

Legion of Mary

SENATUS OF SYDNEY BULLETIN FEBRUARY 2024



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Fr Benjamin Saliba

Allocutio - The fruit of Loyalty is Obedience

The fruit of Loyalty is Obedience - When Moses speaks, Israel listens! The man who would bring them from slavery to freedom – the listening ear, the prophetic word, the friend of God. Just before we put too much into this man, he today gives us another instruction – The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you MUST listen. Can you imagine after all the Israelites had gone through, after all they had witnessed with Moses, they are to expect someone greater than him who they MUST listen to? This person is to spread the good news and the people are to listen to his COMMANDS.

There is a lot riding on this new prophet, this NEW MOSES. Moses realises that the responsibility of leading Israel into Glory is not on his shoulders anymore – it will be with the one whom God sends – his son – our Lord and Saviour.

It is only through Jesus that we can have the fulfilment of the Law, its perfection and right interpretation. Moses warns of the genesis of false prophets and even their punishment should they use the name of God to preach their false messages. The question now becomes, how do we know who is preaching the right message – the message of truth which will lead us to a genuine relationship with God? The answer is to listen! Whilst the call to live a Christian life might be a difficult one, it is certainly not worth abandoning. Our Psalmist proclaims – if today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

In a world that has become so desensitized to sin, hearing the voice of the Lord can be daunting, we can feel excluded or even made to feel guilty about listening to the voice of our Loving Jesus. When we hear his voice, we would rather distract ourselves with temporal activity. Why might this be? It could be that a fear overcomes us — this fear resembles the seed that falls on rocky ground or shallow soil. We know deep down inside that listening to the voice of the Lord involves conversion of heart and mind, and this is something we don't want to do. We don't want to do it because it leads to a radical change in the way we live our lives.

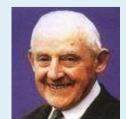
When this happens take consolation from our psalmist – don't look at the troubles of the world, rather look to our God in thanksgiving – let us kneel before the God who made us, for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hands. If we have trust in the Lord, we will be led to safely live a peaceful and joyous life. This is - in a week where we celebrated the conversion of St Paul, and reflect on his letter to the Corinthians – how St Paul was able to so effectively minister to the people of God. St Paul didn't look to the past, hold onto grudges, refuse to forgive himself – rather he leaned on God, he received grace from God and looked forward. In doing so he was so united to his Lord and Saviour that he was able to clearly teach the ways of Christ to the early Church and gentile nations.

This continuation of clear teaching came from his master – it was something he knew he MUST do because it was done so faithfully from the master himself. Jesus is in perfect communion with the Father - he and the Father are one. It is how Jesus is so perfectly a teacher and communicator of the faith. Jesus knew that he would pass this onto his followers and onlookers. When it seemed as though there was a hard teaching to grasp, Jesus would astonish the people by connecting a miracle to his teaching. In the instance of our Gospel today, the casting out of an unclean spirit. The people were not only astounded by the teaching and direction, but also by this exorcism. At once Jesus' fame started to spread through the region.



Founded 7 September 1921

Pray for Beatification of :



The Servant of God Frank Duff



The Servant of God Alfie Lambe



Venerable Edel Quinn

Fr Benjamin Saliba

Allocutio - The fruit of Loyalty is Obedience (Con't)

Today, we have Jesus' teaching clearly defined for us – the apostles were commissioned to go out and baptise all nations, teaching them everything he had taught in the name of the father and of the son and of the holy spirit. The spirit would give his followers the words to speak, the clarity to speak them and in the organisation of his church, the authority to bind teachings, forgive sins, and perform many miracles.

Today we ask ourselves, have our hearts become hardened to Church teaching, what is stopping me from listening to the voice of my God who created me, do I give God the time to actually listen to his commands, his promptings. If the answer is fear, neglect, indifferentism, then lets call on the name of the Lord – remind ourselves of all the good he has done for us – the sacrifice he made for us and ask for greater courage and a greater capacity to love like he loves.



REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2024

1. Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Illawarra Curia

Active work:

- 1. Calling or visiting auxiliary members for welfare check and to inform and invite them about legion functions
- 2. Visiting parishioners
- 3. Circulating the pilgrim statues of our Lady of Fatima by 3 praesidia
- 4. Minding the parish piety stalls by 4 praesidia
- 5. Taking Holy Communion to the home bound and to nursing home residents
- 6. A legionary is the sacramental coordinator for Catholic primary school and for state school children: organising and teaching in First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation programs
- 7. One legionary is an RCIA coordinator, and she also facilitates Baptisms of children
- 8. Teaching catechism (special religious education) at public/state schools
- 9. Organising and leading annual Divine Mercy novena and annual St Michael novena; leading the weekly devotions to our Mother of Perpetual Help and to St Michael & the Holy Angels; organising and leading first Friday devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and first Saturday devotion to our Lady of Fatima; leading Holy Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet in the Church; leading Serran Prayers for Vocations; organising prayer meetings, bible sharing groups, cenacles.
- 10. A legionary works on the St Bernadette Carlton Adoration website
- 11. Praying the Holy Rosary and Legion prayers before funeral Masses
- 12. Making Rosary beads for distribution to children making their first Holy Communion and Confirmation
- 13. Providing Miraculous Medals with leaflets to children being Baptised
- 14. Reflection Days organised for legionaries led by Fr Manuel Santiago

2. Mother Mary Refuge of Sinners, Surry Hills Praesidium

Active work:

- 1. Attend and lead rosaries, devotionals, Station of the Cross, Adoration & Benediction.
- 2. St Vincent's Hospital visits to parishioners.
- 3. Volunteer for various community food and clothing support and social connection events for the social housing residents and the homeless.
- 4. Encouraging lapsed Catholics in the local Ward Park and surrounds befriending them and bringing Mother Mary and Jesus' presence to mind.
- 5. Home visits of the elderly and invalids.
- 6. 2 members joined 12 parishioners door knocking on Sunday 17th December after mass, with invitations to St Peter's outreach for "Christmas for All" on Christmas Eve 2023.
- 7. Various recruitment drive.
- 8. Distribution of Prayer Cards, Miraculous Medals and Rosary Beads.

REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2024 (Con't)

3. Queen of Apostles, Enmore (Indonesian) Praesidium

Active work:

- 1. Visit the elderly in their homes and nursing homes, sick at hospitals, auxiliary members
- 2. Manning CIC shop
- 3. Lead the rosary prayer in pilgrimage at the Shrine of Our Lady of Mercy, Penrose Park
- 4. Assist to contact the Priest of the Extraordinary Mister of Holy Communion to come to the sick or elderly when needed
- 5. Lead station of the cross during the lent
- 6. Assist in Liturgy during mass
- 7. Assist our Chaplain in organising Marriage Preparation Course

4. Spouse of the Holy Spirit, North Ryde Praesidium

Active work:

- 1. Home and Aged Care visitations.
- 2. Attend the Parish Flame gift shop every Wednesdays, Fridays & Sundays.
- 3. Christmas mass timetables were delivered to 6 local hotels and one caravan park.
- 4. 4 members are catechists.
- 5. 1 member leads the rosary every Saturday after morning mass.
- 6. Circulate the Rosary Statue in the parish and rosary is prayed with the family.
- 7. Visited newly baptised babies and welcome pack was given.
- 8. Promoted Miraculous Medals and Rosaries.

5. Our Lady of Good Counsel, Wyong Praesidium

Active work:

- 1. Home visitation to elderly or housebound parishioners, hospital visitation to ailing parishioners at Wyong Hospital
- 2. One Praesidium member who is an Extraordinary Minister of Eucharist regularly distributes holy communion to disabled parishioners in their homes or nursing homes during visitations
- 3. One Praesidium member routinely supplies the music for weekend masses (playing the organ)
- 4. Other regular duties performed are daily maintenance of the church altar, linens, candles, flowers, priest's vestry, etc.

6. Queen of the Rosary, Timor Leste

Active work:

- 1. Visit the sick people in the hospital and pray
- 2. Praying for and attending the funeral of deceased legionaries.
- 3. Bringing the Priest to administer the sacrament of confession and the sacrament of Communion to the elderly
- 4. Participate in conference, planning and extension of Legion of Mary.
- 5. Leading the junior presidium.
- 6. Visiting auxiliary member, visit the prisoners in the Becora detention centre.

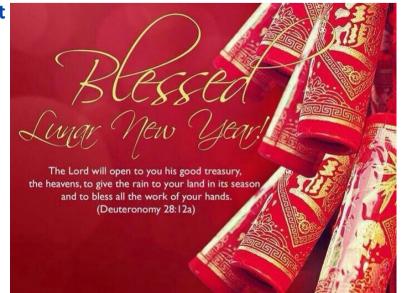
Congratulations to all the new officers. Thank you for taking on the role. God bless you all.

Ratification for the month of January 2024:

- 1. Monica Shynn—President, Mother of Our Creator, Normanhurst Curia
- 2. Albina Lee Vice President, Mother of Our Creator, Normanhurst Curia
- 3. Paul Yang—Treasurer, Mother of Our Creator, Normanhurst Curia

Appointments for the month of January 2024:

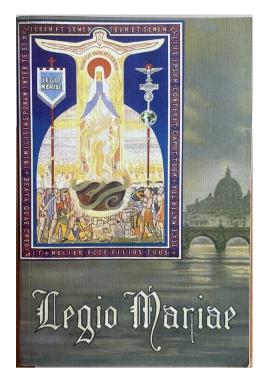
- Patricia Wolfe—President, Mary Undoer Knots, Pennant Hill Praesidium
- 2. Jan Augustinus Vice President, Mary Undoer Knots, Pennant Hill Praesidium
- 3. Tania Mansana—Secretary, Mary Undoer Knots, Pennant Hill Praesidium
- 4. Grace Rustandi—Treasurer, Mary Undoer Knots, Pennant Hill Praesidium
- 5. Gregory Manu—President, Mary Queen of Heaven and Earth, UniSyd Praesidium



LEGION HANDBOOK REVISITED

The Meeting and The member. Chapter 19 point 4

When we meet in the Legion today, let's remember how important it is for us to be there and set a good example for each other. Sometimes, some of us can't come, but it's really important for us to keep our promise to the Legion. Every group in the Legion has lots of members. Each person has their own problems and things to do, but when we all come together, we're stronger. Even if only a few of us can come, let's still have our meeting unless we really can't. If we can't meet on our usual day, let's find another day to meet. Sometimes, we might think there's not much to talk about in a small meeting. But it's still important for us to be there. By coming to every meeting, we show that we're serious and we build respect for each other. That's like how strong the Church is. Let's keep the Legion spirit strong, even when things are hard, and show that we're committed to our mission, no matter what. Thank you.





Please pray for:

- 1. The causes of Frank Duff, Edel Quinn and Alfie Lambe.
- 2. For all the sick or departed Legionaries, families and friends specially for the full recovery of Peter Gale, Lala Payne —2.5 months old who is very sick. Granddaughter of Br Frank Cassar (Vice President of Wollongong Curia).
- 3. Maggie MacPhee has cancer, half of her Colon has been removed.
- 4. For all the newly ratified and appointed officers, and also all the active and auxiliary members.
- 5. For conversion of sinners, victim of natural and other calamities, all children of the world, poor and dejected in the community, poor souls in purgatory and those asking for our prayers.



- 1. Congress **Saturday, 17 February 2024** at Immaculata House
- 2. February Senatus Correspondence Meeting will be **Sunday, 25 February 2024** at 11 am and continue Senatus meeting at 1:30pm . March 2024 Senatus Meeting will be **Sunday, 17 March 2024**.
- 3. Reporting for **Sunday 25 February 2024** (Meeting no 729): Inner West C, Marrickville Curia, Enmore P (Queen of Angels), Mascot Praesidium, Ryde/Gladesville P, Marayong P, Canberra/Goulburn C
- 4. Soft copy of reports to be sent to Secretary (Sr Gabrielle) a week before the Senatus Meeting. **Email:SecretarySenatusSyd@gmail.com**
- 5. Please put your orders to Senatus **Email to: lomsenatus@bigpond.com** on the updated and latest version of The Legion of Mary Hand book and your stock orders too. Contact Br Edmund B. Mob: 0424 612 810



Mary of Nazareth, Broadway

Praesidium, Sr Gen and Sr Santa taking
the Promise

Congratulation to the newly elected Senatus of Sydney new Treasurer (Sr Juliana Salim) and Assistant Treasurer (Br Edmund Bishara)





Thank you so much, Fr Renante Sentillas for leadership in the Alfie Lambe mass on 6 January 2024, and also for blessing all the new Officers. Thanks also to all the Legionaries who attended. GBU





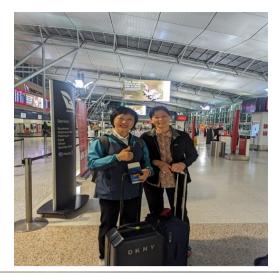


Mass Annual General Reunion - 16/12/2023 at Paroquia São João de Brito Likisà Timor Leste





We want to thanks Sr Acu (Mariaty P) and Sr Cecille (Caecilia S) for visiting the Comitium in Timor Leste as part of their Legion duties from Senatus of Sydney. Their successful visit is greatly appreciated.









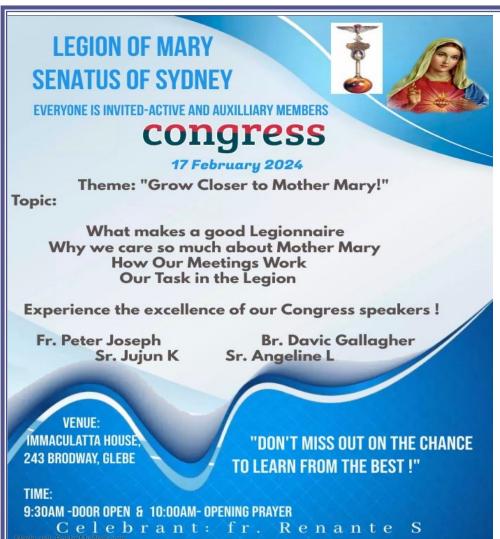












The Congress

Chapter 30 Point 5, page 177

The first Legion Congress, initiated by the Clare (Ireland) Curia in 1939, became a model for subsequent events. Congresses, confined to Comitia or Curiae, should not occur more frequently than every second year. They emphasize universal participation, avoiding oratory and unnecessary intervention by presiding officers. Subjects cover Legion principles like devotion, legionary qualities, methodical systems, and Legion works. Special talks by Spiritual Directors enrich the sessions. Each Congress begins and ends with prayer, maintaining careful timekeeping. Diversification and strategic planning are crucial for continued success, ensuring novelty in each Congress. The ultimate preparation for the divine Paraclete, as depicted in the Cenacle, involves persevering prayer, with Mary symbolizing the Church Militant guided by the Holy Spirit.

Ash Wednesday - Wednesday, 14 February 2024

Ash Wednesday is marked 46 days before Easter Sunday. Today is **Ash Wednesday**, the first day of Lent – which is the period of self-restraint and abstention for Christians prior to Easter. It marks the first day of fasting, repentance, prayer and self-control.

Ash Wednesday is a Christian holy day of prayer, fasting, and repentance. It is preceded by Shrove Tuesday and falls on the first day of Lent, the six weeks of penitence before Easter.





February 14, we celebrate Valentine's Day— Valentine, also known as Saint Valentine of Rome, was a Catholic saint. He is considered the patron saint of lovers. VALENTINE'S WEEK 2024: Valentine's Day is a holiday celebrated on February 14 every year around the world.



My God, I rely on Your assistance to keep myself free from the slavery of earthly attractions. I shall use my possessions and daily enjoyments as things You have lent me. May I never offend You with these gifts of Yours. As yesterday's enjoyments passed away, so too will those of today. I will live for the greatest Good—for You, my God and my All. You alone are the best and highest. Only You can satisfy my heart's longings forever. Amen

The Correspondent

The correspondent system can play an essential role in strengthening ties between the Higher Council and the attached curiae. The correspondent represents the Higher Council through his monthly letter, while the curia secretary, through minutes and cover letters speak for the curia body and officers.

Briefly the mechanics of the correspondent system are:

Correspondent

- Receives from the curia secretary a copy of the minutes for the past meeting and a cover letter commenting on special 1. points, asking or answering questions, etc.
- Reviews the minutes and letters, and reports on them at the monthly committee meeting.

This report should include:

- Details of praesidia reports, types of work done, etc.
- Functions planned or reported on
- Extension efforts, progress of organizations
- Questions or comments from the secretary's letter
- Anything conspicuous by its absence, for example, no mention of required functions or Acies at appropriate times, no attendance figures for curia meeting.
- Outlines to the committee the letter he plans to send to the curia. The letter should compliment work well done and ask questions on items needing clarification. Suggestions or directives received from senatus may also be passed on to the curia. Those at the committee meeting make suggestions on the content of the letter.
- Writes and send the letter to the curia secretary, highlighting sections that should be read to the curia body. The correspondent keeps a file copy of the letter.
- Visits the curia with a Council officer at least once a year

Legion of Mary Senatus Of Sydney Correspondence Meeting Invitation

Dear Br. And Sr. Legionaries,

The Senatus of Sydney is delighted to invite you to attend the Legion of Mary Correspondence Meeting scheduled for:

Date: Sunday, 25 Feb 2024 Time: 11:00am - 12:30am

Immaculate House, 243 Broadway, Glebe Location:

Meeting Agenda:

- Sharing experiences in letter writing
- Discussion on the writer's role in Legion Mary
- Learning from Concilium guidelines
- Q&A session and interactive discussion

Let's strengthen the Legion of Mary correspondence network together and share inspiration with guidance from Concilium. Our unity is our strength!

Thank you



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