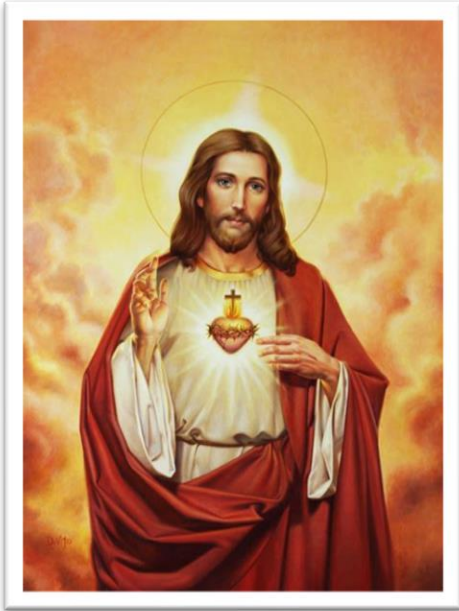


TYBURN TALK

Sacred Heart Newsletter 2024



Dear Friends of Tyburn Monastère,

*Centenary of the passing to
Eternal Life of our Mother
Foundress, Servant of God
Marie Adele Garnier!*

1924-2024

This year especially we call to mind the heroic life, and death, of our beloved Mother Foundress, Mother Marie Adèle Garnier, as it was one hundred years ago, on June 24th, 1924, that she breathed her last at Tyburn, considered by many to be the last of the Tyburn martyrs. She could well be counted among these heroic souls who went before her to sacrifice their lives on the gallows for the Catholic Faith, the Pope and the Mass, as Mother Mary of St. Peter's life was a continual sacrifice and oblation to her Eucharistic Lord. She died a victim of love, her existence having been one of total immolation through her abandonment to the Will of God; and what greater sign could there be than that Divine Providence chose the 17th June to call her to her heavenly reward, the very date she had made a Vow of Abandonment to the Will of God many years before in 1887.

So great was her conformity to Christ, that in her sufferings leading up to her death, an astonishing scene is recounted to us by the Sister Infirmarian : ***“Mother Foundress was sitting on the edge of her bed, bent double. She seemed quite unconscious of what was going on round her. Usually when offered something to relieve her, she was very grateful. This time she took no notice and went on groaning. Suddenly she sat upright – and extended her arms quite straight in the form of a cross. From the condition she was in, this was physically quite impossible. Then she said in a clear but agonised voice: ‘This is the crucifixion.’*** Her face was full of



agony and the thought that came into the infirmarian's mind was – ***'This is not our Mother Foundress's face – it is the face of our Lord.'*** ***She was in that position for about a minute. Then she resumed her former position...***” No less remarkable is this account of the Assistant General, Mother Agnes; “a grace much similar to the transverberation of the heart of St. Teresa appeared to be granted to her. Our Lord had Himself told her to expect it; asking her that she would let Him be crucified in her heart. Broken as it were in two...her arms stretched out as if crucified begging for water, she lay, enduring the crucifixion in her heart”.



There is another beautiful and moving account of Mother Foundress and Our Lady written by the Sr Infirmarian , and we cite it here to show how powerful Our Lady is during times of sickness and death: ***“ We never left our Mother alone, she was so ill, even Rev Mother H. thought our Mother would live till morning....I was kneeling by our mother who seemed not to breath at all and became so still and cold- I feared the end had come. I fanned gently with our hand all the time, to try and get air for our Mother. About 2 o'clock (am) dear Mother opened her lovely eyes wide and looked above my head with a rapt and happy! happy expression, then (she) tried to raise herself on the pillows.(She) smiled so sweet ,clasped her hands while never taking her eyes from over my head ; I was fascinated , spell bound,***

let the fan drop and just looked at our mother whose face was alight with Love and happiness , a lovely sweet radiant expression , I cannot describe it.I think it must have lasted about ¼ of an hour .I did not dare to move...I felt Someone at my back and knew no one had entered the cell, yet I was not frightened . Mother was going off in an ecstasy of Love....at last our Mother



lowered her eyes , looked at me, smiled, and said in English “The Holy Virgin, Our Lady has made me better, see I can now take something”...VRMother (Foundress) was really cured and could breath and speak without difficulty . Then Mother told (Sr Infirmarian and M Agnes) ...how the Holy Virgin came to console and help us. How Our Lady came and stood ,her arms like in the Miraculous Medal without the rays. How the Holy Virgin looked, looked looked at VRMother and gave a smile of ineffable sweetness. How during that Look of Our Lady all our Mother's pain and suffering passed, left her. “ This wonderful

grace, witnessed by the Sister Infirmarian is a wonderful testament to the holiness of our mother Foundress.

However, shortly after this wonderful appearance of Our Lady Mother Foundress' time was really come when God would call her to Himself. On the 17th June 1924 her end was peaceful, and an atmosphere of peace and joy radiated from her and was felt by all around her. The image of the suffering Mother was transformed for her daughters into the image of their Mother now in Paradise: ***"Our Mother's body has remained entirely flexible and there has not been the slightest change in her except that between her death and the time she was put in the coffin she became more and more radiantly beautiful"***.

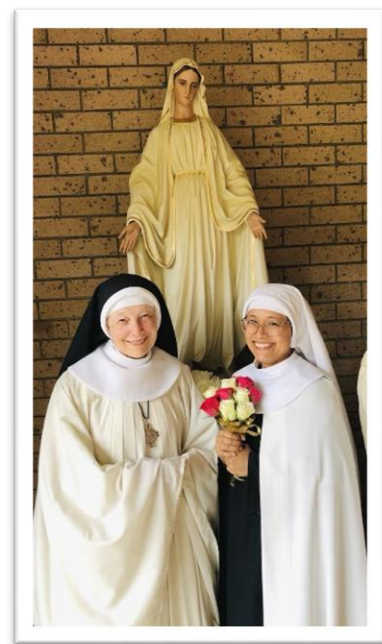
Her profound holiness left a deep impression on those who knew her, among whom was the Superior of the Basilica of Montmartre, Père Lemius, who wrote to Mother Agnes after Mother Foundress' death, "As I said the Requiem Mass for her, it seemed to me that I was saying the Mass of her canonisation in heaven by the Holy Trinity before the Church triumphant". He also said, ***"The holiest woman I have ever known, the most heroically virtuous, the most privileged by the Sacred Heart, is Mother Mary of St. Peter, the Foundress of the Adorers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus of Montmartre"***. He even ventured to refer to her as ***"Perhaps the greatest saint now on earth"***.

And so in this month dedicated to the Sacred Heart, we celebrate the birth into eternal life of one who in the fullest sense was an Adorer of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Let us pray that Holy Mother Church indeed recognizes the heroic virtues of Mother Mary of St. Peter by soon raising her to the altars.

News

The Lord appears to be hearing our ardent prayers for vocations, and our congregation has been blessed with two novices, our very own French novice, Sr. Marguerite Marie, as we mentioned in the previous newsletter, and now our monastery in Australia has the joy of counting Sr. Juliana among their number. Let us continue to pray for more good and fervent vocations.

We were very happy to have Very Reverend Mother General with us in March, as she visited for a few days shortly before Easter with Mother Esperanza. Then Holy Week and Easter were upon us, and we had a good number of people for the Palm Sunday procession and for the Easter Vigil.



At the same time nature was bursting into life in our extensive garden, and the time began for ploughing furrows in the earth for planting vegetables. The foliage is looking very lush and green due to the abundant rainfall we have received this year. We also have a thriving community of chickens, constantly providing us with fresh, organic eggs, and now protected from predators by tall wire fencing.



On the 4th May, the Feast day of the Tyburn martyrs- Rev Mother Seraphim and two other Sisters went to Grancey le Chateau to give a talk on the life of our Mother Foundress to a Parish from Is-sur-Tille. The latter is a village where Mother Foundress lived for a while during her childhood. On arrival to the conference room they were met with a large crowd, men, women and children and four priests. After the talk – given in French- which was a challenge, the people went to the Parish church for Adoration and it was edifying to see that even the children



went to make adoration of the Holy Eucharist.



Also on the 4th May we rejoiced with Mother M. Luke as she celebrated her Silver Jubilee in Ngakuru, New Zealand. It was a very joyfilled celebration with many of the locals and Oblates participating in this Monastic milestone of Mother Luke!

We conclude with a reflection of our saintly Mother Foundress, which she wrote while still a young woman in the 1860s: ***"I too will come forth from my entombment! My body and soul will be united again, never more to be parted. What a festival this day of resurrection will be!"***

We thank each one of you for your unfailing support for our Community here in France. Without your support and prayers we do not know where we would be! Please be assured of our prayers and we remember you especially during Adoration before the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus! Amen ! Alleluia!!!

The Tyburn Nuns.