NOTRE DAME DU CENACLE: OUR LADY OF THE CENACLE, OR, OF THE RETREAT

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Notre Dame Du Cenacle: Our Lady of the Cenacle, Or, of the Retreat by Joseph Félix

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JOSEPH FÉLIX

NOTRE DAME DU CENACLE: OUR LADY OF THE CENACLE, OR, OF THE RETREAT



OUR LADY OF THE CENACLE OF THE RETREAT TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH, BY

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH, BY
MISS DEAK

Notre Dame du Genacle

OUR LADY OF THE CENACLE, OR, OF THE RETREAT

BY THE

REVEREND FATHER FELIX / OF THE SOCIETY OF JESUS

All these were persevering with one mind in prayer with the women, and Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Acts I: 14

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1896

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DEDICATION.

TO THE REVEREND MOTHER SUPERIOR GENERAL OF THE SOCIETY OF NOTRE DAME DU CENACLE.

Reverend Mother:

To whom more appropriately than to you can I offer these modest pages? They are yours still more than they are mine. What I have especially desired to express therein, is it not the spirit which animates you, and with which you have the legitimate ambition to animate your entire beloved family of Our Lady of the Cenacle?

Assuredly, what is offered to you in this little book is very incomplete; it is really but a sketch, and a sketch by far too imperfect. Your Society deserves better; it deserves to have one day its history, in which will be seen plainly what this work only gives a glimpse of.

But, while waiting for that history to be written, it has seemed useful to throw at least a ray of light upon an institution until now too little known to many souls, and by many others, too little understood. How many would have experienced its salutary and fruitful influence if only they had been aware of its existence? And, also, how many souls would have enrolled themselves under that holy banner of Our Lady of the Cenacle if the ideal of that life had appeared to them sooner?

I know the immense desire the Divine Master has put in your heart—to see grow and fructify more and more in his Church the Institute—the care and direction of which he has confided to you in part. May this humble effort contribute, at least in some small degree, to the fulfilment of that holy desire, that is, to make known the generous spirit, and to extend the apostolic action of the little Society to which you consecrate yourself with the double devotion of an apostle and of a mother.

Yes, to see the holy family of the Cenacle develop at the same time with its interior life its exterior beneficent action in the world, is the sincerest wish, the most earnest desire, of the author of these pages, who is happy to rejoice with you in advance over all the good it will please our Lord to accomplish through your instrumentality.

J. Felix, S. J.

LILLE, August 15, 1885.