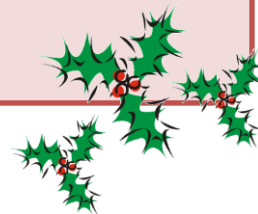


PREPARATION FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE DEATH OF VENERABLE MOTHER MARY THERESA DUDZIK

ON SEPTEMBER 20, 1918



December 2017

A READING FROM THE *CHRONICLE* OF VENERABLE MOTHER THERESA DUDZIK



“After the retreat and novena had begun, a few members of the Rosary Sodality St. Stanislaus Kostka Church visited us on Sunday. Prior to their coming a thought came to my mind during the retreat meditations, and I considered it very beneficial. It was about obtaining an organ so that we could, here in this deserted place and in our home, play and sing together at Midnight Mass in honor of the Child Jesus; so that we could thank Him for all the graces, but especially because He led us to this peaceful environment, as if it were a desert retreat, from the Babylon of Chicago. I made my meditation known to Sister Superior so that these members would be asked to purchase an organ. I even envisioned Sister Clara's going to Brother Adalbert for instructions in order to be able to play by Christmas. What a concept I then had about music! I was certain that she would learn to play by that time.

Venerable Mother Theresa desired to bring the blessing of music to the Sisters and residents of St. Joseph Home so that they could better honor the Child Jesus.

Sister Superior gladly confirmed my petition and mutually shared my opinion. As soon as I asked the ladies for the organ, they immediately consented and agreed wholeheartedly. They said, however, that they must first go and ask Father Vincent for his sanction and permission. I was most confident that he would agree, and I even imagined that the organ was already ours. Just as soon as the ladies mentioned the petition to Father, he laughed and said: "I will give them an organ! They are to make a retreat, and here they are longing for music, and yet a religious Brother should teach them music!"

Chronicle, p. 56 – 57

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- ✦ Does the Christmas music on the radio and playing in the stores this month, make me thankful to God for all the graces I have received?

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR THE MONTH

I will write a Thank You card to Jesus for all His gifts to me and tuck it into the nativity display in my home.

VENERABLE MOTHER THERESA DUDZIK'S QUOTATION OF THE MONTH

A NOTE ABOUT THIS GUIDE

Venerable Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik (1860-1918) was a Polish immigrant who deeply felt the misery and suffering of others. She began her ministries to the poor and needy in Chicago, taking them into her own apartment. When there was not enough room to house them all, she established the first home for the aged in the city. And to guarantee that the needy would never be abandoned, she founded a religious congregation, the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago, to continue her ministries.

In this 100th anniversary of her death on September 20, 1918, the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago invite all to share in the spiritual treasures found in her hand-written journal, the *Chronicle*.

This guide represents #4 in a series of 13. The entire series of guides can be found on the Sisters' website, <http://www.chicagofranciscans.org/>



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