

OUR LADY, QUEEN OF PEACE, PRAY FOR US

Maria Legionis

The Voice of the Legion of Mary

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INVITATION Readers of Maria Legionis, and other legion members, are invited to submit articles and other contributions with a view towards publication in future issues of the magazine. Ideally, submissions should be made by e-mail attachments (Word Documents or jpg images) to: concilium@legion-of-mary.ie and marked 'Maria Legionis.' Hard copies of articles, marked 'Maria Legionis', may be sent to: Legio Mariae, De Montfort House, Morning Star Avenue, Brunswick Street. Dublin 7. *Thank you, The Editor.*

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Mary United with Jesus for the Healing of Sins

The following allocutio was given at the Concilium meeting in June 2026 by Fr. Paul Churchill Spiritual Director.

When we come before Our Lady in prayer we come with one statement about ourselves. Let me quote: "Pray for us sinners" (Hail Mary), "Before you we stand, sinful and sorrowful" (Memorare), "poor banished children of Eve" (Hail Holy Queen). Yes, we come as children of Eve, sinners. But our protestations about our sins may not be fully in touch with reality. I say this because of words Our Lord said on the Cross: "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." It is beyond us to understand how the infinite majesty of God is offended by our sins, but there may be more.

Those words are said by Him who is bearing his Passion so as to undo our sins. He alone knows more than anyone the weight of our sins. Oh yes, we all have things we did and said that cause us shame and regret and for which we have genuine sorrow. And some are so burdened by the wrongs they did that they end up depressed, crippled, in psychiatric wards, or even commit suicide.

Our problem is that we do not even see many of our sins nor the damage they do. Perhaps our many negative attitudes, our lack of trust in others, our pride, have also done more damage than we know! You and I may imagine ourselves as okay, not great sinners, just the usual faults. Perhaps something we have a habit of doing, or something we do not see about ourselves, has left greater wounds than we imagine. We pass some misfits and rubbish them in our heart. But

they are the way they are because of a lack of love. Someone dabbles in drugs. "Personal, you know, nothing serious, recreational!" But you do not realise that you are part of that world-wide network that has caused the drug-cartels and all the deaths they cause. Some look at porn: "Well just a bit." But you may be abusing other people in doing so and undermining your own relationship capacities. We do not know. Lord, we do not know. May your grace help us to see better so that we can begin a change.

George Elliot had these words in his work Middlemarch: "For the growing good of the world is partly dependent on unhistorical acts; and that things are not so ill with you and me as they might have been, is half owing to the number who lived faithfully a hidden life and rest in unvisited graves." Very true! But equally, future generations may suffer because of some harm or wrong we did which left its dark imprint on history and our Purgatory may be to watch in shame and horror as we see the downstream consequence of so many words said, so many attitudes that were negative, so many actions done or undone which left damage. We do not know what we are doing.



GEORGE ELLIOT

But I want now to point out one great remedy for all this—the Mass.

Christ, in his passion, took on all the sins of the world. ALL! His suffering and death were that one moment in history where the total effect of all sin became concentrated onto one person and he absorbed it to its dregs but remained a friend to us and trusted God to the bitter end. "He didn't say even one bad word." Reviled, he did not revile in return. That one noble act won conquered sin.

Because he carried his sacrifice into eternity, he has made it the one eternal offering for all sin. Einstein's relativity theories say that time can be bent, telescoped. But Einstein didn't know half of it. When we celebrate Mass, we are brought to that moment when Christ died on the Cross and carried his sacrifice into eternity and so made it available across all time. And what we do at Mass is connect to that sacrifice and make it our own. That is why we pray in Eucharistic Prayer III "Look, we pray, upon the oblation of your Church, and recognising the sacrificial Victim by whose death you willed to reconcile us to yourself …" It is also why we ring bells at that time of Mass, and why we kneel, to signal that that eternal

sacrifice is now made present on the Altar for us to offer to God in reparation for our sins.

But that is not all. Christ asks us all to unite ourselves, our lives, our work, our actions and thoughts to that sacrifice and enter into it ourselves. He himself said: *"Do this in memory of me."* So, we must, like him, and with him say: *"This, Lord is my body given up for you. This, Lord is my blood offered up with you who forgave us our sins. Help me also to forgive."* It is by uniting ourselves to that sacrifice we can overcome our own sins and help change the world for better.

The death of the sinless one, totally offered to God without reserve, undid all our sins. What we have to do is to make contact with that sacrifice and allow its blood flow over us. Legionaries are encouraged to attend daily Mass. We should certainly observe that command that calls us to Mass each Sunday and on other special occasions and enter into its mystery whole-heartedly. Like St. John let us stand close to Mary and with her offer up this sacrifice for our own sins (and the holy souls). By as active a participation from our hearts, uniting ourselves with Christ, let us offer our bodies to his service and let us, with Mary, forgive all those who offend us. And let us hear Christ commend us to each other to look after each other and rid ourselves of every negativity, begging God to help us see better what our sins do so that we can resolve all the more not to sin. And let us there, with St. John, make a place for our Mother Mary in the home of our hearts because she, born conceived without sin, will help us to be healed of all out infirmities; those we know about but also the hidden cancers that can lurk in our souls. *"Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to you."*



CONGRATULATIONS to Fr. Paul Churchill seen here cutting the cake celebrating his 75th birthday at Concilium meeting on Sunday 21 June, 2026.

Sister Maria Herdeiro Duarte Senra R.I.P.



Tribute by Former Envoy Paddy Fay

Sister Maria Senra was born on 9 March 1924 in the parish of Silva, Barcelos, Portugal. On 25 March 1957 she joined a praesidium in her parish, making her Legionary Promise on 22 July 1957. Soon afterwards, she was elected the first President of the new Curia of Ponte de Lima. In 1959, the new Curia Annunciata of Braga was set up and Maria was elected President. A few months later this Curia was raised to Comitium. Sometime after her term of office expired she was appointed an Extension Worker and in October 1968 she was appointed an Envoy of the Legion of Mary. She worked on Extension of the Legion in Portugal, travelling throughout the country setting up praesidia, until October 1979, when she was appointed to Angola for one year before being appointed as Envoy to Brazil in 1981. Before going to Brazil, she spent some time in Cabo Verde. She finished her Envoyship in Brazil in 1988, having been an Envoy for 20 years, and returned home where she continued in her Legion membership and also helped in Extension, particularly on the Island of Madeira. At the request of the Concilium, she also spent some time in Mozambique. Maria celebrated her 100th Birthday on 9 March 2024 and died on 28 June 2026. Her cousin, His Excellency Dom Francisco Senra Coelho, Archbishop of Evora, who presided at the Mass to mark her centenary, also presided at her Funeral Mass on 30 June, 2026. Maria dedicated herself to the extension of the Legion in a great part of the world where Portuguese is spoken. Maria was a first class legionary. The Legion of Mary is indebted to her. She met Frank Duff, several times on visits to the Concilium. She had the confidence of our Founder. The life of Maria, with her dedication and spirit of sacrifice and her devotion to Our Lady, serving Jesus in our neighbour, serves as a good example for all.

May her generous soul rest in peace.

Interview with Former Concilium Officer for Maria Legionis

Conducted by The Editor

Q1. Michael, Briefly, what is your current position in the Legion of Mary and what are your responsibilities in that position?

At present I am not an officer in a praesidium or council, but in the past, I have served as a Concilium Assistant Secretary for six years and as President, Vice President, and Secretary for various praesidia in Dublin. Over the past two decades, I have been a correspondent over various periods for Mexico, Paraguay, Cebu Senatus, in the Philippines and Navan Comitium in Co. Meath. During that time, I was impressed by the dedication and sincerity of the various correspondents, who were diligent in sending letters every month and enthusiastic about their multiple Legion works.

Q2. When did you first join the Legion of Mary, and what inspired you to do so?

I have enjoyed continuous membership of the Legion of Mary in Dublin since the late 1960's after accepting an invitation from a legionary to join the organisation. At my first meeting I was impressed by the fervour with which the members prayed the Rosary and amazed to hear each pair of legionaries present their reports while



consulting notebooks. Their works included the odd visit to a prison, organising retreats, visiting bars and people with alcohol problems. All of those works appealed to me and from the start I enjoyed the weekly work and meetings.

Q3. Briefly, how has membership of the Legion of Mary changed your life?

The Legion of Mary gave me a practical demonstration of lay apostolate in action and how it resembled the work of the first disciples who were sent out 'two-by-two' to the towns and villages to speak to people about Jesus. The mission of the early disciples did not always go smoothly and the same is true with the lay apostolate. I learned early on that not everyone encountered was receptive, but legionaries must carry on their apostolate with courage, regardless of the reception they come across.

Year on year, the Legion changed my life for the better by studying the handbook, working with legionaries who taught me varied approaches to people, listening to Frank Duff talks and hearing about legionaries who had worked overseas, envoys such as Edel Quinn, who extended the Legion in Africa, and Alfie Lambe who extended the Legion in South America, I learned much also from Fr. Aedan McGrath SSC who used to visit my praesidium while on holidays from the Philippines many years after his imprisonment in China. He spoke openly about his Legion work in that country while setting up multiple praesidia until his arrest and suffering solitary confinement in Ward-Road prison, Shanghai. He said the authorities had examined the Legion handbook and a high-ranking official once remarked that the Legion System was every bit as good as the Communist set up. The Legion of Mary was subsequently officially branded 'Public Enemy Number One' in China.

Q4. What challenges are currently facing the Legion of Mary- both nationally and internationally?

The Legion is experiencing difficulty recruiting officers. The reasons for this are varied: some councils overseas are responsible for legionaries who are scattered far and wide and what might be considered suitable candidates live too far from the meeting place for such tasks. At praesidium level, the problem is low membership, but this can be solved by recruiting new members. By contrast, in some parts of the world, there is no problem getting officers. For example, a recent election for a Senatus President in Cebu Senatus, the Philippines had three candidates for the position. Legionaries who have taken on officer role will readily say the extra responsibility is more than compensated for with graces to match and a realisation of being more involved in the activities and governance of the Legion.

There is an urgent need for more correspondents. Many correspondents are overburdened and need to offload some of their councils to new volunteers. The officers of Concilium, and current correspondents would seem to have a heavier work load and more responsibilities than the early apostles appointed by Christ, the known world then being much smaller than it is today. I would strongly urge legionaries to consider taking on correspondence in order to lighten the load of Concilium and present correspondents, some of whom are looking after as many as eight councils.

Q5. How do you think the Legion of Mary should respond to a society of increasing secularism?

The Legion of Mary should respond to secularism by setting out its stall for what it stands. Secularism is a cancer in society. While its principle of seeking to conduct human affairs

based on naturalistic reflections, uninvolved with religion, the Legion of Mary looks at life through wider lens and should not hold back in proclaiming to the world that there is more to life than so-called 'Naturalistic Reflections'.

The Legion of Mary promotes the doctrine that human beings are made up of both body and soul, embracing all aspects of life; doing apostolic work such as: visiting people in homes and hospitals no matter what their faith. Hostels for men and women are run by legionaries, Prospective Catholics and people with no faith are recruited to do the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A) course. Youth conferences, retreats and pilgrimages are organised, and countless other tasks are carried out for the benefit of the church and society.

Q6. How do you think the Legion of Mary should counteract any erroneous views of the Legion held by some in society.

The best way to give the Legion of Mary a good name is to be seen doing specific works such as visiting people door-to-door, speaking to people about the faith, providing Mass times, offering relevant leaflets and asking for prayers for Legion teams on Peregrinatio Pro Christo projects. Another good work for quelling erroneous notions about the Legion would be operating a well-stocked Book Barrow in strategic places such as outside a church after masses, or outside a supermarket. Such works would confirm that the Legion is up and running, promoting the faith in a positive fashion.

Q7. Are you optimistic on the future strength of the Legion of Mary – both nationally and internationally?

Yes, I am optimistic about the future strength of the Legion of Mary – both nationally and internationally. Our Blessed Lady looked after the Legion from its foundation, and we must trust and pray that she will continue to do so. Like so many other organisations, the Legion took a hit during Covid, but it is making a comeback. In many countries the Legion is getting new members at a fast rate; new praesidia and councils are being formed, sometimes more than one at a time. The Legion is being expanded to districts where it never before existed. From my experience with the Philippines as a correspondent, I am aware also of several praesidia which had recently grown so much in numbers (average twenty) that they had to split and form new praesidia.

Q8. In the early years, Frank Duff involved the Legion of Mary with the moral and social issues of the day. Do you think the legion of Mary should do likewise today?

Yes, we should follow the example of Frank Duff and the early legionaries who never took the high moral

ground but approached each person with love and compassion. We need to tread carefully when we encounter someone who is living outside the moral teaching of the church. It's difficult work but legionaries are best placed to do it because we always work in union with Mary.

Q9. What would you say to a prospective member contemplating joining the Legion of Mary?

Invite prospective members to a meeting giving them the day and time of the meeting. Inform them that there is a wide variety of work and they will not have to do any work they may dislike. Take phone numbers and offer to go to the meeting with them, and say a few words on how you were recruited into the Legion and how it influenced your life for the better. Stress the social and spiritual experiences you enjoyed through making new friends, and doing a variety of works under the patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Assure them that no works will be required right away; initially, just come to the meeting and learn about the Legion system by studying the handbook and listening to reports from experienced legionaries.

Q10. What ideas do you have for making the Legion of Mary better known among the general population?

Apart from personal contact on home visitation and crowd contact, the media are an excellent way to promote the Legion. Examples of this is the following: While on two Peregrinatio Pro Christo projects, the local BBC stations were approached by the Parish Priests (in England and Wales) to allow two legionaries to speak about the Legion of Mary. They readily agreed and the result was that many people met on home visitation and crowd contact said they heard the broadcast and learned much about the Legion. A similar experience occurred in the Philippines where the Radio station in Manila facilitated a half hour Sunday morning slot for discussion on the Legion of Mary, which I attended. A Bishop took part by phone link, giving high praise to the Legion for rapidly extending the Legion in the Philippines; also present was a Reuters correspondent, and one other person. Legionaries from Manila Senatus told me afterwards that they heard the programme and said it would be valuable publicity for the Legion of Mary.

Q11. Do you think that the creation of junior praesidia in parishes, schools and colleges are the way forward for the Legion of Mary in Ireland?

Certainly, schools and colleges exist for the purpose of education, but unfortunately limited education takes place on religious matters. It would be worthwhile for the Legion to get permission to give talks on what the Legion is all about, inviting students

to consider Legion membership after getting permission from their parents and writing their names on a folder provided. If for instance a few students from the same parish were interested, the nearest senior praesidium could look after the juniors (or in case of universities) the nearest Legion Council could take over and support a new praesidium. Many Legion praesidia in places like China were commenced in schools, including the first praesidium in the Arora University in Shanghai and education centres all over the vast country of China.

By joining a praesidium, students would learn much about the meaning and importance of the lay apostolate, prayer, discipline through following the Legion System, caring for others, and enjoying social benefits through new friendships; also witnessing firsthand, practical devotion to Mary.

Q12. Finally, is there any further observation or comment you wish to make?

The Legion taught me many lessons, including the manner of approaching people, being patient with difficult cases, punctual when attending meetings, turning up for work, and being not afraid to tackle any work assigned. The Legion helped me to understand what is important in life; the power of prayer followed by action, and enjoying the friendship with fellow legionaries.

I see the Legion of Mary as the miracle of the modern world. Grateful thanks are due to Servant of God Frank Duff for founding an organisation which has been endorsed from its foundation by every Pope.

Answer these questions and win €50

1. On what did Frank Duff base the structure of the Legion of Mary?
2. What have Mary Murphy, Paddy Fay and Noel Lynch got in common?
3. Who is the current President of Concilium?
4. What is the connection between The Legion of Mary and Myra House?
5. What are the conditions for the establishment of a Regia?

Answers to: Maria Legionis, De Montfort House,
Morning Star Avenue, Brunswick St., Dublin 7, D07 VA03, Ireland.

The winner of the €50 for issue no 2 was
Member of East-Cloyne Curia - Kay Cremin, Fermoy, Co. Cork

Seminaries and the Legion of Mary

By A Legionary Correspondent

Pope Pius III introduced the 19th ecumenical council of the Catholic Church; it was known as the Council of Trent (1545-1563) since it took place in the town of Trent, northern Italy. The Ecumenical Council had been convened in response to the spread of Protestantism, with the aims of reforming the Catholic Church and clarifying its doctrine.



The final session of the Council in 1563 initiated the founding of the first modern seminaries for priests. Five years later in 1568, the English College at Douai was founded. The English College in Rome followed in 1579, and other colleges were founded in Valladolid (1589) and Seville (1592). Multiple seminaries subsequently followed country- after -country throughout the world to ensure that priests received good moral and intellectual training prior to ordination.

St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, Ireland's seminary founded in 1795 hosted a Legion of Mary praesidium as early as 8 December 1938. From then on, as the Legion spread to other countries several seminaries welcomed the establishment of Legion praesidia among their seminarians, and many such colleges to the present-day host more than one praesidium.

The establishment of such praesidia was to prove significant in the growth of the Legion. Many seminarians went back to their assigned parishes as priests to act as spiritual directors to councils and praesidia; they also helped to establish branches of the Legion of Mary having first-hand knowledge of the Legion system.

While the Legion benefits greatly from seminaries, the converse is also true: a steady stream of legionaries have entered seminaries to study for the priesthood; thus helping to increase priestly vocations.



Apostles Seminary in Kabaa, Kenya

Outside of Ireland, Queen of Apostles Seminary in Kabaa, Kenya is an example of an early-known seminary to host a praesidium. From then on, multiple seminaries worldwide welcomed the establishment of Legion praesidia among their seminarians.

The following are examples of present-day seminaries with Legion praesidia: A seminary in Philadelphia has eight active members and fourteen auxiliaries. They conduct catechesis classes and Bible study in Catholic schools. In Austria, a presentation on the Legion of Mary, including Peregrinatio Pro Christo was given in the Vienna seminary to newly arrived seminarians. The seminary praesidium in Mumbai is very active; they conduct the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). In Tanzania, Dar-es-Salaam Regia in February each year, seminarians help with a Legion of Mary promotion in the parishes, resulting in many new members.

In Durango Regia Mexico a talk was organised in a seminary to introduce the seminarians to the Legion. In Toronto Senatus, St. Augustine Seminary re-established its seminarian praesidium.



At the present time, it is more important than ever that Legion councils worldwide approach seminaries with the view to establishing praesidia among seminarians.

Where such praesidia are operating, they are mutually beneficial to the seminarians and to the Legion of Mary.



St. Patrick's College, Maynooth

CONCILIUM OFFICERS ATTEND DICASTERY

By Helen Murphy and Lóirín O'Leary

In May 2026 Helen Murphy Vice President Concilium and Lóirín O' Leary Assistant Secretary Concilium represented the Legion of Mary at the Annual meeting of the Moderators of International Associations of the Faithful, Ecclesial Movements and New Communities in Rome.

This annual meeting is organised by the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life. Cardinal Kevin Farrell welcomed 180 representatives of 104 associations. He encouraged us to develop a desire to remain faithful to our charisms with understanding and respect, and to look beyond the vision of growth with new energy. He suggested that we choose leaders who shape our apostolate in a new and creative way.

This year's Theme was "Governance." We cannot rely solely on the Holy Spirit and the gifts the Spirit gives. The Spirit clearly works within the Church and the world, and there are many different styles of governing. Good governance establishes a peaceful, orderly environment necessary for building up the Body of Christ. St. Paul tell us that good governance brought peace, prevented disorder and ensured sound teaching which allowed the church to grow into full maturity in Christ.

The speakers dealt with the Theological, Moral and Pastoral aspects of governance dealing with formation, spiritual growth, safeguarding, management of disputes and unity among members. The highlight was the









personal meeting we all had with Pope Leo XIV. These individual meetings with the Holy Father followed an address he had given to the assembly. "Governance", he said involves giving "a sure direction, so that the community may be a place of growth for the people who belong to it. Leadership must benefit the entire community, not personal interests, and it must never be imposed, but rather recognised and freely accepted. Ecclesial movements must live in communion with the entire church and with their local bishop, even if they disagree with him." The Pope praised the work and history of lay associations and ecclesial movements, saying many well-formed people and effective evangelisers have emerged from these organisations. The Holy Father concluded: "Persevere and, with the grace of God, help all these gifts to grow! The Church supports and accompanies you."

The group took part in the Rosary in the Vatican gardens on Thursday evening. Friday's 8.00am Mass was held in St. Peter's Basilica with Cardinal Farrell the principal celebrant; Helen had the privilege of doing the first reading, and later took the opportunity to present the Legion of Mary Handbook to Pope Leo who graciously received it. While it was a very intense and busy two days, it was an opportunity to meet other groups and share our experiences with other organisations. This we did at mealtimes and in our smaller group discussions.

Thanks to Concilium for the opportunity to attend the meeting in Rome and we remembered you all in our Mass in St. Peter's and also in our Mass in the chapel dedicated to Our Lady of Mount Carmel on Wednesday evening as we sheltered from the rain.

Annual Day of Thanksgiving

at Carfin Grotto, Motherwell, Scotland

By Godwin Enemali - Senatus of Scotland.

Legionaries from across Scotland gathered on the Feast of Pentecost to give thanks for a year of apostolic service.



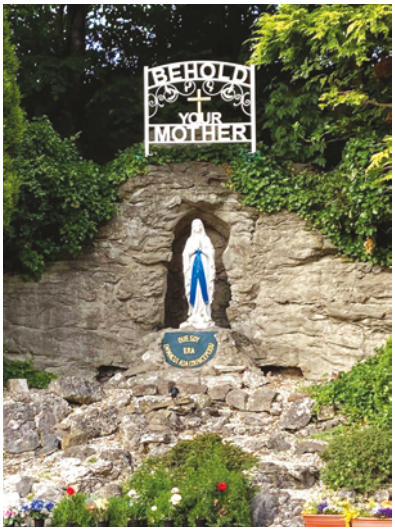


The Legion of Mary in Scotland gathered for its Annual Day of Thanksgiving on the Feast of Pentecost 2026 at Carfin Grotto, Motherwell. Legionaries came together in a spirit of gratitude and fellowship to thank God for the many blessings and works of the Legion during the past year.

The day began with the celebration of Holy Mass in St Francis Xavier Church, the main church at Carfin Grotto. The Mass was celebrated by Bishop Joseph Toal, Bishop of Motherwell, who joined the legionaries in giving thanks for their apostolic work and witness throughout Scotland.



The Annual Thanksgiving provided an opportunity for members from different parts of Scotland to meet, pray, and renew their commitment to the mission of the Legion of Mary. The gathering reflected the spirit of Pentecost, as legionaries united in faith and devotion, seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit for their ongoing apostolate.









Following Mass, participants took part in a procession through the grounds of the Grotto. The procession commenced from the site of the Legion's Vexillum and proceeded prayerfully through the beautiful grounds of the shrine. Bishop Toal joined the legionaries in the procession, adding to the significance of the occasion. The day was marked by prayer, thanksgiving, and joyful fellowship. As the legionaries departed, they carried with them renewed enthusiasm for their service to the Church and confidence in God's continued blessings upon the work of the Legion of Mary in Scotland.

Interview of a Peregrinatio Pro Christo Experience

Conducted by Eileen Fraher

I asked two first timers about their experience of a Peregrinatio Pro Christo project to Lancashire-the heartland of the "Forty Martyrs of England and Wales."

I asked them for their thoughts on their week's work.

One legionary quoted Romans 10:15 ***"And how are they to proclaim unless they are sent" was a quote that influenced her.!***

Both said they were impressed by the legionaries' determination and work ethic- going door-to-door with a joyful heart - no matter what reaction they received. One said he was impressed by their sincerity, piety and the depth of their faith. It was a joy to hear people share their faith experiences. He then went on to say: To practice the method of explaining the significance of the Miraculous Medal properly is paramount. I experienced the change in attitude when at first refused but when placed in the palm of the hand as when giving the explanation, they accepted. It saddened me to experience the number of those who were not interested. As regards the lapsed - I will pray that the seed planted will flourish and that they return to the fold!

One legionary said: for me it was a working retreat – the spiritual input impressed me deeply. I learned at two houses how the power of forgiveness transforms lives.

When speaking to the lapsed about the importance of the Mass, I enjoyed hearing the simple explanation:

(1) If Jesus asked you to join Him at the Last Supper – would you accept?

(2) If He asked you to be present at His Resurrection, would you accept?

(3) If He asked you to be with His Mother at the Foot of the Cross, would you accept? Yes, to all the above constitutes the Mass. Some people with all the trappings of this world were so convinced of their own position, they refused any input from us!

As it states in 2 Corinthians 4:4 ***'The god of this world has blinded the minds of unbelievers to keep them from seeing the light of the Gospel.'***

One legionary experienced the help of prayer warriors at home and that also impressed on him the importance of having a living faith, not merely at a surface level or just going through the motions.

Both are going to share their experience at their next praesidium meeting and are signing up for a project next year. Please God.

Maria Et Patria Project

APRIL 2026 - Killarney Parish



By Joan Roche

Legion of Mary Project, organised by Tipperary Curia, took place in Killarney Parish Co. Kerry on Thursday 9th April and on Friday 10th April.

The team leader Joan Roche and Assistant leader Pat Breen led a team of 21 legionaries, together with spiritual directors Fr. Michael Kennedy and Fr. Derek O'Connell.

The project began with Legion meeting on both mornings at 8.00am led by Fr. Derek O'Connell on Thursday and by Fr. Michael Kennedy on Friday, held in St John Paul II Pastoral Centre.

The three objectives of the project were outlined, and each one was discussed by the team:

- To deepen our own commitment to Jesus and Mary.
- To encourage those met to take a step closer to God.
- To recruit for the Legion of Mary.

The approach was discussed. The Project was placed under Our Lady's care, the daily timetable was outlined, and the importance of punctuality was emphasised. The importance of taking accurate notes and the completing of the reports with as much information as possible was also emphasised.

The daily timetable was as follows:

8.00 am Meeting - Legion Prayers – Approach discussed, teams and areas allocated

9.30 am Holy Mass in Church of the Resurrection

10.10 am Morning Prayer from the Breviary

10.45 am Home Visitation

1.00 pm Lunch

2.00 pm Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament in Adoration Chapel of the Church of the Resurrection

3.00 pm Home Visitation

5.30 pm Evening Prayer from breviary and writing of reports

6.20 pm Evening Tea

6.45 pm Home Visitation

8.30 pm Patrician-Type Meeting Topics discussed were: "Confession" on Thursday and "Holy Mass" on Friday

Statistics:

Homes Visited: 1232.
No Replies: 616.
Not Interested: 107.
Special Cases: 18.
Lapsed Catholics: 181.
Non-Catholics: 72.
Miraculous Medals: 853.
Membership promised: 22 Active +5 Auxilary.

Some Interesting Contacts

1. A lady invited legionaries into her house as it was a very wet morning. They had tea and biscuits together while they chatted. Her Dad, who is now deceased, was a great legionary and she had a strong faith herself. Legionaries asked her to consider joining the Legion of Mary. She promised to think about it and to pray for legionaries.

2. A man closed the door on legionaries and said he was not interested. They gave him a Parish information leaflet. He followed them down the road in his car and apologised, as he thought they belonged to some other organisation. He wanted to give legionaries a donation. He accepted Miraculous Medals and Rosary Beads and listened attentively to the explanation on the Miraculous Medal.

3. A lady was delighted with the visit and the fact that legionaries were offering Miraculous Medals. She told us about six years ago two legionaries called and gave her a Miraculous Medal which she wore and prayed the prayer. Not long after that her life changed and her worries about her children's futures started working out. They are happy and in secure jobs today. She said her joys far outweigh her sorrows and is thankful to God and his Mother Mary.

Comments on the project from volunteers

- Very worthwhile doing this work in Ireland as well as overseas.
- Huge need for these projects.
- Lovely mixture of work and prayer, Mass, Divine Office, Adoration, Patrician meetings and Legion meetings, very uplifting and inspiring. The great blessings of two spiritual directors on the project.
- Great to meet and work with legionaries from different areas.

Thanks to Fr. Kieran O'Brien Administrator for giving us permission to visit in the parish and to Bishop Ray Browne for his warm welcome and encouraging words at Holy Mass on the first morning. A special word of thanks to our spiritual directors Fr. Michael Kennedy and Fr. Derek O'Connell for their spiritual guidance during the project.

The Experience of a Peregrinatio Pro Christo Project in our Parish

A Week of Faith, Courage and Evangelisation *By Fr. Stephen Adedeji, OSJ*

From 6–13 June 2026, the Parish of Our Lady and St. Hurbet's with St. Wulstan's in Great Harwood, Lancashire, England was blessed to welcome a group of twelve legionaries who dedicated a week to an intensive outreach mission among the local people which was aimed at sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ and his Church throughout the local community.

The mission, which was rooted in the Church's call to evangelisation, was marked by extraordinary zeal, perseverance, and trust in the Holy Spirit - the Principal Agent of Mission. Throughout the seven-day visit, the legionaries went from house-to-house knocking at peoples' doors, bringing the message of hope, faith, and God's love to residents across the local community, irrespective of whether they are Catholics or not. Despite facing challenging weather conditions, the group remained steadfast in its commitment to the mission, carrying out its work with remarkable joy and enthusiasm.

By the end of the one-week outreach, the group which had as its Team leader Michael Haugh visited approximately 4,312 homes. Behind this impressive figure lie countless personal encounters, conversations, prayers, and moments of grace that touched the lives of many individuals and families. Among the most significant fruits of the mission was the outreach to lapsed Catholics. The legionaries took time to listen, encourage, and gently invite those who have drifted away from the practice of their faith to reconsider returning to the Church. Their efforts bore encouraging results. Some individuals have already begun attending Mass again, while many others expressed their sincere desires and commitment to return to the regular practice of their Catholic faith, while a good number of non-Catholics indicated interest in undergoing the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A). Parishioners and residents alike were deeply moved by the witness of faith of the visiting





missionaries. Their cheerful spirit, despite long hours of walking and the challenges posed by the weather, became a testimony to the joy that comes from serving Christ.

The outreach was concluded on Friday, 12th June, the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, with a Thanksgiving Mass presided over by the Parish Priest, Fr. Ethelbert Arua, OSJ. In his remarks, Fr. Arua thanked God for the success of the mission and expressed his gratitude to the twelve legionaries for their generosity in leaving their homes and in sacrificing their time and energy to serve the parish community. The Mass was well attended and marked by an atmosphere of joy and thanksgiving. In his homily, the Associate Priest, Fr. Stephen Adedeji, OSJ reflected on the return of the seventy-two disciples described in Luke 10. Drawing a parallel between the disciples and the twelve legionaries who had spent the week proclaiming the Gospel, he reminded the people of Christ's words to His followers: that their greatest cause for rejoicing should not be the visible success of their mission, but rather that their names are written in the Book of Life.

As the legionaries departed on Saturday 13th June, they left behind more than statistics and memories. They left renewed faith, strengthened parish bonds, and countless invitations for individuals and families to deepen their relationship with Christ and His Church. The fruits of their labor will continue to unfold in the months and years to come, as those touched by their visits respond to God's grace. The parish community remains grateful for the witness and dedication of the twelve legionaries whose visit served as a powerful reminder that the Gospel of Christ remains alive, transformative, and capable of touching hearts wherever it is proclaimed with faith, courage, and joy.

Pope Leo XIV Challenges Catholics in 2026

Its Relevance to the Legion of Mary



By Declan Lawlor - Concilium President

The year 2026 offers a providential moment for reflection on the enduring mission of the Legion of Mary and the continuing relevance of its founder, Frank Duff.

During his visit to the Marian Shrine of Mamã Muxima in Angola, Pope Leo XIV addressed young people and members of the Legion of Mary, calling them to become "workers for justice and bearers of peace." He reminded them that it is love, not conflict, that must triumph and that the Gospel must shape both hearts and society.

These words could easily have come from Frank Duff himself.

Frank Duff devoted his life to demonstrating that every baptised Catholic has an apostolic mission. He believed that Christianity was not merely a set of beliefs to be accepted but a life to be lived actively in service of others. His writings consistently challenged Catholics to move beyond routine religious practice and become missionaries in their homes, parishes, workplaces, and communities. Are we reading his essays on frankduffessays website?

The foundation of Frank Duff's spirituality was simple but profound. Through Mary, every person could be brought closer to Christ. Through Christ, every person could discover true dignity as a child of God. This conviction led him to establish the Legion of Mary in Dublin in 1921, creating a lay movement that would spread throughout the world and inspire millions of lay Catholics.

In Angola, Pope Leo XIV spoke of the Shrine of Mamã Muxima as a place where generations had brought their joys, sorrows, hopes, and sufferings to Our Lady. He reminded Legion members that Mary's heart embraces all people and that her followers are called to carry



her tenderness into the world. He challenged them to become 'messenger angels' who bring God's blessing wherever they go.

This vision resonates deeply with Frank Duff's understanding of the Legion. He frequently taught that every legionary should be another Mary in the world. The Legion was never intended to be merely an organisation. It was to be a spiritual force, transforming society - one soul at a time through prayer, visitation, friendship, and personal witness.

Many of Frank Duff's essays emphasised that ordinary Catholics possess extraordinary potential when they surrender themselves completely to God. He believed that holiness was not reserved for priests, religious, or theologians. The ordinary lay person, filled with grace and guided by Mary, could become a powerful instrument of evangelisation.

This message is particularly important in 2026. Catholics live in a world marked by loneliness, secularisation, social division, and uncertainty. Technology has connected people globally while often leaving them isolated personally. Communities that once shared common values frequently experience fragmentation and mistrust. Yet Frank Duff's answer remains strikingly modern. *Personal encounter, genuine friendship, prayer, and direct service to others remain among the most effective ways of bringing Christ into the world. Personal contact and follow up are absolutely necessary. If that is not happening then we are failing....how can we develop genuine friendship without reaching out and following up?*



Pope Leo XIV's appeal to Legion members in Angola reflects precisely this missionary spirit. He called them to help build a world where injustice, poverty, dishonesty, and violence are overcome by the power of Christian love. His appeal was not directed only to Angolan Catholics but to legionaries and Catholics everywhere. *Every member of the Legion of Mary is called to become*

a builder of peace, a witness to hope, and a bearer of Christ's compassion. Personal contact is key in 2026: it is the opposite from the phone filled existence.

Frank Duff often insisted that the greatest tragedy in the Church was not a lack of resources but a failure of imagination regarding what God could accomplish through ordinary people. He believed that the Holy Spirit could work wonders through lay people who were willing to place themselves entirely at God's disposal.

The Legion of Mary needs to continue to embody that conviction. Across the world, members visit homes, support parish life, encourage the lonely, assist the vulnerable, and share the faith through personal contact. Their work often goes unnoticed, yet it reflects the quiet and faithful service that Frank Duff considered essential to Christian discipleship.

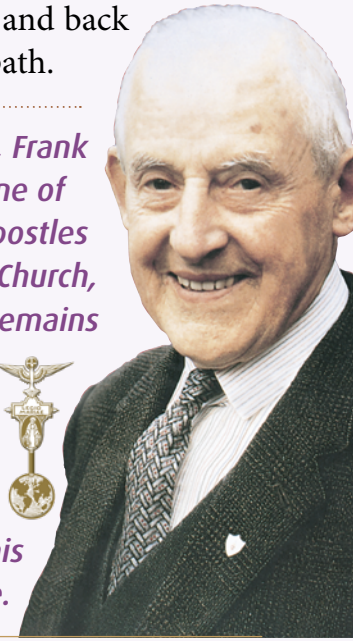
The challenge given by Pope Leo XIV at Mamã Muxima therefore stands as a renewal of Frank Duff's original vision. Legionaries are called not simply to preserve a tradition but to live a mission. They are invited to become instruments of Mary's love in a wounded world, bringing reconciliation where there is division, hope where there is despair, and faith where there is uncertainty.

As Catholics journey through 2026, the witness of Frank Duff and the message of Pope Leo XIV converge in a single call: to be apostolic instruments of Mary and disciples of Christ. The future of the Church depends not only on its leaders but on ordinary believers who, like Frank Duff, trust that God can achieve extraordinary things through humble and faithful hearts.

The message to the Legion of Mary in Angola was ultimately a message to the entire Church: let the heart of Mary shape your own heart, let the Gospel guide your actions, and let love triumph over every form of division in order to bring people to the sacraments and back onto the right path.

In that mission, Frank Duff remains one of the great lay apostles of the modern Church, and his vision remains very relevant in 2026.

We need to honour him by keeping alive his visionary flame.



Our Lady of Champion, Wisconsin

(First Approved Marian Apparition in the U.S.A.)

By Michael Walsh

Champion, Wisconsin (1859), was the setting for the first approved Marian Apparition in the United States of America: A Belgian-born immigrant woman aged 28, named Adele Brise was walking through a wooded area when she saw a beautiful woman clothed in dazzling-white garments standing between a maple and a hemlock tree.



The Lady was elevated slightly above the ground surrounded by a bright light. After Mass next day she informed the priest about the apparition, and he told her to ask the Lady: "In God's name, who are you and what do you want of me?" When Adele walked past the spot again, the Lady was there, and Adele put the priest's question to her. The Lady replied: "I am the Queen of Heaven …" She gave Adele the mission to pray for the conversion of sinners and teach the children their Catechism, with the assurance: "Go and fear nothing, I will help you." (Further details of the apparition are given hereunder)

Soon afterwards, Adele's father built a small chapel between the trees, and over time, two more churches were built on the spot before the present brick church was built in 1942. Each year, up to 200,000 pilgrims visit the Shrine in Champion, which is a community in the town of Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin.

In 1916, the U.S. Bishops' Conference designated the apparition sufficient grounds as a National Shrine. The statue of Our Lady of Champion stands in the grounds of the apparition.

The apparition was approved on December 8th, 2010, by the

Twelfth Bishop of Green Bay. The following extract from his talk on that occasion represents a prime example of what is necessary to have a Marian apparition officially Bishop-approved:

For over 151 years, a continuous flow of the faithful has come to Champion, Wisconsin to pray, to seek solace and comfort in times of trouble and to petition Our Lord Jesus Christ through the powerful intercession of Our Lady of Good Help. Continuous prayer has gone up in this place based upon the word of a young Belgian immigrant woman, Adele Brise, who in October 1859 said that the Blessed Mother, a Lady clothed in dazzling white, had appeared to her on this site.

The Lady was elevated slightly in a bright light and gave words of solace and comfort and a bold and challenging mission for the young immigrant woman. The Lady gave her a two-fold mission



of prayer for the conversion of sinners and catechesis. 'I am the Queen of Heaven who prays for the conversion of sinners, and I wish you to do the same. You received Holy Communion this morning and that is well. But you must do more. Make a general confession and offer Communion for the conversion of sinners... Gather the children in this wild country and teach them what they should know for salvation. Teach them their catechism, how to sign themselves with the sign of the Cross, and how to approach the sacraments; that is what I wish you to do. Go and fear nothing, I will help you.'

Adele Brise began immediately to fulfil the mandate and mission entrusted to her by the Lady and oftentimes at great personal sacrifice went to the homes of the children to instruct them in the largely unsettled and forested area in Wisconsin. Adele was ever obedient to the authorities of the Church and steadfast in the mission entrusted to her by Our Lady, no matter what difficulty she encountered.

The mission given Adele became such a commitment that she set up a Catholic school of instruction for children and even began a community of Third Order Franciscan women, who assisted her

in her obedience to the mandate of Our Lady to pray for the conversion of sinners and to instruct the children. There is a long tradition of oral and some documented sources recounting answered prayers at the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help which include conversions and many physical healings attributed to the Blessed Mother's intercession. Many physical healings are memorialised by the multitude of crutches and other mementoes of thanksgiving for answered prayers left at the Shrine. Prayers for physical healing are answered-even to this day through the intercession of Our Lady of Good Help. Though none of these favours have been officially declared a miracle by the Church, they are clear evidence of spiritual fruitfulness and the history of devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary at the Shrine.

Graces have been poured out through the sacraments celebrated in this place especially through the celebration of the Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, as well as through the recitation of public devotions and private prayers. Our Lady has lessened or relieved the burdens of the People of God, whether on financial, familial, relationship or employment matters or even through diminishing inclement and tempestuous weather.

This holy place was preserved from the infamous Peshtigo fire of 1871, when many of the faithful gathered here with Adele and prayed through the intercession of Our Lady of Good Help, with the result that the fire that devastated everything in its wake in this entire area stopped when it reached the parameters of the Shrine.

There is clear testimony to the upright character of Adele Brise: her devotion to Jesus Christ and the Blessed Virgin Mary, and her unwavering commitment to the mission Mary entrusted to her. Moreover, the uninterrupted history of faith and devotion testifies to the spiritual fruits bestowed upon the pilgrims to the Shrine.

Three Marian experts have studied the history of this alleged apparition and all of the extant documents, letters, and written testimonies in order to determine whether or not there are inherent contradictions or objections to the veracity of the testimony given by Adele Brise with regard to the events of 1859 and to establish whether or not there is enough evidence to suggest that the events which happened to Adele Brise may be of a supernatural origin. The accounts of the apparitions and locutions are judged

to be free from doctrinal error and consistent with the Catholic faith. There is nothing in the person and character of Adele Brise that would question the veracity of the substance of her account. In fact, her personal character is a major factor in favour of the recognition of the apparition…

These simple apparitions and locution given to Adele Brise became a compelling theological and religious mission for her. The effects of these endeavours by her and many others have lasted many years with major spiritual benefits. Many of the local clergy and clergy from other dioceses and religious institutes have come here on pilgrimage with their people, also with spiritual benefit.

All of my esteemed predecessor Bishops of the Diocese of Green Bay for the past 151 years have been present for special Masses in Honour of Our Lady of Good Help, and some of them have even actively promoted the Shrine. It remains to me now, the Twelfth Bishop of the Diocese of Green Bay and the lowliest of the servants of Mary, to declare with moral certainty and in accord with the norms of the Church, that the events, apparitions and locutions given to Adele Brise in October of 1859 do exhibit the substance of supernatural character, and I do hereby approve these apparitions as worthy of belief (although not obligatory) by the Christian faithful. I encourage the faithful to frequent this holy place as a place of solace and answered prayer." **Bishop David L. Ricken.**

Today, Our Lady of Champion Academy in Wisconsin provides a Catholic, classical, and, for many, a hybrid education model, focusing on developing children in faith and virtue, situated in the location of the apparitions of Adele Brise.

Adele Brise passed to her eternal reward aged 65 on July 5th 1896 after devoting the best part of her life striving with great success to satisfy the plea of the Blessed Virgin Mary:

'Pray for the conversion of sinners. Gather the children in this wild country and teach them what they should know for salvation... Teach them their catechism, how to sign themselves with the sign of the Cross, and how to approach the Sacraments; that is what I wish you to do. Go and fear nothing, I will help you.'



The Legion of Mary in Northern Africa



By Fr. Bernardo De Nardo

The recent visit of Pope Leo XIV to Africa, the first of his pontificate to that continent, had significant and historic moment when he landed in Algeria, the first part of the trip, because it was the first visit ever of a Pope to that country. Other Popes had visited Northern Africa before: Saint John Paul II made a historic visit to Morocco in 1985, and Pope Francis visited it again in 2019. Saint John Paul II also visited Tunisia in 1996.

In these countries where Catholics are a small minority, the presence of the Successor of Peter makes a huge difference to the local Church and renews the faith and hope of the communities.

Let us take a look at the presence of the Legion of Mary in those countries and know more about its history in Northern Africa.





Two envoys worked in this area of the world: Andre Chamagne from France between 1948 and 1951, mainly in Algeria, and Marjorie Quinn from Ireland between 1958 and 1961 worked in Algeria and Tunisia. The Legion was first introduced in Morocco in 1975.

The small catholic population of these countries, together with emigration represent the biggest challenge to the local churches. Despite the difficulties, there are vibrant dioceses, where the presence of many people from different countries, especially from Africa, means parishes and communities, are growing.

The Legion of Mary has taken an active role in the development of this growth, making available its experience, spirituality and service.

The following are the highlights of the work these wonderful legionaries undertake:

ALGERIA

The first praesidium in this country after so many years, was established in the Diocese of Oran, in 2024, named after Our Lady of Salut as a special tribute to Our Lady; it now has twenty active

members, including Algerians and expatriates from across Africa and Europe. Every Saturday, legionaries open the sanctuary of Our Lady of the Santa Cruz to welcome visitors, many of whom ask questions about the faith and the role of Our Lady in the Bible. Recently members joyfully celebrated the Acies together.

MOROCCO

RABAT



Tenth Anniversary of the praesidium in Rabat, Morocco, with Cardinal Cristobal Lopez Romero

Rabat, Parish Cathedral Saint Peter. Started in 2015. There are now fifteen active and five auxiliary members; they visit sick and lonely people in their houses or hospitals and look after foreign students and immigrants. They have just celebrated their Tenth Anniversary. The Cardinal sent a representative to the Mass and legionaries from other parts of Morocco attended.

CASABLANCA

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. Started in 2017. There are twelve active and six auxiliary members. They help with catechism classes preparing people for the sacraments; they visit the sick in their houses and are helping the new praesidium in Marrakech.

TUNISIA



Praesidium in the Cathedral Parish, Tunis, Tunisia

There are three praesidia in Tunisia, all of them in the Capital Tunis

CATHEDRAL PARISH

Started in 2014. They have six active members and twelve auxiliary members; they welcome tourists to the Church, visit orphanages and hospitals. They held a retreat for legionaries; they invited other members of their parish and a neighbouring parish. It was very successful and they may start a new praesidium in Saint Cyprien Parish.



PARISH SAINT AUGUSTIN

Started in 2022. It has twenty active members and five auxiliary members; they do visitation to elderly and sick people, conduct Christmas Novena with parishioners, visit families in their houses and visit residents in the house of the Sisters of Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

PARISH SAINT JEANNE D'ARC

It has five active members and two auxiliary members.









SOUTH AMERICA

Bolivia: Senatus of La Paz: The Legion of Mary stand had many visitors at an Archdiocesan Exposition. Legionaries were praised for their home visitation and street contact. One of the special works of the Comitium of Cochabamba is with youth on the streets who are taking drugs. The legionaries listen and speak with them, explaining the importance of drug free lives. Some of these children are not baptised or have not received any of the sacraments.

Chile: This year the **Senatus of Santiago** celebrates its seventy- fifth (75) anniversary. Prison visitation is widespread. Great importance has been given to extension and recruitment, including recruiting the many immigrants arriving in Chile; there are two Venezuelan praesidia and one Korean presidium, while many immigrants join parish praesidia.

Colombia: Medellin Senatus: A Curia in Medellin carries out literacy work for the elderly. The Regia of Pereira carries out a prison apostolate, evangelising and praying the Rosary with the prisoners. The Regia de Cali works in high-risk areas and with groups of immigrants. The Comitium de Bello reaches out to people who find themselves homeless, to indigenous communities and to people caught up with drugs and prostitution; in areas where other people are not allowed to enter, the Legion of Mary is accepted. All the reporting Councils carry out home visitation. **Senatus of Bogotá** A Comitium formed three praesidia by recruiting parents waiting while their children receive catechesis. The Regia de Neiva visits cancer centres for children and provides recreational activities and moments of prayer. The Regia of Cucuta has seen many conversions through confessions and communions, especially in times of illness or imprisonment.

Paraguay: Senatus of Asunción: A praesidium carries out home and hospital visitation, focusing on families who have lost loved ones. Two people returned to the sacraments after being away for long periods. A Curia reported visits to homes, hospitals and to the police station every Friday at 6 a.m.

Peru: Senatus of Lima: A praesidium volunteers in a juvenile penitentiary centre giving catechesis and following up on those who are released. They have entered several schools, where they make Mary known and teach the students how to pray the Rosary. They are taking steps to be able to form a praesidium with the mothers of these young people. They report reaching out to young people (on alcohol and drugs), domestic workers, homeless people and women caught up in prostitution.

Uruguay: Senatus of Montevideo: Reports mention a prison apostolate to both women and men, an Exploratio Dominicalis in the town of Joanicó and extension in the city of San José.

Venezuela: A Comitium attached to the **Senatus of Caracas** reported seven legionaries doing extension work in an area where there is no Legion of Mary presence.

EUROPE

Austria: Reports show seventeen legionaries and seven priests had 700 contacts at the Esoteric Fair in November. Many Confessions were heard. The Croatian Curia had 120 participate in the 33 days Preparation for Consecration to Jesus through Mary. Zelig Comitium reported visits are made to the prison and a psychiatric ward in a hospital and a men's rosary group is held. All reports this period mentioned Retreats, Congress, Patricians, Peregrinatio Pro Christo projects and many pilgrimages.

Belarus: The **Minsk Comitium** reported works include assisting in the drug treatment centre, and contact on transport and in shops. Street contact with two elderly people who had been lapsed for seventeen years led to their receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation and their return to the Church.

Croatia: Eleven Spiritual Directors attended a meeting organised by the **Zagreb** Regia. Reports from councils show works include *Patricians,* prayer groups in nursing homes and street contact in the parks, bus stations and hospital lobby. A Peregrinatio Pro Christo was carried out.

Latvia: A praesidium reported visiting the hospital and nursing home. They also assist with bringing two parishioners to Mass on Sundays.

Lithuania: Among the works undertaken are visiting the sick and elderly in their homes, hospitals and nursing homes, helping them receive the sacraments. Also undertaken is home visitation and street contact work and preparing adolescents and children for their First Communion.

Poland: **Warsaw Comitium** reported a two days Retreat was attended by 20 people. Extension resulted in a new praesidium of eight members where the priest assigned the legionaries there the work of engaging with a single mother of eight children to help in their religious upbringing. Legionaries organise pilgrimages and prayer meetings for scouts. One council in **Lublin Regia** reported 600 apartments were visited and in another Curia 435 apartments were visited. 58 people were brought to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and one person received the Sacrament of Baptism. 4,500 people took part in the Legion of Mary pilgrimage to Czestochowa in September where Bishop Ramon told them to be faithful to the charisms and principles of the Legion of Mary, and encouraged evangelisation work. Works reported in **Warsaw Praga Comitium** included visiting people who are blind and disabled. Those who are sick in hospital are assisted to attend Mass in the chapel. On home visits, legionaries encourage the use of holy water and other sacramentals. 1,500 Miraculous Medals were distributed on streets, public transport and at a medical clinic.

Romania: **The Satu Mare Regia** reports visitation of auxiliary members, people who are sick, and elderly people. Legionaries engage in various works in

the parish, including assisting at funeral services.

ASIA

Armenia: Legionaries in one praesidium conduct catechism classes at which 30 children from the village attend. Five children were prepared for First Holy Communion. Legionaries in another praesidium pray the Rosary with the sick and with prisoners.

Holy Land: At the December 2025 meeting 20 attended representing six praesidia. A praesidium reported that rosaries were recited with many people. The Comitium president praised the works being done by Galilee, Nativity and Holy Family Curiae.

India: **Chennai Senatus:** Works carried out by legionaries included Enthronement of the Sacred Heart in homes and promoting sacramental marriages. Hospital, nursing homes and orphanages are visited, consoling the destitute. **Kerala Senatus:** One Comitium reporting making contact with what they described as 'outcasts' and sharing the Faith with them. Thrissur Comitium has 4,000 members. **Mumbai Senatus**: Recruitment features in all areas; several new praesidia have started. Training sessions are dynamic and happy events. Inter-faith spouses are visited by a Tamil comitium. In Calcutta distant curiae are proving resilient in spite of difficulties. A junior praesidium has been set up in Kathmandu, Nepal. **Pondicherry Senatus:** Prisons and leprosy homes are visited; catechism is taught, Enthronement of the Sacred Heart in homes is undertaken; a new praesidium was established in a seminary and a number of Frank Duff prayer meetings are held. **Kottar Regia:** Included among the works carried out is counselling alcoholics and a number of people contemplating suicide, teaching people to pray; numerous couples received sacramental marriages, helping students aiming at higher education and employment, and conducting a medical camp. Rosary processions were organised with attendances of 100 to 2,000. **Vishakhapatnam Regia:** Cancer patients, hospitals and orphanages are visited. During Lent the Way of the Cross was conducted and Gospel readings were shared with non-Catholics. A video conference was held with officers of three attached distant councils.

Indonesia: **Jakarta Senatus** reports 45 legionaries took part in Peregrinatio Pro Christo to three remote villages in July. The minutes recorded 530 junior legionaries whose work includes works of service. One Comitium attached to **Malang Senatus** has 2,330 members. The legionaries' apostolate includes visits to prisons and mental health facilities. The Regia in Semarang held a Congress which was very well attended. **Kaupang Senatus**: The most recent reports related that a large number of junior praesidia are attached and children have been enrolled for Baptism and preparation for First Holy Communion.

Japan: In **Osaka Senatus** a work undertaken by legionaries is the 'Cho To Kai' apostolate whereby the legionaries reach out to other religions, mainly Buddhist and Shinto. This is in accordance with interfaith dialogue meetings which are held by the Diocese several times a year. Legionaries in Kyoto help at the Refugee and Immigrant Centre of the Diocese. They also opened an Exhibition 'Miracles of the Eucharist', with emphasis on the spirituality of St. Carlo Acutis. This was well received.

Korea: Works shown in reports to Seoul Senatus include inviting people to Church, caring for catechumens and the newly baptised, visiting the lapsed and newly transferred parishioners and those with matrimonial impediments. Legionaries from a Curia in the Western Seoul Regia have established a praesidium in a prison. One Comitium, attached to Gwangju Senatus, reported 38 baptisms arranged and 285 returns to the sacraments facilitated. Street contact featured in other reports. A Comitium was commended for initiatives for migrants, multi - cultural families and care for soldiers. Monthly statistics from Daegu Senatus show 1,538 catechumens recruited, 282 baptisms arranged and 672 returns to the sacraments facilitated. In addition, hospital and prison visitation were carried out.

Myanmar: All reports recorded visits to hospitals visiting Catholics and non-Catholics, accompanying the priest to sick calls, preparing children and adults for Baptisim, visits to the prison and conducting Enthronement of the Sacred Heart in homes.

Philippines: In Northern Philippines Senatus, Paranaque with two Comitia has Legion of Mary presence in 48 out of 53 parishes. 68 new members were recruited. There were three conversions to the Catholic Faith; two couples were reconciled through counselling, catechesis is held for children and adults, and the prison is visited. A junior Curia was revived. In Cebu Senatus, some works undertaken are visitation to people who are sick and elderly, the validation of marriages, catechesis, home and prison visitation, book barrow apostolate and crowd contact. Apostolate in Western Visayas Senatus included over 3,500 homes visited, outreach through crowd contact in the markets, streets and barangays. Visitation to the sick and aged homes, hospitals and prison with many facilitated for Confession, Holy Communion and anointing of the sick. The Mindanao Senatus celebrated its silver anniversary in February with a full day of talks, reflections and prayer, the highlight being Holy Mass celebrated by the Archbishop. One report shows 50 returns to the sacraments and 13 conversions, and 24 couples in irregular unions received the sacrament of matrimony.

Singapore: University praesidia distribute Miraculous Medals and share their Faith with fellow students. Prison ministry, hospital visits and block Rosaries are mentioned also. Two Comitia in East Malaysia visited rural chapels to introduce the Legion of Mary.

Taiwan: The Senatus comprises three Comitia and 29 Curiae, of which three are English speaking. Membership numbers are 2,558 active and 2,000 auxiliary members. Praesidia have been established in some church-run nursing homes on the initiative of a legionary who is now a nursing home resident.

Vietnam: In the period February to April 2026 legionaries arranged Baptism for 388 children, 95 people were brought back to practice, 162 marriages were regularised, 212 children were prepared for 1st Communion, 177 adults prepared for Confirmation and 80 abortions were prevented. In that time period, 424 active and 621 auxiliary members were recruited.

AFRICA

Benin: Cotonou Regia wants to print the Tessera in the various local languages. The Comitia from Gabon report on a regular basis to the Regia. The visit from the Benin officers to Gabon has taken place.

Burkina Faso: The Comitium of Ouagadougou has been raised to the status of Regia. The setting up of the Regia is continuing and will be in place soon. This will help with unifying the Legion in the country under the Regia. One of the difficulties is the printing of the Handbook in the different languages.

Burundi: The Nyabirabi Comitium, Archdiocese of Butega, founded in 2012, has 15 Curiae including four Junior Curiae. Their evangelising focussed especially on the Rosary, Mass, Baptism of children and regularisation of marriages. Their annual report shows they visited 1,021 sick people and 202 bereaved.

Cameroon: Douala Senatus: Yaoundé Regia mentioned 76 new probationers, four new praesidia in different parishes and a new junior praesidium with 25 members, which brings the number of members in the junior curia. to around 400.Bamenda Comitium organised Exploratio Dominicalis projects.

Central African Republic: In the Senatus of Bangui works included visitation of hospitals, prisons and orphanages during Sept-Oct 2025, with messages of peace and hope. Many members lost to the Legion during military and political troubles returned, thanks to the efforts of their previous councils to re-organise.

Democratic Republic of Congo: Senatus of Lubumbashi reports 160 legionaries from the Comitia of the city of Likasi visited the jail of Boma on October 26th 2025. Minutes from the Senatus of Butembo show great efforts to evangelise. Works included helping people who are sick, poor, war-displaced, elderly, widows and orphans. 96 infants were baptised, 18 cohabiting couples received the sacrament of matrimony in the Catholic Church. 18 Protestants converted and received the sacraments. Two prisoners were freed through the intercession of the Legion of Mary. Senatus of Bukavu: During visits to councils the Senatus found in some places that due to the insecurity, many legionaries have fled their homes and are unable to hold meetings. The Senatus organised a retreat for the legionaries of Bukavu. Senatus of Kinshasa: It was decided to approach young people involved in groups and delinquent behaviour; 529 of these young people were approached, and promised to give up their activities. Legionaries visited more than 5,650 families as a result of which many families were reconciled. Kisantu, a large city in the province of central Congo, now has a large number of legionaries. Senatus of Kisangani: As part of their catechesis, the Legionaries enabled 630 young people to be baptised and 426 people to be confirmed. 312 legionaries who had abandoned legionary activities returned to the meetings. 1,458 legionaries helped various parishes by carrying out manual maintenance work. Senatus of Kananga, 168 households and 346 people, who no longer attended church, returned to religious practice. The Senatus organised a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Kasai in Malandji Mukulu with 145 households and 231 people participating. A Mass in memory of the Servant of God Frank Duff was celebrated on December 8th.

Republic of Congo: Brazzaville Senatus: A report showed one Comitium contacted over 13,000 people. Among these over 2,000 people were from other new religious movements. These contacts bore many good fruits: 35 people for example who subscribed to catechism classes, 25 couples who were reconciled, 16 Catholics brought back to the sacraments and 49 who asked for confession

and Communion at home. Many rosaries and miraculous medals were distributed.

Ethiopia: The extension mission in Ethiopia, which began in 2024, has recorded meaningful progress despite its relatively short duration. Through missionary visits and collaboration with the local clergy, the Senatus of Uganda has successfully facilitated the establishment of six praesidia in different locations and the formation of a Curia to supervise these.

The Gambia: Banjul Curia has been busy organising a pilgrimage to Our Lady of Peace Shrine Kun kujang. The Curia also hopes to do extension work into another parish.

Ivory Coast: Street contact is one of the main legionary works. This is done in hospitals, beauty salons, sewing workshops, restaurants, schools, markets, garages and parishes. Other works to report are: visits to elderly, priests, nuns, orphanages and centres for disabled people. Also, work undertaken comprises the maintenance of churches, cemeteries, literacy programs in parishes and broadcasting at the national radio station.

Kenya: **Senatus of Kenya**: Prayers are recited monthly at Venerable Edel Quinn's grave. All councils had a Frank Duff Mass in November. Kisumu Regia reports 686 adults were prepared for baptism and 473 infants were baptised. Sixteen alcoholics reformed. There were 216 returns to the sacraments and 217 joined instruction classes and 220 new legionaries were recruited. **Bungoma Regia:** Parents of 1,648 infants were encouraged to have their children baptised and 1,124 agreed. 602 adults returned to the sacraments and 316 adults were prepared for baptism. Four new praesidia were established. Machakos Comitium: 244 adults were recruited for catechism classes, 190 former legionaries returned to active membership and 173 new members were recruited.

Malawi: Senatus of Blantyre: Activities reported include home and hospital visitation, and catechism classes for young people. Members also support bereaved families and encourage cohabiting couples to receive the sacrament of matrimony. Young legionaries visit universities to recruit new members. Senatus of Maula Works undertaken include home visitation, catechesis, visits to bereaved families, outreach to former members, and visits to the sick and elderly. Reports show eight cohabiting couples had their marriages rectified. Three youths returned to practice after visits from legionaries. 19 families who had fallen away from the church have since returned. A retreat was held for junior legionaries. The Legion of Mary participated in Mission Sunday 2025 with large attendance, and many attendees expressed interest in joining the Legion of Mary, follow-up is underway.

Mauritius/Rodrigues: A legionary from Hong Kong visited in November and gave great encouragement and new ideas for youth recruitment.

Morocco: There are 15 active and 5 auxiliary members in the praesidium which was begun in 2015 at Rabat, Parish Cathedral Saint Peter, and has just celebrated its tenth Anniversary. The Cardinal sent a representative for the Mass. They visit sick and lonely people in their houses or hospitals, and look after foreign students and immigrants. There are 12 active and six auxiliary members at the praesidium which was begun in 2017 at Casablanca, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. They help with catechism classes by preparing people for the sacraments. They visit people who are sick in their houses and are helping the new praesidium in Marrakech.

Nigeria: **Lagos Regia**: A Comitium, comprised of 582 senior and 145 junior members, reported significant expansion, including

the establishment of two senior and two junior praesidia, as well as three new Curiae. Reported works included home, hospital, and shop visitations; teaching catechism; caring for children during Mass, and visiting police cells. Many candidates are prepared for the sacraments, and couples are assisted in receiving the sacrament of matrimony. **Senatus of Abuja**: The Spiritual Directors' Forum was held in September 2025. Three Bishops and 38 priests attended. **Onitsha Regia** Ten non-Catholics were received into the Catholic Faith and 32 lapsed Catholics returned to the Church. **Enugu Senatus**; Aba Regia reports helping prepare thousands for First Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Confirmation. **Jos Regia:** Reports show works undertaken include Home Visitation, Hospital Visitation, Catechism Instruction, and care of junior praesidia. **Ibadan Senatus** comprises of three attached Regiae, five directly attached Comitia, thirteen directly attached Curiae, and one junior curia as well as directly attached praesidia. In total there are 32,921 legionaries. 318 catechists helped prepare thousands for the various sacraments. 252 couples had sacramental marriages, and 143 non-practicing Catholics were brought back to the sacraments. 171 Christians converted to the Catholic Faith.

Rwanda: The recently established Regia of Gikogoro, attached to Kigali **Senatus** has-nine Comitia and 21 Curiae; including one Curia in a prison. They have over 24,000 seniors and over 11,000 juniors.

Senegal: Pikine Comitium started a new Curia with 4 praesidia. Home, hospital and prison visitation are undertaken as well as crowd contact and catechesis classes.

South Sudan: The extension mission in South Sudan has primarily focused on two jurisdictions: Archdiocese of Juba and Diocese of Tombura-Yambio. Progress includes development of praesidia in Tombura-Yambio with a Curia elevated to a Comitium, and the establishment of a Comitium in Juba.

Tanzania: Dar-es-Salaam Regia: Visitation of attached praesidia and councils is ongoing. They are also setting up an English speaking praesidium. **Hai Moshi Comitium** Works reported on include home and hospital visitation, encouraging couples to marry in Church and preparing adults and children for the Sacraments.

Togo: Lome Senatus: A good number of congresses were organised by various councils and numerous new praesidia were established. The works include home, hospital and prison visitation, organising weekends of evangelisation; there are several mentions of the book barrow, catechesis classes and numerous conversions. Exploratio Dominicalis projects were undertaken and a Peregrinatio Pro Christo.

Tunisia: There are three praesidia in Tunisia, all of them in the Capital Tunis with a total of 37 active members and 19 auxiliary members. Among their works they visit families in their houses and carry out visitation to elderly and sick people, and to orphanages and hospitals. They welcome tourists visiting the Church.

Uganda: Senatus of Uganda: Kabala Regia has 110,022 active members. 603 Anglicans returned to the Catholic Faith. They have four praesidia in prisons.

Zambia: Lusaka Regia: Works reported include home and hospital visitation. Legionaries visit small Christian communities sharing the Word of God. A Comitium report visiting a police station and praying with 110 inmates. A woman who attempted suicide thanked God for sending the legionaries who saved her life.



Our Lady of Pompei

SEATED WITH THE CHILD JESUS TOGETHER WITH SAINT DOMINIC AND SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENNA

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