



# Legion of Mary

**SENATUS OF SYDNEY**

**BULLETIN**

**March 2024**



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**Fr Benjamin Saliba**

**Allocutio - Homily for 2nd Sunday of Lent**

Today's first reading is one of the reasons people think the apparent God of the Old Testament was mean and wrathful. Why would a good and loving God ask Abraham to sacrifice his only son Isaac on the mountain? I am sure we have all thought about how to answer this question to a person who may be questioning or hostile toward our faith. The story of Abraham and Isaac contains themes of trust and providence, obedience and mercy. More importantly the story of Abraham and Isaac is brought to its completion in salvation history – most notably the offering of God the Father's only son – our Lord and saviour – as this is the only sacrifice that takes away the sins of the world.

The imagery also contains a stark contrast between man's mountain experience and Gods. Notice here how Abraham and Isaac ascended a mountain to perform this sacrifice? It is the place where man speaks to God. The mountain experience is also where Jesus is transfigured in our Gospel this morning – his followers - Peter, James and John are all witnesses to this. There, God the Father speaks to them all, saying "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him." Interestingly, this mountain experience comes only moments after Jesus explains that the son of man is to suffer many things, be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and to be killed. The scandal of the cross was too much for the human heart to bear. The transfiguration is a taste of the glory to come through the resurrection, but not without having experienced the cross first. Jesus' soul - united to the Word, enjoyed the Beatific vision has always been glorified.

On this mountain experience Jesus permitted some rays from his Blessed soul to shine forth for a few brief moments. This glory experienced by the apostles lasted only but a few moments – that is all it took for Peter to offer permanent residency to the Lord and his guests on the mountain. This is a wonderful insight into the human condition. When we are experiencing some kind of consolation, we oftentimes don't want the moment to end because it takes us away from our pain and suffering. The temptation can be to want to always live in that moment or desire to have that experience again (to set up metaphorical tents and dwell there forever). What Jesus teaches us about this mindset today is that these moments should never be sought after for their own sake – consolations are just that – momentary – not permanent.

They offer us an insight into what is to come but to seek them out for their own sake is to take our eyes off the promise of permanent glory.

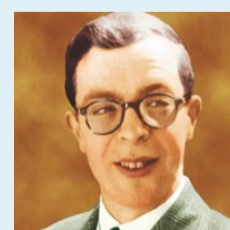
The consolation received by Peter, James and John on the mountain would have been something they reflected on for the rest of their lives, as evidenced by Peter's allusion to the Transfiguration in his second letter in the scriptures. It would be something that helps them remain followers of Christ, it would have been something they thought about in times of persecution and suffering. You and I, brothers and sisters must internalise the great event of the Transfiguration, we must believe it, knowing that if you and I are faithful followers of Christ, we will be consoled by this glimpse of glory, believing that one day we too will enjoy the Glory of the resurrection.



**Pray for  
Beatification of :**



*The Servant of God  
Frank Duff*



*The Servant of God  
Alfie Lambe*



*Venerable  
Edel Quinn*

**Fr Benjamin Saliba**

**Allocutio - Homily for 2nd Sunday of Lent (Con't)**

It is only God who can eradicate death and sin, it was never meant to be for Abraham and Isaac in the old testament – these figures point perfectly in the direction of God the Father and the Son who, of his own accord went to the cross to offer the ultimate sacrifice. It is only God who can secure for us a place in heaven, and it is only God who you and I should seek out above all – family, friends, career, material possessions, all good in and of themselves, all need to be respected and balanced. All of these things along with consolations, helps, friendships, understanding, esteem and encouragement are all good, but only to the extent that God permits us to enjoy them. He often makes use of these things to encourage us in our weakness, however they should never be sought after for their own sake.

So as we continue our Lenten journey, let's rewire our outlook on things and put God first. Permit me Lord to follow you – not only on the holy mountain where you were transfigured in glory, but also to Calvary where you hang on the cross for my sins. Lord, help destroy sin in me, the sin that disfigured your face and the sin that disfigures my soul which has been created in your image and likeness. To bring about this change, I must share your calvary, your cross – and it is only through this journey that I will see eternal glory.



**Sr Lucy Waty**

**Allocutio - The Legion Apostolate—It's Dignity**

Today, let's think about the important job we have as members of the Legion. Pope Pius XII once said that regular people like us are crucial to the Church and society. We're not just watching from the sidelines; we're actively part of the Church's mission. Because we've been joined with Christ through baptism and confirmation, we're given the special responsibility of spreading the Gospel and showing others Christ's love. This isn't just a job, it's an honour given to us by God. We need to remember that we're part of the Church, which is made up of all the faithful people under the Pope and bishops. Our actions should show that we belong to this community and are guided by love and the sacraments. And let's not forget about Mary, who sets a great example for us. Her life shows us how to be dedicated to our mission. So, let's take on our role as apostles with humility and bravery, knowing that our efforts help bring God's Kingdom closer here on earth. Let's remember that each one of us plays a vital role in advancing the mission of the Legion. Together, with dedication and faith, we can continue to make a positive impact in our communities and beyond. Let's carry the spirit of service and love with us. Stay inspired, stay united, and keep shining the light of Christ wherever you go. Ave Maria!



**REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2024**

**1. Inner West Curia (Our Lady of Success)**

**Active work:**

1. Catechism at local schools
2. Baptism preparation for parents and children
3. Making Rosary beads for needy Catholics
4. Praying and attending funeral mass
5. Streaming and giving out Miraculous Medals to members of the public
6. Fast and prayers for the sick
7. Bereavement visits, visit inmates in prison
8. Return to Sacraments

**2. Enmore Praesidium (Queen of Angels)**

**Active work:**

1. Visit elderly at nursing home
2. CIC shop

## REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2024 (Con't)

### 3. Ryde/Gladesville Praesidium (Mary Mother of Christ)

#### Active work:

1. Circulate the Rosary Statue to individuals and families in the Parish
2. Visits various retirement villages, nursing homes and leads music for outdoor Rosary events
3. Warden roster at St Charles during Adoration
4. Offer Rosaries & Miraculous Medallions
5. Lead Parish Rosary, Divine Mercy and Stations of the Cross
6. Catechism

### 4. Marayong Praesidium (Maria Queen of Heaven)

#### Active work:

1. Visit nursing home, aged care communities and hospitals
2. Catechism, teach Sunday school
3. Recruitment drive at Pennant Hills

### 5. Terrigal Praesidium (Our Lady Star of the Sea)

#### Active work:

1. Provide transport to mass & shopping; giving medals and leaflets
2. Catechist at primary schools & High School
3. Involve in Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)
4. Prayer Groups
5. Holy Communion is taken to the sick and housebound
6. The rosary procession was held at the school in October.



#### 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
3. For all the newly ratified and appointed officers, and also all the active and auxiliary members.
4. 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. March 2024 Senatus Meeting will be **Sunday, 17 March 2024 at 1:30pm**
2. Reporting for Sunday, 17 March 2024 (Meeting no 730): Korean Silverwater Comitium, Hunters Hill Praesidium, Camperdown Praesidium, Enmore P (Queen of Peace), Armidale Praesidium, Brisbane C
3. Acies - Consecration to Our Lady Saturday, 6 April 2024 at St Benedict's Catholic Church, 104 Broadway, Chippendale NSW 2008. Opening Prayer at: 10:00am
4. April Senatus Meeting will be Sunday, 28 April 2024 at 1:30pm
5. Correspondence Meeting Sunday, 28 April 2024 at Immaculata House. Time: 11:00am
6. Soft copy of reports to be sent to Secretary (Sr Gabrielle) a week before the Senatus Meeting at **Email: SecretarySenatusSyd@gmail.com**
7. Please put your orders to Senatus on the updated and latest version of The Legion of Mary Hand book and your stock orders to the Assistant Treasurer (Br Edmund B) at **Email: AssistTreasurerSenatusSyd@gmail.com**

*"Thank you to Fr. Renante for leading the Mass, and Br David G, Fr.Peter ,Sr Jujun and Sr Angeline for delivering insightful talks at the Congress event for our attending members. Also, a big thank you to all legionaries members who attended!"*

**LEGION OF MARY  
SENATUS OF SYDNEY**  
EVERYONE IS INVITED-ACTIVE AND AUXILIARY MEMBERS

**congress**  
17 February 2024

Theme: "Grow Closer to Mother Mary!"

Topic:  
What makes a good Legionnaire  
Why we care so much about Mother Mary  
How Our Meetings Work  
Our Task in the Legion

Experience the excellence of our Congress speakers !

Fr. Peter Joseph Sr. Jujun K      Br. Davic Gallagher Sr. Angeline L

VENUE:  
IMMACULATA HOUSE,  
243 BROADWAY, GLEBE

TIME:  
9:30AM -DOOR OPEN & 10:00AM- OPENING PRAYER  
Celebrant: fr. Renante S

"DON'T MISS OUT ON THE CHANCE  
TO LEARN FROM THE BEST !"



*Senatus of Sydney visitation to the Illawara Curia Our Lady Of The Sacred Heart at Brighton Le Sands*



*“Thanks you so much for your assistance in the recruitment process at St Pius V Catholic Church Enmore on March 2024 ! We truly appreciate it “*



**The Feast of the Annunciation**

Contemporarily the Solemnity of the Annunciation, also known as Lady Day, the Feast of the Incarnation, Conception Christi, commemorates the visit of the archangel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary, during which he informed her that she would be the mother of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

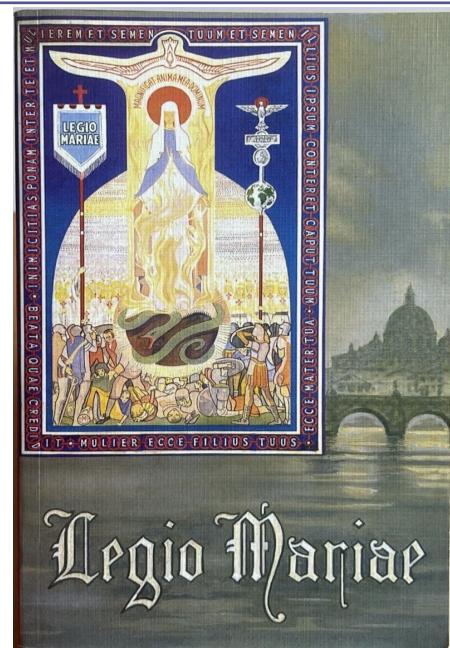
The Feast of the Annunciation. The feast of the Annunciation marks the visit of the angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary, during which he told her that she would be the mother of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is celebrated on 25 March each year.

## LEGION HANDBOOK REVISITED

### Introduction to the Handbook:

#### **\*\*Understanding and Using Your Main Tool\*\***

Have you ever wondered how to do your job as a Legion of Mary member better? Or maybe you want to know more about our organization's mission and goals? The answer can be found in one tool that is often overlooked: **the handbook**.



#### **\*\*Why the Handbook is Important\*\*:**

The handbook is a complete guide designed to help members carry out their tasks effectively and efficiently. It's a collection of knowledge, guidelines, and basic principles that form the foundation of our activities. Although often seen as a "guidebook," the handbook is actually much more than that. It's a key resource that helps us understand our roles and responsibilities as members.

#### **\*\*How to Use the Handbook\*\*:**

First, take the time to read and understand the contents of the handbook thoroughly. Don't just read it once and forget about it. Use it as a reliable reference in your daily activities. When you encounter confusing or unclear situations, don't hesitate to refer back to the handbook for guidance and direction.

Make notes or highlight important parts you come across. This will help you find information quickly later on. Also, don't hesitate to ask fellow members or your leaders if you need clarification on anything you read in the handbook.

#### **\*\*Understanding the Handbook\*\*:**

More than just a list of rules and guidelines, the handbook reflects the values and principles underlying our organization. By understanding the contents of the handbook deeply, you'll have a better understanding of the organization's goals and vision.

Moreover, you'll also be able to connect the principles in the handbook with real-world situations you encounter. This helps you become a more effective and influential member in achieving our shared goals.

So, start today by making the handbook your main tool in your journey as a Legion member. Explore its contents, use it as a guide, and find strength in understanding and applying its principles. In doing so, you'll become a better and more influential member in realizing our organization's vision.

*In the pages of our handbook,  
Lies wisdom deep and true,  
A guide for every Legionnaire,  
To follow and pursue.*

*So take a moment, dear friend,  
To read with open heart,  
For within these sacred pages,  
A journey you'll embark.*



## The Acies:

### "Renewing Our Commitment to Mother Mary"

#### **Introduction:**

The Acies is a special ceremony where we renew our promise to Mother Mary, the Queen of the Legion. It's like soldiers lining up for battle, showing our loyalty to Mother Mary and asking for her help for the year ahead.

#### **Why it's Important to Come:**

It's really important for everyone to be there. The Acies is all about our connection to Mother Mary, and if someone doesn't come, it kind of takes away from what it's all about.

#### **What Happens at the Acies:**

We start with songs and prayers, including the Rosary. Then, a Holly Mass . a priest talks about why we're doing this. After that, we walk in a line to a Legion vexillum . Each person says a special promise to her, like, "I am all yours, my Queen, my Mother, and all that I have is yours."

It's a way of saying we're on her team.

#### **Keeping it Special:**

We only use one Legion Vexillum during the ceremony to keep things neat and respectful. At the end, the priest does a final blessing for everyone.

#### **Thinking about What it Means:**

We're encouraged to really think about why we're making this promise to Mother Mary. It's about understanding how much she helps us and being grateful for it.

#### **Wrapping it Up:**

The Acies is a big deal for us because it's all about our connection to Mother Mary and asking for her help in our mission. It's a time to show our loyalty and get ready for the year ahead



**Volunteer Call: "Join and Help Manage CIC Shop!"**

Do you love serving the community and want to contribute more? We're looking for enthusiastic volunteers to join and assist in managing the CIC (Catholic Information Centre) shop. By being part of this team, you'll have the chance to help provide spiritual resources to those in need.

**We need volunteers who can help with:**

- Serving customers warmly and assistively
- Organizing merchandise and maintaining shop displays
- Keeping the shop clean and organized

If you have some spare time and want to make a meaningful contribution, don't hesitate to join us. Together, we can make a difference in serving and brightening the lives of others.

**Contact us at E: [lomsydneysenatus@bigpond.com](mailto:lomsydneysenatus@bigpond.com)**

to find out how you can join and make a positive impact on our community through CIC.

Thank you for your attention and support !



Dear God, please bless every step we take in serving You through the Legion of Mary. Give us strength to be faithful witnesses of faith and loving servants to others. May we be Your instruments to spread love and goodness in this world. Amen.

**\*Feedback Section**

We value your opinions and suggestions! If you have any ideas, questions, or comments about our activities, feel free to share them with us. You can use the form below to submit your feedback anonymously or directly to our leadership team.

Or you can send E: [lomsydneysenatus@bigpond.com](mailto:lomsydneysenatus@bigpond.com)

Thank you for your contributions in strengthening our community.

**(Feedback Form)**

Name (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Email (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Feedback: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

By providing feedback, you help us improve the quality of our services and make Legion of Mary even better.

Thank you for your participation!