

“Many can hear of the gospel and recognize Christ only by means of the laity.” (*Decree on the Missionary Activity of the Church, n.21*)

“All Christians are responsible for making the message of Christ known and accepted by all throughout the world.” (*Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity, n.31*)

“Even when preoccupied with temporal cares the laity must perform eminently valuable work on behalf of bringing the gospel to the world.” (*Lumen Gentium, n.35*)

POPE JOHN PAUL II HAS SAID:

“The Legion of Mary has made countless lay Catholics aware of their indispensable role in evangelization and sanctification and has enabled them to fulfill that role zealously and effectively.”

The Legion of Mary apostolate is not vague or simple-minded, but is orderly and systematic and includes Catholics of every class and condition. By diligently adhering to its methods, ordinary lay people become outstanding apostles of Jesus Christ.

JOIN THE LEGION OF MARY!
MARY NEEDS YOUR HELP
BRING SOULS TO HER SON.

“Mary’s pivotal role in Christianity is due to the fact that she is the Mother of Jesus and, therefore, of His Body, with the same function, the same necessity.”

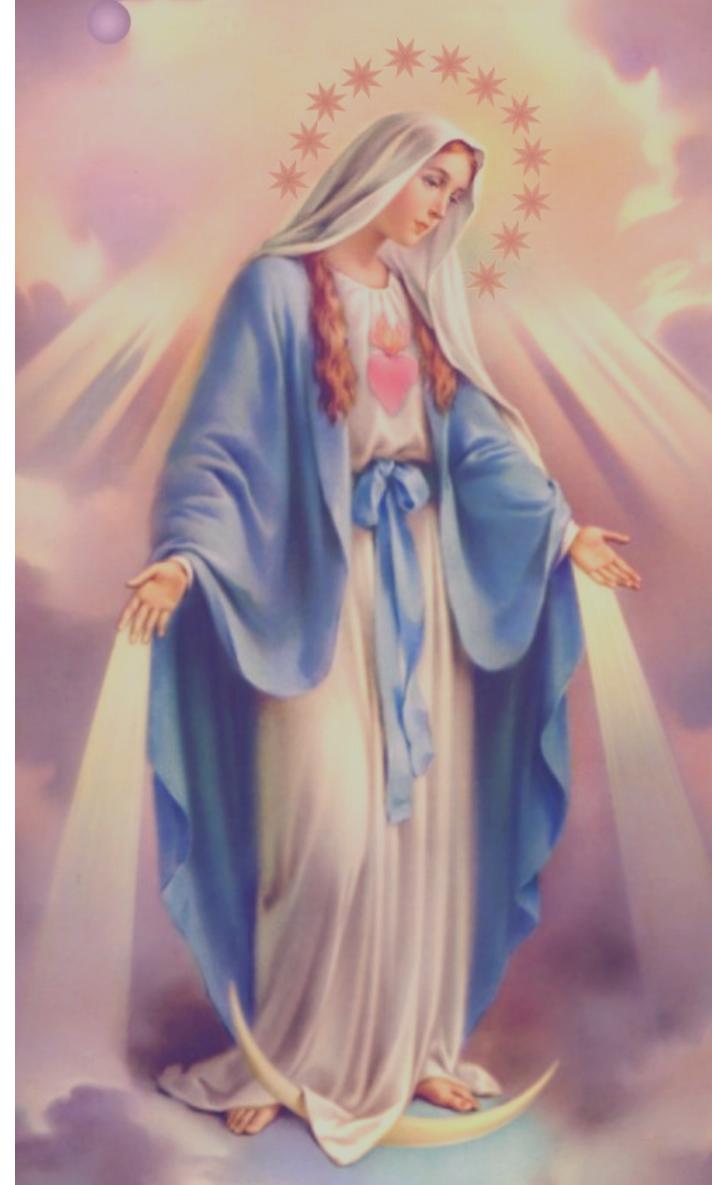
Frank Duff, Author
The Woman of Genesis



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LEGION
OF MARY

A CATHOLIC LAY APOSTOLATE
DEDICATED TO PERSONAL
SANCTIFICATION AND EVANGELIZATION

Every Christian, by nature of his baptism and his love for Christ and the Church, is called to spread the faith to others. The

Legion of Mary is an association of Catholics, men and women, who spread the faith and grow together in their love and faith in Jesus Christ, in union with the Virgin Mary, His most perfect follower and apostle.

In Korea, 60% of the 100,000 converts to Catholicism in 1982 were prepared by Korean Legionaries of Mary. Many of these same Legionaries were converts themselves.

“AND HE SENT THEM OUT,
TWO BY TWO”
MARK 6:7

The Legion works under the guidance of the priest to extend the knowledge and presence of Jesus Christ to all. Legionaries are sanctified and formed through a weekly meeting. From the meeting is received the grace to be sent out two by two to assigned works aimed at the saving of souls. **This work is carried out through, with, in and for Mary** who has the desire and the means of forming souls into the likeness of her Son, Jesus.

Legionaries of Mary in Iceland, where Catholics make up less than 1% of the population, are seeking the conversion of the whole country. By their dedicated work, they are multiplying the efforts of the priests so that all Iceland might be reached.

Every possible means is used by the Legion to reach souls. Homes are visited, busy areas of the city are touched through personal contact (the Apostolate to the Crowd), Catholic literature is distributed, the sick visited and the grieving consoled. Converts are sought out and instructed. Non-practicing Catholics are encouraged to return to the Church. Practicing Catholics are spurred on to greater zeal in serving the cause of Christ. Whatever help the priest needs in shepherding his flock, the Legion will give.

In Europe, the Americas, Africa and Asia, the Legion of Mary has brought forth an apostolic and educated Catholic laity.

“GO OUT INTO THE
HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS
AND MAKE THEM COME IN
SO THAT MY HOUSE MAY BE
FILLED.”
LUKE 14:23

Every part of society must be reached with the message of Jesus Christ. Legionaries respond by going out to every person: The rich and the poor, the Catholic and the non-Catholic, the young and the old. But it is to the inhabitants of the most wretched and most difficult places that the Legion feels most called. Each parish would do well to have groups of the Legion of Mary, called praesidia, to undertake these works.

Always on duty is the legionary watchword, for the weekly meeting and assignment is but the apostolic fire which is meant to enkindle every hour of the legionary's week with an apostolic spirit to dominate every thought, word and action. The Legionary of Mary, out of love for his fellowman, endeavors at home, at work and at all times to promote the general object of the Legion: “to destroy the empire of sin, uproot its foundations and implant on its ruins the standard of Christ the King.”

Through the yearly effort known as the “Peregrinatio Pro Christo” (Travellers for Christ), Legionaries going to Russia are making the first firm steps toward the fulfillment of the cherished promise of Our Lady – the conversion of Russia.

“YOU SHALL BE MY
WITNESSES”
ACTS 1:8

Jesus gave the command on Mt. Olivet to His disciples as His last words before His ascension into heaven, “Go forth and teach all nations.” The Apostles obeyed and so must we. The Legion of Mary, founded in Ireland, in 1921, has over one and one half million active members and ten million auxiliary members throughout the world.

In the San Francisco Archdiocese, the Legion, existing since 1933, has approximately 400 active and 4,000 auxiliary members.