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Newsletter of the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Randwick NSW Australia



*Located at: Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish,
193 Avoca St, PO Box 309, Randwick NSW, 2031.*

www.sacredheart.org.au

Introducing the
National Shrine of
Our Lady of the
Sacred Heart,
Randwick,
Sydney, Australia.

Our Mission:

To publicise the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart [OLSH] at Randwick.

To introduce the *Novena* to OLSH to others outside the Parish.

To heighten awareness of the Spirituality of the Heart, and the place of the devotion to Mary under the title of OLSH as a natural aspect of the Spirituality of the Heart.

To inform people about the Mission and Ministries of the MSC and OLSH and other Congregations.

This is our fifth **Newsletter** from the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart at Randwick, for 2016.

It is running a long way behind time. Myself and Frs AL-fin and Tru from Randwick, went on pilgrimage to Krakow for World Youth Day.

Last Newsletter we presented Fr Cuskelly's four pointers to the Spirituality of the Sacred Heart. We saw how this expanded what was fondly known as Devotion to the Sacred Heart.

Now, we look further at Fr Chevalier's spirituality, with Fr Cuskelly as our guide.

Also we have a special feature on the process of Beatification for seven young MSC martyrs of Canet de Mar near Barcelona, Spain, 1936.



The Shrine of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart,
Barcelona, Spain

Calendar for July:

1859 July 14 Fr Chevalier visits Curé d'Ars who confirms him in his mission; 1885 First MSC arrive at Yule Island PNG; 1900 First MSC House opened in Quebec, Canada; 1902 First MSC Sisters leave Germany for Marshall Islands; 1908 First MSC Sisters depart Germany for USA; 1938 First MSC arrive in Peru; 1947 First MSC Sisters go to Peru; 1948 First MSC from Belgium arrive in Rio, Brazil; 1980 Fr Villanueva MSC murdered in Guatemala; 1985 First MSC House in Bangalore India; 1989 Spanish MSC Sisters begin in El Salvador;

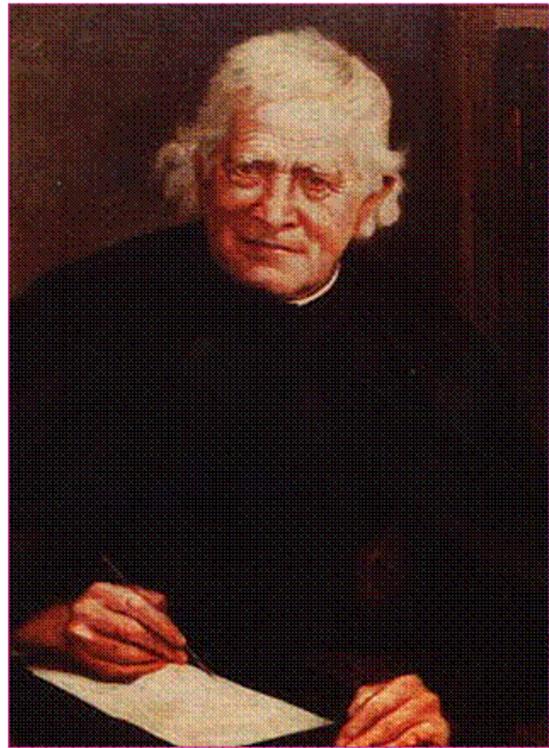
Fr Chevalier spoke about “obedience in mutual charity” as being a distinguishing note of his new Society of Missionaries.

From his own seminary training, Fr Chevalier was imbued with that text where Jesus says that he comes into the world to do the “will of the Father” (Hebrews 10:5-9) and Psalm 40 to which Hebrews refers: “I delight to do your will, O my God.”

As Fr Cuskelly points out, “obedience, as much as humility, meekness, charity was considered a virtue characteristic of those who aspired to be Missionaries of the Sacred Heart” following the example of Jesus who was obedient even to his death. (Cuskelly, *Man With A Mission*, p.130)

Fr Chevalier wrote: “Those who enter our society can very well let others surpass them in knowledge, mortification and poverty; but when it comes to *obedience in mutual charity*, they will allow nobody to do better than they.”

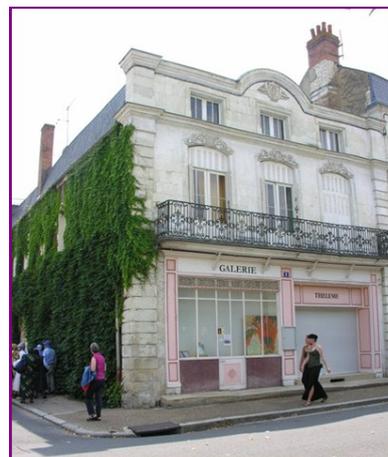
This expands on a teaching coming from St Ignatius for the Jesuit Order. Fr Chevalier had been quite dependent on the Jesuits for inspiration into how to go about founding his new Society and shaping his community. “Chevalier naturally went through a stage of imitating much of what the Jesuits did, copying their rules and practices.” But as time passed his sense of his own, and his community’s identity began to come more into focus. “Particularly clear was the elimination of all military images. The ‘well-disciplined army’ [a Jesuit image] gave way to an apostolic community vivified and unified by love.



Fr Jules Chevalier



Monastery, Basilica and Shrine,
Issoudun



House of
Fr Chevalier,
Richelieu

The members saw that waving a military flag would scatter the sheep rather than draw them 'by the bonds of love' (Cuskelly p. 102)

Hence the connection between 'obedience and mutual charity'. "We understand that Fr Chevalier insisted on the great importance of obedience, above all in an institute in which the primary end is not service (in the specific Ignatian sense), but the love of God, *if this institute is to continue and to carry out its mission*. For if other institutes can rely not only on their spirit but on a rigid organization in the service of God, an institute like his must find its strength above all in its very spirit." (Cuskelly quoting Fr Vermin a contemporary of Fr Chevalier, p.131)

Communities of religious engaged in the apostolate cannot survive simply on being 'nice' to one another. **They need to be secure in the knowledge that they can count on a ready cooperation of the members in a spirit of "obedience and mutual charity."**

The inspiration for this can only come from Christ who came not to do his own will but to do the will of his Father.

Finally, for now, it is clear, that like in any committed relationship, such as marriage, at the core of every spirituality is the capacity for renunciation and a capacity for union with others. As Christ said: **"If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let them renounce themselves and take up their cross"** which constitutes the "negative side" of discipleship, and then "follow me", which constitutes 'union', the positive side of discipleship. The positive elements in Fr Chevalier's spirituality can be very attractive, just as they can be very demanding: **"Obedience in mutual charity"**.



Collegio San Miguel, (MSC)
Barcelona, Spain.



Ancient Cloister of a Monastery around
which MSC built the modern
Colegio San Miguel.

The new format of the Novena, can be found on the web:
www.sacredheart.org.au You can post petitions to Novena, PO Box 309, Randwick, NSW 2031, Or email to: prayersplease@olshaustralia.org.au
The Novena is held each Thursday 11.30-midday in the Shrine.

MSC Martyrs of Spain: In July we received news that the Spanish Province has successfully begun the process for beatification of seven Spanish MSC: four priests and three seminarians.

They were murdered by Communist Forces during the Spanish Civil War in 1936. The MSC authorities at the time wrote: *“These were true martyrs.’ They confessed openly that they were Religious Missionaries. They knew that they were being put to death because of their fidelity to God and His Church. They preferred to die rather than deny this Faith. They prayed together, received absolution and then faced their executioners. Great is their merit before the Eternal God. They were like Christ and with their blood confirmed their faith.”*

“When searching for information about the martyrs of our community of Canet de Mar, we received this statement of one who participated in the shootings. *“We were about to shoot them in the back but one of the Missionaries protested. ‘We are not traitors. Such men and criminals are shot in the back. We are honest men. We are Religious Missionaries and we have done nothing wrong—we have loved God and our country and we will die like men—facing our enemies.’ After that he made the Sign of the Cross over his companions giving them absolution. Then he said—‘We are ready now, you can shoot us down.”*

The Martyrs: Frs Antonio Arribas Hortigüela (27); Vergara Echeverria (26); Abundio Martinez Rodriguez (23); José Oriol Massó (22); Jesús Moreno Ruiz (19); José Bros Gumersindo Gómez Rodriguez (18); José del Almo del Almo (18).



The Novena Prayer

Remember, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, the great things the Lord has done for you. He chose you for his mother; He wanted you close to his cross. He gives you a share in his glory. He listens to your prayer. Offer him our prayers of praise and thanksgiving. Present our petitions to Him. (Recall your petitions...)

Let us live like you in the love of your Son so that his Kingdom may come. Lead all people to the source of living water that flows from his heart, spreading over the world hope and salvation, justice and peace. See our trust in you; answer our prayer. Show yourself always our Mother.