

Legion of Mary Sydney Senatus Bulletin

No. 664

*Please pray the
Rosary*

243 Broadway
Glebe, NSW 2037
Tel: (02) 9660 6131
Fax: (02) 9660 7036
Email: lomsenatus@bigpond.com



Pray for Beatification of



*The Servant of
God
Frank Duff*



*The Servant of
God
Alfie Lambe*



*Venerable
Edel Quinn*

Father Givney's Allocutio March 2018

Mary is a Gift of Hope For Us

I recently took a group of seminarians to visit the convent of our Lady's Nurses for the Poor at Coogee. The founder of this group was Eileen O'Connor, whose cause for canonisation has just begun. I was struck by a story that our guide told us regarding the sisters and Mary. During this period of history, the sisters were undergoing great trials and suffering mainly to do with rejection from the people in the area. One evening all the sisters were praying in Eileen's bedroom and suddenly the statue of Mary began to change and get larger. Mary opened her eyes and looked at the sisters. The original statue is still in the convent and you can see this for yourself. As a result of this visitation, the sisters had the strength and the realisation just to keep on doing what they were doing. A simple visitation on one level but the fruits were significant. If we are tempted to disillusionment and discouragement we should pray to Mary for the grace to be strengthened so that we too can do what God wants us to do. The idea of hope is important especially during the Easter season. The Resurrection reminds us that no matter how bad things may look God can turn things around in the most unexpected ways. It takes faith to believe that. When our faith in God is strong then our hope will be powerful as well. This enables us to witness to the gospel and not give up. It is often when things are at their worst that God does amazing things. If we think about who God is this should not surprise us since God's power is not limited by difficult circumstances. As Legionaries we need to remain hopeful and joyful in our work so that we can witness to the joy and hope of the gospel



Important Dates

Senatus Meeting, 22 April 2018 at 1:30pm
Officer in Charge : Asst Secretary

Organising Praesidia : Churchill & Camperdown
Edel Quinn Mass , 12 May 2018 at 10:30am
Legion Rooms , Broadway

WANTED URGENTLY
Generous legionaries to staff the CIC shop.
Allocated work of two hours as
little as one day a month.
This is a very important contact to
variety of people in this part of the city.
Please contact Sr. Lola Brown on 98886792 to be
included in the roster.

Reports from March 2018

Report from Korean Comitium - Queen of Martyrs

Work Done: Visitations to the sick and elderly in homes, nursing homes, retirement villages and hospitals. Contacting non believers and those of other faith resulting in 49 joining catechetical classes and 44 adult and 11 infant baptisms. Encouraging lapse Catholics 70 of which have returned to the faith. Provide aftercare and support for the newly baptized and new parishioners. Funeral attendance and consolation visits to bereaved members. Provide transportation to Mass. Crowd contact: street mission at the Korean Community Festival in Eastwood. Recruited 34 active and 29 auxiliary members. Currently running a special campaign 'Extension and Recruiting' of legionaries during December 2017 - November 2018.

Comments: Br. John stated it was a report to be proud of especially the numbers of conversions and baptisms. Sr. Thornton said that it was wonderful to have 70 people returning to the faith. Sr. Jennifer asked Sr. Lee; what was the secret. Br. Lee explained that their parish priest invited 200 people to come church and 70 are still coming. Sr. Zore commended on their crowd contact. Br. Costelloe said he was inspired by the report because the comitium is constantly thinking and exploring of ways to bring people back to the church.

Report from Northern Suburbs Curia - Our Lady of the Annunciation.

Work Done: Door to door visitations. Visitations to nursing homes and aged care facilities where Holy Communion is distributed. Provide catechetical instruction at state schools. Commenced circulation of the Rosary statue and organised a parish rosary recitations. Volunteer at the CIC shop. Continuing to recruit legion and bible society members. Erected tables with Legionary leaflets and materials periodically after Mass to encourage new members. Work with the homeless at Mother Teresa's soup kitchen.

Comments: Sr. Brown questioned the work with the soup kitchen. Sr. Young answered that it was allocated work where they sit down and talk with the homeless coming to the soup kitchen. Br. Cilia stated that he like the idea of the Legion table after Mass. Sr. Young stated that it was quite successful for the praesidium. Sr. Brown asked where they were doing their door knock; North Shore, Willoughby and Pennant Hills.

Report from Vietnamese Curia - Queen of the Rosary

Work Done: Visitations to homes of the sick, non-Catholic families and auxiliary members. Weekly visitations of 8 nursing homes. Visitations to Catholic families and encourage them to attend Mass and become members of the Legion. Assisting with the preparation for receiving sacraments. Weekly visitations to 9 hospitals. Visitations to detainees at Villawood Detention Centre

Comments: Sr. Brown asked if they visited Vietnamese detainees in Villawood and Br. Paul answered that they did, they know who their names so that they can apply for permission to visit these detainees. Br. Cilia commended them on their progress. Brother Ha answered that they know their names want to start another praesidium in Cabramatta but are hindered because they lack meeting rooms at the church. Br. Gregory stated that the curia did wonderful work and they were an example for all.

Report from Dili Curia 2 - Queen of the Rosary

Work Done: Home visitations and distributing Holy Communion during these visits. Visitations made to bereaved families and the infirmed. Recitation of the rosary prior to Mass. Choir singing, helping for preparations and attendance of processions, feast days and novenas. Visitations to hospitals and health clinics. Visitations to the inmates at Becora jail. Recruiting new members. Attending retreats. Cleaning and decorating the church.

Comments: Sr. Zore wanted to know if any did home visitations and Sr. Permadi confirmed that they did. Br. Cilia commended them on visiting families. Sr. Lopez commented that Dili reports have to be translated prior to reporting to Senatus and that some nuance have been lost in the translation. Br Gregory stated that they were doing well for a young Curia.

Report from Armidale Curia - Our Lady of the Rosary

Work Done: Home visitations, and providing religious education at state school. Visitations to nursing homes where Holy Communion is distributed. Visitations to hospitals. Recitations of the rosary before Mass and requiem Masses. All praesidia practice first Friday and Saturday devotions.

Comments: Sr. Thornton stated that they were doing very well with so small active members. Br Cilia encouraged them to recruit new active members.

Report from Wollongong Curia - Immaculate Heart of Mary

Work Done: Visitation to homes and the sick. Teaching Catechesis at state schools, running children's liturgy and reciting the rosary prior to Mass. Distributing Holy Communion and recitation of the rosary during requiem Masses. Visitations are made to hospitals and nursing homes. Conducted recruitment drive in October. New praesidium opened at Port Kembla.

Comments: Br. Gregory congratulated them in getting a very good Bishop.

The Purpose of the Acies

March 2008

By Fr. Bede McGregor O.P. Spiritual Director to the Legion of Mary

As near to the feast of the Annunciation as possible, the whole worldwide Legion both individually and collectively earnestly seeks each year to celebrate the Acies. This ceremony is one of the most beautiful and profound functions of the Legion. What precisely is its purpose and meaning? Well first of all it presupposes an examination of our relationship to Mary and specifically our practice of true devotion to her in the spirit of St. Louis Marie de Montfort. Then we seek to renew and express publicly our Consecration to Mary in the condensed and beautiful formula; 'I am all yours my Queen and my Mother and all that I have is yours.' What an extraordinary depth of doctrine and devotion are packed into so few words. They express the total conviction and commitment of every true legionary. It would be difficult to exaggerate the importance of the Acies in the life of the Legion.

Our Founder was, to a notable degree, patient and encouraging to weak members of the Legion. He coaxed and cajoled them to better things because he believed in their potential. He was convinced that with a bit of affirmation and understanding all of us would respond with greater generosity. It is impossible to think of him as someone who would quench the smoking flax. Yet when it comes to the Acies he uses perhaps the bluntest words in the whole Handbook. He writes: 'The Acies is the great central annual function of the Legion, so that it is necessary to stress the importance of attendance on the part of every member. The essential ideal of the Legion, upon which all else is built, is that of working in union with and in dependence on Mary, its Queen. The Acies is the solemn expression of that union and dependence, the renewal - individual and collective - of the legionary declaration of fealty. Hence it is manifest that any legionaries who can attend, and yet fail to do so, have little or none of the spirit of the Legion in them. The membership of such persons is not an asset to the Legion.'

The purpose of the Acies is to renew and deepen our Consecration to Mary at least once a year. That consecration is at the heart of our vocation in the Legion. The project of the true devotion to Mary is never done once and for all but we must keep going back to the basic principles and try to live them better throughout our lives. What does it mean? It means belonging totally to Mary. Absolutely nothing must be held back. I am all yours: everything I am or possess, spiritual and material goods, past, present and to come. I will to give every moment of my life to Mary. Why? Let us answer in the words of St. Louis Marie de Montfort: 'the essence of the devotion consists in giving ourselves up entirely to the Most Holy Virgin in the quality of slave in order to belong wholly to Jesus Christ; and in the next place to do all our actions with Mary, in Mary, by Mary, for Mary in order to do them more perfectly with Jesus, in Jesus, by Jesus, and for the Jesus our last end.' The shorthand of all the work of De Montfort and our Founder is to Jesus through Mary.

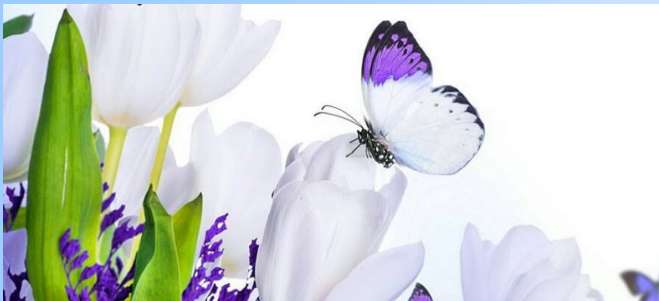
Sometimes we might be tempted to think that this consecration is too demanding. It may appear sometimes to be a constant struggle and sometimes we can feel exhausted with all the work that never ends but accumulates day by day. But authentic love of Mary eases these problems and we remember the constant saying of Frank Duff in his many letters to Legionaries: 'We are accustomed to think and to say that whatever we give to Our Lady through the Legion is infinitely outweighed by what she gives to us in return. May this idea realise itself fully in your own case.'

Let me finally end by suggesting with the Handbook that you mull over the Marian Synthesis found in the appendices of the Handbook before the Acies or you ponder on the little article that Frank Duff wrote on 'Our Debt to Mary.' If we really knew what Mary's maternity of each one of us cost her and if we had even an inkling of her love for us and her share in the work of our salvation we would probably find making a total consecration to her the most inevitable and delightful thing we could ever do. It is good to remember that the life of our Founder was utterly transformed by the repeated reading of de Montfort's True Devotion of Mary and the same may very well happen to us if we follow this example.

Reminders

- **Report to Senatus detail of favours granted relevant to any of our 3 causes, so they can be reported to Concilium**
- **Councils, please submit forms given in January updating our Census for the Concilium, give them to Br Esber please.**
- **Councils please submit copy of annual plan to Senatus, those submitted disregard.**

Acies 2018



Easter Prayer

The veil of darkness transformed to the brightest light.
The most dreadful end became the most beautiful beginning.
The depths of despair fade to reveal hope everlasting
The curse of death defeated by eternal life
Thank you Lord, for the wonder of Easter.

Ratifications

January 2018

Honaria Comitium

Honaria Comitium

Illawarra Curia

February 2018

Blacktown Comitium

March 2018

Silverwater Comitium

- Vice President - Marceline Kaiaru (2nd term October 2017)

- Secretary - Teresa Rikoaia (2nd term October 2017)

- President - Valerie Gonzaga (1st term December 2017)

- President - Grace Boncales (2nd term December 2017)

- Secretary - Catherine Lee (1st Term February 2018)