

against it with all the strength of our hearts!

Inadvertently, I forgot to mention that the sisters, on the feast of the Presentation of Our Lady in the Temple, renewed, for the third time, their private vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. May the Divine Spouse of their souls, bless them in every conceivable way as they prepare for the Solemnity of Our Lady, Mediatrix of Grace (May 8 in the 1962 Missal), the principal patron of their community. As these Ancillae Mariae Mediatricis (Handmaids of Mary, Mediatrix) Sisters Mary Neri and Mary Montfort, assure you of a remembrance in their prayers, please remember them as well.

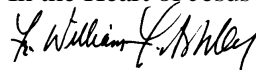
As you well know, there are still a few days left in the Great Jubilee of the year 2000. It ends on the feast of the Epiphany, January 6, 2001, so there is still time to gain the plenary indulgence attached to a visit to a cathedral church, or other designated churches, under the usual conditions of prayer for the Roman Pontiff, reception of Holy Communion, Confession within a week before or after the visit to a designated church and detachment from sin. By the way, the Holy Father made a wonderful gift to us all with the publication of the new edition of the *Enchiridion Indulgentiarum*. There is not enough space to mention all of the grants. Suffice it to say, that the plenary indulgence attached to the recitation of the Holy Rosary has now been extended to any group which engages in this worthy exercise. Marian devotees take note!

It is our intention, in a few months time, to include a monthly column of news from local members and chapters. If you have anything you would like to see included, just bring it to the attention of Theodore Schwalm. Also, we hope to begin a series of visits to local members and chapters in the not too distant future. If you would like to host a visit, once again, let Theodore know, as he will be arranging the calendar.

As mentioned earlier, the Holy Year of Jubilee ends on the Solemnity of the Epiphany, January 6, 2001, the twelfth day of Christmas. May I recommend 2 customs from the *Rituale Romanum* associated with the feast of the Epiphany: the Solemn Blessing of Epiphany Water and the blessing of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Why not start them up this year as a special new millennium celebration and keep them up in the years to come. Conveniently, I have noticed a small boxed set, containing a booklet and **24 karat gold, frankincense and myrrh** on sale in a number of bookstores. What a beautiful way to end the Holy Year, honoring Our Lord on the feast of His manifestation to the world.

I have gone on too long: Once again, **Mary Christ Mass.**

In the Heart of Jesus and Mary,



Fr William F. Ashley