

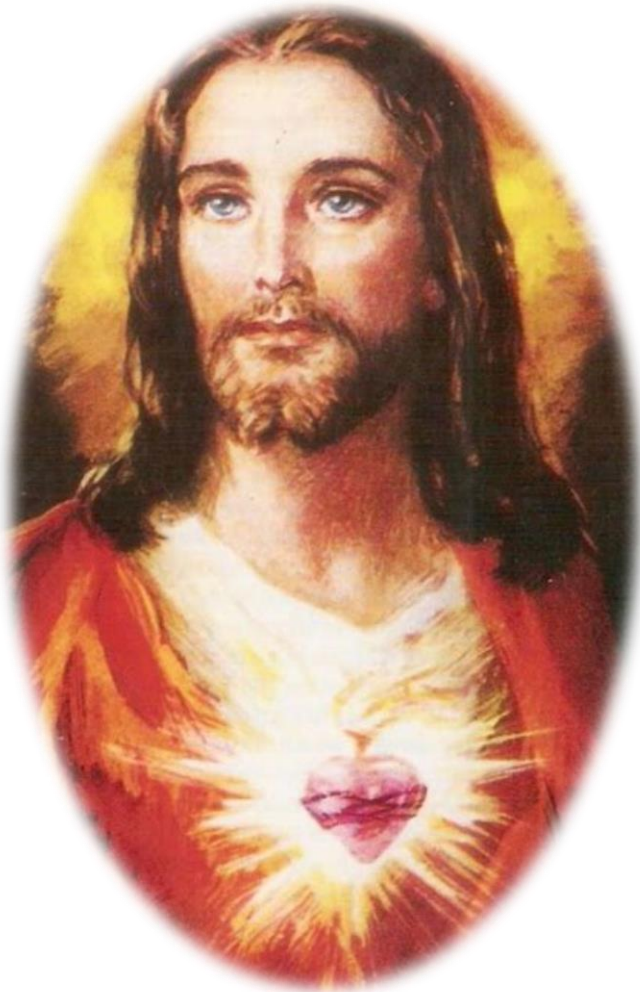
TYBURN NEWSLETTER

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Feast of the Sacred Heart

June 2020

Dear Friends of Tyburn Monastery,



During this month of the Sacred Heart, let us reflect on the Heart of Jesus which is ever burning with love for mankind and which is always open to pour out on them all kinds of graces and blessings, always touched by our sufferings, always urged by the desire to make us share in Its treasures and to give Itself to us, always disposed to receive us and to serve as a place of refuge, as a dwelling place and a paradise for us. In these times of calamity, with the Covid-19 pandemic rife in many parts of the world, how imperative it is for us to turn to this merciful and loving Heart of Jesus Who has great compassion on the miseries of mankind. Indeed there is no better companion than Our Lord Who for love of us had suffered more than any human being had ever suffered on earth. In the Heart of Jesus, we discover the salvific nature of suffering for it is always accompanied by grace. Tribulations like the current Covid-19 pandemic enable us to look within ourselves and to realize our misery and our utter dependence on God Who alone can replenish our spiritual poverty with the treasures of His Adorable Heart. The Sacred Heart of Jesus is able to bring out great good from this calamity which arises as a result of sin and the devil's malice. Let us put all our trust and confidence in the Heart of Jesus, saying; "Jesus I trust in You!"

Community News

As we joyfully welcomed the New Year with the glorious Solemnity of the Mother of God, one could not fail to notice a good crowd of laity present at Holy Mass as well as an unending stream of visitors frequenting our Church during the day. What a joy to find a remnant of God's own faithful still clinging tenaciously to the faith in the midst of this hedonistic society. We also began this year with earnest prayers for God's protection for our Sisters in Riverstone as well as for the countless Australians who were affected by the mega bushfires. When the conflagration was at its worst, we were able to witness a very unusual phenomenon caused by the smoke when the midday sky began to darken and the sun turned orange in colour. By 2pm in the afternoon the day became as dark as twilight so that we had to switch on the lights.

On the 8th of January, we welcomed Very Reverend Mother General, Mother Marilla who stayed for a week with us before going to our Monastery at Ngakuru. During her stay, she gave an interesting talk on Mother Foundress to a group of approximately thirty people after Holy Mass at Mamre on the 12th of January.

The Commission for Mother Foundress' cause arrived on the 9th of February and began their tasks of interviewing as many people as they could before going to Ngakuru on the 15th for two days and then returning back here on the 17th for another two days with more interviews before their departure. During the time of their stay at our retreat centre, we could not help being amazed by the number of people turning up to give their personal testimony about our saintly Mother Foundress who had touched their lives in a profound way. Our friend Dame Colleen Bayer helped tremendously in organizing this historical event and in making it a veritable success. The Commission,



comprising of Mgr. Tosciotti, Alan Kershaw and James Carr were a jovial lot, with a great sense of humour.

Farewell to our two dearly beloved Mothers.

The month of March this year had been a sad one for our Community and Congregation when two of our elderly Mothers passed to the Lord rather unexpectedly one after the other within a two day interval. Rev. Mother M. Cyril the Sub-Prioress of our Monastery at Riverstone, Australia passed away peacefully at 5:50am on the 15th of March in her 92nd year after having been unwell for a long time. She had once been the Novice Mistress to four of the members of our Community and of course to many other Perpetually Professed Sisters as well throughout our Congregation. She was also one of the pioneer Mothers who started the Monastery at Sechura in Peru and helped in building up this monastery for many years before being finally assigned to the monastery in Australia. Our Sisters in Riverstone commented that her passing was so beautiful and that she died a very holy and edifying death in their presence. May she rest in peace.

Two days later on the 17th of March, Feast of St. Patrick, our dear Rev. Mother Prioress, Rev. Mother M. Angela passed away at 2:15am in her 84th year. Born in Portsmouth in UK on the 20th of April 1936, Rev. Mother Angela entered Tyburn Convent in 1960 and made her Monastic Profession on the 17th of November 1965. She served as a General Councillor at the Mother House for some years and later on as a Prioress at the Cobh Monastery for a long time till she came over to New Zealand in 2009 to start the new Foundation at Ngakuru. Her first encounter to NZ happened in 2008 when she followed Very Reverend Mother Xavier, who was then the Superior General, to Bombay for the filming of the Tyburn DVD with Luke Davis. The moment she set her eyes on this country, she simply loved it as the people here are so warm and friendly, which made her feel very much at home. She became one of the pioneer Mothers at the new foundation at Ngakuru for 5 years before being assigned to this Monastery at Bombay in 2015 as a Prioress till the day she went to the Lord. She was suddenly taken ill on the 23rd of February and from then

on her condition deteriorated so quickly till she passed away about three weeks later. The Auxiliary Bishop Michael Gielen who was then on retreat at our Monastery in preparation for his Ordination came to give her the Anointing of the Sick at Middlemore Hospital, on the 29th of February. Later in the afternoon, Rev. Fr. Andrew Matthew also came to give her a second anointing. On the 4th of March, Rev. Mother M. Angela was discharged from the hospital and she was



*Rev. Mother M. Angela (RIP)(Left) &
Rev. Mother M. Cyril(RIP) (Right)*

glad to be able to return back to the monastery to spend her last days within the familiar confines of her cell and particularly, to be surrounded by her Monastic brethren. She finally passed peacefully to the Lord with a sweet smile on her lips, looking years younger than her age. Despite the suspension of all public Masses at that time, Most Reverend Bishop Patrick very kindly gave us a special dispensation to have a public Funeral Mass for Rev. Mother Angela on condition that we invite only a small group of laity. So her Funeral Mass took place on Saturday, 21st of March which turned out to be a perfect day as the weather was bright and sunny. Rev. Fr. Aidan concelebrated the 9am Funeral Mass with five other priests including our Chaplain and approximately 40 people turned up. Rev. Fr. Aidan gave a beautiful homily and spoke of Rev. Mother Angela as a realistic person who put God at the centre of her life. Her interment took place at the Monastery Cemetery at Ngakuru after a Funeral Service in which we were all able to participate with our Sisters at Ngakuru. She is indeed a true example of steadfast fidelity and faithful perseverance in one's monastic vocation. Greatly missed by our Community, may she now rest in the peace of the Risen Christ. Finally, we wish to thank all our friends, Oblates and benefactors who had so kindly supported us in spending their time with Mother Angela during her final illness and also for helping us in so many ways.

On the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart, Holy Mass will be offered for all our friends and benefactors. Please be assured of our prayers for you before the Eucharistic Lord and may the Sacred Heart of Jesus enfold you and all your loved ones in His infinite love.

The Tyburn Nuns

