

**A HEROINE OF
CHARITY & A QUEEN
BY RIGHT DIVINE**

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A heroine of charity & A queen by right divine by Kathleen O'Meara

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KATHLEEN O'MEARA

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FIRST DEPARTURE FOR THE FOREIGN
MISSIONS

Keep your Rules, my dear Sisters,
and your Rules will keep you.

(St. Vincent de Paul)

Look upon the Blessed Virgin
as your only Mother.

(Ven. L. de Marillac)

SAINTE VINCENT DE PAUL and Venerable Louise de Marillac sent the Daughters of Charity to Varsovia at the request of the Queen of Poland, Marie-Louise de Gonzague, wife of King John Casimir.

This first departure for foreign missions took place in 1652; Sister Marguerite Moreau, Sister Madeleine Drugeon and Sister Françoise Douelle were the privileged three selected for this honour.

Most touching was the farewell addressed by the saintly Founder to the dear departing sisters.

"O what a grand vocation is yours, my dear daughters! To raise up saintly men and women for Jesus Christ, in this new kingdom!... This vocation of God is to honour His Son by going to accomplish in that country that which He Himself did. How few women are called to do the good spiritual and corporal works to which you are called to-day! I pray the divine Goodness to give you great blessings which shall spread not from the East to the West, but from time to eternity, and make you advance from virtue to virtue. Attach yourself to your Rules, as the snail is attached to its shell and dies if he leaves it."

The Venerable Louise de Marillac handed over to her dear daughters a picture of the Blessed Virgin "SOLE MOTHER OF THEIR COMPANY," which is religiously preserved by the Sisters who have uninterruptedly succeeded to those first missionaries.



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&
A Queen by Right
Divine

By KATHLEEN O'MEARA
(*"Grace Ramsay"*)



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