

J. M. J.

CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 34

OF THE

Very Rev. SUPERIOR GENERAL

OF THE

Congregation of the Holy Cross.

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NOTRE DAME, INDIANA, JAN. 8, 1892.

REVEREND FATHERS AND DEAR BROTHERS IN JESUS CHRIST:

We, Edward Sorin, Superior-General of the Congregation of the Holy Cross, after prayer and due deliberation with the members composing the General Council, do hereby make known to all the members of the Congregation that we have resolved and determined, and by this present Circular make known to the Congregation of the Holy Cross, and especially to the Capitulants General, whether by right or election, our resolution and determination to open the next regular General Chapter at Notre Dame, Indiana, in America, on the 15th day of August prox. by a Solemn Mass at 8 a. m. And we convoke, without further invitation, the Fathers and Brothers who are to compose it.

From the date of reception of this Circular the members shall recite, every morning, the *Veni Creator* and the *Memorare* in each of our Houses, in order to draw down light and blessings from the Father of light on our deliberations. Said prayers to be continued to the 22d of August inclusive, the day on which the Chapter closes.

E. SORIN, C. S. C.,

*Superior-General.*

In addition to the foregoing Circular, written by the General Council held here this morning (Jan. 8), I beg to present a few local arrangements for the Province of Indiana, which may be followed by the other Provinces of the Congregation with the same advantages:

1st. The annual general Retreat shall open on the 9th day of July, the Feast of the Prodigies of the Blessed Virgin, and close on the 16th, Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

2d. Immediately after the closing of the Retreat, the Provincial council shall meet, as usual, to examine the affairs of the Province, and assign all obediences, which shall be delivered at Vespers, on the 7th Sunday after Pentecost, Feast of St. Vincent de Paul.

3d. On the day after the closing of the annual Retreat, all the teaching Brothers shall commence their regular studies of four hours a day, to prepare themselves for the official examination and personal qualifications.

One thing more: but I scarcely know how to express it. I never felt more edified, more delighted on the receipt of so many beautiful and touching New Year's letters. I read them with a happy heart, and will keep every one of them as precious treasures. Happy, happy New Year to each one and to all! What a consolation in these troublesome times in Europe to see us blessed with peace and success as we never before were in all our Houses of this New World!

But above all, let us renew, more fervently than ever, our resolution to pray for the Church and our Holy Father. Not one of us has ever seen the sad and cruel trials reported from Rome day after day. Oh! Let us pray for our Holy Church and her venerated head upon earth.

E. S.