

- Do you want to learn more about your Catholic Faith?
- Do you want to deepen your prayer life?
- Do you want to develop close Catholic friendships?
- Do you want to grow closer to Jesus and His Mother?
- Come as a guest to a Legion of Mary meeting. There's no obligation.

## The LEGION of MARY

### WHAT IS IT?

The largest apostolic organization of lay people in the Catholic Church with well over 3 million active members in most every country of the world. In 2001 the Legion celebrated its 80th anniversary worldwide. It has been active in the United States since 1931, has known continuous Papal approval, and was endorsed by the Second Vatican Council.

### WHAT DOES IT DO?

It makes its members better Catholics, first of all, through a balanced program of prayer and service in union with the Holy Spirit as he operates through Mary, Mother of the Church. Works include door-to-door evangelization, parish visitation projects, youth work and other spiritual needs of the parish and community. It gives Catholics from 8 years up an opportunity to do something positive for the Church while at the same time deepening their spiritual life and strengthening their Catholic Faith.

### HOW DOES IT WORK?

Members meet together once a week for prayer, planning and discussion in a family setting; they do a couple of hours of definite work each week in pairs and under the guidance of a spiritual director.

### WHO CAN BELONG?

No one – for the first three months! There is an easing-in period so you can see how work or family obligations blend with the tried and proven system of the Legion. Any Catholic, young, not-so-young, single, married, retired, who would like to draw closer to Jesus and His Mother is welcome to give it a try.

### HOW DO I START?

By being a guest at a meeting. You are invited to come and see the Legion from the inside. And you can go as a guest if you wish on one of the work assignments with an experienced member. You won't need a lot of talent, or great intelligence or even a feeling of being capable! What you will need is a willingness to sacrifice a little of your time and energy for the greatest reason in the world: your love of God.

Day \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Place \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

For more information call \_\_\_\_\_

We'll be waiting to welcome you!

## Our Founder



**SERVANT OF GOD FRANK DUFF**  
held that with enough faith in God and trust in Mary's mediation, Christ's followers could win the world for Him.

Frank Duff was born in Dublin, Ireland on June 7, 1889, the eldest of seven children. In 1916, at the age of 27 he published his first pamphlet "Can We Be Saints?". In it he expressed one of the strongest convictions of his life, namely, that all without exception are called to be saints and that through our Catholic Faith we have available all the means necessary to attain this.

In 1917 he came to know the Treatise of St. Louis Marie de Montfort on the *True Devotion of Jesus through Mary*, a work which changed his life completely.

On September 7, 1921 Frank Duff founded the Legion of Mary. This is a lay apostolic organisation at the service of the Church, under ecclesiastical guidance. Its twofold purpose is the spiritual development of its members and advancing the reign of Christ through Our Lady.

The Legion is to be found in almost every country in the world with millions of active and many more auxiliary (praying) members.

In 1965 Pope Paul VI invited Frank Duff to attend the Second Vatican Council as a Lay Auditor (an honor by which the Pope recognised and affirmed Frank Duff's enormous contributions to the lay apostolate), where he received a standing ovation from all the bishops in attendance at St Peter's Basilica in Rome.

On November 7th, 1980, Frank Duff died and is buried in Glasnevin Cemetery, Dublin.

In July, 1996, the Cause of his canonisation was introduced by the Archbishop of Dublin, Dr. Desmond Connell.

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## Why I Love the Legion of Mary



*"You are a movement of lay people who propose to make faith the aspiration of your life up to the achievement of personal sanctity."* **Pope John Paul II**

*"You know how much esteem and affection I have for you. I say you have anticipated the Vatican Council — the future apostolate of the Church."* **Bishop Fulton Sheen**

# Our Sainly Members

*Father Steve Delacy, Archdiocese of Philadelphia*



The Legion transforms ordinary Catholics into soldiers-evangelizers for Mary. Devoting all to Mary, God's grace is fully engaged. This empowers the disciple to undertake this essential work. Just as Christ's flesh was formed in Mary's womb, the Legion forms believers into living images of Christ. Our Lord directed me to the Legion to make my priesthood more fruitful.

*Katie Keil, Philadelphia, PA*



The Legion of Mary provides a structured Christian way of life and prayer which enables one to be a beacon of service to others. In recruiting new members, I always tell them that the Blessed Mother does not choose the capable but makes capable the one she chooses, and what we do as Legion members is for the glory and honor of God and Blessed Mother.

*Joe & Eleanor Lang, Ocean City, NJ*



By our Baptism we are called to do something for JESUS. We have a precious Faith to share and working for others can give a new meaning in your life. The Legion for 85 years has taken to heart what Jesus and the popes have been urging—we must go out to all souls. We have experienced the great joy of helping people come back to Church after 20, 30 and 40 years.

*Rev. Peter Welsh, Spiritual Director, Phila Spanish Curia*



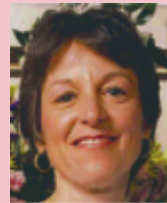
The Legion of Mary is a most reliable program of Catholic formation guiding its members to know, live, and share their faith. The Legion is Mary's worldwide school - training her children in holiness and apostolic activity. Her legionaries have been my right arm in my pastoral ministry.

*Bishop Herbert Bevard, U.S. Virgin Islands*



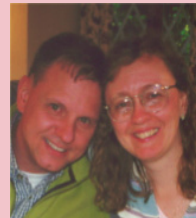
I started the Legion one year after arriving at St. Athanasius in West Oak Lane, and immediately sent the legionaries out visiting door to door to every house within the parish boundaries. With the help of the Legion, the parish grew in numbers and in faith. The Legion also helped bring about the large number of converts we had every year, including forty in 1998.

*Gilda Shade, Glenmore, PA*



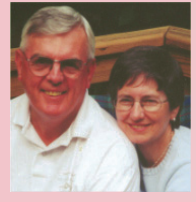
The Legion is the best thing that has ever happened to me! It has changed and has formed my life, and has given me an opportunity to be an apostle and a missionary: an apostle every week as I fulfill my spiritual work obligation; a missionary who has helped the Church and Legion grow in Iceland, western Canada and northern Pennsylvania.

*Steve & Edel Lukens, Bridgeport, PA*



The Legion is the foundation of our married life. We met in the Legion and began our married life by renewing our True Devotion Consecration to Jesus through Mary at our wedding. It has given us a structure for our spiritual life, while helping us to grow both individually and as a couple. Our time spent doing Legion work together is among our most precious hours as a couple.

*Don & Joan Taggart, Norristown, PA*



We met in the Legion. Our individual consecration to Jesus through Mary was the common bond we shared. On our first date, we knew we were meant for each other. All that followed - our five children, our eleven grandchildren, many of our closest friends, our home - all of life's blessings, would not have happened but for the Legion of Mary.

*Tinny Ouano, Havertown, PA*



The Legion has been my 'Way of Life'. The love of the Legion is the love I have for Mary and the Blessed Trinity. I have placed my trust in her and on many occasions she has helped me as well as the people I contact. As the saying goes: 'find time for Mary and she in turn will find time for you a hundredfold'.

*Mary Bell, Philadelphia, PA*



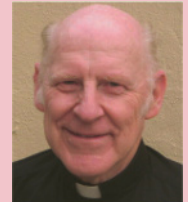
My assignments each week are acts of perseverance, faith, and patience. What a blessing it has been to have our Blessed Mother at my side as I go forth each week. Visits to hospitals and nursing homes have taught me much about humility.

*Frank & Daisy Fernandez, Havertown, PA*



Today, more than ever, there is a great need to battle against the forces of evil that scourge the world. There is no evangelization method more effective and successful than the Legion of Mary, a world-wide organization begun in 1921 under ecclesiastical auspices, and the guidance of the Mother of God.

*Rev. Francis Lendacky, Spiritual Director, Phila Senatus*



I have been associated with the Legion throughout my forty years as a priest and it has been a stabilising influence in the weekly regimen of my life as a priest. I have found legionaries to be my most persevering and consistent collaborators in evangelization. The Legion has extended the effect of Christ's priesthood by imitating the way Christ employed His disciples.

*Venerable Edel Quinn*



She spent seven years and seven months promoting the Legion in ten vast dioceses of East Africa and the island of Mauritius, and died in Kenya in 1944. Her heroic life and labors have been narrated in a vibrant biography by Cardinal Suenens. She exemplified the missionary spirit of the Legion at its best. In 1994, Pope John Paul II declared her Venerable.

*Servant of God Alfie Lambe*



Alfie Lambe died in Buenos Aires in 1959 after almost six years of apostolic labors in South America. "If the Legion of Mary did nothing else but produce a man of the caliber of Alfonso Lambe, it is surely blessed by God," Archbishop Tavella of Salta, Argentina, declared. Alfie Lambe's cause of Beatification was introduced by the Archbishop of Buenos Aires in 1971.

*Servant of God Fr John McKniff, OSA*



Born in Media, PA in 1905, Fr McKniff worked tirelessly as a missionary among the poor most of his priestly life. In Cuba and Peru, he started hundreds of Legion groups and attracted thousands of men and women to become legionaries. He visited families with his legionaries, going door to door on the streets of Peru.

*Fr Aedan McGrath, SSC*



Spiritual father of the Legion in China, Fr McGrath started 2,000 Legion praesidia in 90 dioceses in China within two years, and spent three years in solitary confinement there. He once saved the women in his town from physical abuse by soldiers because he had once met the movie star Loretta Young and the commanding officer was a fan of hers.