



Legion of Mary **SENATUS OF LOS ANGELES**

Newsnotes

IMPORTANT

We wish to inform our councils that **it has always been strictly forbidden by the Concilium to reproduce copies of the actual council minutes and then send these copies to other councils, except the higher council to which they are attached and the correspondent.** We wish to stress that the Newsnotes are an extract of our actual minutes and would contain a brief summary of few items that would be of proper interest to our lower councils and praesidia. If you have important events or news that you would like to share, please send it to the Senatus Board.

Dear Sisters and Brothers.

May these Newsnotes of the Senatus of Los Angeles find you all doing well. The 776th meeting of the Senatus of Los Angeles was held on May 15, 2025, Thursday, in the School Parish Hall of Christ the King Catholic Church.

Concilium Highlights from Sr. Patricia O' Donaghue – June 17, 2025

- Sr. Patricia mentioned that our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, opened his prayers with “Peace be with you”, encouraging our correspondents to use this greeting in their communication form to strive for a friendly and peaceful environment.
- Br. Pat Donaghue showed slides on the Legion structure and mentioned that all councils should strive towards having 12 to 15 praesidia. When recruiting, target the young who will be our successors. Also, an evening or morning training or whatever suits should be dedicated to new correspondents to help them in their role.
- Sr. Patricia would like to know if the Senatus has a title of Our Lady, as do most councils and praesidia. If so, this should be recorded in the Minutes each month.
- Sr. Patricia is asking that we include in the Minutes a brief note on visitations to know that they are done and have actually happened.
- On the audit of the Senatus Books, she would like to be informed on what stage the auditors are at now and will be grateful to receive the completed forms for both the general account and the account of the Assistant Treasurer.
- Regarding our upcoming Congress on September 20, 2025, she hopes that we can all read Chapter 30, #5 of the Legion Handbook about “The Congress”. It should be followed that only 2-3 minutes introduction to each topic and followed by general discussion. This should not be held like a conference. Also, she suggests that we upload notes on the talk, in our website, for members to access in the future.
- She would like to welcome Br. Anthony Calayag for accepting the position of Assistant Treasurer and is delighted in him bringing the website into being. She hopes that the website will include link to the Frank Duff essays so that Legionaries can have access to some of his writings which are a vital thing at this time for his canonization. She also would like to thank Br. Daniel for his faithful and orderly way of completing his duties with a willing heart and faithful adherence and for being gracious and generous in opening his home to the Senatus each month for the Board Meeting.
- Sr. Patricia thanks the members of the Senatus for their prayers for her and Sr. Sheila, and she prays too for those mentioned in the minutes who are in need of prayer and for Sr. Elisa a special prayer to Fran Duff and hopes that God is as anxious as we all are to find healing for her.

Feedback on the Annual Report of Our Mother of God Praesidium

1. Sr. Patricia assumed that the meeting is weekly, though the Minutes read, “**Every Sunday** of each month.”

2. She is delighted to read 15 members and 1 probationer. Well done on having such a good group and she hopes that they are all faithful in their attendance. She said that you have 15 probationary auxiliaries so she knows that you are recruiting here too.
3. She sees that you have done a little home to home and would encourage you to do this work weekly especially at this time of the year when people are often more relaxed. She is aware though that is your plan so just allocate it now every week.
4. Keep up doing the crowd apostolate and book barrow weekly and target young people to come to your meeting.
5. She is delighted that you visit and bring Our Blessed Lord to those who are unable to attend Mass. She hopes that your Pastor can call also to offer them the sacrament of Penance.

Allocutio – Sr. Elin Sarreal, President – May 15, 2025

Topic: Glorify the Lord with Mary

At the Wedding Feast of Cana, turning water into wine was the beginning of Jesus' miracles. He went on to heal the sick, turn sinners into disciples, raise the dead, and blaze a path to Heaven for the sake of our salvation and the salvation of the world. Today, our Lord continues to give His love and mercy to those of us willing to accept His graces and share in His work.

Believe as Mary did - So how can we partake in this feast of graces that our Lord has laid for us with His merciful love? As Mary, our Blessed Mother said to the servants at the wedding, "Do whatever He tells you" [John 2:5]. In other words, "believe in the Gospel, repent, and be perfect, just as your Heavenly Father is perfect" [Matthew 5:48]. Remember, with God, nothing is impossible. When we open our hearts, say yes to God, and welcome the Holy Spirit into our souls, our lives are transformed. With every breath, we take, with every move we make, and with the grace of God, we can sanctify our lives. Like Mary, our souls can proclaim the greatness of the Lord and our spirits can rejoice in God our savior [Luke 1:46-47]. Regardless of what we are – young, old, rich, poor, married, single, healthy or sick – we can magnify our Lord – as Mary did – in the way we live, work, and love.

Mary is our Advocate - Our Blessed Mother will help us. We have no better advocate than Mary. Christ listens to His mother when she intercedes on our behalf, just as she did at the wedding feast. As Mary guides us closer to her Son, we discover that our attachment to earthly wants decreases as our attachment to Christ increases. The more we become Christ-like in our daily living, the more we become true children of God in whom our Lord is well-pleased. To grow in holiness, we must find that quiet room in our lives to pray. We must make room in the center of our lives for God's love by cleansing our souls through baptism and penance, participating in Mass, and receiving the Holy Eucharist. Christ gives us everything we need – His body, blood, soul, and divinity – to strengthen our will and reinforce our resolve to sin no more and to love one another as God loves us. What we do in this world, how we treat ourselves and each other, how we handle adversity, and what role – if any – we allow God to play in our lives will determine our salvation and the world's salvation.

Frank Duff Reading

Reference: Writings of Frank Duff, Mary Shall Reign, # 8, Excerpt from – "The Spirit of Home Visitation, See Christ in All", p. 72

Therefore, you must go to them in the spirit of that third Standing Instruction, which bids you to see Christ in each member of the family, and to behave to Him as Mary herself behaved to Him. Higher than that you could not aim, but you must not aim any lower. That extreme example is not unattainable. Out from that person whom you visit, Our Lord is radiating the help to enable you to proceed in the perfect way. While Mary, who walks hand in hand with you is filling you with her own spirit to enable you to fulfil your mission. This effort to recollect yourself should be made before entering into each home. It is not enough to go about your work with vague good intention. The difficulties are too great for that. A vivid principle must animate your action.

This effort to get your motives into order at each door will create psychologically, and still more spiritually, the right complexion of mind and of soul in you, so that you enter the home mindful of the dignity of each person there, properly respectful to each one.

You must go with reasonable frequency to each home. Visitation should not be a sort of hit and run business. An isolated call without prospect of seeing the people again for a long time is not visitation according to the Legion idea. It is not possible to develop an acquaintance on such a foundation.

Vital to the process of showing interest in people is that you will know their names. It is disturbing commentary on the modern set-up that we can deal with people closely even daily for a long period – for instance in shops, office or restaurants – and in the end have to confess ignorance of their names. One is tempted to generalize drastically: No names, no influence!

An anomaly in this visiting is that the house may not be a home. The home is the family living in the house. Do you ever meet the home in that sense? The cry among you is that you do not; that a large proportion of the family, especially the young adult element, is always out at their own enjoyments. You must not let them evade you like that. As a first step towards tracking them down, you must try to know them, though absent. Talk about them in the ordinary friendly intercourse which should have developed. Find out what are they following up. Get some idea of what they are like. They are part of the home, so you have a responsibility for them. You must not be satisfied with perfunctory visitation which deals with people whom you find and no more.

Announcements

- **Confidentiality of Paramount Importance:** “It is treachery to the Legion to repeat outside matters of a confidential nature learned or discussed at the Praesidium/Council meetings.” (LH, Chap 19, Sec 20)
- **Expiry of Terms, Year 2025:** The following positions in the Senatus will expire as follows:
President & Vice President - July 2025 (Election scheduled for July 17, 2025)
Asst. Secretary – June 2025 (Election scheduled for June 19, 2025)
- **Congress** scheduled on September 20, 2025 (Save the Date), from 8 to 3:30 pm for the Senatus attached praesidia, at Christ the King Church. Mass at 8:00 am
- **Congress program announced.** Topic outline and content assigned to the following praesidia:
 - i. Spirituality – Topic on Hope, Humility, and Joy. Assigned to Our Lady of the Assumption, Our Lady of Knock, and Our Lady of Hope.
 - ii. Membership – Assigned to Queen of the Universe, Mother of the Holy Family, and Mary Spouse of the Holy Spirit.
 - iii. Legion Works – Assigned to Immaculate Heart of Mary, Our Lady of Akita, and Mary Immaculate.
 - iv. Extension and Recruitment – Assigned to Mother of Divine Grace, Mother of God, and Our Lady of Confidence.

Deadline for submission of topic outline and content is on July 17, 2025.

- **Website development for Los Angeles Senatus.** Br. Anthony Calayag continues to build the LA Senatus website. Domain is la-senatus.org. Ordering of supplies and calendar of events can now be accessed and used online.
- **Status of In-house Auditing of Senatus Finances 2023 and 2024.** Ongoing audit per Sr. Carmelene. Guidelines from Concilium to be shared to the councils – All councils should conduct an audit. Sr. Carmelene will send by mail the required documents listed by the auditors, Br. Antoun Wassef, CPA and Sr. Monica Wassef of Ventura Curia.
- Please email the Asst Secretary at “Princess41260@yahoo.com” for any **request pertaining to forms**.
- No postponement of **Annual Reports**. Please email report if for some reason you cannot attend the Senatus Meeting on your assigned report date.
- **Extension/Recruitment** a priority for Curiae with less than 6 praesidia attached. Aim for 12.
- Please **email Monthly Minutes** (with Treasurer’s report) to Senatus Secretary and Asst. Secretary for filing.
- Subscribe to **Maria Legionis**. Please complete and mail your subscription forms.
- **Full membership rosters** from each attached Praesidia and Councils should be submitted together with the rendering of Annual Report. Please email Sr. Elisa the information on excel file.

- **Prayer Requests:** Please continue to include in your prayers, the health and healing of Srs. Elisa Pazirandeh, Norma Gonzalez, Sheila Daly, and Patricia O’ Donaghue, and also for the mother of Sr. Josielyn Angeles.

June Annual Reports:

Praesidium

Mother of Divine Grace
Our Lady of Hope

Comitia/Curia

Phoenix Comitium
Santa Maria Curia
San Bernardino Riverside Comitium

Praesidium and Council Visitation: (Brief report on completed visitations will be included in the minutes)

Praesidium visitation:

- Sr. Concepcion Galang and partner of Our Lady of Knock to visit Mary Queen of the Universe

Council visitation:

- Long Beach Curia to visit San Gabriel Valley English Curia
- Senatus Officers to visit Orange County Comitium on May 24; Lynwood Whittier on June 8; Korean Comitium on July 27.

Upcoming Events (Save the Date)

- **Executive Board Meeting** – June 5, 2025 Thursday, at 9:30 am, Br. Dan Dunkins’ residence
- **Senatus Meeting** – June 19, 2025 Thursday at 7:00 pm, School Parish Hall, Christ the King Church
- **Correspondents’ Meeting** – June 21, 2025 Saturday at 2:00 pm, St Dominic Community Center