





Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians Marian Valley Postal Address: PO Box 104, Canungra Qld 4275 Location: 2541 Beechmont Rd, Witheren via Canungra Qld 4275 Ph: 07-55 333 617 Email: marianvalley@bigpond.com Website: www.marianvalley.org RETREAT CENTRE: Ph / Fx: 07-55 333 378 Email: marianretreat@bigpond.com

Rector: Fr Oskar Osinski OSPPE

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Number 46 • March 2016

News from Marian Valley

Dear Friends of Marian Valley

Reliving the Year of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis, we have the opportunity to penetrate the mystery of God's love revealed to us in Jesus Christ. We can have hope as sinful people to see our weaknesses and helplessness.

Nothing is so necessary to us as Divine Mercy - that love which is benevolent, directing us on the path to holiness.

Looking at the image of the Merciful Christ, his Heart radiating grace, we can recall just as St Faustina was so deeply touched, to hear the words "Do not fear anything, I am always with you." Those who respond sincerely, 'Jesus, I trust in you' will find comfort in all one's anxieties and fears. And so each of us can, and should, heed the message of mercy and love addressed to us by God: know His kindness and goodness, it is then that we can go to God with confidence.

In God, there's a Father who loves, forgives, strengthens the fight against sins and helps with his almighty power to help us achieve eternal salvation. So Mercy is what we expect, what we experience, what we have to understand and recognise. God is full of mercy, reluctant to speak of punishment, is patient, forgiving us of our sins, giving time for repentance, for spiritual maturation and for repair of our errors, so we can experience God's love fully. He does this in order to save us from eternal condemnation.

He appears to us as a God "rich in mercy" (Eph2,4), as "the Father of mercies and God of all comfort" (2Cor I,3) there is only one question: whether we accept it or reject it?

In this time of Easter, and the year of Mercy I wish to invite all of us to humbly return to God and to put our lives into the hands of the Merciful Father.

May the Risen Lord bless you all and wish you many graces in this Easter season of the Year of Mercy.

Fr Oskar Osinski OSPPE Prior Marian Valley Canungra

YEAR OF MERCY Motto and Logo

The motto and logo together provide a fitting summary of the Jubilee Year.

The motto - Merciful Like the

Father (taken from the Gospel of Luke, 6:36) serves as an invitation to follow the merciful example of the Father who asks us not to judge or condemn but to forgive and to give love and forgiveness without measure (cfr. Lk 6:37-38).

The logo – the work of Jesuit Father Marko
I. Rupnik – presents a small summa theologiae of the theme of mercy. In fact, it represents an image quite important to the early Church:

that of the Son having taken upon his shoulders the lost soul demonstrating

that it is the love of Christ that brings to completion the mystery of his incarnation culminating in redemption. The logo has been designed in such a way so as to express the profound way in which the Good Shepherd touches the flesh of humanity and does so with a love and with the power to change one's life. One particular feature worthy of note is that while the Good Shepherd, in his great mercy, takes humanity upon himself, his eyes are merged with those of man. Christ sees with the eyes of Adam, and Adam with the eyes of Christ. Every person discovers in Christ, the new Adam, one's own humanity and the future that lies ahead, contemplating, in his gaze, the love of the Father.

Together let us pray to the Virgin Mary that she helps us ... to walk in faith and charity, ever trusting in the Lord's mercy; He always awaits us, loves us, has pardoned us with His Blood and pardons us every time we go to Him to ask His forgiveness. Let us trust in His mercy! Pope Francis, Regina Caeli on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 7, 2013

Slovenian Day

On 12th September 2015, around 60 pilgrims came to Marian Valley to celebrate the annual pilgrimage of the Slovenian community. Following mass, the pilgrims joined in a procession to their Chapel of Our Lady Help of Slovenia. Fr Darko Znidalsic was the main celebrant with Fr David Szumpf, Fr Ciril Bozic and Fr Michael concelebrating. Once again, thanks to Joze and Marta for their wonderful

organisational skills. It was a very spiritual day.

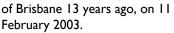


Left to Right: Irma Ipavec, Nevenka Golc Clarke, Gerry Clarke, Angelca Lecnik, Ella Gjerek, Marta Gjerek, Fr Ciril Bozic, Joze Gjerek, Fr Darko Znidalsic, Jani Pal, Fr David Szumpf, Fr Michael Szymanski OSPPE

Our Lady of Lourdes Day

On Thursday 11 February 2016 the main celebrant for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes was Bishop Joseph Oudeman OFM Cap. Around 150 pilgrims attended the solemn mass, which is an annual pilgrimage for the sick and elderly. During mass, following the homily, the pilgrims were invited to come up and receive an anointing. After lunch, the pilgrims joined in a Eucharistic procession to Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto. Then the pilgrims returned to the Church for benediction and the blessing of each present with the Blessed Sacrament and Lourdes holy water.

In his homily, Bishop Joseph, a Capuchin, mentioned that it was a very special day for him as he was ordained Auxiliary Bishop





Lourdes is associated with physical cures because one of the instructions Our Lady of Lourdes gave to St. Bernadette Soubirous during a series of apparitions that began 11 February 1858, was to dig in a certain spot. The digging produced a spring whose waters have been said to produce miraculous cures.

Bishop Oudeman anointing Ray Keating

The Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians at Marian Valley survives totally on the donations of the faithful. If you would like to help Marian Valley in the future you might consider remembering us in your Will. If you would like to do this, the correct way to put us in your will is:

The Trustees of the Pauline Fathers and Brothers for use at Marian Valley, 2541 Beechmont Rd. Witheren, Qld 4275

Filipino Day

On Saturday 26th September 2015, Archbishop Coleridge was the main celebrant for the annual pilgrimage of the Filipino Community accompanied by their Chaplain Fr Terrence Neuva. A large crowd of around 650 pilgrims attended the solemn mass followed by a procession to the Chapel of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Archbishop Coleridge also encouraged everyone to join him in Cebu City, Philippines for the 51st International **Eucharistic Congress which** took place from 24-31 January 2016. Tens of thousands attended the convention over the 6-day period. All major events were broadcast and anyone with EWTN Global Catholic Network enjoyed watching the events which reached 144 countries. This is the second time that the Philippines hosted the International Eucharistic Congress, with the first one held in Manila in 1937.



Fr Terrence, Archbishop Coleridge, Fr Michael Szymanski



"St Joseph's Hermitage Retreat Centre has hermitagestyle Retreat cabins with a magnificent Chapel of Adoration located in a serene, naturally occurring beautiful setting, and offers an opportunity for spiritual renewal to individuals and small groups. The cost is \$30 per night and each cabin has two single beds and is self-contained. The serenity of the surroundings, the lovely views, as well as the close proximity of Church, shrines and Adoration chapel, makes the Centre ideal for retreats." Contact details for all Retreat Centre enquiries: Ph/fax 07-55 333 378 or email marianretreat@bigpond.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Most Reverend Robert McGuckin Bishop of Toowoomba will be the main celebrant on Saturday 21 May 2016 for Our Lady Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia

Most Reverend Columba Macbeth-Green OSPPE Bishop of Wilcannia-Forbes Diocese will be the main celebrant on Saturday 3 September Feast of the Birthday of the Virgin Mary & Sunday 4 September 2016

YEAR OF MERCY

The Pauline monks and community at Marian Valley, Canungra were privileged to hear the joyful news from the Archbishop of Brisbane, Most Rev. Mark Coleridge that Marian Valley was chosen to be a place of Pilgrimage in the Brisbane Archdiocese for this Year of Mercy.

"Around the Archdiocese, I've chosen six pilgrimage churches of mercy: the Cathedral, Red Hill, Clear Island Waters, Nambour, Annerley and Ipswich.....I've also asked the Pauline Fathers at Marian Valley to help in the same way, so that it becomes a seventh place of pilgrimage."

- Archbishop Coleridge's Lenten Pastoral Letter - Ash Wednesday 2016

St Stephens Cathedral in Brisbane opened the Door of Mercy last December on the Third Sunday of Advent. The Holy Year of Mercy will be celebrated from 8 December 2015 (Immaculate Conception) to 20 November 2016 (Christ the King).

Year of Mercy Indulgence

Pope Francis has declared a Plenary Indulgence for the Year of Mercy for those who make a pilgrimage to the Door of Mercy, attend confession, attend mass and recite prayers.

What Prayers? Once you have crossed through the Door of Mercy, (and in addition to the usual conditions which require a heart well-disposed for the grace to bring its desired fruits), the faithful should stop in prayer to fulfill the final actions of: - the Profession of Faith, and prayers, such as the Our Father, Hail Mary & Glory Be, for the Holy Father and his intentions.

It is also suggested that pilgrims recite the 'Prayer of Pope Francis for the Jubilee' and conclude the time of prayer with an invocation to the merciful Lord Jesus, "Merciful Jesus, I trust in You".

The Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy (Latin: lubilaeum Extraordinarium Misericordiae) is seen by the Church as a period for remission of sins and universal pardon focusing particularly on God's forgiveness and mercy.

What Is An Indulgence

In the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church an indulgence is "a way to reduce the amount of punishment one has to undergo for sins" which may reduce either or both of the penance required after a sin has been forgiven, or after death, the time to be spent in Purgatory.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church describes an indulgence as "a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions through the action of the Church which, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints".

The Order of St. Paul The First Hermit



Young men interested in seeking a life of prayer and service to Jesus through Mary might think of the Monks of St. Paul the Hermit. We are a semi-contemplative monastic order especially devoted to Mary. Our Life is: Contemplation;

Divine Liturgy; Devotion to Our Lady.
Our work is: Shrines; Pastoral; Retreats.
For further information, write to:
Vocations Director,
Order of St. Paul the First Hermit,
6 Justin St, Smithfield NSW 2164

Pope Francis

"May pilgrimage be an impetus to conversion; by crossing the threshold of the Holy Door, we will find the strength to embrace God's mercy and dedicate ourselves to being merciful with others as the Father has been with us" - Pope Francis

Prayer of Pope Francis for the Jubilee

Lord Jesus Christ,

you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved. Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.

Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman:

"If you knew the gift of God!"

You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified.

You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.

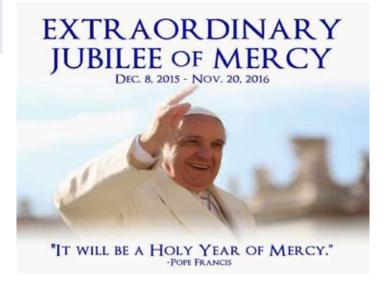
Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with His anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy; you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit forever and ever.

Amen.



Holy Door - Vatican



Christmas 2015



A festive crowd enjoyed the annual Christmas party which was held on Sunday 6th December 2015 following the 4pm mass.

This is a very special time of the year for Marian Valley families to get together with the Pauline Monks to celebrate achievements throughout the year.

Talented solo artist and multi-instrumentalist vocalist, Roger Munsie, entertained everyone with his popular tunes. Mr Tony Ryan did a marvellous job of entertaining everyone with his jokes. A special thank you to Max and Kim for once again teaming up with Clancy from Catering Professional Chef, Nerang, to provide a wonderful Christmas dinner.

MC Tony Ryan



Entertainer Roger Munsie

Volunteers Max and Kim Chong



Clancy

Fr Oskar and Deanna Ryan



Leon - the barman

From the Marian Valley Archives

by Pat Ashton

On 1st May, 1999 the statue of Our Lady of the Southern Cross was installed at the base of the huge Moreton Bay Fig tree amongst the sapling forest at the far end of Marian Valley. Fr Dom Cremasco, the sculptor of this statue, felt this was the perfect place for Our Lady. The surrounding atmosphere permeated the mind with peace, tranquillity and a sense of oneness with God and Nature.

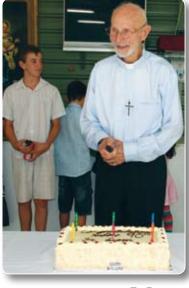
Whilst in the process of making the statue, Father Dom and Leonie Carey (deceased) were almost finished when Fr Dom realized he was running out of cement and asked Leonie if she had some rocks. It was getting dark quick and if they couldn't finish it then, they would have to start all over again, which was no small task. Leonie produced her much treasured rock collection and the finishing touches came just on nightfall. So Our Lady stands firm today and Leonie Rests in Peace.

When it came time for Our Lady to be transported to the site in the forest at Marian Valley, it required all hands on deck as eight people carried Her through the forest on a stretcher. The means to place her in position was via a block and tackle. When it was attempted it was found the rope was a couple of inches short. At that critical moment a large burley man seemed to come from nowhere, almost knocking Father Dom over. He wrapped his body around the Statue and pulled it into place, then left as quickly as he had come.

Twelve months later, Fr. Dom was visiting the Statue at this site,

when who should appear but this same man, saying, "Remember me, I helped you with the Statue". They conversed and then the man left never to be sighted again, but he surely came at the right timeboth times.

Fr Dominic Cremasco SVD, the son of Italian migrants whose family settled in Inglewood in 1946, was ordained a priest on 2nd September 1957 with the Society of the Divine Word, also known as Divine Word Missionaries. Fr Dom has now retired to Sydney.



Fr Dom



Pilgrims in the forest at Our Lady of the Southern Cross Left to Right: Tamaki Kawahara, Dolores Lightbody, Mark Poole, Tony Ryan, Robert Murphy & Kahori Mino