



TYBURN TALK

Tyburn Priory, 325 Garfield Road East, Riverstone, NSW 2765. Ph. (02)9627 5171



Christmas, 2020

Dear Friends,

As we prepare for the Feast of Christmas, 2020, we are painfully aware that the world has changed. For many of our friends and families the future is looking rather uncertain. This is the time for us to be grateful to God for the PRICELESS gift of Faith. The celebration of Christmas lifts our hearts above present trials and difficulties as we remember the angelic proclamation: "To you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, who is Christ, the Lord."

From that moment God is truly with us. He is close to us. As He later told His followers: "I am with you always, to the close of the age." This cannot leave us indifferent. It gives us hope that no matter what the

future holds, HE is still with us. He is inviting us to "Come, let us adore Him."

Milestones along the way to Kurmond

If we had any doubt whatsoever that it was God's will that we move to Kurmond, those doubts vanished over the course of the months, as we saw His perfect timing in everything:

February 15: Feast of St Claude de la Colombiere (St. Margaret Mary's Confessor) – *our first visit to see the Kurmond property.*

May 1: First Friday, Feast of St. Joseph the Worker, Our Lady's month – *Deposit paid on the property at Kurmond.*

June 17: A very special day for our Congregation, being the anniversary of the passover to eternal life of our holy Mother Foundress – *Tyburn Priory, Riverstone, sold.*

Friday June 19: **Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus** – the S♥LD sign is erected at our front entrance – yes, with a "heart" in the place of the 'O'. What a lovely sign from the Sacred Heart, being ourselves the Adorers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus!

Since then we have all been to see our new property, walked around it, been inside the house, and marked out where the future cells will be. The plan is to first build Father's house, a special granny flat. Then comes the re-organising of the interior of the 4-bedroom family home into a temporary monastery for 10 nuns. The carport will become the Chapel, and the large shed will be used for storage – statues, church windows, cartons and cartons of books and "much, much more." We are waiting on Council approval so that the work can begin.

Community News

Our postulant, Sr. Mariam, continues happily in her vocation. She is hoping to become a novice soon. On the Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross Mackillop (8 August), Mother M. Walburga made her Monastic Profession in a beautiful ceremony. Current restrictions meant that fewer people were able to join us on this joyful occasion which was filmed by EWTN. Our friend, Johanne, who is an accomplished soloist with a powerful, wide-ranging vocal span, arranged for a string quartet to play for us and to accompany him as he sang “Ave Maria” and “Panis Angelicus” during the ceremony. Johanne’s deep faith shone through, raising our souls in harmony as he led us singing the Missa de Angelis. Mother M. Walburga sang her Suscipe with conviction and read her Vows loudly and clearly. We have heard that the ceremony has not yet been shown on EWTN, but it can be seen on YouTube under ‘The Tyburn Nuns.’ The video is titled ‘Ceremony of Monastic Profession’.



Congregation News

There were five Monastic Professions in July and August – one in France, two at the Mother House, one in New Zealand and our own here at Tyburn Priory. In Peru, Sr M. Magdalena made her First Profession, and we have two Jubilarians. Rev. Mother M. Hilda celebrated her Silver Jubilee in France and Rev. Mother

M. Xavier celebrated her Diamond Jubilee – 60 years – at Tyburn Convent. The celebrant was a jovial Irish priest, Fr. Tom. Mother received a Papal Blessing which Father ceremonially unrolled and read to her during the Ceremony. He said that he had never before read a Papal Blessing and he was deeply honoured. This ceremony, too, can be viewed on our YouTube site.

Our Very Rev. Mother General is encouraging all our Houses to “grow your own food”. In consequence, all our Houses (except Tyburn Priory for obvious reasons) now have flourishing vegetable gardens, fruit and nut trees. They also have chickens and rabbits, Tyburn Convent has fish, and Cobh has a family of goats, two of which are expecting. They milk the goats and soon they will be thinking of making goat’s cheese. In Bombay, New Zealand, they have sheep, and in Ngakuru it’s alpacas. Meanwhile we have reduced our animal community to one fluffy and spoiled rabbit, the alpacas having been adopted by a couple who love them and will take good care of them.

We also have an unofficial pet – or at least Rev. Fr. Rizzo had one until recently. It was a starving, feral cat which won Father’s heart by meowing at him. After that, Father was seen leaving his house with a carton of milk in one hand, cat food in the other. The cat was soon tamed, brought to health and then given to a loving family.

In Peru, the Sisters have their newly repaired chapel open again, to their great delight. The repairs now continue in the other damaged parts of the monastery.



All our Communities are experiencing difficulties because of the pandemic, with intermittent lockdowns where no one is allowed to join them for Holy Mass. All report increased attendance between lockdowns.

In Ireland, the government has forbidden public attendance at Mass, threatening priests with a fine of 2,500Euros and/or 6 months in prison, police (gardai) empowered to enforce the law.

In Scotland, the bishops have instructed there is to be no singing, no kneeling, 15- minute Masses, no homily, Communion after Mass with no time for thanksgiving. This is in addition to cleansing, social distancing and mask regulations.

We give thanks for the comparative freedom that we have.

We are so grateful to our friends for their generous support of our Building Appeal. Your names have been inscribed in our Book of Benefactors which is kept permanently under our altar. On the First Friday of every month, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is offered for all your needs and intentions. Our chaplain, Fr Rizzo, prays for you at Mass every day, and the Sisters also keep you in their prayers before our Eucharistic Lord. Although we cannot yet build a church and a monastery, we are well on our way! Long ago, Confucius said: 'A journey of a thousand leagues begins with a single footstep.' With your wonderful support, we have made our first footstep. God love you all!

It remains for us to wish you a blessed and happy Christmas. Our Christmas Midnight Mass will be offered for the intentions of all our friends and supporters.



Here we are amidst all our boxes of library books just packed!



Our Eucharistic Procession on the Feast of Christ, the King.
May HE bless forever our friends and supporters

and may the Lord hold you all ever close to His Sacred Heart.

With our loving prayers,

the Tyburn Nuns



We are so sorry, but due to the difficulties encountered this year, our Sisters at the Mother House have not been able to produce a calendar. Please God, we will have one for 2022!



If you would like to donate towards the cost of building Tyburn Priory's new Chapel and Monastery at Kurmond, donations can be made online, or by sending a cheque made payable to 'Tyburn Priory'. If depositing online, we kindly ask you to put your name on the entry, so that we are able to inscribe your name in the Book of Benefactors.

After Holy Mass on the First Friday of every month, Fr Rizzo places the Book of Benefactors before our Eucharistic Lord in the monstrance.

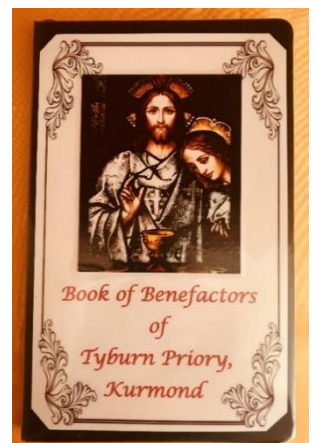
Our BANK DETAILS are:
ANZ Bank - Tyburn Priory
BSB 012 874
Account number 2327 41633

☐ Yes, I would like to make a donation towards the cost of building Tyburn Priory's new Chapel and Monastery at Kurmond.

☐ Please inscribe my name in the Book of Benefactors

NAME: (BLOCK LETTERS).....

ADDRESS:



Please return this form to: Tyburn Priory, 325 Garfield Road East, Riverstone NSW 2765