

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

ON SEPTEMBER 20, 1918



February 2018

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



The Polish custom of elaborately decorated Easter eggs was kept by Venerable Mother Theresa and the other early Sisters who were immigrants from Poland. On Easter morning they would break the hard boiled egg and recall Christ coming forth from the tomb.

“Easter was soon approaching. We shared the traditional Easter egg with one another, but not with the exuberant joy that we had experienced at Christmas time when we shared the wafer. There was one in the group, who continually cried for some reason. I was of a happy disposition, and I never liked crying of any kind. Although I hummed "Haec Dies" or "Regina Coeli" from time to time, since I loved to sing very much, there was no joy in my singing; at least not such a sense of jubilation as I had experienced when I lived alone with my mother. However, I offered it all to Jesus, hoping that better times would soon come.”

Chronicle, p. 33

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- ✦ How do I manage to stay positive when everyone around me seems to be in a dark mood?
- ✦ How do I bring joy to others, even when I am not feeling so joyful myself?

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FOR THE MONTH

I will take the necessary steps to have things around me that can uplift my spirit so I can better bring joy to others. I may need to add photos, images, cartoons, etc. to my phone, computer desktop. I may need to add tunes or happy video clips to my devices. I will do this remembering that God speaks to me through all of these things, offering me help in being the face of Christ in the world.

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 #6 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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