**HISTORY OF THE LEGION OF MARY**

The Legion of Mary or the Legion, for short is a lay Apostolate Association which was established in Dublin Ireland on 7 September, 1921. It is the largest apostolic organization of lay people in the Catholic Church, with well over 3 million active members in almost every country of the world. The legion was started in the Archdiocese at St. Theresa’s Parish in 1932. It came to be established in the Parish in the 50s at the Mission School i.e. the Our Lady of Fatima Primary School. Late Mrs. Beatrice Uwaoma was the first female president of the praesidium founded at Fatima Cathedral when its meeting were held at the Our Lady of Fatima Primary School before Fatima Cathedral was built. Rev. Sister Stanislaus OLA of blessed memory was their spiritual guide then.

The main aim and purpose of the Legion of Mary is to give glory to God through the sanctification of its members. In other words, the object of the Legion is personal holiness amidst prayers and charitable works as such they conduct religious instructions (at catechism clasees) for the catechumens and run a book stall (formerly a kiosk) since the late 80s (1987). The Refuge of Sinners Praesidium formed in the 80s had the likes of Late. Mrs. Beatrice Uwaoma and some members like catechist, Sir Gabriel C Okonkwo KSJ, Mr. Ferdinard Kenechukwu and Mr. Francis Oslo.

Grace: The History of Fatima.