mysteries, O Lord, kindle within us, we beseech Thee, the ardour of charity with which Blessed Peter Julian deserved to immolate the Unspotted Lamb Who taketh away the sins of the world, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the Unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end. Amen.

COMMUNION.

Ps. 21, 30-31: All the fat ones of the earth have eaten and have adored: all they that go

down to the earth shall fall before Him. And to Him my soul shall live: and my seed shall serve Him.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER.

The thanksgiving for the gifts bestowed upon us, which we offer to Thee, O Lord, on the feast of Thy Blessed Confessor, Peter Julian, propitiously receive, through the hands of the ever glorious Virgin Mary of whom Thou didst take that flesh whose sweetness we have deserved to taste in this salutary banquet, Who livest and reignest with God the Father in the Unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end. Amen.

CURES THROUGH BLESSED EYMARD.

After the decree proclaiming the heroic virtues of Venerable Eymard had been published on June 11, 1922, at the special request of His Holiness, Pope Pius XI., there was no delay in preparing the discussion of the two cures attributed to the intercession of the Venerable Servant of God, for the apostolic inquiries concerning them had already been made. Four doctors—two for each cure—were commissioned by the Sacred Congregation of Rites to examine the facts. In their report given under oath, they declared that only a miracle could have brought about the cures.

The antepreparatory congregation was held in presence of the Cardinal Relator on June 17, 1924. According to custom, two other doctors—one for each cure—were ordered to make a new investigation. Their reports were again in favour of the miracles. The preparatory congregation was held at the Vatican, in presence of the Cardinals on March 10, 1925. On the following May 5th, the general congregation was reunited in presence of the Pope, who appointed May 9th as the date for the publication of the decree approving the two miracles.

The first case presented to the Sacred Congregation of Rites was that of Miss Lucinda Cifuentes, of Santiago, Chili, who was cured of a cancer in the stomach on April 30, 1916. The second was that of a young girl of Angers, France, Miss Renee Fouchereau, cured of an osteoma on the left knee on January 17, 1919.

I.

Miss Lucinda Cifuentes had been suffering for many years from a cancer in the stomach.

"When I was called to her bedside by her family," Doctor Pacheco related in his deposition, "I was asked to give my opinion in writing. I declared that it was evidently a case of cancer, and my diagnosis corresponded with the conclusion of five other doctors. It is very easy, I believe, to recognise a cancer in its last stages, and during my twenty-seven years of practice I have never met with a more evident case of carcinoma of the stomach. Miss Cifuentes, in fact, was a prey to harrowing pains which no treatment could assuage. Even morphine injection proved of no avail.

"The other doctors who had treated the patient before me were unanimous in declaring that she had but a few more months to live.

Her appearance, when I first saw her, resembled that of a skeleton covered with tissue paper. She gave every symptom of a dying person."

Seeing then that all remedies had failed, Miss Cifuentes had recourse to the Servant of God, and promised to defray part of the expenses of his beatification if she would obtain her cure within fifteen days. Her promise was accompanied by the assurance that her prayers would be heard. Whenever her pains increased, she would repeat: "Venerable Eymard must cure me!" She would apply to her stomach a picture to which was attached a fragment of his clothing. Miss Cifuentes, meanwhile, was ignorant of the nature of her sickness; she was aware only of the fact that she was suffering from violent pains in the stomach.

On April 27th, an improvement was noticeable. Three days later, on Sunday, 30th, her cure was complete. Her physiognomy gave ample proof of the change affected. She began to eat as she had done before her sickness, and in a few days she had recuperated sufficiently to resume her former occupations. The doctors declared that there no longer existed any trace of the cancer.

II.

In the beginning of 1919, Miss Renee Fouchereau, a young girl of fifteen, was following a treatment at St. Blaise's Clinic in Angers. For three years, already, the doctors had declared her knee attacked by osteoma. Her condition was a critical one. In early April, 1916, the doctor had been obliged to straighten her leg to its normal length in order to put it in a plaster cast. The operation had caused her much suffering. Injections, cauterizations, and other means, such as sun baths and electric treatments, proved ineffectual. The poor child painfully dragged herself on crutches, her left leg being constantly kept in a cast and her foot uncovered, for the slightest contact with anything caused her excruciating pain.

"On January 11, 1919," the patient reported in her deposition, "we began a novena to Venerable Peter Julian Eymard. During the first six days I suffered very much. To my surprise, however, the pain disappeared on the seventh day. The doctor pressed heavily on the parts which had been most sensitive, and he expressed his wonder on seeing that it did not hurt me. He waited a few days before remov-

ing the plaster cast from my leg. As I no longer felt any pain, I was allowed to walk without crutches. My knee was then X-rayed, and found to be in excellent condition. I have not suffered since."

The cure, in fact, was as complete as it was instantaneous. More than five years later, on May 26, 1924, the doctor who had treated her in Angers could testify that "her left knee was much the same as her right one—its circumference was but one centimeter less than that of the right knee; all the ligaments had their normal suppleness, colour, and temperature; it could be moved in every direction with complete ease; and, lastly, it no longer caused any pain even when pressed."

"There is no doubt," concluded the doctor, "that the cure is complete."

THE EUCCHARISTIC VOCATION

"The Society of the Most Blessed Sacrament exists and wishes to exist only for the service of the Person of Our Lord. It consecrates to Him all that it has, all that it is, its members, and all that they are. It wants to gain nothing either for itself or for others, for it is so little in comparison with what its great King deserves. May it hear Him say: I am satisfied. Here are men who adore Me, love Me and serve Me for Myself alone."

Blessed Peter Julian Eymard.

Note.—Blessed Eymard was the founder of the Society of the Fathers of the Blessed Sacrament. If you would like to know something of the life of either a priest or a laybrother in the Society, write to us and we will send you our vocation booklets.

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT FATHERS

St. Francis' Church

Melbourne, C.1

THE HISTORICAL VOCATION

The Society of the Most Blessed
Joseph exists and wishes to exist only
for the service of the Person of Our Lord
It concentrates in Him all that is best in
life. It is its members and all that they
do for Him to give Him glory and
happiness. It is the duty of every member
to be a good Christian and a good
citizen. It is the duty of every member
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Printed in Australia

by

J. C. Stephens Pty. Ltd., Melbourne