

Adorers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus of Montmartre OSB

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SACRED HEART NEWSLETTER (2020)

Dear Friends,

Our saintly Mother Foundress, Servant of God Marie Adele Garnier, was remarkable for her heroic trust and abandonment to the Sacred Heart. After she had laboured to found our Congregation, in obedience to the promptings of the Sacred Heart, its very existence was threatened twice. The first time, she had to flee Montmartre, Paris with her daughters to Tyburn, the new Montmartre, and the second time, they were about to lose Tyburn due to several financial crisis and did not know where to go. Marie Adele, who was in many ways a victim soul and no stranger to suffering, describes the state of her soul in a letter to her spiritual father, Bl. Columba Marmion:

"My dear Father, the heavier the cross, the more will Jesus bear it with us, and our troubles and labours will become our consolation, even when we feel crushed by them, I experience this intensely. Sometimes it is as if I had to walk on ground that trembled under my feet, sown with thorns and briars; burning coals and yawning

gulfs on every side of me. And yet I find myself, as it were, carried by Our Lord, so that I traverse without danger and without fear these multiplied obstacles."

Complete trust and abandonment to the Divine Will is a virtue most pleasing to the Sacred Heart. St. Margaret Mary of Alacoque often expressed her trust in God's love: "Heart of love, I put all my trust in you, for I fear all things from my own weakness, but I

hope for all things from your goodness." Our Lord Jesus instructed St. Faustina to paint an image of His Divine Mercy with the inscription "Jesus I trust in You." Trust in the merciful love of God is what is most needed in these strange and uncertain times in which we live. Marie Adele's description of her suffering seems to echo the feelings and experience of humanity in these troubled times. The coronavirus pandemic and the resulting lockdown seem to have



destabilized our established rhythm and altered our plans, bringing hardships, suffering and death. It has also disrupted the regularity of the Sacramental Life of the Church. In the midst of all this turbulence and confusion, we must cling to Christ who says: "*I am with you always till the end of time*" (Matthew 28:20). The Sacred Heart is our refuge. The Eucharist, Christ's perpetual Real Presence in the world, and His pledge of undying love, which springs from His Heart is the stability of the Church and World. The Church is conscious of her duty to make Christ ever present in the world through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and so at the very beginning of the lockdown when Masses were suspended, priests were encouraged to celebrate Mass daily in private. We can take solace in the knowledge that all the members of the Church are united with Christ in these private Masses. The Catechism teaches us that every time Christ is offered to the Father in the Eucharist, the entire Church is mystically present and offered to the Father "whole and entire" (CCC 1368).



Here at Largs, our Community has been holding the fort for the faithful who are unable to attend Mass and receive the sacraments. Our Chaplain has daily been celebrating Mass for us and we have maintained our normal day and night adoration, offering to the Sacred Heart our friends, benefactors, the sick and suffering, the deceased, hospital and care workers, and all the needs of humanity.

On February 22, every monastery of our Congregation joined all Catholics in England and some parts of the world in a 33 days retreat in preparation for the historic Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary, on 29th March. On the Solemnity of the Annunciation, 25 March, we had a ceremony of the Crowning of Our Lady at Holy Mass,

and we also made a Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary. On 26 March, we began a Triduum of prayers which concluded with the Rededication, at Holy Mass. It was spiritually enriching and in many ways, a good spiritual preparation for the unexpected coronavirus pandemic and lockdown.

We had a full celebration of the Easter Triduum from Maundy Thursday to the Sunday of the Lord's Resurrection. We Had a



festive Easter celebration which ended with the Feast of Divine Mercy on the Octave of Easter. It felt strange to celebrate Easter without the Laity but we prayed fervently for everyone and we all were united in spirit.





The Tyburn Association of Adoration

We began last year the Largs chapter of The Tyburn Association of Adoration. Most of our Night Adorers enrolled as members. on 9th February, we had the first ceremony of admission of two of our lay adorers: John and Jean. They each received a medal of the Association which has the image of the Sacred Heart in front and the Tyburn Gallows behind. After the short ceremony there was refreshment in the Tearoom. Admission ceremonies will resume after the lockdown. If you would like to belong to the Association please contact Mother Prioress. The women's allnight adorers under the auspices of the Legion of Mary, and the Men's Group were coming for all-night vigil up until the lockdown.

They will resume their vigils as soon as possible, but in the meantime, they do a group adoration online on the Tyburn Convent website: <u>https://adoration.tyburnconvent.org.uk/</u>

Hospitality

The Holy Manna Retreat Centre, Tea Room and the Christian Heritage Museum have been closed since the lockdown but we hope to reopen as soon as the lockdown restrictions are lifted. We will not have the Annual Strawberry Tea Fayre this year due to the lockdown, but we hope to have the Christmas Fayre sometime in November if things are back to normal. We will keep you updated on our website

Congregation News

In the month of March, before the lockdown, two of our beloved Mothers went to their eternal reward within two days of each other. Mother M. Cyril (Shaeffer) died at Tyburn Priory, Riverstone, Australia on the 15th in her 92nd year and 63rd of her Religious Profession. She was a foundation member and Prioress of our monastery in Sechura, Peru for a couple of years before she was assigned to Australia, where she was Prioress and Novice Mistress for several years. She was the Sub-Prioress of that community until her death. Mother M. Angela (Stevens) died at Tyburn Monastery, Bombay, two days later on the feast of St Patrick, in her 83rd year of her life and 58th of her Religious Profession. She had been Prioress at our monasteries in Ireland, Australia, Ngakuru in New Zealand, and was Prioress at Bombay, New Zealand until her death. We were sad to lose these Mothers who had faithfully served our Congregation for many year, but we are also happy that they are forever united with Christ, and our Mother Foundress and Sisters who had gone before them. The Mothers were both buried on 21st March, the feast of St Benedict. We were glad that they both had Funeral Masses celebrated for them and were buried with dignity, before the lockdown restrictions started .





Rev. Mother. M. Angela

Rev. Mother M. Cyril

Enthronement of the Sacred Heart

God in His loving Providence, always seeks to bring good out of evil. The lockdown has been a time of strengthening of the bonds of love in the family - the Domestic Church. They have been spending more time in praying together and growing in love and appreciation of God and one another. The home should really be a sacred place where God's love, will and peace reign, and for this to be possible, it needs the grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ. To build up the Family is to build up the Church and Society and so the Church must always seek ways to strengthen and protect the Family, especially in these days when it is undermined and under constant attack. In one of His apparitions to St Margaret Mary, Jesus promised that whenever the image of His Sacred Heart was



exposed and given special honour, great blessings would flow from His Heart. In 1907, a young Peruvian priest of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, Fr. Mateo Crawley Boevey, had an inspiration to enthrone the Sacred Heart in homes through His image. He received a blessing and command from Pope Pius X to begin this apostolate of spreading devotion to the Sacred Heart by Home Enthronements. He zealously fulfilled this task until his death in 1960. Enthronement of the Sacred Heart in homes is a powerful means of promoting and extending the reign of Jesus in and through the Family which is the nucleus and cell of the Church and every Society. The family welcomes Jesus as the king and centre of their lives with a commitment to love and obey Him.

The above image of the Sacred Heart is a symbol of God's eternal love for every soul. In it is contained that eternal love which unites the Godhead; in which Jesus is eternally begotten by The Father; in which He took our flesh in the womb of His Mother Mary; in which He established the Eucharist; and in which He accomplished His Father's Will unto death. The flames represent the burning love of Jesus which is brighter than the Sun. "I have come to cast fire upon the earth; and how I which it were already kindled!"(Luke 12:49). The Cross signifies that Jesus died for love of us; the Cross is God's instrument of Love. The Crown of Thorns surrounding His Heart represent our sins and how they hurt Him. The drops of blood and water from His pierced Heart cleanses us of our sins; the waters of Baptism and the Blood of the Eucharist.

All Jesus asks of us is to return His love, and as He promised to St Margaret Mary,"Tepid souls shall become fervent; fervent souls shall quickly mount to high perfection." He also said: "I will bless every place in which an image of my Heart is exposed and honored" and, "I will establish peace in their homes."

If you would like an Enthronement Kit to enthrone the Sacred Heart in your home, or require more information on the Enthronement, please contact Mother Prioress either by email, phone, post, or on our website: <u>https://www.tyburnconvent.org.uk/largsdonations</u>

Wishing you a happy Solemnity of the Sacred Heart with His grace and blessing, The Benedictine Nuns, Largs