

Jesus Living

in Mary



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Monthly Newsletter of Formation and Information

Association Mary, Queen of All Hearts

Exclusive interview with
Father Federick B. Yumang, SMM



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Light for my path

The Visitation

Lk 1: 39-56

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste:

Mary does not keep for herself the grace that she received at the Annunciation. She leaves to share it with those who are able to receive it: Elizabeth and John the Baptist. This is the encounter of two mothers; still more, this is the encounter of two children, Jesus and John the Baptist, whose mission is served by the two mothers.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting: it's Mary's voice that caused John the Baptist's thrill, and Elizabeth became a prophet.



Elizabeth cried out in a loud voice: to cry out in a loud voice, is a verb which serves for the liturgical acclamations in the Temple; we are in full Revelation, in full liturgy. The Holy Spirit reveals to her the presence of Jesus in Mary.





How does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? This word of Elizabeth is strangely similar to that of David at the coming of the Ark of the Covenant: "How can the ark of the LORD come to me?" (2Sam 6: 9). The ark remained in the house of Obed-edom the Gittite for three months, Mary will stay three months in the house of Elisabeth. The whole tradition has drawn parallels between Mary and the Ark of the Covenant: just as the ark contained the presence of the Lord, Mary who carries Jesus within her is the new Ark of the Covenant. If we compare the 2 texts of the visitation and the transport of the Ark of the Covenant we notice 3 common points: the journey through Judea, the manifestation of joy, and the stay of 3 months. The message is clear. The new ark is Mary, she begins her manifestation, and its Author is the Holy Spirit. I invite you to read Psalm 132 which sings of the transport of the Ark of the Covenant.

Blessed are you who believed: it is the first beatitude said to Mary and she celebrates her faith in the Word of the Lord.



My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord: the answer of Mary is a hymn of thanksgiving, she celebrates the Lord, she holds nothing for herself of the praises of her cousin; she celebrates the great deeds of God like Myriam the prophetess (Ex 15, 20 ...), like her predecessors: Deborah (Judges 5), Hannah (1Sam 2: 1-10) and Judith (Judith 16). In her Magnificat, Mary speaks of herself and magnifies the Lord (46-50) and she praises the action of God (51-55). It's a hymn of salvation. Mary is the model of the "poor of the Lord." She gives thanks for the choice of God who cares for the little ones. There is a contrast between the greatness of God and the lowliness, the humility of Mary.

From now on will all ages call me blessed: Mary's humility does not prevent her from proclaiming what she sees because she is detached from herself.

The Mighty One has done great things for me: her humility allows her to recognize the great things that the Lord does in her.

Holy is his Name: it is a profession of faith of Mary.

He has helped Israel his servant: Israel is a servant, Mary is also a servant. Mary celebrates the Lord's faithfulness and proclaims her trust.

A Concrete Commitment in Society

If one truly lives the consecration, then one will see the fulfillment of Father de Montfort's prophecy on the presence of "the true apostles of the latter times" (TD 58, cf. TD 49-59) to be with Mary in the fight against the power of evil (TD 51-54) under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. "By the will of God, Mary is to prepare them to extend his rule over the impious and unbelievers" (TD 59).



With certainty, we can say that one really lives the "consecration" if he or she "enters into the interior" (cf TD 119) of this practice! Montfort says that these "true apostles of the latter times" will come "if the elect, by the grace and light of the Holy Spirit, adopt the interior and perfect practice of the devotion which he shall later unfold" (cf. TD 55).

Here again, we must put into practice the "special interior practices for those who wish to be perfect" (TD 257-265).

These are "very sanctifying interior practices for those souls who feel called by the Holy Spirit to a high degree of perfection" (TD 257).

These true apostles "will be ministers of the Lord who, like a flaming fire, will enkindle everywhere the fires of divine love" to spread the culture of love in this world. They will be ... "like sharp arrows, with which Mary will transfix her enemies, they will be as the children of Levi, thoroughly purified by the fire of great tribulations and closely joined to God" (TD 56), "they will be like thunder-clouds flying through the air at the slightest breath of the Holy Spirit" (TD 57), « they will be true apostles of the latter times" (TD 58) and "true disciples of Jesus Christ" (TD 59).

Who are these apostles? It's the whole Church! Of course, we are thinking of those who have apostolic mission in the Church, but let me draw your attention specifically to the laity inserted as a leaven in the dough. Although consecration is offered to all the baptized, in particular, we can say that it is a very beautiful gift of Father de Montfort for the spiritual growth and

formation of the baptized person who truly lives his or her baptism in the Church! Since it's baptism that is renewed in the consecration (TD 120, 126-131), it is certain that Montfort's proposal will help the laity to be "salt of the earth and light of the world" (Mt 5:14)!



The Church in this century requires strong lay people who must live with conviction their reality as lay people. The Belgian Cardinal, Leon-Joseph Suenens, whose personal life was influenced by the teaching on the consecration proposed by Louis-Marie, says that the Christian we need today is first, the one who meets Jesus Christ; secondly, the one in which people can see Jesus; and thirdly, the one who recognizes Jesus in front of others by giving a testimony of love (cf. L.J Card. Suenens, *The Christian at the Dawn of a New Era*, 'FIAT' Publications, Belgium: 1999).

It is certain that all these characteristics can be "attained" with the help of a healthy appreciation of the consecration. If a layperson lives his or her consecration, he or she will become a spiritually powerful Christian in society. Now, at least two things should be noted.



Firstly, the importance of personal commitment in the appreciation of consecration should not lead the person living it to individualism. Baptism, renewed in consecration is a sacrament that allows the person to be part of the community of the faithful.

The consecration must therefore always be lived in a Christian community. The life that we live includes the community; consecration must never be lived in isolation.

Secondly, a real appreciation of consecration must never lead the person who lives it solely in prayers of "devotion", that is to say prayers that do not lead to anything else.

Of course, there are prayers that must be said in the context of exterior practices (TD 226-256), but the appreciation of consecration must certainly lead us to a concrete apostolate, sometimes difficult, in the middle of the frenzy of the world.



In today's world, the field of testimony is essential; in this sense the contribution of the inserted laity remains urgent.

Interreligious dialogue and ecumenical collaboration must have a scope of transmission of evangelical values.

Let's not forget the major problems in which our society has fallen behind: education, economic poverty, politico-moral corruption, the destruction of the environment ...

The lay people live in the world, without belonging to it, because they belong to Jesus through Mary in the Holy Spirit.

With their identity as consecrated people, they participate in changing the face of the world, "from within" the world itself.

Interview**THE PASSION OF SHARING THE MONTFORTAIN HERITAGE****Interview with Fr. Federick B. Yumang, SMM**

Father Federick B. Yumang, SMM was born on May 1, 1973 in Macabebe, Pampanga, in the north of Metro Manila. He made his first vows in the Company of Mary on May 31, 2004, and was ordained a priest on May 13, 2016. He is the Director of the Center for Montfortian Spirituality in Quezon City and National Spiritual Director of the Association Mary Queen of All Hearts (AMQAH).



The General Delegation of the Philippines is generally known by two things.

First, that you have an itinerant mission team.

Second, that you actively share consecration to Jesus through Mary.

Could you outline the early history of the birth of these two initiatives? Is this itinerant mission team still there?

The itinerant mission in the island of Cebu (South of the Philippines) started in 1994 in the Archdiocese of Cebu. The focus of the mission is to form the Basic Ecclesial Communities (BEC) in the Archdiocese of Cebu. The places given to the Montfort Missionaries are places usually in the mountains and islands.

In 2011 the Archdiocese of Cebu discontinued this program on BEC, that year was the last itinerant mission in Cebu. But the Missionaries continue to visit and celebrate the Sacraments in some previous mission areas with the consent of the concerned parish priest. There is an ongoing discussion with some parishes in Cebu to revive the itinerant mission with Total Consecration as the focus of mission.

The Preparation for Total Consecration or popularly known in the Philippines as Totus Tuus Journey (TTJ) begun in February 1986 same time as the event of the famous bloodless revolution or People Power in the Philippines. It was Frs. Mario and Claude who started the process. The 1st batch made their consecration on December 8, 1986. Today, there are almost 100 batches in the 33 years of existence of TTJ in the Philippines.



The Congregation of the Company of Mary
(Montfort Missionaries)
9th St. New Manila

Cordially invites you to join the

Totus Tuus Journey (TTJ)

February 2, 2019, 8:30 am
Montfort Center of Spirituality,
47 Sct Madriñan St, QC with
Fr Norwyn Baydo, SMM
as priest presider

"This devotion is a perfect way to reach our Lord and be united to Him, for Mary is the most perfect and most holy of all creatures, and Jesus, who came to us in a perfect manner, chose no other road for his great and wondrous journey."
St. Louis Marie de Montfort

The TTJ sessions will be held every Saturday, 1-4pm beginning February 9, 2019

For more information,
Please call:
Sis Lisa Infante - 09171783185
Sis Ana Marie Funderella - 09285208442
Sis Gelly Fernandez - 09139060110



Regarding sharing of Montfortian spirituality with lay people, if I'm not mistaken, you distinguish two groups there:

- 1) you open to the public meetings to prepare for consecration to Jesus through Mary, with the famous TTJ;*
- 2) then among those who have consecrated themselves there are those who join the Association Mary Queen of All Hearts.*

In general, all those who made their consecration to Jesus through Mary according to the teaching of Fr. de Montfort are called TTJ group or TTJers. Those TTJers who wish to actively collaborate with the different activities of the Montfort Missionaries, enroll to the AMQAH. This Association was erected recently, on April 9, 2018.



If we play with numbers, how many people have done their consecration from the time this TTJ was launched?

There are more than 800 lay people who made their consecration since 1986.

But how many members of the Association since its launching?

There are about 80 members of AMQAH in the Philippines since 2018.

What distinguishes the person who simply makes consecration from the Association's members?

A TTJer is free to attend to the on-going formations given by the Center according to their availability and can help in the activities in the Center as volunteers; whereas, the members of AMQAH publicly make their commitment to actively collaborate in the mission activities of the SMM and attend a regular on-going formation.



Is there a special ceremony to accept people as members of the Association?

Yes there is a special liturgy of enrollment to the AMQAH. It is normally done after a day of retreat and on a Marian Feast.

If the itinerant mission team no longer exists, what are the forms of involvement of the Association members that you lead in the Montfortian mission in your Delegation?

As per the organizational structure of AMQAH the members are collaborating in different mission such as:

- 1) Spirituality Team (in charge of forming a new TTJ group from launching to consecration day, in charge also of the on-going formation for the facilitators)
- 2) Mission Team (in charge of the catechism and feeding program, Marian Youth Camp, Formation on Family etc)
- 3) Evangelization Team (in charge of Montfortian Pilgrimages, Montfortian Recollections, Marian Devotion Activities, Newsletter, etc)
- 4) Mary's Place (in charge of the management of the Center, promotion and selling of the books written by Fr de Montfort, liturgy for every 1st Saturday regular prayer, Mass and fellowship etc.



Could you tell me what are the activities of the Montfort Spirituality Center you lead?

- A. The annual Advent, Lenten, Marian Recollections.
 - B. Annual Pilgrimages
 - C. Catechism and Feeding Program.
 - D. Annual Gift giving.
 - E. Regular deepening program for TTJers/AMQAH
 - F. Forming new groups for TTJ
 - G. Marian Exhibit, Marian Devotion Activities (Rosary Month & May Flower).
 - H. Retreat/Recollection for small groups in the Center.
-

Sharing

**Consecration to Jesus through Mary in the Holy Spirit:
School of holiness to which everyone is called**

Father de Montfort has been present in my life since I was a child ... I was born in Cerizay, a little village in the north of the grove of Deux-Sèvres, where Father de Montfort celebrated Mass (it's Father Olivier Maire who told me this event). I was a college student at Notre Dame de Bressuire, run by the Daughters of Wisdom.

From 2002 to 2018, I worked at the office of the Provincial Bursar of the Montfort Missionaries of France.





Approaching a new stage of life at the beginning of my retirement, I had in mind the idea of taking time to deepen my vocation as baptized and letting the Lord act in the new paths that is going to take shape.

I had already made my consecration in 1996. But in the beginning of this retirement, I felt the need for a return to an ever deeper understanding of the prayer of consecration that we pronounce daily. It is a means of fidelity.

Saint Louis-Marie Grignion de Montfort has left a magnificent spiritual legacy for the Church. This legacy is lived not only by the congregations founded by him. The International Meetings in St Laurent-sur-Sèvre had already challenged me about the importance of this need to gather in Church to live on this treasure and to deploy all its riches. During a discussion with Father Arnold, he told me why not create a group in Pontchâteau. To enliven, to deepen the consecration, I thought it important to have a year of preparation.

Renewal of the consecration to Jesus through Mary

So I was looking for the best way to deepen and better live my mission as a baptized christian for this new period of life. Since there was no Montfortian Marian Fraternity in Pontchâteau, it seemed to me that it was time to start a group, knowing that several people around me were also ready for this.

The opportunity was given to go in the direction of this approach and to take action. Well, I was outpaced! The Montfort Missionaries of Calvary of Pontchâteau also had the project to create an annual preparation for the Consecration to Jesus through Mary.

This group started in October 2018 and was led by Father Efrem who trained the 25 participants for a monthly meeting every first Saturday of the month at Calvary of Pontchâteau. It was not called "Montfortian Marian Fraternity" but we were on the move, building our group on the



consecration. It was a beautiful beginning to live as faithfully as possible the promises of baptism and weld the new small team. It was good moments of sharing, prayer and friendliness.

Father Efreem led us in a spiritual reading of the Secret of Mary continuously to nourish our inner life and our filial relationship with Mary. He encouraged us to use it as a support in deepening our daily consecration to Jesus through Mary.

We made our consecration on Pentecost Monday 2019, with great joy. We lived this formation in warm fraternity: it was a place of exchange, of friendliness which allowed everyone to walk and to know each other ... Walking with other believers to share ... beautiful friendships were created.



Personally, I have lived this special preparation time in a special way, living it in the frame of the revision of life as a way of Hope to discover and build the Future. To meditate the Secret of Mary and the Word by letting myself be questioned, confronting the Word with my experiences of faith, but also meditating it in itself, to let myself be fed by it.

The meaning of the world can be discovered only by revelation: it is given if one takes the necessary time with the Lord to see it. It is Mary who reveals Christ, in the Holy Spirit. Who better than Mary can lead me to know Christ?



I lived this year as a cultivation time to again take root, to prune and thus to bear more fruits.

I am aware of the brevity of life and I want to give it all its density in my meetings, my sharing, my commitments.

Understanding the Commitment

How to manage the time that was offered to me to train and serve others? Moving from the personal dimension to the collective dimension was my concern.

The consecration to Jesus through Mary engages all our life, and it logically guides our choices and our commitments, our thoughts and our actions, our words and our silences; in short, everything we have, everything we do, and all that we are.

The mission awaits us ... As it is written in the Statutes of the Montfortian Marian Fraternity: "Each consecrated christian modestly takes his / her share of the apostolic work within the framework of the mission of the Church inherited from the unique mission of salvation of the Son of God: to give and restore LIFE to the world."

Specifically, I joined the funeral team of the parish after attending a training in the diocese of Nantes.

I joined the Tree of Life prayer group that meets every Wednesday. It is a charismatic movement. It teaches me to see all the possible actions for the new evangelization.

I remain at the disposal of the Community of the Montfort Missionaries for small services to foreign missionaries to give them lessons of French, I follow a missionary for the learning of the traffic code, I assist Father Santino, superior of the community, for certain services, like the establishment of tax receipts to receive donations and legacies for the Association of the Friends of Calvary.

As I said above, for over 16 years, I had the honor and the great joy of participating in the administrative and financial management of the Province of France. This post has been an extraordinary experience.

Among the many things that touched me, I share one: the very democratic functioning of decisions that was a difficult intellectual exercise for me at first, because it leads to inevitable procrastination in decision-making. But in the end, in an act of faith at every turn of trouble, it is Wisdom that prevails and will deal with the curved lines of our lives, our decisions. It is to recognize that one must accept to move, to be challenged, to be questioned by situations.





Mary also taught me to be busy but not worried. Like everyone else, external and internal trials, failures, setbacks and other crosses purify and strengthen us. I learned to offer this and to keep my faith alive, sometimes beyond overrated praise or malicious criticism, always in search of that inner freedom.

I thank Father Arnold for allowing me to write these few lines. This is an opportunity for me to sincerely thank the Congregation of Montfort Missionaries for the experience of life lived with them.



I conclude by quoting Pope Francis: faith is a gift that keeps alive a deep and beautiful assurance: we are children loved by God. To say "yes" to the Lord means to have the courage to embrace life as it comes with love, with all its fragility, its littleness, and with its contradictions.

"O Mary, Immaculate Queen, hold me tight by the hand so that I move at the same pace as you in the will of God! "

Josiane PELTIER

News

MONTFORT YOUTH



MALANG, Indonesia - In mid-June 2019, the community of the Montfort Scholasticate - "Wisdom House", in Malang, organized various activities related to the launching and animation of a group of university students that lives the spirituality of Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort.



The name of this group is "**Montfort Youth**". Its members come from various universities in Malang.



Prayer

A Gesture of Love



Virgin Mary, Divine Celestial Mother,
There is no greater and tender gesture,
Than to let your hands stretch out and open to us.
Here we are, amazed, in front of you!
Offering you, our bodies, our hearts, our souls,
Our worries, our fears, our doubts and our tears.
Tirelessly you welcome us,
You constantly know how to comfort us.
Your kindness to us, is without borders,
Attentive to the least of our prayers,
Your heart is overflowing with love.
It opens to us without any detour,
To better welcome us and forgive.
May you never tire,
Before so many of our turpitudes.
How to express to you our gratitude?

Elli-mac.

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