CORNELIA CONNELLY GUILD AND CAUSE

by

Mother Mary Eleanor, S.H.C.J.

The Cornelia Connelly Guild Clock is familiar to many alumnae as the symbol of the Cornelia Connelly Guild and its round-the-clock league of prayer. It is an apt symbol of the progress which the Cause of Mother Foundress is making.

There are two points of interest to any clock – its center and its circumference, joined by the hands that seem to stand still at the center as they journey about the circumference.

The center of this clock is, in one sense, the quiet, patient work that is going on in the "Cause Room" at the Old Palace, Mayfield, as more and more materials are assembled, copied, and ver-This work, so hidden, so painstaking, so little publicized, will go on and on until the fullness of truth shall be attained about the outer acts and the inner dispositions of this servant of God this warm, loving, vivid woman who is the mother of every Holy Child girl and nun. There will come a day when the testimony is all in and the Church will be able to view the truth that is disclosed, knowing that, under God, it is the whole truth.

In another sense, the center of this clock is the silent center of prayer, where the soul meets God in the presence of this truth. For every Cause for Canonization, like every other work within the Church, is a work of prayer, of grace, a work within the vast stillness of the Blessed Trinity, an accumulated treasure for the Mystical Body of Christ.

The circumference represents us all who share this activity and



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this concern. Most especially it represents the Guild - those who, embracing sacrifice, have committed themselves to furthering this activity with their prayers by offering an hour of their day. That too, of course, is contributing testimony that is of interest to the Church in assaying the sanctity of this soul. For a saint's work goes on and on in the world of men. The Guild, with its record of favors granted, its rollcall of the friends of this friend of God, is a testimony this continuing and active presence.

How large is this rollcall? Last summer, there were 4,042 adult secular members, 11,928, child members, 749 and associate members (priests and religious), including 2 cardinals, 8 bishops, 283 priests, and religious of a number of different congregations. It is heart-warming to think that priests are remembering the Guild at Mass in Alaska, in Hawaii, in Canada, in the Philippines; that nuns are praying for her in Japan, in France; that members are on five continents; that prayers are being said literally "around the clock ".

All Holy Child schools in this country are centers of the Guild. They have "Cornelia Connelly Day" or "Guild Day" once a month. Some of the 400 or more favors reported have come through — or been directed to — children; which is what one would expect. This servant of the Holy Child would find it closest to her hearf to hear and forward the intercessions and needs of children! Some of the "sacrifices" and "favors"

of the Guild's touchingly eager and confident child-members would delight her mother's heart - like the little boy who found being clean a very hard accomplishment, but came with face and hands shining, shirt-tails all tucked in, morning after morning to school. Presenting himself to his classroom Sister, he said, "Sister, you wanted a miracle. I's your miracle!" And indeed, he was! His Guild membership card, with the Guild prayer, stuck into the mirror over the washstand, reminded him of his sacrifice! Many surely pray for Mother

Connelly's Beatification and seek her intercession without belonging to the Guild. But since Guild membership offers a public witness, it contributes more than the same attention given privately. As for that hour a day (for priests their second Mass intention once a month) - there is in it just enough sacrifice to render it efficacious. It can be an hour of dishwashing, of babytending, of typing, teaching, or recreating. All can be offered as prayer, if the intention is present. It is the fidelity that counts. Fidelity, says, Cornelia Connelly, is love.

Those who would like to be enrolled in the Guild will be put in touch with it by mailing the form below to any school of the Holy Child or to Mother Mary Raymond at 1341 Montgomery Avenue, Rosemont, Pennsylvania, U.S.A. or Mother Mary St Andrew, Convent H. C. J., Harrogate, Yorks, England - Directors of the Guild:

I should like to be enrolled in the Cornelia Connelly Guild and be put in touch with the nearest Guild center:

School (if any)

Name

Address

Pylon Philatelic Association

This issue will be out when the Vatican's Hunger Campaign stamps are released on March 21st. They promise well: Murillo's Multiplication of Loaves

and Fishes and Raphael's beautiful tapestry in the Pinacoteca, The Miraculous Draught of Fishes. The values are 15,40,100 and 200 lire.

These eight commemoratives of Vatican II are: Raphael's Faith, Hope and Charity, the Pope's Escutcheon with symbols of the Four Evangelists, the Council Chamber, Pope John XXIII, the bronze statue of St Peter, and the Holy Spirit – surely a fair summary of the Council!

Organizer:

Mother Mary Josephine, Convent H. C. J., Harrogate, Yorks, England. Stamps (except the very common ones) will be gratefully received at other Holy Child Convents if it is difficult to send direct to Harrogate.

