

LEGION OF MARY

SENATUS OF NEW ZEALAND NEWSLETTER



· JULY ·

· 2023 ·

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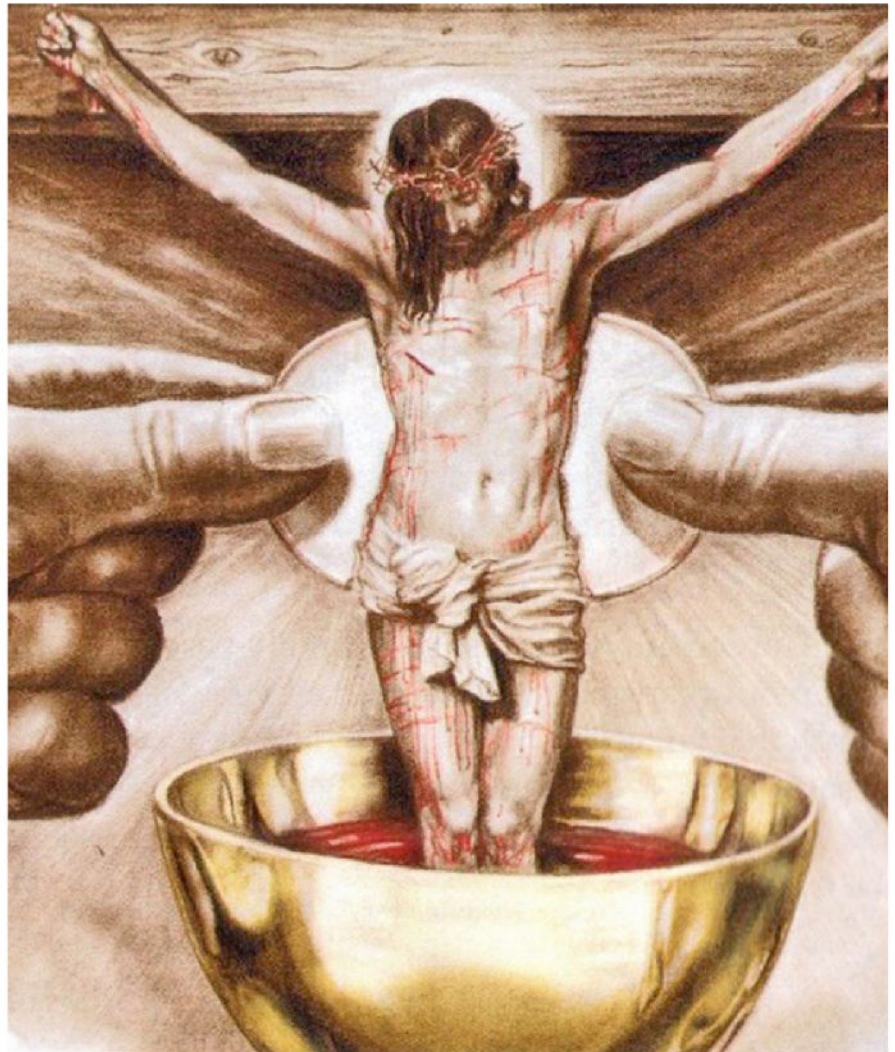
JULY - MONTH OF DEVOTION TO THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS

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A message from the
Senatus president,
Br. John Tagiilima

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For the year 2023



JULY - MONTH OF DEVOTION TO THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS

The month of July is dedicated to the Precious Blood. The feast of the Precious Blood of our Lord was instituted in 1849 by Pius IX, but the devotion is as old as Christianity. The early Fathers say that the Church was born from the pierced side of Christ, and that the sacraments were brought forth through His Blood.



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"The Precious Blood which we worship is the Blood which the Savior shed for us on Calvary and reassumed at His glorious Resurrection; it is the Blood which courses through the veins of His risen, glorified, living body at the right hand of God the Father in heaven; it is the Blood made present on our altars by the words of Consecration; it is the Blood which merited sanctifying grace for us and through it washes and beautifies our soul and inaugurates the beginning of eternal life in it."

Devotion to the Precious Blood is not a spiritual option, it is a spiritual obligation, and that not only for priests, but for every follower of Christ. I really believe that one of the symptoms of modern society (and I would even include, sadly, modern Catholic society) one of the symptoms of a growing, gnawing secularism is the lessening and the weakening of devotion to the Precious Blood. Devotion, as we know, is a composite of three elements: It is first- veneration, it is secondly- invocation, and it is thirdly- imitation. In other words, devotion to the Precious Blood of Christ, the Lamb of God who was slain, is first of all to be veneration on our part, which is a composite of knowledge, love and adoration. We are to study to come to a deeper understanding of what those two casual words, Precious Blood, really mean.

I found this passage in the oldest document, outside of sacred scripture, from the first century of the Christian era – to be exact, from Pope St. Clement I, dated about 96 A.D. Says Pope Clement: "Let us fix our gaze on the Blood of Christ and realize how truly precious It is, seeing that it was poured out for our salvation and brought the grace of conversion to the whole world."

To understand the meaning of the Precious Blood we must get some comprehension of the gravity of sin, of the awfulness of offending God, because it required the Blood of the Son of God to forgive that sin. We are living in an age in which to sin has become fashionable.

This veneration of the Precious Blood, which is the first element in our devotion to the Precious Blood means that we have a deep sensitivity to the awfulness of sin. Sin must be terrible. It must be awful. It must be the most dreadful thing in the universe. Why? Because it cost the living God in human form the shedding of His Blood.

Lord Jesus, You became Man in order by your Passion and Death and the draining of your Blood on the Cross, might prove to us how much You, our God, love us. Protect us, dear Jesus, from ever running away from the sight of blood. Strengthen our weak human wills so that we will not only not run away from the cross, but welcome every opportunity to shed our blood in spirit in union with your Precious Blood, so that, dying to ourselves in time we might live with You in Eternity. Amen

Source: Catholic culture with excerpts from "The Precious Blood of Christ", Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J.



OFFICER'S TRAINING

Our Handbook tells us that at least once a year a training should be conducted by the next highest council to ensure its officers and new members of the Legion of Mary are well aware of their duties and responsibilities as well as ensuring safeguarding of younger Legionaries in our Junior Praesidia.

Our training will be held at the Legion of Mary Centre on the 30th of July 2023 at 2pm. All Officers and members of the Legion who wish to attend; please attend as it is beneficial not only to the current officers of your praesidium but also to members who want to learn how the legion office operates.

Being an officer of any praesidium is a blessing and an opportunity to serve our Lady and her Son by means of responsibility and honesty in our allocated work and function as an officer.

When Our Lord Jesus selected his apostles, he did not look for their weaknesses or their faults. But rather the simple people they are. He knew one day Judas will eventually betray him, but he still allocated all the finances for him to look after. He knew Peter would betray him three times, but he still gave him the keys to heaven and earth and the responsibility of building his Church on earth.

What we learn from this is that we will never know when we will be called to take our stand and help out in the work of Salvation. So let us learn and be ready for that time and place. Let's start by building our capacities as legionaries and get used to the work we are called to do.

Thank you and God Bless

*Br. John Tagiilima
President of NZ Senatus*



SENATUS MEETING DATES FOR 2023

09 JULY
13 AUGUST
10 SEPTEMBER
08 OCTOBER
12 NOVEMBER
10 DECEMBER

IMPORTANT DATES & UPCOMING EVENTS 2023

30 JULY

Officer's Training
(Legion of Mary Centre
- Pt Chevallier)

15 AUGUST

Assumption Of the
Blessed Virgin Mary

26 AUGUST

Auxiliary Day joint with
Elizabeth Kirwin day



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To order items from the Senatus Stall, Please contact Br. Mark Gasparini