



The Miraculous Medal Association Australia

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Incorporating AMM Sydney, New South Wales & AMM Adelaide, South Australia

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Easter Reflection 2023:

OUR HEARTS BURNING WITHIN US

By Fr Kevin Canty, CM (National Director)

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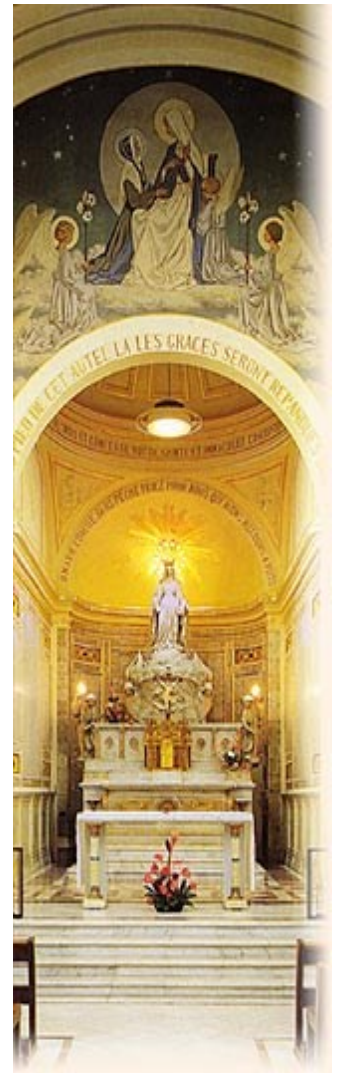
One familiar Gospel story of the Risen Jesus appearing to his followers is that given to us by Luke (Chapter 24:13-35), the story of the two disciples who have left Jerusalem and are walking to a village named Emmaus. They are very depressed, saddened by what they have witnessed in Jerusalem over the past few days. They had high hopes for Jesus and for themselves. But now these hopes are gone. A very sad pair they must have seemed to be to anyone who met them.

But the one who met them was Jesus himself, walking along with them, although they did not recognise him. Perhaps they were too caught up in their own thoughts and feelings that they failed to see just who was now with them.

But what does happen for them? Jesus asks them to talk with him, to share with him what they are discussing. He even invites them to say more than talk about events; he draws them to share their feelings with him, to see how all these events have affected



them. He helps them to reflect upon all that has happened and then he talks to them about these events and how they are spoken and written about in the Scriptures. He really asks them to look at what has happened in the light of his story.



And what happens to them when they do this? They not only come to a new understanding of all these events; they are also drawn towards his person, wanting him to stay with them. Once he has gone and they have recognised him, then they begin to realise what has happened to them. They are so changed that they head back to Jerusalem, to tell their story, to tell others of their experience of the Risen Jesus.

This should be our story also. This can be our story also. The Risen Jesus walks with us. He is there with us in so many ways, in the Scriptures, in the Church and its liturgies, in the world around us, in others, in us, in me. He is there with me, in my prayer, in my life. As these two disciples heading for Emmaus knew many facts about Jesus, they were offered something far greater; they were offered an experience of Jesus, that deeply affected them; “Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road.”

These days of Holy Week and Easter provide us with this question: ‘Do we have mere knowledge about the Risen Christ and his journey through Calvary to the Resurrection? Or do we have knowledge of him, an experience of him?’

Each day we might search for him, but fail to recognise him. Perhaps it is as we talk to him in prayer about what we have experienced, that we will find that he is with us. Perhaps it is as we reflect upon and share with him what we have experienced, how we have felt about what has happened to and for us, that we will find his presence, his love, his consolation, his support and the strength of his Spirit with us. Perhaps we will recognise him when he walks beside us in the person of those others in need, whom we may meet each day. Perhaps we will find he was with us, as we look back over our experience, reflecting on it with him. He will help us to find him present in those in need, with whom we might walk with, the stranger who comes unannounced into our lives.

To be filled with Easter joy, to have ‘hearts burning within us’ is the gift the Risen Christ offers us when we can place our story alongside his story. His presence, his word, his compassion, his Spirit, will stir our hearts, when they are open to meet and receive him. Easter day was the day ...”on which the Lord appeared to people who had begun to lose hope and opened their eyes to what the Scriptures had foretold....May the Risen Lord breathe on our minds and open our eyes that we may know him in the breaking of bread and follow him in His Risen Life.”





AMM Organisation Update:

By Gene Dominguez

Welcome **FR. ROLANDO 'Choy' LIMJOCO**, New Subdirector of International AMM

Beginning of this year, the Association of the Miraculous Medal around the world has a new appointed Subdirector. Fr. Rolando 'Choy' Limjoco from the Province of the Philippines replaced Rev. Carl Pieber, CM after nine years of dedicated service. The announcement was made by Rev. Fr Tomas Mavric, C.M. Director of AMM International in a letter published in famvin.org website. A copy of the letter can be read on the next page.

As a result of Fr. Choy taking the SubDirector role, Fr Amit Anantharaj of the PNG Province took over the AMM Asia Region Coordinator role from Fr. Choy. This was announced on the 28th of February in a special zoom meeting attended by some of the AMM Asia Regional representatives. It was agreed during the meeting that there will be an Asia Regional meeting to be held every 2 months on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

The last zoom meeting held on 8th of March 2023 was attended by AMM representatives from the Provinces of Thailand, Indonesia and PNG. Each of the regional association presented their apostolate, missions, and devotions which highlights the following:

- Monthly mass, prayer of the rosary, and devotions to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
- Yearly 9-day Novena to Our Lady
- Visitation of the sick, spending time with them to pray and be hopeful.
- Distribution of medals and leaflets of the Miraculous Medal
- Spreading the devotion to our Lady of the Miraculous Medal to various parishes and even to non-Christian populace.

Fr Marcin, Superior of the PNG mission, gave a talk on International Woman's Day and the importance of women, especially of Our Lady. Before the meeting concluded, Fr Amit asked for suggestions on how the AMM Asia Region can improve the communication and sharing between the various regional associations and with the International AMM Association. A Facebook Messenger group chat has been created as a platform for online communication and sharing of ideas and updates amongst members of the AMM Asia Region. Suggestion of a newsletter/bulletin with article contributions from the different regions to be collated and prepared by Kevin, the secretary of Fr Choy was also raised.

From AMM Australia, we would like to congratulate Fr Rolando 'Choy' Limjoco, our new AMM International SubDirector and Fr Amit Anantharaj, our new AMM Asia Region Coordinator. May Our Lady continue to guide you and give you strength and wisdom to be successful in your new role and lead our organization in propagating the devotion to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal.



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SUPERIOR GENERAL

Rome, 31 December 2022

Dear members of the Association of the Miraculous Medal,

May the grace and peace of Jesus be always with us!

With this letter, I wish to inform all the members of the Association of the Miraculous Medal around the world that Rev. Carl Pieber, CM, after nine years of very dedicated and engaged service as Subdirector of the International AMM, bringing encouragement, support, and closeness to its members, has this year concluded his service and, from 1 January 2023, will be replaced by Rev. Rolando Limjoco, CM, from the Province of the Philippines.

I would like personally, and in the name of all the members of the AMM throughout the world, to thank Rev. Carl Pieber, CM, so very much for all he brought and gave to the AMM so that the message of the Miraculous Medal would reach more and more people in as many countries as possible.

Father Carl, together with the International Council, the collaborators in the International Secretariat, and other volunteers organized, in October 2022, an excellent virtual General Assembly that surely will be a tremendous support for continuing to develop and spread the message of the Miraculous Medal in the future. Likewise, for this very important event in the life of the Association, I would like to acknowledge all who, through so much personal engagement, showed how much you love Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal and her total availability to Her Son Jesus.

At this point, I also would like to express my personal gratitude to Father Rolando Limjoco, CM, for his most generous acceptance of the service as the new Subdirector of the International AMM. His love and closeness to Mary, his enthusiasm and dedication will be a gift for the whole Association.

With the International Council members, National Council members, National Spiritual Advisers, collaborators at the International Secretariat, and all the members of the worldwide AMM, we will continue to put forth all our energy and talents, but especially prayer, into spreading the message of the Miraculous Medal to the furthest corners of the earth.

I wish you abundant blessings for the whole Christmas Season and New Year 2023!

Your brother in Saint Vincent,



Tomaž Mavrič, C.M.
Director