



Legion of Mary

Senatus of Sydney

Bulletin

April 2023



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Fr. Benjamin Saliba

April 2023 - ALLOCUTIO

3rd Sunday of Easter – 23/4/23

The question I have for all us of today is this – how are you and I being witnesses to the resurrected Christ? Peter gives us a great witness in our first reading today. After imprisonment, flogging, conspiring to stone anyone who called themselves Christian – Peter stands before Israel and declares to them that in their insecurity, their fear, their jealousy – they had Jesus crucified. Jesus lived in a certain time in history, amongst a certain culture. He was a Jewish man who grew up observing the mosaic law. Later in life he would proclaim that he was the fulfilment of the law and that nobody would get to the Father except through him.

The message that Jesus Christ gives us needs to be proclaimed by our manner of lives – to our family and friends. How many of us shy away from this message due to fear of persecution, or being called judgemental? The response is always the same – we are misunderstood, we are called bigots, we are called judgemental. The early Christians didn't care about name calling – rather they considered it a blessing to be persecuted for the name of Jesus. As a matter of fact, Jesus says you are blessed when you are persecuted for his name.

The question to most people is why bother when our family and friends are perfectly happy living their own lives, paving their own paths, finding themselves in all sorts of other different philosophies in life? The answer is because Jesus died for not only you and I that we might believe in him, but also those who do not believe in him or have fallen away from him. That is why Peter proclaims the name Jesus Christ to all the Jewish people – this isn't rude or arrogant, it is an act of love. This very act of love is what we are called to do each and every day by virtue of our baptism. This is why on Good Friday – the church solemnly intercedes for the Church, and those who do not believe in him, YES including the Jewish people.

This prayer is a beautiful one and expresses the Church's desire that all come into a loving relationship with Christ. It reads – "Let us pray for the Jewish people, to whom the Lord our God spoke first that he may grant them to advance in love of his name and in faithfulness to his covenant. Almighty ever living God, who bestowed your promises on Abraham and his descendants, graciously hear the prayers of your Church, that the people you first made your own may attain the fullness of redemption." I pray that prayer today so that it may be a reminder of the zeal Peter showed to the early Jewish communities, so that it may be a reminder of the men and women who have gone before us proclaiming the name of Jesus Christ as saviour of the world. They shed their blood for his name, so that you and I could live and practice faithfully in the Church Jesus began – the one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

So now the question becomes, what is the benefit of all of this? The answer is in today's gospel – in a very simple yet easily overseen detail – after their encounter with the risen Jesus the two disciples say "did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explain the scriptures to us?" This is what happens when you come into a relationship with Christ – your heart burns with desire to know more, to love more, to forgive more, to grow in relationship with Jesus. This process of growing is only made possible by the openness of your heart and confidence in the risen Christ. It is why we need to be ambassadors for Christ in our families, our friendship circles, our schools, universities, workplaces. Everything these days is allowed to be promoted – sexual deviancy, assisted suicide, rights that oppress and kill the innocent – but when it comes to Christianity we must be quiet, we must retreat into our own communities. Where has that gotten us – it has become even worse because now in our own communities we can't talk about authentic catholic teaching or what our mission is – to evangelise the world – to save souls and remind people that Jesus is the way, the truth and the life.

I pray that through this good news of the resurrection you and I might rediscover this zeal and passion for the Lord our God, that we might lovingly and compassionately be effective evangelisers in the world – starting in our own homes. If you don't know where to begin, it always starts with the man/woman in the mirror. Remember, a lot of struggles in life become bearable with Jesus in our lives, and we should be consoled by the resurrection knowing that whatever we are going through, it is always temporary.

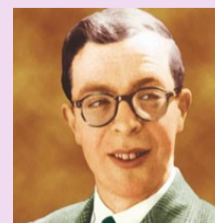


Legion of Mary
Founded 7 September 1921

Pray for
Beatification of:



Frank Duff



Alfie Lamb



Edel Quinn

Easter Monday April 2023, Recollection with Fr Handoko, at Mt Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre in Mulgoa



LEGION OF MARY QUEEN OF HEAVEN PRAESIDIUM MARAYONG CELEBRATING THE 1ST ANNIVERSARY , APRIL 2023





The story begins in the village of Fatima, Portugal, on May 13, 1917. On that fateful day near that tiny village, The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, appeared to three young peasant children: Francisco, Jacinta, and Lucia; ages 10, 9 and 7. As was the custom, these youngsters were tending their family's sheep when "a Lady all in white, more brilliant than the sun... indescribably beautiful," standing above a bush, appeared to the youngsters.

From May through October 1917, the Lady appeared and spoke to the children on the 13th day of each month.

News of these apparitions began to spread throughout the region. The children recounted that the Virgin told them that God had sent her with a message for every man, woman, and child living in the century. She promised that God would grant peace to the entire world if Her requests for prayer, reparation and consecration were heard and obeyed. While many people believed the children had actually seen the Virgin, many others discounted the children's story, subjecting them to much derision and ridicule. When it became known the Lady would visit the children for the last time on October 13, 1917, and had promised a sign that would convince the world she had appeared, many pilgrims made plans

to attend.

Though the region had been subjected to three days of torrential downpour, nearly 70,000 people journeyed through the heavy rain and mud to the place of the previous apparitions to witness the predicted miracle. Many were scornful, unbelievers whose sole intent was to discredit the children's stories.

Suddenly the "clouds separated...and the sun appeared between them in the clear blue, like a disk of white fire." The people could look at the sun without blinking and while they gazed upward, the huge ball began to "dance". The huge fireball whirled rapidly with dizzy and sickening speed, flinging out all sorts of brilliant colors that reflected on the faces of the crowds. The fiery ball continued to gyrate in this manner three times, then seemed to tremble and shudder, and plunge in a mighty zigzag course toward the earth. The crowd was terrified, fearing this was the end of the world.

However, the sun reversed course and, retracing its zigzagging course, returned to its normal place in the heavens. All of this transpired in approximately ten minutes. After realizing they were not doomed, the crowd began ecstatically laughing, crying, shouting and weeping. Many discovered their previously drenched clothing to be perfectly dry.

After what has become to be known as "The Miracle of the Sun," the children were grilled many, many times, about what they had seen and been told. Their story never changed. The heart of Our Lady's message to the world is contained in what has become known as the "Secret," which she confided to the children in July 1917. The "Secret" actually consists of three parts. The first part of the "Secret" was a frightening vision of hell, "where the souls of poor sinners go," and contained an urgent plea from Our Lady for acts of prayer and sacrifice to save souls, with particular emphasis on praying of the rosary and devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.



The second part of the "Secret" specifically prophesied the outbreak of World War II and contained the prediction of the immense damage that Russia would do to humanity by abandoning the Christian faith and embracing Communists' totalitarianism.

The third part was not revealed until 2000. Its revelation coincided with the beatification of Francisco and Jacinta. It did not contain any striking or cataclysmic prediction, but, instead, the vision supported and affirmed the immense suffering endured by witnesses of the faith in the last century of the second millennium. Sister Lucia, the surviving member of the Fatima trio, confirmed that in the vision "the Bishop clothed in white," who prays for all the faithful, is the Pope. As he makes his way with great difficulty towards the Cross amid the corpses of those who were martyred (bishops, priests, men and women religious and many lay people), he too falls to the ground, apparently dead, under a hail of gunfire. It is possible that the vision predicted the 1981 attack on Pope John Paul II's life. The Pope has always credited the Virgin for his survival. Or it may be a portrayal of the Church's continued struggle against secularism and anti-Christian movements and a continuing call to prayer, sacrifice and devotion to Our Lady of Fatima.

Feast of
OUR LADY
of **FATIMA**

Saturday 13 May
6pm Mass at
St Mary's Cathedral
Followed by Procession
to Cathedral Forecourt

As we prepare for WYD Lisbon, August 2023

 **SYDNEY CATHOLIC YOUTH** 

REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2023

1. Our Lady Queen of Peace Curia - Campbelltown

Works: Visitations to homes, nursing homes and rosary visits. Circulation of 2 rosary statues in the parish. Recruitment drive on progress.

2. Mother Of Our Saviour Praesidium — Camperdown

Work: Volunteer to staff the CIC shop. Promoting the miraculous medal, explaining our LOM system and invite people to join. Encourage auxiliary members to the meeting. Leading the Divine Mercy chaplet.



1. Edel Quinn's Anniversary Mass Saturday, 13 May 2023 . See the Flyer
2. May Senatus Meeting will be Sunday, 28 May 2023 and June Senatus Meeting will be Sunday, 25 June 2023
3. We need more volunteers for the CIC shop.
4. Soft copy of reports to be sent to Sr Lucy W a week before the Senatus Meeting . Email: lucy.rossi@hotmail.com

Please put your orders to Br Ricky Lopez (text order to: 0409127842 or email to: [Sydney Senatus](mailto:Sydney_Senatus@sydney.legionofmary.org.au) or rickypez1@gmail.com) on the updated and latest version of The Legion of Mary Hand book and your stock orders too.



Please pray for:

1. The causes of Frank Duff, Edel Quinn, and Alfie Lambe .
2. For all the sick Legionaries, families and friends
3. For all the newly ratified and appointed officers, all the sick and deceased legionaries, and all active and auxiliary members



**LEGION OF MARY
SENATUS OF SYDNEY**

Cordially invite all active & auxiliary members to.....



EDEL QUINN'S ANNIVERSARY MASS

Saturday, 13 May 2023

Time: 10am Prayer, 10:30 am Mass
Venue: Our Lady Of The Rosary Church
4 Roma Ave, Kensington

Celebrant: Fr Terry Bowman msc

PROCESSION FOR THE FEAST OF
MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS
PATRONESS OF AUSTRALIA
Peace through Prayer with Bishop Daniel Meagher

SATURDAY 20 MAY 2023

10AM MASS AT ST PETER'S SURRY HILLS
Followed by Pilgrims Blessing by Bishop Daniel Meagher. Then join us as he leads us on a street procession to St Mary's Cathedral.

12PM MASS AT ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL
In Honour of Mary Help of Christians



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