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Visit of the Superior General to the *Legio Mariae's Senatus* of Rome

ROME - The *Senatus* of the *Legio Mariae* of Rome received as very welcome guests at the monthly meeting of last December 2, 2023, the Very Rev. Fr. Yoseph Putra Dwi Darma WATUN, SMM, Superior General of the Company of Mary, and Fr. Arnold SUHARDI, SMM, Contact person for the lay associates of the Congregation, who thus wanted to graciously accept the invitation formulated by the President of the *Senatus*, Mr. Renzo TARTER, who had come in the company of his wife, Mrs. Marta, to the Generalate last 29th November 2023.

The Very Rev. Fr. Yoseph Putra Dwi Darma knows the Legion of Mary well as he has had various experiences of collaboration and spiritual direction in Indonesia, his native land. On the other hand, according to the speech of the president of the *Senatus*, the legionaries cannot but be linked to the Montfortians, since the founder of the Legion of Mary, the Servant of God Frank DUFF, had the inspiration to create this association, on 7th September 1921, just after having read the True Devotion to Mary by St. Louis-Marie Grignion de Montfort, founder in turn of the said Congregation. Furthermore, it was the Superior, the Very Rev. Fr. Cornelius HEILIGERS, SMM, who accompanied the Servant of God, Franck DUFF, in tracing the spiritual and pastoral line of the Movement.

In the opening speech of the meeting, the President infinitely thanked the Superior General and the Contact person for the laity for dedicating some of their precious time to the *Senatus* among the

numerous commitments that, precisely as Missionaries, they take around the world. He stated how significant their presence is and how much the Legion needs the accompaniment of the Congregation.

The Superior General, on his part, addressed words of thanks for the invitation and of encouragement for the apostolate to which the legionaries committed themselves from the Legionary Promise, addressed to the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary at the moment of joining the Movement. All of us Catholics, with Baptism, become part of the Church, but it is the Spirit who makes the Church. We are called to bear witness to the Faith, but by becoming legionaries, we are committed to a particular, legionary, Marian testimony.

In taking leave, the Most Rev. Fr. Yoseph Putra Dwi Darma concludes by reassuring the *Senatus* of the continuous support, of the continuous collaboration with the Congregation, of the welcome of some *Curiae* that will come on 9th December 2023 to the General House for their annual meeting and asks for prayers for all the Montfort Missionaries present in 34 countries around the world.

In the coming years, there will be concrete steps on the part of the Company of Mary to communicate with the *Concilium* of Dublin to propose the updating of the contents of the “Appendix 5” of the Manual of the *Legio Mariae*, which speaks of the “Confraternity of Mary Queen of Hearts”. Since 2001, the Dicastery for Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life of the Holy See has approved a new name for this group along with its new Statutes. Its current name is: “Association Mary Queen of Hearts”. All the addresses listed in “Appendix 5” are addresses of houses of the Montfort Missionaries to which the members of the *Legio Mariae* who have made the consecration can send their names to be registered in the register of consecrated persons. These addresses need to be updated with the current addresses where the national or regional centers of the Association Mary Queen of Hearts are located.

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