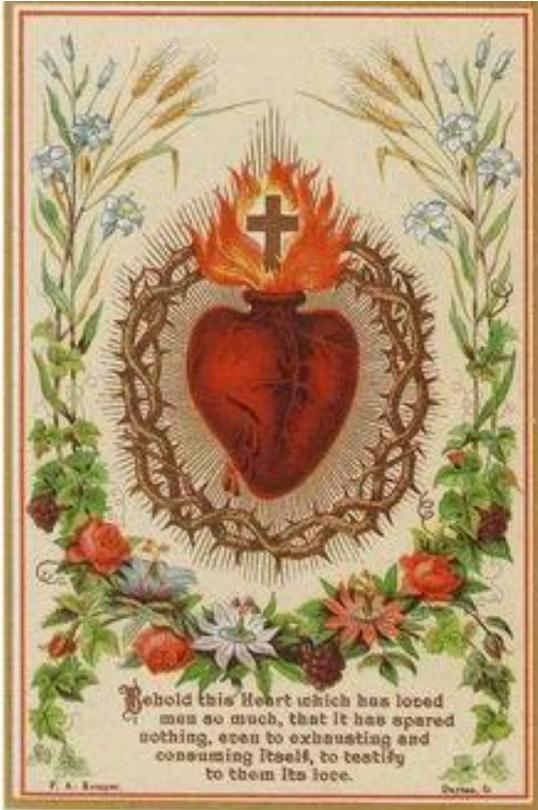


# TYBURN NEWSLETTER

TYBURN MONASTERY COR, JESU FONS VITAE, 74 DODS RD. NGAKURU RDI, ROTORUA 3077 073332378 [www.tyburnmonastery.co.nz](http://www.tyburnmonastery.co.nz)

SACRED HEART 2019



Dear Friends in Christ,

Already half of 2019 has passed since our last newsletter. It makes one realize how time is a precious gift which must not be wasted, because we never get it back! For the same reason Mother Teresa used to say it is the most precious gift we can give to anyone. Once given it is gone forever. However, it is not lost on God. We will be rewarded for every moment well spent, in the service of others: our family, friends, the poor, sick or elderly. "Whatever you do to the least of these your brethren, you do unto me"

The year so far has brought trials as well as blessings. We cannot forget the tragic shooting at the mosques of Christchurch, in which 50 people lost their lives, and many others lost their spouses, friends and relatives, and still need our prayers to continue their lives in the absence of their loved ones. The similar attacks of churches in Nigeria and Sri Lanka, the fire at Notre Dame and the much more grievous desecrations of the Blessed Sacrament in France were further sad events. The people who commit these crimes also need our prayers. Jesus told us to

love our enemies, which is to wish them well, to pray for them that they might be saved and healed of whatever caused them to act in this way. We should also recognize that every one of us is capable of the worst sins. As the famous quote says "But for the grace of God, there go I".

The media continues to make the most of the scandals of clerical abuse in the Church. Yet as Rev. Fr Flader of Sydney diocese wrote concerning Cardinal George Pell "...even if the appeal were not successful, this should not turn anyone off the Church. The Church was founded 2000 years ago by Jesus Christ, the very Son of God. Throughout it's existence it has undergone persecution and trial after trial...and the Church is still here. It has taken the faith to every country in the world... producing everywhere true saints. It has preserved Christian culture and fostered the growth of science, giving rise to a wealth of philosophical, theological and secular writings. It has created schools, universities and organizations to help the poor. We should not turn our back on the Church for the scandalous behaviour of some. Rather we should give thanks to God for the faithfulness of the immense majority and pray very much for them. And of course pray for the far too many victims of sexual abuse." We continue praying also for a just outcome of Cardinal Pell's appeal.

## Celebrations

On the 6<sup>th</sup>, there were 2 Baptisms in our chapel, Penelope Jean McNaull and Isla Anne Weston. One was very quiet, the other baby objecting to the whole process. But both successfully became members of the mystical Body of Christ, the Church. May they and their families be most blessed.

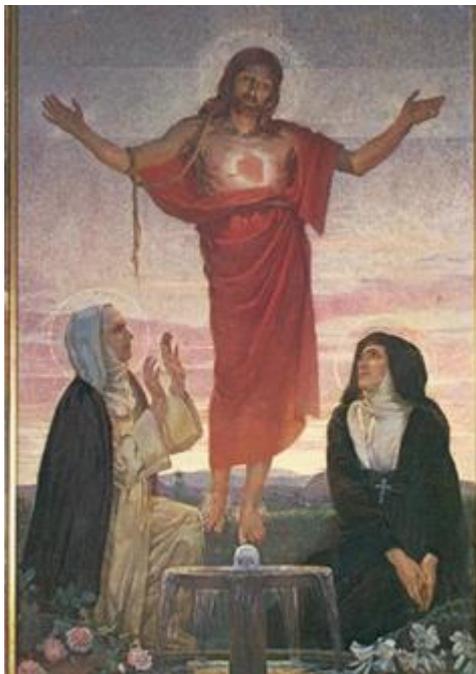
On the May the 3<sup>rd</sup> this year, we realized we had reached the anniversary of 10 years since our foundation in 2009. It was fitting that Rev Fr Robert Sharplin by coincidence was celebrating Mass for us that day in the absence of our chaplain. For Fr Robert had been present at that first Mass, celebrated by Bishop Denis, with about 12 concelebrating priests. Many of you were probably also with us on that beautiful sunny day, and we thank you all for your support and encouragement over the years, which has enabled us to continue here. Holy Mass will be offered for all our friends and benefactors on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart, our Titular Feast.

Opening of the monastery 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2009



### Sacred Heart Devotion

Devotion to the Sacred Heart can be seen as early as the second century with St. Justin Martyr and in the 7th century with Pope Gregory the Great. Writers throughout these centuries emphasized the pierced side of Christ as the inexhaustible source from which all graces flow upon mankind and the blood and water as symbols of the sacraments of the Church. With the coming of St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Anselm in the 12th century, there was a sudden increase in direct reference to the love of the Sacred Heart for every person redeemed by His Passion and Death. The widespread influence of Franciscan and Dominican Friars enkindled this devotion in the hearts of the faithful who heard their preaching. The focus on the Sacred Heart moved from being a symbol of the sacraments, to the symbol of Divine Love.



One cannot pass over the Middle Ages without mentioning Saints Gertrude and Mechtilde. The editor of St. Gertrude's writings, Revelations, (Dom Boutrais of Solesmes) stated: "Never before...has anything been written on the effect of the divine Heart and its relation to men, to saints, to the souls in Purgatory, such as we find in the writings of St. Gertrude and St Mechtilde.

The contemplation of the Humanity of Christ in His Passion, devotion to the Blessed Eucharist (in particular the feast of Corpus Christi), and the surge of mysticism gave the devotion to the Sacred Heart a new vitality in the Middle Ages. Prior to the revelations to St. Margaret Mary, religious communities, particularly in France, continued to spread devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus throughout the world. The French spiritual leaders paved the way for the message given to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque.

St. Margaret Mary entered the Daughters of the Visitation, founded by St. Francis de Sales and St. Jane Frances de Chantal, in 1671. Although devotion to the Heart of Jesus was already important to the Order prior to St. Margaret Mary's entrance, it would be through her that public devotion to the Sacred Heart (reparation, consecration and a liturgical feast) would be practiced universally in the Catholic Church.

Following the defeat of France by the Prussians in 1870, plans were made to build a church in Paris dedicated to the Sacred Heart as a sign of penitence, trust, hope and faith. This was the Basilica of Montmartre, to which our Mother Foundress was led. From there she began our Congregation which is officially called the Adorers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus of Montmartre.



We are now expecting the Postulators for Mother Foundress' cause to come in January 2020. If you have received any special graces through her intercession please contact us or Tyburn Monastery Bombay.

## Arrivals

The beginning of this year was all about new arrivals. On the 27<sup>th</sup> January we were happy to welcome our new chaplain Rev. Fr Carl Telford S.M. who now resides in the chaplain's flat on the monastery property. This blessing was the fruit of Bishop Steve's diligent search for a permanent chaplain to assist both the community and those who come on retreats. Rev Fr Carl is a trained spiritual director and is offering a number of guided retreats throughout the year on different topics. We farewelled Rev Fr Robert with much gratitude for bringing the great grace of the Holy Mass to the monastery since last year and thank God that Noeline his mother has made a wonderful recovery from her serious illness.

In February we were delighted to welcome Sr Sarah Grace who came from Singapore to begin her journey as a postulant, and in March Sr Helen joined us. She is a U.S citizen, originally hailing from Cameroon. Please accompany them with your prayers as they continue their formation and discernment of their vocation.

## Further Arrivals on the Property...

In January came 8 sheep. While most of the property has been leased to new tenants, we have retained the front lakeside paddock for the use of the monastery, as well as the pond and bushwalk areas as usual. The tenant has put 10 of his sheep into the pond area once again, to help us keep the grass down. At first we could not see the sheep in the long grass but they soon advertised their presence by unexpectedly arriving in our cloister garden. After a few escapes, without which they would not be true sheep, they have now settled down to life around the pond and lakeside. Keeping them company (over the fence) are 3 Suri Alpacas, something



new to our experience. We find them interesting and quite sociable, although their habits of spitting are not so endearing. It did not take us long however, to learn to recognize the warning signs and to keep well away whenever they begin bickering amongst themselves. They do not usually spit at us, but one can be in the way when they are annoyed with each other. Suri alpacas have long silky hair, rather than fluffy wool like the Huacaya alpacas and the quality of their fleece can bring them high prices. We settled with lower quality but it is likely that their Cria, due towards the end of this year, may have better fleece.

From front: Sophia, Moonshine, Kiri

The Orchard did not suffer much from the drought last summer, and only the plums were fewer than usual. There were plenty of peaches and we are still working our way through the pears and apples. With the gift of a very large chiller we are able to keep the orchard fruits for a long period and thus save buying fruit. As always there were many quinces, which are very nice stewed or made into Quince Jelly. The star of the fruiting performance this year was certainly the blueberries. Last year the

birds got them all, so this year we were determined to get our fair share and covered one of our large bushes. Once ripe we began to pick them, and were never able to finish! There were thousands of them. The uncovered bush we left to the mercy of the birds, but even they were unable to finish the blueberries. Both bushes still had unpicked berries at the end of the season.



We were not surprised to receive a mailer in the post, asking for extra pickers at the Blueberry farm in Rotorua. If they had the bumper crop that we had they must have been busy indeed. For the first time we harvested a few Persimmons from our 2 young trees, and also for the first time, some walnuts from the trees planted quite some years ago. We thank God for all these healthy fruits as we do not use chemical fertilizers or pesticides.



## And Further retainer walls



This time it is our graveyard that has benefitted from the work of a few faithful friends who built a long retainer wall there. We hope to make the area around the graves level enough to be mowed. That will keep the grass down and also dispense with the need for grazing animals, creating a more pleasant space for those who wish to visit and pray at the graves. A big thank you to Owen, Stuart, Daniel, Steve and Bevan, which last came from Australia for a relaxing visit to New Zealand!

Owen and Stuart beginning the wall

With affection, gratitude and prayers from our community  
The Tyburn Nuns

