



Legion of Mary

SENATUS OF SYDNEY

BULLETIN

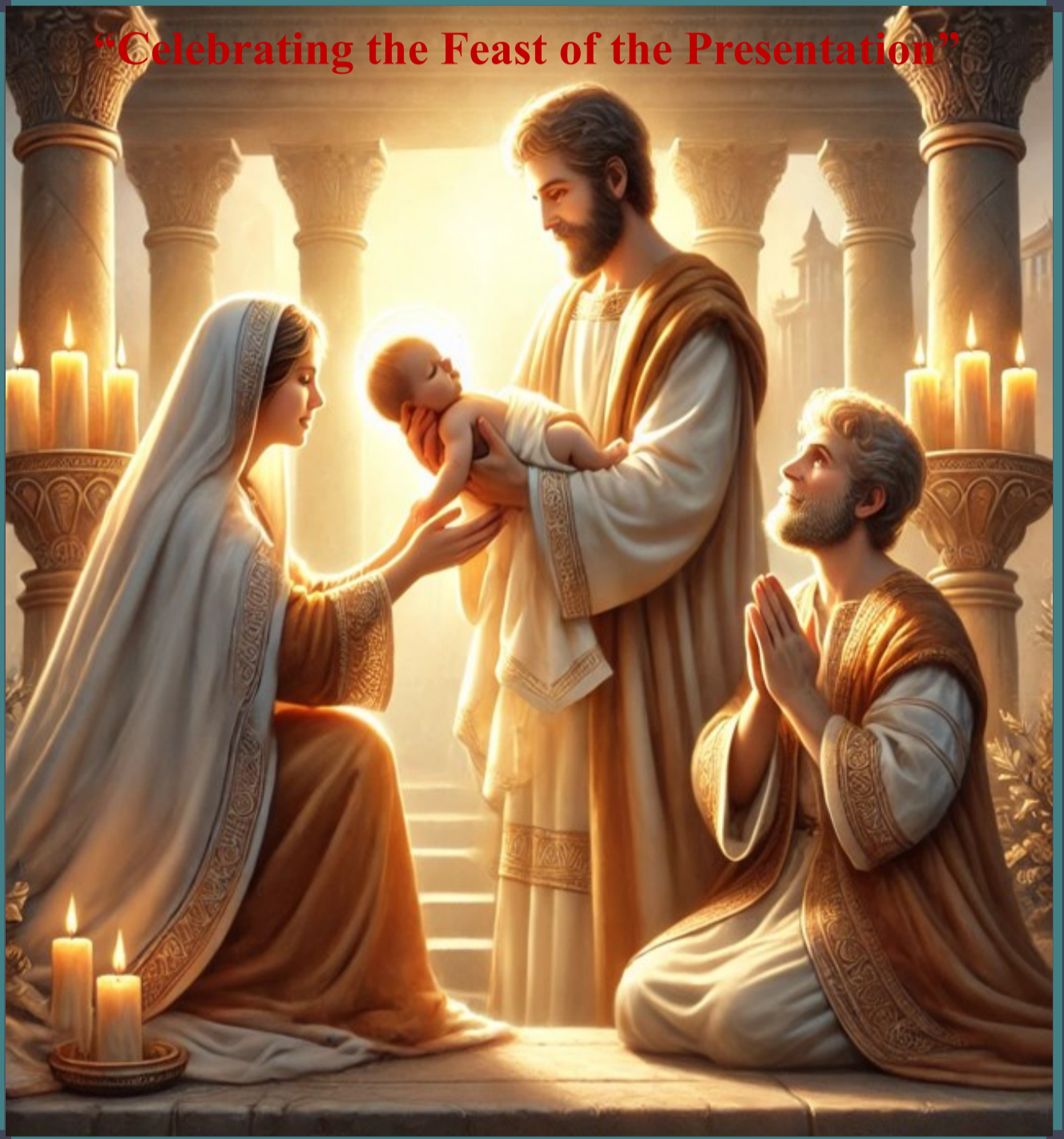
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*“Lord, shine your love on our lives.
Teach us to give ourselves fully to you, just like
Jesus was offered in the Temple. Amen.”*



Pray for
Beatification of :



The Servant of God
Frank Duff



The Servant of God
Alfie Lambe



Venerable
Edel Quinn

Reflection on Service: Bringing Christ's Light into Every Action

Service is a calling for every believer. Through service, we not only help others but also bring Christ's light into their lives. In the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, we see how Mary and Joseph presented Jesus to God in an act of obedience and love. Their action inspires us to ask:

- *How does our service become an offering that pleases God?*
- *Do our actions reflect Christ's light to those we serve?*

Serving with Joy

Service is not a burden; it is a joy. Like a candle shining in the darkness, even the smallest act of service brings hope and warmth to others. When we visit the sick, help those in need, or simply listen to someone facing struggles, we fulfill our role as the light of the world.

Jesus said in Matthew 5:16: *“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”*

Serving with Sincerity

Like a candle burning itself to give light, we are called to serve with a sincere heart. Sincerity is the key that makes our service meaningful. When we serve with love, we not only give to others but also receive God's abundant blessings.

Serving Amid Challenges

It's not always easy to serve, especially when we face personal struggles. Yet, like Mary and Joseph, who faithfully fulfilled their duties despite challenges, we too are called to remain steadfast. God never leaves us in our service. Instead, He strengthens us and rekindles our light when we feel dim.

Living the Call to Be the Light of the World

Every act of service, big or small, is part of our calling to be the light of the world. Let us reflect on how our actions can reflect God's love. May our lives be like candles shining brightly, guiding others and glorifying God.

A Prayer for Service:

Loving Lord, teach us to serve with sincere hearts. May our lives shine as a light for others, so that through our service, Your name may be glorified. Grant us strength and joy to remain faithful in this calling, no matter the challenges. Amen.

Serving Amid Challenges: Remaining Faithful to the Call

Service often comes with challenges. At times, we feel tired, face criticism, or even feel that our efforts go unappreciated. Yet, in every challenge, we are reminded that service is part of God's plan, and He never abandons us.

Mary and Joseph, in the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, showed their obedience even in difficult circumstances. They remained faithful to their calling, and through their actions, the light of Christ entered the world.

When we feel weak in our service, we can hold on to God's promise:

“And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:20)

Through prayer, the Eucharist, and spiritual guidance, we find the strength to stay faithful. Even amid challenges, God uses our service to bring His love and light to the world. Service is not about perfection but about sincerity and faithfulness in answering His call.



Allocutio

By: Lucy Waty –President

Auxiliary Membership – The Invisible Army Supporting the Mission of the Legion of Mary

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Today, I invite you to reflect on the extraordinary role of auxiliary members in the Legion of Mary. As part of Mary's great army, they are the invisible force that sustains every work of the Legion worldwide.

Frank Duff, our founder, once said:

“Imagine a magnificent army, perfectly trained and equipped. Yet, without food, drink, supplies, or medical aid, even the greatest army would crumble. Likewise, the Legion's active members depend on the spiritual support of auxiliaries, who can be called the great invisible army.”

This quote clearly shows how important auxiliary members are. They are not merely supporters but the lifeblood of the Legion's mission, offering their prayers for the intentions of Mary, Queen of the World, who uses them wisely where they are most needed.

Becoming an auxiliary member is not just a responsibility but a great blessing. The *Handbook* of the Legion explains that auxiliaries receive countless blessings in return for their prayers. This membership strengthens their spiritual life and helps them grow closer to God.

Our Call to Action

As active members, we have an important duty to:

1. **Recruit New Auxiliaries:** Let us invite our family, friends, and fellow Catholics to become auxiliary members. Their prayers are a significant contribution to the mission of the Legion.
2. **Maintain Strong Connections:** Ensure that auxiliaries feel appreciated through regular communication, visits, and acts of kindness.
3. **Teach True Devotion to Mary:** Introduce auxiliaries to the devotion of St. Louis Marie de Montfort. Help auxiliaries understand how important and special their prayers are when offered through Mary, making them more powerful and pleasing to God.

The Honor of Serving Mary

As we reflect on the mission of auxiliary members, let us remember that both active and auxiliary membership in the Legion of Mary is a privilege. We serve Mary, the Mother of the Church, who leads us to her Son, Christ.

Let us continue to recruit, nurture, and honor auxiliary members so that the Legion's mission may thrive and bring abundant blessings to the Church and the world.

Mary, Queen of the Legion, pray for us!



Please pray for :

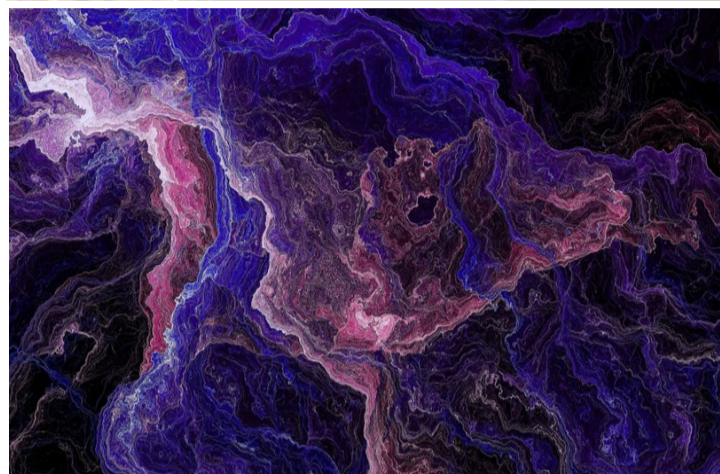
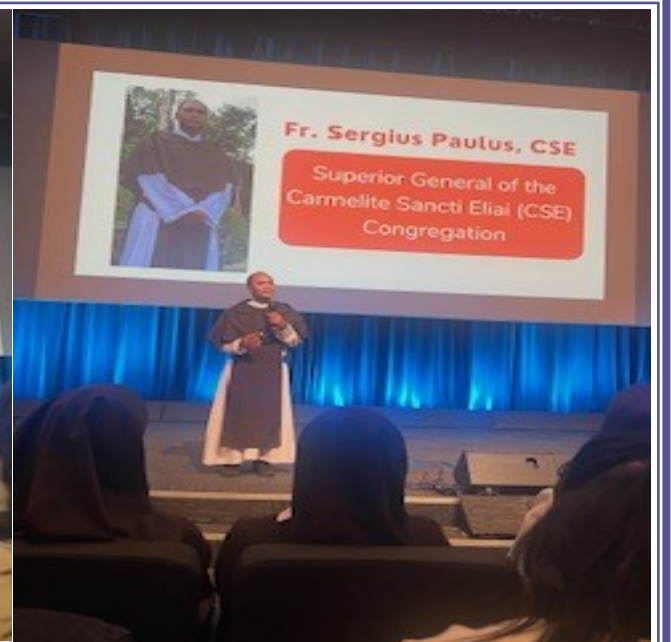
1. The causes of Frank Duff, Edel Quinn and Alfie Lambe.
2. For all the sick or departed Legionaries, families and friends.
3. For all the newly ratified and appointed officers, and also all the active and auxiliary members.
4. For conversion of sinners, victims of natural and other calamities, all children of the world, poor and dejected in the community, poor souls in purgatory and those asking for our prayers.



1. **Prayer Request:**

Please pray for one of our Legion members for their daughter, Dedodiya Yolanda Ximenes. They need our prayers for health and strength in life's journey. Let's pray for their path to be easier and for them to keep moving forward.

Thank You for praying with us.



Introduction for Bulletin ,
In this edition, we highlight Fr. Sergius Paulus’s talk from the Catholic Spiritual Revival event, Exploring how faith, hope, and love can overcome anxiety. May his reflection strengthen you in your daily walk of faith .

ANXIETY VS FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE

At the Catholic Spiritual Revival, **Fr. Sergius Paulus, CSE**, Superior General of the **Carmelite Sancti Eliai (CSE) Congregation**, delivered an inspiring and relatable talk on managing anxiety through faith, hope, and love. Using the story of **Elijah** from **1 Kings 19:1-8**, Fr. Sergius painted a vivid picture of how God meets us in our struggles and transforms our weaknesses into renewed strength.

Elijah, a courageous prophet, had just experienced a miraculous victory over the prophets of Baal. However, when Queen Jezebel threatened his life, Elijah was overwhelmed with fear and ran into the wilderness. There, under a broom tree, he poured out his despair to God, saying, “I have had enough, Lord. Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.” This moment of vulnerability resonates with anyone who has felt exhausted and hopeless in the face of challenges.

Fr. Sergius drew out profound lessons from Elijah’s story, offering these key takeaways:

1. Acknowledging Our Weakness and Crying Out to God

Elijah’s open and honest cry to God shows that admitting our fears and struggles is not a sign of failure but a step toward healing. Fr. Sergius reminded us that we, too, need to acknowledge when we are overwhelmed. This act of vulnerability allows us to turn to God, who is always ready to listen and respond.

“We all have our ‘broom tree’ moments, where life feels too much to bear. But it is in those moments that God draws closer to us.”

2. God’s Compassionate Response

In Elijah’s despair, God didn’t rebuke him or demand immediate action. Instead, He sent an angel to care for him, providing food, water, and rest. **The angel’s words, “Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you,”** demonstrate God’s intimate understanding of Elijah’s needs.

Fr. Sergius emphasized that God meets us where we are, offering what we need most—be it rest, nourishment, or simply His reassuring presence. This provision often comes through prayer, sacraments like the Eucharist, or the support of our community.

“God doesn’t ask us to carry our burdens alone. He provides exactly what we need to face the journey ahead.”

3 Weapons relieve anxiety



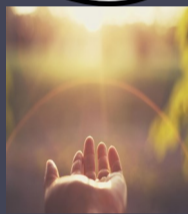
1. Love
2. Faith
3. Hope

Anxiety VS Love, Hope and Faith



1. Love: Elijah's love for God was undoubted (defending God's ways) Cf 1Kings 19:1]

Anxiety VS Love, Hope and Faith



Faith: Elijah's faith was extraordinary in that he was afraid and still believed in God's help [(twice God came to touch Elijah) 1Kings 19:4]

Anxiety VS Love, Hope and Faith



Hope: Hoping on God [(He woke up and went to seek God's protection) 1Kings 19:3]

“ Faith makes all things possible, hope makes all thing bright , and love makes all things worth it .”

3. Renewal Through Faith, Hope, and Love

Strengthened by God's care, Elijah journeyed for forty days and nights to Mount Horeb, where he encountered God in a gentle whisper. This renewed Elijah's purpose and equipped him to continue his mission. Fr. Sergius highlighted how we, too, can find renewal through the virtues of faith, hope, and love:

- **Faith** anchors us in God's promises and reminds us that we are never alone.
- **Hope** inspires us to trust in God's plan, even when the path ahead is unclear.
- **Love** sustains us, both in our relationship with God and in our service to others.

Fr. Sergius invited participants to reflect on how these virtues can transform their own lives, enabling them to rise from moments of despair with renewed strength and purpose.

A Ministry of Healing and Growth

Beyond his spiritual insights, Fr. Sergius shared about his ministry as Superior General of the CSE Congregation. Under his leadership, the congregation serves communities in **Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, and China**, focusing on pastoral care, education, and spiritual formation. Fr. Sergius also conducts research on pastoral communication and leads retreats for seminarians and laypeople globally. His dedication to **healing, spiritual growth**, and maintaining **Carmelite traditions** reflects a deep commitment to bringing God's love to others.

Final Reflection

Elijah's story, as shared by Fr. Sergius, is a timeless reminder that God is closest to us in our weakest moments. When we feel like giving up, God responds with love, care, and a call to rise again. By embracing faith, hope, and love, we can overcome life's anxieties and fulfill the mission God has for each of us.

Fr. Sergius's talk left participants inspired to trust in God's promises, to find rest in His presence, and to approach life's challenges with courage and grace.

“ In the face of fear, let faith be your shield, hope be your guide, and love be your strength .”



Introduction for Bulletin

At the recent *Catholic Spiritual Revival* event, we were blessed to have **Sr. M. Skolastika, P.Karm** deliver an inspiring talk on the theme **“Trust That God Provides and Guide Our Lives.”**

She completed her *Diploma Spirituale* at **Teresianum University** in Rome, Italy. Her journey as a religious sister has taken her to many places, both within Indonesia and internationally, enriching her with a wide range of experiences and perspectives.

In her talk, Sr. Skolastika encouraged us to place our trust in God’s divine providence in every area of our lives. Her message served as a powerful reminder to strengthen our faith and believe that God is always with us, guiding our journey through life.



“Trust That God Provides and Guides Our Lives”

Dear brothers and sisters,

Do not be afraid, and do not worry. Life may feel overwhelming at times, and we might wonder, “Where is God in my life? Does He see my struggles?” The answer is simple: yes, He does. God watches over us with love and care. This is what we call Divine Providence, or in Latin, *Providentia Dei*. The word *Providentia* comes from two words: *Pro* meaning “forward,” and *Vedere* meaning “to see.” In other words, God always “sees ahead” to provide for us, to guide us, and to give us what we need.

But let’s be honest—how often do we ask, “If God cares for me, why do I suffer?”

Why are my prayers unanswered?” This is the mystery of life that calls for faith and trust. God gives us free will, and sometimes our own choices lead to difficulties.

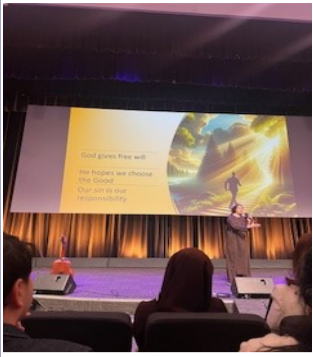
Yet there are also challenges we cannot avoid, even when we live rightly.

The Bible offers us three signs that God is working in our lives, even when we don’t see it:

1. When Doors Seem Closed

Joseph, the son of Jacob, faced what seemed like an endless series of closed doors. He was sold by his brothers, became a slave, and was unjustly imprisoned. His life was filled with suffering that seemed unfair. Yet Joseph remained faithful to God. When all doors seemed closed, God opened another door—one far greater than anyone could imagine. Joseph was elevated to be a ruler in Egypt, saving countless lives from famine, including his own family.

In our lives, closed doors can lead to feelings of frustration or despair. But when one door closes, God is preparing to open another—one that is better for us. Even when our prayers seem unanswered, it is not because God doesn’t care. He is working in ways we cannot yet understand.



Take Saint Lydwina of Schiedam, for example. She suffered greatly from a severe illness after an ice-skating accident, leaving her bedridden for most of her life. Despite her pain, she embraced her suffering as a way to grow closer to Christ. Through her example, many found inspiration and strength to persevere in their own struggles. Though the door to physical healing was closed, God opened a door to spiritual greatness. Her life reminds us that even in our deepest suffering, God is at work, transforming pain into grace.



2. When You Feel a Deep Sense of Certainty

Abraham is a powerful example of trust and certainty. God called him to leave his home and go to an unknown land. At the time, there were no maps, no internet, no communication tools. Yet Abraham trusted God and set out with faith, believing that God would guide him.



This sense of certainty is often a sign that the Holy Spirit is working in our hearts. Have you ever felt a deep conviction to take a big step, like moving to another country, starting a new job, or making a life-changing decision?

That confidence doesn't come from us alone—it is the Holy Spirit guiding us.

Even though the journey may involve challenges, setbacks, or pain, God is still with us every step of the way. His Spirit leads us, even when we cannot see the full picture.



3. When You Find New Strength

Mary, the mother of Jesus, teaches us how to find strength in God. She endured unimaginable pain—from giving birth in a stable to watching her Son suffer and die on the cross. Mary did not fully understand God's plan, but she trusted Him completely. She believed that everything happening was part of God's greater purpose.

Her unwavering trust reminds us that faith is not about understanding everything; it's about believing that God knows what's best. When we feel overwhelmed by problems, we are invited to surrender our worries to Him.

Another example is Saint Thérèse of Lisieux. When her father suffered from mental illness, she longed to care for him but was unable to leave her convent. Instead, she remained faithful to her calling, trusting that God was in control.

Her famous words reflect her deep faith:

“I believe that God is all-powerful. He can do anything. I believe that God loves me, and that is enough for me.”

A Reflection for Us All

Dear brothers and sisters, life is filled with challenges, but God never leaves us alone. He is always at work, guiding us in ways we may not understand. When doors close, when prayers seem unanswered, or when life feels uncertain, remember that God is preparing something greater for you.

Hold on to Saint Thérèse's words:

“I believe that God is all-powerful. He can do anything. I believe that God loves me, and that is enough for me.”

Let us carry these words in our hearts as we face life's challenges. Trust in God's providence, for He knows what is best for each of us.

St. Peter: Patron of the Legion



St. Peter, known as the Prince of the Apostles, holds a place of unique pre-eminence in the Catholic faith, making him an ideal patron for an apostolic organization like the Legion of Mary. Chosen by Christ Himself to lead His Church, St. Peter's role as the first Pope symbolizes a continuity that stretches through the illustrious line of pontiffs, including the present Holy Father. His patronage underscores the Legion's unwavering loyalty to Rome—the center of the faith, the source of authority, discipline, and unity.

In the early years of the Legion, the decision to include St. Peter in the invocations reflected a profound recognition of the Apostle's foundational role in the Church. His life is a testament to the strength of divine grace that can transform human frailty into steadfast leadership. By invoking St. Peter, members of the Legion

affirm their mission to serve Christ through the Church, anchored in fidelity to its teachings and guidance.

Feast of Saints Peter and Paul

The Church celebrates the feast of Saints Peter and Paul on **29 June**, honoring their indispensable contributions to its foundation. St. Peter is revered as the rock upon which Christ built His Church, while St. Paul is celebrated as the great missionary to the Gentiles. Together, they embody the unity and universality of the Church.

St. Peter in the Scriptures

The biblical foundation of St. Peter's role is found in **Matthew 16:18-19**, where Jesus declares:

“And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

This passage highlights St. Peter's authority and responsibility as the visible head of the Church on earth. His unique role as the keeper of the keys symbolizes the mission entrusted to him: to shepherd Christ's flock and preserve the unity of the faithful.

A Model for the Legion

As the Patron of the Legion, St. Peter inspires members to emulate his courage, humility, and loyalty. Despite his moments of weakness, Peter's faith remained unshaken, and he was ultimately martyred for his devotion to Christ. His life reminds every Legionary that serving God requires steadfast commitment, unwavering faith, and deep humility.

Through the invocation of St. Peter, the Legion of Mary renews its allegiance to the Church and its mission of evangelization, grounded in the principles of faith and charity. St. Peter's intercession serves as a source of strength for Legionaries as they labor to bring souls to Christ, just as he did in his lifetime.

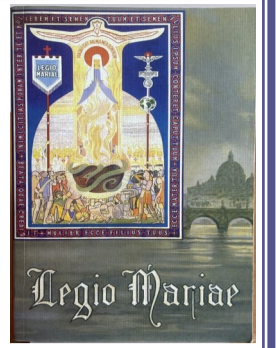
Conclusion

As the rock of the Church and a symbol of unity, St. Peter remains a powerful patron for the Legion of Mary. His life and legacy remind us of the importance of loyalty to the Church, steadfastness in faith, and the courage to proclaim the Gospel in all circumstances. On his feast day, let us reflect on his example and ask for his intercession as we continue our apostolic work in service of Christ and His Church.



LEGION HANDBOOK REVISITED

Auxiliary Membership (Handbook Section 16.2)



Auxiliary membership in the Legion of Mary is a form of participation for those who cannot or choose not to take on active membership duties. It consists of two degrees:

1. **Auxiliaries:** The primary level of auxiliary members.
2. **Adjutorians:** The higher degree of auxiliary members (Adjutores Legionis).

Auxiliary members serve the Legion primarily through prayer, which is considered their service to the Legion and to Our Blessed Lady. While their prayers need not be specifically for the Legion, offering their service entirely to Mary enhances its spiritual value.

Auxiliary membership has no age restrictions, making it accessible to all laity, religious, and priests. The Legion metaphorically describes auxiliary members as “wings” that enable the Legion to ascend to greater spiritual heights, with their prayers as the driving force. Without this support, the Legion’s efforts are significantly hindered.

Explanation

Auxiliary membership provides an essential spiritual foundation for the Legion of Mary. While active members focus on physical apostolic works, auxiliary members ensure these efforts are supported through constant prayer. Here’s a deeper explanation:

1. Who Can Be an Auxiliary Member?

- Priests, religious, or laity who may not be able to participate in the Legion’s physical activities. No age limits mean anyone, regardless of their stage in life, can join as an auxiliary.

2. Degrees of Auxiliary Membership

- **Auxiliaries (Primary Level):** Pray the prescribed prayers (usually the Tesserá).
- **Adjutorians (Higher Level):** In addition to the Tesserá, they attend daily Mass and offer prayers such as the Divine Office.

3. Purpose and Spiritual Offering

- Auxiliary members’ prayers are not limited to the Legion but are directed to Our Lady.
 - ◆ Offering prayers without reservation to Mary ensures she can direct them according to her intentions,
 - ◆ maximizing their spiritual impact.

4. Importance to the Legion

- ◆ Auxiliary members are compared to the **wings of a bird**: their prayers enable the Legion to achieve great spiritual goals and overcome obstacles. Without them, the Legion’s work is limited and less effective.

5. Encouraged Practice

- ◆ Auxiliary members are advised to make their prayers and sacrifices a complete offering to Mary through daily consecration, such as:

“Mary Immaculate, Mediatrix of all Graces, I place at your disposal such portion of my prayers, works, and sufferings as is permitted to me.”

Key Takeaways

- ◆ Auxiliary membership is critical to the Legion’s spiritual vitality, providing the prayers needed to support its mission.
- ◆ Members can choose the level of participation based on their capacity, with both levels offering significant contributions to the Legion’s mission.
- ◆ This form of service is accessible to all and remains a vital part of the Legion’s structure, emphasizing unity in prayer and purpose under the guidance of Our Blessed Mother.

Strengthening the Bond Between Active and Auxiliary Members

The Legion of Mary is not just an organization—it is a family united in love, prayer, and service to God through Our Blessed Mother. Both active and auxiliary members play vital roles in this mission. While active members carry out the works of the Legion, auxiliary members provide the indispensable spiritual support through their prayers.

To foster unity and strengthen the connection between active and auxiliary members, here are some practical ways:

1. Acknowledge the Importance of Auxiliary Members

Auxiliary members are the “spiritual powerhouse” of the Legion. Their prayers sustain the works of the active members and bring God’s blessings to every mission.

- During meetings or events, take time to recognize and thank auxiliary members for their dedication.
- Share updates on how their prayers have contributed to the Legion’s work, so they feel connected to the mission.

2. Include Them in Activities

Even though auxiliary members are not required to attend meetings, inviting them to participate occasionally can build a sense of belonging.

- Invite them to attend special events, such as Acies, retreats, or Masses celebrated by the Legion.
- Organize small gatherings, like prayer sessions or Rosary meetings, where both active and auxiliary members can interact and pray together.

3. Regular Communication

Keeping auxiliary members informed helps them stay connected to the Legion’s work.

- Share updates through bulletins, newsletters, or personal visits.
- Assign active members to check in with auxiliary members, especially those who may feel isolated due to age or health.

4. Foster Mutual Prayer Support

Encourage active members to pray for auxiliary members as well. Prayer is a two-way gift that strengthens the Legion’s unity.

- Suggest that Presidium meetings include a specific intention for auxiliary members.
- Create a prayer chain where active members pray for specific auxiliaries and vice versa.

5. Celebrate Their Contributions

Auxiliary members have given much to the Legion, and it’s important to show gratitude.

- Organize an annual “Auxiliary Appreciation Day” with a special Mass or gathering.
- Share stories or profiles of auxiliary members in your bulletin or meeting updates to highlight their role.

A Prayer for Unity

“Lord, bless all members of the Legion of Mary—both active and auxiliary. Unite us in love and service, and guide us to work together for Your glory. Through the intercession of Our Blessed Mother, may we always support one another in faith and charity. Amen.”

By working together as one family, the Legion of Mary will continue to thrive as a force of love and hope in the world. Active and auxiliary members may have different roles, but their mission is the same: to bring Christ to others through Our Blessed Mother.

The Acies: Renewing Our Fealty to Mary



The Acies is the central annual ceremony of the Legion of Mary, held around March 25, to renew our consecration and dedication to Mary, Queen of the Legion. The term *Acies*, meaning “an army in battle array,” reflects the united spirit of legionaries as they recommit themselves to their mission under Mary’s guidance and protection.

This solemn event emphasizes the Legion’s core principle of working in union with Mary. It consists of both individual and collective acts of consecration, highlighting our dependence on Mary as we face spiritual battles throughout the year. Attendance is crucial, as it embodies the true spirit of a legionary.

The Acies typically takes place in a church, where a statue of the Immaculate Conception is adorned with flowers and candles. A large replica of the Legion’s vexillum is placed prominently.

Each legionary, in procession, approaches the vexillum, places their hand on its staff, and recites the words:

“I am all yours, my Queen, my Mother, and all that I have is yours.”

A Call to Deep Reflection

The words of consecration should be recited thoughtfully, with gratitude and understanding of Mary’s role in salvation. To prepare, legionaries are encouraged to reflect on *A Marian Synthesis* and meditate on Mary’s unique role as our protector and guide.

As St. Alphonsus Liguori beautifully expresses:

“Mary is an object of terror to the powers of hell. She is ‘terrible as an army set in battle array’ (Song 6:10).”

Through the Acies, we renew our trust in Mary, gaining strength to fulfill our mission as her faithful servants.

Announcement: Prepare Your Heart for Acies 2025

LEGION OF MARY
SENATUS OF SYDNEY

YOU ARE INVITED ALL ACTIVE AND
AUXILLIARY MEMBERS

**TO THE
ACIES**

I am all yours, my Queen and my mother,
and all that I have is Yours”

Saturday, 15 March 2025

Opening Prayer at 10:00 am
venue : St Benedict's Catholic Church
104 Broadway, Chippendale NSW2008

Celebrant : Fr. B. Saliba

Dear Legionaries,

The Acies, our most important annual celebration, is coming soon! Mark your calendars for:

Saturday, 15 March 2025

Location: St Benedict’s Catholic Church

104 Broadway, Chippendale NSW 2008

Time: Opening Prayer at 10:00 am.

To make this year’s Acies even more meaningful, we encourage all legionaries to join in the **33 Days Preparation for Consecration to Mary**. While the preparation is done individually or as a group it will help us come to the Acies with a heart fully ready to renew our dedication to Mary.

Important Dates

- ♦ **33 Days Preparation Start Date:**
- ♦ **Monday, 10 February 2025**
- ♦ **Acies Mass: Saturday, 15 March 2025**

33 Days Preparation for Consecration to Mary



To deepen the meaning of the Acies, legionaries can prepare themselves by doing the *33 Days to Consecration* before the ceremony.

This is inspired by St. Louis-Marie de Montfort, who taught about giving ourselves completely to Jesus through Mary.

What is 33 Days Preparation?

It is a spiritual journey lasting 33 days, where participants pray, reflect, and grow in their faith. Each day focuses on Mary's role in God's plan and how she leads us closer to Jesus. On the 34th day, a full consecration to Mary is made.

Why Add 33 Days Preparation?

- 1. Grow Spiritually:** It helps legionaries better understand Mary's role in salvation and the meaning of saying, *"I am all yours."*
- 2. Closer to Jesus:** Through Mary, we are guided more deeply into the heart of Christ, as she is the safest and easiest path to Him.
- 3. Strengthen Faith:** Taking time to pray and reflect each day prepares us spiritually for the Acies consecration.

How to Do the 33 Days Preparation?

- 1. Daily Reflection:** Set aside a few minutes each day for prayer, reflection, and reading from a guide like *True Devotion to Mary* by St. Louis-Marie de Montfort or *33 Days to Morning Glory* by Fr. Michael Gaitley.
- 2. Personal Commitment:** This preparation can be done individually at home, allowing you to connect deeply with Mary on your own spiritual journey.
- 3. Stay Inspired:** Reflect on how Mary's guidance has strengthened your work in the Legion and how you can grow closer to her.

Connecting with the Acies

At the Acies, those who have completed the 33 Days Preparation will feel a deeper connection to the consecration ceremony. This preparation not only enriches personal faith but also strengthens the unity of the Legion family under Mary's guidance.

A Journey with Mary

Combining the 33 Days Preparation with the Acies makes the experience even more meaningful, helping legionaries to fully give their hearts to Mary and Jesus as they serve the Church with love and dedication.

Why Participate?

- To strengthen your relationship with Mary, our Queen and Mother.
- To come to the Acies with a heart fully prepared for renewal and blessings.
- To deepen your faith and refresh your spirit for the mission ahead.

"I am all yours, my Queen, my Mother, and all that I have is yours."

Let us join together, though individually in preparation, to make this Acies a powerful moment of grace and unity for our Legion family.

Important Dates

- **33 Days Preparation Start Date:**
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- **Acies Mass: Saturday, 15 March 2025**

Serving with Love: The Heart of a Legionary



The month of February is often associated with love because of Valentine's Day. However, as Legionaries, we are called to go beyond romantic love and embrace a deeper, Christ-centered love in our service to others.

What Does It Mean to Serve with Love?

To serve with love means to follow the example of Jesus Christ, who gave Himself fully for the good of others. It is about offering our time, talents, and hearts to God through our works in the Legion of Mary. This love is selfless, generous, and rooted in humility.

As Legionaries, we are blessed with opportunities to bring this love to others. Whether we are visiting the sick, praying for the intentions of the Legion, or simply listening to someone in need, every act of kindness becomes a reflection of God's love in the world.

"Let all that you do be done in love."

(1 Corinthians 16:14)

A true legionary serves with a heart full of love, inspired by St. Valentine, who is known for his genuine care and compassion. His example reminds us that serving others is a powerful expression of our love for God.

The Example of Saint Valentine

Saint Valentine, whose feast we celebrate on February 14, reminds us of love that is courageous and faithful. Although little is known about his life, Saint Valentine is believed to have been a priest or bishop in Rome during the 3rd century. He showed great love for God and others by secretly performing marriages for Christian couples at a time when the Roman Emperor forbade it.

His commitment to Christ led to his martyrdom, but his legacy lives on as a reminder of what true love means: sacrifice, faithfulness, and devotion. Like Saint Valentine, we are called to live out our faith in love, even when it requires courage and perseverance.

How Can We Serve with Love in the Legion?

Here are a few ways to reflect love in our daily service:

1. **Pray with Intention:** Offer every prayer, especially the Rosary, with love and sincerity for the people you are serving.
2. **Listen with Compassion:** When visiting someone, listen fully and attentively, showing them that they are valued.
3. **Act with Humility:** Always remember that our service is not for our glory but for God's.
4. **Work Together in Unity:** Support fellow Legionaries with encouragement and understanding, building each other up in love.

A Prayer to Serve with Love

"Lord, teach us to serve with hearts full of love. May we reflect Your love to those we meet, bringing comfort to the lonely, hope to the weary, and joy to the sorrowful. Through the intercession of Saint Valentine and Our Blessed Mother, help us to serve with humility, faith, and courage. Amen."

**With love in our hearts, we share a smile,
Serving others is our noble style.
From Valentine, we learn devotion,
With Mary's love, we find our mission.**

Serving with love not only brings joy to those we serve, but also strengthens our faith and commitment as legionaries.

Jubilee Year 2025: A Year of Grace and Spiritual Renewal

The Jubilee Year is a special time set by the Church every 25 years to celebrate God's grace through prayer, repentance, pilgrimage, and the sacraments. **The Jubilee Year 2025 will run from December 24, 2024, to January 6, 2026.**

The Meaning of the Jubilee Year:

Also known as the Holy Year, this is a time to deepen our faith, receive special graces, and draw closer to God.

Pilgrimage Locations in the Diocese of Parramatta:

For those unable to travel to Rome, the Diocese of Parramatta has designated three pilgrimage sites:

1. St. Patrick's Cathedral Chapel, Parramatta
2. The Shrine of the Holy Innocents, Kellyville
3. Mount Schoenstatt Shrine, Mulgoa

How to Obtain a Plenary Indulgence:

To receive the indulgence, the faithful are invited to:

- Make a pilgrimage to one of the designated sites.
- Participate in Mass and receive Holy Communion.
- Go to confession (the Sacrament of Reconciliation).
- Pray for the intentions of the Holy Father.
- For those unable to make a pilgrimage (due to illness or other circumstances), they may offer their daily sufferings, pray, and participate spiritually in the Eucharistic celebration.

Why is the Jubilee Year Important?

The Jubilee Year is an opportunity to renew our relationship with God and others, and to receive the abundant graces of forgiveness.

Don't miss this opportunity to experience God's profound love and grace.



Here is the information about the three pilgrimage sites designated in the Diocese of Parramatta for the Jubilee Year 2025:

1. St. Patrick's Cathedral Chapel, Parramatta

- **Address:** 1 Marist Place, Parramatta NSW 2150
 - **Description:** Known as "The Cradle of Catholicism" in Australia, St. Patrick's Cathedral is a historic and spiritual center for Catholics in Parramatta. The cathedral offers various liturgical services and provides a peaceful space for prayer and reflection.
- Visit the website.



2. Shrine of the Holy Innocents, Kellyville

- **Address:** 8 Greyfriar Place, Kellyville NSW 2155
 - **Description:** Operated by the Conventual Franciscans, this shrine is dedicated to promoting a culture of life. Surrounded by beautiful gardens, it offers a tranquil environment for prayer and reflection. Monthly Masses for life are held on the last Saturday of each month.
- Visit the website



3. Mount Schoenstatt Shrine, Mulgoa

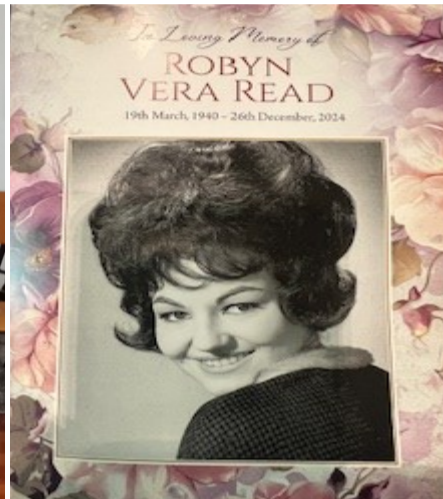
- **Address:** 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa NSW 2745
 - **Description:** Located in a serene rural setting, this shrine provides opportunities for retreats and spiritual renewal. Surrounded by nature, it is an ideal location for pilgrimage and prayer.
- Visit the website

These locations are perfect for those seeking to participate in the spiritual journey of the **Jubilee Year 2025**. Each offers a unique setting to encounter God's grace through prayer, reflection, and community.

'The Jubilee is a time of grace, a time to set aside fear and embrace forgiveness and hope.'
(Pope Francis)



Praesidium Spouse of The Holy Spirit—North Ryde, president Mariola Z and Josefina D was happy to welcome legionary from Argentina Noelia Garcia Clua .Her visit was an inspiration for everyone in the praesidium.



In Loving Memory of Robyn Vera Read

19th March, 1940 – 26th December, 2024



With deep gratitude, we remember **Robyn Vera Read**, a devoted and faithful Legionary who served with love and dedication for over **12 years**.

Robyn first joined the **Camperdown** praesidium and remained committed to the Legion's mission. When the entire praesidium members moved to **Broadway**, she continued her service with the same unwavering spirit. Even during her illness, she transitioned to being an **auxiliary member**, yet as soon as her health improved, she returned as an active member, remaining steadfast until she became unwell again.

Her Requiem Mass was held at **St. Augustine's Catholic Church, Balmain**, on **Saturday, 18 January 2025**, and was celebrated by **Fr. Tom Stevens**. Before the Mass, fellow Legionaries gathered to offer prayers, a testament to the strong bond of faith and fraternity she shared with the Legion of Mary.

Robyn's dedication, perseverance, and love for Our Lady will always be remembered by those who had the privilege of knowing her. May she rest in eternal peace in the loving embrace of Christ



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.

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Thank you for your participation!