



# MONTFORT ADAGE

Montfort Centre Publication | September 2024 | Volume 4, No.2

## Greetings of Peace

Bro John Albert Arul Devanesan fsg, District Superior

I am glad to pen a few thoughts to all the Donors, Benefactors and Friends of Montfort Centre, Singapore.

For me the past few months have been filled with many exciting encounters with people in different countries and life situations. The faith vision that was awakened in my soul and the graces that was filled in my spirit is what I am sharing with all of you. I am convinced of this spiritual truth and I am testifying.

**“The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. (Lamentation 3:22-23)”**

Sometimes we are so inflated by human praises and sometimes we are so deflated by human persecution. But for those who are truly rooted and grounded in the Lord of Hosts, they are sustained by a peace which can only be from above. This mysterious inner strength to walk even when the inner human reality within oneself is chaos, pain and ground zero.

The inner guiding voice keeps prompting me “hold on to me, I am Peace.” Never ever for whatever reason trade this GIFT – PEACE.



Prophet Jeremiah saw before his own eyes the great destruction of Jerusalem in 586 BC. The Blessed Virgin Mary saw before her eyes the annihilation of her Beloved Son and Lord. How was the Blessed Virgin Mary able to stand before the Cross of Jesus? How was St Joseph able to stay by Jesus and Mary What then is the secret of their faith?

I was graced to understand and to behold their strongly anchored faith in the scripture that says that **“The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. (Lamentation 3:22-23)”**

All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness. As I walk with the Lord, the road ahead is littered with steadfast love, and faithfulness, and mercies that are new every day.

The loyal love of the Lord is always with us. He is faithful to identify with us through suffering, testing, burdens, and problems. He is there to help us through them.

**Jesus Living in Mary and Mary Living Jesus, keep us strongly anchored in the Steadfast Love of God.**

# Montfortian Recollection Days



Fully Human, Fully Alive Participants

Since the pandemic, the anxiety and stress levels of people in Singapore, including caregivers, teachers and children have been at an all-time high. Singapore is also seeing a surge in mental health issues among youths and is working with researchers to better understand the root causes.

Spirituality influences many decisions that people make. Christian Spirituality in particular helps people to have a holistic understanding about themselves, others, and God. In this sense, it helps people cope better with stress by recognising that there is meaning in suffering and that God is even closer when one is experiencing deep distress.

As such, Montfort Centre organised two spirituality and mental-wellbeing recollection days; one for the public (Fully Human, Fully Alive - 27 Apr) and the other especially for educators (Peace of Mind - 1 Jul). During the recollection, participants were provided with some points for prayer and reflection before finding their own quiet corners within the tranquil spaces of Montfort Centre and receiving the peace of Christ.

May Montfort Centre continue to be an oasis for those seeking solace and comfort in the Lord.

*Let us all calmly enter our hearts to meet God present there - St. Louis Marie de Montfort, Hymn 24:39*



Participants with a Peace of Mind

## Wisdom at the Well: Individual Guided Retreat

(8 - 11 August 2024)



Welcoming our retreatants during a check-in

Singapore prides itself as a smart nation, but is it a wise nation? 11 retreatants decided to spend the national day holidays at Montfort Centre to meet Jesus, Wisdom Incarnate, at their "wells". Based on the story of The Woman at the Well (John 4:1-26), retreatants were invited to reflect on their "wells" (how they had been living their lives) and their "cups" (deepest longings to be filled) before presenting these concerns to Jesus and having a conversation with Him. One-with-one spiritual direction was also provided for retreatants throughout the retreat.

# Montfortian Regional Conference

(29 July - 1 August 2024)



Montfortian Regional Conference participants from our Montfortian Charismatic Family

The Montfort Missionaries, Daughters of Wisdom, Brothers of St. Gabriel and their respective lay associations had their mini “transfiguration” in the mountains of Bandung, Indonesia where the inaugural Montfortian Regional Conference (Asia-Pacific) was held from 29 July to 1 August 2024.

Some 60 over participants of the Montfortian Charismatic Family (the three Montfortian congregations and lay associations) from seven countries (Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea and the Philippines) gathered at Pratista Spiritual Retreat House to explore what it means to take the Montfortian Way for the 21st Century.

Montfort Centre was most privileged to be part of the organising committee and would like to express our deepest gratitude especially to Fr. Antonius Tensi, SMM Provincial Superior (Indonesia) and his capable team as well as Br. John Albert, SG District Superior (Southeast Asia) for their unwavering leadership and support in making this first Montfortian Regional Conference a resounding success!



Watch the video of the event highlights here



# Preparation for Total Consecration at Church of Our Lady Queen of Peace

(11 May - 22 August 2024)

*Totus Tuus: I am All Yours and All I have is Yours O my dear Jesus, through Mary, Your Holy Mother - St. Louis Marie de Montfort*

On this very happy feast of the Queenship of Mary (22 Aug 2024), 8 of our fellow brothers and sisters made their Act of Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary at the Church of Our Lady Queen Of Peace

St. Louis Marie de Montfort firmly believed that a total surrender of our very self to Our Lady who is our Mother and Queen is essential if we wish to belong totally and without reserve to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Our newly minted Montfortian Gabrielite Associates have spent the last three months preparing themselves using St. Louis Marie de Montfort’s 33-day preparation method for a Marian consecration.

Our Lady Queen of Peace,  
Pray for us!



Our newly minted associates from Queen of Peace with Br. Dominic Yeo-Koh, SG (Spiritual Director) and Fr. Francis Lee (Celebrant)

# Legion of Mary Junior Day

(3 August 2024)

It felt like homecoming when Montfort Centre was invited to facilitate the opening session of Legion of Mary Junior Day for the Junior Curia, Singapore at the Church of the Holy Family on 3 August 2024. After all, the spirituality of the Legion of Mary is essentially based on the approach of St Louis Marie de Montfort.

Inspired by the gospel story of Jesus feeding the five thousand through the little boy with only five barley loaves and two fishes, the theme chosen for the Junior Day was: Making A Difference - Young Hearts, Big Impact.

Through exploring the lives and faith stories of how Bl. Carlo Acutis and St. Louis Marie de Montfort deeply impacted others even in their childhood, the junior legionaries the junior legionaries were invited to recognise their gifts and that God can take whatever little they have to make a big difference.

The participants also made a theological reflection on how they would make a difference to the lives of those under-appreciated persons in our society as Jesus would, using the four-step Montfortian Pedagogy of Experience, Reflection, Enlightenment and Response.

1

1. Zerah receiving a token of appreciation from Senatus President Okkie Tanupradja
2. Sharing by a Junior Legionary brother on his strengths and gratitude
3. Br. Nicholas Seet, FSC with our lay associate Mr. Gregory Bentain III from Cebu
4. Junior legionaries engaged in "catching" Mary!



2



3



4



Let us all calmly enter our hearts  
to meet God present there  
(MONTFORT HYMN 24:39)

# Donate

Help make the Montfortian  
Experience accessible especially  
to those most in need.

