

The pamphlet "Scapular Facts" is obtainable at the racks.....

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...or from the Carmelite Monastery, 6413 Dante Ave. Chicago, Ill.

The Saint Who Lived In A Tree.

Back in the thirteenth century in Merrie Olde Englande lived a man named Simon, and he was a saint. Today is his feast. Because this man carved his home in the trunk of a tree, he was surnamed Stock. His days he spent in spiritual labors. At night he prayed in the hollow tree. How his prayers were heard you shall presently see.

St. Simon Stock was a Carmelite Monk, born at Kent, in 1166. Ninety-nine years he worked for God. Now he lies buried in the Bourdeaux Cathedral.

In 1247, when the Carmelites held their First General Chapter he was elected the Prior General. As the Turks had just expelled the monks from the place of their founding, Mt. Carmel-- "The Garden on the beautiful hill"-- St. Simon was faced with the difficult task of establishing the monks in new homes in the west.

To the Blessed Mother of God he went with faith. He prayed and he cried and he sang:

Carmel's fair flower,	Meek Mother-maiden,	Grant us a sign,
Red blossom-laden,	None equals thee,	Thy Carmelite brethren,
Splendor of heaven,	Mother and Virgin	Mark us for thine,
		Star of the Sea!

After four years of unceasing prayer, the bountiful Mother of God could no longer resist his entreaties and sighs. And as dawn was breaking on the sixteenth of July, 1251, Mary appeared to the holy man. This was

The Vision of Simon:

surrounded by angels of dazzling brightness, Mary presented the monk with a garment in the form of a scapular. And she promised the saint: "This shall be a privilege for thee and all Carmelites: whosoever shall die wearing it shall not suffer everlasting fire. It is the badge of salvation, a protection in danger, a pledge of peace and eternal alliance."

The wearer of the Brown Scapular (for that is its color and it matches the habit of the Carmelite Monks) is a Child of Mary, enjoying her sweet and powerful protection, especially at the hour of death--whoever shall die wearing it shall not suffer hell.

The essential thing is to be enrolled in the Confraternity of Our Lady's Scapular and to wear this richly indulgenced sacramental (or its equivalent, the Scapular Medal) suspended from the neck.

For generations, almost the first thing a freshman does at Notre Dame is to seek out the office of the Prefect of Religion and ask for a medal and chain. Then at the opening mission, all the students are duly enrolled in the Confraternity. In virtue of this they become, in a very true sense, part of the Order of Carmel, for the Confraternity stands in relation to Carmel as the Third Order stands to the Franciscans or Dominicans.

"What wonder," writes the Most Reverend Prior General of the Order, "that men and women have clung with such steadfast fidelity to the Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel! What wonder if the soldier in face of danger wishes to wear the uniform of the Queen of Heaven! What wonder that faithful souls travelling to their Father's home desire to wear what they believe is the guarantee of a Mother's kindly love! We are all children in the spiritual life, no matter how the years have crowded on us. It is a child's prerogative to be clothed by a Mother's kindly hand. Hence the time can never be when the faithful child of Holy Church does not feel a thrill of pleasure as he is being robed in the livery of Mary-- the Scapular."

PRAYERS: Ill, father of Louis McKeon (How); John Wilson (Walsh); Jim Heneghan (Cav.).