



To Promote the Canonization of Mother Seton

NUMBER 80

EMMITSBURG, MD.

DECEMBER, 1961

Sisters of Charity Meet at Seton Hill

Eighteenth Conference of Mother Seton's Daughters Held Recently

The Eighteenth Conference of Mother Seton's Daughters was held at Seton Hill, Greensburg, Pa., motherhouse of the Sisters of Charity of Greensburg, October 13-15, 1961. The periodic conferences, now held annually, were suggested as a means of furthering the Cause for Beatification and Canonization of the Venerable Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton by His Eminence, Amleto Cardinal Cicognani, Papal Secretary of State, while he was Apostolic Delegate to the United States.

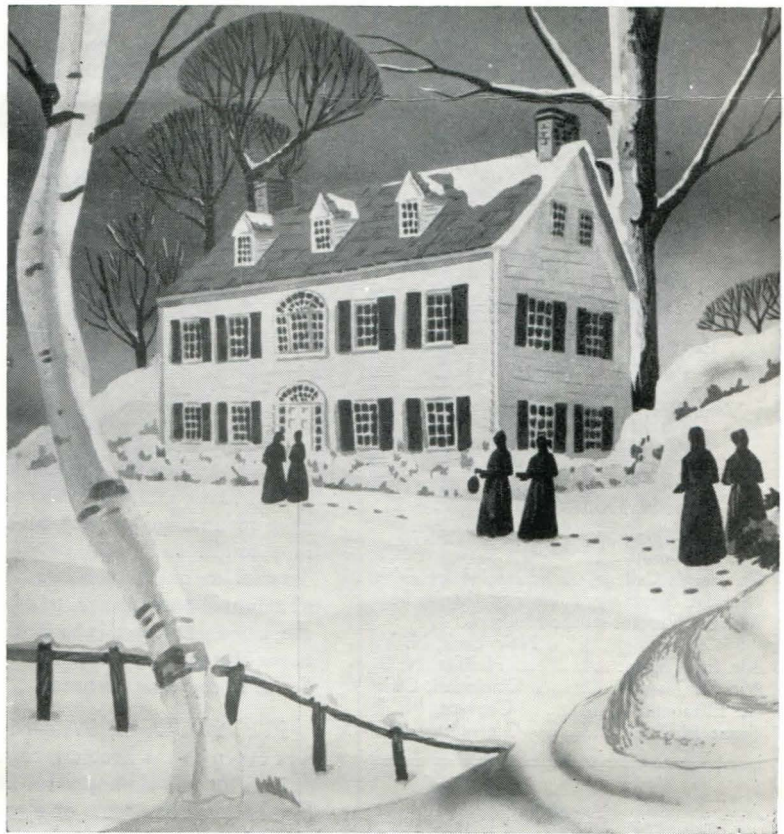
The Seton Hill meeting was presided over by Very Rev. John P. McGowan, C.M., Vice Postulator of the Cause of Mother Seton, and attended by officials of the seven groups of American religious women who trace their establishment to the Venerable Servant of God. Among those present were:

Sister Isabel, Visitatrix, and Sister Eleanor, Assistant, of the Daughters of Charity's United States Eastern Province; Sister Margaret Mary (representing Sister Catherine, Visitatrix of the Daughters of Charity's United States Western Province); Mother Mary (representing Mother Loretto Bernard, Mother General) and Sister Miriam Leonard, Councillor, of the Sisters of Charity of Mount St. Vincent-on-Hudson, New York; and Mother Mary Omer, Mother General, and Sister Rosarita, Councillor, of the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Also, Mother Joanna Marie, Mother General, and Sister Josephine, Councillor, of the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth, Convent, New Jersey; Sister Mary Clarissa, Provincial, and Sister Miriam Vincent, Councillor (representing Mother Stella Maris, Mother General), of the Sisters of Charity of Halifax, Nova Scotia; and Sister Theodosia, Assistant (representing Mother Claudia, Mother General), and Sister Teresa Clare, Sister Victoria and Sister Mary Rita, Councillors, of the Sisters of Charity of Greensburg, Pa.

Father McGowan celebrated Mass in the motherhouse chapel on Saturday morning, October 14, at 8 o'clock; and the Conference formally opened at 9:30 o'clock.

At the conclusion of the morning session, His Excellency, Most Rev. William G. Connare, D.D., Bishop of Greensburg, offered a second Mass and delivered a sermon on Mother Seton. A luncheon followed, at which the principal address was given by Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Granger Ryan, Ph.D., President of Seton Hill College. The Conference sessions resumed in the afternoon.



In this Season of Peace, may the gift of peace be yours--the kind of peace Elizabeth Seton knew, God's holy peace of heart and soul.

Father John P. McGowan, C.M.

Among the matters discussed, Father McGowan's report on the progress of Mother Seton's Cause was of special interest. The official minutes of the Conference gives the following summary:

"The Apostolic Tribunals that were to investigate the two cures proposed as miracles were duly set up in accordance with the prescriptions from the Holy See, one in Baltimore and the other in Buffalo. These Tribunals, which involved complicated procedure and great accuracy, accomplished their work efficiently and the documents were sent to Father Bisoglio, Postulator of the Cause, who then pre-

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Apostolic Postulation

FOR THE CAUSE OF
CANONIZATION
OF THE SERVANT OF GOD

Elizabeth Ann Seton

Foundress of the
SISTERS OF CHARITY
IN AMERICA

HIS EMINENCE

GAETANO CARDINAL CICOGNANI
Prefect of the
Sacred Congregation of Rites

HIS EMINENCE

CLEMENTE CARDINAL MICARA
Cardinal Relator of the Cause

HIS EXCELLENCY

MOST REV. FRANCIS P. KEOUGH, D.D.
Archbishop of Baltimore

VERY REV. LUIGI BISOGLIO, C.M.
Postulator General (Rome)

VERY REV. JOHN P. MCGOWAN, C.M.
Vice Postulator

Mother Seton's Daughters

Communities of the Sisters of Charity

St. Joseph College _____ Emmitsburg, Md.
Marillac Seminary _____ St. Louis, Mo.
Mt. St. Vincent-on-the-Hudson,
New York, N. Y.
Mt. St. Vincent _____ Halifax, N. S.
Mt. St. Joseph _____ Cincinnati, Ohio
St. Elizabeth's _____ Convent, N. J.
Seton Hill _____ Greensburg, Pa.



Central Office

Mother Seton Guild

EMMITSBURG, MD.

Guild Membership

Yearly _____ \$1.00
Perpetual _____ \$10.00

Deceased May Be Enrolled

Address all communications to
MOTHER SETON GUILD
EMMITSBURG, MARYLAND

FAVORS ACKNOWLEDGED

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Last May my mother was in the hospital with double pneumonia. Somehow she survived this bout and came home again. During her visits to the doctor following this illness, a shady area was discovered on her lung. This condition worsened, and another stay in the hospital seemed inevitable. I began prayers to Mother Seton for my mother's cure; by the time of her next visit to the doctor, the lung condition had cleared up considerably. J. T.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.—My baby did not seem to be progressing as she should. She was very slow in turning over, sitting up and standing; and was not as alert as my other children had been at her age. I was very worried for fear all these signs might mean that she was retarded. I began a novena to Mother Seton. Soon afterwards, I began to notice many little signs that my baby was normal. She also became more agile; and now, at the age of one year, she is walking around her playpen. I am confident that she will continue to develop normally, thanks to Mother Seton's intercession. A. G. M.

HARRISBURG, PA.—I had promised public thanks to Mother Seton for a very special favor granted. I was told I would have to undergo surgery for a condition that might very well prove malignant. Thanks to my prayers, and the prayers of relatives and friends, to Mother Seton the tumor removed was benign. I shall never forget the kindness of Mother Seton in my time of need. Anon.

PITTSBURGH, PA.—My daughter was taken to the hospital, close to death; her doctor had no hopes for her survival. She had lost five pints of blood, and had to be operated on next day. I prayed to Mother Seton, and every time I went to see my daughter, put the Venerable's relic in her hand. I feel that it was through Mother Seton's intercession that she is alive today. M. E. B.

BAY CITY, MICH.—I am writing to report two favors obtained through Mother Seton's intercession. I attended a high school conducted by the Sisters of Charity, who gave me literature on the Venerable Servant of God and suggested I pray to her for special favors. Since Mother Seton was an educator, I thought she would help me through a successful practice teaching course, and find me the right teaching position. I was not disappointed. I will continue to pray to Mother Seton, and will ask God to raise her to the altars. R. M.

SPRINGFIELD, VA.—Our daughter has had severe nose bleeds for years. We all prayed for her to God through Mother Seton, and our daughter wore her medal always. At length we were sent to a specialist who has helped her very much. We are sure that it was Mother Seton who guided us to this doctor. M. B.

PITTSBURGH, PA.—I promised to make known these favors received through Mother Elizabeth Seton's intercession: two successful operations, perseverance in a religious vocation, and a return of a friend to the sacraments. Besides, a leg ulcer was healed without the necessity of skin grafting. In my gratitude, I shall try to make Mother Seton better known. S. M. J.

BALTIMORE, MD.—Our daughter graduated from elementary school in June. She was an average student; but our Catholic high schools were so crowded, we couldn't be sure of her acceptance. Even if she were accepted, my husband and I feared we would not be able to meet the normal high school expenses. We asked Mother Seton to help us solve these difficulties. My daughter took an entrance examination, and was accepted with the first group. When our pastor heard of her fine showing, he offered her a scholarship. We are most grateful to Mother Seton for finding such complete solutions to our problems. M. T. T.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Mother Seton has answered my prayers. Not only am I showing signs of physical improvement, but mentally and spiritually especially, I am almost a new person; almost back to where I was several years ago, before I became ill. The peace of mind and soul I possess seems truly miraculous. I am sleeping; and accepting everything, instead of being rebellious, depressed and angry at the whole world. I am even patient with the treatment I must undergo. E. T.

HALIFAX, N. S.—My husband and I and our seven children could not find a place to live at a rent we could afford. It almost seemed that no one wanted children in the houses they owned. We prayed to Mother Seton; and after living for a year and a half in a substandard dwelling without plumbing, we were able to rent a beautiful seven-room house with all modern conveniences. We were very fortunate, for we discovered there was a waiting list of people who wanted this house. M. B. K.



Pictured at the Eighteenth Conference of Mother Seton's Daughters, held at Seton Hill, Greensburg, Pa. (Front row, left to right) Sister Margaret Mary, Mother Mary, Mother Joanna Marie, Sister Theodosia, Father McGowan, Sister Isabel, Mother Mary Omer and Sister Miriam Vincent; (Back row, left to right) Sister M. Victoria, Sister Miriam Leonard, Sister Josephine Marie, Sister Teresa Clare, Sister Rita, Sister Eleanor, Sister Rosarita and Sister Clarissa.

Conference at Seton Hill

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sented them to the Congregation of Rites.

"The reports called forth very favorable comments regarding the thoroughness and dispatch with which they had been prepared. The next step will be the issuing on the part of the Sacred Congregation of a Decree of the Validity of the Process, which Father McGowan is now awaiting. The material submitted regarding the miracles will then be given into the hands of the doctors who are members of the Sacred Congregation of Rites. . . .

"Father McGowan said that we have

reason to rejoice in the fact that thus far there have been no setbacks in the progress of the Cause and nothing has been rejected. He urged the need of fervent and frequent prayer that the Holy Spirit may incline the Sacred Congregation of Rites and His Holiness John XXIII to make a favorable report so that the Process may be carried forward to the Beatification."

Other business of the Conference included detailed reports on activities in behalf of Mother Seton's Cause, submitted by the representatives of the seven communities of the Sisters of Charity; and the drafting of a Memorial Resolution to honor His Excellency, Most Rev.

John M. McNamara, D.D., late Auxiliary Bishop of Washington, who had been Moderator of the Conferences from their establishment in 1947 until his death in 1960.

Mother Mary extended to the Sisters an invitation from Mother Loretto Bernard to hold the Nineteenth Conference at Mount St. Vincent-on-Hudson in October, 1962.

The Conference ended on a warm note, with a suggestion from Sister Teresa Clare—heartily endorsed by all present—that Mother Seton's communities continue to meet even after her Cause has been successfully concluded, God willing.

Quotes from the Eighteenth Conference of Mother Seton's Daughters

It gives me genuine pleasure to inform you that the Holy Father, Pope John XXIII, graciously deigns to impart his paternal apostolic Benediction to all participating on the significant occasion of the Eighteenth Conference of Mother Seton's Daughters at Seton Hill, October 13 to 15. Trusting this blessing of the Vicar of Christ will bring abundant heavenly graces towards furthering the Cause of the Venerable Mother Seton, I add my own personal felicitations and prayerful good wishes.

Egidio Vagnozzi, D.D.

Apostolic Delegate to the United States

Mother Seton is certainly one of those distinctly American people who not only grew up in America, but loved every inch of it and its traditions—traditions which have enabled us, as Catholics, to settle very deep roots. . . . Mother Seton saw no conflict between the two: she was not born in the Catholic tradition of America, but found it by the grace of God; she was able to recognize from the very beginning that there is no divided allegiance in the heart of the genuine Catholic and the genuine American.

William G. Connare, D.D.

Bishop of Greensburg

The Ecumenical Movement has had a place in my own thinking for a number of years, and it seems to me that Elizabeth Seton's life and writings throw some light on the problems it raises. I should like to suggest that, because Mother Seton was a Protestant Christian before she became a Catholic, she represents something that Catholics need very much to understand. And because she was, after her conversion—and even, indeed, before it—an apostle, she has much to teach us, even at a distance of more than a century and a half.

William Granger Ryan, Ph.D.

President of Seton Hill College

Mother Seton Guild

Emmitsburg, Maryland

Form 3547 Requested

The Mother Seton Guild, as the Apostolic Postulation, is the official organization for the Cause under the jurisdiction of the Sacred Congregation of Rites, Rome.

Guild members not only share in the noble work of making Mother Seton better known and loved by means of literature, etc., but their membership subscriptions and donations make possible this promotion.

The MOTHER SETON GUILD BULLETIN is issued quarterly to Guild members.

PRAY FOR THE BEATIFICATION OF OUR VENERABLE MOTHER SETON