

**LIFE OF ST. ALOYSIUS
GONZAGA, OF THE
SOCIETY OF JESUS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649635191

Life of St. Aloysius Gonzaga, of the Society of Jesus by J. F. X. O'Conor

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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J. F. X. O'CONOR

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ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA,

OF THE
SOCIETY OF JESUS.

EDITED BY
REV. J. F. X. O'CONNOR, S. J.

WRITTEN BY
THE STUDENTS OF RHETORIC, CLASS OF '92,
OF

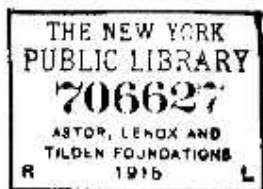
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S COLLEGE,
NEW YORK CITY.

TERCENTENARY LIFE.

EIGHTH EDITION.

PUBLISHED BY THE EDITOR AND SOLD BY ALL BOOKSELLERS.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S COLLEGE,
NEW YORK,
1891.



Imprimatur,

MICHAEL AUGUSTINE,

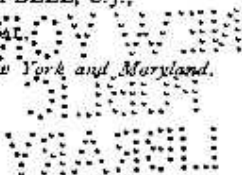
Archbishop of New York.

Imprimatur,

THOMAS J. CAMPBELL, S.J.,

PROVINCIAL,

Province New York and Maryland.



THIS LITTLE BOOK
IS DEDICATED TO THE
YOUNG MEN AND YOUNG WOMEN
OF AMERICA,
AS A SHORT REMEMBRANCE
OF THAT DEAR FRIEND OF GOD
THE PURE, THE BEAUTIFUL, THE HOLY
ST. ALOYSIUS,
WHO, LIKE US
LIVING ON THIS EARTH,
HAS, BY HIS BEAUTIFUL LIFE
AND THE FRAGRANCE OF HIS VIRTUES,
TAUGHT US
THAT WE, TOO, WITH THE HELP OF THE GOD
WHO LOVES US,
CAN KEEP FROM SIN
AND, EVEN AMID THE WHIRL OF EVIL AROUND US,
CAN LIVE HOLY LIVES
AND WIN THE BLESSED CROWN OF ETERNAL JOY
WHICH GOD PROMISES
TO THOSE WHO LOVE HIM.



St. Aloysius Gonzaga.

By G. MARAZZOLI.

FROM A PAINTING AT ROME.

TO ST. ALOYSIUS.

O ALOYSIUS, to whose loving care
Has been intrusted all our youthful life,
O, list, dear brother, to our humble prayer,
And lend thine aid to help us in the strife.
How swift the passing of thine earthly days,
Yet in their light, what lessons may we learn!
The ways of God, and truth, and light to praise,
The ways of darkness and of sin to spurn.
What honors now with other saints of God
In radiant glory does thy soul possess?
In all, brave boy-saint, hast thou glorious stood,
High on the summit of great holiness.
For who of those with whom thou now dost dwell
Hath e'er excelled thy matchless purity?
Or who performed the Lord's behest as well
As thou, with unassumed humility?
Too holy wert thou for the tainted earth
Which could not hope to long imprison thee;
Too soon, 'twould seem, still pure as at thy birth,
Thy soul has entered immortality.

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EDITOR'S PREFACE.

THE Tercentenary of the birthday in heaven of St. Aloysius.

What is the meaning of a centenary and a tercentenary? The Romans of old celebrated the building of the city of Rome, not only with annual rejoicings, but every hundredth year with the Secular Games, the "Ludi sæculares." "Within the circle of a hundred years the life of man is bound," said the poet, and speaking of these games, Ovid says, they are "to be looked upon once in a lifetime." The solemn voice of the herald proclaims that invited guests have either never beheld them before, or never will again.

Eight hundred years before the Romans, the people of Israel held their feast of joy, their jubilee, corre-