

**THE LIFE OF MÈRE MARIE DE
LA PROVIDENCE:
FOUNDRESS OF THE 'HELPERS
OF THE HOLY SOULS'**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649719754

The Life of Mère Marie de la Providence: Foundress of the 'Helpers of the Holy Souls' by
Georgiana Fullerton & Sydney F. Smith

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GEORGIANA FULLERTON & SYDNEY F. SMITH

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302 THE LIFE

OF

MÈRE MARIE DE LA PROVIDENCE

Foundress of the 'Helpers of the Holy Souls'

BY

LADY GEORGIANA FULLERTON

THIRD EDITION, WITH PREFACE AND APPENDIX

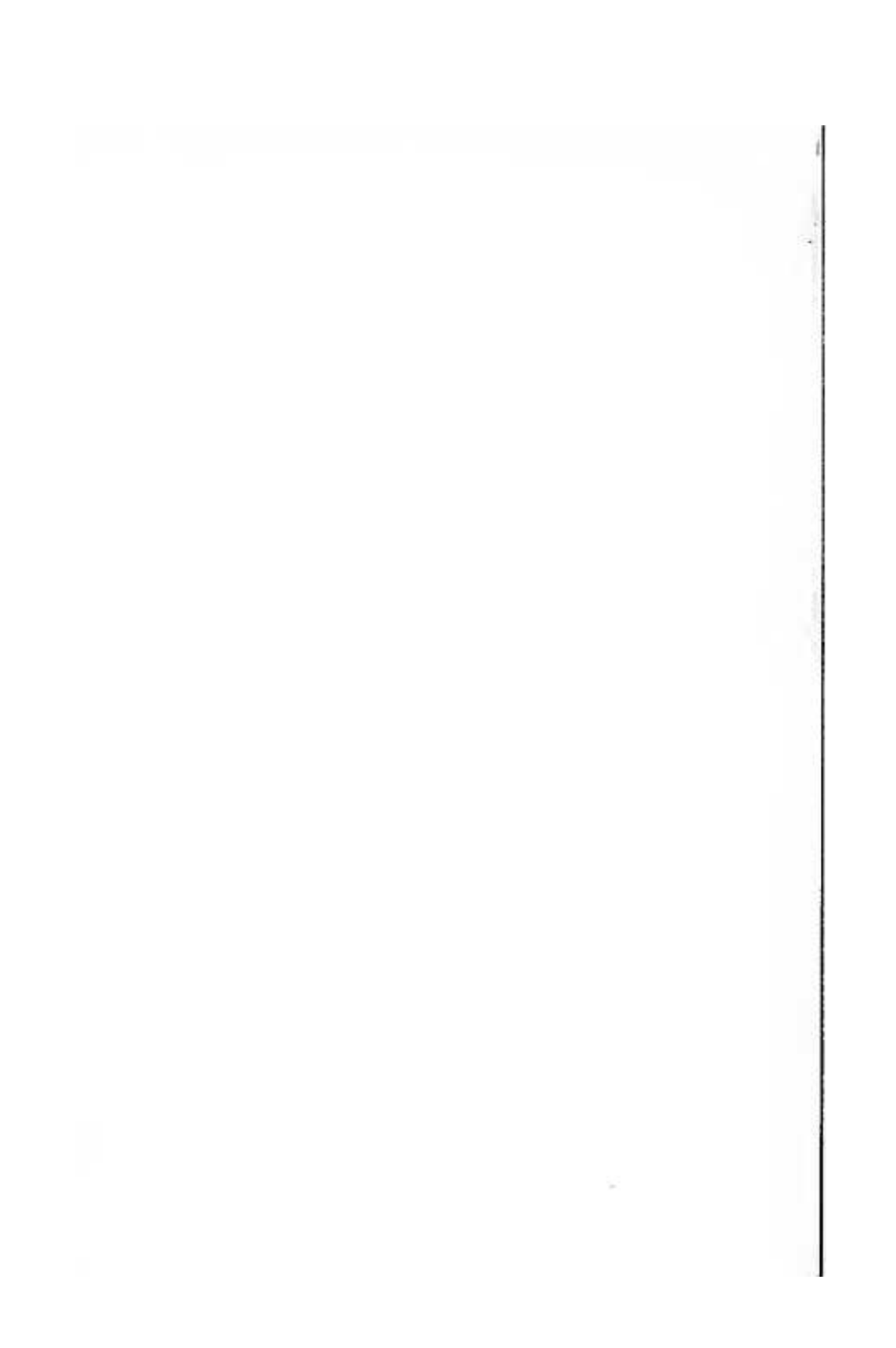
BY THE

REV. SYDNEY F. SMITH, S.J.

LONDON: BURNS & OATES, LIMITED
NEW YORK, CINCINNATI, CHICAGO: BENZIGER BROTHERS

1896

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PREFACE.

DEVOTION to the souls departed is a feeling natural to all Christians. Even those outside the Church experience an instinctive emotion at the thought of prayers for the dead, although they do not believe in their efficacy ; the sentiment is universal, but even when it is founded on faith it does not always bear the fruits it ought to produce. Few there are who steadily, fervently, and perseveringly act on their convictions in this respect. The dead are too often neglected, even by those who fondly loved them on earth. So thought the chosen soul whom God inspired, some thirty years ago, to found the Congregation of the Helpers of the Holy Souls. The

following pages will present a sketch of her life and of her work.

Should this simple record of what one valiant woman effected during a brief period of years, in our own times, and without any other resources than an ardent faith, a strong will, and a devoted heart, inspire even one reader with the thought of treading in her footsteps, and working like her for the salvation of souls, the end of the writer will be abundantly fulfilled.

PREFACE TO THE THIRD EDITION.

I HAVE been asked to bring up to date the account of the works carried on by the Helpers of the Holy Souls, and this I have done in the Second Appendix. I have also been asked to introduce this new edition with a few words of preface. Perhaps this latter office is superfluous, for the name of the authoress still lives in the reverence of English Catholics, and her recommendation is still a sufficient guarantee of the excellence of any work to which it has been given. At the same time I am glad to bear testimony to the great good done by these nuns, in this city of London, in so quiet and unostentatious a way, as likewise to the solid character of their religious training. In particular, I am sure all who know them must be struck by the fulness with which they

have inherited their Foundress's simple reliance on the Providence of God, and the manifest response from on high with which it is justified. Their work is well deserving of the notice of English Catholics, and may the same Providence which has hitherto supported them inspire some generous young hearts to reinforce their ranks.

I may take this opportunity to mention, for the sake of those who would like to learn something more about the Helpers and their work, that with the Commemoration of All Souls, each year, an octave of special devotions with daily sermons commences in the Chapel at 1 Gloucester Road, and that Leo XIII. has recently granted a plenary indulgence on the usual conditions to all who have attended these services five times.

SYDNEY F. SMITH, S.J.

31 FARM STREET.

Feast of the Maternity of the Blessed Virgin, 1896.

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