In the

Footsteps

of St. Louis Marie de Montfort

November 2003
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"Footsteps"
Montfort Missionaries
28 Burbo Bank Road
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LIVERPOOL
L23 6TH

The Company of Mary in the British Isles

In common with many other Religious Orders and Congregations, the Company of Mary (Montfort Missionaries), in the past few decades, has been suffering a decline in numbers pretty generally throughout the "Western" Church – and that includes the British Isles. Our Province (which covers all of our islands, as well as lending a few members to other parts of the Church) now numbers just 30 members, of whom 3 are "on loan" to our African Delegation (2 in Malawi and a third in Uganda). At the same time, our average age is steadily increasing! At present it stands at 65.23 years of age! Our eldest member is 88, whilst our youngest is 32. If we take the male retirement age as 65, more than half (16 out of the 30) have already reached retirement age. Only 8 out of the 30 are under 50 years old.

Lest we give the impression that the Congregation as a whole is in the same boat, it is good to recall that, three years ago, the total number of members in the Company of Mary went up for the first time since 1968. Today, we are receiving new members in a number of places in the world – most notably in Indonesia, India, the Philippines, Madagascar, Africa, Haiti and various countries in South America. There is new and young blood in these parts, to renew the global mission of our Congregation.

However, here in the British Isles, the fall in numbers and the advancing age of many of our members has meant that we need to re-appraise our presence and our work. So, for example, last year, the painful decision had to be taken to close down our residence in Ireland. More recently, a number of our members have moved to other communities as we prepare to rationalise our commitment to some of the parishes we have been serving. And, in the years to come, we will probably have to re-assess how our falling manpower can best be utilised in the service of our Mission and that of the Church.

We certainly do not give up hope. We believe that we have a gift to offer the Church in the British Isles – the spirituality of our founder, St. Louis Marie de Montfort – and a part still to play in the establishment of the Kingdom of God, the Reign of Jesus through Mary. We will continue to seek young men who are prepared to join us in our Mission. And, probably, increasingly we will be relying on the support and active help of our Associates to continue to serve this Mission.

In this issue of FOOTSTEPS, we offer you an account of the work of Parish Missions being carried out by some of our men – in particular Fathers Bob Douglas and Ronnie Mitchell. And we give a description of the work for refugees being undertaken by our community in Ashurst – a reminder of the care for the underprivileged that was a special characteristic of St. Louis Marie. Please keep us and all our work in your prayers. ◘

From the Provincial's Desk

Each year the Company of Mary calls together those who have accepted the service of caring for the different Provinces and General Delegations of the congregation to a meeting with the General Council. This is called the **Extraordinary General Council** and it is brought together to advise the Superior General, Fr Bill Considine, in matters that affect the whole congregation of about a thousand religious.

I have been to many such meetings, first as a representative of the missionaries working in Africa, then as a member of the General Council and now as Provincial of the province of Great Britain and Ireland. However, this time there was a noticeable difference. With the setting up of five new General Delegations, Africa, India, Indonesia, Madagascar and the Philippines, there was the welcome presence of younger members – four of the new superiors are in their early forties (five if we count the invited superior from the provincial delegation of Peru). A new sense of freshness of idea and of optimism seemed to be injected into the gathering. This was a wonderful counterbalance to the solid tradition of prayer and religious witness, which the presence of the superiors of the elder provinces brings as a gift to the Company of Mary, and to the Extraordinary General Council.

There is a growing realisation that the underlying task, together with many - if not most - of the problems to be faced, is the same in the newer areas of our witness as it has always been in the older ones. Whether we are seeking to bring the message of the gospel to men and women who are hearing it for the first time, or are retelling it once again to those who have heard and perhaps forgotten this message, the task is the same. People have to be made to realise the great dignity they have, the deep empowerment they receive, when they become baptised in the name of Jesus. The great work of evangelising, which the Church has given to the Company of Mary, must continue to be effective in the world as a force that will help to bring about the kingdom of Jesus through Mary, as St. Louis-Marie de Montfort prayed in his Prayer for Missionaries.

Memento. *Ever keep this congregation in mind, Almighty God, and, by the power of your right arm, which has lost nothing of its strength, make it a living reality and lead it to perfection (cf. Sir. 36:6). Great God, who can change lifeless stones into sons of Abraham, say but one word and it will be enough to send good workers to gather in your harvest, and missionaries, worthy of the name, to work in your Church.*

Fr General pointed out in his opening address "In many way, this Extraordinary General Council is the most important one during these six years. During this meeting we begin to prepare the General Chapter of 2005, which will set the Company of Mary on its journey toward the future."

The Extraordinary General Council adopted the suggestion that the General Chapter will consider, as its main theme, the Mission of the Company of Mary. The Chapter, which meets only once in six years, will seek to discover how this mission must relate to the present needs of the Church in the many parts of the world where the congregation is called upon to live and work. And this mission, this charge to the congregation that it must be a witness to Christ following **in the footsteps of the poor apostles**, is a task that we must carry out together: we the religious of the Company of Mary and you the associates who have pledged yourselves to be with us in prayer and in action. We make our mission your mission. In his closing words the Superior General, Fr. Considine, said that we want to move on, to carry out this mission "working together with one another and with lay people, as Missionaries of the Company of Mary."

Nineteen months from now the General Chapter of the Company of Mary will be nearly over; a new Superior General will have been elected. The Extraordinary General Council of 2003 has set the Company of Mary firmly on the road to this Chapter, which should bring about a renewal of our Montfortian mission, growing from the renewal of our lives as consecrated Montfortian religious and associates.

F. W. Scragg smm, Provincial. ◘

News from Here and There

Our Lady of Light, Clacton-on-Sea

We make reference to this shrine once again; firstly, to apologize for an error in the last edition of the "Footsteps". The Feast of Our Lady of Light is celebrated not "on the 27 May annually" but on the first Sunday after the Ascension.

Secondly, to report that the Centenary Thanksgiving Mass was celebrated on the 15 October 2003. The Rt. Rev. Mgr. David Manson was the principal celebrant and preached. Concelebrating were a dozen or more priests including the Parish Priest, Fr. Jim McCormack. Naturally, the Church was full. A buffet afterwards in the Parish Hall rounded off a very happy day.

Parish Missions

There is elsewhere in this edition an article on the recent Parish Missions. All that needs to be said here is to thank all the Associates for their prayers for the success of these Missions. Fr Bob Douglas and Father Ronnie Mitchell have been very grateful for, without your prayers, their efforts to preach the Gospel would not have been so successful.

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Mission Strategy

As with all Religious Societies, Montfort Missionaries are seeking the way ahead for their life and ministry. We are in a time of discernment as we search to renew our motivation and mission for the Church and for the world.

The Provincial Council last September asked Frs. Bob Douglas and Ronnie Mitchell to form a Mission Team. This we have sought to do, and have given Parish Missions in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. Now, at the request of the editor of FOOTSTEPS, we share something of our motivation and of what we have found. Two themes are inseparable: **Evangelisation** and the **building up of community**.

1. Proclaiming Christ

In his document *Mission of the Redeemer,* no. 3, Pope John Paul II makes a prophetic and revolutionary calling: "....the moment has come to commit all the Church's energies to a **new evangelization**.... No believer in Christ, no institution of the Church can avoid this supreme duty: to proclaim Christ to all peoples."

The new evangelization must be founded on the person of Jesus Christ and His gospel. Pope John Paul II went to the heart of the new evangelization when he said that it "is not a matter of merely passing on doctrine but rather of a personal and profound meeting with the Saviour."

The Second Vatican Council and the Great Jubilee have been a summons from the Spirit to make the light of Christ shine before the generations of the new millennium. We who honour the life and work of Montfort need to see how we can play our part in the new evangelization. We need to reflect on what the Spirit is saying to us at this time of our history. We want to bring the dynamic resources of Montfort's spirituality to the People of God.

As the Holy Father wrote in *At the Beginning of the New Millennium, Chapter 3*: "It is not therefore a matter of inventing a new programme. The programme already exists: it is the plan found in the Gospel.... it has its centre in Christ himself....But it must be translated into pastoral initiatives adapted to the circumstances of each community."

In *Catechesi Tradendae 9*, the Holy Father says: "the parish remains the pre-eminent place for catechesis. It must rediscover its vocation which is to be a fraternal, welcoming home where those who have been baptized and confirmed become aware of forming the people of God. From that home they are sent out day by day to their apostolic mission in all the centres of activity in the life of the world."

On our Parish mission work in England, Scotland and Ireland over the past year we have found that building up the parish community as a "school of prayer" has been at the top of our agenda. According to the mind of the Church at this time our priorities are: 1. Holiness, 2. Prayer, 3. The Sunday Eucharist, 4. The Sacrament of Reconciliation, 5. The primacy of God's grace or love in our lives, 6. Listening to the Word, 7. Proclaiming the Word, 8. Deepening Devotion to Mary. We would add Services of Healing, for when we include these during the Mission the church is usually packed.

2. A Spirituality of Communion

If the parish is to become a school of holiness and recapture its missionary calling then it must develop "a spirituality of communion" which needs to be extended to homes, schools, places of work and to the marketplace.

A "spirituality of communion" means to see our brothers and sisters in the light of faith, to share their joys and sufferings, to sense their desires and attend to their needs, to offer them deep and genuine friendship. It means ongoing collaboration between priest and people. It removes the selfish temptations of competition, careerism, distrust and jealousy. Unless we follow this path, the institutional will crumble around us.

External structures without this spirituality of communion would become "mechanisms without a soul" rather than its means of expression and growth. We need this communion in order to live and work by the power of the Holy Spirit in the service of the Church and for the salvation of the world.

And now to the pastoral practice…

How can we best live the graces of the new evangelization and the spirituality of communion? The growing shortage of priests gives us more opportunities to explore these new dynamics for mission and animate lay collaboration. Can we give an account of our stewardship during September 2003?

We had "great expectations" going into a month's Mission in the Parish of St. Edmund's and St. Thomas of Canterbury, Waterloo, Liverpool. Let us enumerate some of these expectations and how they were realized.

1. We expected to find the sick, the infirm and the housebound to be praying for the Parish and the Mission. We were not disappointed. We were immeasurably inspired and encouraged by the faith of those we visited. We discovered a huge reservoir of prayer support to hand. We spent the first week visiting these good people, hearing

Confessions, administering the Anointing of the Sick and giving Holy Communion.

2. During the second week of the Mission we visited Catholic homes in the Parish and were very well received. We were warmly welcomed by many and politely acknowledged by those who for one reason or another had lapsed from the practise of their Faith. On this “doorstep ministry” we did not find any criticism or negativity directed against the Church. On the contrary, we found that when you begin to talk to people who have “strayed from the flock” you sense deep down that they know they are missing something. The “missing something” could be the need for belonging to God and to a Parish community which the Church has in its power to satisfy and foster.

3. We visited the children at School several times even putting in an appearance at a Parents' Coffee Morning which strengthens the necessary link between School and Home. We were most impressed by the attentiveness and respect which the children showed to their teachers. We had a beautiful Mass in the Church and were edified by the preparation for the liturgy and the reverence of the young people. We left a Miraculous Medal for each child and several told us of their delight in receiving it. Let us not underestimate the spiritual effect of giving holy pictures, medals and objects of piety to others especially those of impressionable age.

4. The spirit of prayer promotes the spirit of evangelism. The atmosphere in each church at times was so tangible with the presence of the Lord. We sense that what met our high expectations too was the felt need for prayer among the parishioners. A number even joined us for half an hour's prayer before each of the evening celebrations. God will never disappoint us when we pray for His intentions to be fulfilled.

5. The undoubted zeal of all those exercising the various ministries in the Parish knew no bounds. Sacristans, musicians, all kinds of helpers have to be congratulated. Yes, it is a measure of the grace of a Mission but also of the presence and activity of God in the Parish. There are many ministries, many vocations and many ways of serving the Lord in His Church. We can never be disappointed in the witness of people whose hearts are open to the grace and love of God. We really want to pay tribute to the support of the people's prayers on this Mission. We were quite taken by the spirit of prayer in the Parish.

In the mornings and afternoons we had Masses and Holy Hours in both churches through the first three weeks of the Mission. We reserved the Proclamation of the Word for the third week. It is worth recalling how we did this on the five weekday evenings following the recitation of the Rosary at 7 p.m.

On the Monday we had the Penitential Service. After the preaching of the necessity of hearing and acting upon **the Word of Repentance** there were eight priests available to hear Confessions. Here we sought to celebrate the great truth of the Sacrament of Reconciliation: we cannot hear the Good News unless we know that we need to have something done for us, i.e. our sins are forgiven.

On Tuesday we preached the **Word of Healing**. Convinced that we remember four times more of what we see than what we hear, we had the Gospel dramatised by a group of dedicated parishioners. It was the scene in which the little lady with the haemorrhage was healed through touching the fringe of Jesus' robe. Then the people came up for the Blessing with the *Oil of Gladness.* There was great appreciation for the evening on Healing. And we believe that Jesus continues His Healing Ministry through the Church today. “Say the Word and let my servant be healed” (Luke 7:7). These words are as true today as they were then. God does not change.

On Wednesday the Reading of the Gospel of the Annunciation was illustrated with a mimed dialogue between the Archangel Gabriel and Our Lady. The response wanted was a willingness to surrender to **God's plan for your life** however unexpected or humanly impossible was the request. The people were led in an Act of Consecration to Jesus through Mary as taught by St. Louis Marie de Montfort.

On the following evening the Gospel scene of the refusal of some disciples to accept the teaching of Jesus that He is the Bread of Life was acted out. It was a poignant feeling to see some leave His side. But Peter speaks up: “Lord to whom shall we go? You have **the Words of eternal life**.” We then invited everyone to come up before the exposed Blessed Sacrament and commit themselves to the truth of the Real Presence.

On Friday we gave out the **Words of Intercession, Encouragement and Praise**. On this final evening we wanted the parishioners to respond to Matthew 28:19. Go out and witness to your faith in Christ. So we invited them to come up to the altar where we “commissioned" them for the ministry of witnessing to the Gospel through the Laying on of Hands.

We believe that God's Blessing on any Mission or Ministry comes through prayer and that is why we would ask you, dear Footsteps readers, to continue your prayerful support for all our Montfortian apostolates. It is very much appreciated. Thank you. ◘

Journeying in Faith with Jesus Wisdom.

Eileen Bulley, *an Associate of the Daughters of Wisdom in Scotland, writes of an experience of growing in Wisdom.*

"Footsteps": a wiser man than I once said "A journey of a thousand miles starts with a single footstep", and this is true of all journeys, both physical and spiritual, that we make.

Some time ago a group of women-friends and I took a short trip from our homes in Paisley to Nunraw Abbey near Haddington. This journey took about an hour and a half so no great length of time. We hoped that the journey that we would make once we arrived would be, if not great in duration, one of great reward.

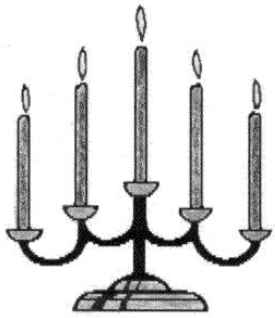
I was returning to Nunraw after an absence of a couple of years during which time I had been ill, and unable to make the trip, but now I felt happy and blessed to be a part of this group, which was to make a short retreat as "Women of Wisdom", associates of the Daughters of Wisdom.

Daughter of Wisdom Sr. Maria Maguire was to be our guide on this journey we were to make together. Gently and knowledgeably she took us a step at a time until we gained the strength to open our hearts and minds to one another, and to realise that not one among us would judge our innermost feelings with anything other than our own small stock of wisdom that over the period of a few years had grown with each similar journey we had made together.

The theme of our Retreat was "Journeying in faith with Jesus Wisdom", and we worked in three small groups, having previously decided what each group's topic was going to be.

Our first session was entitled "Inner Journey". The journey we make within ourselves, and with each other. We looked at trust, consolation, hope and faith and finally the 'sacrament' of "Letting Go".

We read a poem about how we all wear masks to cover any number of things that happen to us as individuals. I found this to be very true of myself, especially over the past two years when I had been so ill. There had been times when inside I felt lost and sometimes without hope of ever getting better, but on the outside I put on a brave face for my family and friends. I know that some others at this meeting also realised that at different times in their lives they had done the same thing, i.e. worn a mask. However, they too had at some time undertaken in their own way the 'sacrament' of "Letting Go", and accepting God into their hearts and minds. We had all been better able to cope with the problems life sent our way, because we realised, with each footstep, that God was with us.



Our second session was "The road to Emmaus". This included the reading of St. Luke's Gospel when the two disciples were walking along the road. We tried to imagine ourselves making this journey in the same frame of mind as the disciples were in at that time. After a short discussion we had a break of forty minutes to reflect on things. We could wander outside or wherever we felt most comfortable. We could choose to be alone or join some of the others. I myself walked with two friends and although we did not make notes or consciously talk about the reading itself we discussed the ways our own lives were going at present. We felt the need for God's support and wisdom to help us on the journey we were undertaking at that moment.

On our return to the group we discussed various things that had come to light during our forty minutes' reflection. For me it was related to a journey I had made many years ago when I was baptised. I then took God into myself. It was now a time to reaffirm my commitment to God and thank Him for His Wisdom in bringing into my life the friendship of those with me at this time. These friends have given me their friendship and loving support during my illness. Many prayers were said for me during this time and I was so very grateful to have the opportunity to say "thank you!"

Our last session was "The faith journey continues". This was a reminder that "Wisdom" challenges us daily to live with God in our lives and to try and use the Wisdom and Love He has bestowed upon us as we journey through life. We had a reading and hymns during this last get together and were able to collect our final thoughts on the discussions that had gone before. The women in the last group had created a small service of anointing. This consisted of each of us being anointed with the "Oil of Gladness". We then received a small lighted candle to be "a light in God's world". We then stood in a circle and joined hands to create a circle of LIGHT and WISDOM, and to receive God's Blessing as we continued to journey back into our daily lives.

May Wisdom he in our minds, and in our thinking.
May Wisdom he in our hearts, and in our perceiving.
May Wisdom be in our mouths, and in our speaking.
May Wisdom he in our hands, and in our working.
May Wisdom be in our feet, and in our walking.
May Wisdom he in our bodies, and in our loving.
May Wisdom he in us all the days of our lives. ◘

SIM 2003

Every few years, the Company of Mary organises a special international renewal course for its members around the world, known as the "Stage International Montfortain" (S.I.M.). This summer ***Fr. Danny McLaughlin*** *was chosen to go from this Province. Here are his reactions.*

I was reluctant to go on the S.I.M. It was two months away from my prison work. Anyway, I went, and, as I told the group taking part with me, I would put everything into it and give it my best shot.

I found it a difficult time. I arrived in Saint-Laurent-sur-Sèvre and received a very warm welcome. I was not used, however, to such an intense programme, but I settled in and attended and participated in everything we were asked to do. In general the days were full and very interesting, although the bells of Saint-Laurent were driving me insane! I used this time as a period of training both spiritually and physically. I would run early in the morning and walk several kilometres after supper. The weather was lovely and hot, which was a bonus. I enjoyed the company of the international Montfortians very much, and made some good friends. However, it was not always easy to live for two months with people from other cultures.

We visited many places of Montfortian interest, which I enjoyed, and I enjoyed the week we spent at Montfort-sur-Meu. The study time I found very interesting, but too intense. To spend so much time in the classroom when the sun was splitting the heavens, was very frustrating. More time could have been allowed for the individual, instead of driving us from pillar to post.

The last part of the S.I.M. was really good. We spent three weeks in silence at the Monastery of Beaufort in Brittany. It was a lovely setting in the forest overlooking a lake. I enjoyed the silence and the space to do my own thing, which was solitude, prayer, running and walking. The highlight of the trip was the visit to Chartres and then on to Paris.

All in all, it was a very special time for me, and it came at just the right time. I would like to thank all the organisers of the course this year, especially our facilitators and tutors: Gilles, René, Tom and Olivier. ◘

Montfortian Pilgrimage to Lourdes
18th- 25th April 2004

Following the success of the various Montfortian Pilgrimages of the Province of Great Britain and Ireland to Lourdes, in the Footsteps of St Louis Marie, and this year in the Footsteps of Blessed Marie Louise, it has been decided that we will again join the Montfortian Pilgrimage to Lourdes in April 2004.

We will leave the U.K early on Sunday April 18th and travel via Dover and Calais to the Paris area for an overnight hotel stop. On Monday we resume our journey arriving in Lourdes for a late supper.

On Tuesday we will attend the opening ceremony with Montfortians from all over the world. Throughout the week we will join with our Sisters and Brothers and there will also be a possibility of services for our own group.

On Friday we will join in the farewell Service before departing on Saturday for Paris. After our overnight stop we leave Paris and should arrive home late on Sunday 25th April.

The Cost will be **£350.00**. Accommodation will be in Twin Rooms and will include full board in Lourdes.

The cost excludes Insurance and meals whilst travelling.

Information and Booking forms can be obtained by sending an SAE to:-

Bernard Glenholme
9, Chapel Lane
Longton
PRESTON
PR4 5WA

Tel 01772 616944
Fax 01772 616315
E-Mail bergill@btinternet.com

In the Footsteps of Bl. Marie Louise

Around 44 Daughters of Wisdom and Associates of the Montfortian Family travelled to France in September this year, to follow in the footsteps of Blessed Marie Louise Trichet, and to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the founding of the Daughters of Wisdom.

Apart from one day, the pilgrimage group was blessed with delightful weather, and so managed to visit with relative ease, not only the tombs of St. Louis Marie de Montfort and Bl. Marie Louise in Saint-Laurent-sur-Sèvre, but also the towns of Poitiers (where Marie Louise first received her religious habit from Father de Montfort), and La Rochelle (where she and Catherine Brunet – Sr. Conception – made their first public vows). There was also ample time for rest, and even a shopping expedition to one of the big "hyper-markets" close by Saint Laurent.

Bernard Glenholme, as usual, was an

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What Would You Do?

What would you do,
if you woke up one day,
to be told that your house is not yours anymore?
go somewhere else?
but where will you go?

And what would you do if they wanted your sheep
and while the barbecue threw out its heat to the sky,
they decided –for fun –
your hands could be fried!

Then what would you do
if at seven years old,
you see neighbours and friends
gunned down for a laugh
as they begged for their lives
and its driving you mad.

What would you do
if the politics changed
and your life was a death
of running and hiding?

What would you do
If you dreamed a white coat then
- officially speaking –
you no longer exist.
'Who are you'? they ask,
at the big college gate
where for two years you laughed
not knowing your fate.

And what would you do
if the person you loved
was sick unto death?
still no doctor in sight
to heal and make right.

What would you do
if your difference was all
they could see
as they pinned
your back to the wall?
What would you do?
What would you do?

The verse above was written to try and capture the flavour of some of the men and women who are staying at St. Joseph's Refuge in Ashurst, Southampton today. They are a wonderful group who are full of vitality, energy and colour, but who bring with them the deadening shadows and scars of the things that have gone wrong in their homelands. Those who have the courage to meet and make contact with them never fail to be impacted by the depth of their suffering or to be left with a clearer sense of how lucky we are to be free of political, religious and sexual persecution.

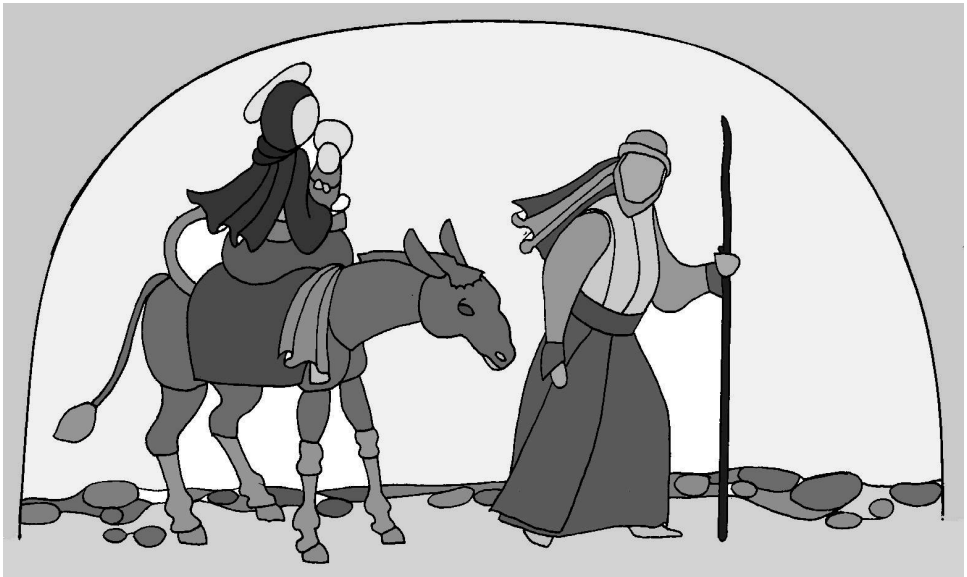
As I write this we have seventeen people staying with us. They come from Iran, Iraq, Zimbabwe, The Congo, Cuba, Venezuela, Algeria, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Burkino Faso. It is an enormous privilege to be able to provide refuge for them, and to feel something of what it is like to flee from the nothing you are left with, to a place where you have no name and no status. In this regard I think we would have to admit that in this country we have very little idea of what it is like to have to leave the land of your birth and the people you love, and begin again as a stranger. You may be surprised to know that there is often little interest or compassion for refugees, as so much energy is taken up in aggression towards them.

The Missionaries of the Company of Mary, and those who share their life-blood, want to give flesh to the dream of St. Louis, whose whole life was a song, sung on behalf of those who have no voice. He knew the song of the Virgin as a song of love that holds nothing back and hungers only for justice.

We would like you to know that since this little refuge opened in 1999, we have been able to provide shelter and protection for almost 270 women and men from every part of the world. We are responding to those who have nowhere else to go. Recent changes in Government Policy have created a vast sway of destitute people and we are pressed to the limit in providing accommodation and care for people who are being found sleeping on park benches.

Those who come to St. Joseph's can hardly believe their luck. For us, it has always been important to make it a model of best practice. For those who come here seeking refuge, it has been variously described as paradise and a haven of peace. One Iranian man, who was found sleeping in a car a few nights ago, was shown to his room. He pressed his head against the window and whispered 'Thank You God.' Will you thank God with us, that we are able to create such moments, and pray for those who live, work and give support to this mission.

Fr. Danny McAvoy, s.m.m. ◘



News from Here and There

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Mission Appeals 2004

Next year's appeals are in the Dioceses of Hexham & Newcastle and Salford. Once again we ask for your prayers for the success of the Appeals, both spiritually and economically. Last year several people came and made themselves known after the Appeals in Arundel & Brighton and Lancaster Dioceses, which was very pleasant – it is always nice to meet our Associates on these occasions.

We ask you for your usual support and prayers that the appeals go well in 2004 for the benefit of the people living and working in the Third World.

The Ugandan School Appeal

To date £1,625.00 has been collected for Fr. Charlie Beirne, whom, I know, is highly delighted with the response from the Associates. Please keep up the donations (Details via Fr. Bob Ellwood – see address on the front page). On Fr. Beirne's behalf and the children he is trying to help educate. I personally add my thanks to all the donors.

Diamond Jubilees

On 22 October, Fr. Jack Blaney celebrated **60 years of Religious Profession** in St. Joseph's, Ashurst, Southampton. On the 24 October, Fr. Dan Hogan celebrated **60 years of Priesthood** in Nazareth House, Crosby, Liverpool. We heartily congratulate both priests for their devotion and dedication to the Lord, His Blessed Mother and the Montfortian Congregation. We are sure Our Blessed Lady, and St. Louis Marie de Montfort will be very pleased with these two faithful priests. *Ad multos annos*.

Our Dead Associates

We remember the following Associates and others who have died since the last issue: -

Eva Matthews (11 Apr.'03), May Hargidon (14 Apr.'03), Capt. Roy's Daughter (Apr.'03), Canon Patrick Egan (24 Apr.'03), Barbara McCann, (the sister of Fr. Philip Wilson, s.m.m. 7 May '03), Mrs J E Tebbs, Fr. Charles Wall (23 May '03), Peggy Sherrif (26 May '03), Patrick McDermott (16 Jun.'03), Fr. Christopher Crowley (27 Jun.'03), John Gillies (6 Aug.'03), Billy & Teresa Farrell (the brother and sister-in-law of Sister Eileen D.W. on 22 and 25 Aug.'03 respectively), Sister Rose D.W. (8 Aug.'03), Bill Smith (3 Sept.'03), Kathleen Leeming (the sister of Bishop Lawrence Hardman, s.m.m., R.I.P. 5 Sept.'03), John Whelan (the brother of Sister Sheila Mary D.W. 27 Sept.'03), Bridie Regan (the sister of Fr. Owen Cannon s.m.m. 27 Sept.'03), Joseph McPhillips (29 Sept.'03), Stanley Leach (Oct.'02), Michael Parry (18 Oct.'03).

May they rest in Peace!

Your Prayers are requested for:

Marie Brooks, Joan Clayton, Beryl, Fr. Trevor Cotter, Bob Lucas, Philomena Kelly, John Clifford, Frederick & Gertrude Benham, Bro. Julien Rabiller, S.G., Peggy Addison, Philip Regan, Jakit Gollogly, Joan Green, Joseph Wright, Eileen Tattersall, John Tasker, Mary Leonard, Agnes Keelan, Monica Hall, Mai Garrod, Joan Fox, Sister Shirley Martin, D.W., Marion Lydon and Stephen Lydon, John Monaghan, Vincent Dunning, Fr. Kieran Flynn, s.m.m., Rita Verbeke, Patricia Pearson, Edmond Catterall, Mary Hanson, Jean Maguire, Rachel Ellis and her new born baby Eve Dominique, Sister Elaine Sheridan, Andrew Ford, Richard Weldon, Norman Lawley, Mr & Mrs Gourgley, Sister Mary Ghent O.S.M., Karl Spedding, John Boyle, Eileen McGrath (The mother of Sister Mary McGrath D.W.), Pat & Len Postol, Sister Mary Dorothy, D.W., Sister Mary Agnes D.W., Patrick McDermott, Elizabeth Mary Hickey, Margaret Singleton, Margaret Crowley, Jerry Cullen, Vincent O'Donnell, Keith Roberts, Annie Gosnold, Angela McKenna, Patricia and Allan Kimmance, Sister Gráinne M.S.H.C., Mary Hanson, Joseph Kelly (Canada), Mary Goodenough, Mr. McAvoy, (the father of Fr. Danny McAvoy, s.m.m.), John Yates and his son, Ian, Cathy Walls, Edmund and Mary Smith, Catherine Doyle, Pauline McKenna (the mother of John Jude McKenna, one of our students), Terry McMullen, Louis Warburton, Dennis Deakin, Joseph Hilleard, the Hafford and Baguley families. Margaret Dawson, Samuel Slattery, Jim Miley, Mary Harkin, Anne Fitzgerald, Sylvia Chinque, Teresa Beirne (The mother of Fr. Charlie Beirne, s.m.m.), Jean Maguire (The sister of Fr. Andrew Maguire s.m.m. R.I.P.), Agnes O'Boy, Sarah & Michael Magee, Mary Washington, a Special Intention, (the Regan Family), Imelda Doran, Joan Sinclair, Sister Kevin O.S.A., and for any Associates, who may be sick or troubled at this time.

Thank You

We thank those who have donated monies towards the publication of this Newsletter. We are truly grateful. Please continue to support this newsletter. If you wish to make a donation by cheque, please make it payable to the *Montfort Missionaries* and send it to the address on the front page (c/o Rev. Fr. R. B. Ellwood, s.m.m.).

Thank you. ◘

In the Footsteps of Bl. Marie Louise

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excellent organiser, the coach-driver was very good, and the liturgy committee and spiritual organisers ensured a very deeply moving experience for all. Thanks be to God! ◘

In the Footsteps of St. Louis Marie de Montfort

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