

The Servant of God, Frank Duff

Frank Duff was born in Dublin, Ireland, on June 7th 1889, the eldest of seven children.

In 1913 he joined the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and was greatly influenced by the Society. As a member, he gradually came to have a great love for the poor and underprivileged in whom, as in everybody he met, he recognised and honoured Christ.

In 1916, aged 27, he published his first pamphlet "Can We Be Saints?". In it he expressed one of the strongest convictions of his life, namely, that all without exception are called to be saints and that through our Catholic faith we have available all the means necessary to attain this.

In 1917 he came to know the Treatise of St. Louis Marie de Montfort on the *True Devotion to Mary*, a work which changed his life completely.

On September 7th, 1921 Frank Duff founded the Legion of Mary. This is a lay apostolic organisation at the service of the Church, under ecclesiastical guidance. Its twofold purpose is the spiritual development of its members and advancing the reign of Christ through Our Lady.

The Legion, which is to be found in almost every country in the world, has nearly 3 million active members and many more auxiliary (praying) members.

In 1965 Pope Paul VI invited Frank Duff to attend the Second Vatican Council as a Lay Observer, an honour by which the Pope recognised and affirmed his enormous work for the lay apostolate.

On November 7th 1980 Frank Duff died and is buried in Glasnevin Cemetery, Dublin.

In July 1996 the Cause of his canonisation was introduced by the Archbishop of Dublin, Dr. Desmond Connell.

Favours attributed to the intercession of Frank Duff should be reported to:

*Legion of Mary,
De Montfort House,
Morning Star Avenue,
Brunswick Street,
Dublin, 7, Ireland.*

**Prayer for the Beatification
of the Servant of God**

Frank Duff

God our Father,

You inspired your servant Frank Duff with a profound insight into the mystery of your Church, the Body of Christ, and of the place of Mary the Mother of Jesus in this mystery.

In his immense desire to share this insight with others and in filial dependence on Mary he formed her Legion to be a sign of her maternal love for the world and a means of enlisting all her children in the Church's evangelising work.

We thank you Father for the graces conferred on him and for the benefits accruing to the Church from his courageous and shining faith.

With confidence we beg you that through his intercession you grant the petition we lay before you ...

We ask too that if it be in accordance with your will, the holiness of his life may be acknowledged by the Church for the glory of your Name,

through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

With ecclesiastical approval