



The Legion of Mary

WHO IS SHE THAT COMES FORTH AS THE MORNING RISING, FAIR AS THE MOON,
BRIGHT AS THE SUN, TERRIBLE AS AN ARMY SET IN BATTLE ARRAY? (Song6:10)

"THE VIRGIN'S NAME WAS MARY" (Lk1:27)



The Legion of Mary was founded by Frank Duff on the 7th September 1921. The Legion of Mary under the leadership of Mary Immaculate formed themselves into an organization for service in the warfare between good and evil.

The Spirit of the Legion of Mary is that of Mary herself. We aspire after her profound humility, perfect obedience, her continual prayer, heroic patience and her courageous love of God.

From records of Assumption Church, the Legion of Mary was the first church organization formed. A unit of legionaries is called a praesidium. Its first Praesidium was called The Queen of the Assumption which began in May 1956.

One of main functions called the **Acies** is held on 25th March or a day close thereto. Each year we renew our consecration to Our Lady. This Latin word **Acies** means an army ranged in battle array. The legionaries, as a body, assemble to renew their fealty to Mary, Queen of the Legion.

The Legion of Mary functions according to the Legion handbook which is given to each new member. At every meeting, a spiritual reading is read out from the handbook by the President. The meeting may last for an hour to an hour and a half the most. Legionaries comprise of active and auxiliary members. The active legionary members should perform at least 2 hours of active work weekly while the auxiliary members only need to pray the legionary prayers called Tessera prayer.

The works of the legion include home visits, hospital visits, teaching catechism, reaching out to lapsed Catholics, dissemination of Catholic literature, spreading devotion of the rosary, sharing the faith, para-liturgical service (leading novena in church) lending a listening ear and, monthly rosary recital at the Grotto on 13th of each month, administering Holy Communion to homebound Catholics. No one is left out : the littlest, the least, the last and the lost.

Since our church is a Marian parish and our Legion prayer group is Marian influenced we work harmoniously. Our legion Praesidium is always available to fellow parishioners for example, in praying the rosary at wake services and rosary recital in church at weekend masses. We also promote rosary recital during the months of May and October. These are some of the ways legionaries will help to deepen the faith of its members and the parishioners of Assumption Church.

The Legion of Mary was the first ministry formed to help the parish priest when our church was first founded in the 1950s. We, Legionaries, are always available to provide assistance to our priest and parishioners.

AVE MARIA! AVE MARIA!

