



Legion of Mary

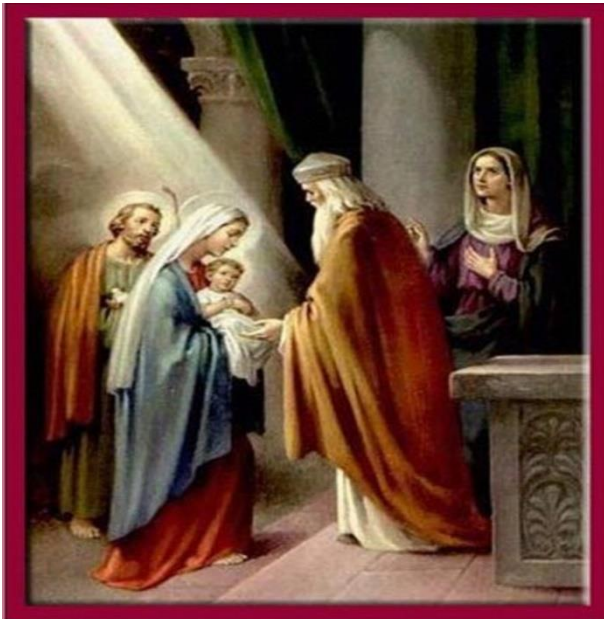
STAR OF THE SEA SENATUS MUMBAI

C/o. St. Pius College, Aarey Road,
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FEBRUARY 2026

Monthly Newsletter

Volume No 186



Spiritual Reading for February'26:

**Spiritual Reading: Handbook: Chap 4.1,2,3
Pages 13-15 "Legionary Service"**

**Q) Do I serve the Legion with a willing heart,
faithful diligence and a spirit of sacrifice?**

Summary of Reports:

Praesidium Reports: Dec'24 - Nov'25

1. Queen of Peace, Goregaon E

With 10 members the average attendance was 78%. They have 140 Auxiliaries on roll. They have a Junior Praesidium attached with 12 members. Their works include Visitations to homes of Catholics and other faith, Sick & Homebound, Hospital, Congregation, bereaved families, mothers-to-be, after care of auxiliaries, vendor visit, Organ donation drive, apostolate to AA group, Pilgrim Virgin Apostolate. 1 member is on the ECVC Panel.

The Praesidium functions & projects included: Praesidium Function, Christmas Campaign, Walking Pilgrimage.

The Senatus Functions included: ACIES, AGR, DA Training, Recollection, An Evening with Mary.

2. OLO Forsaken, Malwani Colony

With 6 members the average attendance was 85.57%. They have 11 Auxiliaries on roll. They also have a Junior Praesidium with 7 juniors on roll. Their works include Visitations to homes of Catholics and other faith, visit to Bereaved families, Sick & Homebound, Institute & Hospital. Their other projects were Lenten Campaign, Rosary Crusade.

The Praesidium functions included: Praesidium Function.

The Senatus Functions included: Recollection, ACIES, AGR, DA Training, Legion Sunday, Evening with Mary

Council Reports (Jun'25 - Nov'25)

1. Regina Virginum, Vasai Curia

The attendance of Curia officers is 91.67% and of members is 64.21%. They have 9 DA praesidia Senior Praesidia, 1 Junior Praesidium. Reports presented of 8 Senior praesidia.

Works include: Visits to Catholic and other faith homes, Sick and Home bound, bereaved families, hospitals & institutes catholic and other faith.

Projects & Functions included: Rosary Crusade, AGR, Prison Ministry.

2. Regina Pacis, Kirol Comitium

The attendance of Comitium officers is 79.1% and of members is 57.75%. They have 9 DA praesidia, 2 Senior Curia and 1 Junior Curia. Reports presented of 4 DA praesidia, 1 outstation Praesidia and 6 Councils.

Works include: Visits to Catholic and other faith homes, Sick and Home bound, bereaved families, hospitals and institutions, Rosary Crusade, Way of the Cross, Virgin Mary Apostolate, Health checkup camp, Teaching under privileged children

Projects & Functions included: AGR., Legion Sunday at Kirol, Handbook quiz.

3. Queen of All Saints, Pune Comitium

The attendance of Comitium officers is 97% and of members is 59%. They have 6 DA praesidia, 5 Senior Curia. Reports presented of 6 DA praesidia, and 1 Councils.

Works include: Visits to Catholic and other faith homes, Sick and Home bound, bereaved families, hospitals and institutions, Rosary Crusade.

Projects included: Legion Sunday at Sanghvi, Training.

Allocutio: Fr. Anthony Fernandes (Spiritual Director)

It was way back 1929, a young 9year old boy Karol Józef Wojtyła came home from school. His father was a soldier in the Polish army, strong and disciplined. He was used to seeing his father kneeling on the hard wooden floor and praying. One day a week before his birthday, he saw his father crying and asked what happened and was told his mother is no more. He was shaken and runs to the parish church and goes to Mother Mary statue and says, I don't know why God took my mother to his home but from now on you are my mother. Karol Józef Wojtyła became John Paul II in Poland. In an act of consecration, no pope in recent history loved Mother Mary more than John Paul II because he put on his coat of arms, a big **M** letter that stands for Mary - and his moto was Totus Tuus, the words of St Louis Marie de Montfort which we say at the **Acies – I am all Yours, My Queen, My Mother and all that I have is Yours.** You can say these words everyday as your night prayer. John Paul II had a lot of love for Mary and spoke extensively about her. In 1981 he was shot on the feast of Our Lady of Fatima, and people thought he would die as the bullet went close to the heart, but that bullet missed his heart and after he survived, because it was on the feast of Our lady of Fatima, he went to Portugal and in the crown of our Lady of Fatima the bullet has been inserted as he believed that Mother Mary saved him. He took Mary as a very powerful intercessor. Till 1996 Pope John Paul II used the word Co-Mediatrix 7 times but in 1996 in discussion with the Prefect of doctrine of faith, he stopped. From then on, he did not use the title. Studies were going on regarding these titles under Cardinal Ratzinger who served this Decastry during the pontificate of Pope John Paul II. Cardinal Ratzinger later became pope Benedict XVI.

In 2020, Pope Frances in his public address said "Jesus gave Mary to the world as his mother not as

a co-redeemer". Hence it was not Pope Leo who issued this clarification as it is after much studies in the last few decades. Today's spiritual reading and discussion is on Mary Mediatrix of all Graces taken from the handbook chapter 5, point 2.

This topic is very important specially since it was taken up by the Decastry of doctrine of faith in November 2025. It is this Decastry that guards the faith of the Catholic church. Several times even theologians were pulled up and sanctioned if they went against the official teaching of the church.

On 4th November, 2025 the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith (DDF) in its document **Mater Populi Fidelis** explained, when an expression requires frequent explanation to maintain the correct meaning, it becomes unhelpful. "In this case, the expression 'co-redemptrix' does not help extol Mary as the first and foremost collaborator in the work of redemption and grace, for it carries the risk of lessening the exclusive role of Jesus Christ. Pope Leo XIV approved the document, signed by DDF prefect Cardinal Víctor Manuel Fernández. Mary's contribution to human salvation, specifically the title of "Co-Redemptrix" ("Co-Redeemer"), as I said, has been a point of theological debate for decades, with those in favor calling for Mary's role in redemption to be declared a dogma but critics saying it exaggerates her importance and could damage efforts for unity with other Christian denominations. In a preface to the note, Fernández wrote that the document responds to questions the dicastery received in recent decades about Marian devotion and certain Marian titles, and clarifies which are acceptable.

There are 19 Marian feast days, solemnities, and memorials on the liturgical calendar, plus May and October devotions to Mary, and also the Church has dedicated every Saturday to the Blessed Virgin. We have a profound devotion to Mary. Vatican II Dogmatic Constitution of the Church states: True devotion to Mary in no way diminishes the role of Christ as one and only mediator between God and us but in fact it enhances it. This is the official teaching of the Church regarding Mary and emphasizes that Christ is the one and only mediator.

The Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith (DDF) in its document Mater Populi Fidelis aims to deepen the proper foundations of Marian devotion by specifying Mary's place in her relationship with believers in light

of the mystery of Christ as the sole mediator and redeemer. The document also addressed at length the Marian title “Mediatix” or “Mediatix of All Graces,” analyzing related Church teaching on Mary’s role as intercessor. The DDF concluded that “some titles, such as ‘Mediatix of All Graces,’ have limits that do not favor a correct understanding of Mary’s unique place.” The dicastery encouraged the use of other expressions for Mary, specifically titles referring to her motherhood, including “Mother of God” and “Mother of the Faithful People of God.”

She is the mother who gave the world the author of redemption and of grace, who stood firm at the foot of the cross as we read in John 19, suffering alongside her son and offering the pain of her maternal heart. From the Incarnation to the cross and the Resurrection, she was united to Christ in a way that is unique and that far surpasses any other believer.

In no way, should this teaching shake us, we continue to take her as our Queen and mother leading us legionaries to be true disciples of Christ.

AVE MARIA

A N N O U N C E M E N T S :

- Please visit the Senatus website – <https://www.mumbaisenatus.in>
- Please continue to propagate the beatifications of Br. Frank Duff, Edel Quinn and Alfie Lambe.
- Please pray for legionaries who are ill and those going on extensions and consolidations.
- Next Senatus Meeting will be held on 1st March ‘26 at 3.00pm at CSP Hall, Goregaon Seminary.

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