

Legion of Mary Sydney Senatus Bulletin

October 2018

Please pray the Rosary

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Pray for Beatification of



The Servant of God Frank Duff



The Servant of God Alfie Lambe



Venerable Edel Quinn



Father Givney's Allocutio October 2018

True Devotion to Mary

St Louis Marie DeMontfort lists five characteristics of true devotion to Mary. These points are that true devotion to Mary should be; interior, tender, holy, constant and disinterested. In this brief article, I will touch on some of those points. One attribute that characterises Mary is her interior life. In Scripture, we hear that Mary pondered and prayed over the events of her life. In modern terms, this could be referred to as mindfulness, but with Mary this strongly stemmed from her union with God. If we are united with God then we will see the world differently. This does not mean we are self-absorbed but rather that our activity stems from our relationship with God. We see this in the life of Jesus who was constantly concerned about doing the will of the Father. A good question to ask ourselves is, what is our motivating force in life? Another characteristic that De Montford mentions is disinterestedness. This does not mean we do not care but rather we care so much about God and others that we are forgetful of self. In our culture which markets so many products with the prefixes of "my" and "me", deliberately trying to forget about oneself can seem incomprehensible. However there is an advantage to letting go of our own egos and that is, we actually create a space for God in our hearts by doing this. Also, having a relationship with ourselves is not life-giving but having relationships with others is. I suspect that most of our pain in life is caused by our obsession with our own desires and wants. Finally, Mary had a tender heart. This should also be a characteristic of a Christian. We only have to look at the crucifixion to see the capacity for hardness of heart and cruelty that existed in the Roman Empire during the time of Jesus. In all our dealings with others, including business dealings, we need to treat people with tenderness and respect. Those virtues are life-giving and powerful. This is difficult when there is such an emphasis on power and control in modern society. In many ways, Mary calls us back to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. She reminds us that life is not about success, power, and control but more about following the example of Christ who was gentle and humble of heart.

The Feast of **Our La**as **Our Lady** of Vica feast day of the Roman Catholic Church, celebrated on 7 October, the anniversary of the decisive victory of the combined fleet of the**Holy** League of 1571 over the Ottoman navy at the Battle of Lepanto

Reports from October 2018

<u>1.</u> Our Lady of Good Counsel Cabramatta Curia

Work Done :

: Visitations to homes, nursing homes, hospitals, auxiliary member and recruitment. Door to door visitation, a lady with 7 children was visited and after the visit she wanted to get married in the church. Distribution of Miraculous Medals, Holy card, rosary beads and leaflets, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. Teaching Scriptures in public schools. Assisting CIC shop. Rosary statues circulation. Attendance at sacramental programs and driving elderly parishioners to mass, doctor appt.

<u>2</u> Our Lady of Fatima Praesidium Mascot

Work Done

; Visitation to hospital, nursing home and Auxiliary members. Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. Helping transport for elderly who needs assistance. Rosary statues circulation, Catechism classes, Many works of service are done i.e. Meals on Wheels, St. Vincent de Paul

<u>3</u>Our Lady of Perpetual Help Praesidium Kensington

Work Done;

Visitation to home, nursing home, hospitals and auxiliary member. Assisting CIC Shop. Rosary prayer at home and lead rosary before mass also conducted as the Church Ministry and wardens. Rosary statues circulation. Bring people to learn catholic church and become new Catechumen. Open new legion after recruitment in CIC Campbelltown.

Congratulations ! Appointments for October

Sr Juliana Salim Sr Gabriella Cantanzarini Sr Dawn Smith

1st term Secretary 1st term Secretary 1st term President

Ratifications for October Sr Monica Shin

1st term Vice President

Triendy Reminder

- 1. Annual General Reunion—Sunday 9 December at 12:00-2:00 pm at the Legion Rooms.
- 2. Next Senatus Meeting—25 November at the Chaplaincy
- 3. Please email your report on soft copies to Sr Lucy.
- 4. Please put your order in to Br Ricky for the latest handbook

Cathedral Praesidium Central Coast Praesidium

Normanhurst Curia



Please pray for :

- 1. The Causes of Frank Duff, Edel Quinn, and Alfie Lambe .
- 2. For all the sick Legionaries , families and friends specially for the full recovery of Amy Zuschmann. And Ian Pinto
- 3. For all the newly ratified and appointed officers.
- 4. For the success of our LOM building's renovation.

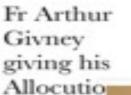


A Prayer to the Holy Guardian Angels

Heavenly Father, Your infinite love for us has chosen a blessed angel in heaven and appointed him our guide during this earthly pilgrimage. Accept our thanks for so great a blessing. Grant that we may experience the assistance of our holy protector in all our necessities. And you, holy, loving angel and guide, watch over us with all the tenderness of your angelic heart. Keep us always on the way that leads to heaven, and cease not to pray for us until we have attained our final destiny, eternal salvation. Then we shall love You for all eternity. We shall praise and glorify You unceasingly for all the good You have done for us while here on earth. Especially be a faithful and watchful protector of our children. Take our place, and supply what may be wanting to us through human frailty, short-sightedness, or sinful neglect. Lighten, O you perfect servants of God, our heavy task. Guide our children, that they may become like unto Jesus, may imitate Him faithfully, and persevere till they attain eternal life.



SYDNEY SENATUS IN PHOTOS







The Legion and the Gospel of Marriage

By Fr. Bede McGregor O.P. Spiritual Director to the Concilium

Recently the Church celebrated the 9th World Meeting of Families in Dublin on the theme; 'The Gospel of Marriage: Joy for the World.' I think it provides an opportunity and stimulus for us to reflect on the place of the Gospel of Marriage in the legion according to the writings of Frank Duff, our founder, especially in his article on 'Marriage' in his book: 'Victory through Mary' and the article: 'The Spirit of Home Visitation in his book 'Mary shall Reign.' And, of course, we are guided by the Handbook. He writes: 'Now here is my position to legionaries. Why not marry in the full spirit of vocation with the intention of deliberately exploring the spiritual gold mine of Matrimony?' Married or single, it is not important for all legionaries to explore the gold mine of matrimony so that they can support in a more informed way the married men and women they meet in their apostolate and appreciate more fully the families into which they are born.

Brother Duff opens his article on marriage with a wonderful sentence in terms of the fundamental spirit of the Legion. He writes: 'Legionaries should be happy in each other's company.' He goes on; 'Friendships should form. These friendships should be superior to common friendships, because in them there is an additional element – the spiritual.' What is this spiritual element in Legion friendships? I think it is summed up in the Third Standing Instruction: 'The performance of a substantial active legionary work, in the spirit of faith, and in union with Mary, in such fashion that in those worked for and in one's fellow, the person of Our Lord is once again seen and served by Mary, his Mother.' Of course if a legionary is no longer happy in the company of other and is no longer willing to try however difficult it may sometimes be and see the person of Our Lord in the other members with the eyes of Mary it raises serious questions about their membership of the Legion. This is especially true, according to the Handbook, for officers who have a duty to promote unity and spiritual harmony in the praesidium or higher councils. However, for a successful marriage the couple must at least be happy in each other's company and it would be a huge benefit if there were also a genuine spiritual bond between them.

Our founder goes on to speak of the friendships that lead to marriage. He writes: 'I am going to talk about the latter type of friendship. For an interesting development in the Legion has been, its marriages. Already there have been not a few of these. Many others are incubating. Evidently this is destined to be a feature of Legion life. We should be rejoiced by this manifestation, and intrigued by its possibilities to the Legion, to the world, to religion. Frank was well aware of various attacks on marriage and family life historically and in his own time. Of course these attacks have become more insidious and widespread, at least in the western world, since his death in 1980. He believed that the best response to this alarming breakdown of marriage in legislation and culture was the promotion of authentic marriage and the Legion could play a significant part. He writes: 'Therefore, these marriages of legionaries are to be welcomed. May there be more of them, undertaken with ascending standards, and destined to draw in their train a new order.'

Let me briefly state three deep convictions of Frank Duff concerning marriage. First, marriage is a vocation in the fullest sense of the word. That means that it has its origins in the heart of God. It is not a human invention but is designed and willed by God. It is the normal way for the vast majority of men and women for becoming saints. So marriage is a salvific covenant planned by God so that men and women would live happily together in this life but even more importantly that they would live with Him for all eternity in perfect happiness. There are other extremely important goals for marriage such as the procreation of children but the primary purpose is salvation.

Secondly, because of original sin every human person who comes into this world is flawed. This has consequences for marriage. So along with the joys there are also sorrows, difficulties, problems and struggles. Married people needed a lot of help and the good news is that God has provided it superabundantly, indeed magnificently. Not only has God redeemed the world by the death and resurrection of his Incarnate Son, but he redeemed marriage in particular. God became man in the context of a human marriage and constituted marriage as a Sacrament. So marriage is not only a means of producing human life but it is also an instrument of giving divine grace. The husband and wife are the ministers of grace to each other and their family and Jesus becomes an ever present reality in their relationship. It is at this point the Marian dimension of Christian marriage. By her 'yes' to the total plans of God she plays a significant part not only in the redemption of the whole world but in the redeeming of marriage in particular. As a wife, a mother, a home maker, and a woman who gave primacy to her marriage and family she has a special concern for the marriage and families of her spiritual children. We should need a whole series of Allocutios to do justice to our Founder's reflections on the impact the de Montfort consecration would have on a marriage of legionaries and indeed of any Christian marriage.

However, Frank introduces an uncharacteristic note of despondency here but it is hard to deny the truth. He writes: 'But vocations and Sacraments for full efficacy require cooperation; and I fear in regards to the great Sacrament of Marriage this condition is not being sufficiently satisfied. Its big moment is esteemed to be the wedding; after which there is little or no advertence to the fact of a sacramental condition. If graces flow, it is because God freely gives them, than because of any effort to gain them. For in the everyday marriage the main factors are not faith, hope, and charity, but pounds, shillings and pence (now translating to Euros and cents), not holiness but worldly pursuits, not God but sheer self.'