

our example. We all hope to see their flower show also. Since most of the flowers were named after Mary, we thought it would be a wonderful idea to call it "Mary's Flower Show." We all hoped that Mary liked the flower show we made in honor of her."

Techny, Ill. 5/4 (C-)

"Very happy to hear that you are getting results from the article in the May issue. My prayer is that the forty will become four hundred, and there is no place for gratitude on your part. I have the same obligation to extend Mary's love into the hearts of children, and you gave me another opportunity of doing it. So I am really grateful to you. Sincerely in our Lady."

Brooklyn, N.Y. 4/21 (C)

"Hurry the order along so that Mrs. ... will be able to acquaint the other members of our organization with the possibilities of Mary's gardens as a prayerful home activity worth publicizing. Send her as much literature as you can spare; she is very much taken with the whole idea, and is in a position to spread the good word among her friends, even if the Mary More project is voted down by the Committee.... May our Lady, she who is the "hortus conclusus" of the Canticle smile upon your lovely enterprise, and bless it with great success. Sincerely in our Lady..."

Hartford, Conn. 5/6 (C)

"On our next visit to Cape Cod, we hope to have the pleasure of visiting the Garden in Woods Hole. May we extend our best wishes to the success of your project,"

Phila., Pa. 5/19 (C)

"Our Mary Garden is being watched like a proverbial kettle. By way of encouragement, a freshman who turned up at the convent on Saturday dug up some of our already blooming Mary's tears, that have been for long in the corner of the convent yard, and sneaked them up to school. Mum was the word, and the youngsters on Monday marveled to see what had come up over the weekend. Ann will let the cat out of the bag soon for she is bursting with amusement at their amazement.

"A small glazed statue of Our Lady stands on a rod knee high in the midst of the garden, waiting for the little tendrils of Our Lady's mantle to wrap themselves around it. In October my home room group had made a rosary of acorn with horse chestnuts for gauds, using paper clips for the wiring. Each girl said a rosary for the mission and was entitled to add a bead until it was completed. I turned it up in the closet the other day, so we used it open out as the middle span of the cord surrounding our garden, until the grove is apparent. It will help to keep their attention on the fact that the seeds are Mary seeds. Each girl is responsible for the little patch she planted. There are bound to be loads of mistakes in the culture, but that is all part of the learning. Remember --- I am a shere beginner! ...



"My interest is primarily in the religious education value of the project, but it offers many lesser values, as well. It integrates the various school disciplines beautifully. From things visible, I want them to rise to things invisible --- but they need a far greater knowledge of the things visible in nature to start with. 'Is a herb an animal,' a Freshman asked me when we were discussing the pascal supper for Easter. If the supernatural is to be built upon the natural, then their knowledge of nature must be much more intimate, particularly in the urban areas. Their recoiling from worms, for instance, and wanting to rid the plot of them, was indication that the earthworm has nothing but nuisance value in their thinking. When the more enlightened explained to the less what good worms are, they really learned something. From that flowed easily the parable that the seemingly nasty things in life --- like homework and washing the supper dishes --- are of tremendous value to us in cultivating our souls. It is a delight to see their minds moving.

"My confidence will not be misplaced in trusting you with a secret, will it? The password to our garden patch is MUM A RARE YAC --- that in Tut language is "MARY." I know because a Freshman whispered it in my ear. Our age erects nothing like the numerous cathedrals dedicated to Our Lady, that doted medieval Europe, but something of that spirit that reared them, can still be found in the heart of a child.

"Miss Emily Babcock, the Episcopalian to whom I asked you to send a package ---

"How kind of you to send me the seeds from Mary's Gardens! It was such a delightful surprise . . . the whole idea with the combined prayers, etc. is very charming and well suited to the contemplative life. Thank you very much."

"Interruptions have delayed my finishing this and now it is Saturday, but I am glad to report that yesterday the first shoots started through the soil, and "winking Mary-Buds begin . . ." We decided then to "tell all "about the transplanting of our Lady's tears. During the Rogation days soon upon us, we will enter more than ever into the spirit of the Church in praying for the fruits of the earth. By Ascension Thursday, who knows what our garden will look like! Sincerely in Christ, the Gardner."

Detroit, Mich. 4/18 C

"I find myself pleasantly intrigued by (the Mary Garden) novel idea. I will be able to ( write soon) about the beginnings of a Mary's Garden on the University of Detroit campus."

Liguori, Mo. 5/20 C

"Blessings of Our Good Lord and Lady on yourself and your fine project of devotion. Sincerely in Christ."

Falmouth, Mass. 5/19 C

"I will remember the Garden project in my prayers."



San Antonio, Texas 5/19 C

"I do want to tell you Our Lady's Mantle seeds came up very readily. They are most assuredly good seeds. I hope and pray all the others do as well."

Jenkintown 6/12 C

"I can't wait to put in some of your seeds, others in the fall. If sometime later you would like to use some illustrations from our books in print, of course we will be glad to help."

Atchison, Kansas 6/23 C

Many thanks to you for your interest and cooperation. May Our Lady smile upon you and your gardens!"

New York 9/9 C

"We do not have any organized school program (in New York). Our city schools, for the most part, have very little outdoor space and where we do have play yards, they are usually covered with concrete or asphalt."

Phoenix, Ariz. 8/21

"May Our Lady continue to smile on your efforts. I am sorry that I have not more time to devote to working on a truly wonderful Mary Garden for Arizona but I shall do what I can in speaking about it and in promoting the love of Mary through gardening. If I need any seeds in the future, I will stand for them, but I do find my chief delight in preserving my own seeds and starting cuttings, trading with friends, etc. Good-bye for now and God bless you."

Ashtabula, O. 10/13 C

"I hope to have a nicer Mary Garden next year. We can not go into it very expensively because what little bit of time I have I invest into our vegetable garden for our 8 children --- ages 3 months to 10 years. Besides my milk route takes 11 hours of my day, and six days a week."

Detroit, Mich. 10/13 C

"I never was quite so disappointed with the seeds before, especially since I was trying to further or promote Mary's garden. I divided the seeds into two parts, one selection for each of my two brothers who have beautiful flower gardens. One didn't get so much as a tiny sprout and the other got some crabgrass and morning glories, and I got a double dose of razing for "being a sucker" to fall for it. I sure felt very bad. The seeds were so small one almost needed a magnifying glass to find them. This was my sad experience and I did so want to have such a garden, but maybe the Blessed Mother --- oh, well .... Sincerely."



Kearney, N.J. 10/10 C

" I am sorry to tell you the flowers I planted --- only three little bits of them came up. I was very disappointed. I was very careful with them."

Canton, O. 10/21 C

" I wish to tell you of the great enjoyment we have had from our first Mary's Garden. Although we did not plant all of the seeds we obtained from you, those that were planted grew and bloomed beautifully. Even now some of them have their beautiful heads extending above the season's first snow.

" My purpose in writing to you now is to send money for your seeds to be sent to an orphanage whose nuns have created a beautiful shrine to Our Lady of Fatima, and I think their flower gardens planted with these seeds would do much to further your work and theirs also. ... Upon contacting Mother Mary Clare, she perhaps could distribute your literature at their shrine, for it has always attracted great crowds of people. Thusly the wonderful work in Mary's behalf would become much better known and people seeing the flowers would do much to help sell them on a Mary garden.

" From time to time as I come in contact with organizations and people, I will keep on giving out this information on Mary's gardens and will send you any names I find interested in this work. I know many of my friends have become interested since seeing our garden, and I gave to them the few pamphlets I had left. Blessings on your work, and I will be interested in putting a display into our school hall, if you have posters and such in the spring. Sincerely, "

Calais, Maine 9/20 C

" I may state that I was disappointed very much as to the results as they were negligible. I may state that I did not receive a single flower for the entire season. I read the prayer before planting likewise on my vegetable garden, and I may state that I had good results on the latter. I may have planted the garden seeds too late, but have invariably obtained satisfactory results in the past in my flower garden. I don't believe I would care to repeat the experience this year. I have a center bed on a lawn, and as a rule the flowers are very attractive after the tulips are done away with in mid-June. Yours truly, "

Bishop, Calif. 10/20 C

" I only planted a few of the seeds of my Mary Garden this summer because of the small space I have for gardening, and my dog, he loves to dig. The rest I gave to friends, however, those I did plant came up and I sure enjoyed them."

St. Louis, Mo. 11/25 C

" (The Mary Garden) should do much good among members of the  
Sodalities of our Lady, who in all ways aim to express devotion  
to the Blessed Mother of God to whom they consecrate themselves  
totally. "



GROTTO MARY GARDEN  
LATHAM, N.Y.

