



## From the Archives ...

### The Pauline Fathers of Marian Valley

The salvation of souls and the spreading of devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary – this is the apostolate of the Pauline Fathers - Order of St Paul the First Hermit, founded in Hungary by Blessed Eusebius in 1215. This semi-contemplative, monastic, order is one of the oldest in the Roman Catholic Church.



An unexpected meeting between Fr. Augustine Lazur, and Cardinal Clancy of Sydney at a transit-station in Rome resulted in an invitation to establish the Order in Australia. After much deliberation Father Augustine was finally free to accept the Cardinal's invitation, arriving in Australia on April 24th, 1981.

The first Pauline community was founded in Berrima, NSW, in 1983, where the first novices joined the order. Our Lady of Mercy Shrine, 'Penrose Park' was established next in 1985. The consecration of a new church there took place on May 24th, 1997.

**Queensland:** With the approval of Archbishop Rush of the Brisbane Archdiocese, the order was welcomed by Fr Ganzer into the Beaudesert Parish where an old guest house, adjoining St John the Baptist church, Eagle Heights, Mount Tamborine, was turned into a monastery; this was in the year, 1989. Fr Janusz Pawlicha, not long in Australia from Poland, became the first Prior.



Following the transfer of Fr Janusz to Berrima in 1992, the role of Prior was taken up by Fr. Michael Szymanski. Not an easy job for a newly-ordained, non-English speaking priest in charge of a parish.

#### Our Lady Help of Christians' Shrine, Marian Valley, Canungra

In order to accommodate larger crowds it became necessary to seek a more suitable property which resulted in the move from Eagle Heights to Marian Valley in 1995.

It was Fr Augustine who viewed and approved the acreage on Beechmont Road, Canungra and who named it, "Marian Valley".

It was of course necessary to arrange a Loan in order to purchase this approved site, which consisted of 208 acres with two houses, one occupied by the owners, the Robinson family - which became the monastery - and a second, a 'dairy house'. Both houses were in great need of repair.

Another smaller building - an art studio where Bill Robinson worked on his many paintings, two of which were awarded the Archibald prize - was, with a lot of hard work, made into a small, but beautiful chapel. Though only able to hold about 50 people, the opening of the front glass doors of the chapel allowed a further 50 or more people to participate in the Mass and devotions. This eventually was altered further extending into an open-air Mass as the pilgrim numbers increased.

Appropriately, St Joseph was installed as guardian of the Shrine. This was the first of many small shrines to be built and was donated by the Kissane family of Brisbane.

Fr Michael Szymanski was the first Prior of Marian Valley and a great deal of hard work fell upon his shoulders. He worked tirelessly, building, cleaning, gardening, tractor work, chopping wood for the combustion stove. He did the cooking [no electricity] – and was/is a great cook. All this and more, including his major role as a priest, attending to all the spiritual needs of the pilgrims.

Fr Andrew Joachim Dembicki followed on after Fr Michael, he had been a military chaplain to the American Army serving in Germany when he was sent to Marian Valley. The continuation of the building up of the Shrine was now in his hands.

Father's first task was to build a grotto in honour of Our Lady. A special statue was commissioned from Fatima, beautifully carved in wood, which was installed by Fr Robert Fox, better known internationally as the Fatima priest, who has since been called home to his eternal rest. An estimated number of one thousand pilgrims were present on this very memorable occasion.

Since Marian Valley was opened and blessed on 10th December 1995 by Bishop Eugene Cuskelly, MSC, D.D. (Auxiliary Bishop of Brisbane Archdiocese), there have been, and continues to be, many positive developments, bringing more and more people closer to Jesus through Mary.

#### Fr Columba Macbeth- Green, OSPPE

Present Prior of  
Marian Valley and  
Police Chaplain



By Therese Hagan & Pat Ashton

A highlight in the Order's history took place in 1382 when they became the custodians of the miraculous picture of Our Lady, believed to be painted by St Luke the Evangelist. The Icon was brought to Poland by Prince Ladislaus from a castle at Beiz, Russia. He invited the monks to come from Hungary into Poland to safeguard the holy picture. The monks established a Shrine for the venerable image of the Blessed Mother in the small town of Chestochowa (pronounced as chen-sto-hova).



Today this Shrine is the Mother house of the Order, and is also the largest monastery, with over 100 Fathers and Brothers, belonging to the monks of St Paul the First Hermit. It is seen as the spiritual capital of Polish Catholics and is visited by more than 2 million pilgrims each year from all over the world.

**The Order has always venerated Mary as the Mediatrix of All Graces and has zealously propagated devotion to Her.**

### 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 Hermit,  
Penrose Park, 9 Hanging Rock Rd. Berrima. NSW 2577

### REMEMBER MARIAN VALLEY IN YOUR WILL

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**



# MARY'S ROSE NEWSLETTER

Pauline Fathers & Rosary Bouquet



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Postal Address: PO Box 104, Canungra Qld 4275  
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Rector: Fr Columba Macbeth-Green OSPPE

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## News from 'Marian Valley'

Dear friends in Christ,

2011 is upon us and it is shaping up to be a year that tests our Faith. There are a lot of anxious worried people running around at the moment. They are worried about such things as climate change, the rising cost of living, natural disasters, the moral decay of society and the growing anti-Christianity and in particular anti-Catholicism in our world in general and even in Australia.

We seemed to be immersed in a culture that has said 'good bye' to God and religion because they are not deemed necessary for enlightened man in a modern world. To cope with the problems and anxiety of our modern western world many have replaced the Revealed Religion of God with one of their own making, to somehow ease the pain and guilt of living in 2011.

Some people have made the ideas of man-made climate change/ Environmentalism into a religion. In this religion the world is good and man is evil, science is used as a religious authority and scientists and politicians are the 'priests' who preach the sin of 'civilisation' and its destructive consequences. They preach that salvation lies in reducing one's 'Carbon Footprint'. This religion is one of fear and a certain fanaticism.

Others have made Hedonism their religion. For them the purpose of life is to get as much sensual pleasure out of it as possible. Their creed is simply – 'If it feels good, do it!'. These people run from facing the problems of life by denying them and living the 'party dream'. Unfortunately this religion mostly ends in hopelessness, depression, alcoholism, drug addiction or a combination of all or some of the above.

The religion of Secular Humanism is also alive and kicking in our society. Secularism Humanists believe that there is no such thing as sin and that human beings are evolving socially, as reason governs our lives instead of religion, passion and superstition. They believe that science and reason will ultimately solve the problems of the world. These people are often philanthropic in helping their fellow man but deny man's need for the spiritual as a source of hope and are devastated and disheartened at the consequences of sin (which they deny), such as war, brutality, injustice etc which they see in the world – which we all should have evolved from as reason rules our life and the failure of science in being the 'cure all'.

Satanism is also a popular religion of our times. Interest in the occult, witchcraft and evil in general is on the increase. Satanism is manifested a lot in the Heavy Metal Rock scene and illegal drug scene. It actually permeates much of our popular culture. It is characterised by self-destructive tendencies.

Atheism itself is a belief. Atheist's deny the existence of an All Powerful God but, of course, they cannot 'prove' this. Atheism is a belief which requires

faith in that belief, in order to exist. Atheism can be understood then as a religion in its broadest sense. Atheism is usually characterised by a very strong aversion to Theistic religion. Believing Christians are often marginalised and belittled for their beliefs.

We can also 'throw in' the so called 'New Age' beliefs and a variety of other 'isms' that people cling to in the absence of a belief in God to try to give them some peace in their lives.

We Catholics are called to be people of hope in this world full of hardship and opposition. We do this by being people of deep faith and trust especially in the midst of worries and difficulties. We need to always practice the spiritual advice of St Peter who recommends that we need to cast our worries and anxiety on to Jesus, because He cares for us (cf. I Peter 5:7). Take some time to do that each day – especially before you go to bed at night.

At Mass, after the Lord's Prayer the Priest prays that we ... *may be delivered from all anxiety.* (The Oxford Dictionary defines anxiety as being *troubled, uneasy in mind.*) This prayer is really a prayer for inner peace – it might be good for each of us to pay attention a little more closely, and to pray that prayer from our hearts each Mass.



**On 12/02/2011 a busload of happy pilgrims left Marian Valley to travel to Brisbane for the 'Rally for Life' to join around 500 others in witnessing to the sanctity of Life and the end to Abortion.**

We need to be careful that we always put Our Lord Jesus Christ at the centre of our lives especially in the difficult times. Remember when Our Lord was in the fishing boat asleep and the storm came up – the Disciples were afraid and woke him up because they didn't think He cared about what was happening to them – Jesus calmed the storm and wondered at their lack of Faith. Remember that Jesus is with us, His Church, always as we go through life – even though at times we may think He is asleep and not really caring about what is happening to us.

Finally we need to draw closer to the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Mother. We need to pray the Rosary, the prayer of a child to its mother, pleading for reassurance, comfort and peace.

Catholics need to be people who Pray, Hope and Don't worry.

Fr Columba Macbeth-Green OSPPE



## Politicians supporting Christian Values

We often lament the fact that politicians don't stand up for the Christian values of the majority. I was very pleased to come across a letter by our local Federal Member to church leaders regarding the attack on Marriage as being between a man and a woman by the introduction of legislation that will allow same sex 'marriage'.

Politicians, regardless of the Party, need to be congratulated and supported by Christians, especially with prayer, when they go on public record defending Christian values. I thought I would share this letter with you and encourage you to pray that more politicians would stand up for our Christian values.

Dear Church Leaders,

As a recently elected Member of Federal Parliament from Queensland representing the Liberal National Party, I campaigned in support of marriage remaining between a man and a woman.

Since my election I have received a large amount of correspondence from constituents within my electorate of Wright and from concerned people from around Australia on the issue of same-sex marriage. The vast majority of e-mails and letters are supportive of traditional marriage.

Please be assured that I am deeply committed to the definition of marriage as currently expressed in the Marriage Act as the "union of a man and a woman to the exclusion of all others, voluntarily entered into for life".

I have been with my loving wife for 20 years and we have a beautiful teenage daughter who benefits from the family environment our marriage provides.

Where possible, every child should be given the opportunity to be raised by a mother and a father, who can provide the complementary role-modelling and balanced care of a male and a female.

I am aware of significant law reform in recent years, supported by the Coalition, which has delivered practical equality to same-sex couples. However, marriage affirms society's important aspiration for the role of mothers and fathers in children's lives and thus should not be redefined.

I am aware that the Australian Christian Lobby is currently running a marriage campaign through a special website [www.makesastand.org.au](http://www.makesastand.org.au). The site includes an electronic petition in support of marriage, which I would strongly encourage you and your congregation to support.

Thank you for your consideration of my views on this important subject.

God Bless,

Scott Buchholz MP

Federal Member for Wright



Our Pieti & Book shop moved to new premises in February. Jan Chalmers, our shop manager, was directing some of the action.

## From the Archives ... Testimonies

We are now starting a brand new year. On New Years Eve, Fr Columba gave an excellent homily on the difference between 'Wishing' and actually making 'Resolutions'. Briefly, Wishing was just that, whereas making a Resolution required planning and commitment.

Many Testimonies are to hand, all very individual and excellent. Everybody's experience and memories are different but together help to make up the History of Marian Valley and the early days.

If you haven't yet put pen to paper please make it a Resolution to do so, after all, at the moment WE ARE ALL PART OF THE HISTORY.

Send your testimonies to: Pat Ashton, Therese Hagan or Julianne Murphy @ c/- Marian Valley, PO Box 104, Canungra Q 4275

God Bless, Patricia Ashton

## From the Retreat Centre... Farewell

**I asked Maree Baker if she would like to say a few final words, before she left Marian Valley on 15th February 2011. Maree has been a caretaker at the Marian Valley Retreat Centre since it opened in October 2000. She has now retired to Nazareth House, Wynnum North, Brisbane.**

Welcome and Hello to you who are a recipient of 'Mary's Rose', a bi-annual Newsy and informative collection of 'Happenings' at Marian Valley – Queensland's most best kept secret, but not for long as we hope to bring to you, via the 'Mary's Rose' all the news of events and special happenings here at the Shrine.

We think of you all as family, and hope to encourage you to come and share with us here the beauty, serenity and restful ambience that is very much a part of this Holy and Spirit filled Valley.

The Shrine to Our Lady Help of Christians is situated in the Gold Coast Hinterland close to Canungra. It was developed and opened by the Pauline Fathers in December 1995 and has slowly become a place of welcome peace and tranquillity, and a wonderful place to spend a time of rest, relaxation and to recharge your spiritual batteries which is difficult out in the world to accomplish amidst the rush of daily living.

It can be visited daily and all are very welcome.



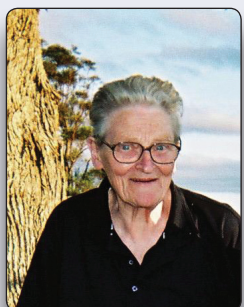
We frequently have buses coming from Parishes all around Brisbane and the Gold Coast, and family groups enjoy the peace and openness of the Valley. There are many shrines to visit throughout the Valley which give one the opportunity to stop and rest, to pray and just to look inwards and find the beautiful peace that Our Blessed Mother gives us.

We need this time to allow our thoughts and prayers and reflections to bring us nearer to Jesus and Mary who are just waiting for us to come and gather the gifts that He has to

give, if we but ask and just trust completely and He will answer.

**Editors note: Thank you Maree. We have all appreciated your wonderful friendship which will be sadly missed around the Valley.**

Contact details for all Retreat Centre enquiries:  
Ph/Fax: 07-55 333 378 or  
Email: [marianretreat@bigpond.com](mailto:marianretreat@bigpond.com)



## Chronicles of Marian Valley by Fr. Gabriel Taylor, OSPPE

In honour of Mary Help of Slovenia, over 100 pilgrims of the Slovenian Community came on pilgrimage on Saturday 11th September. Main celebrant for Slovenian Mass with beautiful singing was Professor Fr. Drago Ocvirk with concelebrants Fr. Ciril Bozic OFM and Fr Darko Znidarsic OFM. After lunch all joined in procession to the Chapel where there were prayers and sung litany with thanks for all those who assisted. Everyone was then invited to a lunch prepared by the Slovenian Community.

On Sunday 12th September about 300 people celebrated the Korean day in honour of St. Andrew Kim Taegon and the Korean Martyrs. Korean Chaplain Rev. Joseph Ki Hwan Kim was celebrant at the 11am sung Mass. The Korean community provided a BBQ lunch after which there were different games for different age groups including a very loud and vigorous tug-o-war!

Over 500 people with Italian Chaplain Fr. Angelo gathered in honour of St. Padre Pio on Sunday 19th September. Celebrant for the sung Eucharist was Fr. Gaetano from Italy, in Australia to conduct retreats. Fr. Angelo, Fr. Lino (Stanthorpe), Fr Li (Brisbane) and Fr Giovanni (Gold Coast) concelebrated. After lunch Fr. Angelo led the Stations of the Cross.

The Filipino community with their Chaplain Fr. Marce Singson were at Marian Valley on Saturday 25th September. There were about 700 pilgrims with beautiful music from a number of choirs. After the Eucharist all went in procession to the Filipino Chapel for blessings and prayers.

For St Therese of the Child Jesus on Friday 1st October, we had Devotions and Benediction after Mass with blessing and distribution of rose petals. Then we went in procession to the Chapel of St. Therese for prayers and a blessing.

From Monday 4th October, members of the Order of St. Paul the First Hermit of the Australian Province gathered at Marian Valley for a retreat, led by Rev. Gregory Jordan S.J. There were 12 Priests and 4 Brothers.

Marian Valley celebrated God's blessings in a special way on Thursday 7th October, Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, with the Eucharist followed by the Blessing of our new Monastery. The Most Rev. Joseph Oudeman O.F.M. Cap was Celebrant for the sung Eucharist after which with the 12 Concelebrants, 4 Religious Brothers and 200 people who had gathered for the day, all went to the new Monastery which Bishop Oudeman blessed. After lunch there were Devotions with the Rosary. Lunch and afternoon tea were provided by the wonderful volunteers and friends of Marian Valley. Prayers were prayed for all the people near and far who contributed in so many different ways towards the building of the new Monastery.

The statue of St. Gerard Majella was at the side of the altar for the Eucharist on Saturday 16th October for a day of pilgrimage in his honour. Fr. Angelo was celebrant, and Fr. Gabriel concelebrated. Following Mass, the statue of St. Gerard Majella was carried in procession with the relic to the Chapel, where after prayers, pilgrims venerated the relic before enjoying lunch together.

On Sunday 17th October, Marian Valley rejoiced with everyone in celebrating the Canonization of St. Mary Mackillop.

For All Souls Day on Tuesday 2nd November, Fr. Gabriel led people after Mass in prayers for the Holy Souls at the First Station of the Cross. Especially included in these prayers are those departed who are remembered by their families and friends along the Way of Intercessions.

The new Chapel of St. Barbara was blessed on Saturday 4th December. Fr. Stan Lipski from the Gold Coast celebrated Polish

Mass for over 100 pilgrims with Fr. Columba concelebrant. After Mass there was a procession to the Chapel of St. Barbara where there was the Blessing and prayers.

For the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on Wednesday 8th December about 150 pilgrims came for 10am Exposition, 11am Mass and Devotions after lunch.

On Saturday 11th December was a day in honour of St. Lucy. Fr. Mauro Conte celebrated Italian Mass for the pilgrims with prayers at the Chapel of St. Lucy.

For 28th December, Feast of the Holy Innocents, Mass was celebrated in Reparation and for an end to abortion. Afterwards there was Exposition, prayers and Benediction.

Throughout the heavy rains and then the tragedy of the floods, we continued to pray, joining in the Archdiocesan Appeal and Day of Prayer on Sunday 16th January. With the shock of the devastating cyclone we prayed and will continue with everyone to pray for all those affected by the tragedies.

Our Lady of Lourdes, Friday 11th February 2011. Over 300 pilgrims gathered for this day of prayer for healing grace, especially for the sick and elderly. Many people came for Reconciliation. After the sung Eucharist and lunch, Fr. Jim Smith, Chaplain of the Catholic Psychiatric Pastoral Care of Brisbane gave a talk on 'Ministry and Spirituality of Catholic Psychiatric Pastoral Care'. After the talk there was a Eucharistic Procession to the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes with prayers and devotions. Then, accompanied with the singing of hymns, Fr. Columba blessed each person individually with the Blessed Sacrament. The day of wonderful celebration and blessings concluded with the sung Divine Mercy Chaplet. Also on Lourdes day a group of students from Grace Lutheran College came for a day of reflection.

During September 2010 there were three groups of retreats. The Queen of Apostles Prayer Group from Stafford, St. Paul's Prayer Group from Woodridge and Teams of Our Lady from Redcliffe. On Wednesday 24th November 2010 we welcomed a mini-bus of people for the day from Bally Cara Retirement Village.



This year 4 children made their First Holy Communion at Marian Valley with Fr Columba. Left to Right – Nicholas Ducker, William McLindon, Alexander & Markus Perilla.