
Tyburn Newsletter

Tyburn Monastery, 100 Chamberlain Road, RD1, Bombay, South Auckland, New Zealand 2675
(09)236-0598



CHRISTMAS 2019

*May the Blessings and Holiness of
Christmas Remain with you Throughout
the Coming Year.*

Dear Friends of Tyburn Monastery,
The liturgical season of Advent is a time of preparation for the Lord's coming, a time of holy desire, longing and expectancy. To make us worthy of the grace of redemption, holy Mother Church encourages us to reflect on the beauty of the Church's Liturgy at this time so that when Christ comes at Christmas, our hearts will be filled with exuberant joy and the fullness of God's grace.

The first statement the liturgy makes on the Solemnity of Christmas is found in the opening antiphon of Vespers. "Exalted is the King of Peace, the whole world longs to see His face." This new born Child who is our true king is 'King of Peace.' His coming is

peaceful; He bestows peace as a gift. In external appearance He may seem poor; in order to give us an example of humility, poverty and self-denial. However, being also the King of Heaven, the universe is His throne, the earth His footstool and upon His shoulders rests a royal mantle studded with the stars of heaven. Being the King of Peace, He comes to make peace between God and man, between man and man and in man himself, between body and soul, between flesh and spirit. The multitude of angels whom the shepherds saw praising God, reminds us of the transcendent display of His goodness to man. The angels praised God saying; "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to men of good will." That is, glory and praise are given to God in the highest heavens by the celestial host to whom all those on earth join in their echoes of praise and glory. The subject of this praise and glory is that God has blessed the earth with complete and everlasting peace in sending His only Son to be born amongst us, in order to bring about our pardon and reconciliation. May this reflection fill our hearts with overflowing gratitude to God who gave us His Son Jesus to be our Redeemer.

Community News

Our Forty Hours devotion has continued to draw a good number of faithful lay adorers who generously offered to spend their time before the Blessed Sacrament exposed. This year, we had a full retreat centre on the weekend before Corpus Christi Sunday when several of our Samoan Oblates brought their friends along to participate in the night adoration. There was an overflow of laity at Mass on Corpus Christi Sunday despite the dismal forecast for rain. Rev. Fr. John Roberts who came to stay at our hermitage during this time of great liturgical importance concelebrated Holy Mass with our Chaplain Rev. Fr. Arobati and at its conclusion, he led the procession of the Blessed Sacrament. We were so glad to be able to have the procession this year and in spite of the light drizzle, most of those who were present at Mass took part in it.

In early July, several workmen came to begin the task of setting up a



canopy extension outside the main entrance of our Church in order to cope with the overflow of laity. It was finally completed on the 23rd of August and opened to the public after Mike Mitchie and James had put the final touch to it. The most important part is of course the twenty weather resistant chairs which were arranged in neat rows with an aisle in between.

On the 29th of August, Rev. Mother M. Angela became a New Zealand citizen to the joy of our Community.



Then on the 12th of September, we had the joy of welcoming Mother M. Martin in our midst after having waited for more than six months for the approval of her VISA application. Mother is settling in happily and this monastery with its members hasn't been new for her as she was here previously in 2012 and had met most of us. She is now cooking suppers for the Community and the guests.



Mother M. Martin

On the 8th of September, the pilgrim statue of the Immaculate Heart of Mary came to visit our Church with a

group of Catholics led by Dame Colleen Bayer. It was the pilgrimage of life organized by Family Life International to pray that all human life be protected from the first moment of existence and for the defeat of the Abortion Legislation Bill before Parliament. The group prayed the rosary in the evening before the pilgrim statue, placed in front of the altar and early the next morning, it was taken to another parish church.

On the 20th of September, we received a visit from the MP of Hunua District, Andrew Bayly. He was interested in meeting our Community and in knowing more about our life. He also visited our Church and our Chaplain in his flat before he left.

We had a most memorable annual Retreat in October. Rev. Fr. Gerald Whyteford presented twice a day a large old master painting together with a leaflet with a copy of the painting, a Scripture text and a piece of poetry by a modern author. The pictures were of the life of Christ from birth to Resurrection and the underlying theme was that God is always revealing to us something new, something we have not heard or seen before. He urged us each day to spend a quiet time with the picture waiting to see what the Lord would reveal to us about Himself. It certainly was a real experience and it took time to be able to focus on our everyday world once again.



Our New Tyburn Monks

On the 3rd of October, Feast of Bl. Columba Marmion our two Tyburn postulant monks Rev. Fr. Hector and Rev. Fr. Manuel entered the Novitiate at the Mother House in London taking the new names, Fr. Bernado Maria and Fr. Benito Maria respectively. Since the 12th of October they are at Farnborough Abbey for about a month of formation. After that they will stay at the Mother House for further formation. The two new novice monks described the ceremony of their entrance to the novitiate which took place in the crypt as one full of meaning and very difficult to erase from their memories. There was a Festive Supper to celebrate this joyous occasion.

Holy Mass For Christmas

Solemn Office of Nocturns for Christmas will be at 8:00pm followed by Christmas Eve Mass at 9:00pm. Christmas Day Mass will be at 9:30am. All are most welcome.

Finally we wish you and all your dear ones a very blessed and joy-filled Christmas and New Year.

The Tyburn Nuns



Community playing scrabble at Recreation.

Some members of our Community with the Oblates.

