



Legio Mariae Praesidium Stella Maris

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Date: 25 September 2017

Dear Richard,

'The Legion of Mary in St. Bartholomew's has just been going for one year. Its name is the 'Stella Maris' Praesidium (branch), and it is our local association (part of the worldwide Legion of Mary) made up of volunteer parishioners. Under the spiritual direction of Fr. Deo and the powerful leadership of Mary Immaculate, Mediatrix of All Graces, we seek to quietly serve as apostles of Our Lady and her Divine Son in the parish and its neighbourhood.

Primarily we undertake spiritual works of mercy, to increase the devotion to Our Lady and the Church, and to increase the personal holiness of our members and all those with whom we come into contact. This holiness is developed through both the Legion's prayers and the works of its members - *always* hand in hand with Our Lady.

Membership is open to all. There are no subscriptions. New members are on a three month probationary period, so no-one is under any obligation to stay in the Legion if it doesn't suit them. There are of two types of membership: active members (who meet weekly) and auxiliary members who daily pray the Legion set prayers which are printed in our Tessera leaflet. This is freely available to anyone at the Parish Annual Meeting who wants one.

At our weekly meetings, prayer is intermingled with reports on the works we have done which were set by our Praesidium the previous week. We carry out our assignments in pairs for our mutual support and safety and because Our Lord in the Gospel sent out His seventy two disciples in pairs. The active legionary works we do amount to a commitment of two hours a week plus the weekly meeting. We participate in the life of the parish through visits of families, our auxiliaries and the sick, both in their homes and in hospitals and through collaboration in every apostolic and missionary undertaking sponsored by the parish. We also regularly undertake street evangelisation and visitation of Nursing and Residential Homes and assist in recruitment drives in other parishes when asked.

We meet every Tuesday throughout the year 7.30pm to 9pm in the upper room in the hall.

New members are most welcome – For further details please contact

Bob Foster (president) by email to the [Parish Office](#), or just turn up at a meeting to introduce yourself!

Vice President: Priya Rebello

Secretary: vacant

Treasurer: Bernadette Courtney