

The Legion of Mary Auxiliary Membership

What Is It?

It is a worldwide organization of the lay apostolate, in which Catholic men and women sanctify themselves through prayer and spiritual work in union with Our Lady under the guidance of the clergy.

Origin

The Legion of Mary began in Dublin, Ireland, on September 7, 1921, and is now in every country of the world.

Purpose

1. To make its members better Catholics and to mobilize the Catholic Laity.
2. To raise the spiritual level of the entire community through direct contact with and interest in, every member and potential member of the Mystical Body of Christ.
3. To accomplish this through Mary, Mother of Souls and Mediatrix of All Graces.

Types of Membership

Active members and auxiliary or praying members. (Active members must attend a weekly meeting and perform a weekly work obligation of at least two hours.)

Purpose of Auxiliary Membership

Auxiliary members supply the prayer power which is needed for the active works of the Legion.

Degrees of Auxiliary Membership

1. Ordinary **auxiliary** membership consists of those religious or laity who recite daily in honor of Our Blessed Lady all the prayers contained in the Legion prayer leaflet called the "Tessera," which includes the rosary.
2. The **adjutorian** degree of auxiliary membership consists of priests, religious and lay persons and requires:
 - a. Prayers said by the ordinary auxiliary (as above) and in addition:
 - b. Daily Mass and Holy Communion.
 - c. Daily recitation of an Office approved by the Church (i.e., Liturgy of the Hours) (However, adjutorian membership does not require an Office from religious who are not bound by their rule to say one.)

If one is already saying a daily rosary for a certain intention, is it necessary to say another one?

No, just add the Legion Prayers.

How does one become an auxiliary member?

Submit your name, address and parish to an active member, who will place your name on a probationary roll for three months. After that you will be contacted to see if you have been able to say the prayers. If so, you will be placed on the permanent list of auxiliary members.

Are there any dues, or any meetings to attend?

No, there are no dues, and the auxiliary members are not bound to attend any meetings. Once a year they are invited to a ceremony of consecration to our Lady called the "Acies." It is also customary for each Praesidium (parish unit in the Legion) to plan a get-together at least once a year for its auxiliary members so that they can get better acquainted with the Legion of Mary and what it is accomplishing.

Is there any age limit in membership?

No, persons of any age may be auxiliaries if they are able to say the required prayers.

Some suggestions for keeping your interest alive:

1. Subscribe to *Maria Legionis*, the Legion magazine published four times a year. It will keep you in touch with Legion activity throughout the world. Subscription price is \$8.00 a year. Write: *Maria Legionis*, 5109 N. Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19141, or contact an active member.
2. Read the following books: *Woman of Faith*, the life of Edel Quinn who died after eight years in Africa; *Frank Duff: A Living Autobiography*; and *Miracles on Tap* by Frank Duff. Ask your active Legionaries to obtain these and other books for you.
3. Attend the Patricians, a Legionary discussion group that meets once a month to discuss the Catholic Faith in all its aspects.