A month ago, the Bulletin told the story of the death of Maria Goretti, the little girl of Anzio, Italy who died protecting her chastity, thereby becoming a martyr for Christ. The Beatification services, the first step in the process of canonization were held recently in Rome, and the man who killed Maria was present. The story attracted the newspapers. The Associated Press carried the following report, which is quiet praise for chastity and for repentance, two virtues the world sorely needs.

Vatican City ---- A convicted murderer, repentant and his prison sentence ended, attended the beatification of his victim, 11-year-old Maria Goretti. Semi-official Vatican sources, in reporting this, said Alexandro Serenelli, now 63 years old, apparently was not recognized by anyone in the crowd of 25,000 who attended the ceremony at St. Peter’s basilica.

Maria Goretti was stabbed by Serenelli in 1902 after she had successfully resisted his attempts to attack her. He served 27 years. While in prison he expressed repentance and said the little girl he had killed had appeared to him several times in his dreams.

At the investigation for Maria’s beatification, Serenelli was the principal witness in her behalf. After his release he entered a monastery where he is known as Frater Stephano and performs mainly menial tasks for the other monks. . . .

Pope Pius XII came to St. Peter’s Sunday night to venerate the newly proclaimed Blessed Maria. The bouquet of white flowers, traditionally presented to the Pope at such a service, was interspersed with red roses, symbolizing Maria’s martyrdom. Maria’s mother, who was in a wheelchair, was presented to the Pope.

Important Items.

Tonight at 7:00 o’clock in the church May Devotions will open. There will be hymns, a sermon by Father Robinson, CSC and . Make the best of every opportunity to honor Our Lady during her month of May. She will repay you richly.

The Rosary during May -- should be the special devotion of all lovers of Our Lady. Say the rosary wherever you wish, at the Grotto, in the chapel, as you walk around the lake, but say it. The praise and honor you give to Mary by this practice will bring many blessings from her.

PRAYERS: (deceased) father of Dick Shiel (W); mother of Dick Kruger (Z) (Anniv); brother of Sister Boniface Vogl, RSM, ’27; sister of Brother Pintan, CSC; Mary Joseph Ryder; mother of Henry Balink (Ly). (ill) grandfather of Bill Crotty (Dil) Two Special Intentions. Two Thanksgivings. (dying) mother of Joe Genz (Chef in Corby)